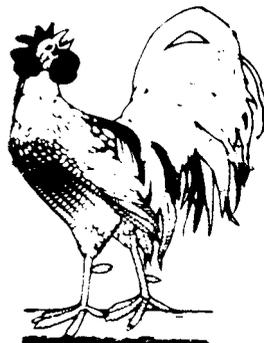


Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2013

Issue No: 5



Autumn change: John Nurse ploughs for Desmond Aves at Bressingham



Editors' Notice Board



Murphy's Rambles

Hello friends,

Well, they say it's been a good summer but in my coat it's been TOO HOT!

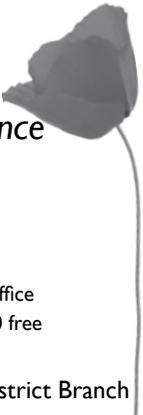
My human had another 'flower first' a pyramid orchid this time – breakfast late again.

I had a narrow escape whilst investigating a 'scrape' in the verge. I was only just stopped from putting my nose into a bees nest! It's been lovely seeing butterflies at last, great to try to catch but I left alone the big iridescent dragonfly we met!

Have you noticed on misty mornings the cobwebs underfoot everywhere, but never a spider? After no deer sightings for weeks we have been rewarded with two in the distance on Town Meadows and then watching us from a stubble field a mother and her two youngsters.

The haws are now turning red and my human is busy checking for the best bushes for blackberries and sloes; I guess autumn is upon us.

Well, take care and watch out for us on our walks.



Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance

Diss Corn Hall
Friday 8th November,
7.30pm to 10.30pm

Tickets available Corn Hall Box Office
Adults £5, child 10–16 £3, under 10 free

Royal British Legion: Diss & District Branch

The Branch would like to thank the people of Diss and district for their support on Armed Forces Day, 29th June.

Thanks to all who gave their time and effort, with special thanks to RBL Women's Section, RBL Bikers, RAF Association, 100th Bomb Group, Air Cadets, Army Cadets and Mr D Stride (Pike) Home Guard Display. Also to Diss Town Council for the street bunting.

It was good to experience such friendship and goodwill; a great day.

Jim Bidwell (Branch Co-ordinator)



Other items
the Editors think
you might like
to know about

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The Norfolk and Norwich Home from Hospital Scheme

Have you a few hours to spare to help someone out with a bit of shopping and some emotional support? 'Yes', then please read on.

The British Red Cross helps people in times of crisis, providing a range of services in local communities across the UK.

The Home from Hospital Scheme started in 1986. In East Anglia there are 4 schemes, this area comes under the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Scheme, and we need more local volunteers. Volunteering for the British Red Cross is a great way to make a difference. As an HfH volunteer, you can help people who need a little short term support at home after a stay in hospital. The service is free and referrals can be accepted from GPs, PCTs, hospitals, social workers, occupational therapists and individuals.

As a beneficiary of the HfH scheme said, 'The volunteer was such a tremendous boost, not only in a practical way but also because I knew there was someone there if I needed them.'

We welcome people from all backgrounds and sections of the community as volunteers and they decide how much time they are able to give and how much to take on.

To find out more about volunteering for the HfH service or for information about any of the services the BRC offers, please phone the Red Cross office at the NNUH on 01603 288320 or email Chris.collict@nnuh.nhs.uk

R McPherson

Diss Library News

October is *Black History Month* with lots of events in Norfolk and beyond. Diss library is joining in with a Black history Month Town read; we will be promoting the bestselling book 'The Help' by Kathryn Stockett. Already made into a film, this book tells the story of a group of coloured maids in 1960s USA, and how a white college girl comes to understand the injustice of their treatment. It's an unforgettable read and we'll have extra copies, reviews and reading guides available for you all through October.

Tuesday 1st October is *Older Peoples Day* and we would like to invite everyone to our Reminiscence Afternoon at 2pm. Drop in for a browse through some of our reminiscence kits while enjoying a cup of tea; the kits can be borrowed and are ideal for clubs and carers.

Would you like to *know more about computers*, the internet, email and online shopping? Would you like to learn in a small group and in a friendly supportive environment? We will be offering another *Surf's Up* course for absolute beginners which will help you gain confidence to use a computer. *Surf's Up* is a six-week course held on Tuesday afternoons in the library, starting 22nd October, and you can put your name down for the next course by phoning 01379 642609.

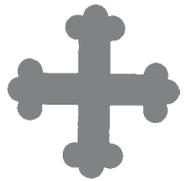
On *Armistice Day* our libraries will be observing the silence at 11am. Did you know that the Commonwealth War Graves commission, which looks after all our military cemeteries, has a website where you can research a relative who fought and died in World War I and see their name on the 'Debt of Honour' register? The website address is www.cwgc.org and our staff will be happy to help you log on and view the site.

Baby Bounce & Rhyme time continues on Fridays at 10.30am and new faces are assured of a welcome.

If you belong to a group or club and you'd like to tell everyone what you do, gain new members or celebrate an achievement, we can offer a free space for displays, helpdesks, demonstrations or workshops. We have a Health Trainers information desk on Wednesday 9th October 2pm-4pm

For library opening times and more information on all our events and services visit: www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries, or call Diss library on 01379 642609

Winfarthing Group Rector writes...



'They who wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength and rise up on the wings of Eagles'.

Recently, I was struck again by these words from the Old Testament prophet Isaiah and how waiting upon God can ultimately help, and aid us in our time of prayer. Usually during a time of prayer we simply jump straight in with our prepared shopping list of requests. A young reporter once asked Michael Ramsey (then Archbishop of Canterbury) how long he spent each day in prayer, Ramsey said 'about 5 minutes', which surprised the reporter, 'but it takes me about 30 minutes of waiting to get there'.

Waiting can be very difficult, especially in a time of deep stress; like waiting with a loved one who is close to death; or worrying about the worsening physical health of a friend or relative, which has been on-going for many years. It is no wonder that often a sense of helplessness and alienation comes over us. We ask, 'why do bad things happen to good people?' At the cross of Christ, Mary, the Ladies and John wait helpless, watching the extreme torture placed upon Christ; not able to interfere, but by their presence and words expressing their love and devotion for him.

I am in a very privileged position, that I can go to my caravan which is situated on the drive way. I have set up a small chapel there, where I can keep quiet, wait and pray. Where, when I am confused, not sure what is happening around me, or when things are simply wrong, I can retreat and wait upon the Lord; simply saying, over to you.

For me such hard questions re pain, suffering, torture, and eventually death itself, can only make sense when we consider what Christ achieved at the cross. I may not understand what is happening round about me, I may not understand what is taking place but waiting and saying 'Thy will be done', whilst actively attempting to seek the extension of God's Kingdom here on earth, makes sense in a mad world.

Rev David F Mills

BURSTON NEWS

Gift Day

St Mary's thanks all those who contributed to our Ministry Funds after recent appeal. The sum raised was £550.

Youth Café

Every Thursday during term time the youth cafe is in full swing. If you are aged 11–14 come and join us for games, free pizza and milkshake 3.45–5.15pm in the church. Two of our members had a good time in camp at Sizewell this summer

Parish Council News

Full Steam Ahead on our Major Projects

Here is a progress report on the four major projects that the Parish Council were embarking upon to ensure that we keep up to speed with the changing needs of our community and to develop the local amenity for our future needs.

Play Equipment Development

For several years the Parish Council has been putting a proportion of its income into a special account. It has now been realised that if the Council can contribute, say, £6,000 to a regeneration project, grant aid may be available from several sources to increase the total spendable fund to about £30,000.

Recently there has been a preliminary consultation, in the form of a questionnaire, regarding the way forward and lots of ideas have been put forward as to what might be provided on the playing field.

Under the guidance of Nigel Frankland, it is hoped that the new equipment will be in place, and the present equipment refurbished, by mid 2014.

Community/Memorial Garden

Due to the complexity and far reaching nature of the above projects, Council has set-up a Playing Field Advisory Committee. This is chaired by Terry King. At the last meeting of the Parish Council, he

presented a progress report on the playing field projects. This included a site plan showing the locations of the community garden and the linking wild meadow planting area leading to the remodelled play area. It gives an indication of the proposed landscaping, including the planting of suitable shrubs and trees.

Footpaths

The gathering of information continues, now under the guidance of Tom Grieve.

The mapping of our network of footpaths is proceeding along with an indication of landowners, and a planner is being produced with which to log issues for attention. Your continued feedback on footpath problems will enable us to populate the planner and begin to allocate resources to address the issues on a priority basis.

Highways

A further meeting has been held with BOCM Pauls and Norfolk County Council Highways to address issues surrounding the movement of HGVs and the poor condition of the Parish highways.

Progress is being made on all fronts, including an agreement by BOCM Pauls to prevent the parking of lorries in Shimpling and Burston prior to the Mill opening time. They have agreed to contribute to the making good of the damage caused by this parking and NCC Highways have agreed to improve the associated signage.

The road surface and verge issues in Mill Road are to be addressed via short and long-term plans, with hedge trimming and the verges being tackled first. The Parish Council will be contacting the respective land owners regarding the hedge trimming which will be sponsored by BOCM Pauls.

The filling of pot holes will continue.

The cooperation by NCC Highways and BOCM Pauls is much appreciated. My thanks are due to my fellow Councillors for their continued hard work on these projects.

Len Hobson, Chairman

Burston & Shimpling CAT

The Community Action Team (CAT for short) has been busy!

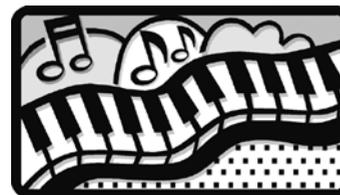
Earlier in the year there was an opportunity for teenagers to experience a flight in a glider at the Norfolk Gliding Club. On the afternoon of Saturday 31st August the Team organised two treasure hunts, one on foot and one by car. In the evening there was a barbeque on Church Green. A beer tent was provided by the Burston Crown, and a series of buskers provided entertainment until long after sunset; an excellent day.

CAT is trying to encourage some younger people, teenagers in particular, to organise an event. They are prepared to provide financial support, and mentoring if it will help. The concept is that a group of teenagers will come up with an idea for an event that will appeal to other teenagers in the area, a disco, maybe, or perhaps a ten-pin bowling competition. For something like this it is often necessary to spend money before the tickets have been sold, and this is where CAT will come in. Being an organiser of an event would be something that could look good on a CV or in a personal statement.

A date for your diary

On Saturday 30th November Charlie Haylock, one of Eastern England's leading entertainers will be coming to Burston to take 'An eccentric Look at East Anglia'. This will be a fun evening for all ages. Expect St Mary's to be rocking with laughter as Charlie tells his tales in his own informative and hilarious style. To reserve tickets phone the numbers below; £5 (£4 concessions) includes refreshments.

Already, the Community Action team is thinking of events for next year. For some old-fashioned fun there will be a Beetle Drive evening. On Saturday



6th September (the Saturday before the centenary Strike School Rally) there will be a Jazz evening on Church Green, Burston. If anyone has ideas as to any sort of event that would be successful, please let us know.

Len Hobson 01379 741033, Nigel Frankland 644788

St Mary's

The biggest news, which you are likely to have heard by now, is the fact that St Mary's has been awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to renew the roof and greatly improve our facilities. The PCC had applied three times for funding, as the church roof is in a very poor state and the building is likely to become unfit for use if not repaired, so we are very pleased that we now have the grant. The work will be carried out over the next two to three years.

The PCC is concerned that everybody who supports the church understands the sources of funding we have – and how the money is spent. In a nutshell we have three types of funding:

Grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund which must be spent on repairs to the church building, in particular the roof.

Money from The Friends of Burston Church which funds the church insurance, improvements to the kitchen, toilet etc, rewiring, lighting, heating etc. (Money raised by The Friends goes towards keeping the church in a good state to be used by the village community).

Weekly collections by the church congregation and donations from others (both regular monthly standing orders and one-off gifts) – this money is spent on the church's contribution to the diocese, the Rector's expenses and the church's ministry.

The PCC and church members are very grateful for all the gifts of time and money from so many.

A recent event organised by Dorothy Swanton was a 'Ladies' Lunch', and was hugely enjoyable. Dorothy persuaded Philippa Kemp-Welch to talk about her cycle ride in Vietnam and Cambodia, last winter. Philippa was sponsored to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society, and at the lunch money was raised for the Burston Youth Café (which resumed in September). The talk (and photos) was fascinating, and the lunch delicious. Particular thanks to Julie and Johnnie Botwright who prepared the food.

Diary Dates

The Friends of Burston Church is holding its annual Fish and Chips Quiz Supper on Friday 18th October. Please contact Len Hobson if you would like tickets (01379 741033).

Advance notice – our Christingle service will be on Friday 6th December at 2pm – everyone welcome.

Rachel Hobson

Community Primary School

Class 1 are happy to welcome 7 new reception children who have already settled in well. We are working in the topic of homes which fits in well with the traditional tales that we will be reading. The year 1s have welcomed their new classmates and have been role modelling how we behave in our class. We have introduced an additional mental maths session to our day, which also incorporates some maths songs, which the children are quickly grasping.

We are pleased to welcome the children into Class 2 for an exciting new year of learning. We will be finding out about Harvest, where food comes from and experimenting with colour to create Harvest pictures. In Science we are going to find out what happens to our skeleton as we get bigger and why we need one. Discovering the different features of stories by reading lots of books and writing stories is going to keep us busy. Numbers, counting and calculations in Maths will give us something to think about. As if that's not enough, we'll also be doing PE, including swimming, festivals and celebrations in RE and finding out about ourselves in PSHE.

This year the children in Class 3 will be covering a range of topics through which they will cover geography, history, art and d.t. objectives. We are going to be starting the Autumn term with the seven wonders of the ancient world. During the topic, children will be making their own garden of Babylon, sculpting a colossus of Rome and thinking about what the seven great wonders of Britain would be. Literacy lessons are going to really grasp the children's imagination with lots of talk for writing, hot-seating and drama to really help inspire them and with the introduction of Big Maths, we are hoping that their mental maths is going to continue to improve.

GISSING NEWS

Heart of Gissing

This 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. This summer has already seen the building benefit from a new roof and interior main hall ceiling works, as a result of grant aid being obtained to the tune of over £40,000. Refurbishment of the old Schoolmaster's house and the installation of essential services took place at Easter with the help of grant-aid, applied for by Trustees. They 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 building is well-used, but there are some times still available to book space, particularly in the evening, at weekends, or during school holidays. Please contact Linda Nash (below) for further details, if you might be interested in hiring the venue for events, group meetings etc. Fundraising events are organised 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 or email admin@heartofgissing.org.uk for a membership form and/or further details. Please visit www.heartofgissing.org.uk for up to date information about groups, events and what is happening in the village.

Forthcoming fundraising events include:

St Nicholas Fayre on Saturday 7th December from 4pm to 7pm in and around the Church and Old School (Children's Centre). This event provides a great opportunity to buy interesting Christmas gifts and homemade produce in a lovely setting. Father Christmas and his helpers will be there to receive Christmas wish lists. Some stalls still available. For more information please contact Kelly Pitcher 01379 674511 or email kelpitcher@aol.com. Otherwise - look forward to seeing you there.

Groups running at present include:

Gissing Children's Centre (Pre-School and Playscheme) Contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9am–3pm during term time) or 07796 204367 out of hours or email email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk

Gissing Baby and Toddler Group runs in Gissing Village Hall every Monday morning, 10am to 12 noon (new times). 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 information about the group, contact Vicky on 01379 674437 or 07946 212779 or email at vhcullum@hotmail.com.

Gissing Youth Club for 8–13 year-olds, runs every Tuesday 6.30–8pm (winter times) during term time at Gissing Children's Centre. Anyone interested in helping or who has ideas or skills to share, contact Bernie on 07796 545929 or 01379 677254 or email at berniecalton@live.co.uk.

Gissing Reading Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 8pm at the Old School. For further information contact Jim Philip on 01379 677352 or just come along. The next programme is: September, White Teeth by Zadie Smith; October, Summer in February by Jonathan Smith; November, This Isn't The Sort Of Thing That Happens To Someone Like You (short stories) by Jon McGregor.

Gissing Gardening Group generally meets on the third Wednesday evening of the month at the Old School. Enquiries: a 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 every Wednesday evening at the Children's Centre (the Old School). Call Sharon Calton on 07979 411644 or email at sharon@scalton.orangehome.co.uk for further details.

Performing Arts East formerly Hegarty School of Dance) offers dance classes to children (from

3 years of age) and adults and runs from both the Children's Centre (the Old School) and the village hall. For details, contact Sam on 07825 325100 by email at samiwatt@rocketmail.com or visit www.hegartyschoolofdance.co.uk.



Weekly Musical Theatre Every Wednesday from 5pm at Gissing Village Hall for anyone over 7 years of age. For further details, contact Sam as above.

Heart of Gissing Community Arts Group (Formerly Dance 2000 Plus and Heart of Gissing Community Dance Group) Any queries regarding this group can be directed to Rose Eddington on 01379 677790 or email at rose@roseeddington.co.uk.

Stage HOGers This local theatre group is preparing for a new Panto; rehearsals start in 2 weeks at the Old School Gissing. Anyone interested in treading the boards, contact Sam as above or admin@heartoggissing.org.uk for further information.

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

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

Gissing Carpet Bowls Derek Dewey on 01379 677162.

Gissing Bowls Club Kevin Lake on 01379 677525.

Bookings to use Gissing Village Hall contact Bernie Calton on 07796 545929 or 01379 677254 or email at berniecalton@live.co.uk

Bookings to use The Old School contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9am to 3pm Monday to Friday during term time) or 07796 204367 out of hours or admin@heartofgissing.org.uk

St Mary's Church

Gissing's annual Remembrance service will be held at St Mary's Church, beginning at 10.50 on Sunday 10th November. The ceremony of remembrance will take place at the war memorial, and will include readings, the playing of last post, and the laying of the wreath. This will be followed by a service in the Church. This traditional ceremony assumes greater poignancy and meaning with the approach of the centenary of the Great War next year, and we would like to encourage anyone who can to attend this commemoration and celebration of those who've given all to this country.

Friends of Gissing Church

The Friends have been helping the PCC in their efforts to repair to the porch and vestry. On advice from the PCC architect the vestry wall has been shored up to prevent the crack in it from getting any bigger. The keen eyed amongst you will have noticed the timber props on the corner of the church.

The addition of these support timbers gives the PCC a breathing space to apply for a grant to allow permanent repairs to be undertaken without worrying about the potential for the wall to collapse.

The decision to prop the wall was taken after some considerable soul searching as it was not a cheap undertaking. However on balance the Friends decided that our main function is to preserve the fabric of the building and we could not risk the possibility of further substantial damage if the wall moved again or, worse still fell down!

Unsurprisingly this means that fund raising is still the main focus of our efforts

The Friends ran a bottle stall at the Gissing Fete. We raised over £160. In addition to this Pat sold her beautiful pottery on our behalf and kindly donated a further £125 to bolster our flagging bank account.



Our sincere thanks to Pat and everyone else who helped or donated bottles.

Our next event will be on the 20 October at the

Village hall when Moira Walters is planning to host afternoon tea from 2 until 5pm. As well as enjoying tea visitors can also browse at a number of craft stalls including greetings cards, pottery and jewellery. I do hope that you will be able to join us.

This article would not be complete without mentioning the wonderful flower display in the church over the bank holiday weekend. If ever we need a reason to keep the church open then surely this show piece event of colour against the ancient building provides it?

The Friends meet periodically to discuss fundraising. If you have an idea that could help or simply share the desire to preserve this iconic part of our village please contact our Chairperson Fiona Turton fiona.turton@btinternet.com

Eddie Scoggins, edward.scoggins@live.co.uk

Gissing Children's Centre

We welcome the 9 new families who have joined us this autumn and welcome back our families from last term. We shall be settling everyone in this half-term, in addition to looking at healthy eating across the curriculum, celebrating harvest, looking at different kinds of weather and encouraging children's writing skills.

This popular and successful Pre-School, with its very special family ethos, runs Monday to Friday during term time. Any families wishing to bring their children and have a look, are welcome to contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9am-3pm during term time) or 07796 204367 (out of hours) or to send enquiries to email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk to arrange a visit at a time of your choice. Please note that spaces are filling up for the 2013/2014 school year, but we operate a working waiting list so will aim to meet your requirements, and reserve places, wherever we can.

The Children's Centre will be running an Autumn Playscheme during half-term, on Thursday 31st October, from 9.30am to 3pm for children at primary school, or those children of the same age, who are educated at home. The cost is £10 per child, bookable and payable in advance, by ringing 07531 810704 or by contacting email@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and a small amount of money for tuck.

SHELFANGER NEWS

The Grand Village Fete!

This was truly a great success. After a very hot preceding week, fete day was rather cooler – a good thing from the stall holders point of view – making it rather easier to take part under the inspiring leadership of Tig and Jane Ross.

£1700 was raised for Hall and Playing Field funds – magnificent!

Wellies were wanged; coconuts were shied at; bean bags were cast; bowls were bowled; cakes were sold (like lightning); tombolas were tumbled; burgers were chomped while ale and refreshments were consumed. The model aircraft and railway groups put on really fantastic displays of their skills.

Special thanks to Ashley for his excellent debut performance on the public address, to John Kemp for his financial management, to Ivan and all helpers who set-up and cleared away, to all the stall holders, to all who contributed prizes, to Peter and the grand raffle team, to the burger team of Ivan and Linda, to Sheila, Marilyn and the refreshment team and finally to all those who attended.

Flower, Vegetable and Homecraft Show

This annual show was on the 24th August organised by Colin Mobbs and Malcolm Barnard. This was a great success with entries up on last year, in spite of difficult gardening weather. The hall looked terrific with all the produce and artefacts set out.



Cup/shield winners were Sue Palmer, Tom Blake, Graham Lanchester, Ivan Cotton and Sonia Elvin.

The show finished with a lively auction of produce, the monies raised helping towards the costs of this and future shows.

Gala Afternoon

Boyland Common was the place to be on Saturday 7th September for a gala afternoon of activities organised by the Friends committee.

Kite flying, Archery, Spinning, Straw weaving were all available for 'tasting'.

The afternoon was much enjoyed and the Common looks much better for all the care and protection given. Well done to Pam and all the team

Who said not much goes on in these villages?

All Saints' Church

The PCC thanks to all the congregations supporting the increased number of 'Home Team'. 'diy' services. These short services, involving everyone are dignified but cheerful and are proving popular. Particular thanks to Joyce and Jean for the music and to Pam, John, Pat, Sheila, Anne, Peter, Marion and Roger for all playing their part.

Sunday 6th October sees the 'Home Team' organising the Shelfanger Harvest Celebration. This is one of the milestones of the church's year and is a rich and rewarding service, both spiritually and visually. Please come if you can at 11am. All gifts of vegetables and fruit will be gratefully accepted. They will decorate the church and then be sold at 2pm Monday 7th at the bus shelter for church funds.

This year we hope to use harvest writings, stories and music to capture the essence of harvest spirit.

Reluctantly, the organisers of the proposed concert on 11th October have decided to postpone this popular church activity until the Spring.

On Sunday 10th November we shall be holding the village Remembrance Service. Don't forget that this service starts at 10.50am, so that the silence may be observed at the memorial. As usual, a wreath will be laid to pay tribute to and remember all from Shelfanger who have given their lives in the service of their country. Crosses may be placed to remember family members or friends from other places who have laid down their lives serving their country.

Well done again to the parish of Shelfanger for their generosity.

Another large box of tinned food, toiletries and supplies have been delivered to the St Martin's Shelter in Norwich.

Two other collections are well supported – organised by Pat and John Webster. Aluminium foil and used Cartridges are raising useful funds for the Christian Outreach Organisation 'CORD'. This organisation does not hand out money, but trains people and provides facilities for self-help for the poorest across the world.

TIVETSHALL NEWS

St Margaret's Church

Christmas Quiz

This will be held in the village hall on Saturday 7th December. Teams of up to six people are invited to sign up. There will be a fish and chip supper and a licensed bar.

Please contact either Claire Kirby on 01379 677373 or Maggie Rowan on 01379 674116 to book your table. Further details will be posted around the village nearer the date. All proceeds will be equally divided between the church restoration fund and a cancer charity.

Church cleaning and flower rota

We are always grateful for the hard work that our small group of volunteers undertakes in the cleaning of the church. If you feel that you would be able to spare a couple of hours once every few months please contact Bryan Fletcher on 01379 676697.

Many of you will be aware that Caroline Clarke has now moved away from the village and will no longer be on the flower rota. We thank Caroline for all the beautiful arrangements which have decorated the church over many years and wish her all the best in her new home. If anyone is willing to join the rota please contact Sue Fletcher.



St Mary's Church

There will be a short Remembrance Day service at 10.50 on Monday 11th November. All welcome.



Tivetshall Primary School

We concluded the school year at Tivetshall Primary with our annual Activity Week. This year the children chose the theme of Potions and Experiments. We began the week with a trip to Thornham walks to build water-powered rockets. Through the week the children designed and made their own Activity Week T-shirts; experimented with pizza toppings; designed and built catapults on an Angry Birds theme; sewed Activity Week souvenirs; experimented with electrical circuits; mixed potions (fruit cocktails!); did lots of messy and explosive experiments; did large scale weaving with natural materials to create a special outdoor space; enjoyed an afternoon of hair-raising (literally) science with the visiting Mad Science Workshop; designed towers with limited materials to support an egg; enjoyed leavers' lunch cooked by the Year 6 children (with a little help); and took part in the Talent Show. Highlight of the week was the annual camp when the school field was covered with tents and everyone had a great time.

On the last day of term we said goodbye to leavers Thomas, Tia, Miss Stead and Mr Hockham. Mr Roger Pye entertained us all with his magic as ever at Leavers' Assembly and the children sang our traditional end of year songs and read us their memories of their school careers so far.

Next year we look forward to welcoming Ethan, Katie and Tyler.

Sandra Potter

WINFARTHING NEWS

Parish Council

We have had a busy year with the opening of Saffron Housing at Chapel Close. This has stimulated many discussions and almost 2 years in the planning, building and eventual handing over the houses during June. The small green, donated to the village by Mr C Le Grys, has been seeded and trees planted.

The Councillors have been successful in gaining a grant for a trodden path which should be constructed over the next months; the path will be from the junction of the Street and along Hall road as far as the existing path by the Old Chapel.

A new notice board has been ordered to replace the existing board by the village sign; this notice board will have a glass front and will be lockable

Community Services

The informal, all age, interactive family services continue on the third Sunday of each month from 10–11am with refreshments served after the service.

Please join us, if you have any questions just call Jane Marchant on 01379 640502 or Brian Dent on 01953 860535.

Winfarthing Prayer Group

If you would like to join us to ask for God's blessing on our village or there are specific situations or people you would like us to pray for, contact Richard or Mary Livermore, 01379 652951 or e-mail rd1ivermore@btinternet.com. Meetings are on the second Monday of each month; venues may vary.

Village Hall Quiz

This will be held in the Village Hall on Friday 22nd November at 7.30pm. Admission is £6.50 per person and includes the usual incredible home-made casseroles. Bring your own booze and glasses. Come in teams of six or we can find you a team when you



get there. Raffle with great prizes. All proceeds support the Village Hall.

Contact Granville Horan on 01379 640355 or Nick Griffiths on 01379 643718.

Footpaths

We are all delighted that new footpath signs have appeared in the Parish but an attempt to walk the old Jubilee/millennium circular Parish walk in mid August was simply impossible. I have now had a few names of folk declaring an interest. Unfortunately I have lost two because of the vagaries of my technology – could they get back in touch? I propose a meeting on the evening of 30th October – precise time and place will depend on how many are interested. The purpose would be to arrange to walk parish footpaths and see what their real state is. Please e-mail me at alun.howkins@btinternet.com or phone 01379 652202 if you are interested.

All Saints' Primary School

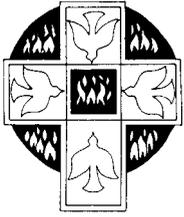
Pupils and staff are thrilled to be back after their six week break. We said goodbye to last year's year 6 pupils and Lay Reader Frank Paice in a service at All Saints' Church, Shelfanger in July with songs, poems, ocarina performances and shared art. We welcome seven new pupils into its Reception Class, and additional pupils into years 1, 2, 3 and 4.

All Saints' reflects on its success of the summer term. Pupils achieved exceptional results at the end of Key Stage Two in their national tests, the netball team won the small school league and year 5 and 6 enjoyed their residential trip to Kingswood.

All Saints' now looks forward to exciting opportunities in the term ahead. These include Harvest Festival in late September, book week, an international day, educational visits to Dunwich and Happisburgh and a range of sporting events. The school site is also ready for the builders to begin the new Sports Hall, due for completion February 2014.

If you would like further information about All Saints' Primary, or wish to bring your child to visit, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01379 642767 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

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



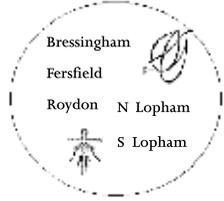
COCK CROW IS THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF THE WINFARTHING GROUPS OF CHURCHES AND THE UPPER WAVENEY BENEFICE

**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

Diss Team Ministry

The four parishes and Roydon are now considered members of the Diss Team Ministry of all SIX parishes, led by **The Rev'd Canon Tony Billett**, Rector of Diss and also Rural Dean. To arrange Weddings or Baptisms, contact **Diss Parish Office 01379 643783**. For other pastoral matters requiring a priest, contact one of the churchwardens, who will put you in touch with the appropriate individual.



	Burston	Gissing	Shelfanger	Tivetshall	Winfarthing
October 6	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 H	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
October 13	8.00 HC	(join Tivetshall)	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
October 20	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
October 27	3.00 4SS	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	(join Gissing)	9.30 HC
November 3	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
November 10	8.00 HC/R	10.50 MP/R	10.50 MW/R	10.40 MP/R	9.30 MP/R
November 17	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
November 24	3.00 4SS	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	(join Gissing)	9.30 HC
December 1	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP

HC Holy Communion | MP Morning Prayer | MW Morning Worship | 5P Five Parish Service | FS Family Service | 4SS Fourth Sunday Service | FS/Chp Family Service in Chapel | R Remembrance | VC Village Church

THE COCK CROW TEAM

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WINFARTHING Alun Howkins, Holly Farm Barn, The Street, Winfarthing 01379 652202 alun.howkins@btinternet.com

Date	Bressingham St John the Baptist (BCP)	Fersfield St Andrew (BCP &) (C/W Order 2)	N Lopham St Nicholas (BCP &) (C/W Order 1)	S Lopham St Andrew (BCP &) (C/W Order 2)
Sun 6th Oct 19 After Trinity	No Service	4pm Harvest	9.30am HC 11am FS	No Service
Sun 13th Oct 20 After Trinity	9.30am HC	No Service	11am Harvest FS 4pm Harvest Festival	No Service
Sun 20th Oct 21 After Trinity	4pm EP	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 27th Oct 22 After Trinity	10.30am with Meth in Church	9.30am HC	11am FS	4pm ES
Sun 3rd Nov All Saints S	No Service	4pm ES	9.30am HC 11am FS	No Service
Sun 10th Nov Rememb. S	11.55am Rememb. War Mem	3pm Rememb.	11am FS 4pm ES+Rem	11am Rememb.
Sun 17th Nov 2 before Advent	4pm ES	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 24th Nov Christ King	10.30am with Meth	9.30 HC	11am FS	4pm ES
Sun 1st Dec Advent Sunday	No Service	4pm ES	9.30am HC 11am Crib Serv +Posada	No Service

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

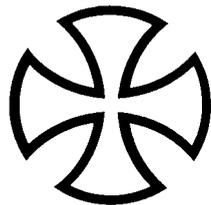
Morning Prayer: At present is at 8.30am on Monday and Tuesday at North Lopham and on Thursday at South Lopham in addition to the service held each weekday in St Mary's, Diss at 8.30am.

Wednesday Communion: is at 10.45am in St Mary's Church Diss.

Fellowship/Country Connect Group: Meets on Wednesday afternoons at 1.30pm; contact Jennie (01379 687679) for location.

Holy Bingo: Meets on the first Monday of each month in Lophams' Village Hall at 2pm. It's a fun event, not for serious bingo enthusiasts. Do come, for happy socialising.

Churchwardens Bressingham D Burroughes 01379 688291 Millie Aves 01379 687263
Fersfield J Sumpter 01379 687 711 R Vere 01379 687679
N Lopham A Briggs 01953 681989 R Vere 01379 687679
S Lopham P Reeder 01379 687273 D Huggins 01379 687201 J Brundell



Pastoral Letter from Richard Hewitt, one of our team of Readers

Hello Everyone,

'A brave world, Sir, full of religion, knavery, and change: we shall shortly see better days.' You could interpret these words from a C17th play in several ways: I suspect the author's tongue was firmly in cheek, given the turbulence of the times when the restoration dramatist was working (she was Aphra Behn, one of our first female literary figures). I digress already – the word on which I'll focus is 'change'.

Now, there seem to be certain contexts where the word 'change' has a bad odour. One of our best-known hymns associates it with decay, opponents of change appear to suggest it is inconsistent with constancy and its association with financial practices isn't always flattering. (We'll avoid any biological references). There also seems to be a very 'British' view that whilst many things are possible, nothing should be done for the first time. This is why some very necessary reforms (women bishops?) never actually happen.

The process of putting on fresh clothes as a model for change seems to me to be useful. It is familiar, it doesn't require the abandonment of character and behaviour, it can emphasise the continuation of established practice – and it permits gentle renewal and development.

Instead of change, perhaps we should substitute the word progress. Should we, collectively and individually, review our progress from time to time? Our churches need to consider this, first of all having answered the question 'what are we for (in these modern times)?' We need to move away from repetitive practices – copious services in near-empty churches, perhaps – strengthen our corporate worship and use our wonderful buildings for worship, education and hospitality applicable to following Jesus' commission in Matthew and Mark to spread our Christian message universally. Have we the courage to make the first move?

Richard

Team Ministry page

Bishop's Walk and Rector's Drive

On Wednesday 7th August, Bishop Alan Winton walked from St Andrew's, South Lopham, to St Mary's, Diss, visiting St Nicholas', North Lopham, St Andrew's, Fersfield, St John the Baptist, Bressingham and St Remigius', Roydon en route. He was accompanied by members of all six parishes, Canon Tony Billett, Rector of Diss, and the Revd John Pares, Curate. Some made the whole journey; others walked part of the route; still others joined a delicious ploughman's lunch in Bressingham Church. At each stop there was part of a Eucharist liturgy, some interesting facts about the building and/or parish, and a blessing by the bishop. The day was intended to celebrate the creation of the new Diss Team Ministry. Bishop Alan commented 'It was good to have the chance to talk to people' and the dynamics of walking side by side really did have an effect on the sort of conversations we had.

On Thursday 5th September, folk from all the parishes made the journey in reverse, but by car, again stopping at each church for prayers and a short talk. This time the linking thread was breaking bread together and the receiving of the new Team logo from Canon Tony for each church notice board. Around thirty people took part, this time meeting for a buffet lunch in The White Horse at South Lopham.

Both days enabled us to get to know people from other churches better – we look forward to working in collaboration with greater confidence. Many thanks must go to those who planned each day; Revd John and his team in August; Penny and Jonathan in September.

Service Times

Please note that Evensong in the 'Country' parishes of our team will move to 4pm from the beginning of October; the service in Diss will remain at 6pm.



BRESSINGHAM NEWS

Church News

The summer like the harvest has come and gone. The wonderful hot days soon turned to autumnal ones once the first week of September had arrived. By the time this is published we will have had both our Harvest Festival and Harvest Supper. I'm sure they will both be a great success.

All sorts of help is still needed by your church so please if you have a little time to spare contact either Millie Aves (01379 687263) or me (01379 688291). Perhaps you like flower arranging or would consider going on the cleaning rota or our big problem, help with fund raising. However, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the grass cutters, Billy Bartrum, Derek Chilvers, Brad Roberts and Robert Brooke for the wonderful work they have done to keep us neat and tidy. Hopefully the Community



Service folk will come before the end of the year and tidy the conservation area. We are still in need of help with the hedges.

We have had two weddings and two baptisms since the last Cock Crow, and we send our congratulations to Mr & Mrs Richard Fullerton, Mr & Mrs Michael Ling, and our blessings to Lydia Rose Aldous and Maisie Rose Bartrum.

On 5th September we had a lovely day for the church car ride. This started in Diss and made it's way to South Lopham calling in at all six churches. About 40 came to Bressingham and it was lovely to welcome so many people from Diss, some of whom had never been inside our church!

Watch this Space! In memory of Rodger Aves and to raise money for the renovation of the porch in his memory we are having a very special concert by a visiting choir at the beginning of May. Because of

numbers involved and the need for a piano, this is being held in Diss church by kind permission of the Rector and the PCC. We would be very pleased to hear from anyone who could help us with organising it.

Millie and the family of Rodger have asked me to say a very big thank you to all those who sent donations in his memory which now total well over £3,000. This is an enormous amount of money and will certainly help with the renovation. It just goes to show how respected he was.

Lastly thank you to Ruth Green who did the cycle ride for Bressingham church on 14th September, and to the people who sponsored her.

Diana

Parish Council

Mrs Delasalle chaired the September meeting of the Parish Council in Fersfield church. Six Councillors were present and one parishioner.

After opening procedures Mr Spratt (NCC representative) said that with a deficit of £187million, substantial cuts are to be made over the next 3 years. He said that faster broadband for this area will be completed in 2015.

Various problems concerning the allotment land were discussed. Mr Jennings requested financial help to deal with the weed mare's tail which is harmful to horses. It has spread over half the land he rents for his horses.

The Allotment Association have also requested help with certain items of equipment. It was suggested that the Association be given greater autonomy but the Parish Council should retain ultimate control.

The continued problems with traffic facing residents in Fersfield Street were discussed and it was suggested the people concerned should form an action group as other villages have had some success in this way.

The Parish Council is responsible for the two burial grounds and it was agreed to increase the payment to £400 for both Bressingham and Fersfield. The detailed budget will be finalised at the November meeting.

Mrs Handy reported that the three charities had finally been merged and the registration of the land was going ahead.

The next meeting will be 4th November in the Village Hall.

Bressingham and Fersfield Flower Show

After a slow start, an influx of last minute entries ensured that this year's Flower Show was a colourful affair. Due to everyone's vegetable gardens being a month behind with the weather, entries were down in the Produce section but some gorgeous roses were shown and as usual the children's entries were colourful and innovative, particularly in the Decorated Egg section.



This year the cup winners were:

Emma Neve: The Holmes Cup; Claire Porter: The Bressingham Cup; Alex Kennedy: The Country Homes Cup (8-11); Katie Aves: The Irene Howard Cup (12-16); Charlie Orford: H Burroughes and Son Cup (under 7); Morgan Roberts: The Home Industries Cup

After some consideration and consultation with growers, it has been decided to run the Flower Show on an annual basis on the first Saturday in September; next year's date will be Saturday 6 September 2014.

Thank you to all who came and supported the Show. Let's hope next year is a great growing year.

Claire Porter (Organiser)

FERSFIELD NEWS

The last Book Club of 2013 will be on Saturday 5th October at 10.30am. Books for sale are displayed by Paul Bowman with the assistance of Deaglan and Niamh who provide a very welcoming atmosphere for people to drop in and browse. There is always someone on hand to keep the tea/coffee cups full and in this respect (and so many others) the PCC is really grateful to Jan H. for her willingness to help. All proceeds from the Club are going into the heating fund.



I am sure many of you are aware that Jan H. has been hospitalised recently and everyone in our local community sends very best wishes for her speedy recovery.

St Andrew's was almost full with people who had been on the Rector's Drive (see Team Ministry page for full report) and Richard Vere's welcoming speech was very much appreciated by everyone.

Dates for your Diary

Harvest Festival in the church will be on Sunday, 6th October at 4pm led by the Rector

Remembrance Day service will be on Sunday, 10th November at 3pm led by Richard Hewitt.



Carols on 19th December at 6pm and, as usual, the collection will go to 'Shelter'.

Christmas Day Family Service is at 10.30am again with Richard Hewitt.

Maureen

RNIB Parachute Jump

In the previous issue, Tracy Brunelli appealed for support for her fundraising parachute jump, here, in her own words, is her account of the experience.

'On 17th August, myself and my daughter Gemma did a tandem skydive for the RNIB. It was the most amazing and scariest thing that I have ever done in my life. Gemma, bless her, was scared stiff but she still went through with it.'

'On entering the plane, we scrambled to the back and at that point I realised that I would be the last off and have to sit and wait for everyone else to jump. I felt quite calm but a little nervous.'

'Gemma shuffled to the edge of the plane and within seconds, she was gone. Then came my turn. I shuffled to the doorway, just had a chance to think, 'Oh my God' and then we were tumbling out.'

'We free-falled for 5,000 feet. This took about 47 seconds; I will let you do your own maths. All I know is that we were falling very fast. I was just thinking that I wasn't expecting it to this scary when, all of a sudden, the parachute opened and I felt like I could breathe again. At this point, I could relax; it was so peaceful that I did not want it to end.'

'At this stage of the descent the instructor put the 'chute into a few spins. This was quite fun until I started feeling dizzy but what a buzz I was getting from the whole experience. Having children was probably the greatest experience of my life but this comes a close second.'

'I was so proud of Gemma for doing the skydive with me and I am so proud of myself for achieving something so amazing in my lifetime. Gemma thought it was that good that she wanted to go back up and do it again!'

'When we got back to the car, I felt so emotional and overwhelmed. I could not get over what I had just done. I just sat in my seat and burst into tears, but they were happy tears.'

Tracy Brunelli

St Andrew's School

St Andrew's pupils and staff are excited to be back after their six week break and are already enjoying the autumn term. After saying goodbye to last year's year six pupils in an assembly in the school hall in July, where year 6 were presented with bibles and commemorative mugs, St Andrew's now welcomes ten new reception pupils and one year 4.

St Andrew's reflects on its success of the summer term. Pupils achieved outstanding results at the end of Key Stage 2 national tests, and St Andrew's hosted a phenomenal partnership production of Shrek.

St Andrew's now look forward to exciting opportunities in the term ahead. These include Harvest Festival at the beginning of October, book week, an international day and a range of sporting events.

If you would like further information about St Andrew's Primary, or wish to bring your child to visit, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

Louise Norgate, Executive Headteacher for All Saints and St Andrew's Partnership

St Andrew's Pre School

The summer BBQ, 'GRILL and GAMES' at The Kings Head PH on 21st July was a great success, with lots of people, lots of food and lots of fun. Many thanks to Angie and George for hosting this event for us. We all enjoyed the holiday break, but look forward to the new activities in the Autumn.

Best wishes go to all the children who have moved on to 'big' school; we do hope they will be very happy and soon make lots of new friends. Their departure means we do have a number of free spaces, so do remember we take children from age 2 (in nappies) up to school age. We plan to open Mondays to Thursdays 08.45–11.45, continuing until 15.15 on Thursdays. Do call in for a visit and chat with our friendly staff or call Tonya direct on 07962 219523/attwood145@btinternet.com

Lophams' Ladies

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

At our August meeting our own Jennie Vere talked to us about the Lopham Linen Industry. We were able to see examples of the earlier more coarse fabric to the intricate patterned linen produced later in the 19th century when Thomas Buckenham held a Royal Warrant to supply linen to Queen Victoria.

In September, Rosemary and Alan Cooper gave an illustrated talk on 'The Mid Norfolk Railway'. We saw early photos of the railway that ran from Dereham as well as photos showing the work that has been done by the volunteers in restoring the line to Wymondham. On 1st October we have a talk on Bhutan entitled 'Thunder Dragon' given by Chris



Parfitt and on 5th November we have a 'Music Evening' with Gill Nicholls. This will take the form of an 'Old Time Music Hall' featuring songs from the 30s to the 60s. We do welcome any visitors to this meeting, as indeed visitors and new members are always welcome. Please phone 01379 687337 for further details.

Lophams' Garden Club

Meets at Blooms Garden Centre on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are always very welcome.

On 4th September we welcomed Andy Bailey from Blooms of Bressingham Garden Centre. Andy gave a presentation on pruning shrubs and, with his wealth of knowledge, gave us much advice.

Our next meeting is on 2nd October when Martyn Davey from Easton College will talk about 'Preparations for Winter' and looking further forward, on 6th

November Ken Sammon will give a presentation 'The Winter Garden'.

We shall be having our Christmas Dinner on 4th December and tickets will be on sale shortly.

Telephone 01953 681989 for further information.

Lopham Ramblers

Our August walk was well attended in spite of the threatening storm clouds and it being the holiday season. Thirteen of us enjoyed a pleasant stroll round the outskirts of Eye. Though having to shelter a couple of times from the rain, we did not experience the violent thunderstorm that occurred in the Lophams. A tasty lunch was enjoyed by ten of us at the Queen's Head in Eye on completion of the walk.

Anyone wishing to join us on our walks, which are roughly 5 miles in length and take place on the first Friday of each month, usually starting at 9.30am, should please contact Ted Young on 01379 687833.

Archery Course

One of the spin-offs from the Village Games Roadshow in May was a request to hold an Archery Course at the Village Hall. Sessions began on 8th September, and continue through to late October. Any extra people who would like to join are invited to telephone 01379 687330 for details.

Holy Bingo

Continues during the Autumn, first Monday of the month at 2pm in the village hall. Everyone is welcome – no expertise is necessary, just the desire to meet and have a bit of fun!

Lophams' Village Hall

The big event for the Autumn is the Bonfire & Fireworks Evening on 2nd November. Do put this in the diary now, and come along for a great family fun time. Tickets: £7 adults, £3 per school-age child, or a family ticket – £20, a bargain! Gates will open at 6pm, and there will be live music until the fireworks at about 7.30pm. As usual there will be hot food and drinks and a licensed bar, plus novelty items to buy.

A big bonfire needs lots of burnable material – the gates will be open at weekends in October 10am–2pm for all your garden prunings etc, with a nominal charge of just £1 per load towards the cost. Do

watch for local notices for exact times. PLEASE do not bring unsuitable material which could cause Environmental Health to ban the bonfire.



Lophams' Art Group Exhibition is to hold a special Art (& some Crafts) Exhibition at the Village Hall in November, on Friday 15th from 6pm–9pm with mulled wine and mince pies and then Saturday 16th from 10am–4pm, with refreshments available. There will be some very attractive exhibits to see. This will be an ideal opportunity to buy beautiful Christmas gifts at very competitive prices. Don't just plan to come – Bring a Friend too! Admission is free and the event will support Macmillan Cancer Care.

Farmers' Markets continue on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm, Coming Markets are 28th September and 26th October. (Details from Mike on 01379 687235). A Super Sausage Saturday is being planned for the September market with a £25 voucher for the winner. A Community Stall is to be introduced, for one local and/or registered charity group at each market.

The Lottery is a fun way to support the hall development fund, with three chances each month of winning a prize, plus a big Bonanza draw in December open to all who have belonged for the previous three months. The July 1st prize of £190 was won by L Quinn; second prizes of £47.50 each went to S Fleming and J Leeder. In August, the winners were: 1st Prize of £190 J & G Brown, and 2nd prizes of £47.50 each, W Nunn and D Goddard.

Copies of the full rules and entry forms are available from promoter, Eileen, tel; 01379 687608, from Village Hall Treasurer, Tim Colyer, tel; 01379 687718, from other Village Hall Committee members (see the website for details), or at the Farmers' Market and at Village Hall Events.

Judo is on Mondays and Wednesdays, details from Howard on 01379 688 258.

Dog Training is held most Tuesday evenings, trainer Elaine (07845 776 110) will provide information.

Lopham Art Group meets on Wednesdays from 9.30am. £20 each per month, includes refreshments and a visit from an 'expert' once each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for more details.

Yoga with P is a popular addition to the weekly programme. Sessions are on Thursdays, 7–8pm. Booking is essential, tel 01379 890955; or 07932 010720; or e-mail piaternella.jarvie@gmail.com

To book the hall for private functions, please contact 01379 687679. To find out more, visit the website at www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk.

Events at Redgrave & Lopham Fen



Saturday 5 October 10.30am–1pm

Guided fen walk Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill. £3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Saturday 12 October 10.30am–12.30pm

Wildlife Watch Group A club for 6–12yr olds, £1. Contact Mike Wraight 01379 644508

Sunday 13 October, 10.30am–3pm

Apple Day & Autumn Fair Fruit identification, plants/tools for sale, cookery/craft demonstrations, recipe swap, family games and trail. Kenninghall Morris dancers. Refreshments available. £3 adults, £2 children

Tuesday 29 October, 10am–12noon

Awesome Autumn family morning £2.50 per person, please book. 01379 688333

Wednesday 30 October, 3pm and 7.30pm

The Midsummer Hare – a musical fable A performance for narrator and orchestra, based on creatures of the fen, by Sue Heaser, with music by Peter Cresswell. For ages 6 years and over, £5 per person, please book: 01379 688333

Saturday 9 November 10.30am–12.30pm

Wildlife Watch Group A club for 6–12yr olds, £1 Contact Mike Wraight 01379 644508

Thursday 14 November, 10am–12noon

Polymer clay jewellery making Learn with local expert Sue Heaser. £10 per person, including materials Please book: 01379 688333

Friday 29 November, 10am–3pm

Christmas wreath making or table decoration with natural materials, with Mary Yuill. £10 per person, per hourly session, including materials. Please book: 01379 688333

NORTH LOPHAM NEWS

Parish Council 11th September 2013

Welcome to new Councillor David Hammond.

Rights of way inquiry held on 3rd September; results due in about 6 weeks.

Affordable Housing off Primrose Lane, consultations over the site are ongoing.

Neighbourhood Plan to arrange a meeting with Mrs Farren-Bradley to discuss this further.

Drains in Tanns Lane NCC highways have been to clear the drain.

Conservation area at burial ground an area has been identified; the records will be examined to ensure no graves are present before proceeding with planting.

New Parish Clerk Julie Crossley will become Parish Clerk from 1st October 2013.

Mission Statement the Parish Council will produce and publish a mission statement to make clear its purposes and objectives.

Speed Watch planned to start next March, more volunteers needed. Improvements to advisory signage to be sought and appeals to local businesses will be made. Councillors will raise issues at the next 'Safer Neighbourhood Scheme' meeting.

Roads and Footpaths Dog fouling, new signage has been placed. Thank you to persons who no longer park on verges. 3 cars in the village have been 'keyed' in the last few weeks. Village 'clean up' will be next spring.

Next meeting 13th November 2013 at 7.30pm in the 'Mess'.

North Lopham Methodist Church

The monthly informal service and Coffee Morning on the 4th Wednesday each month at 10.30am (23rd Oct, 27th Nov), is becoming well established but it would be lovely to see more local faces there! A short service is followed by a Coffee Morning from 11am till 12 noon with items for sale in support of the ongoing activities planned for this building. All are welcome to join us for all or part of the morning.

Samaritan's Purse: Shoebox Appeal

As the longer evenings set in, how about filling a shoebox with gifts for a very underprivileged child in Eastern Europe or beyond? A knitted hat and mitts is a good start, plus stationery items, toiletries and a small gift. Shoe boxes can be brought to Southlands, North Lopham, any time up to 14th November, for collection and transport to their destination in good time before 'that' festive date in December. For details, contact Jennie on 01379 687679



Frenz Youth Group

For young people aged 13+ who have autism/aspergers. Meets fortnightly on Fridays 7–9pm in Burston near Diss for socialising/fun/games etc; each session costs £3. For details please contact Sharon (Group Leader) on (01379) 642255 who will be happy to help.

St Nicholas' Church

The Hymn Marathon on Saturday 3rd August, between 8.30am and around 5.15pm, was an amazing day. Many people popped in during the morning and quite a crowd joined in throughout the afternoon. The 600th hymn was reached soon after 5pm, so by 5.15pm 606 hymns had been played, a record. Many, many thanks go to all who helped on the day, especially when the flies invaded the building, and to everybody who sponsored the event. When all sponsor money is collected, the final total should exceed £2,250.

The Teddy Bears' Picnic: on 10th August had to be postponed at the very last minute, but it WILL take place in the next few weeks. Details will be circulated locally.

The Church Harvest Thanksgiving season will be well underway by the end of September. The 29th, a fifth Sunday, is the special day for St Mary's Diss, so there will be no services in the other parishes that day – we are invited to join their congregations at 8am; 10.30am and at 6pm.

The Thanksgivings at North Lopham will be the second Sunday in 13th. An 'All Age' service at 11am and Festival Evensong at 4pm – please note the new time! Gifts of foliage, flowers and produce to decorate the church, or help with arranging everything, will be gratefully received at any time on Friday or Saturday 11th and 12th. Produce surplus to 'Gift Parcels' will be available from 2pm on Monday 14th during the Gift afternoon.

A late Autumn Luncheon for the Lophams will be held on 10th November at 12.30 for a prompt 1pm start. Local posters will give all the details; those who came to last year's Marquee lunch will vouch for the event's popularity!

November means Remembrance. There will be a special ceremony during the Evening Service at 4pm in St Nicholas Church on Remembrance Sunday – 10th. On Monday 11th, at 11am, the Junior pupils from St Andrew's School will join veterans and local residents at the War Memorial alongside members of the local Royal British Legion branch for a Service, Silence and wreath laying ceremony. Please take this as Your invitation to attend.



A third North Lopham Crib Festival is planned for the last days of November. Crib sets of all shapes and sizes, of many different materials and from all parts of the world will be displayed in the church from Wednesday 27th to Advent Sunday 1st December; 11am to 5pm on weekdays, and 10.30am to 3.30pm on the Sunday. The Journeys of the Nativity Story will be a special feature this time and the first North Lopham Posada will begin its travels round the local district on Advent Sunday. Unsure what 'Posada' is? Come along and find out! There will be refreshments every day and seasonal items on sale. A very warm welcome is assured – so do visit us!

St Andrew's Church News

St Andrew's Craft Fair

Jill Brundell would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all her helpers and to everyone who came and supported our Craft Fair on 20th and 21st July, a total of £670 was raised.

Team Churches Walk

About 25 people started a very successful Parish walk, mostly using footpaths from St Andrew's Church on Wednesday 7th August; with Bishop Alan Winton (Bishop of Thetford), accompanied by The Revd Canon Tony Billet and The Revd John Pares. All six parish churches were visited where a short talk was given about the history of the building. Excellent refreshments were on offer including a ploughman's lunch at Bressingham, the walk finished at Diss. This was an excellent turn out, a good day enjoyed by all.

We would like to express our most sincere thanks to both Nigel and Gill Mutimer who have recently left the village, Gill for her help cleaning the Church for many years and Nigel for delivering Cock Crow.

The Rector's Drive: On Thursday 5th September all six parishes were visited and a short talk was given about each Church. St Andrew's was pleased to welcome over 40 people which concluded a very successful day.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends of South Lopham Church will be holding their Annual Meeting on Tuesday 15th October 2013 at St Andrews Church, South Lopham at 7pm. All are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the evening. Please come along and help us to maintain our beautiful church.

We will also be holding a Barn Dance in the Village Hall on Friday 1st November 2013 at 7.30pm. Look out for more information on this later.

Lophams' Society Quiz Night with bar

Friday 11th October 7pm for 7.30
Lophams' Village Hall

£7 includes a hot supper

Teams of up to six members

For further details Tel: 01379 640355

All proceeds are in aid of the Christmas 'Drop-in'

Parish Council

Rob Webb was elected to serve as Chairman for the September and November meetings.

Apologies for absence were received from Steve Reynolds, Jim Pursehouse, Sarah Martin and Granville Horan.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved and there were no matters arising.

The council was selected for an in depth audit this year and additional information has been provided by our financial officer and we are awaiting a final response. The village precept will be discussed at our November meeting.

Pot holes have been repaired on Blo Norton Road but the meeting was informed of localised flooding in the area of Chequers Lane on Redgrave Road following recent rainfall.

The meeting was reminded of upcoming social events at the village hall namely; 11th October Village Quiz; 2nd November Bonfire and Fireworks; 13th December Christmas Village Drop In.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting is on 14th November at Valley Farm.



From the Registers

Winfarthing Group

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Rosemary Schaay Monday 16th September,
Burston

WEDDING

Martin Ware & Emily Elvin Saturday 21st
September, Tivetshall

BLESSING OF MARRIAGE

Andrew & Carol Patterson Saturday 28th
September, Tivetshall

Bressingham Group

BAPTISMS

Bethany Rose Lawes 4th August, North
Lopham

Lydia Rose Aldous 11th August, Bressing-
ham

Wilfred Lawes 11th August, North Lopham

Anthony Osler 15th August, North
Lopham

Maisie Rose Bartrum 8th September,
Bressingham

WEDDINGS

Richard Fullerton & Debra Arondale
31st August, Bressingham

Michael Ling & Katherine Ward
28th September, Bressingham

FUNERALS

Peggy Pilmer 23rd July, South Lopham

Betty Cartwright 25th July, North Lopham

South Norfolk District Council: Free Services

Job Clubs

These are run to help young people aged between 16 and 25 who are looking for work.

Last year's Your Neighbourhood, Your Choice survey, showed residents wanted more support to help young people find suitable employment.

Our friendly team of qualified career advisors and youth workers are on hand to talk through how to apply for jobs and the training opportunities available.

The free weekly sessions include:

- advice and support
- access to information about local opportunities
- computers and internet access
- business start-up information
- training, courses and apprenticeship information
- help with CVs, job applications and covering letters
- free refreshments.

To use the library computers those attending will need to bring their library card or identification to sign up on arrival.

Transport For those living on a bus route we'll refund the return fare. Anyone living elsewhere in South Norfolk, please call 01508 533934 to arrange transport.

Diss Job Club Starts Tuesday 4 June at Diss Library, Church Street

Every week from 1.30pm to 3.30pm

South Norfolk Big Switch and Save

South Norfolk Council is working with other Norfolk Councils to help residents save money on their energy bills.

In the last round of the Big Switch and Save scheme local residents saved an average of £111.

You can register free with no obligation and could find a great deal for your gas and electricity. We'll tell you how much you could save and you decide whether to make the final switch.

It's free, it's simple and there's no hassle – you just need an annual statement or your latest energy bill.

The easiest way to register is online at www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk

If you don't have access to the internet you can call the energy team on 01603 430627 and we can help you sign up.

The closing date for registering is 11th October.

You can register five people with one email address so why not help your friends and relatives to register?

Heating Oil

We have developed an interactive map of the oil buying groups in Norfolk. You can find your local group and enjoy savings on your oil deliveries. The map is at www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk/oilhubs or call the energy team on 01603 430627.

Little Ouse Headwaters Project Creative Group



Exhibitions

Sat/Sun 19/20 October 11am – 4pm
Lopham Village Hall

Sat/Sun 26/27 October 11am – 4pm
Thelnetham Village Hall and Blo' Norton Village Hall

Free entry, all welcome, so come along and enjoy!

Featuring art, words, music and textiles created by members of the LOHP Creative Group (co-ordinated by the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts). Paintings, sculptures, textiles, photography, illustration and writing inspired by the valley, the source of the river and the tiny details that make it a unique place, will be on show with some for sale.

Further information on the website: www.lohp.org.uk or email enquiries@lohp.org.uk

CPRE Anniversary



To celebrate its 80th anniversary, CPRE Norfolk is organising a series of Open Days at recent award winning projects. By showcasing some of the county's exceptional landscape, restoration, education and architecture projects we hope to share good practice and knowledge with you, inspire ideas for your own projects and offer a fascinating day out! To find which CPRE Award winners are participating this autumn, visit CPRE Norfolk website at www.cprenorfolk.org.uk, join the mailing list by emailing opendays@cprenorfolk.org.uk or call 07826 401506 for a free brochure. Tours are free, booking is essential.