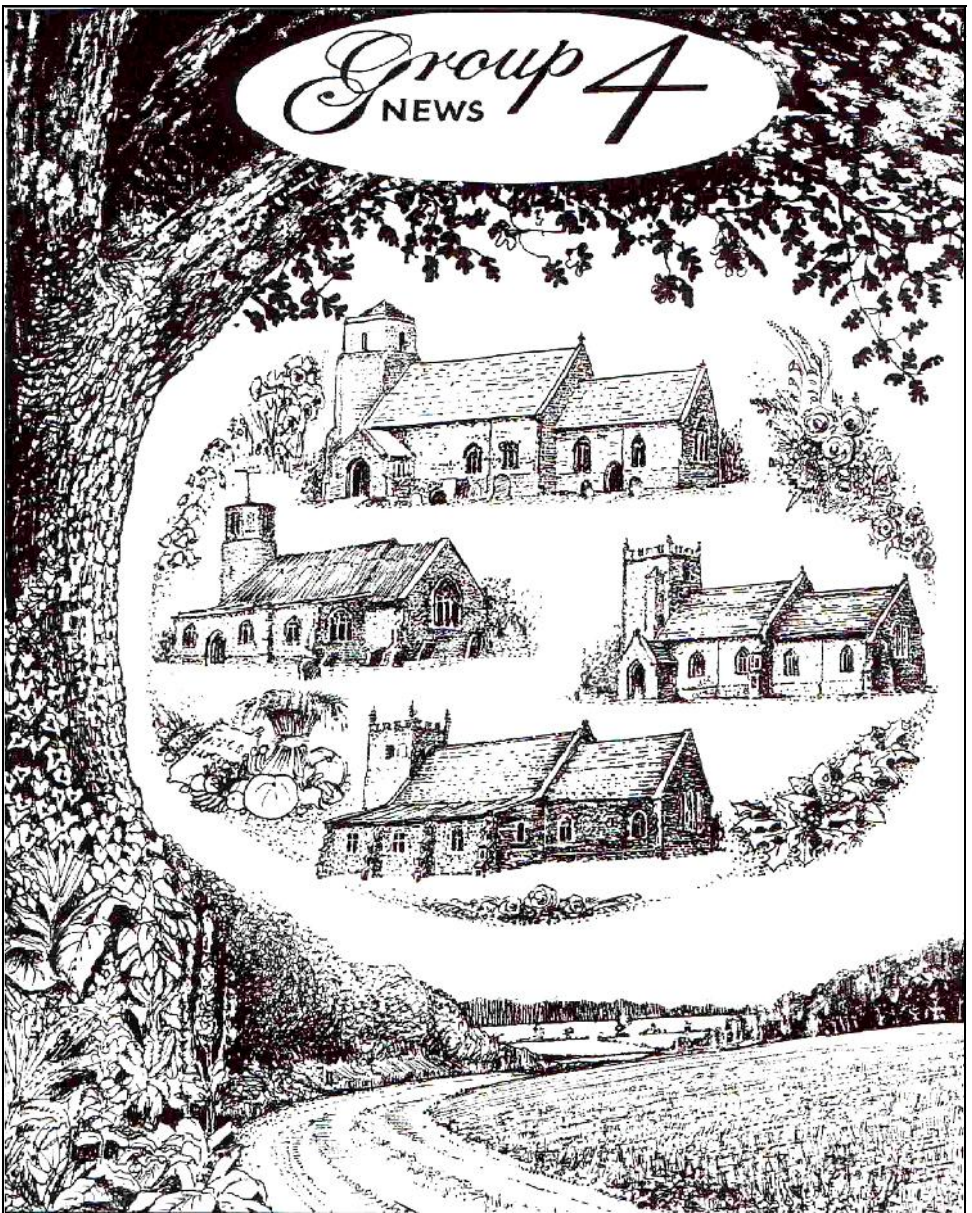


Group 4
NEWS



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

June 2024

Cover illustration drawn by Mark Powell, Beachamwell ©

WELCOME



Once again we would like to thank

- ◆ Alan Pickering for dealing with the adverts
- ◆ Kevin Fisher 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. Please see page 7

We do appreciate your continued support.
As always, 'Happy Reading'
The Editorial Team
Eileen and Pam

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powells@beechemwell.plus.com

Boughton: Pam Wakeling
Robet, Mill Hill Road, Boughton
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p.wakeling621@btinternet.com

Wereham: Viv Scott
Orchard House, Flegg Green, Wereham
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vivienne.scott@googlemail.com

Please submit all information through
your Village Contacts.

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

11th June

ADVERTISING

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

Tel: 07779 787499 or 01366 386125
e.mail: 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
Kevin Fisher, Tel 01366 502224

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!!!

© Copyright Group4 News 2024

TEMPUS FUGIT!

On the clock-face side of the Church tower of Brent Pelham in Hertfordshire is the inscription *Time Flies - Mind Your Business*. Presumably placed there by the Lord of the Manor some time ago when politically incorrect statements were thought appropriate. Obviously, it was meant to encourage people who worked on the land to do so more productively. This in view of the fact that time itself is finite. And has a habit of getting out of control!. Hence the term *procrastination is the thief of time*. This adage is thought to have been first used in a poem called *Night Thoughts* by the 18th century poet Edward Young.

The inscription was placed on the clock-face side of the village Church bell-tower at a time when few people actually owned time pieces of any sort. Time was marked by naturally occurring factors such as dawn and dusk and the passing of the seasons. The hours of the day were of less consequence in an agrarian economy. Things changed with the Industrial Revolution (beginning in the 18thC). People working in factories had to adhere to shift patterns, beginning and ending work at particular times of day. So that machines could be used to the maximum.

Time became an all-important safety element with the coming of the railways. The intervals between trains and the resulting departure and arrival times had to be established and published. One of the stumbling blocks to this was that there was no standard time in existence. Every principle city had its own time. For example, there was a *10-minute difference* between the time at Bristol and that in London. Even today there are two minute hands on clock-faces at the Exchange Building and one of the railway stations in Bristol. The standardisation was begun in 1840 by the Great Western Railway adapting the *Mean Time* in London which became Greenwich Mean Time (G.M.T).

A poem by Isaac Watts (1674-1748) entitled *Our God, Our Help* became the hymn *O God Our Help in Ages Past*. There is a verse which begins *Time like an ever rolling stream bears all its sons away*. It is a call to treat each day as precious because time is finite. That becomes ever more apparent to those of us who are more 'mature'. Prioritise those things that *need* to be done rather than those we only *want* to do. The Bible also has much to say about the good use of time. Ecclesiastes chapter 4 verse 1 states *For everything has a season, and a time for every matter under heaven*. And St. Paul writing to the early Church in Ephesus wrote - *Be careful how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil (Eph. 5: 15/16)*

One of my father's favourite sayings was *How's the enemy?* Meaning, what time is it? As if time were an enemy to be defeated; not to encroach on life. My experience is that time is a resource we have been given to use as best we can. For others as well as for ourselves. **Tony Mills**

OPEN GARDENS

THE GARDENER'S HYMN

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true,
Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies too.

All things spray and swatable, disasters great and small,
All things paraquatable, the Lord God made them all.

The greenfly on the roses, the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our noses, He also gave us these.

The fungus on the gooseberries, the club root on the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce and chew the aubergines.

The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds.

The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff, the sparrows on the seeds.

The fly that gets the carrots, the wasp that eats the plums,
How black the gardener's outlook, though green may be his thumbs.

But still we gardeners labour, midst vegetables and flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours, will somehow bypass ours.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.



OPEN GARDENS

Beachamwell

Sunday 2nd June

12.00 - 5.00

Light Lunches and Afternoon Teas.

Attractions include Raffle, Tombola and Ask an Expert.

Adults £5 - children under 16 free
Cash or card accepted

Enquiries 01366 328 817
Proceeds to St Mary's Church

Boughton

Sunday 9th June

12 - 5.00

Light Lunches, refreshments, cake and plant stalls, Tombola.

Children's activity pack

Adults £5.00 under 16 free

**Dogs on leads welcome.
Meet resident alpacas.**

Enquiries 01366 500 429
Proceeds to All Saints' Church,
Boughton's only community space

Wereham

Sunday 16th June

12.00 - 5.00

There will be craft sales, a raffle, a tombola and at Crown House in the centre of Wereham, there will be a plant stall, selling plants, cuttings and other garden goodies!

To fortify you before you set off on your trip around the various gardens, delicious salad lunches, homemade cakes and afternoon tea will be available from midday in the Village Hall (cash and card payments accepted).

Adults £6—children under 16 free
Enquiries 01500 233
Proceeds to St Margaret's Church

Barton Bendish

Sunday 23rd June

11.00 - 5.00

**Morning Coffee and Ploughman's
Lunch from noon.**

Afternoon Tea from 2.30

Many Gardens open including Barton Bendish Hall. Other attractions include St Mary's historic Church, Vintage and Classic cars, Children's trail, raffle, Plant and Cake stalls,

Community Library and second hand Bookshop, Pimms Tent.

Admission £5 — children free

Enquiries 01347 849 or 01347 563
Proceeds to St Andrews Church

COUNTRYSIDE NOTES

2023 was one of wettest years since records began in 1836 and rain continued to fall until last month. Not only has 2024 been very wet so far but April was unusually cold. Continually waterlogged ground has hit arable and livestock farming hard. Many crops sown last autumn either rotted in the ground or have had their root systems damaged. Few plants can tolerate standing in water for very long. Most farmers haven't been able to get on the land this spring to prepare it let alone actually plant crops, the first week of April being the last viable opportunity. Where farmers did manage to get crops sown low temperatures throughout April stunted germination and growth. Compared with last year it's estimated that all wheat produced would decline by 26.5%, winter barley by 33.1% and oilseed rape by 37.6%. Crops of lettuce, cabbages and cauliflower are started off in greenhouses then planted out as individual plants once they are big enough. This couldn't be delayed so they too were badly affected. UK harvests of many important crops could be down by 20% triggering price rises. Elsewhere livestock farmers have also been hard hit. Most calves and lambs are born in the spring and, although often temporarily housed in barns, this system only works when they can be turned out into the fields after a few days to make room inside for the next batch. When fields become waterlogged for prolonged periods it damages or kills the grass, harms the structure of the soil and pastures get trampled thus immediately affecting the availability of grazing and the future supply of hay or silage. Calves and lambs that are at all weak perish in continued cold and wet. The sudden rise in the cost of cereal, fuel and energy products resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine made it obvious how vulnerable we are to world events. Britain has the ability to be much more self-sufficient than it is. Many people think that food security should be a key issue in government planning but more and more prime farmland is being taken out of production because the government is hell bent on portraying a green image by handing out substantial grants and subsidies. Climate change is at its root but at what cost to us does reducing carbon emissions come. Thousands of acres are now covered with solar panels, trees, crops to feed anaerobic digesters, rewilding projects and strips of pretty summer flowers. Is this wise? Shouldn't the priority be putting food on our tables? We can't eat any of them but who can blame farmers for opting for a guaranteed income rather than the risks associated with growing crops and raising livestock! Importing crops that could be home grown is self-defeating although admittedly our own carbon footprint is reduced because that responsibility falls on those countries that produce them. In the four weeks to mid-April grocery price inflation was reported to have dropped to 3.2%, the lowest in 30 months. Don't expect this trend to last!!!

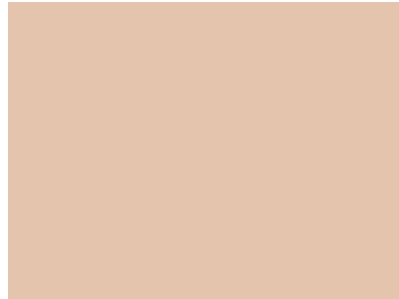
Jill Mason (Barton Bendish)

RECIPE PAGE

Rose Crust Pastry

Ingredients

12 oz plain flour
4oz corn flour
4 oz icing or castor sugar
10 – 12 oz cooking margarine
Egg to bind to stiff dough



Method

1. Cream fat and sugar together until soft.
2. Add cornflour and plain flour a little at a time. This makes it easier to mix together.
3. Add beaten egg a little at a time until the pastry is pliable.
4. Roll out (not too thinly) and ready to use as required.
5. Bake in oven mark 6 - 5 or 425 – 400 approx 20 minutes or until golden brown.

This pastry is delicious for fruit tartlets in summer *Eileen Powell*

FROM THE EDITORIAL TEAM

First a big thank you to those bodies, and the individuals involved, who have contributed funds to enable G4N to continue. This is much appreciated.

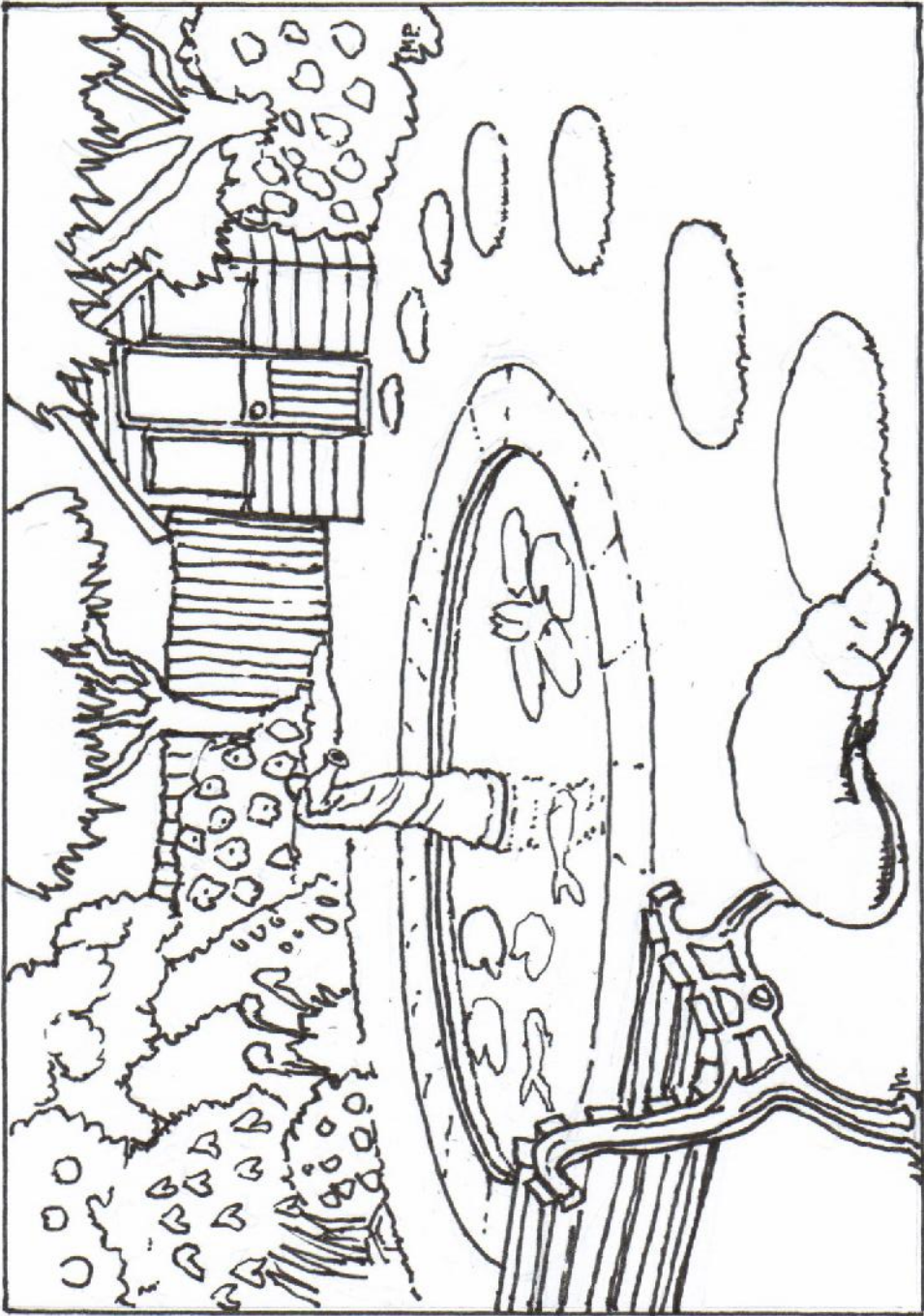
Secondly, the task of preparing, collating and publishing Group4News is both interesting and, for a few days each month, time consuming. The three of us who are involved are not getting any younger and it would be really good to see some others involved. The work is not arduous and the skills learnt in relation to publicity, can be most beneficial in other ways.

We believe, and the feedback we receive, is that G4N is an asset to the 4 Parishes and helps to bring the various populations close together. If you are interested and/or would like some further information please contact us.

Alan Pickering: 01366 386125

Eileen Powell: 01366 328648

Pam Wakeling: 01366 500429



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 Phillip; 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;

Part time housekeeper/ cleaner wanted

We are looking for a mature, reliable and conscientious person (couple) to do our regular clean and upkeep of a 3 bedroom holiday home in Wereham.

Work involves general cleaning and change of bed linen. Arrange welcome pack, conduct damage and inventory check ensuring house is presentable and ready for guests checking in, usually on Fridays at 3pm with hours available to clean between 10:00 – 14:45. Workload depends on number of bookings.

Paid additionally, if you are interested in doing laundry and iron/press of linen/towels. Also optional is doing occasional maintenance at an hourly rate.

May suit a semi-retired couple or an opportunity to supplement your current income.

On a freelance/self-employed basis. Training will be provided. Start Mid May 2024.

Please email us:

herlufthun@icloud.com

or call or message Tina 07587369700 for further information.a



It was considered the best photo of this century. A lioness and her cub were crossing the savannah but the heat was excessive and the cub was in great difficulty walking. An elephant realized that the cub would die and carried him in his trunk to a pool of water walking beside his mother. And we call them wild animals.

15:17

**We all have that
funny voice we use
when talking to
dogs, babies and...
IDIOTS**



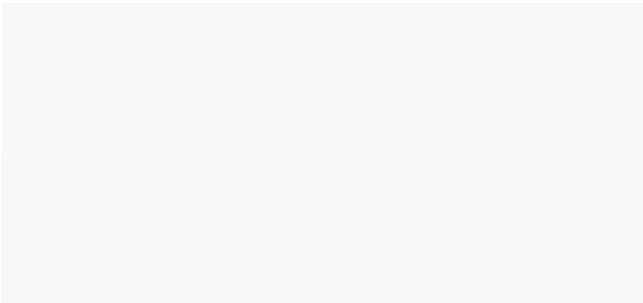


We are always absolutely delighted to take part in community events and we are very proud to have been able to be part of the Swaffham Heritage Project recently. Students researched the town in bygone days as well as using their imagination as to what the future may hold. Their ideas ranged from a new monument, an eco-friendlier town with plenty of green space to forms of space age transportation. They also thoroughly enjoyed a visit to the local Westfields Care Home as part of their investigations and chatted with residents to discover their memories of the late Queen. Their work was on show at the Swaffham Museum.

Additionally, you may recall another project our younger students undertook as part of the Youth Literary Project, where they produced some truly excellent assignments after a workshop with guest author Belona Greenwood. This was displayed by various participating businesses in the town with a Prizegiving at the Assembly Rooms, judged by local author Polly Crosby.

Still in creative mode, our keen English students took part in a poetry recital where they had to learn and recite two poems (one pre 1924 and one written post 1914) at the academy competition which was no mean feat. Their work was filmed and entered into the National Competition run by Poetry at Heart. The finalists from each region will be announced shortly.

Lastly, a huge thanks to everyone who attended our Student Led Prize Bingo Evening. The hall was packed with guests with 'dabbers at the ready'. The evening raised well over £700 towards the Year 11 prom taking place on 4th July this year, at the Knights Hill Hotel, in Kings Lynn.



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
328960

Barton Bendish Community Hub

Is held every week on a Tuesday
afternoon 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:
bartonbendishevents@gmail.com

Barton Bendish Film Club

Proudly Presents:

**'The Great
Escaper'**

Saturday 1st June

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/

Beachamwell Book Group

Tuesday 4th June

7.30

Beachamwell Village Hall

Book to be discussed over a glass of wine

'The Lonely Londoners'

By Sam Selvon

New members welcome

Enquiries: 01366 328470

Beachamwell

**St. Mary's
Church**



**Short Service of
Worship on the Green**

[If wet in the Village Hall]

**Saturday 8th June
11.00am**

Do come and join us
and stay for coffee afterwards

Enquiries 01366 328 779

Barton Bendish Pop Up Cafe

Friday 14th June

12.00 - 3.00

Village Hall

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

Everyone welcome, no need to book

bartonbendishevents@gmail.com



01366347563 or
01366 347983

Proceeds in aid of
Guide Dogs for the
Blind

[Coco]

Beachamwell



**Afternoon Tea and a
Chat.....'**

Wednesday

June 19th

2 - 4pm

Village Hall

Enquiries: 01366 328108

BEACHAMWELL VILLAGE HALL

D-DAY BBQ



SATURDAY 8TH JUNE
4PM TO 9PM

Village BBQ event, 1940s themed dress encouraged.
If possible please bring a dessert to share.

REMEMBERING | CELEBRATING

★ ★ ★ 80 YEARS ★ ★ ★



Barton Bendish

Village Hall Trust

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 19th June 2024

7:30pm

Barton Bendish Village Hall

This meeting is a public meeting open to parishioners of Barton Bendish and Eastmoor.

Wereham

Notice of Annual General Meeting of Wereham Village Hall CIO

Thursday 27th June 2024 in the Wereham Village Hall (6.45 pm arrival for 7.00 pm)

- ◆ Business is to receive
- ◆ Draft Final Accounts for 2023/24
- ◆ Chairs Report
- ◆ Appointment of Independent Examiners

Please contact Sara Hayward, Secretary to advise if you are able to attend on 01366 502214 or email: villagehallwereham@gmail.com

Registered charity no. 1168472

Beachamwell



Pop Up Pub

Friday 28th June

7.00pm until
Last orders 10.30

Village Hall

Enquiries: 07818 453 323

Barton Bendish Community Breakfast



Saturday 20th July 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

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

Village News

“Truth is neither objectivity nor the balanced view; truth is a selfless objectivity.”

Knut Hamsen

After many years of distinguished service as the Barton Bendish Correspondent, Jill Mason has stepped down. I will attempt to take on the role and ask that all contributions are sent to me at acstephen@hotmail.com by the 11th of each month. You still have time for the July edition!

It has been another month in which it has been a real pleasure to be involved with our Community Breakfast, the Pop Up Café and the newly renamed Community Hub, which now takes place every Tuesday afternoon. The opportunity to break bread with neighbours is a privilege denied to many. We are so lucky in this village to have so much going on. Despite changes in some of the local Facebook groups, our village life is followed by many, some on the other side of the globe. Recently I heard from Ben Taylor, who lives in Australia, who tells me that he has traced his ancestry back to a Samuel Taylor who was transported from Barton Bendish for stealing a sheep. Justice was harsh at that time. At the time of writing, I have heard, via the Friends of Barton Bendish Facebook group, that Kevin Boardman is coming to the pop up café on May 24th with his wife and his two siblings. He and his brother and sister were brought up in the village. It is a place which inspires fond memories and great loyalty.

Wall Hanging

There are exciting new developments afoot during the Community Hub which is now taking place on a Tuesday afternoon in the village hall. A few months ago Mhari and Linda initiated the idea of bringing craft projects to complete whilst enjoying the company of others. This ‘acorn has grown into a big oak’ and people now bring a variety of crafts to complete, and this has developed into frequent sharing of knowledge and experience to assist others who want to try something new.

After much consideration, Mhari and Linda took the idea of creating a large wall hanging for St Andrew’s Church, to the Community Hub crafters to see if they would like to take part in this project. The response was an overwhelming yes!!! We are now inviting individuals to create separate pieces of work on the theme of Norfolk. These could include sewing in many forms eg embroidery, tapestry, cross stitch, patchwork, or many other ways of decorating an 18 inch square of fabric such as knitting, crochet, felting or fabric painting. These squares will then

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

be joined together to form one large hanging. This idea will be open to all people who want to take part, whether you live in Barton Bendish or further afield. Everyone is welcome. We are at the planning stage of this, but if you would like more information please contact Linda, Mhari, Liz or Janice. Why not come along to one of the hubs and find out more!

Once again, everyone is welcome for tea, cake and conversation but the opportunity to get creative with your neighbours is another good reason to come along. I cannot stress enough that everyone is welcome. We are one community.

Thank you Jill

It was with sadness but understanding, that we learnt of Jill's decision to stand down from being the Barton Bendish contact for the G4 magazine. For as long as Mhari and I have been Churchwardens in Barton Bendish, (getting on for two decades!) Jill has, ably supported by David, been Barton's G4 correspondent. Much has been learnt about rural life through her 'Countryside Notes' as well as the many books she has written on rural subjects from 'Hares' to the 'Townies guide to the Countryside'. Being a G4 contact is not an easy task! - especially when contributors like the two of us regularly supply copy too close to the deadline, - Jill you were always very understanding. We would personally like to thank you for all your hard work and support over the years and wish you all the best with your future literary plans.

Mhari Blanchfield and Linda Webster On behalf of St Andrew's PCC

PS Good luck Andrew, big shoes to fill, and we promise to try to meet the deadlines!!

Finally, Following a very successful Community Breakfast, an appeal for volunteers to help us to prepare for Open Gardens on June 23rd. There will be working parties on Wednesday May the 22nd, and again on Saturday June 15th, between 5-7pm to tidy up the church and churchyard. Everyone who would like to get involved will be very welcome. Refreshments will be provided. Watch out also for details of a litter pick to be held soon.

The prospect of a community project to create a wall hanging for the church is really exciting but everyone is welcome at the Community Hub where you can be creative if you wish or simply drink tea, eat cake and enjoy each other's company. We are one community.

Andrew Stephen

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

Parish Council

The Council held its Annual Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 8th May, this is the meeting where the Council elects its Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming year. Cllr William Chapman was elected as Chairman and Cllr Stephen Tilburn was elected as Vice Chairman.

Traffic calming on Boughton Long Road

For some time now, Barton Bendish Parish Council and residents have expressed concerns about speeding vehicles on Boughton Long Road and the Parish Council previously agreed to install village gateways on the road, the gateways are a recognised traffic calming measure.

The long awaited village gateways have now been installed on the grass verges by County Council Highways Department. These gateways were funded by a grant from the Norfolk Parish Partnership and CIL monies. (Community Infrastructure Levy).

Group 4 News donation

The Parish Council approved a donation of £300 towards running costs of Group 4 news. This donation was partly funded by remaining funds from a Jubilee Grant from the Borough Council and the Parish Council community grants budget. ***Many thanks for this generous donation — it is greatly appreciated. [Editor]***

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 10th July 2024. This will be an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting starting at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Scheduled meetings for the remainder of 2024 are 25th Sept and 13th Nov.

Mrs Sharon Sweet, Clerk to Barton Bendish Parish Council

Email: bartonbendishparishcouncil@aol.com

Please contact the Parish Clerk for any matters concerning the Parish Council
Further information is available on the Parish Council website

Jill Mason

Many thanks to Jill for her work over the years. She has been Village Correspondent for Barton Bendish since October 1999 when G4N entered our lives. You have worked hard and your efforts have been greatly appreciated. We look forward to Andrew carrying on the good work. ***Eileen Powell & Pam Wakeling***





PLEASE! PLEASE! Can you Help????



We're tidying up St Andrew's Churchyard!

Wednesday May 22nd 5-7pm

Saturday June 15th 9am-12

Jobs to suit all ages
and abilities



BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Mobile Post Office

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

Beachamwell Parish Council

No news

Sarah Hunt [Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer]

Telephone: 07355694133 beachamwellparishcouncil@gmail.com

Beachamwell PCC

"As we approach the summer we have had two major events at the church. The first was the Topping Out ceremony held on the 24th May and officiated at by the President of the Norfolk Churches Trust, General the Lord Richard Dannatt and his wife Lady Pippa Dannatt, the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk; the second was the Beachamwell Open Gardens on the 2nd of June when 16 Beachamwell and Shingham gardens were opened to the public, as well as light lunches and afternoon teas served in the village hall. Both these events will be fully reported on in the July G4N.

Meanwhile work continues on St Mary's with the removal of fire damaged plaster and the restoration of the stonework around the windows. The PCC and project team have been working with lighting and heating experts to bring both back into the church, using economic LED lights and ceramic radiating heaters. This work is concurrent with the plans to provide level access by raising and lowering floors at the west end of the church. For those who were able to attend the Topping Out, you will have had the opportunity to see inside St Mary's and receive a brief on what those plans mean to those who in the past found it difficult, if not impossible, to easily gain entry to the building. We are working closely with the diocesan authorities to complete the necessary bureaucracy to be able to complete the restoration of the church soon, sadly there are no guarantees in this business but we remain optimistic. If you are passing the church and it is clear that there is work ongoing please feel free to stop and talk to the contractors in the churchyard to find out what they are working on. To see what is going on from the leisure of your own home see our facebook page - St Marys Beachamwell, it contains updates, tells of events and has many photographs of the work. These will be of even more interest as the interior work progresses. The plain glass glazing installation has slipped because of the debris from the plaster removal, this could damage the glass.

There will be a church service on the green on 8th of June at 11:00 and this will be followed by the village hall 80th Anniversary of D-Day celebrations. Our village has a son who fell on that day, 6th June 1944, on Sword Beach, so a tangible link to that historic event." ***Peter Berendt (Churchwarden and Vice Chairman)***

BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Beachamwell Village Hall

The committee for 2024/25 is as follows:-

Colin Friend [Chairman]

Mark Lusby [Vice Chairman]

Treasurer Vacancy

Cathy Friend [Secretary and Booking Enquiries]

Geoff Siddons

Malcolm Warner

Clare Millar



Have you had a chance to browse the new website yet?

www.beachamwell.org.uk

If you would like to submit any news or event information for consideration, please fill in the website contact form.

Don't forget the D-Day BBQ on Saturday 8th June from 4pm. It's a chance to come together to remember and celebrate 80 years! 1940s themed dress encouraged. If possible please bring a dessert to share.

Would you like to get involved with village activities? Can you spare a few hours every month? We are looking for people to volunteer with our events and general Village Hall activities. All input gratefully received. Drop us an email via the website contact form or have a chat with Cathy Friend. We'd love to encourage more helpers to expand our activities.

Do you have any ideas or comments on what you'd like to see at Beachamwell Village Hall? Input from Beachamwell residents is hugely important to us so please do let us know if you have any thoughts or feedback. We'd love to hear from you.

Not sure how to contact us? The new website has a helpful contact page where you can submit your enquiry and a member of the Beachamwell Village Hall Committee will endeavour to reply in a timely manner. **Clare Millar**

[The Following was too late for the May magazine so here it is again.]

If any villagers or Group 4 readers would like a stall at the Fete on Sunday 1st September please email me at cathyagfriend@yahoo.com and I will send you the necessary form for you to complete.



BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Talking about the Fete - Please can you consider helping bake a cake, staff the raffle, tombola, refreshments etc.. The more people help then the less work it is for everyone plus you might have fun and meet your fellow villagers. The Fete is the single biggest fund raiser for the Hall and wouldn't it be brilliant to be involved in fundraising for the preservation and improvement of this amazing amenity.

The committee is greatly reduced in size as Allan and Ann left at the AGM - thanks must go to them for their hard work and involvement over the years. Consequently more members are needed. We have had no treasurer for over a year. There **MUST be SOMEONE** who can keep books - most things are paid directly from/to the bank and automated invoicing - PLEASE seriously think about helping the community by taking on this role or simply attend a meeting. We aren't a scary bunch and do have laughs at the meetings over a bottle or two of wine. The next meeting is on Thursday 6th June at 7.30pm. It would be so exciting to see some new faces around the table.

Saturday June 8th will be our D-Day celebration - please keep an eye on the website and Facebook page for more information. The fun starts at 4pm.

Cathy Friend



AT RISK!

BEACHAMWELL VILLAGE HALL



YOUR HALL NEEDS YOU.

This is a critical time for Beachamwell Village Hall.

Without Volunteers & Committee Members, many of the hall's best loved activities like the monthly Pop Up Pub may not be able to continue. CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS EACH MONTH?

Please get in touch via www.beachamwell.org.uk to let us know that you are able to help out! THANK YOU IN ADVANCE.



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			
Crimplisham				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 DB5 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 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	karen.villagehallwerehamr@ Gmail.com	013665022214



JUNE 2024 CHURCH SERVICES WISSEY GROUP



Sunday 2nd June 1st after Trinity

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

Thursday 6th June

10.45	Methwold	D Day Service 21.15 – Bells, Reading and Beacon lighting
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Saturday 8th June

11.00am	Beachamwell	Outdoor Service
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Sunday 9th June 2nd after Trinity

9.30 am	Methwold	Service of the Word
9.30 am	West Dereham	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Whittington	Service of the Word

Sunday 16th June 3rd after Trinity

9.30 am	Methwold	Holy Communion
9.30 am	West Dereham	Celtic Service
9.30 am	Wretton/Stoke Ferry	Holy Communion
11.00 am	Wereham	Holy Communion
5.00pm	Barton Bendish	Evensong

Sunday 23rd June 4th after Trinity

10.00 am	Whittington	Holy Communion Archdeacon Richard Harlow
----------	-------------	---

Sunday 30th June 5th after Trinity

10.30 am	Boughton	Holy Communion Rev Pippa Blackall First presiding Holy Communion
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Every Sunday 6.30 pm online service West Dereham Cell [see page28

Details of all Services on Wissey Valley Benefice Website

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

Midweek Services

Tuesdays	5.00pm	Methwold	Evening Prayer
Wednesdays	9.00 am	Wretton /Stoke Ferry	Morning Prayer
Thursdays	8.30 am	Methwold	Morning Prayer
Thursdays	9.30 am	Wretton/Stoke Ferry	Holy Communion
3rd Thursday	9.30	Boughton	Holy Communion
Thursdays	5.00 pm	Methwold	Evening Prayer



JUNE 2024 CHURCH SERVICES PRIORY GROUP



Sunday 2nd June 1st after Trinity

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

Sunday 9th June 2nd after Trinity

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 & Phone	Evening Prayer

Sunday 16th June 3rd after Trinity

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

Sunday 23rd June 4th after Trinity

9.30am	Fincham	Holy Communion
9.30am	Tottenhill	Holy Communion
11am	Marham	Morning Prayer
11am	Wimbotsham	Holy Communion
6pm	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

Details of all Services to be found at <https://>

www.westnorfolkpriorygroup.co.uk/Groups/381492/

[West Norfolk Priory.aspx](https://www.westnorfolkpriorygroup.co.uk/Groups/381492/West_Norfolk_Priory.aspx)

Midweek Services

Wednesdays	10.00 am	Watlington	Morning Prayer
1st Thursday	10.00 am	Runcton Holme	Holy Communion
2nd Thursday	10/12	Marham	5 minute Morning Prayer then Coffee Morning



CHURCHWARDENS AND CONTACTS

WISSEY VALLEY GROUP

Barton Bendish:	Mhari Blanchfield	01366 347 849
	Linda Webster	01366 347 563
Beachamwell	Peter Berendt	01760 708 177
	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
	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 347 279
Marham	Philip Fay	01760 444 199
	Glenda Jayes	01760 339 688
Shouldham [Key Holder]	Alex Gammie	07803 248 230
ShouldhamThorpe	Gordon Reid	01366 347 253



ONLINE SERVICES IN JUNE

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

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

All Saints' Church

We are open again after the emergency repairs and services will resume as soon as the rota can be adjusted. I'm hoping we will have had our first service on the 26th May, which will be Trinity Sunday. Do come along and join us in celebration!

We will be able to go ahead with lunches and teas in the church for Open Gardens Day on the 9th June. Thank you to everyone who has agreed to help in any way. We really appreciate the work that goes into opening gardens and all the other work that goes on to spread the word. Thanks also to those who can't be there but will contribute in some other way, particularly to Steve and Karen Short, who will be providing the salads for lunches. Please publicise the event as far and wide as you can, because it's the church's largest fundraiser and we really need the money!! Although the church has reopened, we are awaiting the report which will tell us what other work needs to be done. The repairs we've had done so far were emergency and temporary to make it safe to use.

There are other events planned for the summer, but the most important thing for all of us is that you come along and use your church. The 30th June will be a special service for all in the benefice, as it will be Pippa Blackall's first 'solo' service after her ordination as priest at Ely on 29th June. It will be a very special occasion and everyone will be welcome.



Donations please!

At this year's Boughton's Open Garden Day we're hoping to run a Plant stall and Tombola. Could you help by giving us some donated plants or garden related items and any "unused" gifts for the Tombola?

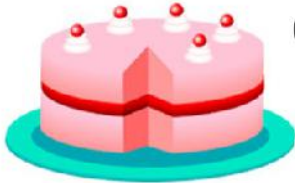


If you can help, please contact Carol on (Boughton) 502012 or email allsaintsboughton@gmail.com and we'll happily arrange to collect from you. **Thank you!**

Pam Wakeling [Church Warden]

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Calling all Boughton Bakers...



Open Gardens Day
needs you!

We would be very grateful for donations of cakes to serve at Boughton's Open Gardens Day on **Sunday 9th June**. It would be really helpful to know in advance if you can bake for us, so please contact Carol on (Boughton) 502012.

Thank you!



Boughton's FUN(D)RAISER PICNIC Saturday 13th July

12:00 onwards on the village green
Come along and join in the fun!

Bring along a picnic, chairs, tables or blanket.

Relax with your neighbours and friends and raise
some money for All Saints, Boughton.

*Bowl for a Pig competition, water or wine game,
raffle, children's treasure hunt, cake stall and quiz.*

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Fen report for Annual Parish Meeting 7th May 2024

This has not been an easy year for several reasons. Shortly after last year's APM, we were shocked and saddened by the death of one of our long- standing committee members, Dave Cooper. We have missed his input and ready sense of humour enormously throughout the year. To coin a well- known song – "You don't know what you've got till it's gone"

The summer was OK, and then the rain started. It has been difficult to organise working parties. The conditions underfoot have been anything from treacherous to completely flooded much of the time, and it has been constantly pouring with rain. For the first time since we have been managing the fen, the river burst its banks on Lower Fen twice during the winter.

The saturated conditions and gales have caused several large trees to topple over, and large boughs to break off. We have been able to deal with some of these with working parties, but a contractor has been brought in to deal with the bigger stuff, as well as a couple of trees that had become unsafe.

Despite this, by calling working parties at short notice, sometimes in the week, when there was a window in the weather, the majority of tasks on our job list have been completed, as well as the unexpected tree work, and I am please to report that over the season we have welcomed a number of new volunteers.

A reed cut was also achieved, despite the wet conditions, although the area concerned quickly filled with water shortly after the work was completed. The late summer cut to the grassier areas has paid dividends as barn owls have been seen on several occasions, and may possibly be nesting at the moment.

For the first time in fourteen years, the Rural Payments Agency has paid the Stewardship money in the year it is due. Sometimes it has been almost three years behind, so it has been necessary to ensure a large buffer in the bank account to ensure the prescribed work is carried out, whether the money is available or not. Even more surprising is that the rates for each task have been increased dramatically. It seems that Defra have realised that there has been no increase in over twenty years, and in addition, environments involving wetland are currently being encouraged, so our income has risen considerably. Advice has been taken on this from Natural England, who thought it best to invest some of it, in case there is a change of mind in the coming years, and will ensure that there are funds to continue the management of the fen if no schemes are available when the existing stewardship grant comes to an end.

The fen had an impressive starling murmuration over several weeks earlier this year, with visitors travelling significant distances to view it. The recent weeks have seen much bird activity, and many serious birders travelling to the site for it. Recent observations have been three cuckoos, several hobbies, a bittern, woodcock, nightingale, six different types of warbler, and numerous more common species in abundance. Nightingales have not been heard at Boughton for several years, so we must be getting something right.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee for their continuous hard work and interest, as well as the volunteers who have helped us out during the year. We hope for less mud in the next twelve months. **Sue Pogmore**

WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

Village Hall

Monthly activities

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

Wereham Parish Council

Next Meeting Date Monday 8th July 2024 at 6.30 pm, Ordinary Meeting.

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 (seven annual meetings), 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 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 or Phone/Text: 0779 500 6811

WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

Wereham Open Gardens

Sunday 16 June 2024, 12 noon to 5pm

One of the most popular events in the annual Wereham Village calendar, and all in support of our historic St Margaret's Church, this year's Open Gardens, taking place from midday until 5pm on Sunday 16 June, will be a very special occasion, as it will be the 20th event of this type.

Open Gardens is organised by an enthusiastic group of local gardeners, who will offer you a warm welcome and invite you to spend time looking around their garden and sharing ideas and tips to take back and use in your own garden, however great or small. Two gardens are new to the event this year, with some newly landscaped on a circular walking route

Maps showing the location of all of the gardens that are open for you to view and enjoy are available from St Margaret's Church, in the heart of the village, on the day. More details on page 5

St. Margaret's Church Summer Festival

Sunday 21 July 2024 11am - 2.30pm

This year's Festival will be held in the grounds of our lovely medieval Grade II listed church in the centre of Wereham

Together with the Open Gardens, which takes place on 16 June, the Festival is one of the major fundraisers of the year in support of our historic St Margaret's Church. It is a 'let's get together' community event, and is a great time out for the whole family.

We shall, as usual have the delicious BBQ with a variety of foods and the ever popular raffle. There will also be a wide selection of stalls to keep everyone entertained, including Hoopla, Bookstall, Tombola, Horseshoes, Bean Bags, Tasty Cakes, Jams and Preserves, so come along and test your skills and win prizes. Bring the children along to play games and enjoy all the different activities taking place on the day.

Inside the Church there will be teas, coffees and various other drinks served, and in the Chancel, there will be a beautiful exhibition of Wedding attire, and Wedding photographs from modern and past generations. If you are unable to make the Festival on the 21st July, the Wedding Exhibition will be available over the weekend, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, so don't miss it.

We would still greatly appreciate any donations of prizes for our stalls, Raffle, Tombola, Hoopla and Wine Bottle Stall, as well as Cakes, Home Made Jams and Preserves. Items will be gratefully accepted/collected if you call Chris 01366 500976

Do come along and join us on Sunday 21 July. With everyone's support we can ensure that our lovely church remains open, vibrant and available to all.

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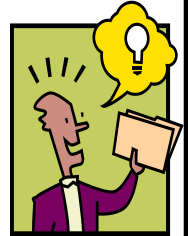
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Volunteers will be subject to an enhanced CRB check. We are also looking for trustees, for more info contact us on:

Home-Start Swaffham & District
The Community Centre, Campinglands,
Swaffham, PE37 7RB
Tel: 01760 721 271
Email: admin@homestartswaffham.org.uk



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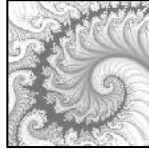
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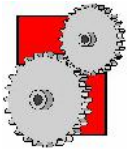
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