

Group 4

NEWS

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

May 2023

Cover Illustration drawn by Mark Powell, Beachamwell ©

WELCOME



This is the 257th edition of G4N.
Once again we would like to thank

- ◆ Alan for dealing with the adverts
- ◆ Kevin for the website
- ◆ Andrew and Liz for collecting and delivering to the villages.
- ◆ Limetree Printers for their super efficiency.
- ◆ Everyone who has helped with G4N in any way

We do appreciate your continued support.

Happy Reading
Eileen and Pam

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

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

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

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GROUP 4 TEAM VILLAGE CONTACTS

Barton Bendish: Jill Mason
Sandmere, Church Rd, Barton Bendish
Tel: 01366 347 928
masons.sandmere@btinternet.com

Beachamwell: Eileen Powell
20 All Saints Way, Beachamwell
Tel: 01366 328 648
powells@beechemwell.plus.com

Boughton: Pam Wakeling
Robet, Mill Hill Road, Boughton
Tel: 01366 500 429
p.wakeling621@btinternet.com

Wereham: Viv Scott
Orchard House, Flegg Green, Wereham
Tel: 01366 500346
vivienne.scott@googlemail.com

Please submit all information through your Village Contacts.

**Deadline for copy for the
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11th May

ADVERTISING

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

Tel: 07779 787499 or 01366 386125
e:mail: group4news@gmail.com

If you use any of the advertisers in the magazine, please mention where you have seen their advertisement.

WEBSITE

www.group4news.co.uk
Kevin Fisher, Tel 01366 502224

FROM THE RECTORY

The Spirit of Truth

The Feast of Pentecost falls, this year, on the 28th May, seven Sundays after Easter. It is a celebration of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Like so many other Christian Festivals it has links with those in Judaism, in that it is observed 50 days after another principle Feast but there the similarity ends. *Shavuot* or Feast of Weeks was both a harvest festival and a celebration of the Gift of the *Torah*, (the first five books of the Bible) the Law given through Moses.

I don't propose to elaborate on the doctrine of the Trinity. Sufficient to say that the Holy Spirit is an integral element of the One God. In the latter part of Jesus earthly Ministry, knowing that He was going to be betrayed, promised that He would not leave His disciples 'orphaned'. "I will ask the Father and He will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth..." Certain ancient manuscripts use the word Helper rather than Advocate. In St. John's Gospel we read that after Jesus' Resurrection He appeared to His disciples and said "As the Father has sent me, so I send you. When He had said this, He breathed on them and said, "received the Holy Spirit". In the Acts of the Apostles the disciples experienced 'a sound like the rush of a violent wind'. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them'.

That occurrence on the Day of Pentecost is why the Christian Church celebrates this Gift from God fifty days after Easter. How do we experience the Holy Spirit? Perhaps, for you, the original title of Holy Ghost has greater resonance. There is an ethereal quality to that word and hence to the experience. By contrast, to some of us the Holy Spirit has such force that He cannot be ignored. Often Prayers are said, that the Holy Spirit will urge and guide us. That, through Him, God's Will and Purposes may be revealed for us to pursue. An answer to those Prayers comes in the form of both advocacy and help. He advocates the correct path to take and helps us to remain on that path.

I used the term 'the Spirit of truth' as a title quite deliberately for that is what He is. The opposite of following that advocacy and help is to believe in falsehood. To be led astray by things that are truly ethereal and transitory. Those, ever present, temptations to consume too much for our own good. To ignore the needs of others around us. To pretend that if we envelope ourselves in the ubiquitous flashing images and sound-scape to which we are all subject all will be well. But then there is the 'still small voice' of reason and truth. Pointing us in the way that leads to life. We can, of course, ignore our conscience. We may even find that an easier thing to do. But, in the final analysis, we know the right way to go. For we know right from wrong, reality from fiction, truth from falsehood. For God is the Way and the Truth and the Life. Let us allow His Spirit daily to lead, guide and encourage us towards our salvation in Christ. **Tony Mills**



PHOTO I.D. FOR VOTING AT MAY ELECTIONS

The government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at some elections. From 4 May, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections. This will apply to:

1. Local elections
2. Police and Crime Commissioner elections
3. UK parliamentary by-elections
4. Recall petitions
5. From October 2023, it will also apply to UK general elections.

Individuals who do not have an accepted photo ID can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. Further information about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day can be found at: <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id>

Part time housekeeper/cleaner wanted

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

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

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

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

On a free lance/self employed basis. £12.50/hour. Training will be provided. Start Mid May 2023.

Please call or message Tina 07587369700 for further information.

RECIPE PAGE

Quick Pork Chop Suey

A light, quick meal that is ideal for hot days

Ingredients

3 Pork loin chops cut into bite sized pieces.

Half a sweet white onion very roughly chopped and separated into bite sized pieces

6 - 8 medium chestnut mushrooms cut into bite sized pieces

1 red pepper cut into bite sized pieces

1 packet of bean sprouts

The zest and juice of a lemon

1 - 2 teaspoons of dark soy sauce

1 teaspoon of coconut oil

Method

- Heat up a large wok/sauté pan/large frying pan until it is close to smoking. Keep the heat on high as this cooks really quickly
- Add the coconut oil and the pork and brown on one side
- Turn the pork and add the mushrooms, onion and pepper. Cook until hot but still crispy
- Add the bean sprouts and the lemon zest and quickly stir through for no more than one minute
- Add the soy sauce and stir through
- Remove from the heat and squeeze on the lemon juice
- Serve hot.

Geoff Siddons

1A Chestnut Walk, Beachamwell,

Swaffham, PE37 8AZ

01366 328204 or mob 07597 912389

geoffsiddons1@gmail.com



COUNTRYSIDE NOTES

Conservation is the buzz word at the moment and one of the greatest achievements has been the re-introduction of Red kites. They were once very common but became extinct in England and Scotland during the 19th century with only a very small number surviving in Central Wales. By the early 1930s only two breeding pairs remained. Legal protection and careful conservation measures gradually brought Red kite numbers to 50 by 1988, all still in Wales. In July 1990 13 young birds were brought over from Spain and released in the Chiltern Hills. Reintroductions across Britain since have proved to be an outstanding success and there are now estimated to be about 10,000 in the UK. They have recently become a common sight over Barton and at the end of February a large flock of approximately 50 were seen flying over at dusk. In winter some birds of prey species have a communal roost so presumably this is where they were headed.

Red kites are certainly magnificent birds but their numbers are rapidly increasing and even though they are listed as being carrion feeders they are also predators. However, there is insufficient carrion to feed them as well as the local buzzards and crows. Red kites are very large birds with appetites to match and are not selective in what they kill. They will take young hares and rabbits as well as voles which are also the staple diet of owls and kestrels. In spring they turn their attentions to the chicks of ground nesting birds such as skylarks, lapwings, grey partridges and curlews, all of which are on the RSPB's Red List of great conservation concern.

Striking a balance is the challenge. Birds of prey populations are escalating, as are relatively common species such as magpies, crows and gulls, all of which take their toll at nesting time. Many would feed on carrion were it available but legislation now in place means that livestock carcasses must be disposed of in an approved way and not left where they died. Rabbits used to form the staple diet for many birds of prey but their numbers have been greatly reduced by viral haemorrhagic disease which, unlike myxomatosis, kills them quickly with most dying underground thus depriving kites of a valuable food source.

Loss of habitat is blamed as being the main reason farmland birds and some species of mammals have declined but the huge rise in bird of prey numbers must be having an effect. There appears to be an obsession in encouraging and even reintroducing predators, whether they are birds or animals, with little thought being given to the birds and animals they indiscriminately kill for food. Many of these are already listed as vulnerable and at risk of eventual extinction. Predators need to find food every day and don't differentiate which species they catch to satisfy their hunger. Conservationists soon need to take a step back and look at the broader picture as prey species decline and those that survive are put increasingly under pressure. ***Jill Mason [Barton Bendish]***

QUIZ PAGE

1. Facing the door of 10 Downing Street is no 11 to the right or left?
2. When the Queen was crowned how many children did she have?
3. Name one of the two types of apples crossed to create the Pink Lady variety.
4. Which popular crisp snack features a smiling face with a huge moustache?
5. How many years of marriage do you celebrate on your China Anniversary?
6. The name Steinway and Sons is chiefly associated with the manufacture of which musical instrument?
7. Rearrange OH RULE OUT SIX to identify a BBC TV documentary presenter.
8. If you flew to America's Lone Star State where would you be?
9. How many Prime Ministers did Britain have during the late Queen Mother's lifetime?
10. Where is your trapezium bone?
11. Identify these pop groups - female monarch, with no charge, lawmen, birds and aeroplanes have them.
12. What kind of pet is a Red Self?
13. If someone gave you a piece of applewood what would you do with it?
14. Which top snooker player is known as 'The Nugget'?
15. Actors Brian Cox and Sir Anthony Hopkins both played which infamous character in films?
16. Why do we say older people are getting long in the tooth?
17. Is the Atlantic the world's deepest ocean?
18. Was there ever really a pirate called Captain Kidd?
19. Name the supermarket in TV's 'Coronation Street'.
20. If you visit Fingal's Cave, which Scottish Island are you on?

Answers: 1) Left; 2) Two - Prince Charles and Princess Anne; 3) Golden Delicious or Lady Williams; 4) Pringles; 5) 20 years; 6) Piano; 7) Louis Theroux; 8) Texas; 9) 20, from the Marquess of Salisbury in 1900 to Tony Blair; 10) In your wrist; 11) Queen, Free, The Police, Wings; 12) A long haired cat; 13) Eat it - it's cheese or bacon; 14) Steve Davis; 15) Hannibal Lector; 16) Gums recede making teeth look longer; 17) No - it is the Pacific; 18) Yes - William Kidd was born in Greenock in 1645; 19) Freshcos - formerly Bettabuy's; 20) Staffa

Wereham

Pop Up Café

Tuesday 2nd May

10.45 -1 .00

Enjoy a delicious traditional lunch of Ham, Egg & Chips (or Vegetarian Sausage, Egg & Chips) at only £3.00 per person. Choose from a variety of hot drinks - each served with one of our luscious home-made cakes or pastries - for just £2.00

Enquiries: 01366 500 218



Registered Charity Number 1168472

Beachamwell

Book Group

Tuesday 2nd May

7.30

Book to be discussed over a glass of wine

'A Single Thread'

Tracy Chevalier

New members welcome

Enquiries: 01366 328470

Barton Bendish



A village 'bring and share' picnic

Sunday 7th May

Village Hall at 12:30pm

Everyone is welcome.

Further details are included on the Barton Bendish Page

Boughton



A village 'bring and share' picnic lunch.

Monday 8th May

On the green

From 12.30

Enquiries 07899912020

Beachamwell



The Big Coronation Lunch

Sunday 7th May

Village Hall at 12:00

Everyone is welcome.

Further details are included on the Beachamwell Page

Wereham



Celebrating The Coronation

Saturday 6th May and

Sunday 7th May

See Page 23 for details of what will be happening

Barton Bendish Community Library and Second Hand Bookshop



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

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

Beachamwell

24 Public Rights of Way? Where are
they?

Come and explore with the
Wednesday Walkers

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

All welcome

dogs on leads please



Enquiries:
01366 328452

Barton Bendish Bernie Pop Up Pub



Friday 12th May
7.00pm

Last orders 10.30

**Barton Bendish Village
Hall**

Enquiries: 01366 347 983

Wereham



**CAR BOOT SALE
AND CAFÉ**

Sunday May 28th

Village Hall

8.00am to 1pm

Cafe opens from 8am for hot
breakfast rolls, snacks, and
drinks.

£5.00 a pitch to book indoor/
outdoor pitch

Enquiries: **Philip 01366 501330,**
07759033492,
rosemary.pease@btinternet.com.

Boughton

Full English Breakfast Church



Every 2nd Sunday in the
month at 10am
All Saints Church

All ages very welcome.

We eat, we chat, we sometimes sing
a hymn, we listen to a bible reading
and offer up our prayers.

Contact

Pippa (01366) 328663

or Pam at

p.wakeling621@btinternet.com

Please contact us the week before.
Dietary requirements can be catered
for with advanced notice.

No specific cost, donations though
gratefully received.

Beachamwell



Afternoon Tea and a Chat.....'

May 17th

2 - 4pm

Village Hall

Enquiries: 01366 328108

Barton Bendish Pop Up Café

June 28th 12 noon - 3.30

Village Hall

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

Everyone welcome-no need to
book

bartonbendishevents@gmail.com

Barton Bendish

Host Live Theatre

'The Rest of Our Lives'
[Part of Norwich & Norfolk
Festival]

Sunday 14th May
3.00pm

Barton Bendish Village
Hall

Tickets £12,
concessions £10.80,
Under 18 £7.50

To book please contact

Box Office: 01366 347849

email: cinemabarton@gmail.com

www.bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk/

Wereham Norfolk Farmers Market

Saturday, 20th May

9am-3pm

Village Hall



Wereham

SHORT MAT BOWLS



Every Thursday
2pm until 4pm

Enquiries:
01366 501330

Barton Bendish Film Club

Proudly Presents:

‘Ticket to Paradise’

Saturday 20th May

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

Barton Bendish Village Hall

Tickets £5

**Free post screening refreshments
included**

To reserve your seat please contact

Box Office: 01366 347849

email: cinemabarton@gmail.com

www.bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk/

Beachamwell Pop Up Pub



**Friday 26th May
7.00pm**

Last orders 10.45

**Beachamwell Village
Hall**

Enquiries: 01366 328892

Wereham The Village Cinema

Proudly Presents:

‘A Man Called Otto’

Friday 26th May

7.30pm

Wereham Village Hall

Tickets Adults £5.00

15-16 £3.00

**10am - 3pm from Village Hall
or on the door**



**Registered Charity
Number 1168472**

Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)

**Wednesday 31st May 2023 at
7.30**

**Indoor meeting at the
Assembly Rooms, 1 Market
Place, Swaffham, PE37 7AB.**

More info at

www.narvos.org.uk

**“Birds seen in the County of Norfolk
since 1850”**

Presented by Neil Coe

**Visitors most welcome. Admission
£4 on the night; free to NarVOS
members.**

Enquiries: 01760 724092

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

Coronation Celebration May 7th at 12:30pm



A village 'bring and share' picnic in the Village Hall 12.30pm
There will be no charge for this event. Everyone is welcome

The plan is to have a 'bring and share' picnic in the Village. Tea/
coffee/soft drinks will be provided. Bring your own booze!

If you are able to attend please let Linda or Mhari know by
dropping a note into either the letter box at the Old Rectory or
Rowan House with your name, contact phone number and the number in your
party by Saturday April 30th Please also indicate what food you would like to
contribute.

Friday 12th May, 7:00pm - The Bernie Pop-up Pub - Barton Bendish Village Hall

The 2nd edition of our pop-up pubs will run on Friday 12th May, 7:00- 10:30pm
Come and chat over a glass with friends and neighbours. Everyone welcome
Fine selection of Ales, Wines, and Spirits

Barton Bendish Village Open Gardens Sunday June 4th 11am to 5pm

Numerous gardens will be open including those at Barton Bendish Hall. The
historic St Mary's Church will also be open.

Ploughman's Lunches available from noon in the Village Hall followed by
delicious Afternoon Teas

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

Admission £5.00 (Children Free) Proceeds to St Andrew's Church PE33 9GF

Our Village Open Gardens event normally attracts a lot of visitors. It is a day
when the village has a real buzz about it and it would be lovely to have some
new gardens on show this year. They don't need to be big or spectacular so why
not join in and open yours. From experience I know that visitors just love
exchanging ideas and comparing notes.

Our Village Open Gardens Day also requires a lot of help with catering, selling
entry and raffle tickets as well as in many other ways. If you don't feel you want
to open your garden then maybe you'd be willing to spare a little of your time to
help.

Help in any form is greatly appreciated on what always turns out to be a very
busy day.

Contact Mhari – 01366 347849 or bartonbendishevents@gmail.com

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

Sunday 14th May, 3:00pm - Live theatre comes to Barton Bendish!

Barton Bendish Village Hall is pleased to have been selected as one of only 3 venues to host a show promoted by Creative Arts East as part of the Norfolk and Norwich Festival. The organisers are keen to make sure the festival reaches people from across the county, not just Norwich, and they have chosen Barton Bendish to host a show as part of this world-class arts festival.

As part of the Norfolk & Norwich Festival, Barton Bendish Village Hall will be hosting **The Rest Of Our Lives**, a cabaret of life and near death. Two middle-aged lives in an eclectic, spontaneous, predictable and random decline. A joyful dose of dance, circus and games. Jo is an old dancer, George an old clown. International artists with 100 years of life experience between them, armed with a soundtrack of floor-fillers, a book of raffle tickets and a sprinkling of eco-friendly optimism. Joyful, celebratory and hilarious.

"Whatever your age, it will make you very happy indeed"

Tickets :£12

Concessions: £10.80

Under 18s: £7.50

To book call 01366 347849 or email cinemabarton@gmail.com

Tickets are limited so do book early.

Parish Council

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th May at 7.30pm for the Annual Parish Council meeting, in Barton Bendish Village Hall. All meetings are open to the public to attend.

Sharon Sweet PSLCC, Parish Clerk

Email: bartonbendishparishcouncil@aol.co.uk

Further information is available on the Parish Council website at bartonbendish-parishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Heritage Service

Is being postponed for unforeseen circumstances. It's being replaced with an Evensong service.

More details in due course

Liz Stephen



BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Mobile Post Office

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

Beachamwell Parish Council



At the March meeting of the PC it was agreed to apply for Coronation grant funding from Breckland District Council. This funding was available to councils wishing to purchase flagpoles and flags, or to pay for the maintenance of an existing flagpole. The parish council will use the funds to contribute towards the refurbishment of the existing flagpole.

Residents of Drymere had contacted the PC, concerned over the lack of road gritting in icy conditions on the Swaffham to Drymere road. At the January meeting the parish council agreed to contact Norfolk County Council Highways

Department and ask if this road could be included in the winter gritting schedule. NCC highways have advised this request will be added to the list for consideration over the summer. Any additions or deletions are considered within the resources available and adhere to NCC highways winter policy. The final decision will be made by the Director of Highways, Transport & Waste. An update on whether the Swaffham to Drymere road can or cannot be added, will be received by the parish council towards the end of the summer.

The parish council have become increasingly concerned about the damage being caused by vehicles driving on the edge of the village green. The village green is a valued space for recreation and exercise and is for everyone to enjoy. The parish council respectfully ask people not to drive vehicles on the village green.

Mrs Sharon Sweet PSLCC Clerk to Beachamwell Parish Council

beachamwellparishcouncil@gmail.com

Councillors:

Cllr. Richard James (Chairman) 01366 328968 rj1james@gmail.com

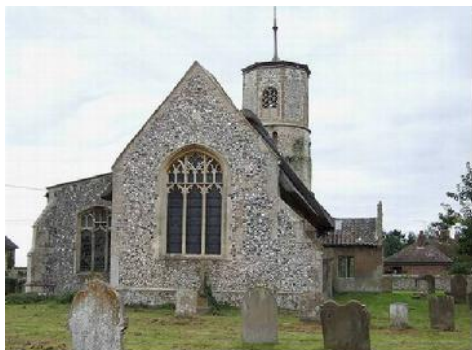
Cllr. Diana Lambert (Vice Chairman) 01366 328227

Cllr. Pat O'Donnell 01366 328385

Cllr Geoff Siddons 01366 328204 geoffsiddons1@gmail.com

BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

St Mary's Church



The restoration of St Mary's may appear to many to have stalled by the lack of activity at the church. However, there is ongoing work behind the scenes as the restoration team locate the necessary material and contractors to restore the roofs. A large part of this work is carried on in off-site workshops before transportation to the church. It is hoped to see work restart at St Mary's during May. Meanwhile the PCC continue to

work closely with the architects, the diocese and the project managers to ensure that we, the parish of Beachamwell, Drymere and Shingham, restore our church as quickly as possible. If you wish to help us in our endeavours save the date of 25th June in your diaries - this is the Beachamwell Open Gardens, between 12 noon and 5pm. All monies raised will help pay for uninsured improvements to the church such as disabled access.

Peter Berendt [Churchwarden]

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of St Mary's Church Beachamwell
will be held on

Thursday 18th May

7.30

in the Village Hall

For the election of:

- ◆ Parochial representatives of the laity to the PCC and the Deanery Synod
- ◆ For the consideration of the Annual Reports:
- ◆ Changes in the Electoral Roll
- ◆ Proceedings of the PCC
- ◆ Financial Statement
- ◆ Church building and contents
- ◆ Proceedings of the Deanery Synod
- ◆ Any other matters of Parochial or general Church interest

All are welcome!

Vesna Hudson [Churchwarden]

BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Beachamwell Village Hall

There is now a new committee after the recent AGM. Pete Garner has stepped down as Chairman, and I am sure the whole village is very appreciative of all the years' service he has given to the Hall. We thank you and hope you will enjoy attending the pop up pubs and being on the 'fun' side of the bar. Hope your magnolia blooms well.

David Snodgrass has stepped down from the committee too, so we are on the hunt for a treasurer. Anyone out there who would like to step into his shoes? Thank you David for keeping us all on the straight and narrow.

Ann Knox -Whittet has stepped down as Secretary and Trustee, but will remain as a committee member.

The committee therefore is:-

Chairman/Trustee Colin Friend

Vice Chairman/Trustee Allan Butler

Secretary Allan Butler and Geraldine Warner

Treasurer Vacant

Booking Secretary/Trustee Cathy Friend

Ann Knox-Whittet

Mark Lusby

Geoff Siddons

Malcolm Warner



Going forward, a rota will be available at pop up pubs for anyone wishing to staff the bar. Don't worry there will always be at least one member of the committee working with you and everything is always set up before hand. Thanks to Liza and Lucia who helped last month.

Talking of which the pop up pub in May is Friday 26th. Doors open at 7pm and last orders at 10.45pm.

The Big Lunch to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles 111 and Queen Camilla is on Sunday 7th May. Starting at 12 midday, there will be a free venison BBQ and soft drinks. There will be a pop up pub too. Please bring a desert to share. Hopefully crowns are being made in readiness for the crown competition.



Summer is approaching and new benches have been acquired for the patio area. If you are replacing your garden umbrella and it is still usable, could you consider letting the Hall have it? It is a lovely sun trap which sometimes could do with a bit of shade! TIA. **Cathy Friend 07818453323**

BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Wednesday Walkers 5th April



Eight of us walked about three and a half miles towards the west of Beachamwell and into the parish of Barton Bendish.

The route crossed and skirted fields where the hedges were starting to bloom and leaves were beginning to show. White comfrey flowers, golden celandine, and a few cowslips were also putting on a brave show.

We walked almost the entire length of Murgot's lane to reach Barton Bendish footpath fifteen. Here the fields were being sprayed with a powerfully smelling liquid, but we were soon passed this agricultural activity and turned down a grassy verge to the Green Drove and on to the ruins of St John's church and back to where we started our walk.

An easy walk really – but care had to be taken when crossing Beachamwell village green to avoid the several piles of dog mess that fouled the grass. Really! This is not what one expects to find in the centre of our lovely village!

The next walk is on Wednesday, 3rd May. We leave the Memorial Hall at 10.00 am. You are very welcome to join us.

Sue Pennell

It is quite unbelievable that people are still not clearing up after their dogs. It is so antisocial, unkind and selfish. We probably have more dog bins in this village than any other village.

They are actually there to be used. *[Ed]*

Afternoon Tea and Chat

A reminder that on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, Gay Paterson very kindly organises a thoroughly enjoyable 'Tea and Cakes'. Everyone is welcome so if you haven't yet managed to get there try to do so – you won't regret it. It is a lovely way to catch up and meet with people. Gay would welcome donated cakes but please let her know in plenty of time beforehand **Eileen Powell**

Open Garden Request

Items are for the Raffle and tombola are needed please

Geraldine and Malcolm Warner 07968745460

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Get Set for Gardening 2023

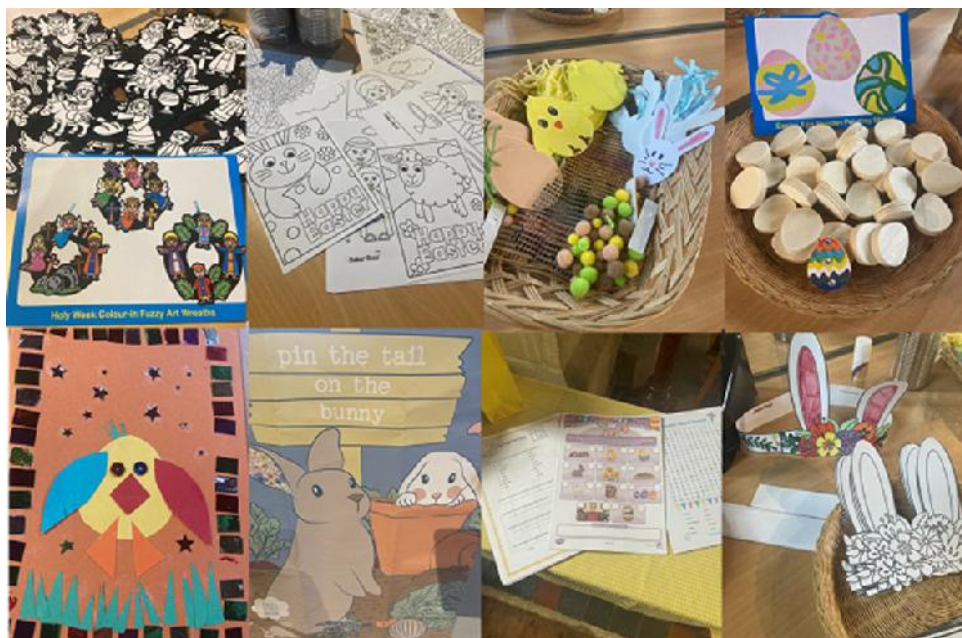
After the heavy rain showers on the Thursday – of which there were many – Good Friday was full of glorious sunshine which encouraged many friends, neighbours and visitors to our Get Set for Gardening event.

Plants literally flew off the tables and many bargains were snapped up from our 50p corner. Wheelbarrows were borrowed to transport purchases home and some gardeners even brought their own!

We raised £269 for church funds which will be put towards the rebuilding of the church boundary wall. As always, this was only achieved by the many donations of garden items to sell and all you gardeners that turned up on the day, our thanks to you all.

Angela Faherty on behalf of Boughton PCC

Boughton's Children Easter Party



It was lovely to have so many families come join us at the Church as the Easter holidays began. Thanks to all those that came along and made it a great community event. A range of craft activities were provided for including Easter Card making, Holy Week Wreaths and Bunny Hats to name just a few. The

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

children enjoyed the Easter Scavenger Hunt, Quiz and (back by popular demand) Bingo! Easter facepainting was also on the menu with requests for Easter bunnies and tigers and lions too! Thanks to Jenny, Helen, Lesley and Terry in particular, it wouldn't have been possible without you.

We are hoping to include some children's activities in this year's Open Gardens, so watch this space, we'd love to see Boughton's families and children come join us!

Carol Luckett (on behalf of All Saints PCC)

The wall is currently being repaired, and removal of the earth next to it has shown the 'kink' to be worse than it appeared. Well done to Angela for getting this sorted before it became a disaster.

We had a successful Holy Week, with a service of Compline on the Monday and our own Vigil/First Communion of Easter on Holy Saturday. Thanks to those who took part and supported us. Our Annual Parish Church Meeting will have taken place before you read this, but I'd like to thank all those who work so hard to keep our little church going. We have an excellent PCC, and I hope they will all be re-elected to continue serving the church and the village.

One way we hope that you will help serve the village and the church is by opening your garden on June 11th. It is the church's biggest fund raising day and enables us to pay our dues to the Diocese of Ely. Contrary to popular misconceptions, we pay them – they don't give us any money! It takes a lot to keep the church in good repair, warm and serving the community, so if you can help in any way, please let us know. If you can't open your garden, there will be other opportunities – cakes, lunch, serving, selling tickets, etc. It's a chance to do something positive and meet some of your neighbours.

Pam Wakeling (Church Warden)



BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

New Seat on Boughton Fen

For quite a time, various people have been asking about a seat part way down the bankside on Boughton Fen. As some visitors were resorting to sitting on the outfall frames, Stephen Eyles kindly took a functional black plastic down to roughly where we thought it was wanted to see if people sat on it – and they did. With that in mind, timber was procured, and Stephen kindly designed and fabricated the seat that is now in place. We had a small working party to install it. He had kindly marked on the legs the depth to which we needed to dig, and to our dismay, found that this was more than three feet. It seemed at one point a thankless task – we worked two to a trench, and it was backbreaking work. We even hit water, so it became messy as well. Eventually, one of our number depth tested it personally, but we had to give him a hand to get out before we were finally able to lift it into place for the last time. Then the trenches were back filled. All four of us had very muddy knees, but at least we were able to sit on it to recuperate with chocolate biscuits. It also has the refinement of a little shelf that swings out from underneath, so that you can put your coffee cup down.

With thanks to Paul, Hugh, David and Stephen. **Sue Pogmore**



BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Feast or Famine? Rainfall this year

Everyone knows that the weather this year has been either very dry or very wet. So it will be no surprise to most of you to discover that January was quite dry, and February was very dry. In fact it stopped raining on Jan 14th, and didn't start again until Feb 15th. It then rained on only 8 days during the remainder of the month, and not much at that – just 10.7mm.

March was quite different. There were only five days with no rain at all, but there was snow on three. Apart from 9th March, when we had 18.3mm of rain and snow, there were no other significantly large amounts, it just didn't stop, totalling 92.7mm in all.

April has also been very wet to date (13th) with rain on 7 days amounting to 37.9 mm. This has included some vicious hailstorms, very strong wind, and has generally been cold, with several frosts. It does seem to be topping things up, which is much needed, but certainly making progress in the garden very difficult.

Sue Pogmore



WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

St Margaret's Church - The Vine



It seemed like a miracle, a dream come true – at last our church was filled with the happy sounds of children's voices. After years of hoping, planning and much prayer, delayed by lockdown, everything came together. With the safety of children and young adults and all the vulnerable, now in the forefront of the Church's thinking, there were plenty of hurdles to face first. Regulations, special requirements, interviews and special certificates– would it never end? It seemed like that for a while!

But at last, we were ready and the children were there, ready to share the wonderful story of Easter, in this our very first meeting. They came with Mums and Dads and a Nana too, to hear the story, to sing, to hunt for Easter eggs, to finger paint, to craft an Easter basket and to laugh and play. After a happy, and for us, very satisfying. afternoon we finished with a prayer and the fervent hope that this was beginning of something fresh and meaningful,

As this was our first session (of many we hope), the children were sent home with a gift packet and also a feedback form- for parents to think about and return to us. We hope that the responses will enable us to fine tune our activities to suit the children and age groups as closely as possible.

We plan to have a meeting of The Vine on the first Saturday of every month and look forward to seeing it "take root, grow and flourish".

If you would like your child to take part we would love to see you. Please contact Karen by email at karen_rodgers@live.co.uk

Claire, Sarah, Karen and Pammie

WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

SAVE THE DATE !



With the upcoming Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday, 6th May, and a whole weekend of celebrations, the Trustees of Wereham Village Hall are delighted to announce that they will be commemorating this historic event by hosting an evening of entertainment for the whole community on Sunday, 7th May. To enable us all to embrace the opportunity to celebrate this momentous occasion together, we will be presenting a LIVE screening of the specially organised

Coronation Concert, taking place in the grounds of Windsor Castle, on the evening of Sunday, 7th May. Performances from music icons and contemporary stars will be transported direct from the grounds of Windsor Castle to the 'big screen' in Wereham Village Hall. Some of the world's biggest entertainers will lead the festivities with musical classics, accompanied by a world-class orchestra and dancers - but the concert won't just feature famous faces, The Coronation Choir, representing "the many voices of the country" - including singers from refugees, NHS, LGBTQ+ and deaf signing choirs - will also perform on the night. They will be joined by the Virtual Choir, made up of voices from across the Commonwealth. This whole occasion will be truly magical. Aside from the music, the Palace has confirmed that the centrepiece will be a light show involving projections, lasers, drone display and illuminations at various important locations across the UK. Unsurprisingly, for an event celebrating a monarch so devoted to the literary and performing arts, spoken word sequences will also feature and will be delivered by "stars of stage and screen". Admission is free and the bar will be open for you to purchase your celebratory beverages - let's all celebrate together, and maybe even have a little dance, "in the company of stars!" As timings are yet to be confirmed by the Palace, please check our What's On, our notice-boards, website and Facebook page for updates on this nearer the day ... (With street parties already planned in the locality for Saturday, 6th May, plus Extensive TV coverage, enabling people to watch the ceremony - together with the build-up beforehand - from the comfort of their sofas, our trustees felt it would be best to focus on the continuing celebrations and offer this fun evening for all to enjoy).

WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

Wereham Open Gardens Sunday 18th June

One of the highlights of the village calendar, we are delighted to announce that the annual Wereham Open Gardens will be taking place on Sunday 18 June from midday until 5pm.

This is a great opportunity to have a look around a range of gardens throughout the village, of all sizes and shapes, to chat to the 'green-fingered' owners and to pick up lots of ideas and tips to take back and use in your own garden!

Maps showing the location of all of the gardens participating in the Open Gardens will be available from St Margaret's Church on the day and lunch and light refreshments will be available from midday in the Village Hall.

All monies raised on the day go towards helping to maintain our beautiful Grade II listed St Margaret's Church, so do come along and join us on Sunday 18 June, bring along your family and friends, and have a great day out.

With your support we can ensure that our lovely church remains open, vibrant and available to everyone.

Greg Baddock

St Margaret's Church Wereham Summer Festival - Sunday 16th July 2023

Here we are, well into 2023, and time to begin planning our Summer Festival, which together with Open Gardens, helps to keep our grand old lady St Margaret's shining down on our village.

Thinking back to Christmas Eve, we know the good voices we have in Wereham and beyond. We now need to know who the artists are. We are planning to hold an art exhibition in the church alongside the festival, so we need artists, of all ages to get in touch and show us your art. Application forms will be circulated later in the year.

Due to popular demand, we shall be having the traditional stalls and games, plus some new ones especially for the children. Each year you are all so generous, and hopefully we can depend on you to please help us with donations, when you do your shopping.

Please contact:

Tom on 01366 500052 or

Chris on 01366 500976



WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

Wereham Parish Council

Next Meeting Date (Annual Parish Council followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting) – Tues 16th May 2023 at 6.30 pm (To be held in the Wereham Village Hall – Community Room).

Agenda items must be received before the end of the month prior to each meeting, items received after this time will not be possible to discuss. Please send to the Parish Clerk at werehampc@gmail.com. The Agendas for meetings are always published on the Wereham Village Notice Board three clear days before the meeting, and notified via the Wereham Parish Council Facebook Page and on the website www.werehamparishcouncil.co.uk, The minutes are also on the website. Hard copy by request.

Grass Cutting – The Wereham Parish Council have agreed a new Grounds Maintenance Contract starting mid-March. Including in the contract are four cuts four times a year to the verges that are in the central places of the village around the A134. The Clerk is awaiting confirmation from Highways on timings of these cuts. The Parish Council arranges a contract to cut grass within the St Margaret's Churchyard; Pond Area; Play Area; Playing Field and Cemetery.

Helen Richardson Wereham Parish Clerk and Finance Responsible Person

Email werehampc@gmail.com or Phone/Text: 0779 500 6811

Secretary Needed

Can you spare a few hours per year to assist our Scout Group?

Wereham and Wretton Scout Group are looking to fill the Secretary role on their committee. The role involves attendance at meetings (3 to 4 evenings per year plus AGM), taking and distributing minutes, circulating agendas and sending out meeting reminders, plus the occasional letter. You would become part of a friendly, supportive and proactive Executive Committee with the interest of young people in the local community at its heart. Please get in touch if you would like to know more.

Paul Smith, Group Scout Leader 07483 287215 paul.nutkin@gmail.com

Make and Mardle

We are starting a knit and natter group on the third Tuesday of each month, this is open to everyone who does a craft with yarn, so knitting, crochet, weaving, tapestry etc. 10am until 12 noon in the foyer of Wereham village hall, it is free to take part, you can purchase tea, coffee and biscuits for £1.50 from the village hall cafe. No problem if you are a learner of knitting or crochet as there will be someone who can help you. Enquiries: please contact Rosemary on 01366 501330, 07749240606, rosemary.pease@btinternet.com. We very much look forward to seeing you all.



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MAY CHURCH SERVICES PRIORY GROUP

Sunday 7th 5th Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday 14th 6th Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday 21st 7th Sunday of Easter

9.30	Tottenham	Holy Communion (April—September)
11:00	Marham	Morning Prayer
11:00	Shouldham	Holy Communion
11:00	Watlington	Morning Prayer
18:00	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

28th May

9.30am,	Fincham	Holy Communion
11am,	Wormegay	Holy Communion
11am	Watlington	Morning Prayer
11am	Wimbotsham	Holy Communion
6pm,	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

Midweek Communion

10.00 Thursday 4 th May	Runcton Holme
10.00 Thursday 11 th May	Fincham

Any queries, please ask your Church Warden see page 30

MAY CHURCH SERVICES WISSEY VALLEY GROUP

Sunday 7th 5th Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday 14th 6th Sunday of Easter

9.30 Whittington	Service of the Word
9.30 West Dereham	Holy Communion
9.30 Methwold	Service of the Word
10.00 Boughton	Breakfast Church

Sunday 21st 7th Sunday of Easter

9.30 Wretton/Stoke Ferry	Service of the Word
9.30 West Dereham	Service of the Word
9.30 Methwold	Holy Communion
11.00 Wereham	Holy Communion

Sunday 28th PENTECOST

10.30 am	Wereham	Benefice Holy Communion
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Every Sunday 6.30 pm online service. See page 30 for details to connect

Midweek Services

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

Thursdays 8.30 am **Methwold** Morning Prayer

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

Saturday 13th May 11.00 am **Beachamwell** Outdoor Service

Saturday 6th May 2.00 pm **West Dereham** church Cre8

Weekly Online Services

Sunday 6.30 pm **Service of The Word**

Tuesday 5.00 pm **Prayer Group**

Wednesday 5.30 pm **Compline**

Full details from janet.tanton@gmail.com or pickwickclub.cc@btinternet.com

CHURCHWARDENS AND CONTACTS

WISSEY VALLEY GROUP

Barton Bendish:	Mhari Blanchfield	01366 347 849
	Linda Webster	01366 347 563
Beachamwell	Peter Berendt	01366 328 779
	Vesna Hudson	07854 261 273
Boughton:	Pam Wakeling	01366 500 429
Methwold	Alan Burbridge	01366 727 002
West Dereham	Graeme Pressley	01366 501 179
Wereham	Karen Sams	01366 501 428
Wereham:	Sheila Smith	01366 858 165
Whittington	Susan Smith	07849 157 080
Wretton	Anita Horgan	01366 500 785
Whittington & Wretton	Elaine Taylor	01366 500 948

PRIORY GROUP

Fincham	Cathy O'Brien	01366 347279
Marham	Philip Fay	01760 444199
	Glenda Jayes	01760 339688
Shouldham	Brian & Ann Hullah	01366 347814
ShouldhamThorpe	Gordon Reid	01366 347253



ONLINE SERVICES IN MAY

Online Zoom services (Service of the Word) are due to take place every Sunday at 6.30pm

Link - <https://bit.ly/WisseyValleySunday> Services

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

SENIORS - ACCORDING TO THE COMMANDMENTS

And on the 8th day, God created Seniors.

- ◇ Most seniors never get enough exercise.
In His wisdom, God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys, and other things, thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.
- ◇ Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose coordination so, they would drop things, requiring them to bend, reach, and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.
- ◇ Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature, requiring more trips to the toilet, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So if you find, as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

Nine Important Facts to Remember as We Grow Older:

- #9. Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
- #8. Life is sexually transmitted.
- #7. Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- #6. Men have two motivations: hunger and sex, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.
- #5. Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
- #4. Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
- #3. All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- #2. In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- #1. Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.





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	Office
Barton Bendish	Tuesday	Swaffham	£4.50	Swaffham
Beachamwell	Tuesday	Swaffham	£4.50	Swaffham
Boughton	Thursday	Downham Market	£3.50	Kings Lynn
Drymere	Tuesday	Swaffham	£4.50	Swaffham
Wereham	Thursday	Downham Market	£4.50	Kings Lynn

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

We also provide volunteer car drivers for appointments, charged at 45p a mile.

For more information please call

Kings Lynn - 01553 776971

Swaffham – 01760 720906

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS

DATE	VILLAGE	LOCATION	TIME
Tues 16 May	Barton Bendish	Hatherley Gardens	11:10 am
Tues 16 May	Beachamwell	Old Post Office	09:45 am
Tues 23 May	Drymere	Telephone Kiosk	09:45 am
Tues 16 May	Boughton	Mill Road	10:45 am
Friday 12 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 - <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/your-local-library/mobile-library-routes-and-timetables>

MARKETS - Farmers' and Indoor

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

For information:- www.farmersmarkets.net or your local Tourist Information Office. Check to see if they are actually taking place.

VILLAGE, COMMUNITY and PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Barton Bendish	Mary Simons	01366 347 790	
Beachamwell	Cathy Friend	01366 328892	
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429	
Wereham	Sara and Karen	01366 502214	weekdays 10 - 3
	www.werehamvillagehall.co.uk/hallhire	Anytime	

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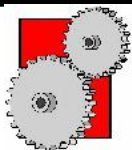
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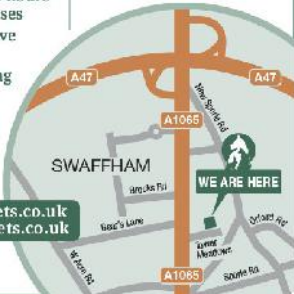
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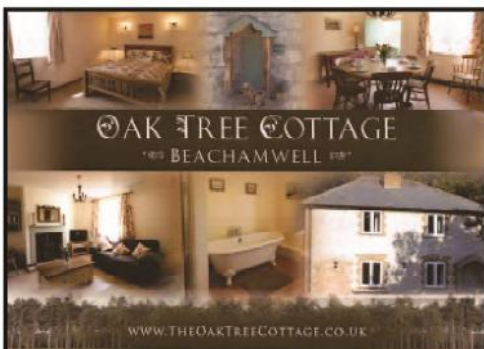
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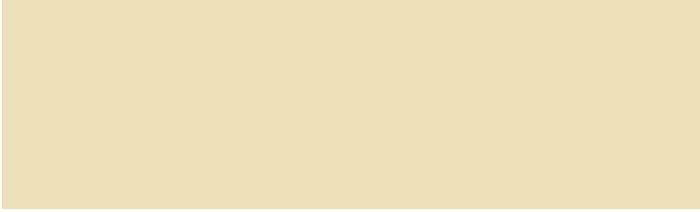
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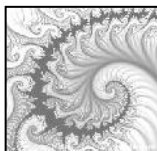
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