

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

#### May 2021

Cover Illustration drawn by Mark Powell, Beachamwell ©

#### **WELCOME**



Well, what can we say? It is over a year since our lives changed beyond recognition Lots has already been written so suffice to say

Take care and stay safe

We would like to thank Alan and everyone who has helped with G4N in any way - we do appreciate your continued support. Good to have the printed copy back so thanks to Limetree Printers for their patience.

Happy Reading

#### Eileen and Pam

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

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

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

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## Deadline for copy for the June 2021 edition:

#### 11th May

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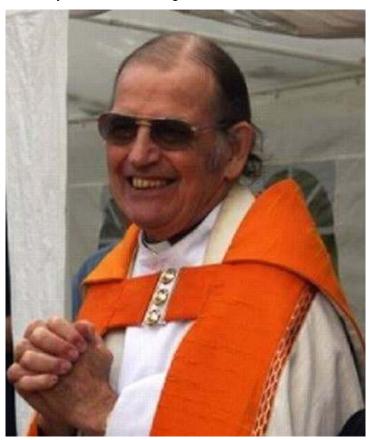
#### REVEREND ROBIN BLACKALL

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Robin on Sunday, April 18th.

He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends. He was a truly inspirational, kind and caring human being.

It is thanks to him that G4N actually exists. He introduced it in October 1999 as a one page A4 sheet which was to be delivered free of charge to every household. He was passionate about communication.

He regularly submitted articles about 'The Eastmoor Smallholding' in addition to 'From The Rectory' which were a delight to read.



Our thoughts and prayers are with Pippa and Hannah Lou. More about Robin will be in June's  $\mathsf{G4N}$ 

Eileen Powell

#### PRIESTLY RAMBLINGS



It is said that bad luck comes in three - Don't you believe it! It comes in torrents sometimes.

Take just before April Fools Day - I joke not; driving along when wham a speeding lorry threw up a stone and cracked my windscreen - 8 days before they could replace it plusa £75 excess. Ok these things happen. A few days later we had the boiler serviced - need a new one, the old one is no more - £3500- that did hurt. However, Easter Sunday came with the joy of the

Resurrection and much celebration; we were back in church with all the churches having a service on the day. All Saints Wretton with Stoke Ferry with dear Rev. Alan Bennett alongside Rev. Dr Ian Mack. Me with West Dereham and then Boughton, Rev. Ray Burman with Barton Bendish and Bishop Dagmar with Wereham and Methwold. No singing yet, however it was so good to be back together again rather than worshipping on Zoom - although it has been a God send it must be said. What could go wrong?

Easter Sunday evening I started to feel queasy. But lots to give thanks for and the family were coming for a long awaited visit on Tuesday; we hadn't seen them since last October when our Great Granddaughter was born and she was now 6 months old. Monday dawned and I felt no better. Still, I plonked myself in front of the computer and settled in for a few hours paperwork. Hubby was out and

Winnie, our little dog, was quiet for once - too quiet. I went to find out what she was up to and there she was nose deep in a largish Easter Egg!!! Luckily she hadn't reached the packet of Freddos in the bottom

of the box. I screamed just as Hubby walked through the door. Following a quick phone call to the emergency vet we jumped in the car and headed for Lynn and broke every speed limit I expect. £187 for callout fee I was informed when I phoned - who cares this is our baby!

If Winnie had been a Labrador the chocolate would have had little effect but as she only weighs in at 5kg it was dire. They took her in - we had to wait outside - and eventually the vet returned minus Winnie, my heart sank. She needed to stay with them for 48 hours. Injection to make her sick and then an intravenous drip for hydration as the toxin in chocolate affects the heart and kidneys. Leave her? For 48 hours? I cried all the way home and Hubby was very quiet - very unusual. 9am the next morning the Vet phoned to say Winnie was OK but on waking had pulled out the drip and because she was feeling better they couldn't

#### PRIESTLY RAMBLINGS

put it back in as she was so wiggly and bouncy - we could bring her home! We got there faster than before. After lots of cuddles, licks and wiggles we headed home, albeit £800 poorer, with liquid charcoal to syringe into her mouth twice a day to mop up any residue toxin. Beware it stains was the nurses warning - yes right! We got it into her but it also went all over the duvet and sheet despite the DARK towel around her - it has not come out. But, she is alive and wiggling - our very own mini resurrection.

Tuesday, the longed for visitors. I had spent the rest of Monday in bed - the queasiness had developed into a full blown lurgy and I forced myself to get up. It was wonderful to see them, although the older Grandchildren couldn't come due to lockdown restrictions, we did see our two girls, two Grandchildren and the baby. I couldn't however, eat the Christmas dinner they cooked for us, complete with Christmas Pud and crackers nor did I have the energy to open my Christmas presents from them all. A light shone in our lives that day despite my illness and has remained with us.

Thursday, I got up for a few hours to open my pressies in front of a log fire such love was in those packages. As I looked at all the Easter Eggs I wondered if I would ever be able to face eating them. They are firmly placed on top of the wardrobe out of reach of you know who. I then broke my glasses last night - 3's rain? It's a downright storm.

Whenever there is disaster, grief, or just rotten bad luck there is always hope. Hope for a brighter day ahead and that is exactly what the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ offers us. His Death and Resurrection offers all of us life eternal and God's love and blessing in this life and the next.

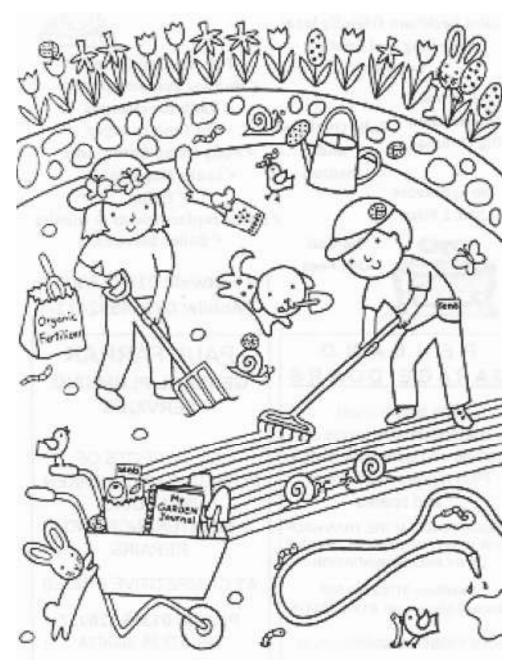
Happy Easter

No, I haven't lost it because The Easter Festival ends at Pentecost (23rd May) so plenty of time to eat those eggs.

Rev. Carol

Rev Carol Nicholas-Letch Priest in Charge Wissey Valley Benefice 01366 500704 carolnl53@hotmail.com

#### A PICTURE FOR YOU TO COLOUR



#### **QUIZ PAGE**

- 01. Do elephants drink through their noses?
- 02. Name America's Windy City.
- 03. Name the three movies James Dean starred in.
- 04. Where was Charles Dickens born?
- 05. Which two colours make up the flag of Poland?
- 06. If you are admonished in court are you found guilty or not guilty?
- 07. Who usually has the most hair on their heads blonde, brunette or redhead?
- 08. Which singer wrote one of his 1970's hit songs on a Stylophone?
- 09. What is a prairie oyster?
- 10. Does the 'face' of the 'man in the moon' look different in Australia?
- 11. Bruce, Danforth and CQR or plough are all boating terms for what?
- 12. What was The Beatles first number one hit?
- 13. What does the term 'nuclear winter' mean?
- 14. Honky-tonk music is normally played on what instrument?
- 15. Had the Duke of Cambridge been born when the Falklands War broke out?
- 16. Name a cabbage with the same name as a London West End Hotel.
- 17. Do identical twins have the same fingerprints?
- 18. How many fences are on the Aintree racecourse?
- 19. Which Prime Minister did Oxford University Dons refuse to grant an honorary degree?
- 20. What is the difference between an island and an atoll?
- 21. Unscramble LOYAL CHOPS to recall a bygone children's programme.

lagoon in the middle. (21) Play School.

(16) Savoy. (17) No. (18) Sixteen. (19) Mrs Thatcher in 1985 because of a row over cuts in education spending. (20) An atoll is made of coral and has a circular

(9) A hangover remedy consisting of raw egg, vinegar, pepper & salt. (10) Yes, it's upside down. (11) Types of anchor. (12) 'From Me to You' in 1963. (13) A hypothetical disaster when the sun is blocked out by radio active fall-out with plummeting temperatures and violent storms. (14) A piano. (15) No, Argentina invaded the Falklands on April 2nd and he wasn't born until June 21st 1984.

Answers: (1) No, they draw it up with their trunks then squirt it into their mouths. (2) Chicago. (3) 'Rebel Without a Cause', 'Giant', 'East of Eden'. (4) Portsmouth (5) Red & White. (6) Guilty. (7) Blonde. (8) David Bowie wrote 'Space Oddity.

#### ST MARY'S CHURCH, HOUGHTON ON THE HILL



We are pleased to announce that the Church, which the late Bob Davey did so much to preserve, will be open to visitors again daily, between 2pm and 4pm, from Monday 17th May. This will be followed by a programme of events during the summer.

Provisional Events 2021:

Date TBA: Celebrating the life of Bob Davey MBE

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May: Welcome Summer Bell Ringing Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July: Annual Thanksgiving Service Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July: Recital by Donald Bousted

More information please contact . admin@houghtonstmarys.org.uk.

We would also invite you to become a Friend of St. Mary's. By becoming a Friend you will be in regular touch with the church and help to contribute to maintaining it and its priceless paintings.

Kind regards,

#### The Trustees

## No-mow May

Join Plantlife's campaign to help wildlife by saying 'no to the mow' in May. Simply not cutting your grass this month can result in enough nectar for 10 times more bees and other pollinators! Identify what flowers appear and then perhaps make it a habit. The highest production of nectar-producing flowers was on grass cut once every four weeks.



This is an important plea from RSPB. Please help if you can by considering leaving a strip of lawn un-mown in May. Thank you.

Gail Koopowitz [Wereham]

#### **COUNTRYSIDE NOTES**

Sayings are very much part of our rural culture and have literally been in use for centuries but I often wonder how much longer they will remain in use. How and when did they originate? Do today's teenagers ever quote them? Will traditional sayings be yet another part of our heritage to disappear? Those mentioned below have been repeated for at least 250 years, many a lot longer. One particularly appropriate for this year was first cited in print in 1631:

'The New Year now begun, as the Days began to lengthen, so the cold began to strengthen'

Surprisingly our oldest proverb has its roots in the Bible - Matthew 16-2-3

When evening comes, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,'

In the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.'

Thomas Tusser was a 16th century English poet and farmer. Obviously not only very mindful of what was going on around him, he obviously gave it much thought as well. He was the author of many sayings still in use today.

'February fill dyke'

'A fool and his money are soon parted' 'Sweet April showers do spring May flowers'

'At Christmas play and make good cheer, for Christmas comes but once a year' 'Seek home for rest, for home is best'

'What a greater crime than loss of time'
'Who goes a-borrowing goes a-sorrowing'
'The stone that is rolling can gather no moss'
'It is an ill wind turns none too good'

'Look ere thou leap, see 'ere thou go'

Other proverbs dating back to the 16th century are 'Strike while the iron is hot'

'Better late than never, better never late' [This was first written by Chaucer in his Canterbury Tales as "For bet than never is late"]

Two well-known proverbs are attributed to James Howell, a prolific 17th century writer

'When the wind is in the east, it is good for neither man nor beast'
'All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy'

He was the author of many others, not so well known but equally wise, maxims including

'The Devil turns his back to a door that is shut'
'Burn not thy fingers to snuff another man's candle'
'To whom thy secret thou dost tell, to him thy freedom thou dost sell'
'There's fence against all things except death'
'He falls in the pit he digs for others'
'Appetite is better than surfeit'

'A hungry man is an angry man'
'To have gold brings fear; to have none brings grief'

Owe money at Easter and Lent will seem short to thee

#### COUNTRYSIDE NOTES

In 1732 British physician Thomas Fuller, M.D. published Gnomologia, a compilation of thousands of adages and proverbs collected from various sources, the better known being.

'A Stitch in Time May save nine'
'A light Purse makes a heavy Heart'
'A Man may lead his Horse to Water, but cannot make him drink'
'As demure as if butter would not melt in his Mouth'
'Beggars and Borrowers must be no chusers'
'He that scatters Thorns, let him not go barefoot'
'Every dog has its day and every man his hour'
'Faint Heart ne'er won fair Lady'
'Give him but rope enough, and he'll hang himself'
'Half a Loaf is better than no bread'

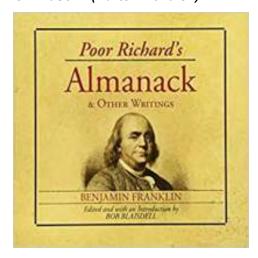
'Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise'

Lesser known ones but equally astute are

'Keep thy eyes wide open before marriage and half shut afterward'
'Learn the art of silence; the wise man that holds his tongue, says more than the
Fool who speaks'

'Tis better for thee to be wise and not seem so, than to seem wise and not be so'
'A Penny saved is two-pence got'

For further enlightenment reference **Poor Richard's Almanack** published by Benjamin Franklin, one of the Founding Fathers of the United States, in 1757. He adopted the pseudonym of "Poor Richard. **Jill Mason (Barton Bendish)** 





## CHILDHOOD AILMENTS AND CURES IN THE 1950S

Following on from my recent contributions describing a rural childhood in the 1950s I said very little about keeping healthy. We were certainly active; we didn't spend hours sitting in front of a television because there wasn't one. As country kids we played most of the time outside and a couple of tricks we soon learned was first aid in the field, so to speak. We spat on insect bites and held a dock leaf firmly over nettle stings to reduce the discomfort.

The National Health Service didn't come into our lives until July 5 1948. Before then, most working men were members of the National Health Insurance Scheme and some women and children were able to see a 'Club Doctor' because they paid into a 'sick club.' Generally speaking, though, medical attention was not sought unless there was a serious concern. Our parents had been brought up to seek their own treatments, even more so because of shortages of money and medicines during WW11. Consequently, many of our childhood ailments were treated with basic remedies inherited from the generation before. Old habits die hard.

Most medication came in bottles in liquid form. There was none of the sophisticated pills and potions in fancy packaging as there is today. So many of the illnesses we were exposed to then are now preventable. Routine vaccinations are now available for, mumps, measles, rubella, whooping cough, some forms of meningitis, diphtheria, tetanus, polio, rotavirus, TB, chicken pox (for those vulnerable) and influenza, plus a few more. Fortunately some come in the form of multi vaccines otherwise kids today would be resembling pin cushions! I remember a neighbour's son was afflicted with polio. The life changing Salk vaccine wasn't available until 1956. I recall being vaccinated against diphtheria, polio and TB but the latter wasn't until soon after I'd left school. I caught chicken pox and measles, I escaped catching mumps, well that was until my own kids brought it home from school and kindly passed it on to me. I also recollect the 'nit nurse' making regular visits to the school armed with her comb. If you were unfortunate enough to break your arm or leg it was literally put in plaster - Plaster of Paris. The cast was heavy, cumbersome and white, and all the other kids would want to autograph it!

The modern bathroom cabinet was known in those days as the medicine chest - so what was inside it?

To keep us regular **Syrup of figs** was administered, for some families it was a Friday night ritual whether it was needed or not. A worst scenario was when a bottle of **Castor Oil** appeared. There was also **Liquid Paraffin** but I think that was for the cat when it was suffering from a fur ball!!

If we happened to have a sore stomach then thick white **Milk of Magnesia** was poured out of its blue bottle and measured in a spoon. The bottle of **kaolin and morphine** was reserved for more severe cases.

**Calamine**, a pink lotion which dried to white, would be used to treat skin irritations caused by chickenpox, insect bites or stings, measles, eczema, sunburn and other minor skin conditions. I seem to remember being covered with it when I had chickenpox.

## CHILDHOOD AILMENTS AND CURES IN THE 1950S

**TCP** is an antiseptic and was sometimes used for similar purposes. It could also be applied to mouth ulcers or diluted and used as a gargle for a sore throat.

**Antipeol** ointment was applied to minor skin problems in the hope it would give soothing relief. I recall once having a boil to which **kaolin poultices** were applied. Boils, like styes, don't seem to be so common now. In those days many a young lad suffered from them particularly on his neck. Another affliction that doesn't plague people these days, thanks to central heating, is chilblains. In winter they were the bane of many peoples' lives. To reduce the unbearable itching there were no end of home remedies tried, amongst them being rubbing with thick slices of onion or potato or wetting them with urine or **methylated spirits.** 

Colds presented their own challenges and there were several cures for a blocked up head. I have unpleasant memories of sitting with a towel over my head, leant over a bowl, breathing in deeply the fumes of steaming **Friar's Balsam** – ugh I can still smell it! Alternatively **camphorated oil** would be rubbed on your chest or even goose fat! I was very relieved when a jar of **Vick** vapour rub appeared one day in the cupboard.

Although these basic medicines have been superseded with fancy concoctions most continue to be available.

Two other reliable standbys, which are still in use, could be found in the kitchen cupboard.

**Vinegar** is a bactericide and was used in various forms to treat many kinds of ailments such as minor cuts and abrasions and alopecia. Its anti-inflammatory properties eased the discomfort suffered from wasp stings, insect bites, shingles and sunburn and also as an aid to alleviate or cure arthritis. Cider vinegar was used as a mouthwash for healing mouth ulcers, a gargle for sore throats and ticklish coughs and diluted as an aid to digestion. At one time it was the cure-all for virtually any complaint, along with **honey**.

**Salt** is a very strong antiseptic agent, which will directly fight certain types of bacteria and germs infesting an open wound. For centuries, saltwater has been used as a natural remedy for healing skin injuries. It was used by ancient cultures such as Egyptian and Greece as treatment for abrasions, cuts, mouth sores, and skin irritations. Today saline solution is still being used, and is often recommended, by the medical profession for

aiding the healing of similar ailments and even used as a post-operative drip. Salt crystals can also be applied directly but it is painful to do so as it stings.

Our grandfathers would have also have raided the stables for horse liniment to rub on in the optimistic hope it would ease their rheumatics!!

Jill Mason (Barton Bendish)



## COULD YOU HELP A YOUNG PERSON WITH A DISABILITY TO THINK ABOUT THEIR FUTURE?

The CSV Futures Project supports young people with learning disabilities to explore their options as they think about leaving education.

Volunteer Mentors provide one to one support to a young person to help them develop a personal profile of their skills and interests, their likes and dislikes and their future goals. The Mentor can then support the young person to start working towards these; this can include accessing work experience and training opportunities plus the chance to try out volunteering and new social activities.

CSV needs volunteers who can offer a couple of hours of their time each week to mentor the young people as they make choices about their futures, raising aspirations by exploring together the young person's skills, interests and abilities.

We are looking for people ages 16+ - Mentors can come from all walks of life and no experience is needed but patience, the ability to listen and a sense of humour are all useful skills. Mentors receive full training and support and out of pocket expenses are paid.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a Volunteer Mentor for the CSV Futures Project please contact:

Vicki Howling, the project co-ordinator for an informal chat.

Telephone 01366 386972 or 07926 044845

Email vhowling@csv.org.uk

CSV (Community Service Volunteers) is the UK's leading volunteering charity. Social justice is at the heart of what we do; empowering people to have a positive stake in society and tackle barriers to community participation through creating volunteering and learning opportunities.



CSV, 237 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9NJ

Find out more at www.csv.org.uk

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UK

#### MAGPIE CENTRE REOPENS IN TIME FOR SUMMER



After more than a year of having activities severely curtailed as a result of lockdown, the Magpie Centre, home of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association, welcomed its first riders back on April 12.

Numbers will be increased gradually, according to the level of assistance that each participant needs, and carriage driving is scheduled to resume on April 26.

Said West Norfolk RDA Chairman Colin Perriss: 'I feel that the return to riding and carriage driving will mean that our riders and carriage drivers will once again be able to experience the significant and therapeutic benefits of interacting with horses.

"The Magpie team is looking forward to seeing the joy on the faces of the participants and their families and returning to what we do best, making sure that "it's what you CAN do that counts", he continued.

The start of Equine Assisted Learning Therapy (EALT) sessions, expected to begin in March, was delayed, but the first one is now planned for April 21. Each of these courses, run in association with mental health charity MIND, runs for three sessions, and the second course should start in June.

Meanwhile, the sensory garden, designed primarily to benefit people living with dementia, is becoming well established, and we are very grateful to everyone who has donated such a huge variety of plants.

The gazebo is now up and painted and as soon as restrictions are lifted fully, Magpie Centre volunteers will contact care homes to promote the Tea With a Pony programme, in which care home residents, and others, plus their carers, can visit to enjoy tea and cakes, spend time with some of the ponies and enjoy the variety of experiences provided by the wheelchair-friendly garden.

#### **Caroline Dudley**

# Every minute, six people over 65 suffer a fal/

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Tel: 01553 616200 www.asklily.org.uk

Helping adults in west Norfolk get involved in their community







2018-0-2

#### Lily Has Changed!

From 1 July 2018, our Lily service expanded to include everyone over 18, not just those in later years.

Lily provides a comprehensive range of support in West Norfolk to combat loneliness and social isolation in adults of all ages. The project is linked to the 'No Lonely Day' initiative and encourages our residents to develop friendships and engage in their local communities.

The Lily online directory lists organisations, services and activities that help people to live healthy, active and independent lives. It includes information relevant to adults of all ages. If you would like your event or organisation to be included in the directory, get in touch asklily.org.uk

Lily Advisors from local charities are available to offer one-to-one support to people at home or in community locations.

Lily has a strong focus on community development, by helping groups to arrange activities and encouraging volunteering, and by providing community events, onsite information sessions, and support for employers, schools, and colleges.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to know how Lily can help, call 01553 616200 and choose option 6.

#### Free Home Assessments on Offer

Older, disabled or vulnerable residents of West Norfolk are being encouraged to book an appointment for a free home assessment from Careline Community Services.

The assessments, which are carried out by a team of qualified staff, will help residents, who may be living with a disability or dementia, or who are simply older and less mobile, to identify concerns in their property which may be affecting their day-to-day life.

The assessor, trained by the Disabled Living Foundation, will inspect the home to see whether measures could be introduced that would reduce the possibility of slips, trips and falls and generally make it easier for people to live safely and independently in their own homes.

Measures that could be considered include installation of a Careline personal alarm, improved lighting arrangements, heating checks, draught proofing, smoke detectors and easy-to-use taps along with recommendations for other adaptations that may reduce any potential risk to the resident. Practical solutions for those living with dementia are also available, this includes signage or colour differentiation for those who suffer with memory loss and are visually impaired.

The assessors will also be able to advise whether any grant funding is available for any works required.

To book an appointment call the Careline Community Team on 01553 760671

#### **RECIPE PAGE**

#### Janssons Frestelse

This recipe is for a typical Swedish fish dish called Janssons Frestelse which translates as 'Jansson's Temptation'.



#### Ingredients:

6 potatoes approx. 500g

2 onions

1 tin of Anchovy fillets in brine or oil 125g

150 ml whipping cream

50 ml standard milk

1 tbsp Anchovy brine or oil

2 tbsp breadcrumbs

#### Method:

Grease an ovenproof dish

Peel and cut potatoes into strips

Peel and chop onions

Layer potatoes, onions and Anchovy fillets in the dish. Top layer should be potatoes.

Pour mix of cream, milk and Anchovy brine or oil over the potato layer Spread breadcrumbs evenly on top Bake in preheated oven in 200C for 50-60 minutes

Can be served as is or with a little melted butter

#### Inger Kavanagh (Beachamwell)

Thank you Inger - looking forward to trying this recipe. [Ed.]



#### OH DEAR.....

- 1. It's the end of the world. I've just found a crack in my favourite wine glass!
- 2. Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.
- 3. What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.
- 4. Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? Swarm.
- 5. If you're bad at haggling, you'll end up paying the price.
- 6. Just so everyone's clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.
- 7. A commander walks into a bar and orders everyone around.
- 8. I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.
- 9. Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can prevent florist friars.
- 10. How much did the pirate pay to get his ears pierced? A buccaneer.
- 11. I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.
- 12. My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet'. It's a cover band.
- 13. I lost my girlfriend's audiobook. I know I'll never hear the end of it.
- 14. Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Because you can't see in the dark.
- 15. Why is it unwise to share your secrets with a clock? Well, time will tell.
- 16. Bono and The Edge walk into a Dublin bar and the bartender says, "Oh no, not U2 again."
- 17. Prison is just one word to you but for some people it's a whole sentence.
- 18. I'm trying to organise a hide and seek tournament, but good players are really hard to find.
- 19. What do you say to comfort a friend who's struggling with grammar? There, their, they're.
- 20. I went to the toy store and asked the assistant where the Schwarzenegger dolls were displayed. He replied, "Aisle B, back."
- 21. What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up their own incision? Suture self.
- 22. I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness.
- 23. Scientists got together to study the effects of alcohol on a person's walk and the results were staggering.



#### SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE

"The man who does not read, has no advantage over the man who cannot read." Mark Twain

Recently I read about a tiny Norfolk village where a kind of weather proof cupboard houses a Community Library. Anyone can use it and books can be borrowed, exchanged or bought if a reader finds that they can't bear to part with what they've just read. The wonderful thing about this is the way that the community are happy to share something they value and enjoy with each other. In my mind, that is exactly what a community is, a group of people who look out for each other and who are prepared to share some of what they have.

And this is what I hope for with our Community Library, based at St Andrew's in Barton Bendish. Not only will it bring new people into our lovely church and give them a reason to return but the very act of sharing things is richly symbolic. It is entirely apt that the library operates from the church since Christian teaching fosters the concept of community and advocates sharing and generosity as a defining principle. After the long, dark days of Covid, communities will need rebuilding and using the library will provide an opportunity to feel part of something once again, having been forced to live an anti social life for over a year. The library will be open every day and boasts a significant childrens' section as well as an impressive array of CDs and DVDs. There are books for all tastes. The system is built on trust and allows anyone to take out four items at a time. We welcome donations or exchanges as well as borrowing. All items are for sale for a suitable cash donation. Everyone is welcome. The more people that use the library, the more successful it will be. Hopefully we will not be the subject of outrage like some Norfolk villages which house their libraries in phone boxes have displayed collections of erotic literature and copies of Mein Kampf!

Finally, I thought I would offer my selection of ten favourite books read during Lockdown, as I attempted to use my time wisely!

- 1. 'Many Different Kinds of Love' A story of Life, Death and the NHS. This is a very moving account of Covid sufferer Michael Rosen, a much loved Children's Laureate. I had the pleasure of hosting him for a day during the early part of my teaching career.
- 2. 'The Ministry of Truth' by Dorian Lynskey-for anyone who fears that our freedoms and rights to hold opinions of our own are being eroded.
- 3 'The Beekeeper of Aleppo' by Christy Leftteri, one of the most moving books I've ever read. If we ever thought that our own lives were difficult.....

- 4. 'The Dig' by John Preston. The Sutton Hoo story.
- 5. 'Parallel Lives' by Phyllis Rose, just in case you think that marriage can be unfair to women...
- 6. 'The Mystery of Charles Dickens'...not the angel you might expect.
- 7. 'The Wild Silence' by Raynor Winn
- 8. 'Russian Roulette' The life and times of Graham Greene by Richard Greene. The novelist was deeply flawed but, nevertheless, is one of my heroes.
- 9. 'Hamnet' by Maggie O' Farrell. Shakespeare in a different light And
- 10. 'In the Beauty of the Lilies' by John Updike, the greatest prose writer of the Twentieth Century.

Happy reading!

Andrew Stephen

#### **MISSING PAGE 65 FROM APRIL'S G4N**

Several people have asked what happened to page 65 in last month's magazine...... Well here it is......

#### 'ALMOST SINFUL'

"Lockdown is nearly at an end. We will need to make full use of our extended and refurbished village hall and do what we can to urge the reopening of the Berney Arms. More urgently still, we must do everything in our power to keep our parish church. If we allow it to become a Festival Church or forget its place at the heart of everything our community aspires to be, now that would be a sin." Since I wrote it, we have been allowed to open the church every day and a sink hole of sorts has appeared outside the pub! Some people took exception to my article but ,since then, the Archbishop of York has announced the appointment of a personal assistant or "critical friend at £ 90,000 a year. That may seem like a good use of money to him but it would have helped to keep a few churches open.

Finally, The Archbishop of Canterbury has admitted that he, "got quite a few things wrong" on the closure of churches. He told clergy not to go into their churches but now he admits that he was too "risk adverse". So much so that a number of clergy defied him and kept their churches open for private prayer. Perhaps he might think on this during his sabbatical. I still feel that the church failed us all during our time of great need but that is just an opinion. How wonderful it is that in this country I have the right to express it.

Andrew Stephen [Barton Bendish]

#### DOWNHAM MARKET LIBRARY IS OPEN

#### We look forward to welcoming you back! You can

- follow our one-way system to browse the shelves
- pre-order a selection of up to 10 books for adults for free through Select and Collect Use the online form at norfolk.spydus.co.uk or call 01603 774777
- collect reservations
- borrow our Grab and Go selection book bags
- book one 60-minute session per day on a computer. To book a session or if you need any help using our computers or filling in your Census form, call 01603 774777
- collect Tricky Period products and Toiletries To Go
- return items through the drop box or self-service kiosks
- download the FREE Spydus app to check out books on your smartphone
- download eBooks, audio books, newspapers and magazines by visiting www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

#### We've made some changes to keep you safe, so

- there is no 'Open Library' access
- please bring your library card with you or join in the library or online
- we may ask for details from you to help with Test and Trace
- you will need to wear a face covering in the library
- we have a one-way system for social distancing
- hand sanitiser is available for use on the way in and out of the library
- surfaces and computers will be regularly wiped down
- returned books will be quarantined for 72 hours
- sorry, there are no newspapers, magazines or seats in the library and the toilet is not available.

#### We've made some changes to our opening hours

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10.00am – 6.00pm

Wednesday: 10.00am – 6.00pm

Thursday: 10.00am – 6.00pm
 Friday: 10.00am – 6.00pm
 Saturday: 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Sunday: Closed



One day
you'll look back and
realize you worried too much
about things that
didn't matter.



#### **ART IN BOUGHTON**

Let me tell you a little bit about myself. My name is Clare Insall and have lived in Norfolk most of my life. I grew up in Norwich and now live in the beautiful and peaceful village of Boughton.

I have worked in the Travel Industry for over 30 years, from skiing, scuba diving and now for a local travel company based in Swaffham who specialise in holidays for the single mature traveller. It is only recently I discovered my passion for painting. Having not picked up a pencil or paint brush since school it was all a bit daunting to put paint to paper, however I was fortunate enough to have a talented artist as a father and naturally he always encouraged me to paint alongside him.

So, in 2018 I dusted off my paints and brushes, started painting and now I can't stop!

Being mainly self-taught the whole process was a bit nerve-racking to begin with. But gradually it was not just family asking me to paint for them, it was friends as well, and then it successfully grew to friends-of-friends wanting commissions! For the first time in 2019 I was even brave enough to successfully exhibit my work, alongside some of my artist friends in Norwich. Once restrictions lift and life gets back to normal I aim to exhibit some of my work locally!

A lot of my artwork is inspired by my surroundings and I find myself spending a lot of time painting townscapes and coastal villages. There is something I love about the combination of man-made construction which sits hand-in-hand with the natural beauty of the countryside and sea. The intriguing perspective of the buildings, with their dynamic light & shadow, can make for a stunning picture, along with a sail boat casting shadow and reflection upon the turquoise sea.

I get a lot of requests for commissions of pet portraits, which can make for lovely birthday, anniversary and Christmas presents or simply a gift to yourself! You can see examples of a number of these on my website (clareinsallart.co.uk) and it's always very satisfying when I can create a portrait of a very special pet for a special occasion.

I paint mainly commissions, whether a favourite house, town scene, pet portrait, memory of a special holiday or whatever comes to mind....

Just get in touch, I would love to hear from you. <a href="mailto:clareinsall@hotmail.com">clareinsall@hotmail.com</a> or 07565 141222

Follow me on Instagram: insallc

or browse my website: clareinsallart.co.uk

Clare Insall



Dora

#### Group4 News

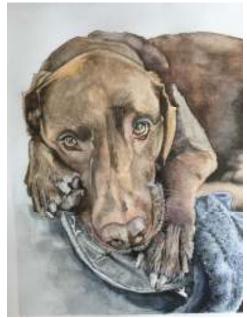




Blakeney



Port Owen, South Africa



Padstow Harbour

Pippa

#### MILITARY ASSESSMENT

In the military each serving person would receive an annual report written by their seniors on their performance that year.

The following are actual comments from British Military reports. (In the current politically correct world we live in, guess these are no longer written down!)

- 1. His men would follow him anywhere, but only out of curiosity.
- 2. I would not breed from this Officer.
- 3. This man is depriving a village somewhere of its idiot.
- 4. This officer can be likened to a small puppy he runs around excitedly, leaving little messes for other people to clean up.
- 5. This Officer is really not so much of a has-been, more of a definitely won't-be.
- 6. When she opens her mouth, it seems only to change whichever foot was previously in there.
- 7. Couldn't organise 50% leave in a 2 man submarine.
- 8. He has carried out each and every one of his duties to his entire satisfaction.
- 9. He would be out of his depth in a car park puddle.
- 10. Technically sound, but socially impossible.
- 11. The occasional flashes of adequacy are marred by an attitude of apathy and indifference.
- 12. When he joined my ship, this Officer was something of a granny; since then he has aged considerably.
- 13. This Medical Officer has used my ship to carry his genitals from port to port, and my officers to carry him from bar to bar.
- 14. This Officer reminds me very much of a gyroscope, always spinning around at a frantic pace, but not really going anywhere.
- 15. Since my last report he has reached rock bottom, and has started to dig.
- 16. She sets low personal standards and then consistently fails to achieve them.
- 17. He has the wisdom of youth and the energy of old age.
- 18. This Officer should go far, and the sooner he starts, the better.
- 19. In my opinion this pilot should not be authorised to fly below 250 feet.
- 20. The only ship I would recommend for this man is citizenship.
- 21. Couldn't organise a woodpecker's picnic in Sherwood Forest.
- 22. Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap.
- 23. Not the sharpest knife in the drawer.

- 24. Gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming.
- 25. Has two brains; one is lost and the other is out looking for it.
- 26. If he were any more stupid, he'd have to be watered twice a week.
- 27. Got into the gene pool while the lifeguard wasn't watching.
- 28. If you stand close enough to him, you can hear the ocean.
- 29. It's hard to believe that he beat 1,000,000 other sperm.
- 30. A room temperature IQ.
- 31. Got a full 6-pack, but lacks the plastic thingy to hold it all together.
- 32. A gross ignoramus, 143 times worse than an ordinary ignoramus.
- 33. He has a photographic memory but has the lens cover glued on.
- 34. He has been working with glue too long.
- 35. When his IQ reaches 50, he should sell.
- 36. This man hasn't got enough grey matter to sole the flip-flop of a one legged budgie.
- 37. If two people are talking, and one looks bored, he's the other one.
- 38. One-celled organisms would out score him in an IQ test.
- 39. He donated his body to science before he was done using it.
- 40. Fell out of the stupid tree and hit every branch on the way down.
- 41. He's so dense, light bends around him.
- 42. If brains were taxed, he'd get a rebate.
- 43. Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled.
- 44. Takes him 1.1/2 hours to watch 60 minutes.
- 45. Wheel is turning, but the hamster is long gone.



## BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

#### **Barton Bendish Parish Council**



The government has advised that at the moment they will not be extending the legislation which allows us to hold virtual meetings beyond the current end date of 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. We will therefore be returning to face-to-face meetings in the Village Hall from May.

The date of the next meeting has been changed due to the above and will now be on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 from 7.30pm in Barton Bendish Village Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 7.30pm and will be followed immediately by the Annual Parish Council

#### Meeting.

All meetings are open to the public to attend.

Miss Sarah Thorpe, Parish Clerk Telephone number: 01945 430930

Email: <u>bartonbendishparishcouncil@aol.co.uk</u>

Further information is available on the Parish Council website at

bartonbendishparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

#### St Andrew's Church

Things are definitely looking up – we've actually got some events planned for Barton Bendish!!!!! After a year off hopefully normal service will be resumed and we'll need to start thinking ahead. We'll soon be back to being asked to make cakes and sell raffle tickets!!

There is a Celtic Service being held in St Andrew's on Sunday May 23rd at 6pm and Village Open Gardens on Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> 11am - 5pm (see page 31)

If you'd like to join in and open your garden or help in any way please contact *Liz Stephen on 01366 347549* 

**Please note** Barton Bendish Hall Garden will **NOT** be opening for the NGS on June 6th despite it being listed in the NGS booklet. However it will be open on June 27th for our Open garden Day.

## BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

#### **Barton's Community Library**



This is now up and running in St Andrew's Church and will be open every day from 10am to 4pm.

There is an impressive, well presented selection of books, CDs and DVDs available to browse, borrow or even purchase.

The choice on offer is wide enough to cater for everybody's tastes. Much time and thought has gone into making this happen so I hope it will be made good use of.

#### David Mason

[Well done Andrew—a lot of work but worth it.—Ed.]











## 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

#### **Barton Bendish**



Church Service with a Difference
Sunday 23rd May at 6pm
St Andrew's
This is an evening service in the
Celtic tradition.
We invite everyone in our community
to join us.

For further information contact Mhari Blanchfield (01366 347849) or Linda Webster (01366 347563)

#### Barton Bendish Open Gardens

Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> 2021 11am to 5pm

Many gardens open - including <u>Barton Bendish Hall</u> gardens Morning Coffees, Ploughman's Lunches (available from noon) and Afternoon Teas in the Village Hall

Vintage and Classic cars, Children's Trail, Raffle, Plant Stall, Cake Stall, Pimm's Tent,

Community Library and Second Hand Bookshop Admission £5.00 (Children Free) Proceeds to St Andrew's Church PE33 9GF



#### **Mobile Post Office**

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

#### Welcome

Many people have come to live in Beachamwell recently. Due to the strange times we are having to cope with you have not been able to fully experience the social side of the Village. Some of you may have heard about it and it is very good. Hopefully we will get back to normal soon. Meanwhile, a very warm welcome to everyone and long may you enjoy your new life here.

If you would like to be kept informed of various happenings eg - lost, found, events etc you can let me have your email address. It will only be used as 'blind copy'. **Eileen Powell** 

#### Urgent - Enforcement of 30 MPH Speed Limit on Chestnut Walk

Some of you may have missed this information which Alan and Karen Butler asked to be shared with the residents of Beachamwell

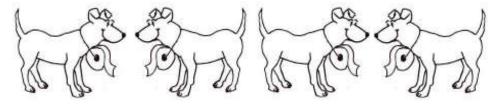
In reference to the above subject, it has been increasingly concerning about the speed in which people drive down our road. Few stick to the speed limit of 30 MPH in fact some treat it as a runway, you can hear them going up the gears despite it being only 30 MPH. I wish I could say it was down to just a few individuals especially the younger ones but I am afraid to say it is all ages. We have put up with this for a long time now but the final straw was on Sunday when an individual went down our road like the proverbial bat out of hell"!!! What makes matters worse is that due to the current way we all live now, the parcel delivery van's driven by very busy drivers have increased significantly, not all bad but some are. The scary thing is you don't have to be outside in the garden, you can hear the speed merchant's from our living room.

Myself and Karen have lived on this road now since 1998 and in that time we have lost 4 pet cats our fear now is with such shocking disregard for the 30 MPH speed limit we dread the loss of a child. Consequently, we call upon everyone's assistance to urgently do something to make / educate people that the speed limit is there for a reason and is not optional. *Allan Butler* 

Various residents responded to Allan and Karen's plea and all agreed that it is dangerous. One resident raised awareness that the other extremely dangerous road nowadays is the one through Drymere to Swaffham. 'The speed folk travel along that, and in the middle of the road, is really frightening'. Do bear this in mind when on this road.

Please note the Parish Council's response to this problem – see page 35

Several residents [not wishing to be named] have commented on the unpleasantness of dog fouling all throughout the village along all the verges, footpaths and pavements. "We have a lot more dogs and their owners walking each day than we had in previous years and no doubt most are responsible citizens and collect their dog's waste. However there are a persistent few who are not and do not! These thoughtless owners are spoiling the village and are creating a health hazard and surely they cannot have missed the many bins around Beachamwell for dog waste."



This has been a problem for years but it is now getting worse.



#### The Village Hall



A zoom meeting was held w/b 5<sup>th</sup> April. No date yet of reopening for social groups. However, the local elections will be taking place there.

We are really looking forward to opening up though and having a pop up pub whenever we are allowed!! **Cathy Friend** 

#### The Friends of St Mary's Church - Update on the Lead Roof



Many of you will have seen contractors and surveyors on the roof in recent days. A survey was carried out on the 1 April and unfortunately this found that the original specification for the replacement of the lead was not quite accurate and also that there is further timber work which is needed before the lead can be replaced. The work was due to start on the 6 April but following the survey this date has had to be put back for various permissions and approvals to

be obtained by the insurers.

There is also a rumour going around that there is still a possibility of having a terne steel roof - this is not the case. Our roof has a step in it which makes steel impossible to have. If the roof was flat then it would be a better idea, but the church and certainly FOSM cannot afford to have the roof restructured for this purpose, so lead is the only realistic option. However, we are obtaining quotes for an alarm system which should at least reduce the risk of the lead being stolen again.

This whole process has been completely frustrating for those in the village who have had to manage dealing with the insurers, surveyors and contractors. Thanks must go especially to Pat Clarke for all her support and hard work.

The current best estimate for the start date for the lead replacement is still uncertain with the work taking 4 weeks. We are not yet in a position to see what the implications are for the repair work to the thatch which was to follow immediately thereafter.

#### Peggy Ray [FOSM]

#### **Beachamwell Parish Council**



The government has advised that at the moment they will not be extending the legislation which allows us to hold virtual meetings beyond the current end date of 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021. We will therefore be returning to face-to-face meetings from May. Unfortunately, Beachamwell Village Hall will not be reopening in May and therefore the venue for the next meeting has been moved to Barton Bendish

Village Hall.

The Parish Council has just appointed a new Parish Clerk/RFO following the resignation of Sarah Thorpe, due to other work commitments. The new Clerk/RFO is Sharon Sweet who can be contacted on the details shown below.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be taking place immediately before the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May from 7.30pm. All meetings are open to the public to attend. Face coverings must be worn and social distancing will be observed.

A meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March. At this meeting an issue relating to speeding vehicles in the village was discussed. Your Norfolk County Councillor, Fabian Eagle, has agreed to provide some additional signage to the Parish Council, to encourage motorists to slow down, and the Norfolk Constabulary Beat Manger for the area has agreed to carry out speed checks when he can. Hopefully these measures will help reduce the problem.

Date for the next Parish Council meeting is:

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 from 7.30pm for the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting. Both meetings will take place in Barton Bendish Village Hall.

#### Clerk to the Council:

Mrs Sharon Sweet

07823 772270 <u>beachamwellparishcouncil@gmail.com</u>

Councillors:

Cllr. Tom Sanderson (Chairman)

01366 328244 / 07803 963804 tomsanderson@btconnect.com

Cllr. Diana Lambert (Vice Chairman) 01366 328227

Cllr. Richard James 01366 328968 <u>rij1james@gmail.com</u>

Cllr. Pat O'Donnell 01366 328385

#### **COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD**

#### **MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS**

DATE	VILLAGE	LOCATION	TIME
Tuesday 18 May	Barton Bendish	Hatherley Gardens	11:10 am
Tuesday 18 May	Beachamwell	Old Post Office	09:45 am
Tuesday 25 May	Drymere	Telephone Kiosk	09:45 am
Tuesday 18 May	Boughton	Mill Road	10:45 am
Friday 14 May	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 (Barton, Beachamwell, Boughton & Drymere) or 01366 383073 (Wereham) or look at the website - <a href="https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/your-local-library/mobile-library-routes-and-timetables">https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/your-local-library/mobile-library-routes-and-timetables</a>

#### **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:- <a href="https://www.farmersmarkets.net">www.farmersmarkets.net</a> or your local Tourist Information Office. Check to see if they are actually taking place.

#### VILLAGE, COMMUNITY and PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Barton Bendish	Mary Simons	01366 347 790	
Beachamwell	Cathy Friend	01366 328892	
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429	
Wereham	Angie, Lyn or Sara	07497 430005.	weekdays 10 - 3
	www.werehamvillage	hall.co.uk/ hallhire	Anytime



West Norfolk Community Transport provides door to door transport for the local community allowing access to the market towns for medical appointments, shopping or visiting friends.

Village	Day	Destination	Price	With Concessionary Pass	Office
Barton Bendish	Friday	Downham Market	£5.50	£4.00	Swaffham
Beachamwell	Tuesday	Swaffham	£5.50	£4.00	Swaffham
	Friday	Downham Market	£6.00	£4.00	
Boughton	Tuesday	Downham Market	£5.50		Kings Lynn
Drymere	Tuesday	Swaffham	£4.50	£3.00	Swaffham
	Friday	Downham Market	£5.00	£3.00	Swaffham
Wereham	Tuesday	Downham Market	£4.50		Kings Lynn

You need to be a member and you must prebook your seat.

For more information please call

Kings Lynn - 01553 776971

Swaffham - 01760 720906

#### **ONLINE SERVICES IN MAY**

Online Zoom services are due to take place as below. Services may change as the pandemic situation changes.

Thursday 6th May

10.00am Holy Communion See link 1 below

Sunday 9th May [Sixth Sunday of Easter]

6.30pm Service of the Word See link 2 below 8.00pm Compline See link 4 below

Thursday 13th May

10.00am Holy Communion See link 1 below

Sunday 16th May [Seventh Sunday of Easter]

6.30pm Service of the Word See link 2 below 6.30pm Evening Prayer See link 4 below

Thursday 20th May

10.00am Holy Communion See link 1 below

Sunday 23rd May [Pentecost - Whit Sunday]

6.30pm Service of the Word See link 2 below 8.00pm Prayer and Meditations See link 4 below

Thursday 27th May

10.00am Holy Communion See link 1 below

Sunday 30th May [Trinity Sunday]

6.30pm Service of the Word See link 2 below 8.00pm Prayer and Meditations See link 4 below

Link 1 - <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3119595155?</u>

pwd=dy9nNzRJby91OVprZG9nSzlMSEIPZz09

Link 2 - <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82822775006?">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82822775006?</a>

pwd=eU12TDN0VTJpZFVocId4WIpvZEM4dz09

Link 3 – <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84842560875?">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84842560875?</a>

pwd=Ym82ajBzWIZzdXRoYVNiUW1JSWRsQT09

Link 4 – <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83015183191?">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83015183191?</a>

pwd=Y2toS2RkeEJDQUhBSXICektzZXg4dz09

# CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY (PRIORY GROUP)

At the time of publication, these are the intended services for May.

All services are subject to Covid-19 restrictions and change or cancellation.

For up-to-date information check our website at <a href="http://finchamgroupnews.co.uk/">http://finchamgroupnews.co.uk/</a> or the WNPG website at: <a href="https://www.westnorfolkpriorygroup.co.uk/calendar">https://www.westnorfolkpriorygroup.co.uk/calendar</a>

#### Sunday 2nd May [Fifth Sunday of Easter]

11:00am Watlington Holy Communion with Bishop Stephen

6:00pm Online Evening Prayer See Link below

#### Sunday 9th May [Sixth Sunday of Easter]

9.30am Shouldham Thorpe Holy Communion 11.00am Fincham Morning Prayer

11.00am Stowbridge TBC

11:00am Watlington Holy Communion

6:00pm Online Evening Prayer

#### **Sunday 16th May** [Seventh Sunday of Easter]

11:00amMarhamMorning Prayer11.00amShouldhamHoly Communion11:00amWatlingtonHoly Communion

6:00pm Online Evening Prayer

#### Sunday 23rd May [Pentecost - Whit Sunday]

9.30am Fincham Holy Communion 11:00am Watlington Morning Prayer

11.00am Wimbotsham TBC

6:00pm Online Evening Prayer

#### Sunday 30th May [Trinity Sunday]

11:00am TBC Benefice Service – HC

6:00pm Online Evening Prayer

#### Midweek Services

Every Tuesday at 10 am -Tuesday@10 **Zoom service** via Link below.

Every Wednesday at 11 am - Watlington Morning Prayer

Link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84842560875?">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84842560875?</a>

pwd=Ym82ajBzWIZzdXRoYVNiUW1JSWRsQT09

# CHURCH SERVICES IN MAY (WISSEY GROUP)

These are the projected services during May, but all are subject to change or cancellation as the pandemic situation changes.

Latest details may be found on the Wissey Valley Facebook group at: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/205146954071877/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/205146954071877/</a>

#### Sunday 2nd May [Fifth Sunday of Easter]

9.30am	Methwold	Service of the Word
9.30am	Whittington	Holy Communion
6.00pm	Wereham	Evensong

#### **Sunday 9th May** [Sixth Sunday of Easter]

9.30am	Methwold	Service of the Word
9.30am	Wretton with Stoke Ferry	Service of the Word
11.00am	Wereham	Holy Communion

#### **Sunday 16th May** [Seventh Sunday of Easter]

9.30am	Methwold	Holy Communion
9.30am	Whttington	Service of the Word

#### Sunday 23rd May [Pentecost - Whit Sunday]

-		
9.30am	Methwold	Service of the Word
9.30am	Whittington	Service of the Word
11.00am	Boughton	Holy Communion

#### Sunday 30th May [Trinity Sunday]

5.30pm E	Boughton	Compline
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#### Midweek Services

Tuesdays 9.00 am **Wretton with Stoke Ferry** Morning Prayer Thursdays 10.00 am **Wretton with Stoke Ferry** Eucharist

There are currently **no services** at St. Andrews West Dereham due to renovations to the church.



Saint Margaret's - Wereham



All Saints - Boughton

#### **WISSEY VALLEY GROUP CHURCHWARDENS**

Barton Bendish:	Mhari Blanchfield Linda Webster	01366 347 849 01366 347 563
Beachamwell	Rev. Carol Nicholas-Letch Canon William Burke	01366 500 704 07770 630 202
Boughton:	Pam Wakeling	01366 500 429
Methwold	Alan Burbridge	01366 727 002
West Dereham	Graeme Pressley	01366 501 179
Wereham:	Sheila Smith	01366 858 165
Whittington	Susan Smith	07849 157 080
Wretton	Anita Horgan	01366 500 785
Whittington & Wretton	Elaine Taylor	01366 500 948



#### All Saints' Church



It was lovely to see a congregation back in church on Easter Sunday after so many months. We had a lovely Communion service with the Revd Carol Nicholas Letch, our Priest in Charge. There were friends from Beachamwell and Downham Market as well as from Boughton itself. After so long a lockdown, some people were visiting families or unwell, but we remembered them and I'm sure they thought of us. We will be having another service on the fourth Sunday of every month if there is a clergy person available. There is always a shortage of personnel, and in the pandemic the retired clergy are careful and we are losing the Rural Dean to a new post in the Diocese of Oxford. We will all miss him and his wife Carol, as they have been such a joy to have in our communities.

By the time you read this, we will have held the Annual Parish Church Meeting, to elect the Churchwarden and PCC, and to report on the church over past year. Notices will have been up in the village and at the church. We've had a very strange year. In the first lockdown, all churches were closed, and in subsequent lockdowns natural caution and the need to protect each other meant that services in our benefice were suspended and everything went online. Where would we have been without Zoom and the skill and dedication of Dom Rye from Wereham in putting together services for those who relied on them?

We aren't yet able to restart Breakfast Church, as food, drink and singing are all banned but we hope that one day it will be possible. Our finances were recently boosted by a Covid grant and Angela Faherty has notified all the village of a fundraising effort. I hope people will have supported this. We had no Open Gardens last year, and we can't do it this year, so our major fundraiser was cancelled and we need to try whatever we can to make it up. The heating, lighting, insurance, maintenance of the building can't be covered by the donations of the small congregation. Many thanks to those few generous people who have regular standing orders for the church. Every little helps!

Pam Wakeling

#### **Parish Council**

#### **Boughton Village Gateway Planters**

We have deployed two new planters at the village gateway on Mill Hill Road to add a bit more colour to the approach to the village.

These have been donated by Mrs Christine Matthew and the "Friends of Glancammarch Brewery" using funds raised at pre-pandemic social events. Thanks to all friends and neighbours who donated. Mrs M will look after them for us.

The plants are intended to be "deer proof" but we will no doubt see what the Muntjac have to say about that. We have a secret ingredient in the compost to deter them!

Neil Matthew Chair, Boughton Parish Council





#### Water and Wild Swans



The continuous, heavy rainfall over the entire winter, culminating in snow on several occasions (which then melts) has caused water to appear in all sorts of unexpected places. Boughton Fen has been badly affected by this, with huge areas of relatively deep water appearing in places that we certainly have not seen in the last fifteen years. In places, parts of the footpath began to resemble an oxbow lake. These wet areas would subside, only to recur a couple of weeks later after another spate of downpours.

It was fortunate that our reed cutter optimistically asked that we open both outfalls in December, in the hope that we could bring the water levels down ready to cut reed in January. This, of course, never happened as water levels rose everywhere on the surrounding land, and in the fen, but it probably stopped the fen from flooding the adjacent roads, even if it did not achieve the result that we had hoped for. I have watched the levels in the outfalls rise and fall by as much as ten inches as water running down the hill and out of the land drains grew in depth, often several days behind the rain.

The surrounding land was not so fortunate. Stringside Drain became so deep that the gauging board was almost completely submerged, and land on the opposite side of the river was completely flooded as it burst its banks. Trees in both the garden opposite, and the wood opposite lower fen stood in several inches of water, with the land being totally submerged. Even several days later,

when the water level had clearly dropped, the top few inches of the gauging board was still only just visible, and it was impossible to discern where the river finished and the neighbouring properties started.

Large lagoons appeared on both sides of the road, heading towards Eastmoor. This must have been deep as two mute swans were quite able to swim in it, for several days.

Happily, after a drier spell, things are beginning to return to normal, although it is still very muddy and poached in places.

On the subject of swans, for the greater part of the winter, the land around Boughton has been home to a mixture of both Whooper and Bewick swans. They have come and gone from the harvested maize field above Boughton Fen, and also on maize fields, both harvested and unharvested, just beyond Netherhall. Numbers have varied from two to about fifty, and the mix of species has sometimes changed several times during the day.

They have been feeding on the fallen maize, as food elsewhere has been short

in supply, or underwater. one local farmer put it 'There's not enough left behind on a beet field for them now. after a modern beet harvester'. They have also been seen almost continuously near Runcton Holme throughout the winter. This has been quite unusual, and a rare treat, as most people only get to see them by paying to get into Welney Wetland Centre. Locally, they are often on fields near the beet factory, or out near the Sixteen Foot Drain. but we have not had them as close to home as this, or so easy to view.

Spring is round the corner!!

Sue Pogmore



#### WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

**Mobile Post Office** will park near the village pond on the following days/times Monday and Thursday 14.00 – 14.15 Tuesday and Wednesday 12.25 -12.55.

#### Wereham Village Hall

Based on the latest government roadmap for moving out of Covid-19 lockdown, Wereham Village Hall will remain closed until at least 17 May. The current guidelines state that from that date and up to step 4 of the roadmap on 21 June, the following measures will apply:

Controlled indoor events can take place with up to 50% capacity. Hospitality settings will be able to open in accordance with the "rule of 6", so community cafes, coffee mornings and social clubs can take place. Film shows, plays, concerts and sports matches can take place, subject to Social distancing. Indoor sports activities, including exercise classes, table tennis, badminton can take place. Up to 30 people will be able to attend weddings, receptions, funerals, wakes and christenings.

Organised outdoor entertainment can take place.

The 'rule of six' will be abolished for outdoor gatherings, replaced with a limit of 30 people.

Given that this could be subject to further change and amendment regarding what is permissible within the guidelines and the dates for implementation, we encourage everyone to check our website www.werehamvillagehall.co.uk and our Facebook page on a regular basis for the latest updates.

There is certainly great enthusiasm from many of our existing groups and activities organisers to recommence meetings and sessions as soon as possible, so we hope very much to be able to welcome everyone back into our lovely Village Hall before too long. Once again, we would like to thank everyone for their understandings and support during these uncertain times.

#### Keith Murray (Trustee, Wereham Village)

#### Wereham Car Boot and Cafe.

We plan on re-opening the car boot on Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>. 2021. For details please contact Philip on 01366 501330, 07759033492. E-mail rosemary.pease@btinternet.com.

#### **Short Mat Bowls.**

We plan to start bowls again on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2pm until 4pm. For details please contact Philip details as above.

#### Wereham Craft Group

The date for the next meeting will be Tuesday July 13<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am until about 12.30pm. For details please contact Rosemary on 01366 501330, 07749240606, e – mail. rosemary.pease@btinternet.com.

#### Wereham Parish Council

Next Meeting Date – 4 May 2021 at 7.00 pm (Virtually on Zoom – Check Agenda on Website for Zoom meeting details) 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

#### **WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS**

werehampc@gmail.com . The Agendas for meetings are always published on the Wereham Village Notice Board three clear days before the meeting, and notified via the Wereham Parish Council Facebook Page and on the website www.werehamparishcouncil.co.uk You will also find minutes of all meetings here too. Please contact the Clerk should you wish to attend virtually once the agenda is public for joining instructions. The Council are meeting via Zoom virtually until further notice and in following guidance issued to it by authority bodies, invitation information and how to attend is placed on each meeting agenda. The meetings to be able to meet online expire on 7 May 2021, so please check the Parish Council website for further information on meetings post 7 May 2021.

Coronavirus - Covid-19 (As at 31.03.21)

Volunteers and Assistance with Shopping: If there are volunteers who could help other residents in the village with essential shopping, please contact the Parish Clerk who will add you to a register that is being kept. If there are residents who still need help with essential shopping or medical prescriptions with no family or friends network affected by covid-19, please also get in touch with the Parish Clerk who will be able to discuss options available for helping you. This will be in place until June 2021 should it be confirmed at that time by Government that we have reached the intended point.

Please continue to keep to the social distancing guidelines, for the latest Government Advice view the following websites: The HSE have now created a dedicated Coronavirus page for businesses here:

https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/coronavirus.htm

This should be used in conjunction with the NHS information here:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

The Borough Council have support available for individuals The Borough Council have support available for individuals and businesses more information can be found on their website: https://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

The NCC have support available for individuals and businesses more information can be found on their website:https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus

Highways – Paths and Roads – Defects Please report anything that you see verges, trees, potholes, 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. Should a report not be resolved as you wish please then contact the Parish Council. The Parish Council will report issues that it finds, but if residents do this also, we can increase the repairs that we notice 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



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Email: admin@homestartswaffham.org.uk

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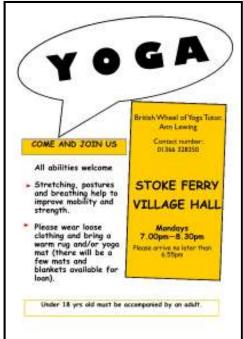
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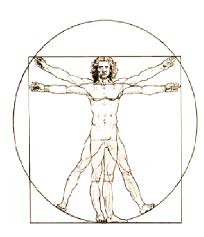
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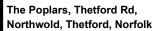
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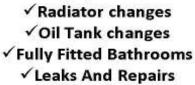
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