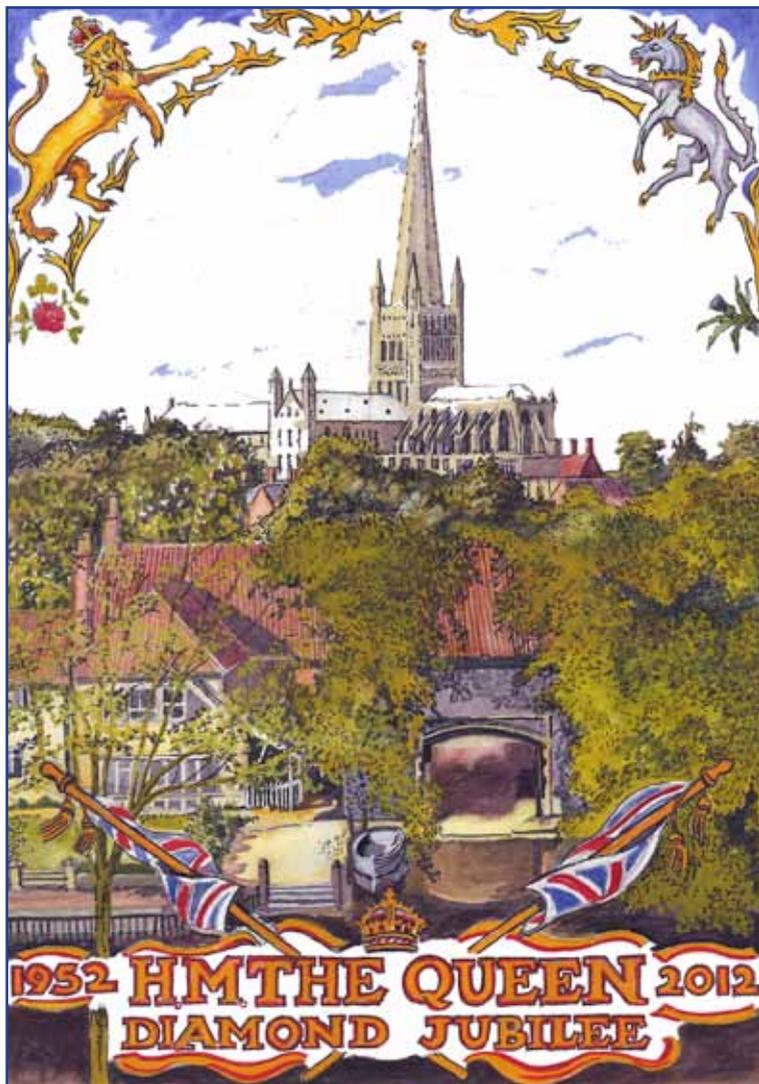
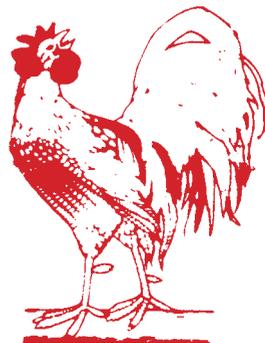


# Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &  
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

**JUNE/JULY 2012**

**Issue No: 3**





# Editors' Notice Board

## All change at Borderhoppa!



Due to council regulations, from the 2nd April, we have had to make some changes as we've been granted a 'Flexibly routed local bus service.' We will still operate in the same areas, still cover over 60 parishes and still pick you up from your door to take you to the shops, doctors, hairdressers, to visit a friend or anywhere else in our local area that you need to go. The difference will be that our friendly service is now available to everyone.

We also have to make some changes to our fare structure: Norfolk & Suffolk concessionary bus pass holders can now both enjoy free travel with us, but only if they travel after 9.30am.

Borderhoppa members can still enjoy our wide range of weekly special outings; for details of these and how to become a member (currently free), to book a ride, a place on an outing or to hire a bus, and for all other enquiries, please ring Amanda or Lucy on 01379 854800 or email: [borderhoppa@btconnect.com](mailto:borderhoppa@btconnect.com)

## Letter from a Churchgoer

Dear Neighbour,

*There seems to be some misunderstanding. We go to Church not because we are 'good' but because we are not.*

*Three times the Bible records Jesus as saying 'I did not come to invite virtuous people but sinners'.*

*We go to confess our sins, to ask for forgiveness and to worship the source of all goodness and truth.*

*Christianity has nothing to offer to the righteous. But let me tell you!*

*We are on to something really good and that is why we want to share it.*

*See you there.*

---

## World famous choir to perform at Dickleborough Church

7pm Sunday 1st July,

the choir of **Trinity College Cambridge**, conducted by Stephen Layton, will be performing works by Purcell, Tallis, Bach, Schütz, Mendelssohn, Elgar, Pärt and Tavener at All Saints Church, Dickleborough

Organiser Ally Wilson, said,

*We are lucky to be hosting this event and are very grateful to Trinity College, our Patron, for agreeing to perform here. This will be a stunning concert by one of the best choirs in the world.'*

For further information, please contact Ally Wilson; Tel: 01379 740561/741291  
email: [rebecca@heaser.com](mailto:rebecca@heaser.com)



Other items the Editors think you might like to know about

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Wednesday 6th June, 2pm–4pm  
*Minibeast Safari* Family afternoon

An afternoon of pond dipping, bug hunting, crafts and games.

Children £3.50,  
Adults £1.50.

Booking essential  
01379 688333

Saturday 9th June,  
10.30am–12.30pm

*Wildlife Watch group.*

A club for 6–12yr olds  
£1, details 01379 688333

Saturday 16th June, 10am–3pm

*Botanical Illustration*

A range of illustration techniques using seasonal plant material with an emphasis on botanical accuracy, with Christine Grey-Wilson. £20. Booking essential 01473 890089

Saturday 7th July, 10am–3pm

*Freshwater Invertebrates*

Sample the ponds, identify your catch and then learn more about the ecology of these freshwater invertebrates and how common they are in Suffolk, tutor Adrian Chalkley. £20. Booking essential 01473 890089

Friday 13th July, 10am–3pm

*Flowers of the Fen*

Join Plantlife's Tim Pankhurst to discover the wonderful plants and flowers of the Fen. Booking essential, download a booking form from [www.wildaboutplants.org.uk](http://www.wildaboutplants.org.uk) or call 01722 342730

Saturday 14th July, 10.30am–12.30pm

*Wildlife Watch group.* A club for 6–12yr olds  
£1, details 01379 688333

Wednesday 25th July, 10am–3pm

*Botanical Illustration*

A range of illustration techniques using seasonal plant material with an emphasis on botanical accuracy, with Christine Grey-Wilson. £20. Booking essential 01473 890089



## Diss Library News



We asked all our users to make bunting for The Queens Diamond Jubilee; the Knit & Natter group and the children at Bounce & Rhyme time were particularly prolific and we now have lots of lovely bunting decorating the library.

### The Summer Reading Challenge 2012

It's not just our Olympic athletes going for gold this summer...

Thousands of families from across Norfolk will be taking part in the UK's biggest free reading event for children: the Summer Reading Challenge.

Children of all ages and reading abilities can take part at the library by reading 6 books collecting bronze, silver and gold stickers – as well as their very own medal.

The 2012 theme is Story Lab, a magical celebration of story and the imagination which is linked to the 2012 Olympics and the London 2012 Festival.

Children can choose any books they like: fact books, story books, joke books or picture books. Audio and e-books count, so long as they borrow them from a library.

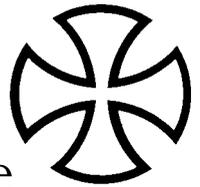
Parents and carers love the Summer Reading Challenge because children discover the joy of reading – and children love it because it's lots of fun.

To sign up, head to your library at the beginning of the summer holidays. It's completely free – every child who joins receives a Story Lab pack. There will be a launch event at the start of the holidays at Diss library, and a medal ceremony in September for everyone who completes the challenge.

Look out for more details in the library, including special Story Lab themed events. For library opening times visit website: [www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries), or call Diss Library on 01379 642609

Winfarthing Group Rector writes...

## Spirituality or Obedience



When I am shopping in Norwich I enjoy going to Waterstones to have a coffee; The last time I was there, I was amazed at the number of books for purchase under the title of 'Spirituality'; how you can receive power from healing crystals, playing cards, magic beads; how your life would be substantially improved if only you would spend £15 on this particular book; how you could become a millionaire; how your sex life will immediately and considerably change for the better.

I don't have any worries about genuine self-improvement books, I have benefitted from reading Greville Janner's various books on the art of communication, especially how to chair public meetings.

The question that continually travels round my mind is the use of the word 'spiritual'. It seems to me that much contemporary spirituality is about 'getting the best out of life', whereas discipleship is about discovering and doing God's way – and finding it to be the Way that leads to life. We live in a 'me, me, me' society, where it seems right to demand one's individual attention over and above the needs of others.

I have often wondered what the statement 'I am not religious but I am spiritual', actually means. Does it mean that a person rejects the pomp and ceremonies of religious institutions, but does hanker after the ethos of Christ's Sermon on the Mount? Is it used as an excuse so that a person can do whatever they like, regardless of how this affects other people?

The puritan writer Jeremiah Burrows described himself as an enemy of God, before accepting what Christ had done for him at the cross. For Burrows it was the importance of the word of God that shaped his whole life. Because there were certain ceremonies of the Church of England that he could not personally hold to, he was removed from his Office as Rector of Tivetshall by the Bishop of Norwich, as a dissenter.

Through his preaching and writings, Burrows' constant theme was obedience to Christ and to Christ's life transforming words in the power of the Holy Spirit. To know Christ personally for oneself was his aim and mission.

Rev David F Mills

## BURSTON NEWS

### An afternoon for AMECA

On the 29th April, Burston Church hosted a music, cake and tea afternoon to raise funds for AMECA (Alex's Medical and Educational Centre in Africa). The afternoon was organised by Joshua Smith, a first year medical student at Nottingham University. He plans to go to Tanzania in the summer, using the funds he has raised to buy materials to renovate a clinic and to work alongside the doctors there. The music and singing was varied and there was something for all tastes. All thanks must go to Josh and his team for a very entertaining afternoon, and it is heartening to know that he is working for this very worthwhile cause. SP

### Localism is Alive and Well!

From my membership of a number of local groups I know that a good deal of local 'good work' goes on... mostly unseen and unrecognised. I thought it would be good, therefore, to raise the profile of a few acts of good 'neighbourliness' that have occurred recently.

The bottle bank facility is extremely popular, and used by a great many of us. Just before Christmas it was reported to me that someone had dumped a large quantity of bottles and household waste in the bottle bank area, making it unsightly and dangerous. On my return the mess had been cleared, and it was only by chance that the 'good neighbour' had been spotted carrying the dumped items back to his home. Thank you, therefore, to Nathan Leeder who subsequently has also removed two upholstered chairs which had been dumped in the area.

Our village sign was blown down by the gales recently, which posed a problem in terms of how to quickly remove it so that it could be protected from either being stolen or vandalised. An offer of help was soon received from Stuart Dobson who provided a lorry for the removal of the sign to the yard at Waveney Pumps Limited. The sign is extremely heavy which posed another problem. How to load it onto the lorry? Problem sorted... Tommy Bloomfield arrived with a JCB for the lifting job. The next challenge is to decide how best to repair the sign

and Stuart Dobson has offered to help with this too. The Parish Council will be discussing what to do with the sign in the near future. Of course, these are examples of a network of groups and individuals across the Parish who serve us well in delivering support and caring in all manner of ways. If you are one of them, then the Parish Council would like to say a big... thank you!

*Len Hobson, Chairman*

### St Mary's Church

We had a great St George's Night supper, organised by the PCC, on 21st April. Many, many thanks to all involved. Almost everybody seemed to think that it was one of the best we've had (they've been going for about twelve years now), and we certainly made more money than previously – £776 (including money raised on a raffle). The main course was a delicious fish pie, donated by Frederick's Fine Food – huge thanks to Linda and Freddie for that.

At our recent PCC Annual General Meeting one of the Church Wardens, Sybil Peck, who has been a Church Warden over a long period (probably longer than she would care to be reminded!) decided to relinquish the post, and Cyril Bromley has regained the position. So our current Church Wardens are David Crowe and Cyril Bromley. Writing about this gives me the opportunity to thank everyone who takes on these unenviable roles. The PCC would like to record our very grateful thanks to Sybil for all that she has done, and continues to do, for St Mary's. We would also like to thank David Crowe, for his unstinting work as Church warden and (by default!) PCC Secretary, to Keith Baxter for all he does as PCC Treasurer, and to Dorothy Swanton, our Verger. In a small church like St Mary's all the regular congregation get involved in different aspects of services and care for the church. Thank you, everybody. In the next Cock Crow I will report on the forthcoming AGM of the Friends of Burston Church, which is taking place on 21st May.

Following a brilliant Diamond Jubilee weekend with lots going on in Burston and Shimpling, the next special service coming up is on Sunday 17th June at 10.30am when we will be celebrating Fathers' Day. Do come and join us – everybody is really welcome to all our services. *Rachel Hobson*

### Burston Community Primary School

This half term the reception year group have begun to explore 'minibeasts'. We are hoping that the weather will improve so that we can have more success on our 'minibeast' hunts. We are discussing the Olympic Games and the children have enjoyed learning about the ancient games and how they compare to the modern. Towards the end of this half term we will be talking about the Jubilee. We will learn more about the Queen and our Royal family, culminating in the whole school Jubilee street party.

Class 2 have continued to work in role as scientists in the Himalayas, enjoying drama activities. We have written detailed diaries about our adventures and are now working on information texts about the abominable snowman. In DT we are designing our own photo frames, and are practising some quilling for decoration. We have learned songs which include numbers and months of the year in our Spanish lessons.

Class 3 this term we are continuing with our VCOP to improve our writing skills. KS2 have been fortunate to have an Olympic themes dance session with Tivetshall, which we all enjoyed! In Science we are studying 'healthy bodies' – diet, digestive system, heart and lungs to tie in with the Olympics. We have introduced a new 'golden time' across the school which involves mixing all year groups and doing fun activities such as drums, sewing, radio, gardening and board games. Class 3 will be visiting Horstead in the next week to partake in outdoor pursuits as well as further developing geographical skills with comparisons of differing localities. At present we are all working hard for our SATs. The school is practising songs from the 1950s to be part of our Jubilee celebrations.

### Friends of Burston School

We thank everyone who so kindly baked and supported us for our annual Cake Stall held in Diss on 27th April. We raised an £412.85 which will be used to purchase ICT equipment for each class. We couldn't have done it without your support.

Thanks also go to everybody who supported our 'Hooray for Hollywood' quiz night.

We have our Summer Spectacular coming up on 7th July so watch this space for more details...

## GISSING NEWS

### Measuring the Rain

Gissing is in need of a new rain man or woman. John Sherman, who has left the village, measured the rain daily for many years, and passed his readings on to the Environment Agency at Ipswich. The agency would like someone to take over these daily readings and record them, sending off a completed card (to be furnished) at the end of the month. The agency will come to inspect the area for suitability, (an open area without hanging trees, etc. is required), and will then supply the necessary recording equipment.

Anyone interested can ring Peter Harries on 01379-651524 for more information and a demonstration of the measuring process. The figures are published monthly in the EDP allowing readers to compare relative precipitation in different areas of Norfolk and Suffolk.

### Heart of Gissing

The Heart of Gissing is a charity made up of local people with an interest in securing the future and the regeneration of the centre of Gissing including the proposed refurbishment and extension of the Old School building and site. The Trustees are keen to develop the potential of the site as a meeting place for local organisations, community and interest groups of all ages and as a venue for small scale 'one off' events of social, cultural and educational kinds. They see it as one of their main roles to promote and foster such 'sharing' activities. The Heart of Gissing very much works with Gissing Children's Centre which is, and will remain, the primary user of the site. Fundraising events are organised jointly to maximise effort and ensure the sustainability of both groups. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 for a membership form and/or further details. Anyone is welcome to come along to the next Annual General Meeting, which will be held at the Old School, Gissing at 7.30pm on Monday 9th July 2012.

The Heart of Gissing extends huge and heartfelt thanks to Julie Clarke (Gissing Crown) for running the London Marathon this year to raise money for

East Anglian Air Ambulance and the Heart of Gissing. She completed the run in 4 hours, 40 minutes which was an 11 minute improvement on last time. Julie raised a whopping £1,604 to be shared equally between the two charities. What a star!

### Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Gissing Parish Council, working together with the Heart of Gissing, will be holding a Diamond Jubilee celebration event on Monday 4th June 2012, starting with a Jubilee Tea Party at 3pm and running on into an Evening Dance from 7.30pm with 1950s dress, optional. These celebrations will be held in a marquee adjacent to the Gissing Crown. The Tea Party will be free to residents of Gissing. There will be a charge of £2.50 per child with accompanying adult for families living outside Gissing and will be by advance ticket only. There will be advance entry competitions for: the best picture of the Queen and the best account (in 300 words) of 'What I did on Coronation Day'. Celebration mugs will be available, to purchase for children from outside of Gissing. The evening dance is £4 per head including Hog Roast and trimmings. Those attending are asked, if possible, to leave their cars at home. For further information, please contact the Bernie Calton (Parish Clerk) on 01379 677254.



### Gissing Summer Fete

Sunday 26th August 2–5pm Gissing presents their traditional village fete with all the atmosphere of a village fete from days gone by. Loads of fun for all the family with lots of quality hampers and prizes to be won. Plenty of refreshments, homemade cakes and produce. For your entertainment, the Wherry Brass Band plus Foolhardy Folk: Cosmo and Joe Fool will be running circus skill workshops and delivering a fun-packed show. The fete will have a 1950s theme (in recognition of this year's Queen's Diamond Jubilee); lots of games and other attractions.

### Groups running at present include

*Gissing Children's Centre* (Pre-School and Play-scheme) Contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9am to 3pm during term time), 07531 810704 out of hours or email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk.

*Gissing Baby and Toddler Group* runs in Gissing Village Hall, Rectory Road, every Monday morning from 9.30 am to 11.30 am. All parents, carers and their children (under school age) are welcome to come and have a chat while the children have fun. The group includes a designated safe 'baby area' within the main play area. For general information about the group, please contact Vicky on 01379 674437, 07946 212779 or vhcullum@hotmail.com. The Toddler Group says thank you to everyone who came, made and ate cakes at their 'Yummy Mummy' cake sale, they raised £105.67 for CLIC Sargent children's cancer charity. Well done everyone!

*Gissing Youth Club* for 8–13 year olds, runs every Tuesday 6.30–8.30pm during term at Gissing Children's Centre. Anyone interested in helping or who has skills to share, please contact Bernie on 07796 545929 or 01379 677254 or berniecalton@talktalk.net.

*Gissing Reading Group* meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.00 pm at the Old School. The book for the June meeting is, 'Shadow of the Wind' by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. For further information about the group, contact Jim Philip on 01379 677352 or just come along.

*Gissing Gardening Group* generally meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month at the Old School. For enquiries about the group, contact Joe Cromley on 01379 677817.

*Gissing Singers* meet every Monday at 7.30pm in Gissing Village Hall. Further information available from Andrew Pierssené on 01379 674518.

*Pilates* continues to run (two classes) every Wednesday evening at the Children's Centre (the Old School) 6.30–8.30pm. Contact Sharon Calton on 07979 411644 or sharon@scalton.orangehome.co.uk for further details.

*The Hegarty School of Dance* offers a variety of classes to children and adults from the Children's Centre (the Old School) and village hall. For details contact Sam on 07825 325100 or samiwatt@hotmail.co.uk or visit www.hegartyschoolofdance.co.uk. Children and adults from the dance school will be performing *Sleeping Beauty* at the Maddermarket Theatre, Norwich, Saturday 9th June, 7.30pm. Tickets £7 (adults) £5 (concessions) available on-line from the theatre or phone on 01603 620917.

*Weekly Musical Theatre Class* runs every Wednesday from 5pm to 6pm at Gissing Village Hall for anyone over 7 years of age. The class includes singing, dancing and acting, working on scripts from popular musicals. The group will then do recitals for family at the end of term. The cost will be £28 for the term. For further details, please contact Sam as above.

*Heart of Gissing Dance and Theatre Group* (Formerly Dance 2000 Plus) has achieved funding to hold a musical theatre project to be held in the summer holidays for children aged 8–18 years. Cost per individual is £60. The group is looking for a bright, enthusiastic young cast of singers, actors and dancers to help create this year's musical theatre production. Over the course of 9 days we will provide acting, singing and dancing master classes held at Gissing Children's Centre, giving your child the opportunity to gain valuable musical theatre experience, working towards two nights performing at the Fisher Theatre in Bungay. The cost will also include workshops in costume making, set design, theatre craft (including sound and lighting) and make up. The main workshop will run from 6th to 16th August (breaking for the weekend). Our performances will be held on the 15th and 16th August at the Fisher Theatre, Bungay. All transport to and from the theatre, for the children, is provided. Tickets for friends and family will be on sale from the

theatre. Project places are still available but book early, contact: email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk or samiwatt@hotmail.co.uk

*Stage HOGers* this local theatre group starts from September working on an annual pantomime, staged in January each year. Anyone interested in treading the boards please contact Sam as above.

*Friends of Gissing Church* contact Fiona Turton on 01379 677811 or fionaturton@btinternet.com.

*Over 60s Group* contact Rose Eddington on 01379 677790 or rose@roseeddington.co.uk.

*History Group* contact George Hammond on 01379 677633.



*Gissing Carpet Bowls* contact Derek Dewey on 01379 677162.

*Gissing Bowls Club* contact Kevin Lake on 01379 677525.

BOOKINGS: *Village Hall*: contact Helen Vallier on 07712 171187. *Children's Centre*: contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9am to 3pm Monday to Friday during term time) or 07531 810704 out of hours.

### Friends of Gissing Church

The first Annual Newsletter from the Friends has been circulated, and launched at a well-attended Annual Meeting of the Friends, which set out all the activities and funds raised to date, and how those funds have contributed towards maintaining the church building and churchyard. Following this, we are very pleased to see that our membership has increased and so we would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have recently joined, (there are now over 40 households in membership).

We continue to welcome new members and are happy to visit you to explain more about what the Friends aims are, and how your possible decision to join could help. So, if you would like to know more about joining, then please contact Fiona Turton, Chair or Linda Steel, Treasurer.

The Friends are always looking for suggestions from members and from the wider community, on how they can combine raising funds to help preserve the church building and churchyard, with an enjoyable event open to all. The Friends will have a presence at the Gissing summer fete but if you have any ideas for either a social gathering, an event or other activity, which people would enjoy participating in, (and which could also raise funds on behalf of the Friends), please contact Fiona Turton on 01379 677811 or email her at [fionaturton@btinternet.com](mailto:fionaturton@btinternet.com)

### Gissing Children's Centre

The Pre-School runs during term time, from 9.30 to 12 (standard session), to 1.15 (extended session) or to 2.30 every Monday to Friday inclusive. Early years funding for 3 and 4 year olds can be used for both morning and afternoon sessions. We take children unaccompanied from 2½ years to 5 years old. Any families who wish to come and take a look are welcome to contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9am–3pm during term time) or 07531 810704 or [email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk) to arrange a visit at a time of your choice. Spaces are fairly limited until September 2012, but we do operate a working waiting list so we will aim to meet your requirements, wherever possible. We are holding Open Afternoons for prospective families from 1pm to 2pm on Friday 22nd June, Thursday 28th June and Tuesday 3rd July, respectively. Spaces are limited per day as we are holding normal sessions so you can see us 'in action', but interested families are encouraged to contact Linda, as above, to confirm which day they might like to come along.

We will be running our Summer Playscheme on selected days during the summer holidays from 9.30am to 3pm for children of primary school age. The cost is £10 per child, bookable and payable in advance. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and a small amount of money for tuck. Flyers will be posted around local schools nearer the time. General enquiries can be directed to 07531 810704 or [email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk). We will offer a lovely range of craft, cookery and workshops, construction, sand and other play opportunities both indoors and outside, including Ian Constance Coaching multi-skills during the morning.

## SHELFANGER NEWS

### All Saints' Church

#### Annual Meeting

At All Saints' Church's annual vestry meeting and meeting of parishioners, Roger Challoner and Peter Harries were re-elected as wardens. An encouraging report indicated that the church continued to be committed to its primary task of proclaiming the gospel and ministering to those who live in the parish. At its first meeting, Mrs Denise Smith was warmly welcomed as the new PCC's secretary, taking over from Frank Paice when he and Sue move shortly to Norwich.

#### The bells! The bells!

On Friday 19th May, the South Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Bellringers, held their quarterly ring and annual meeting at Shelfanger. After an afternoon of specialised ringing, the group held a service led by Rev David Mills. The group then repaired to the village hall, for tea, preceded by the business meeting. Fully refreshed, they sallied forth (bell-ringing pun here) to Winfarthing for another hour of group ringing. RC

### SHELFANGER Grand Village Fete

Saturday 21st July 2pm  
Shelfanger Village Hall

Superb model aircraft  
All the usual sideshows:  
bowls, skittles, model railway  
Refreshments, burgers, Bar

See you there!

#### Rogation Sunday

This year's opportunity to ask God's blessing on the village, its gardens, fields, and on all who live here, took place on 13th May and was led by the lay reader. Children had to 'find' pictures, hidden around the church, which illustrated the address on 'being good soil for the seed of the gospel to grow in.' Readers on an extensive walk through the village, when river and fields were blessed and hymns sung, were Isabela Prendi, Jean Challoner and Joyce Yates.

#### Quinquennial Inspection

Ladders, binoculars, tape measures and inspection lamps were to the fore on Tuesday 22nd May, the day of the village church's five-yearly inspection. Round the church, into the drains, climbing the tower, up into the roof, the architect reached parts of the church you never dreamt of! The architect's report will be available in mid to late summer. RC

## Village

#### Boyland Common Reborn

April's celebration of the revival of Boyland Common was agreed by those who attended to be an important event in the life of Shelfanger, and neighbouring Bressingham. In her remarks to a crowd of well over 40, who attended the re-opening, Pam Ross paid tribute to the Big Lottery Fund's Community Spaces programme, which donated a magnificent £17,894. Financial help was also secured from The Saffron Community Foundation Trust, The Waveney Valley Neighbourhood Fund and from local businesses and individuals and the parish church. The launch event was attended by Marya Parker, the project's facilitator from Groundwork UK, and by Cllr Martin Wilby, representing the Saffron Trust. The opening ceremony was carried out by Sir Richard de Boyland (alias local historian Basil Abbott).

Also in attendance were members of the Boyland Common Committee, which has worked tirelessly to bring about the transformation, with new ditching and fencing, a picnic area and space for car parking. The committee consists of Pat Webster – whose inspiration was vital at the outset of the project –

as well as Helen Green and Mike Mortimer, Shelfanger's and Bressingham's parish clerks, Roger Aves, Chair at Bressingham PC, Billy Bartrum, Lynda Allen-Griffin, David Riches and Steve and Loretta Tickner. The committee will now oversee the maintenance of the Common.

In her remarks, Mrs Ross paid tribute to her constant 'friend and ally', Helen Green and to many others, both in the locality and organisations, whose help had been vital. Tribute was paid to Pam herself, and her husband Ron, by Frank Paice, who MC'd the event. A successful raffle was organised by Pete and Pam Harries

#### Queen's Golden Jubilee

As announced in the previous Cockcrow, 4th June 2012 at 5pm will see a 50s style tea party at the village hall, when those attending are encouraged to dress with a royal theme. Detailed plans include children's races, an art competition and fancy dress. At 6pm, there will be a Loyal Toast. The church bells will be rung around 8.15pm, and will be followed at the Parish Church with a service of thanksgiving for the Queen's reign at 8.45pm. There will then be a procession to the allotments for the lighting of the village beacon at 10.15pm. A flier is being circulated in the village to update residents.

*Shelfanger Jubilee Committee*

#### The Grand Shelfanger Fete!

In a busy year, with many, many summer highlights, including the Jubilee and the Olympic Games, and locally, Norwich City's retention of premiership status and the city's now internationally-recognised Festival, don't forget Shelfanger's annual Fete. The event takes place this year on Saturday 21st July from 2pm. What a feast of fun, footie, frolics and festivity there will be! For example – a super display of model aircraft and flight simulator tests, a fascinating model railway layout, and all the usual sideshows, wellie-wanging, skittle, goal kicking ... the lot! For those who get peckish, there will be refreshments, burgers and an excellent bar. This year's openers, Frank and Sue Paice, cut the tape to get it all under way at 2pm.

*Shelfanger Fete Committee*

## TIVETSHALL NEWS

### St Margaret's Church

Following repair and re-leading, the four side windows in the chancel are now back in place.

The church is always open to visitors, please do come and see all the work that has taken place over the last two years, making this lovely old building water tight and welcoming. We are lucky to have it in our village.

### Quiz and Chips

In the Village Hall on 9th June at 7.30pm and all proceeds will go to the church restoration fund. Tables should be made of up to six players and tickets available from the PO, Claire Kirby or Maggie Rowan. A bar and raffle are also available.

### Village Hall

The village sign was initially unveiled in 2000 but the original design was never completed due to lack of resources. Now, thanks to Norwich City College the sign is being completed by their students and has been repainted by our local Blacksmith, David Butler. Children from the school have concealed a time capsule within the structure so in the future people may be able to discover what we were all up to in 2012. The unveiling of the new structure and the planting of a tree to commemorate the Queens Jubilee will be the start of our celebrations on the 4th June. The Jubilee committee welcome you all to join us on the green at 2.15pm and then at the hall for a relaxing and enjoyable afternoons free entertainment, a reasonably priced licensed bar and BBQ will also be provided throughout the afternoon/evening.

The number of 'master chefs' who have already informed us that they are baking and decorating cakes for our 'best decorated Jubilee themed cake' competition has been really encouraging. Please join them by getting into the spirit of the day and entering your cake, which will join all others to be shared with free teas and coffees once they have been judged. (Cake competition entries need to be registered in the hall by 2pm).

We hope you will all be able to join our Jubilee

party and that those who have not been to the hall for some time will recognise some of the new archive pictures that now decorate the hall, if you recognise some of the buildings and people in the pictures please let us know.

David Evans

### Tivetshall Community Primary School

At the beginning of February Year 1 & Year 2 braved the elements for road safety training, looking especially at the possible dangers from parked cars.

This term's safety day was about E-Safety (keeping safe on the internet). The children focussed specifically on keeping personal information secure- designing posters, labels and masks.

Key stage 2 children enjoyed a visit to Norwich Theatre Royal to watch the *Horrible Histories Vile Victorians* following a topic on the Victorians and learned many grisly facts!!!

Year 5 & Year 6 had a very successful cross-country event in Thetford Forest and then the Small Schools' Tag Rugby final at UEA. The children did exceptionally well to reach the finals, our school is much smaller than most with a much younger team.

We featured in the local press with our Children's Conference help at Archbishop Sancroft High School, Harleston, in which the children from Tivetshall and partner school Burston discussed ideas for the future for their own schools and the partnership.

In March we celebrated the Hindu festival of Holi. Children did a marvellous job of cooking an Indian meal for children, staff and parents – delicious!

We celebrated Mothers' Day with our traditional café. The children cooked cakes for their mums and family and on the day acted as waiters and waitresses, taking orders, serving food and collecting the takings. It was a pleasure to see members of the Monday Club who regularly support our events.

Key Stage 2 came joint first at the netball day at Diss High School – playing against larger schools with older and taller children. Thanks go to Mrs Kidd and Mrs King for running the netball club.

Year 5 & 6 organised an afternoon of water fun, raising £36 for Sport Relief.

All in all a very busy and successful half term.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to our Diamond Jubilee Tea Party on Friday June 1st. Please ring the school 677350 for details.

## WINFARTHING NEWS

### St Mary's Church

#### A Good Time Had By All!

Winfarthing PCC hosted a very successful evening of 1940s Big Band Sounds at the Village Hall on March 24th. Included in the (ration) ticket were a delicious 2 course meal of beef stew and dumplings and a wonderful selection of homemade puddings. Thank you to those who donated them. There was a raffle and a 'best dressed' competition as well as the great music.

This event raised over £600 for Church funds and the PCC thanks all those that helped and attended the event.

### Winfarthing Target Rifle Club

The Club has just completed one of its best years in small bore competitions. As well as holding its own club competitions, the club enters team and individual competitions run by the Norfolk County Rifle Association. Some members are now shooting for county and in national competitions.

If you are interested in joining this friendly club (beginners welcome) please contact the Club Secretary, Jonah Mitchell on 07748 494961.

### All Saints' Primary School

Despite the lack of sun, All Saints' has now returned for the start of its summer Term.

At the end of April, parents and the local community were reminded about the launch of the new school website. This is constantly being added to and is worth a visit for the latest information about what has happened and is going to happen in school. The address is [www.allsaints.schoolpartnership.org](http://www.allsaints.schoolpartnership.org)

At the end of the Spring term, staff, pupils, par-

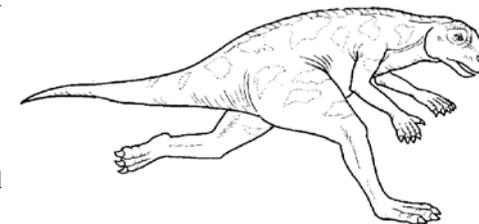
ents and governors reflected on the exciting learning that had taken place during the term. As a result of the partnership Science day organised by Partnership Subject Leader for Science Miss Mitchell, 'Camouflage Learning' came in and provided a range of exciting workshops. One child commented 'we have fun when we meet up with All Saints'.'

This was then followed by a second partnership day called 'Experience Easter', where children gained knowledge about six Stations of the Cross and came together in St Mary's church. The feedback from children included 'It was actually really good. I didn't think we would do so much'.

At the start of the Easter holidays it was a delight to be contacted by Energy Busters and informed that Thomas Harper at All Saints' was a runner up, with his excellent word search entry. Well done Thomas!

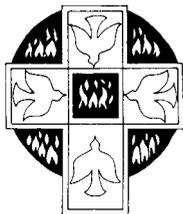
Sporting-wise, All Saints' has gone from strength to strength. Jessica Anison was a great ambassador for the school when she took part in the Norfolk County Cross Country finals at Easton College. The netball and football team have been shining through in their matches with the netballers winning 10-3 and 10-1 against local schools and the footballers 7-0.

All Saints' now looks to the term ahead and prepares for forthcoming events. There is a quiz night at Winfarthing Village Hall on the 18th May and the village Jubilee on the 4th June. Year 1 and 2 are about to visit the dinosaur park as part of their learning about dinosaurs and year 3 and 4 Norwich Castle Museum as part of their topic about Egyptians.



If you would like to know more about All Saints' please contact the school on 01379 642767 or by email [executivehead@schoolpartnership.org](mailto:executivehead@schoolpartnership.org) to come and look around. We would love to hear from you.

Louise Norgate, Executive Head Teacher for All Saints' and St. Andrew's Partnership



**COCK CROW IS THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF THE WINFARTHING GROUPS OF CHURCHES AND THE UPPER WAVENEY BENEFICE**

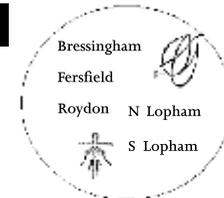
**BURSTON  
GISSING  
SHELFANGER  
TIVETSHALL  
WINFARTHING**

The Rector of the Winfarthing Group  
**The Revd David F Mills**  
Winfarthing Rectory  
Church Lane, Winfarthing, Norfolk IP22 2EA  
Tel: 01379 643646  
E-mail: revdfmills1812@gmail.com

Rector of the Upper Waveney Benefice  
**In vacancy:**  
**contact church wardens see foot of page**

Hon Rectors  
**The Revd Reg Dakin**  
Tel: 01379 641167

**The Revd Ben Sasada**  
01379 642174



www.upperwaveneybenefice.com

	Burston	Gissing	Shelfanger	Tivetshall	Winfarthing
June 3	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
June 10	8.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
June 17	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	10.00 FS	9.30 HC	6.00 EP
June 24	6.00 FSS	11.00 MP	8.00 HC	(At Gissing)	9.30 HC
July 1	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
July 8	8.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
July 15	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	10.00 FS	9.30 HC	3.00 EP
July 22	6.00 FSS	11.00 MP	8.00 HC	(At Gissing)	9.30 HC
July 29	10.30 5P HC				
August 5	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP

EP Evening Prayer | HC Holy Communion | MP Morning Prayer | MW Morning Worship | 5P Five Parish Service | FS Family Service | FSS Fourth Sunday Service | FSFS/Chp Family Service in Chapel |

**THE COCK CROW TEAM**

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**FERSFIELD** Maureen Webb Scoggins Farm, Dennington Rd, Laxfield, Suffolk IP13 8HJ 01986 798072 mbenziger@mac.com

**GISSING** Joe Cromley, The Chequers, Upper Street, Gissing. 01379 677817

**NORTH LOPHAM** Mrs Jennie Vere, Southlands, North Lopham. 01379 687679

**SOUTH LOPHAM** Jackie Brown, Bottle Cottage, Redgrave Rd, S Lopham IP22 2HL. 01379 687260 jackiebrown1@btinternet.com

**SHELFANGER** Frank Paice, The Laurels, Shelfanger. 01379 641538

**TIVETSHALL** Maggie Rowan, The Thatched House, Green Lane, Tivetshall NR15 2BJ 01379 674116 maggiearowan@aol.com

**WINFARTHING** Mrs Margaret Beeslee, Barleyfields, The Street, Winfarthing, IP22 2ED. 01379 641324

Date	Bressingham	Fersfield	N Lopham	S Lopham	Roydon
	St John the Baptist (BCP)	St Andrew (BCP & C/W Order 2)	St Nicholas (BCP & C/W Order 1)	St Andrew (BCP & C/W Order 2)	St Remigius (C/W 1 & 2)
Sun 3rd June Trinity Sunday	No Service	6.30pm EP	9.30am HC 11am Family Service	No Service	8am HC 10am Family Service
Sun 10th June Trinity 1	9.30am HC	No Service	3.00pm FS 6.30pm Jub Pr	No Service	10am HC
Sun 17th June Trinity 2	6.30pm EP	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC	8am HC 10am MP
Sun 24th June Trinity 3	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	6.30pm EP	10am HC
Sun 1st July Trinity 4	No Service	6.30pm EP	9.30am HC 11am FS	No Service	8am HC 10am FS
Sun 8th July Trinity 5	9.30am HC	No Service	11am FS 6.30 pm ES	No Service	10am HC
Sun 15th July Trinity 6	6.30pm EP	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC	8am HC 10am MP
Sun 22nd July Trinity 7	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	6.30pm EP	10am HC
Sun 29th July Trinity 8	10am Group HC	No Service	No Service	No Service	No Service
Sun 5th Aug Trinity 9	No Service	6.30pm EP	9.30am HC 11am FS	No Service	8am HC 10am MP

MP Morning Prayers | FS Family Service | HC Holy Communion FHC-Family Communion | ES Evensong | EP Evening Prayer with hymns | H&R Service of Healing & Reconciliation | MPW Non Denominational All Age Music Praise & Worship

**Morning Prayer:** At present is at 8.30am on Monday and Tuesday at North Lopham; Wednesday and Friday at Roydon and Thursday at South Lopham.

**Wednesday Communions:** 9.30am every Wednesday usually in Roydon Church.

**Thursday Communions:** 10am in homes around the Group please see local notices or contact Robert 01379 688267 for locations. If you would like to host one of these Communions please let Robert know.

**Fellowship Group** meets on Wednesday afternoons at 1.30pm contact Jennie (687679) for location.

**Holy Bingo:** 2pm The Lophams' Village Hall first Monday of the month.

<b>Churchwardens</b>	Bressingham	D Burroughes 01379 688291	R Aves 01379 687263
	Fersfield	J Sumpter 01379 687 711	R Vere 01379 687679
	North Lopham	A Briggs 01953 681989	R Vere 01379 687679
	South Lopham	P Reeder 01379 687273	D Huggins 01379 687201
	Roydon	A Daniels 01379 643575	A Stratfold 01379 642033



## A Message from Rob Mellowship

Dear Friends in Christ,

I feel I must explain why, after a period of uncertainty for which I apologise, I have taken early retirement. Simply put, the constant pain from my deteriorating right hip, coupled with anxiety about my son who had a kidney transplant 17 years ago and the physical and mental demands of running five parishes and giving you the pastoral care that you deserve have overwhelmed me. It was with a heavy heart and much support from Bishop Alan and my family that the decision to retire was made.

I thank you for all your cards, prayers and good wishes but the person I thank most is Jan; she has been my rock, always there to support me through this difficult time. As I always say: 'She has made a better Rector's wife than I have been a Rector!'

We have thoroughly enjoyed our 15 years here and look upon you all as our family. It has been a great privilege and honour to serve God and you and we have only love in our hearts for you all. I would like to think that we have travelled a good way together in our pilgrimage into God but it is now time for us to part company and see what God holds in store for the next part of our adventures with Him.

Jan and I thank you all for the love, patience and good grace which you have shown us; we wish you all every blessing and fulfilment in your vocation as children of God. May I be so bold as to leave you with two quotations from Scripture:

**Joshua 1: 9** *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*

And

**John 13: 33–36** *'A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'*

You will always be in our prayers and hearts  
With all Christian love

Rob & Jan Mellowship

## Benefice News

### In Vacancy

It seems very strange not to have a special function to say Thank You and Goodbye to Rob and Jan Mellowship, at the end of their ministry to our parishes. But such was their expressed wish!

There are many people across the five parishes who have been greatly helped by Rob at the milestone occasions in their lives; Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals have all been conducted with enormous care, to make the service personal to those most involved, and to put everyone else at ease.

The significant dates in the Church Year have been made extra special by Rob, often using ceremonies dating right back to the earliest church traditions, but he has also introduced new, informal services to which many people have been welcomed and made to feel at home – Pet Services and Teddy Bears' Picnic to name but two. And he encouraged and helped to set up Music, Praise & Worship.

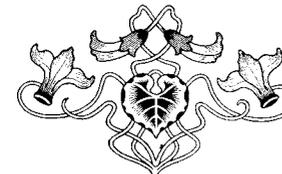
Other innovations have included Holiday Clubs, Parties – for Shrove Tuesday, pre Palm Sunday, and for Hallowe'en (a great antidote to Trick & Treat) – and Clubs for Toddlers and Primary age children, plus Bingo for rather older folk.

Whatever Rob has done, Jan has always been quietly there in the background, providing whatever was needed to make the occasion a success.

For all that the Mellowships have done, we say a huge THANK YOU.

And we assure them of our prayers for better health, and much happiness in their retirement.

The members of all our churches are enormously grateful to the retired clergy who give their time, energy and wisdom so generously and enable the service pattern to continue almost unchanged. And thanks go also to the staff of Diss Parish Church for their assistance with the Occasional Offices – officiating at Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals, and dealing with the official paperwork involved.



## BRESSINGHAM NEWS

### Church News

It is very difficult to think about the future of our church family without the leadership of the Rev'd Rob. Now that he has retired we are told that the correct terminology is not that we are in interregnum but that we have a 'vacancy'; either way the reality is that we have no familiar person to turn to. What a wonderful 15 years we have had. I hope that you will all read the message from Rob which is printed in this edition. For a tribute to Rob and Jan Mellowship, please see the Benefice section.

By the time this goes to press, Rodger Aves and I will have accepted the positions of churchwardens for a further year. We are always pleased to help in any way we can. The Rev'd Canon Tony Billett, our Rural Dean, is now on sabbatical until the middle of August. If you are planning a wedding or baptism, please telephone the Parish Office at Diss, Monday to Friday 9am–12pm, on 01379 643783 to discuss arrangements.

We have an enormous thank you to say to Mervyn Lambert. Mervyn has very kindly had two gate posts replaced at the church gate and the car park at no cost to the church. The PCC are indebted to him for his continued support.

Also we would like to thank Billy Bartrum for his work in cutting the grass in the burial ground and car park and Derek Chilvers for cutting the grass round the church.

Diana

### Jubilee Celebrations

Bressingham's celebrations will be held on the Playing Field at the village hall on 4th June. The theme will be outfits of red white and blue, prizes will be given for the best both adults and children.

The party will culminate with the lighting of the Queen's Jubilee Beacon up on Folly Lane. The Programme will be as follows:

## Church News

For a tribute to Rob and Jan Mellowship, please see the Benefice section.

I am pleased to report that on 22nd April Jan Sumpter and Richard Vere were re-elected as church wardens. We are very lucky to have them as they do splendid work for St Andrews. Please do not hesitate to contact either of them if you should require information regarding our church.

On the 29th April several people from Fersfield went to St Andrew's church, South Lopham, for the group Holy Communion and Celebration Service with Bishop Graham, Bishop of Norwich, who blessed the restoration work done to the roof and window. A really lovely service enjoyed by all.

The next service at St Andrew's will be Evening Prayer (with hymns) on 3rd June. I hope to see you there.

*Maureen Webb*

## Jubilee Celebrations

Fersfield's Jubilee Celebrations take place on Saturday 2nd June 5pm-7pm. The theme for this event is a Coronation type street party. So start this memorable week-end off here at Fersfield and while the children are being fed we can all have a good old mardle. This will be held in the street beside the Church Meadow. The Street will be closed off for the event. We would be pleased if you can bring a plate of food (sandwiches, cake, crisps whatever you like). If you wish, bring a blanket or deck chairs.

Also, can as many people as possible please bring a torch, large or small.

The special Jubilee commemorative mugs will be available for collection. Everyone welcome.

look on your website for latest news about the Jubilee [www.bressinghamandfersfield.org](http://www.bressinghamandfersfield.org)

## Village

### Inter Village Sports

These are being held at Framingham Earl High School on Sunday 10th of June starting at 10am. Bressingham is entering teams again this year. If you would like to represent your village in any of the events please contact me, Brenda Webb, on 01379 688375 for full details. We got into the final last year so bring a picnic and blanket along and have a fun day supporting your village.

### Bressingham and Fersfield Playing Field

The Tennis/Netball Court has just been refurbished; anyone wishing to use the facility can contact 01379 688375. The cost for one year will be £10; you will be given the code for the lock on the gate and be able to use the court whenever it is free.

### Petanque (Boules)

Petanque is played every Saturday 10.30-12.30 on the rink in the car park of the village hall. Come along and learn to play. Then you will be able to use it at your leisure.

### Archery

A six week course will be starting on Saturday 9th June 3.30-5.30 at the village hall. The cost will be £30 per person; to book a place please telephone 01379 688375.

### Drama Group

The group will be performing a comedy called 'Smalls Talk' at the village hall in September, so save these dates Thursday 13th 14th and 15th. Full details to follow.

### Bressingham & District Ladies Club

At our recent AGM retiring chairman Barbara Burrows summarised the club's activities over the past year. They included a garden party, outings and visits from several speakers. We managed to raise £130 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Barbara's husband Leslie then gave us an entertaining and most interesting talk 'Farming - a Way of Life' about the history of farming in our villages, when horses worked the land and most of the villagers did too.

We are pleased to welcome Christina Peachey as chairman for the coming year, along with two new committee members. On 18th June we have an out meeting (details to be confirmed) and on 18th July our guest for the evening will be Louise Brundell who will be telling us about her work with Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

Our meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 7.45 pm at Bressingham Village Hall. Visitors are most welcome (£2 including refreshments). For further information please call 01379 687541.

*Look out  
for delicious  
local  
asparagus!*



When we see local asparagus for sale we think of summer; here are a few things you might not know about asparagus.

Asparagus is a member of the Lily family and comes in three colours; green, purple and a white one which is blanched by excluding light.

Asparagus spears grow from a crown that is planted about a foot deep in sandy soils.

An asparagus planting is usually not harvested for the first 3 years.

Under ideal conditions, you can almost see an asparagus spear growing; up to 10 inches in a 24-hour period!

Asparagus is a nutrient-dense food which is high in Folic Acid and is a good source of potassium, fibre, vitamin B6, vitamins A and C, and thiamine.

Asparagus has No Fat, contains No Cholesterol and is low in Sodium.

5pm Arrival; Bar Open. (Pay Bar)

5.30 Maypole Dance performed by Children from the school.

6.00 Mini Olympics; Family teams or groups of friends.

7.30 Children's Tea Party.

During the tea party there will be dance entertainment from the Drama Group and local talent. Finishing with a Tug-of-War.

8.30 Serve the Hog Roast to the other members of the community; time to eat, drink and chat.

9.45 Planting of a time capsule. There will be a tree planted later at a more appropriate time of year.

10.00 Our own Olympic Runners will start off and take our Olympic Torch (made by Maurice Peachey of Fersfield) up to the Beacon in Folly Lane for lighting at 10.15.

10.15 The Party will carry on!

We would be pleased if you can bring a plate of food (sandwiches, cake, crisps; whatever you like). If you wish, bring a blanket or deck chairs.

All the above times are approximate except the Beacon Lighting which will be at 10.15pm in line with all other Parish and communities Councils.

### Jubilee Mugs

The Parish Council has generously donated a specially commissioned bone china Jubilee Mug for each household in Bressingham and Fersfield.

These mugs can be collected on the day at the Fersfield Tea Party on Saturday 2nd June or at the Beacon Party in Bressingham in the evening of Monday 4th June.

There is one mug for each household. If any family would like more than one mug they will be able to buy more for £10 each (in cash) when they collect their donated mug.

If any household is not able to collect their mug on either of the two days they can arrange to collect them from Krys Wakefield in Fersfield (01379 687428) or from Liz Handy in Bressingham (01379 687546)

Look on your website for latest news about the Jubilee [www.bressinghamandfersfield.org](http://www.bressinghamandfersfield.org)



## St Andrew's School

Despite the lack of sun, St Andrew's has returned for its summer Term.

Parents and the local community are reminded that the new school website has been launched; visit [www.standrews.schoolpartnership.org](http://www.standrews.schoolpartnership.org) for the latest information about school matters.

At the end of the Spring term, staff, pupils, parents and governors reflected on the exciting learning that had taken place during the term. As a result of the partnership Science day organised by Partnership Subject Leader for Science, Miss Mitchell, Camouflage learning came in and provided a range of exciting workshops. One child commented 'we have fun when we meet up with All Saints.'

At a second partnership day called Experience Easter, the children gained knowledge about the six Stations of the Cross and came together in St Mary's church. The feedback from children included 'It was actually really good. I didn't think we would do so much'.

At the start of the Easter holidays it was a delight to be contacted by Energy Busters and informed that Niamh Somers had won the Energy Busters competition. Well done Niamh!

St Andrew's has continued its commitment to sport. Lucy Bernard, was a great ambassador for the school when she ran in the Norfolk County Cross Country finals at Easton College. The netball and football teams have also been busy in their after school matches. Well done!

St Andrew's now looks to the term ahead and prepares for forthcoming events. The school is busy liaising with the Jubilee committee for the Queens Jubilee event on Saturday 2nd June. Discovery are about to visit the dinosaur park as part of their learning about dinosaurs and Endeavour are busy preparing and trying Greek food as part of their Ancient Greek topic.

To learn more about St Andrew's, contact us by e-mail [executivehead@schoolpartnership.org](mailto:executivehead@schoolpartnership.org) or on

01379 687253 and come and look around. We would love to hear from you.

*Louise Norgate, Executive Headteacher for St Andrew's and All Saints Partnership and Local Leader in Education*

### Preschool

The Preschool children have been having a great time this term; lots of crafts, paints, reading, play and much more! We are looking forward to our visit to Knettishall Heath on 10th July where we are hoping the sun will shine!

Lopham preschool welcomes children from their second birthday, even if still in nappies. We offer a safe and stimulating environment for children to learn through play, allowing them to reach their full potential in the areas defined by the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Our home is The Mess building at St Andrew's School, North Lopham where we have a wide range of toys for the children to use and a large outdoor play area.

We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you would like to visit our Preschool, contact Tonya (Preschool manager) on 07962 219523.

We are having a summer barbeque at the Kings Head Pub in North Lopham on Sunday 1st July from 4pm; everyone is very welcome and there will be games, face painting, homemade cakes and crazy golf. Come along!

### Friends of St Andrew's

FOSTA continues to raise money for St Andrew's School. Thank you to everyone who has supported our events. A successful movie and popcorn night raised £66 and the Bag2 school collection raised £180. It has been agreed that a PA system will be purchased with money raised by FOSTA; this will help greatly at school events and school church services. This will cost around £550.

Future Fundraising: we are planning a treasure hunt and family BBQ on the 14th July 2012. Entry costs £5 per car. All welcome to join in.

*Elaine Aldous*



### Lopham Links

The sponsored walk on the 21st April was a great success. A group of young children and parents walked from the mere in North Lopham to the White Horse public House in South Lopham and back again. Even the youngest child managed to walk/run the distance.

Lopham Links thanks all those who supported this event by walking or sponsoring. Thank you also to the White Horse Public house for supplying food on our arrival there.

Over £400 pounds was raised towards funds for a play area for the Lophams villages.

*Elaine Aldous*

### Lophams' Ladies

Meeting on the first Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall; 7.15 for 7.30pm

In April Anne Marie Clark gave us insight into the 'Wheel of the Year', the annual cycle of the changing seasons with eight main festivals. Yule/Winter solstice and Midsummer are well known; perhaps lesser known are Candlemas (Feb 1st); a time of preparation for the coming of Spring and Lammas (July 31st); celebrating the first harvesting of crops.

At our May meeting, Peter Booth-Smith gave us a most interesting talk on the history of the Tea Trade. Brought up in a family of Tea Traders and being one himself; his knowledge was extensive. From the 3rd millennium BC, the drinking of dried Camellia sinensis leaves was considered a health drink by the Chinese. Tea was introduced into Britain only 350 years ago and now is a quintessentially British drink which we are now told is really good for us! On June 2nd we join the celebration of the Queens Jubilee and will be serving that very same traditional brew. On July 3rd we are visiting the Abbey Gardens in Bury St Edmunds for a guided tour by the Head Gardener. We will meet in the Village Hall car park at 1pm and share lifts into Bury. Details phone 01379 687337.

New members and visitors always welcome, details Tel 01379 687337

### Lophams' Garden Club

We meet at Blooms Garden Centre, 1st Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

In April we welcomed Sue Wooster of Bellflower

Nursery and much enjoyed her talk about Campanulas accompanied by slides of her National Collection of Alpine Campanulas and pictures of these beautiful plants in their natural surroundings. We were inspired by the ideas of Lucy Redman, garden designer, in May and might even take up some of her suggestions! On June 6th, at 7.30pm we look forward to a private visit to the Dell Gardens at Bressingham. We will have a guided tour of Lopham and Redgrave Fen on July 4th, searching for wild flowers along the way; meet at the Fen car park at 7pm.

There may still be tickets available for our visit to Sandringham Flower Show on 25th July; for information or to book, please telephone 01379 687833.

Visitors and new members are always very welcome at our meetings.

### Lophams' (Holy) Bingo

Sessions continue in the Village Hall, from 2 to 4pm on the first Monday of most months. Residents from any local village are welcome to come along - the chat between games is as important to our members as the bingo, so please take this as a personal invitation! For help with transport, just ring 01379 687679. The next session is on 2nd July.

### Lophams' Village Hall

*David Copperfield* performed by Mad Dogs & Englishmen: was a really enthralling production; the audience was amazed by the high quality of the set and the skilled acting, a real treat!

*The Sports Taster Day* in May gave all ages a chance to try out many activities both indoors and out. If you were among them, why not consider entering the 'Best in Breckland' Village Games at Watton on 17th June?

*The Lottery* our opportunity to support the Village Hall and have a bit of fun too, continues to attract new members. Recent winners: For March, first prize winner, T Colyer received £196 and second prize winners J Pursehouse and D Huggins won £49 each. In April, the 1st prize of £188 was won by A Osler; 2nd prizes of £47 each were won by M Birchall and N Holdsworth.

*New members* and those who need to renew are urged to get in touch: copies of the full rules and entry forms are available from promoter, Eileen 01379 687608, from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer 01379 687718, from other Village Hall Committee members (see the website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events.

*Farmers' Markets* are on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm; the next dates are June 23rd and July 28th. For details, call Mike on 01379 687235;

*Judo* is on Mondays & Wednesdays - (Details from Howard on 1379 688258)

*Dog Training* is held most Tuesday evenings, trainer Elaine (07845 776110) will provide information.

*Art Classes* are held on Wednesdays; the tutor until mid-summer is Susie Turner (687434). From then, the 'students' will run as an Art Group on Wednesdays. Susie will provide a contact number for further information.

During the summer, there are some 'one off' Saturday workshops, with a range of techniques and teachers. Details are included on the web site.

To book the hall for private functions, please contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the hall, visit the web-site at [www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk)

## Jubilees in the Lophams

The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II will continue a great tradition of such celebrations in the villages. In Victoria's time, when wages were very low, feasting was the order of the day. For her Golden Jubilee in 1887, 620 persons sat down to a dinner provided by the Committee, some at Lodge Farm (NL) and some at Pansthorne Farm (SL). The Rector provided a Tea for 280 children under 14 and 30 widows, at the Albert Rooms (NL) and Pansthorne Barn. The feasts were followed by games, sports and fireworks. The Diamond Jubilee was similar, the cost of the 370 meals served at South Lopham was

recorded as £22.18s.00; sadly the figures for North weren't recorded. The population figures then are interesting!

No records of celebrations for the Silver Jubilee of George V in 1936 exist, but in 1977 our Queen's first 25 years were celebrated in style, with a church service on 5th June and Over 60s Party on 9th, and the main event on 7th – Floats, decorated by sections of the villages paraded to the Playing Field for a huge Carnival type event – Fancy Dress, Races, Dancing and Side Shows, plus wonderful refreshments. The Parish Councils provided mugs for all the children and a Jubilee seat for each village.



The mood seemed more subdued in 2002 – perhaps the deaths of the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret cast a shadow – so the Golden Jubilee was celebrated more quietly. All Lophams' children received medallions, church services were held, a dinner dance was organised by South, and various events at North – a meal at the Kings Head for residents of over 50 years, a Jubilee Concert, and a Children's street party.

### HORHAM BYGONES COUNTRY RALLY

Saturday 9th June 9, 10am–5pm Horham & Athelington Recreation Field, off the B1077 Adults £5, concessions £3, family ticket £12, accompanied under 5s free. Free parking.  
[horhambygonescountryrally.onesuffolk.net](http://horhambygonescountryrally.onesuffolk.net) or contact Don Moyes 07894 903829 or Gary Woodrow 01379 740496 for information.

## NORTH LOPHAM NEWS

### Parish Council

AGM 16th May 2012

Firstly, thanks go to Parish Clerk, Mike Cox, who officiated despite having recently broken one of his legs.

Election of Officers: Mrs H Potter was elected Chairman and Mrs J Tate Vice Chairman for the year 2012/13.

The application to install dropped kerbs opposite the school and Post Office has been refused for the moment by NCC.

The audited annual accounts were approved. Council insurance has been renegotiated at a saving of £200 pa. The LOHP newsletter will be delivered with the Lophams News, the income from this will offset increased LN production costs. The cost of grass cutting in Primrose Lane continues to be shared with South Lopham.

Trees have been planted at Harling cross roads as a safety measure. Church Road drain is still ineffective. A spillage of duck litter caused a road accident at Church Corner, the carrier is being traced. The verges by the school and in The Street will be reseeded by the 'Rangers'.

Proceeds from the 'Bottle Bank' are due. The litter warden will continue. A dead tree needs to be removed from the burial ground, quotations to be sought. Complaints about noise from gas bird scarers have been received.

Would dog walkers please obey the signs and keep out of the conservation field to the south of Jubilee Lane.

### St Nicholas' Church

For a tribute to Rob and Jan Mellowship, please see the Benefice section.

*Easter Celebrations* We were able to mark the most significant events of the season in North Lopham.

The Rev'd Reg Dakin dedicated the palm leaf crosses before the Palm Sunday Communion Service; there were plenty to share with those who came to the 11 am service. On Good Friday, The Revd Ben Sasada guided the meditation at the foot of a 14 foot cross in the chancel arch. All those who came thank him for a very moving service. Afterwards, the building was transformed with wonderful floral displays and so looked its festive best for Easter Sunday when both services were led by the home team. Grateful thanks go to all those who helped. There were both 'real' and chocolate eggs for everyone at the 11am, and more little chocolate ones in the evening, when Easter Praise was shared with members of the benefice choir.

*Happy Birthday, Your Majesty!* The bells at St Nicholas' Church rang out in a peal dedicated to The Queen on the eve of her 86th birthday. The bells were dedicated on 21st April 1926 after re-hanging, so peals have been rung to celebrate the significant birthdays since her 50th. It seemed appropriate to ring this year as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

*Starters & Sweets* on the evening of the 20th April had a traditional English flavour, marking both the birthday and St George's Day on 23rd. Family Service on 22nd had St George as the focus and his flag featured prominently.

*Ascension Day* on Thursday 17th May was celebrated at a 10am Holy Communion Service in Church, led by the Revd Reg Dakin..

*Pentecost* The Birthday of the Christian Church is on 27th May was celebrated with a Party Family Service for all at 11am, with balloons, games and cake to share.

*At the Vestry meeting* Jean Stringfield stood down as churchwarden; everyone wished to record thanks for all she has done in recent years, especially her hospitality at Family Services and her skilled work making and restoring the soft furnishings of the church building. Alan Briggs was elected to serve alongside Richard Vere for the next twelve months.

PCC members were re-elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 26th April. All those who help to care for the church and its surroundings, or who are involved in its work in the community were very warmly thanked for all their support.

### Jubilee Services

There will be an informal service at 3pm on Sunday 10th June at St Nicholas' Church, to which all families from both Lophams are invited, with squash & biscuits afterwards. There will be a display of Royal memorabilia to enjoy, and Jubilee medallions for all the children - new borns up to Year 11 pupils. We hope that as many people as possible will come along. We will try to deliver medallions to any who cannot collect them on the day, but this could take some time. Any surplus after all the children have received medallions will be available for purchase, at a cost of £2.25 each. Please contact Jennie on 687679 (North) or Peter on 687273 (South), if you hope to buy one.

The 6.30pm service on 10th will be a Jubilee Praise celebration.

### North Lopham Lent Lunches

This year, all money raised went to the diocesan project to help women in Papua New Guinea, our link area on the far side of the world. Grateful thanks go to all those who opened their homes for these occasions, and provided bread, cheese and pickles, plus delicious extras for us to enjoy, and to all those who supported them. We raised over £290 for the appeal.

## WARTS

Worham & Redgrave Theatrical Society are performing DUETS – four hilarious short plays about modern day relationships on 19th, 20th, 21st July at Botesdale Village Hall

Doors and bar open at 7pm performances start at 7.30pm.

Tickets: adults £8, concessions £6, available from Bressingham Village shop or phone 01379 687580.

## SOUTH LOPHAM NEWS

### St Andrew's Church

For a tribute to Rob and Jan Mellowship, please see the Benefice section.

On Sunday the 29th April we at St Andrew's Church and the Upper Waveney Benefice welcomed The Right Reverend Graham James, Bishop of Norwich, to a Service of Thanksgiving for the building work completed on the Church which consisted of the re-roofing and Westmorland Slating of the Nave, the restoration of eight Clerestory Windows and East and West Windows also a door on the south side of the Chancel and a window on the north side of the Nave. To add to this extensive work we had a Remembrance Table and Book and new curtains in the entrance, bell chamber and south door and also the back vestry, kindly made and donated by Mrs Irene Howard.

After the Bishop had preached his sermon he blessed a bowl of water and dedicated all that had been renewed and restored in St Andrew's Church. The service of Holy Communion was conducted by John Pares, Curate of Diss, and the Celebrant was the Bishop; a truly memorable service.

The Remembrance Table and Book are now placed in the Lady Chapel to view. If you wish to remember a loved one in the book entry forms are available in the Church.

At the Annual Vestry meeting on Sunday 15th April, Peter Reeder and David Huggins were re-elected as Churchwardens for the coming year.

### South Lopham Estates Charity

Vacancy for Secretary; Sarah Frizzell is retiring as Secretary after many years of valuable service. Applications for the post are therefore invited. The duties are not onerous; the Charity is run in an informal manner, meeting two or three times a year. The history and background involving local plots of land are very interesting as is dealing with the Church and Educational Authorities. The Secretary does not have to be resident in South Lopham. Anyone interested should contact the Chairman, Robert McCaw, on 01379 687776 or robmad@btinternet.com.

### Village Meetings

The annual Village Meetings of South and North Lopham were held on the evening of Friday, 13th April at the Village Hall and were attended by approximately 65 residents. Robert McCaw gave a report of the activities of the South Lopham PC over the last year. Worthy of particular mention was his tribute to Peter Coster who will be retiring from the PC after eight years service, four as Chairman. He will be greatly missed. Applications to fill the vacancy are invited. This was followed by questions, the main one being a complaint about the danger caused by heavy lorries entering the village from Thetford. Michael Wragg (of Weavers) and Harry Carter (of Fieldings) had made many representations to the Highways Authority and to William Nunn but all to no avail. Peter Coster, on behalf of the PC, would consider whether any help could be given.

In the absence of a permanent Chairman, the report for North Lopham was given by Mike Cox, the Parish Clerk. Mr Hogg asked a question regarding dangerous parking on the grass verges close to the school. Tracey Umfreville would contact the Head Teacher in order to discourage the offending parents.

Please!  
**NO PARKING**  
on the verge

There followed short statements by the following local groups: St Andrew's School (Tracey Umfreville), St Andrew's Church (Peter Reeder), St Nicholas Church (Jenny Vere), The White Horse (Tony the Landlord), The Kings Head (Mike Cox on behalf of George the Landlord), Lopham Links (Donna Potter), Lophams Gardening Club (Gill Osler), Lophams Ramblers (Mike Cox for Jackie Brown), Lophams Ladies (Sarah Frizzell), South Lopham Estates Charity (Robert McCaw), Little Ouse Headwaters Project (Peter Coster for Dr Helen Smith), Lophams Village Hall (Jenny Vere), Lophams Pre-School and North Lopham Charities (Mike Cox).

### The Lophams Society AGM

Chairman, Granville Horan, welcomed the members and reported on the year's activities. Sarah

Martin gave the Treasurer's Report followed by a progress report by Granville on the preparations for the Jubilee Celebrations. A proposal to amend the Constitution to provide for the appointment of an Honorary President was approved. The first holder of this office is Simon Dilloway.

All existing officers and committee members were re-elected. Jill Partridge was elected as an additional committee member.

### South Lopham Parish Council

AGM and Regular Meeting 10th May

1. Chairman, Robert McCaw, re-elected for a further year.
2. Rob Webb was elected Vice Chairman for a year replacing Peter Coster. Gratitude was expressed for Peter's long and distinguished service.
3. Applications for the vacancy arising on the Parish Council are invited. Anyone interested please contact Robert McCaw on 01379 687776 or at robmad@btinternet.com.
4. Signs will be erected to discourage dog owners from allowing their dogs to foul the countryside.
5. The Clerk presented the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2012 which were approved.
6. The meeting thought that the small balance remaining from the Malson legacy might be used to help with repairs to St Andrew's Church organ.
7. A report was received from Granville Horan about the preparations for the Jubilee Celebrations.

## The Rackety Rector of Rickinghall

A new musical comedy  
written and produced by  
Peter Creswell

14th, 15th, 16th June at 7.30pm,  
Redgrave Church

Tickets £10:  
from Redgrave Store, Botesdale PO,  
Mere Bookshop (Diss),  
Rickinghall Newsagent or  
phone 01379 890650

# From the Registers

## Winfarthing Group

### FUNERALS

**Ethel Pincombe** 23rd March for  
Bressingham

**Violet Francis** 10th May Burston

**George Woods** 16th May Gissing  
[at Burston]

### BLESSING OF MARRIAGE

**Frank and Sally SPencer** 28th April  
Winfarthing

### BAPTISM

**Eve Victoria Maria Atkins** 21st April  
Tivetshall



## Bressingham Group

### BAPTISMS

**Luke Anthony Garnham** 11th March  
Roydon

**Edward Stanley Aldous** 14th April  
Bressingham

**Robert Neil Aldous** 14th April  
Bressingham

**Amelia Rose Ashfield** 22nd April Roydon

**Ellie Rose Wenham** 29th April Roydon

**Jacob John Morgan** 13th May North  
Lopham

**Sidney George Brame** 13th May Roydon

**Billy George Buck** 13th May Roydon

### FUNERALS

**Barbara Whymark** 1st March Roydon

**Leonard Peacock** 27th April Roydon

**Myra Kerry** 30th April Fersfield

**Inga Bondegaard Barker** 15th May Roydon