

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

December 2013 & January 2014

Cover Illustration drawn by Mark Powell, Beachamwell ©

WELCOME

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Writing that in November is a bit early, but many people will be looking forward to the festivities with varying feelings. Families, those with no families, or families on the other side of the world, the homeless, the poor, those affected by recent world events.....everyone's needs and thoughts will be different. May all go well with you over the festive season., however you spend it.

There are, as always, a variety of events in the villages—varying carol services in many different styles, films, coffee mornings, wine tasting, carol singing, wreath making......

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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'FROM THE RECTORY'



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

Dear All.

I found myself having a little moan the other day, and someone said that we don't have it as bad as Mary and Joseph did. And that's right, isn't it? Joseph had to take weeks off work to go to Bethlehem to fill out registration papers. Mary, who was heavily pregnant, had to travel many miles, during winter, either on foot or riding on a donkey. And when they got to Bethlehem all they could find by way of accommodation was a stable - one whiff would probably have been enough for poor Mary. And then, after going through a gruelling labour, there is a knock on the door and some strange shepherds troop in. Not the ideal childbirth, you might say. But God did it for a reason. He wanted us to know that he shares in all our troubles and difficulties, and that he understands them. Life always has its downside, its annoyances and disturbances. And where is God when we are in despair? He was with Mary and Joseph in their troubles, and he is with you and me in ours - indeed, he is with us all the time, at this very moment. Christmas reminds us to look beyond our aggravations. God is doing something in our lives all the time, and if we raise our eyes we can always see his star, shining just for us.

Yours in God's service

Rarhara

BENEFICE NEWS

Anne Clarke

Anne Clarke has been a Reader in the Fincham and Barton Bendish Group since 2004, but her time with us will come to an end in December when and she and her husband Michael move to a new home closer to Norwich.

I first met Anne when I was licensed as Priest-in-Charge in 2010, and was immediately impressed by her professionalism and prayerfulness as a Reader, and the depth of her Biblical knowledge. I have come to know Anne and Michael's family, and it has been a privilege to see first-hand the love they have for their children and grandchildren, who have often attended services in the Group over the my time here, and I have come to value Anne as a colleague and both of them as friends. I will miss them, and I know that they will be missed by many here. Anne intends to be licensed as a Reader in the Diocese of Norwich so that she can continue her work as a Reader, and I wish her and Michael every success and every blessing as they start this new phase in their life together.

Barbara Burton

Wanted!!

The benefice choir is looking for new members. We practise on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 pm and sing a range of music for services in the benefice. If you are interested in joining a friendly and informal group, please contact the choirmaster, Tom Golden on 01366 500 052.

Within the eight parishes, we are fortunate in having two churches with bells, Fincham and Shouldham. Both peals of bells are in good condition and not too heavy. New ringers, whether complete novices or returning ringers, are always welcome. Please contact either Brian Hullah (O1366 347814) or Pam Wakeling (01366 500429).

Please does anyone know anybody who works ferrets and would be willing to let my husband David go with them to take some photographs for the book I'm writing a book about wild rabbits .(*Jill Mason*)

VAL'S CURRIED PARSNIP SOUP

40g (1½oz) Butter

1 Medium Onion Skinned & Sliced

700g (11/21b) Parsnips, Peeled & Finely Diced

5ml (1 level tsp) Curry Powder

2.5ml (½ level tsp) Ground Cumin

1.4 litres (2½ pts) Chicken Stock

Salt & Freshly Ground Pepper

150ml (5 fl.oz) Single Cream

Paprika to Garnish

- 1. Heat the butter in the base of a large pan and fry the onion and parsnip together for about 3 minutes.
- 2. Stir in the curry powder and cumin and fry for a further 2 minutes.
- 3. Add the stock, bring to the boil, reduce heat and simmer covered for about 45 minutes, until the vegetables are tender.
- 4. Cool slightly, then use a perforated draining spoon to place the vegetables in a blender, add a little stock, puree until smooth.

Return to the pan. Adjust seasoning, add the fresh cream and reheat to serving temperature but do not boil. Serve sprinkled with paprika.

You may want to thin it slightly with extra water. The curry powder I used was mild strength so a hotter powder could be used if preferred. It freezes well even with the cream added and is lovely on a cold winters day & at Christmas.

Val Counter (Loddon bellringer)

COUNTRYSIDE NOTES

It's coming up to the time when we decorate our houses with holly, ivy and mistletoe but did you know this, like many of our other celebrations throughout the year, has pagan origins? Evergreens were regarded as sacred because unlike other trees they bore fruit in winter and did not shed their leaves. In pre-Christian times pagans celebrated with a three-day Yule festival shortly after the winter solstice. They believed that the return of the sun was encouraged by evergreen plants which to them were a symbol of ever-lasting life, so began the tradition of decorating our homes with holly, ivy and mistletoe at Christmas. There are more than 1,300 species of mistletoe across the world but only one grows wild in this country. Mistletoe prefers an open location and can grow as a parasite on any species of tree but is most prolific on apple and poplar and most commonly found in the West Midlands. For a century and a half December auctions have been held locally in that area to sell both holly and mistletoe most of which is gathered by gipsies. Tenbury Wells in Worcestershire is one such place and holds an annual Mistletoe festival during the first week of December. However most mistletoe sold in England is imported from France. The ancient Druids believed mistletoe had magical powers, was a symbol of peace and they valued its medicinal properties. In the Middle Ages it was hung from ceilings to ward off evil spirits. The tradition of kissing beneath the mistletoe dates back to an early Greek festival and was re-invented by the Victorians. However, because of its pagan connections, mistletoe was banned from being used to decorate churches

Berries are only borne by female holly trees, these ripen in September and are much sought after by hungry birds throughout the winter. Because of its bright blood-red berries and waxy spiked leaves legend has long linked holly with Christ's crucifixion although it was being used as a decoration in pre-Christian times. It was considered unlucky to bring holly indoors before Christmas Eve. Ivy was a sign of friendship which would remain strong and true for many years.

A massive Yule log decorated with evergreens would be dragged to the house by horses or oxen. Like the Yule candle it would be lit on Christmas Eve and it was believed that misfortune would befall if both were not kept burning until Twelfth night. Afterwards the ashes would be spread on fields to improve soil fertility. The word Yule is thought to have been derived from either the old English word Geol or Norse word Jol both of which refer to the pre-Christian winter solstice festival. The Christmas tree however is a relatively new idea first adopted from the old German tradition by Queen Victoria and Price Albert in 1841. The Feast of St Stephen on December 26th was the customary time to open alms-boxes kept in churches and distribute the contents among the poor of the parish hence the day was called

Boxing Day. My best wishes to you all for Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. *Jill Mason*

DON'T FORGET YOUR FLU JAB

If you're an older person or have a chronic health problem, now's the time to have your seasonal flu jab.

Anyone aged 65 and over, care home residents, pregnant women and people with chronic illnesses such as asthma, diabetes, heart or kidney disease is entitled to receive a free jab.



And from this year, a nasal spray vaccine will also available to children aged two to three years, as well as children aged two to 18 with long-term health conditions. Check the web link below to see if this affects your child.

Many GP practices will invite people automatically, but if you think you need the flu jab, talk to your GP or practice nurse.

An estimated 20 per cent of the population develops seasonal flu each year, and in some cases it can be fatal. The illness can also place a strain on hospitals, causing sudden rises in emergency admissions.

Lucy Macleod, Interim Director of Public Health at Norfolk County Council, explained: "Flu is not like a cold – it can be a really serious illness for some people and it doesn't just affect older people. If you're pregnant, have lowered immunity or a long term health condition such as severe asthma, a chest or heart complaint, or diabetes, then you should also get a free flu jab from your GP and get flu safe."

Norfolk County Council Public Health is also encouraging everyone in Norfolk who knows anyone who may be at risk from flu to tell them how important it is to get protected. Carers and frontline health and care workers are also encouraged to get a jab to protect themselves and those around them.

The flu vaccine changes every year to fight the latest strains of flu, so even if you had a jab last winter you need another one this year to stay flu safe. The jab doesn't contain the 'live' virus so it cannot give you the flu.

For more information, speak to your GP or local pharmacist, or visit www.nhs.uk/flu.

Barton Bendish Film Club

Proudly presents

Epic

A teenager finds herself transported to a deep forest setting where a battle between the forces of good and the forces of evil is taking place. She bands together with a rag-tag group characters in order to save their world -- and ours.. Running time

Showing at Barton Bendish Village Hall

2.30pm Saturday 7thDecember 2013

All Tickets £2- Accompanying Adults Free
Children Must be Accompanied by an Adult

Refreshments Included

Box Office

- (01366)347 849



Visit Our Website for more Information

www.bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk



Barton Bendish Film Club

Proudly presents

Song For Marion

Grumpy pensioner Arthur honours his recently deceased wife's passion for performing by joining the unconventional local choir to which she used to belong, a process that helps him build bridges with his estranged son, James. Running Time 93 mins

Showing at Barton Bendish Village Hall

7.30pm Saturday 7thDecember 2013

Tickets £4 in advance £5 on the door

Seasonal Refreshments Included

Raffle

BOUGHTON

All Saints' Centre



Coffee Mornings

Saturday 7th December and Saturday 4th January

BOUGHTON

All Saints' Centre
January 18th
10 am—1pm

Visit and taster session from

Active Norfolk

Visit to demonstrate sports activities which could be part of

The Legend of the Robin's Red Breast



A little brown bird shared Bethlehem's stable with the holy family. One night as the family lay sleeping, she

noticed their fire was going out. So she flew down from the rafters and fanned the fire with her wings throughout the night in order to keep the baby Jesus warm. In the morning, she was rewarded with a red breast as a symbol of her love for the newborn king



The Legend of the Christmas Balls

A little street boy in Bethlehem had no gift for the newborn king so he juggled for the baby and made him laugh. That is why we hang balls on the Christmas tree - to remember the laughter of God

Check on family

When Steve and I arrived in New Zealand, my Uncle Ray and Auntie Marion were a big part in helping us to settle. They offered help and advice, places to shop and explained the oddities that you come across such as:

Crisps are called chips

Flip flops are called jandels

Patio doors are called ranch sliders, helpful knowledge when house hunting

Postie is a shop which sells clothes and ornaments

Spotlight is a shop which sells craft items and bedding.

Alongside our new work colleagues, Ray and Marion made our adventure so much easier. Over this time, Marion had a problem with her walking. It was slowly getting worse and sometimes her hip would just give way. This meant Ray was doing more around the house as well as going to work two days a week as an electrician. They now did the shopping together and Ray often drove Marion to appointments while they were trying to get a resolution to the cause of the leg problem.

I guess it was early in 2013 that Ray started to comment that he felt tired something he blamed on work being busy, sometimes he worked a third day. He also put it down to helping Marion more in the house and lastly to his age, being 74. He kept going though, including helping us in the garden and helping his son sort all the electrics in his new extension.

If we had been more aware we would have noticed that he was slowing down a bit and resting more. Then he got a sore throat which in the end meant going to A&E because he wasn't eating and was so uncomfortable. They kept him in a few days and built him up and the sore throat died down. Blood tests were taken just to check things. The results usually go straight to your GP, however the hand writing was bad and the results went back to the A&E doctor. He noticed that the blood count was out of order and after a quick referral and hospital visits, Ray was diagnosed with leukaemia. This was a shock to all of us.

The hospital started on treatment straight away. Ray was told to slow down and stopped working for the time being. About two weeks later he was in hospital

again. The treatment had started while he was still a bit weak and the sore throat had flared up again meaning it was painful to eat. The treatment was stopped and the hospital worked at helping Ray get his strength back. He was positive and strong for us all. He enjoyed the time reading and chatting to visitors. Eventually he came home and was told to rest. Six weeks after his diagnosis, they told him on the Wednesday that he could start treatment again. On the Friday, Marion had to call an ambulance because Ray was delirious. He had developed pneumonia. On Saturday with family and friends with him, he passed away, three months short of his golden wedding anniversary.

Why am I writing this? First to acknowledge a great man who became like a second dad to Steve and I. Also to say don't overlook the carers. Don't let them assume that tiredness is just part of the role, it could need more investigation. Lastly visit your family. Don't put things off, see them face to face and check that all is Ok. Dig a bit further if you feel they are slowing down or not doing as much. Youngsters recognise that older people get older and do slow down, or should be. Your parents don't stay the same in terms of strength and ability to do things. Don't put off an evening sharing a drink or going away for a weekend together. You never know what is round the corner. *Moira*

The Legend of the Camel's Hump

In order to visit the newborn king, the three wise men travelled with a caravan across many miles of desert. Traveling as quickly as they could, to reach the baby before the star departed, they neglected to carry enough water for both man and beast. The wise men asked the camels to travel without water until the end of their journey so they might reach the baby in time. The camels were agreeable and raced across the desert without rest or water. When they finally reached the stable, the camels worshipped the baby and thanked God for giving them the strength for their waterless journey. Drinking their fill from the stable's trough, the camels were rewarded with humps to keep them from thirsting in the desert.



Denver Windmill

Why not treat yourself to an enjoyable experience?



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- 2. Shop selling gifts, flour, preserves and cookery books.
- 3. Freshly made bread, cakes and speciality coffee.
- 4. Accommodation available
- 5. And much, much more

Monday - Saturday 9.00 am - 5.00pm Sunday 10.00am - 5.00pm denverwindmilllimited@gmail.com Denvermill.net 01366 389701

Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)

Tuesday 28th January 2014, 7.30pm

at the Barn Theatre, Sacred Heart Convent School, Swaffham.

Access and parking from Sporle Road.

Please come along to this illustrated talk by Sue Bryan, entitled: Birding a Dream

Sue Bryan and Paul Jeffery, well-known local birdwatchers and NarVOS members, took a year out from work in 2010 to fulfil a life's dream, namely to have a year-long birding adventure around the world. Wow! Sue's talk will include many of the ups and downs of this challenging experience.

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

The Northwold Art Group needs you!

If you have any inclination to draw or paint then this is the time to join the Northwold Art Group. We are a very friendly bunch and we meet every Thursday evening from 7 to 9pm in the Village Hall, Northwold It's only £4 per weekly session and that includes a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit during the evening.

You can either be inspired by the subject set for that evening or simply do your own thing. The Group is a mixed bunch of experienced artists and beginners so no need to feel shy, there is always someone there to advise you and we have a small stock of different art materials and art books to inspire you to try your hand at something different. Occasionally, a Demonstration by a professional Artist is held at the Club or a Workshop on a particular medium is set up on a Saturday afternoon. We also hold an Exhibition each year which is always well received.

We always welcome new members. Come and join us and see for yourself if you like us!

Enquiries: Patsy Hood on 01366 727582 or patsyndave@waitrose.com

Solution to wordsearch on page 70

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ANGELS (5,6,N)

AWAY IN A MANGER (2,15,NE)

BETHLEHEM (1,8,E)

CHRISTMAS CAROL (14,14,N)

DONKEY (9,15,NW)

GLORY TO GOD (12,5,S)

JOSEPH (9,3,SW)

MARY (2,12,E)

SHEPHERDS (10,6,SW)

SILENT NIGHT (13,1,S)

STAR (4,15,N)

WISE MEN (11,11,NW)
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(Over, Down, Direction)

ST MARTIN AT SHOULDHAM SCHOOL

Stop Press!! The school won three awards in the recent Lynn News Education Awards

Congratulations!

Building Work Please note that building work for the new classroom to the rear of the school has now begun. The site has been set up to minimise contact between pupils and contractors/vehicles/machinery etc. However we are asking for your cooperation to ensure the Health and Safety of all in the community. Please ensure that you comply with our parking recommendations, especially at pick up times. Please also ensure that children are not allowed to play, cycle, scooter in the rear playground at the end of the day to avoid accidents. The work will continue until February 2014 but we are sure that the addition of another classroom will be worth the upheaval. Pupils will still have access to the rear playground for break times for the next few months. Please note that the side gate from Westgate street will be locked until the building works are finished. The side from the Crofts will be unlocked each day from 8.30am -9.15am and 3.00pm until 3.30pm when there are no builders vehicles moving on the premises. Academy Conversion UpdateThe Governing Body consulted parents/carers for their views about the Academy conversion proposal and sent out a letter with detailed information about this. The Department for Education have now given us approval to proceed with our conversion to an Academy. This comes at a time when several other primary schools are also actively seeking academy conversion under the Ely Diocese Multi Academy Trust. There will be no perceptible change for parents and pupils and the school uniform will not change at all. There will be a slight tweak in the school's name to include the word Academy. We do not have a date for the actual conversion vet but will

The Legend of the Lamb's Woolly Coat

A lamb named BaBa lived in the stable at Bethlehem. One night as the holy family slept, BaBa crept up to the manger to watch the baby sleep. While she watched, BaBa noticed how thin the infant's blanket was and that he was shivering from the cold. Filled with love for the child, BaBa warmed him with her own body throughout the night. When Jesus touched her rough, shaggy coat, it was transformed into a beautiful

THE SMALLHOLDING IN AUTUMN

The seed catalogues tell us that Butternut Squash is not comfortable in our normal summers and probably needs to be grown in poly tunnels or greenhouses. It also is the experience of growers that butternuts have the intriguing habit of putting on a spurt and belatedly setting fruits in September. I don't know what this has to say about this summer but for a change we have a good harvest of butternuts from both inside the tunnels and outside. This year's St.Luke's little summer has provided a few days of late sun that might have done just enough to ripen some of the September set fruit. Inside, the enchanting sweet dumpling has done very well while on the compost heap the sure-fire Crown Prince pumpkin (probably a development of Queensland Blue) has done very well. The investment in a walk-in vegetable cage seems to have paid off. At a little extra expense the anti-butterfly net has proved successful, well, not a 100% but the few intruders were not too difficult to catch. A useful observation is that white butterflies can lay their eggs through the net if brassica leaves are touching it! Apart from the investment of the butterfly net I also added on a wider mesh (pigeon proof) that will allow snow to fall through. Last winter's snow caused such havoc with the aluminium struts on the fruit cage that a little extra effort in changing the top net in time seems worthwhile!

Our apple crop didn't look too good early in the summer but August's sun with later rain improved the fruit size and we have a respectable crop, other local growers have a bumper one. This was good news for the juicing and apples from all around kept us busy for three days. The juice from the later two days seems better than from the earlier varieties. The enthusiastic group of helpers has definitely got the hang of the process and the excellent soup and cheese lunch provided by Pippa and Elizabeth (plus some Somerset cider) made for most enjoyable days. As I write there are still some apples on the trees, notably Winston, Sturmer and some Bramleys. The late keeping eaters are most useful but the trick is to leave them as late as possible but pick them before the autumn gales turn them into windfalls. It is surprising how soon an orchard can become mature. Hardly have we finished with the struggle of establishing the young trees and getting them in shape than we are faced with having to take the tops out of some of the larger trees to let in more air and light. The fight with rabbits will have to continue. It is always a joy to welcome back the winter thrushes and a good sized flock of fieldfares has taken up residence once again in and around Eastmoor. They have already discovered the Golden Hornet crab apples and are welcome to windfalls and other apples that we cannot reach.

As I see it this winter's challenge, apart from the inevitable tidying up, is to keep warm! Robin Blackall



Beachamwell WI Sunday December 1st

12.00 -3.00pm Beachamwell Memorial Hall

Christmas Fayre

You are very welcome to join us, buy Christmas goodies and enjoy festive refreshments.

Enquiries: Vesna Hudson 01366 327030 or Jenny Gabrielsen 01366 328297

Beachamwell Book Group

Tuesday December 3rd

7.00 - 9.00pm

Beachamwell Memorial Hall Book to be discussed at this meeting

'Love' Toni Morrison

Note: no meeting in January
Next meeting Tuesday 4 February

£2.00 + Bring & Buy Bookstall New members welcome

Enquiries:

Leah Spencer 01366 328536

Beachamwell Wednesday Walkers

Wednesday December 4th

Meet at 10.00am outside Beachamwell Memorial Hall This walk will be followed by a light lunch in the Memorial Hall – please ring Leah 01366 328536 to book.

Walk will be approximately
2 hours
Dogs to be walked on a lead
Next walk: Wednesday 1 January

Enquiries:

Leah Spencer 01366 328536

Beachamwell Craft Group

Thursday December 5th

2 - 4.30pm

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

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

£1.00 + Bring & Buy All welcome.

Enquiries:

Leah Spencer 01366 328536



Beachamwell WI

Thursday December 5th

7.30pm Beachamwell Village Hall

'Christmas Music' Mr Tom Golden

Enquiries: Jenny Gabrielsen 01366 328297

Beachamwell

Christmas "Pop Up" Pub Friday 6th December

6.30 pm onwards

Beachamwell Memorial Hall



Bring your friends Licensed Bar with selection of beers, wines and bar snacks

> Enquiries Susie Davis 01366 328249

A Beachamwell Memorial Committee

Event

Beachamwell

Scrabble Wednesday December 11th

> 1.30 - 3.30 Orchard House, Beachamwell

Enquiries:

Sonia Williams 01366 328774



Beachamwell Afternoon Tea and a Chat....

Wednesday **December 18th**2 - 4pm

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

Enquiries Graham & Sonia Williams 01366 328774

Beachamwell Carols by Candlelight

Monday December 23rd

6.30pm St Mary's Church



Enquiries: Gill Sanderson 01366 328818

Beachamwell

Scrabble Wednesday January 8th

1.30 - 3.30 Orchard House, Beachamwell Enquiries:

Sonia Williams 01366 328774





Beachamwell WI

Thursday January 9th

7.30pm Beachamwell Village Hall

'Home Start' Mr George Gearing

Enquiries: Jenny Gabrielsen 01366 328297

Beachamwell

Parish Council Meeting

Monday January 13th 7.30 Memorial Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have any items for the agenda please give them to me in writing at least a week before the meeting.

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

Enquiries Eileen Powell 01366 328648

Fincham Family History Group

Tuesday December 17th

2.00 - 4.00

Fincham Memorial Hall

An opportunity to begin to trace your family history or sort out what you already know at a new monthly group. £2.00 per session

Enquiries:

Janet Lynskey 01366 347694

or

Leah Spencer 01366 328536



A Dickens of a Christmas

Shropfield Productions

Sunday December 8th 3.00 Swaffham Assembly Rooms

£7.00 for members £10 non-members Accompanied children free

Tickets from Green Parrot 01760 724704 Ceres Bookshop 01760 722504

Enquiries Eileen Powell 01366 328648



The Breckland Society

Friday December 13th 7.00 pm

'The Village Craftsman'

Stephen Pope of the Norfolk Museum Service

Cockley Cley Hall
By kind permission of Sir Samuel and
Lady Roberts

Festive refreshments provided

Members: £10.00

Non-members £13.00

Booking is essential

info@brecsoc.org.uk or telephone 01366 328452



'Sally and the Sunflower'

Puppet Show

Sunday January 19th 3.00

Swaffham Assembly Rooms

£7.00 for members £10 non-members Accompanied children free

Tickets from Green Parrot 01760 724704 Ceres Bookshop 01760 722504

Enquiries Eileen Powell 01366 328648

Wereham Village Hall



Family Christmas Bingo

Saturday 14th December

Doors open 6pm—eyes down 6.30pm

Refreshments sold

Prizes—Cinema tickets, Bowling tickets and many more

Raising money for QEH Children's Ward
Contact

Sheena 01366 500192/07845 337168 or Louise 07512 750734

Wereham Pop-Up Café



Tuesday 3rd December 10.30 to 12.00

Fresh coffee/tea, home-made cakes, sit and read papers or have a natter....Just £1.00.







All proceeds go to Village Hall.

SPECIAL EVENT PLANNED?

NEW Range Cooker NEW Larder Fridge Music System....



All available when you hire

WEREHAM VILLAGE HALL!



Contact Doreen on 500218 for Bookings

Wereham Weekly Cash



Wereham Village Hall Wednesdays Doors open 6.45 pm Eyes down 7.30 pm

Raffle and Refreshments with complimentary biscuits



Enquiries: Roger Collins 01366 500088

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

Wereham Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 22nd December

4pm St Margaret's Church

Family Nativity service, play and reading by local children — no ticket, open to all



Ticket only 4.30pm



Carols by Candlelight

at Wereham Pond

On the last hymn, Dominic will lead us on his accordion to the Village Hall for food, kiddie's Story time and the 12 days of Christ-

Tickets are £3pp or Family £10 (2 adults/2children, extra children £1) includes hotdog, wedges, mince pie/cake and a drink Call Victoria 500127/07725 513583





Wereham Village Hall Wednesday 4 December Doors open 6.45 pm Eves down 7.30 pm

Enquiries: Roger Collins 01366 500088

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

Wereham Christmas Performance

Sunday 22 December

We are in need of actors for a Christmas sketch

Aspiring Actors NEED Apply Now

Produced by Debbie Rve

Intense but FUN rehearsal 10am-12pm

On Stage at 4pm Sharp in Church

Costumes & Heaps of Fun

Are you up for the CHALLENGE

Ring Debbie on 502083 or Jacqueline on 500880....

Or just turn up.



O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore
Him, (x3)
Christ the Lord.





Church Road, Barton Bendish

Traditional village Inn offering luxury accommodation and restaurant with AA Rosette

Open 7 days a week

Real ales, good food and a warm welcome



Open Monday to Saturday
from 12 noon to 11 pm
Sundays from 12 noon to 10 pm
Locally sourced, home cooked food
served every day

Enjoy our extensive gardens & unique Children's Play Church Tower, traditional deckchairs, & large multi coloured bean bags

Free Wifi available in the pub, gardens & rooms

Come and try out our speciality coffees and chocolate including
Nestle Grand Cru Coffee and Cailler Swiss Chocolate - even more
delicious served with homemade cakes

Check out the website for details of all the menus and the diary of events - www.theberneyarms.co.uk or call 01366 347995

Phil, Sue and the team will be happy to help with any enquiries





Are you at work all day?

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NATIONAL TRUST



December

Wednesday 4th and Wednesday 11th December, 1pm Beat the Rush!

Come and enjoy a roast lunch in the tearoom for £9.95 and do your Christmas shopping in peaceful surroundings.

Booking essential on 01366 328243 (Catering only)

Christmas Treats Workshop Thursday 5th December

What to make for Christmas that you can eat too

All tickets £30 Booking essential

Festive Foliage Workshop Friday 6th December

Create your own natural decoration to take home for Christmas, using willow, foliage, nuts and seeds from the Estate.

Coffee on arrival, light lunch and afternoon tea.

All tickets £35 Booking essential

Wreath-making workshop Sunday 8th December

Enjoy a festive day making your own holly wreath with the expert help of Oxburgh's gardener Morning coffee, light lunch and

Afternoon tea included.

All tickets £35
Booking essential

NOTE This is an additional date as the event on the 7th is SOLD OUT

Meet Santa at Oxburgh Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th December

Come and see Santa in his Grotto
Price Child £5

Christmas Choir Sunday 15th December

Enjoy a stroll around the property and take the opportunity to drop in to the Saloon to hear "Anglian Accents", a well-known ladies choir from Mildenhall—No admission charges

Yuletide at Oxburgh Friday 20th, Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd December

Travel back through time to Christmas past and experience the sights and smells of a traditional Tudor Yuletide. The Shop and Tearoom will be open. Free event (normal admission charges apply)



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REGISTER

BARTON BENDISH NEWS

It was lovely to see so many friends and families at out Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 20th of October. Rev Barbara took the service and Zach, James and Emily entertained the congregation with a song about fluffy cabbages! The donations of food were all given to the food bank in Swaffham and after the service everyone enjoyed refreshments. Thank you to all for the donations of food and for comina and sharing in our Harvest celebrations Mhari and Linda

Christmas is a time when our thoughts turn to other people and I think I speak for everyone in saying a big THANKYOU to all those, seen, unseen and unpaid, who organize and help at events, who put together and trudge round delivering our parish magazine (a vital source of local information) and those who help make our village special in so many other ways. Jill

HALLOWEEN

Halloween, All Hallows Eve (Hallowe'en) is the night before All Hallows Day on November 1st. It is a spooky time when barriers between the earthly world and the spirit world are at their weakest and restless spirits return from the dead. This year there were some strange happenings reported in the village on the evening of October 31st. Two ghouls and the devil accompanied by a witch and a green dragon were seen mysteriously going from house to house soon after darkness fell. Some other shadowy figures were lurking in the background. When questioned the spokesman for the group said they had come from out of the churchyard. To hide their identity from these unearthly spirits many of the doors that were knocked on were opened by people wearing masks. Fortunately a small gift of sweets was enough to send these spooky figures on their way. Of further concern is the fact that two more were seen in the vicinity of Hatherley Gardens on the same night.

Please inform G4 of any future sightings which might require further investigation.

The Halloween spirit certainly prevailed in the village and those involved were all very grateful for the lovely reception they received at each of the houses visited.

(PS It wasn't that many years ago that there weren't any young children in Barton Bendish so it's really nice to see them now getting involved with things. Jill)

BARTON BENDISH FILM CLUB CHRISTMAS FILM SHOWINGS

Presents EPIC at 2.30pm and SONG FOR MARION at 7.30pm

Saturday 7th December 2013

Barton Bendish film club proudly presents, two films this Christmas, both on Saturday 7th December at Barton Bendish Village Hall. Our Matinee performance at 2:30pm for our younger audience will be the film 'Epic', with a running time 102 minutes. Tickets at £2 for accompanied children, No charge for accompanying adults. Our evening performance at 7:30pm will be the film 'Song for Marion' with a running time of 93 minutes. Tickets £4 in advance or £5 at the door. Festive refreshments will be included for both performances. For further details please posters and /or visit website our bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk or email us at cinemabarton@gmail.com. Tickets are available from the Box Office on 01366 Thank you to everyone who has supported us during 2013 and we wish you a very Merry Christmas.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 8th December 11am St Andrew's Church

Many people take part in this service that heralds the start of Christmas services for us in Barton Bendish – but what is Christingle? Even if you haven't heard of the word before you will probably recognise the decorated orange!

Christingle means 'Christ's Light' and at Christmas it symbolises the birth of Jesus, Light of the world. A growing number of churches hold Christingle services around Christmas time. The custom of giving out lighted candles in these services originates from the Moravian Church in Germany in 1747 but they weren't introduced to the Anglican Church until 1968. Christingles are made up of different parts, each one reminding us of something. The orange represents the world, the candle represents Jesus, the red ribbon going 'around the world' represents the blood Jesus shed for us, the four cocktail sticks represent the four seasons and the four corners of the world, and the fruit and sweets, Jesus' gifts to us. Children and adults alike find this a very special service to take part in and everyone is extremely welcome to join us. Please dress for warmth, - our Church is atmospheric but can be chilly!! Refreshments will be served following the service. For more information please contact Mhari 3475849 or Linda 347563

A VICTORIAN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT, MUSIC and CAROLS

Saturday 14th December 6pm Barton Bendish Village Hall

This has always been a popular evening and it has been wonderful to have so many people, young and old, who wanted to be part of it in previous years.... and we hope that this year will be no exception!! It's not long now but please think about 'treading the boards' with us, - new and 'experienced' performers are all encouraged!!

Following the 'first half' of entertainment there will be a short interval and then a chance to sing some of our traditional favourite carols.

We will certainly be treated to an evening to remember!

The one thing we will be short of are Victorian costumes and if anyone has anything that they would be willing to loan us we would love to hear from you. There is no charge for tickets to this event, a collection will be taken on the night but we will need to know numbers, so bear the evening in mind when you are planning your diary!.

Following the entertainment and the carols, seasonal refreshment will be served!!

For more details please contact Mhari 347849 or Linda 347563

PS A Costume and Fancy Dress Hire is opening soon at the old Hammond's Grammar School in Swaffham. Details from Wendy on 07761 390269.

NEWS FROM St ANDREW'S

Christmas Tree Festival and Hall of Stalls

Many of you have asked if we are holding a Christmas Tree festival and Hall of Stalls this year. We decided after a lot of arm twisting last year that we should have a year off to allow our hard working volunteers a break. However we have been overwhelmed by the amount of people contacting us, interested in taking part and we are planning to hold the event again next year.

Even though we are not having the Christmas Tree Festival, we have decided to still erect the Remembrance Tree in the chancel during December. This tree is always sought out by visitors where messages to lost loved ones can be

placed. The messages will be blessed at the service in St Andrew's closest to Christmas.

Andrew's is open every day during daylight hours and anyone from anywhere is welcome to come and write a message. Tags for the tree will be found next to it.

Quiz Sheets

The current sheet's theme has answers that are peoples names where the first name and surname begin with the same letter. There is still time to get a quiz sheet and have a go - the deadline is 13th December.

The following quiz sheet with a theme of place names will be on sale at the end of January. Many thanks to Val Macallister who has devised this sheet for us.

Victorian of Entertainment, Carols Α Evenina Music and Don't forget to put this event in your diary! The start of the evening will have us entertained by local talents, young and old (and Barton people do seem to be a very skilled group) and following a short break there will be the chance to sing some well carols hear the familiar readings that herald and Following the carols, refreshments will be served. (If you are able to provide any refreshments we would bе glad to hear from Everybody is welcome, there is no charge. A collection will be taken during the С а 0 s Т н As always we are indebted to the large group of people who are 'hands on' and help to look after St Andrew's and St Mary's churches and also those who help at our fundraising events and those too who come and support us on the day. Names are too numerous to mention but this huge effort that involves so many from our own

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR 2013 See adverts for further details

Thank you all so much. Mhari and Linda

SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER FILMS **EPIC** at 2.30pm **SONG FOR MARION** at 7.30pm

village and beyond shows what can be achieved when a community works together.

SUNDAY 8th DECEMBER CHRISTINGLE SERVICE St ANDREW'S 11.0am

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER EVENING OF CAROLS and ENTERTAINMENT 6pm

St. Mary's Church

As we approach the end of the first year that we have been able to open the church daily I would like to thank all those who give up their time to open and close the church. I would particularly like to thank Ian Phillpot for organising the weekly rota. We have had many very positive comments from visitors who welcome the fact that the church is open when they visit and they are able to see inside our historic church.

I am delighted to tell you that we have recently received a grant of £1,000 from the Bassham Charitable Trust who were one of the Trusts which we applied to for a grant towards the restoration of the porch. This is a very welcome boost to the funds we are trying to raise for this project.

I do hope you will join us for our Christmas Services. Our Carols by Candlelight Service will be held on Monday 23rd December at 6.30 p.m. The church will, as usual, be decorated beautifully and lit with many candles. We hope you will be able to join us for the traditional Lessons and Christmas Carols and then stay after the Service for mulled wine and mince pies. There will also be a Christmas Midnight Service in Beachamwell on Christmas Eve starting at 11.45 p.m.

Finally on behalf of John Sanderson and myself and all the PCC of St Mary's Church I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a Very Happy New Year. We would also like to sincerely thank everybody who has supported the Church in so many ways over the last year.

Graham Williams (Churchwarden) 01366 328774

Carol Service: We do hope you will be able to join us for Carols by Candlelight on Monday 23rd December at 6 30 pm. If anybody could produce any mince pies for this occasion it would be much appreciated as there will be mulled wine and mince pies after the service. *Gill Sanderson*

Flower & Brass Cleaning Rota

December: 1st Sonia Williams; 8th Carole Wilson; 15th Brenda Branch 22nd and 29th Christmas [Several People] [Carol Service Monday 23rd]

January: 5th Karen Butler and Jeanne Flynne; 12th Heidi Hale; 19th Jenny Gabrielsen: 26th Vesna Hudson

If anyone is interested in joining the Flower Rota please contact me and I will explain what is involved. *Eileen Powell*

WI

The November meeting is traditionally the Annual Meeting when reports are presented and a new committee elected. Before this took place, we enjoyed a very tasty Halloween Supper which was served and provided by the Committee – Marie's apple pie was as delicious as ever.

The election of the new committee took place and the results were Jenny Gabrielsen, Heidi Hale, Vesna Hudson, Eileen Powell, Irene Ranner and Carole Wilson. Vesna was prepared to stand as President next year so was duly elected. Marie Rich and Val Sidey have stepped down. Special thanks to Marie who has been a Committee Member for many years but now feels it is the time to have a rest. We have really enjoyed having our committee meetings at your



house Marie around your lovely big table. Ann Lewing thanked the Committee for a wonderful year of friendship. Awards were presented to Brenda Branch for highest marks in the Competitions. Joan Forster won the Ann Berchem vase for flower of the month and I was absolutely delighted to receive the Ruth Rix vase for Craft Work. My mohair cardigan seemed to impress the judge.

Members were reminded to get knitting, sewing and baking for the annual Christmas Fayre on December 1st and we hope all readers will come and support us. See you at Beachamwell Memorial Hall 12-3pm, free mulled wine and lots of goodies to buy and eat. *Carole Wilson Photograph Eileen Powell*

Beachamwell Memorial Hall (Charity registration number: 303900)

Since our AGM in March 2013 we have made several improvements to the hall. Most notably we have installed new heaters, so the hall should now be warm even in the coldest weather; we have increased storage space and have had the hall cleaned regularly. There has been a lot of positive feedback on these improvements from our regular users and from people who have hired the hall for private functions and parties.

After comparing our hiring charges with those of other village halls in the area, we have produced an updated list of charges e.g. as a resident of Beachamwell it will cost you £15 to hire the hall for half a day or for regular evening meetings and only £25 for a full day. The complete list of charges is displayed on the noticeboard outside the hall or can be obtained from Leah Spencer (01366 328536 or leah @wissey.co).

There are already 8 groups meeting regularly in our village hall, providing a welcomed opportunity for people in Beachamwell to socialise throughout the year. The hall is being well used, but the committee is keen to encourage even more people to take advantage of the facilities and add to the social life of our community. Perhaps you have a skill or interest you could share - Tai Chi perhaps or Bridge or Photography or Knit and Natter or Yoga or Zumba or Carpet Bowls or Music appreciation or Art or Children's Drama ... the list could be endless! If you have an idea you'd like to try, we can offer advice about setting up a group and how to advertise etc. We will not charge for the initial hall booking, so you can test the water without being out of pocket.

Don't forget to join us for the Pop up Pub event Friday 6th December from 6.30pm!

Peter Garner (Chair), Susie Davies (Secretary), Judith Blatchford (Treasurer), Caroline Sanderson, Mike Walker, Jayne Frost, Leah Spencer

Mobile Post Office

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 11.15 - 12.00

Parish Council

The next meeting will take place on Monday 13th January 2014 at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Eileen Powell [Parish Clerk]

Wednesday Walkers

On Wednesday 4 November a group of 13 walkers set off from the village hall and walked across the footpath beside the old school across to the Gooderstone



Road and then up Murgot towards Barton Lane Bendish. We turned south along a track and then followed footpaths across to St John's Farm and home. We were amazed to see the range of flowers still in bloom and the beautiful berries of sloe, wild rose. hawthorn and bramble in the hedgerows.

The December walk will leave the village hall at

10am on Wednesday 4 December and will be followed by a light lunch in the village hall (approx. £3.00). To book a lunch please phone 01366 328536 NB January walk will be on 8 January.

Leah Spencer Photograph Sue Pennell

Betty Bowman

For those of you who remember Joe and Betty Bowman who lived in



Beachamwell for several years before moving to Swaffham, you will be sad to learn that Betty died recently.

They both took an active part in village life. Betty was particularly keen and organised several events including an Art and Craft Show and a very interesting Pancake Race one Shrove Tuesday Condolences to Joe and the family.

Eileen Powell

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS - Please note changed days/times

DATE	VILLAGE	LOCATION	TIME
Thursday	Beachamwell	Post Office	10:05 am
	Drymere	Telephone Box	10:40 am
19th December 16th January	Boughton	Sycamore House Mill Road	15:20 pm 15:35 pm
	Barton Bendish	Hatherley Gardens	9:40 pm
Thursday		The Pond	9:30 am
5th, 19th December 2nd, 16th, 30th January	Wereham	Queen's Close	16:20 pm

For services to all 'Group 4' villages ring Mobile Library Information on 01603 222267 or look at the website - www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/Mobile_libraries

VILLAGE BUS SERVICES

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

Timetable requests:- (01603) 228888, Traveline (08706) 082608 (<u>www.traveline.org.uk</u>)

FARMERS' MARKETS

Ely	Second and Fourth Saturday 8:00-2:00pm
Fakenham	Fourth Saturday 8.30am to 12:00pm
RAF Marham Swaffham	Third Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm First and Third Sunday
Watton	Sadly no longer trading

For information:- www.farmersmarkets.net or your local Tourist Information Office

VILLAGE AND PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Barton Bendish	Bill Tasker	01366 347432
Beachamwell	Caroline Sanderson	01366 328244
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429
Wereham	Doreen Rolph	01366 500218

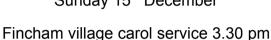
CAROL SERVICES 2013

Saturday 14th December

Barton Bendish Christmas Entertainment

Village Hall 7 pm

Sunday 15th December



Tuesday 17th December

Boughton Service of Nine Lessons and Carols 7 pm

Thursday 19th December

Shouldham Carol Service 7 pm

Friday 20th December

Shouldham Thorpe carol service 6.30 pm

Saturday 21st December

Fincham Carol Concert 7.30 pm

Sunday 22nd December

Wereham Carol Service with Nativity Play 4 pm

Marham Carols by Candlelight 6 pm

Monday 23rd December

Beachamwell Carol Service 6.30 pm





CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Sunday 1st December Advent Sunday

9.45 am Holy Communion Shouldham 10.30 am –11.30 am Café Church at Marham 11 am Holy Communion Beachamwell 6 pm Evensong Wereham

Sunday 8th December

9.30 am Holy Communion Shouldham Thorpe10 am Boughton (Breakfast Church)10.30 am Morning Worship Marham11 am Christingle Barton Bendish6 pm Evensong Fincham

Sunday 15th December

9.45 am Morning Prayer Shouldham
10.30 am Holy Communion Marham
11 am Holy Communion Wereham
11 am Family Service Beachamwell
3.30 pm Family Carol Service Fincham

Sunday 22nd December

9.30 am Holy Communion Fincham11.00 am Holy Communion Boughton6 pm Holy Communion Barton Bendish6.00 pm Carols by Candlelight Marham

Christmas Eve 24th December

4 pm Crib Service Boughton 11.00 pm Midnight Communion Marham 11.30 pm Midnight Commnion Beachamwell 11.30 pm Midnight Commnion Shouldham

Christmas Day 25th December

9.30 am Holy Communion Shouldham Thorpe11.00 am Holy Communion Boughton

SUNDAY 29TH DECEMBER 10 AM GROUP SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION FINCHAM (NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Sunday 5th January

9.45 am Holy Communion Shouldham 10.30 am –11.30 am Sunday Café at Marham 11 am Holy Communion Beachamwell 6 pm Evensong Wereham

Sunday 12th January

9.30 am Holy Communion Shouldham Thorpe
10 am Mornng Prayer Boughton (no Breakfast Church)
10.30 am Holy Communion Marham
11.00 am Family Communion Barton Bendish
6 pm Evensong Fincham

Sunday 19th January

9.45 am Morning Prayer Shouldham10.30 am Morning Worship Marham11 am Morning Prayer Wereham11.00 am Family Service Beachamwell

Sunday 26th January

9.30 am Holy Communion Fincham 10.30 am United Holy Communion Marahm (HT) 11.00 am Holy Communion Boughton 6 pm Evening service Barton Bendish

Thursday Services 2nd, 16th, 23rd, 30th Fincham, 9th Boughton

CHURCHWARDENS

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

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

Please contact the Revd. Barbara Burton or the Churchwarden in your parish.

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Bistro quiz.....a meal with a difference.

Seven teams from the surrounding villages gathered in All Saints' Community Centre for a meal with a difference. Pippa Blackall had provided and cooked an excellent meal, accompanied by cheese, home made grapes and preceded with hummus and pate. Tony Golds provided a range of wines, with apple juice from the Blackall establishment again. The meal commenced with four rounds of a quiz devised and presented by Barbara, ably assisted by May. After everyone had eaten well, the quiz continued with another four rounds. In the end, the team from Barton Bendish – with Boughton additions – won the contest. Everyone had a good time and we really appreciated the generosity which made it possible to raise £295 for church funds.

Two days later, All Saints' wore its church hat and we celebrated Harvest Festival. Rather later than normal, as so many events had been taking place in the village and in the building. We had enough people in the congregation to appreciate the singing of familiar hymns and to raise £107 for Crisis at Christmas. The packeted and tinned goods were later taken to Downham Market for transport to the Foodbank in King's Lynn. Many thanks to Wendy Roberts for decorating the church so beautifully for several recent events.

Christmas in Boughton

The annual service of Nine Lessons and Carols will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 7 pm. We will have the traditional readings and sing traditional carols with the choir in attendance, reviving the tradition of a village party after the service, with people bringing a plate of food to share. Mulled wine and coffee will be provided. Do come along and join us – it has always been good fun and in the new community space it should be even better!

We need to decorate the church before the carol service, so it will be done the weekend before. A Christmas tree has been promised and if you have seasonal greenery – holly with berries? – to bring along we would be very grateful. Boughton church dresses well with traditional leaves and greenery and this will stay fresh until the following week for the Crib service on December 24th at 4 pm. There will be a service of Holy Communion in the church at 11 am on Christmas Day itself. Everyone will be welcome.

BOUGHTON FEN REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 02.08.2013

As usual at this time of year, work on the fen is low key as we leave it to our summer visitors. We have, however, kept the wildlife walk clear with small working parties using our cutter and strimmers.

A team of moth recorders visited the fen recently, which I am sure would have looked rather spooky from above, with their bright lights dotted around the area, luring the varied species in to be recorded.

We are always pleased to let you know about youth involvement, and this has continued with further community work for the Duke of Edinburgh award, as well as the local cub pack meeting to learn about the fen.

The Fen Committee has reached the final four in the shortlist for the Lloyds Banking Group Community Fund for this area. Two of the four finalist will receive £3000 to spend on their projects. To win this, we need to be in the top two of the area public vote. It would be great to have your support in this, so watch this space for further details of how to make your vote.

With the sun shining and temperatures high, winter may seem a long way off but the team are already starting to plan this year's autumn and winter work on the fen. It would be great to see our regulars, plus some new faces later in the year.

The reed beds have grown higher and stronger than we have seen for a number of years, due to the very wet weather last winter. Often when down on the fen, you can see the marsh harriers, which we have almost taken for granted, but of course they only started to breed here successfully four or five years ago. A first for this year is that a family of bearded tits have nested in the reeds.

Finally, a group of us went to Norwich a few days ago to receive our Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership award in the Site Award Category. I would like to thank the Fen Committee, the Parish Council, and most of all the many people who have helped us achieve such high standards over the last six years. MARK POGMORE

Boughton Parish Council - Autumn Newsletter

So, what have the Parish Council been up to on your behalf for the last few months?

The on-going maintenance of our lovely Village Green continues to be a focus of activity. This facility is kept in pristine condition by the voluntary action of the councillors and parishioners, and includes mowing The Green, replacing posts around The Green and on-going maintenance of the flora around the pond. As well as regular tidy ups by the Council there was some willow regrowth that we had tried to clear a year or two ago which re-appeared and the council managed to get this removed without charge by a contractor working elsewhere in the village.

The Village street scene is kept tidy by regular checks of all signage, facilities including seats and the playground equipment also. Maintenance is carried out regularly to ensure we get the best life from all the village assets. Recently we replaced a worn swing seat, added some more steps and two additional handrails to the slide to make it more user friendly for the growing number of youngsters we have in Boughton.

The Annual Boughton challenge was held in August, with the challenge being 'bake a loaf' there were many superb entries and this year Barton Bendish nipped in to win. There was also teddy tossing from the church tower which turned out to be very interesting with many parachuting teddies flying across the churchyard. A definite must for next year!

The Parish Council have a very good relationship with the Borough Council and Highways. There is occasional fly-tipping in the parish, but once recorded a quick phone call and the Borough clean-up team usually remove it within 24 hours. If you see any fly tipping let a parish councillor know, and we will deal with it. Similarly if there are any issues with the roads through the village, the Highway rangers are notified and any works are added to their work schedule during their quarterly visits. Again if you have any highways concerns advise a parish councillor and we will act.

We are rightfully proud of our war memorial in Boughton and following the major refurbishment last year the memorial has received an annual clean to keep it looking as it should.

The Parish now owns the former BT phone kiosk and will maintain it in good condition. Although the telephony has been taken out, BT will maintain a power supply and it is good to see the light on again. Volunteers have come forward to

The Fen Committee is hoping to have been awarded a further grant of £3000 pounds via Lloyds Bank Community Fund. This is dependent upon votes cast for a number on community projects. We shall know by the time of the next update.

Dog fouling continues to be an irritant rather than a major problem. However our local PCSO now has the power to issue on the spot fines. Let's all try to keep Boughton free of the anti-social behaviour.

Looking forward your Parish Council will again be providing Christmas Trees to be placed on The Green and in All Saints' Village Centre. This at no cost to the parish and erected and maintained by volunteers. We have Boughton Village Caravan to thank for the additional lighting provided last Christmas which keeps the tree looking superb.

More next quarter! Boughton Parish Council

Boughton Scarecrow Week 2013 - Report



Well, weren't we lucky with the weather! From a dismal start to the week with storm St Jude making itself felt, when few ventured to put scarecrows out for fear of them disappearing down the road, to lovely sunshine as we had the presentations and barbecue on Saturday 2nd November. We are definitely blessed in Boughton with good weather for most of our events.

This year we had a total of 20 scarecrows out, including our mascot Big Sam on Bell Corner, a great display throughout the village. The old grey matter must have been severely tested as the range and style of scarecrows was absolutely magnificent. Worthy of mention are 'Another Windy Day', a horizontal scarecrow clinging gamefully to a telegraph pole in Stoke Road. We noted that on the day after the St Jude storm even this well-constructed scarecrow was looking a bit windswept. The Dewhurst family had found that Peter Rabbit had escaped from the farmer at Manor Farm and alas there were no pies!

killed the skillar book to buttom a fit op har fine the problem and the cool weather to take a hayride round the village kindly provided by Geoff. Their task was made

extremely difficult such was the standard of scarecrows this year.

They were unable to separate the juniors so decided to award first first prize to Henry Simpson for 'Bonkers Conkers', first next prize to Charles Lankfer for 'The Lady Loves' and first next prize to The Hawley Family, who have recently moved into the village

Again with the adults two scarecrows proved inseparable so the joint winners

were Ollie & Fiona Robinson with a magnificent 'Boughton Downhill Ski-club' suitably arranged on the only slope in the village! And Bryan & Pauline Bradley had obviously been hard at work for several days with their rendition of The Thinker, which following some graffiti had become 'The Stinker'. How many people have a full WC suite to hand for such an occasion?





Thanks are due to all those who made the effort to put out a scarecrow, and also to all the BVC-ers who helped before and on the day. Well done Boughton, another successful village event!



Bloanghtonu Village. Graes reages from the youngest members of our community.

To Frank and Peter,

Thank you very much for the modifications you have made to our playground.

The new slide steps, toddler hand rail, and new swing seat are great and our mummies and daddies love the chain on the gate!

An extra thank you too to Frank for keeping the grass so nice all year round in the playground and around the pond, it gives us such a beautiful place to play, we love it! *The little people of Boughton*

Could Charles and I please say a big thank you to Frank Reid and the parish council for making suggested safety alterations to the children's play area in the village, I'm sure there are many other users of the equipment that have noticed the changes. Merry Christmas *Angela and Charles Lankfer*

WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

<u>PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS:</u> The last meeting was held on 12th November. If you would like a copy of the Minutes from that meeting, please contact:-

Mrs. N. Cooper, Wereham Parish Clerk, Clavering House, Stoke Road, Wereham. Email: Werehampc@gmail.com. Telephone 01366 500527

The next meeting is Tuesday, 14th January at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

WEREHAM TOTS Friday mornings from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. All welcome. *Angela*

FAMILY CHRISTMAS BINGO

Saturday 14th December, Wereham Village Hall - doors open 6.00 pm, eyes down 6.30 pm. Refreshments sold. Prizes: Cinema Tickets, Bowling Tickets and many more. Raising money for QEH Children's Ward. Any enquiries to Sheena 01366 500192 or 07845337163, or Louise 07512750734

Wereham has a social group on facebook - **Wereham Village Group**. If you've lost something, have a question or something to share, come and join us!

Wereham Pop-Up Café

Another Fantastic Cafe took place on Tuesday Nov 5th, in fact the best so far,

you all raised £102.50p for the Village Hall. Well done and Thank you yet again to all involved. We had some lovely ladies with Craft Tables, who will be coming over again for December's Cafe. Please let's finish the year off with the best Cafe yet in December as well as the craft tables there will be a small raffle and oodles of festive cheer. So if you have not popped over for a while or are new to Village, come along and I promise you will have a lovely morning. Cafe is due to Pop-Up on Tuesday 3rd December at 10:30 onwards. Make that a date.

May I take this chance to say a truly heartfelt **Thank you to all** of our Customers over the last few months we have all made some lovely friends right on our door steps, without you this Cafe would not have Popped-up month after month and I wish you all a **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year....**

The Cafe will have a break over the festive holidays so January's Cafe will not take place, the first Cafe in 2014 will commence the first Tuesday in February. Thank you.

Jacqueline & Nicki...

Wereham Christmas Sketch Actors/Actresses Required for a "Play in a morning"

If you are between the ages of 10 - 16, are up for a Challenge, and are available ON Sunday 22 December and want have lots of fun along the way - then read on. Wereham's very own Christmas Sketch will take place in the Village and we are after YOU to perform it.

Produced by our very own Debbie Rye the production will take place in Church at 4pm, as part of our Carols by Candlelight Sunday. Intense but fun rehearsals will take place 10 - 12 on Sunday 22 Dec in the Church. No experience necessary, so come along and enjoy, you will be surprised how much fun you will have. More information please contact **Debbie** on 502083 or **Jacqueline** on 500880.

Update from Wereham Village Hall Committee

Update from our Fund-raising meeting on the 22nd October -

Due to G4 copy deadline, the feedback on our request for the PC to approve the new Trust Deed and new PC representative will be in the next G4 issue. We've created a facebook page, log onto -www.facebook.com/werehamvillagehall by

liking our page you will be kept up to date on events, pictures and the progress towards a new village hall.

We're also looking into a website, if you can help, please contact Helen on 07795006811.

We've booked lots of community events for 2014. These will be listed on our facebook page and on the notice board outside the hall.

A big thank you to -

- Jacqueline & Nicki who created a fantastic Halloween Party for all of our children and to Rosemary and Nikki from 'Friends' who helped in the kitchen. The kids had a great time dancing to DJ Bones and playing scary games with witches and vampires! Even Mums and Dad's dressed up. £140 raised.
- Jacqueline and Nicki who continue to create the lovely monthly pop up café. What a corker fundraiser they had this month £102! Well done and thank you to all the ladies who supported with yummy cakes.
- John Eastgate and the rest of the Quiz Team who created October's quiz night. It was so popular we've added 2 dates for 2014. £180 was raised.
- The Loake Family for organising the 1st indoor car boot. Raised £56.
- Parents and children who attended and helped with the Kids Halloween craft morning on the 30th of October– the kids had great fun. Competition winners were Dexter for scariest face on a plate, Callum for most inventive creation, Jenny for scariest picture and Chloe for best effort. A great community event.

Wereham Village Hall Bonus Ball Club – The Winners of £50 each for the November Lotto draw were Liz Baddock and K Hunt – congratulations!

Many thanks, Helen Richardson, Secretary, Wereham Village Hall.

Ink Cartridges, Mobile phones & Bottle tops- collection boxes on the piano in the hall, open 10-12 Fridays or I can collect - Victoria 501277.

Events list -

Bingo - every Wednesday, doors open at 6.45pm, eyes down at 7.30pm.

Cash prizes, raffle, and refreshments with complimentary biscuits. Enquiries to Roger on 500088.

Xmas Bazaar – 24th November, 2-4pm, 20p entrance fee, Father Christmas will be in his Grotto, stalls from the Perfect Preserves, Norfolk Cottage Gardens, Phoenix Cards, Jewellery, Candles and lots more, craft stalls, raffle, refreshments, cake stall, tombola and our famous 'Bowling for a Turkey' – come along and join in the fun! If you'd like to book a stall – call Doreen on 500218. Donations of mince pies/cakes, tombola and raffle prizes, large or small, greatly appreciated.

Pop up Café – Next date is Tuesday the 3rd December. Call Jacqueline 500880.

Xmas bumper prize Bingo – 4th December. Doors open at 6.45pm, eyes down at 7.30pm. Bumper prize raffle – popular event, be sure to grab a space early. Warmed mince pies and treats during the break. Call Roger 500088.

Indoor/Outdoor Car Boot – This event will run every month. Next dates are Jan 26th & Feb 23rd. Call Nikki/Chris on 501111.



Christmas Carols -22^{nd} December, 4pm, short children's nativity play & service at the Church, followed by a ticketed event -4.30pm Carols around the pond & hot food in the village hall. Tickets are £3p/p or £10 for family of 4 (2adult/2 children extra children £1). Price includes hotdog, wedges, drink, mince pie/slice of cake. This is a ticket only event, call Victoria on 501277 / 07725513583.

For events and pictures, log onto www.facebook.com/werehamvillagehall

If you have any queries with regards to the plans to get funding for a new village hall, or anything we're doing, please contact - Victoria Gray on 501277

Victoria Gray Chair Wereham Village Hall Committee Registered Charity:1151336 Mobile: 07725513583

Changes to scrap metal collection – How will this affect you?

From 1 October 2013, a new law called the 'Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013' commences across England and Wales.

As a member of the public who may come into contact with collectors in the area you live you need to be aware:

- Mobile collectors need a licence from every local authority in which they collect scrap metal.
- 'A licensed Collector' will display in their vehicle a valid photographic collector's licence issued by Breckland Council – this notice should be visible to you from outside the vehicle and will include the Council logo.
- From 1st October 2013 a collector can no longer pay you in cash for any scrap metal he collects from you.
- Payment can only be made by cheque or electronic transfer.
- If you are taking scrap metal to a licensed site, you will need to take formal ID with you, and the site manager must record these details.
- A valid local authority site licence must be displayed in view of the public at any site that you take your scrap metal to.

If you think an offence is being committed please contact Norfolk Constabulary on telephone number 101.

Please contact Breckland Council's Licensing Team for further information on 01362 656876

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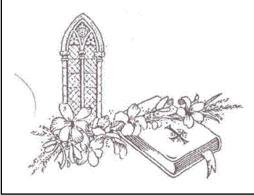
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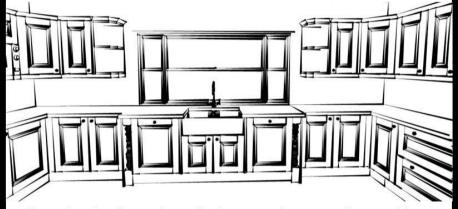
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CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH

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ANGELS
AWAY IN A MANGER
BETHLEHEM
CHRISTMAS CAROL
DONKEY
GLORY TO GOD
JOSEPH
MARY
SHEPHERDS
SILENT NIGHT
STAR
WISEMEN

The Legend of the Christmas Bell

The shepherds gathered quite a throng in Bethlehem as they journeyed to meet the newborn king. A little blind boy sat along the side of the town's road and, hearing rumours of the angel's announcement, he begged the travellers to lead him to the Christ child. No one would take the time. After the crowd passed and the streets grew silent, the boy heard the faint tinkling of a cow's bell in the distance. He thought to himself, "Perhaps that cow is in the very stable where Christ lies," and followed the bell to the stable. There, the cow led the boy to the infant Jesus.

CHRISTMAS QUIZ

- 1. In which year was Charles Dickens's 'A Christmas Carol' first published? We shall accept two years each way!
- 2. "Twas the Night before Christmas when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse..." What is the next line? (18 words)
- 3. "Which famous writer wrote 'A Letter From Santa Claus', which he sent to his daughter, Susy Clemens?
- 4. Which famous Christmas ballet features the 'Sugar Plum Fairy'?
- 5. Who painted 'The Mystical Nativity' in 1500?
- 6. Which 1846 book tells the story of a little girl selling matches on the cold streets on New Year's Eve?
- 7. 'The Snowman' was turned into an animated film in 1982, but who wrote the original book?
- 8. In the song of 'The Twelve days of Christmas', what new gift was given on the 6th day?
- 9. Can you name all 8 reindeer, as listed in 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'?



Melchior (accept also Melichior)

1 Caspar (accept also Gaspar, Jaspar, Jaspas or Gathaspa)

There are different variations of these:

and Blitzen

2.

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1. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder (or Donner – depending on version)

Raymond Briggs 8.Geese a-laying

Sandro Botticelli 5. The Little Match Girl – Hans Christian Andersen

3. MarkTwain 4. The Nutcracker

I he stockings were hung by the chimney with care, in hopes that Saint Micholas soon would

7. 1843 .r



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