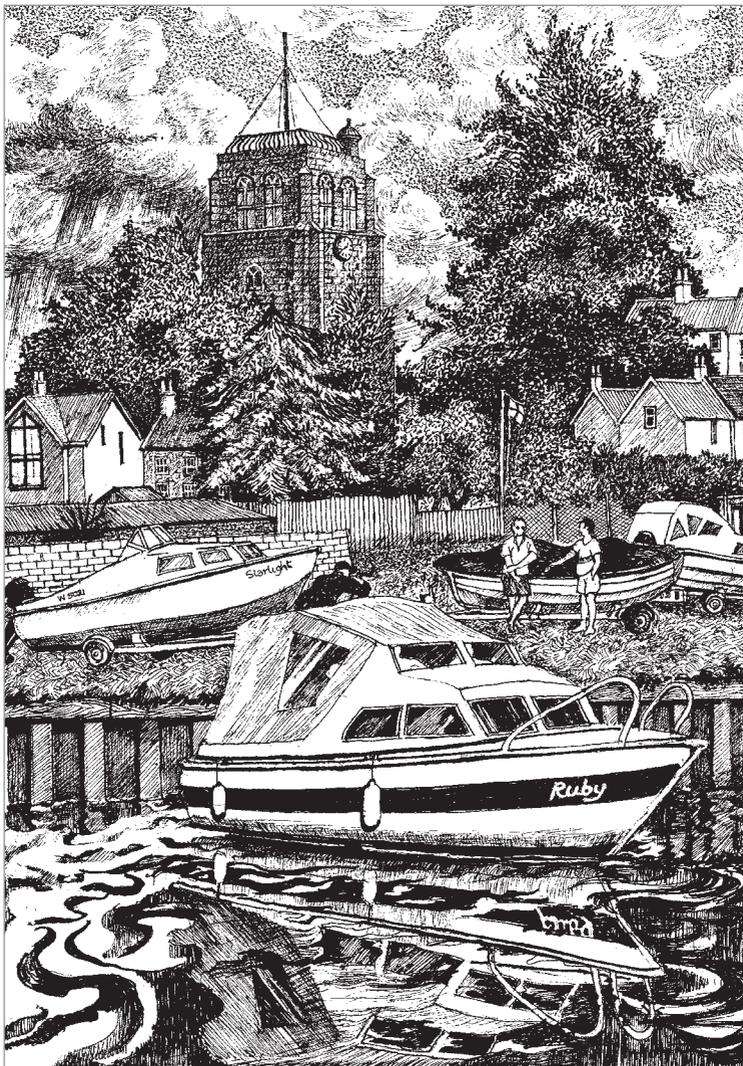
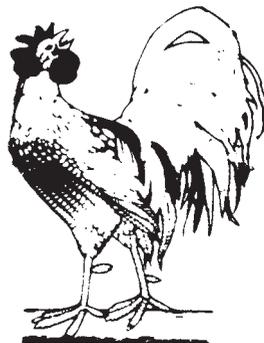


# Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &  
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

**AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2015**

Issue No: 4



Summer boating at Beccles



# Editors' Notice Board

## *Need Pension Advice?*

Following pension reforms on 6th April, people approaching retirement have greater freedom over how they can use their pension pots. They may take a lump sum, take out an annuity, or a mixture of both. 'Pension Wise' is a new Government service designed to help people understand their pension options and to enable them to make informed choices.

Diss, Thetford & District Citizens Advice will be delivering freeface-to-face 'Pension Wise' sessions by appointment (appointments can be made now) giving people access to free, impartial and local pension guidance. The 45 minute sessions will be tailored to the individual, taking into account their circumstances and their plans for retirement.

A Pension Wise appointment may help you if:

- You are approaching retirement or are 55 or over
- Have a defined contribution pension
- Are thinking of accessing your pension in the next six months

Guidance appointments are also available by telephone, delivered by the Pensions Advisory Service. Information and general guidance can be accessed online at [www.pensionwise.gov.uk](http://www.pensionwise.gov.uk).

Tom Smith, Specialist Guidance Caseworker of Diss, Thetford & District Citizens Advice, said: *Pension Wise appointments will help people to make sense of their pension choices. Diss, Thetford & District Citizens Advice already helps people with retirement issues and we'll continue to offer that service too.*

Pension Wise sessions take place at Shelfanger Road, Diss, IP22 4FH, Mondays to Fridays between 10am and 3pm and at other Citizens Advice locations throughout Norfolk and Suffolk.

To book a telephone or face-to-face appointment, call 0300 330 1001.

For more information contact: Tel: 01379 658205



Other items  
the Editors think  
you might like  
to know about

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## Stop to smell the roses!

This year seems to be a very good year for roses. My climbing roses have climbed out of reach, and they and the bush roses are covered in beautiful flowers, with plenty of healthy buds ready to burst open. I try to grow only old scented varieties; a walk through the rose garden in the evening is a joy to the senses! As I walk around towns or cities, whenever I pass a rose, I stop to sniff – and I'm often rewarded by beautiful scents.

For me, a rose is one of God's most wonderful creations – from the intricacy of a double rose, resembling a peony flower, to the simplicity of the dog rose and the old single roses. God has provided a feast for all our senses: beauty and unending shades of colours; aromas – from delicate to heady; the softness to the touch of the different leaves and the prickliness of thorns; the buzzing of busy bees on a warm day; the delicate taste of rose petals in salad.

There is so much in this world that we do not understand – so many tragic and terrible events. Only God can bring something good and godly from all the evil and grief. It is important not to forget those who are suffering, but also we must keep our sense of God's presence in the world, and His love for each of us.

Our 21st century lives are lived too fast! We must stop rushing around – and learn to be instead of do! Look around at His Created world which contains so many glimpses of His kingdom. Marvel at the birds and butterflies, rejoice in sunshine and raindrops, watch the season's changes in your favourite tree, and don't forget to stop to smell the roses!

*'Stop – and rest awhile.  
Then you may see  
the glimpses of Heaven  
He has placed along the way.  
Take time to rest,  
to watch,  
to wait upon your God.  
Let Him fill the stillness in your heart;  
And listen ...  
Listen in the silence...  
His Love is made clear in the waiting.'*

SD

## Team Ministry Page

Rev'd Wendy's e-address is [revwendydisstm@gmail.com](mailto:revwendydisstm@gmail.com)

### Team News

**Hymns for Advent:** There is a plan to focus on the hymns for Advent (starting at the end of November) during Evening services at St Mary's Church, Diss, in August. A few newer or different hymns will feature, so anyone who loves singing and would like to take part is warmly invited to come along at 6pm on 9th and 16th. NB The 11th annual Big Sing will be held on 2nd – always a very popular event.

The Harvest season on the land is mainly in August and September; celebrations in the churches begin in the second half of September, so please check local Notices for dates and times.

**Team Ministry Website:** The address is printed under the Team logo, on the services page; do visit the website to see just what is on offer across The Team.

There is a link there to Cock Crow!



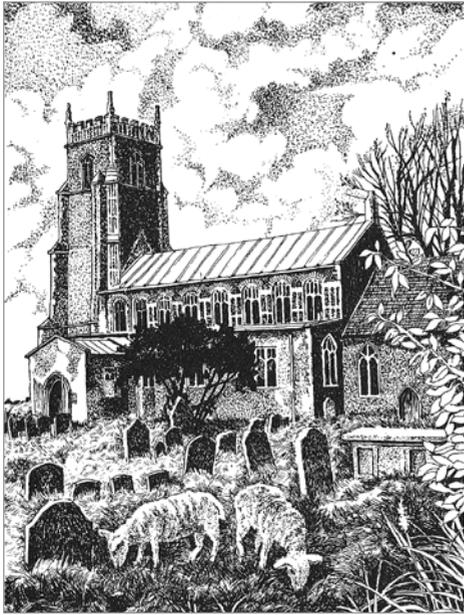
## BRESSINGHAM NEWS

### St John the Baptist Church News

We have had a busy couple of months. A wedding ceremony between Jessica Wheeler and Michael Morris took place on Saturday, 30th May. The bride arrived in a horse-drawn carriage; the bridegroom, his best man and ushers came in three enormous Case tractors. The Vicar, Rev'd Wendy Evans, was so impressed she took photographs! The bride's and bridegroom's families decorated the church beautifully. We wish Jessica and Michael many happy years together.

Funerals at Bressingham Church are infrequent but sadly we have recently said goodbye to two people, large congregations attended both of services. On 18th June, Paul Brooke, a well-known farmer formerly of Valley Farm, was buried. Paul had served this village for decades as churchwarden and chairman of the Parish Council. Six days later, on the 24th June, we had the service for Sheila Curson, wife of our tower captain, Edward. Sheila had also been a bell ringer and died following a very short illness. At the time of writing, we have heard of the death of Margaret Holding. Margaret was the daughter of Frank and Vera Lanchester and had requested that she return to Bressingham following her death, to be buried near her parents. To all bereaved families of these we send our deepest sympathy.

We enjoyed a couple of events at the church recently. The Friends of St John the Baptist hosted a 'Wildflower Talk and Walk' by Stella Taylor in the church and church yard on Saturday, 23rd May, which was attended by over 50 adults and children. Stella's willingness to share her knowledge and love of wildflowers was appreciated by everyone. Overall, £325 was raised. On Saturday, 27th June, enticed by lovely, sunny and warm weather, attendees at a Strawberry Tea in the church and church grounds enjoyed music, strawberries, scones and good company. Many thanks go to participants and helpers at both events. Further thanks are due to Strawberry Tea raffle prize donors; Bressingham Steam Museum and Garden, and Wyevale Bressingham and restaurant. The afternoon raised £500.



St John the Baptist is now, unfortunately, on Historic England's 'At Risk Register'. Our architect has recommended an extensive programme of vital structural repairs that must be done this year to make the building weather proof and prevent further decay. All leaking gutters and downpipes must be entirely replaced, the drainage improved, the south aisle lead roof re-laid and some localized flint work repairs made. There are additional urgent structural repairs needed, adding up to several hundred thousand pounds worth of work, that the small congregation and Friends alone cannot fund. We are currently applying for Heritage Lottery Fund assistance and should we be successful, proceeds from the Wildflower Day, Strawberry Tea and 'Friends' membership fees will count towards the Partnership Funding requirement. Our application will be submitted no later than 17th August, 2015 and the outcome known in November, 2015. Fingers crossed!

Once the project is approved (optimistically written!), we will initiate a series of heritage based community activities. Watch this space!

As many will recall, Roger and Millie Aves were committed to raising funds for reroofing the South porch following a lead theft. On Sunday, 5th July, at a service led by our Rector, Canon Tony Billett,

the Bishop of Thetford, the Rt Revd Alan Winton, dedicated the restored South Porch roof in memory of Roger and Millie whom everyone remembers fondly for their many contributions to the village and to the church. Roger and Millie's families attended, joined by villagers, Diss Team members and local politicians – our MP, Richard Bacon, Norfolk County Councillor, Beverley Spratt, and South Norfolk Councillor, Barry Stone with his wife, Margaret. The barrel organ was played to accompany the hymns, Rodney Briscoe valiantly cranking as fast as he could as the congregation tried to follow the organ's slow pace. As the Bishop wryly remarked, barrel organs are notoriously temperamental. Following the service, wine, homemade lemonade and elderflower cordial with nibbles were served.

Many thanks go to all who have returned their Gift Day envelopes. Your contributions are much appreciated. If you enjoy receiving Cock Crow, £2 will cover your cost for the year. Donations can be left at the village shop.

*We are looking for volunteers* for some of the Cock Crow delivery routes. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kay Brock: 688331.

### Dates for your diary

Harvest Festival Service at St John the Baptist, Sunday 11th October, 9.30am.

Bressingham Primary School Harvest Service, Wednesday 7th October, 9am.

*Joint Open Gardens event* 'Blooming Bressingham and Fragrant Fersfield', 25th and 26th June, 2016. Please see the 'Bressingham and Fersfield' joint statement (see below) in this edition of Cock Crow.

### Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

June 1st 2015, six Parish Councillors met at Fersfield Church with one apology received.

*Co-option* Richard Hewitt was unanimously co-opted to the Parish Council. He will continue to monitor Highways issues in the Parish villages.

*Recorder* The Parish Council expressed appreciation for the long and conscientious service that Jean

Harvey has provided as Recorder of Parish Council meetings for many years. Jean retired from the role from May 2015 and is replaced by Leonora Pearce.

*Notice Boards* The new village notice boards have now arrived and will shortly be seen opposite the Village Shop, at Fersfield Church Meadow and in Common Road adjacent to the telephone box. There may be a short delay in setting up the Common Road board while permissions are obtained.

*Planning* Item 2015/1081 Crown Farm Barn, Wood Lane, insulation improvements were approved.

Item 2015/0564 72 Common Road Bressingham is going to South Norfolk Planning Committee on Wednesday 3rd June (recommendation to refuse).

*'Meet your Parish Councillors'* The Parish Council plans to provide opportunities for Councillors and villagers to meet together. These meetings will start in the Autumn and will be advertised by leaflets, posters and on the village website

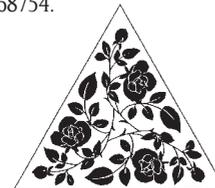
### Bressingham Ladies Club

At the June meeting the speaker was Jenny Gibbs who gave an entertaining talk about her life in Turkey. She was authentically dressed in local costume and brought along an array of silk items for sale; this industry is vital to the economy of the small villages there.

In July we have an out meeting to Seamere Gardens in Hingham, and in August we will be having our own garden party, so we are hoping for sunshine on both occasions!

On 21st September, David Morton will be speaking about Buckingham Palace.

Our programme secretary, Jan, has worked hard to ensure that we have some entertaining evenings to look forward to, details can be found either on the village website or at Bressingham Shop or by calling Sue (01379) 68754.



### St Andrew's Church

In early June, our new Consultant Architect, Brian Haward, visited St Andrew's with Matthew Mc.Dade (Diocesan Advisory Committee Secretary) and our contractor, John Hogg. Apart from being a really valuable introductory meeting, we were able to make the decision that the chancel was ready to be put back into use, despite much more external and internal work being required. We were delighted that the chancel was re-commissioned by John's firm on 23rd June, the south wall having dried adequately. The heavy monument will not be replaced until all the re-plastering and decoration have been



completed at some future date. For now, though, we have the full church and organ back in use, although, having enjoyed the location so much, we will continue to use the South Chapel for our smaller services and events.

There is, of course, a long way to go in terms of restoring the chancel's ability to resist the weather and restoring the interior. We are going to need considerable funding, and in addition to the heroic fundraising being undertaken, we will need to apply for grant aid from various agencies. This means extensive use of modern technology to monitor and communicate our financial status. We are very grateful to Paul Sumpter for taking on the role of our Finance Officer: his accountancy skills will be invaluable.

By the time you receive this edition of 'Cock Crow' there will still be two Friday film sessions to go: 'Out of Africa' on 7th August and 'The Selfish Giant' on 14th August. Organised by Creative Arts East and Sophie Gosman, it will be a splendid way of spending an evening.

On Saturday 1st August the church will be holding a 'Cake, Coffee and Chat' morning from 10am

to 12 noon. There will be books, a raffle and stalls, too. We hope to see you there. Proceeds, inevitably, will go towards the chancel restoration.

Looking forward to the Autumn Season, we are planning a late afternoon Harvest Thanksgiving Service followed by an 'Early Supper', also in the church, on Sunday 18th October. Details will be available later.

Already thinking of next year, we are really excited about combining with St John's at Bressingham to hold an 'Open Gardens' for the weekend of 25th/26th June 2016. It will be wonderful for the two parishes to work together in order to raise money to ensure that future generations may benefit from the use of the two beautiful and historic churches. Please see item (see below) about this event.

With our very best wishes for a splendid Summer,

*Richard*

## Bressingham & Fersfield Combined

### Open gardens event 2016

For the weekend of 25th–26th June 2016

Bressingham and Fersfield are combining to present an open gardens event, 'Blooming Bressingham and Fragrant Fersfield'. Planning is still a work in progress: in addition to the open gardens, there will be refreshment 'hubs', an opportunity to buy plants (not the ones planted in the gardens, though!) and other attractions. The first meeting of those interested was held at the end of June, and the next will be at 6.30pm at 'The Highlands', High Road, Bressingham, on Wednesday 14th October. Please come if you would like to be involved in any way, or 'phone Linda on (01379 687729) if you would like to know more. Proceeds from the event will be split between the villages' two churches' restoration funds, with a charity donation to a cause yet to be decided.



## LOPHAMS NEWS

### St Andrew's Primary School

St Andrew's pupils and staff are fast approaching the end of a very busy summer term.

Reception and Year 1 have enjoyed an educational visit to Redgrave and Lopham Fen where they learnt about the different habitats of various living things.

Year 2, 3 and 4 have enjoyed a sunny day out at the Royal Norfolk Show where learning opportunities included a habitat trail and pond dipping with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

Meanwhile Year 5 and 6 took part in a residential at Horstead. During their visit the weather was kind and the children enjoyed canoeing, climbing wall, archery, team building, campfire and a BBQ.

In addition to this, the school has taken part in a range of sporting fixtures. St Andrew's held its own, well attended, sports morning followed by a picnic lunch, year R, 1 and 2 took part in the Diss Cluster sports afternoon, year 3 and 4 in Cluster athletics and year 5 and 6 in Cluster 'kwick cricket' and rounders. St Andrew's was also recognised for its contribution to the small schools football and netball league where Freddie Rednall, Mia Somers and Erin Aldous received players of the year for their contribution to the teams.

St Andrew's is now focusing on its end of term festivities. Year 6 pupils are currently busy visiting High Schools as part of their transition for September and the new intake of 15 pupils in Reception for September have been meeting their class teacher and teaching assistant. Year 5/6 are practising an end of year production 'The Pied Piper' before taking part in their final end of year service at St Nicholas, North Lopham.

St Andrew's governors, pupils and staff wish you a wonderful summer. For an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Norgate on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk

### St Andrew's Pre School

The children had great fun building their den for Den Day – in aid of 'Save the Children' – and we were all thrilled to feature in the local paper report.

Our Sports Day was held on 1st July, and a Barbecue on 12th July; the leavers' party was on 20th July, before the holidays begin.

We will miss our oldest children when they move on to 'big' school, and send them off with lots of good wishes; they enjoyed their visits to meet this year's reception children. We look forward to meeting new younger ones - so, any new residents with children approaching their 2nd birthday, or a bit older, are warmly invited to get in touch to arrange a visit as soon as September arrives, with a view to joining us. We offer your child a safe way to make friends with those they may then grow up alongside, and can also help them to get to know the 'big' school too. Do note that ALL 3 years olds are entitled to 15 hours free sessions each week. Following our GOOD OfSTED rating we can now offer free funded places to eligible 2 year olds as well!

As always, just drop in at the beginning of next term to view the setting and meet our team. Please note our new contact number is 07854 091257.

### Lophams' Ladies

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

In June, Carol Kearns, a freelance illustrator, gave us a most inspiring and interesting talk on how she gave up her 'Day Job' to spend three years at Norwich Art College studying for a degree. She related her time spent as the only mature student on her course; from negotiating 'Fresher's Week', to how she was able to show her love of plants and food in her art work and develop the illustrator business she has today. Look out for her 'The art of baking' page in the EDP Norfolk magazine.

June was also our annual Jumble, Bric a Brac and Book Sale. We made £255, so a huge thank you to all who donated items, helped on the day and all who came and bought the many bargains! We also had three 'Car Booters' who very bravely set up their stalls in the cold and rain.

On 4th August we meet in the Hall; 7.15pm for 7.30pm to hear Robert Maidstone give a talk on 'Our Little Lodgers'! and on 1st September we have a talk and demonstration by 'Gabriel's Garden'

New members and visitors are always welcome: phone 01379 687337 for details.



Events at  
Redgrave &  
Lopham Fen

**Guided fen walks** Saturdays: 1 Aug, 5 Sept 10.30am–1pm. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with naturalist John Hill. £3. Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

**Wildlife Watch Group** Saturdays: 12 Sept 10.30am–12.30pm. A club for 6–12yr olds, £2. Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333

### Summer holiday activities

**Family events**, £2.50 per person  
Wednesdays 5 August, 10am–12noon, **Super furry animals** | Wednesday 12 August, 2pm–4pm **Awesome arachnids** | Wednesday 19 August, 2pm–4pm **Pictorial orienteering** | Tuesday 25 August, 10am–2pm **Fabulous flowers** | Wednesday 26 August, 2pm–4pm **Beetlemania**.

*Children must be accompanied by an adult.* Booking essential 01379 688333



**Activity days**, £6 per child. Tuesdays: 4 August, 10am–2pm **Wild art**; 11 August, 10am–2pm **Bio challenge**; 18 August, 10am–2pm **Wild fun and games**. *Unaccompanied children only.* Booking essential 01379 688333

### Art Exhibition

Sat 29, Sun 30 & Mon 31 August, 10am–4pm  
Artwork by local artists inspired by nature.  
Free entry. Refreshments available.

### Adult courses

**Botanical Illustration** Saturday 1 Aug, 26 Sept 10am–3pm. Illustration techniques with botanical illustrator, Christine Grey-Wilson. £25/£21.50. Booking essential 01473 890089

### Introduction to woodblock printmaking

Tuesday 29 September, 10am–4pm. A hands-on course. Suitable for beginners. Tutor Glenn Holman. £35, inc materials. Booking essential 01473 890089

## Lophams' Garden Club

Graham Jenner gave a talk at our last meeting on 2nd July entitled 'A Rose by any other name' which explained how flowers and plants got their names. Graham accompanied his talk with a series of slides and it was an interesting and informative evening.

We are looking forward to our trip to Beth Chatto's Garden on 1st August, while on 3rd September Sarah Cook will give a presentation on Suffolk Heritage Gardens.

We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm at Lophams' Village Hall and visitors and new members are always very welcome. Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details.

## Holy Bingo

Continues through the summer holidays in the Village Hall, on the first Monday each month at 2pm, when new faces are always welcome to come and share in fun sessions, with plenty of time for a chat. Forthcoming sessions are on 3rd August and 7th September. Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

## Lophams' Village Hall

The gates to the playing field were re-sited and re-hung at the end of June, on a very hot Thursday. Grateful thanks are extended to the team who worked so hard to complete the job in a single day. We hope the increased car parking area outside the gates will encourage more use of the big open space inside during the holidays – for games, kite flying etc. as well as dog walking.

Currently, work is proceeding on repairs to the verandah edging, to ensure that is both safe and smart.

This all means it is even more important that the litter bin is not used as a poop-scoop receptacle; this poses a real health hazard. An application for a proper 'doggie bin' has been submitted to Breckland via the Parish Council, we await their response.

## The Village Hall AGM

This was held on 26th June, at 7.30pm was a very quiet affair – with no visitors! Progress with the hall development plans was reviewed and future ideas were discussed. The Officers remain in post for a further term.

## The Lottery

Membership has fluctuated slightly since the 100 members was reached, but has just about got there again, with a corresponding monthly first prize of £200. We do want to maintain this situation, so please get in touch if you would like to join as soon as a new vacancy occurs. Please ring 01379 687718 for more information or contact Eileen (01379 687608) or any committee member. There are three chances each month of winning a prize, plus a Bonanza draw in December for those who have been 'in' for at least three months. The Lottery winners for May were: first prize £200, M & L Collier; second prizes of £50 each, M McCaw and P & L Marley. In June the winners were: first prize £196 E Jacob; and second prizes of £49 each P Moralee and J Brown.

In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a monthly raffle with one superb prize, which includes an item from every stall – a wonderful array of goodies for the larder

*Farmers' Markets* are usually the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm, so the next are on 22nd August and 26th September (Details from Mike on 01379687235)

*Judo* is on Mondays and Wednesdays, details from Howard on 01379 688258. Please note that sessions will NOT be held during the school summer holidays – the wonderful trainers do need a break in August this year. ('Rio' looms in 2016!!)

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

*Lopham Art Group:* meets on Wednesday mornings, from 9.30am. The cost is currently £15 each per month, and includes refreshments and a visit from an expert tutor once each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for more details.

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

# NORTH LOPHAM

## North Lopham Parish Council

8th July 2015. Apologies: None

*Present:* All councillors (still 2 under strength), Mr Farren-Bradley, Ms S Molloy, 4 members of the public. The Parish clerk was absent because of ill health, wishes for her speedy recovery were expressed.

*Proposed development in Kings Head Lane:* Ms Molloy, architect to the scheme, gave a presentation about the outline planning application for up to 6 dwellings on a site at the end of Kings Head Lane. The intention, should the scheme proceed to full planning approval, is to apply for 3 dwellings only. Discussion followed but no decision made at this stage.

*Traffic calming:* Crown has instructed its drivers not to exceed 25mph through the village. Their subcontractors will receive a similar request.

*Community Speedwatch:* will be up and running by the end of July.

*NCC Partnership Scheme:* To consult NCC Highways dept. about feasibility and cost of making a footpath with kerb from 'The Bull' to Cherry Tree Close. 50/50 funding could be available from NCC, application needed by December. Public financial support may be sought.

*Neighbourhood Plan:* As a 'toe in the water', Mr Farren-Bradley proposed that an application be made to Breckland, in consultation with them, to designate the area enclosed by the N Lopham parish boundary for the purpose of NLPC producing a Neighbourhood Plan. If accepted, there is no commitment to go further. This was agreed.

*Telephone box:* It was agreed to proceed with the restoration of this 'listed' building, the final cost could be £800-£1,000. End use is still to be finalised.

*Vacancies:* 2 councillors are still needed.

*Village Sign:* Refurbishment done by Mike Daley, thanks expressed to him.

*Village Hall:* Gates have been moved, thanks expressed to the committee. Dog and litter bins, with accompanying signage, are being applied for. It is hoped that the field will be used more as a result.

*Methodist Chapel:* Plans have been submitted for change of use, development as a dwelling and removal of headstones. No decision at this stage.

*A request* to upgrade Jubilee Lane to 'restricted by-way' status has been received by NCC. Process is lengthy.

Next meeting: 9th September 2015

## Methodist Church

Methodist friends now hold an informal service and coffee morning in St Nicholas' Church on the fourth Wednesday each month – and would welcome anyone from the villages to join them at 10.30 am. At the June event a good congregation said goodbye to the Revd Brian Trudgian, who is 'retiring' to the North West. The dates for August and September are 26th and 23rd.

## St Nicholas' Church

May ended with a very busy weekend

*Friday Night is SNYSB Night concert* on Friday 22nd May gave us a chance to hear some new music as well as many old favourites. The Band was a bit smaller than in previous years, but had a lovely rounded sound which was much enjoyed, especially the Ashokan Farewell played as a saxophone solo. The audience was able to clap along to tunes from the 1980s and there was real audience participation in the River Dance music!!

*The Pentecost Birthday Service* was a real delight, with children joining in – lighting candles, taking the collection, sharing in balloon games, before the Cake was cut and there was time for games round the building.

*Healing Service* We were privileged to welcome Bishop David Gillett and his team to an Evensong service in June, where everyone enjoyed the chance to sing the familiar evening canticles as well as the hymns. Those who wished shared in a time of prayer for their own special concerns.

*The Summer Coffee Morning* on Thursday 9th July was held in and round the church this year on a beautiful sunny morning. It was lovely to welcome visitors from across the Team – and far beyond! Two were from Alabama – descendants of the Rev'd Lawrence Womack, a rector in the 1700s! Many thanks go to all those who provided goodies for the stall, raffle and tombola, and to everyone who came along, as well as to those who helped in any way – especially Angie and Maureen who dealt with all the refreshments so efficiently. We raised £467 on the day, which was excellent.

*The Hymn Marathon* – the very last one! – will take place on Saturday 8th August, starting at 8.30am, and continuing until around 5.15pm. The church team will be on hand throughout, to greet visitors and serve coffee and tea. Playing will be continuous through the morning, but there will be a chance to sing along, or even request a favourite hymn in the afternoon if you have missed Jennie around the village in the coming weeks, inviting folk to sponsor one – perhaps in memory of someone special. The target is 600 hymns and as many more as can be fitted in!! Thank you!

As the holiday season reaches its climax, we do hope that visitors to the area will find their way into church and feel welcome, perhaps even share in a service. To all those going away, we send good wishes for safe travelling and a restful time.



## SOUTH LOPHAM NEWS

### St Andrew's Church

*Harvest Coffee Morning:* There will be Coffee morning in the Church on Saturday 26th September 1am to 12 noon, with cake stall, bring and buy and raffle, please come along for coffee and a scone, we look forward to seeing you.

### South Lopham Parish Council

Meeting held on 2nd July 2015 at Valley Farm, Low Common.

*Present:* Councillors John Crisp, Sarah Martin, Tim Frizzell and David Huggins and Mrs Chapman Allen (District Councillor). Mrs Martin deputised as clerk as Mrs Phillips was unable to attend.

*Village meeting* Recent correspondence from the Chairman of the Lophams Society was discussed and it was decided that a response should be sent to the Chairman acknowledging his letter. As the Council holds regular meetings advertised in advance to which all parishioners are welcome the Council is happy for the Society to take the initiative regarding the Village Meeting.

*Telephone kiosk:* Jim Pursehouse was not in attendance but will report at the next meeting. John Crisp had had discussions with a parishioner living near the box who felt that the book exchange was supported and was also used by people living outside the village.

*Finance:* In the absence of the Clerk, the Chairman reported the Bank balances and approval was given for payment of various accounts. £184.24 was received from Breckland in respect of the bottle bank.

*Planning:* Mrs Martin reported on the current position. White Horse: marquee and hedging undecided, Bridge Farm: replacement dwelling undecided, Noddle Farm: lifting of conditions, partial approval, Lansdowne House alterations and extension undecided, Nissen hut behind Allotment Farm permitted

development. Although Councillors felt this was not suitable conversion to a dwelling their opinion had not been sought.

*Use of land in Brick Kiln Lane:* It was reported that this land appeared to be being used as a builder's yard and another large portable building had been placed there. The Enforcement Officer is to be informed.

*Highways:* Mrs Chapman Allen had contacted County highways on behalf of the Parish. Further signs awaited by NCC. Repairs to Blo Norton road were inadequate, either only partially complete or paint markings had been ignored. Mrs Chapman Allen suggested that our County Councillor should be contacted to arrange a meeting with NCC. Highways concerning moving the 30mph signs on the A1066. A fire hydrant marker in Church Road is broken and Anglian Water to be contacted by John Crisp.

*Community:* David Huggins reported that village hall gates had been moved back to allow easier access when the gates are locked. David Huggins reported on works of improvement by Gressingham Foods and will be at their August meeting.

*Footpaths:* Tim Frizzell reported on footpaths that needed clearing between Duttlebridge and Rectory Corner and between Duttlebridge and Chequers Farm. The Parish Clerk to write to land owner. Bus shelter had been tidied and old notices removed. Rubbish behind shelter to be investigated and source traced. Tim will inspect and clean the Jubilee Bench. There was a request that out of date signs advertising functions in either of the villages be removed as soon as possible after the event. John Crisp will investigate refurbishment of the Village sign.

*AOB:* The Clerk had sent the Parish Audit to Mazars and thanks were expressed to Mr Hodgson for his internal audit work.

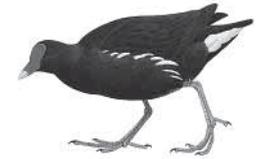
*Date of next meeting:* 3rd September 2015, Valley Farm, Low Common.



## Murphy's Rambles

Hello folks – well it's nice to see the sun but in my thick fur coat I am too hot!! It's amazing that although we have had so little rain that the grass is so lush and high, some of the nettles and thistles are higher than my human and we have had to abandon some footpaths until they are cut or the foliage has died back. We have seen some lovely things to make us smile since last time:

A moorhen, whose nest we had discovered in the most perilous place managed to hatch her eggs and we saw her with three adorable fluffy black chicks. We hope they survived.

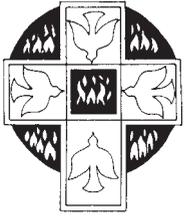


We love watching the swifts swooping over the barley fields for insects and waiting to see if the hovering kestrel will dive for its prey and lovely to see the egret still visits the village and we were amazed early one Sunday morning to see a muntjac strolling down Church Road towards us.

The fields are changing so fast, the rape flowers have long gone but are speckled with poppies growing tall to reach the sunshine. The barley gets more golden each day and the wheat is so tall that if you spot a deer only its head is visible and looks like a weird weed! We sometimes meet the odd hare on a quiet lane but five took full advantage of a newly cut hay field and were having a great romp.

Some of our greatest fun has been on our return home when we fill the bird feeders and then sneak back to watch the action. We love watching the parents feed the fledglings, some as big as the adults; it's so hard to keep quiet when the magpie and the woodpecker visit.

But not as good as walking so get out and enjoy it all – Bye for now.



**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**  
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Diss Team Ministry [www.dissteamministry.org.uk](http://www.dissteamministry.org.uk)  
The four parishes, and Roydon, are all parishes of the Diss Team Ministry, led by **The Revd Canon Tony Billett**, Rector of Diss, and part time Team Vicar, the Revd Wendy Evans. 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
August 2	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
August 9	9.30 MP	Join Tivetshall	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
August 16	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
August 23	11.00 Chp	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	Join Gissing	9.30 HC
August 30	10.30 5/P HC				
September	9.30 MP	9.30 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
September 13	8.00 HC	Join Tivetshall	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
September 20	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
September 27	10.30 H	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	Join Gissing	9.30 HC
October 4	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP

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

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01379 674116 [maggiearowan@gmail.com](mailto:maggiearowan@gmail.com)

**WINFARTHING: CORRESPONDENT NEEDED:**  
please apply via Winfarthing PCC

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 2nd August Trinity 9	No Service	No Service	9.30am 11am HC FS	No Service
Sun 9th August Trinity 10	9.30am HC	9.30am MS	11am FS	No Service
Sun 16th August Trinity 11	No Service	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 23rd August Trinity 12	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	9.30am MS
Sun 30th August Trinity 13	5th Sunday – Eucharist at St Mary’s, Diss at 10.30am Music, Praise and Worship at Diss at 4pm			
Sun 6th September Trinity 14	No Service	No Service	9.30am 11am HC FS	No Service
Sun 13th September Trinity 15	9.30am HC	9.30am MS	11am FS	No Service
Sun 20th September Trinity 16	9.30am MS	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 27th September Trinity 17	No Service	9.30am HC	No Service	Harvest F 11am
Sun 4th October Trinity 18	No Service	4pm Harvest F	9.30am 11am HC FS	No Service

MP Morning Prayers | MS Morning Service | 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.

**Connect Group:** Meets on some Wednesday afternoons at 2pm in St Mary’s Hall, Diss; contact Jennie (01379 687679) for precise dates.

**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  
Fersfield J Sumpter 01379 687 711 R Hewitt 01379 687355  
N Lopham A Briggs 01953 681989 R Vere 01379 687679  
S Lopham P Reeder 01379 687273 J Brundell 01379 687216, D Huggins (emeritus)



## The Marks of a Disciple

I have often referred to the 'Beatitudes' from Matthew 5: 3-11, as Jesus' manifesto, setting out his intentions and aims towards the beginning of his public ministry. The Beatitudes set out to the disciple a kind of bench mark to test the quality of the individual's life with Christ. In a sense how Christ-like is the disciple and, before you say so, I know I fail but the disciple is a learner not an expert.

The Dominican Flor McCarthy in his book 'Funeral Liturgies' contrasts vividly the understanding of what the world regards as important in life and the radical difference in standards and values that Jesus demands of His people.

The world – 'Blessed are the rich for they can have anything they want'.

Jesus 'Blessed are the Poor in Spirit', those who put their trust in God rather than money. It is not how much money you have, but how you live your life.

The world – 'Blessed are those who live it up'.

Jesus 'Blessed are those who mourn'. It is only those who love who are capable of true mourning. To open one's heart is to begin to live.

The world – 'Blessed are the tough and strong'.

Jesus 'Blessed are the Gentle'. Gentleness does not mean weakness; it is a form of strength.

The world – 'Blessed are those who hunger for power, status & fame'.

Jesus 'Blessed are those who hunger for what is right'.

The world – 'Blessed are those who show no mercy, who take no prisoners'.

Jesus 'Blessed are the merciful' Happy are those who make allowances' for the sins of others, whose greatness is in their power to forgive.

The world – 'Blessed are the trouble makers and war-mongers'.

Jesus 'Blessed are the peacemakers', who spread understanding, who welcome the stranger, who work for a just society.

The world – 'Blessed are those who cheat and get away with it'.

Jesus 'Blessed are those who suffer' who make a stand for what is right.

Rev David F Mills

## BURSTON NEWS

### St Mary's Church

We are putting the final touches to our plans for Burston Open Village. This biennial occasion is the biggest event the Friends of Burston Church puts on. This year there were fifteen gardens open for anyone (who paid the £4 admission) as well as garage sales, a garden railway, an 'eco house' and delicious snacks. Many thanks to everyone who generously contributed to the day and to all who supported us.

The next planned event is the Fish and Chips Quiz Supper on Friday 16th October – do get in touch if you would like to reserve tickets.

The restoration work on St Mary's church is coming on well. It will be apparent to anyone who walks by that this is major work to the fabric of the building. Services continue, although the chancel is blocked off, this doesn't prevent us from carrying on with all our services. The next 'special service' will be our celebration for Harvest on Sunday 27th September at 10.30am, do come and join us – it would be great to see you!

Rachel Hobson 01379 741033

### St Mary's Gift Day

Saturday 15th August

Once again, thanks are due to those who by their monthly gifts are, in a very practical way, helping to keep our Church alive for worship and many other activities. In case there are others feeling moved to help in this way, either by a one off payment or regularly by bankers order, we enclose a yellow envelope and a standing order form for your convenience. The church will be open for refreshments and receiving gifts on Saturday 15th August from 10am to 2pm. Gifts may otherwise be placed in the letter box of 'Crewbeare' opposite the Church yard or handed to any Parochial Church Council member. Thank you again and may God bless your giving.

### Burston Craft Group

The group had a few meetings before the summer holidays and will be restarting at a different venue, The Pavilion in Mill Lane, Burston, from 10-12.

The dates for the term are: 15th September, 20th October, 17th November (sugar paste Christmas cake decorations) 15th December (Christmas flower arrangement)

All are welcome, but please let me know if you would like to attend the mini workshops so that everyone can have a go.

We are looking for people who could offer us mini workshops so we can extend our knowledge and enjoyment.

We are hoping to start an evening group in 2016 so if you are interested please telephone me on 01379 740106; we look forward to making the necessary arrangements.

Elaine Norman

### Music and Summer Buffet

The Music and Summer Buffet of the Burston and Shimpling Community Action Team on Saturday 13th June rang the rafters of St George's Church, Shimpling, with the arias from operas by Mozart and Puccini, as well as the laughter of the audience at comic strips of Flanders and Swann and music hall favourites including 'The pig got up and walked away'. A team of seven gifted musicians (Peter Creswell and Friends) provided non-stop entertainment for over an hour. The evening ended with a sumptuous buffet provided by Fredericks Fine



Foods of Diss, and a glass of wine, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone there. A raffle was organised by Keith Baxter, and Lindsey and Piers ran the bar. Nigel Frankland, CAT Chairman said, 'It was good to see so many people and having an enjoyable evening and making use of the facility of the Church; the quality of the singing was second to none.'

The Team will be helping with the catering at the Village Open Day on 12th July and will be organising a Barbecue with Buskers to be held on the evening of Saturday 5th September, the day before the Strike School Rally.

### Church Hire

If you are interested in hiring St Mary's Church for a special event please contact Anne Hyde on 07733 182 525 or Norma Ajdukiewicz on 01379 740595. Tables, chairs and tableware are available for hire. A buffet can also be provided.

### St Mary's Luncheon Club

This club is for retired folk from Burston and the surrounding villages. Members meet in the Church on the fourth Thursday of every month. Any enquiries to Sybil Peck on 01379 741410

### Youth Café

Every Thursday during term time the Youth Café is in full swing. If you are aged 11–14, come and join us for games, free pizza and milkshake from 3.45–5.15 in the Church.

### Burston Chapel

Services: Sunday 11am and 6.30pm

Prayer Meeting: Tuesdays 8pm (call 741816 for details)

Jamie's Gang (school age club): Wednesdays 5pm–6.30pm, in term time only

### Information Please

To inform the village of a special event or item of local interest please contact Liz McEniff on 01379 742583.

### Burston School

We cannot believe how quickly this school year has gone! Nevertheless we have filled it with so many activities and here are a few:

Class 1's topic was The Lost World and included activities covered in science, history, art and design, geography and technology. They certainly enjoyed their work on dinosaurs and the school watched as their models of dinosaurs using paper mache grew!

Class 2 looked at humorous poems based on

their work 'Aliens stole my underpants'. They then created their own alien poems. In geography they looked at the United Kingdom and the 4 countries it consists of.

Class 3's half term included their SATs which they tackled brilliantly. Their topic was Early Civilisation which enabled children to learn about the Ancient Sumer, Indus Valley and the Shang Dynasty.

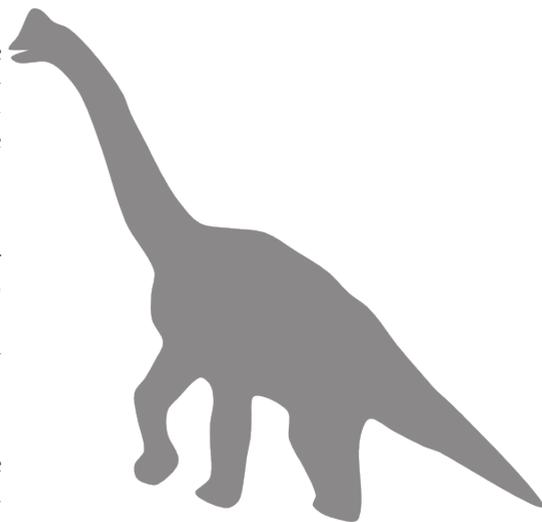
We enjoyed a Japanese Day at the school in preparation of the successful bid that gives the children opportunities to learn Japanese language and culture throughout next year. The children enjoyed making and eating sushi. They also made Koi carp kites and learnt Japanese numbers.

Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed their residential tip at Adventure Central in Buckinghamshire. We were very lucky with the weather and the children enjoyed numerous activities including wall climbing, body zorbing team challenges and den making.

We have also taken part in the Athletics and Rounders competitions at the High School. Good fun was had by all.

KS2 children put on a play for their parents 'Midas and the Golden Touch'. The children all worked incredibly hard to learn their lines and made all of the staff and parents very proud.

We say goodbye to our Year 6s (Dylan, Ashden, Charlie-Jack, Katy and Chelsea) who leave at the end of term. We wish them all good luck for their future education at High School.

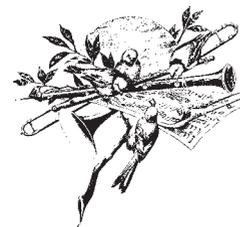


## GISSING NEWS

### A Great Weekend...

...at the Flower and Music Festival

It's been a busy couple of months for the Gissing PCC and the Friends of Gissing Church. Over the weekend of the 12th to 14th June the Friends organized a Flower Festival with music. The theme of the event was summer weddings and, in addition to some truly stunning flower displays, the church was also filled with wedding memorabilia, including photographs and some wonderful dresses from local brides. We send heartfelt thanks to all those who lent us their precious photos and dresses, to our talented flower arrangers and to everyone who helped with refreshments and the 1001 other jobs that are associated with an event like this.



On Saturday evening the Gissing Singers gave a concert entitled 'A Summer Songbook'. We were delighted to welcome Richard Bacon MP to introduce the event and we offer our sincere thanks to the Singers for another wonderful and varied programme of music. We sold over 80 tickets for the concert and most people stayed afterwards for cheese, wine and a good chat!

The Festival raised almost £1200 towards much needed repairs and improvements to the Church.

As well as introducing the concert, Mr Bacon was able to announce that we have been successful in the first stage of our Heritage Lottery Fund bid. We applied to HLF earlier in the year for funding to undertake urgent structural repairs and to provide other facilities including an improved electrical supply and a modern heating system. HLF have awarded us a development grant of just over £30,000 to help us prepare detailed plans and to undertake further

work in support of our stage 2 submission which has to be made within a year of this first award. In addition to this excellent news we were also able to announce that Norfolk Churches Trust have awarded us £5000 towards the project. This is a wonderful boost to all of us who have laboured long and hard with bids and fundraising.

Our next fund raising event will be the village party on the 1st of August. If you live in the village look out for your ticket to this 'invitation only' event. Following that we will be at the Summer Fete towards the end of August. If you would like to become a Friend of Gissing Church or help with fund raising please contact Fiona Turton at [fionaturton@btinternet.com](mailto:fionaturton@btinternet.com) or Eddie Scoggins at [edward.scoggins@live.co.uk](mailto:edward.scoggins@live.co.uk)

### Walking up the Wall & Pushing up Daisies

The intrepid George Hammond will be doing something a little different in late August when, with friends, he'll walk along Hadrian's Wall on six consecutive days, covering some 65 miles. A bottle of surgical spirit will soon be on the shopping list so he can toughen up his feet. A friend in the village suggested that George could use the opportunity to raise money for a good cause, but the good folks of Gissing are always being asked to stump up cash for their community and he was a little reluctant to invite sponsorship. However he'll be taking a break from the sponsored cycle ride this year so has decided, after consultation with the Parish Council, that if anyone would like to make a donation in recognition of his ground-breaking and body shattering adventure it would be rather nice if they felt able to contribute a little something towards the stock fencing and hedging that will be erected around the 'soon-to-be' extension to the churchyard burial area – brought about by the kind co-operation of Miss Colchester.

You may not be aware that available space in the churchyard is limited so it is important that we secure more for those villagers who wish to take their final rest in this quiet corner of England when we shuffle off this mortal coil. If you would like to make a donation, perhaps you'd like to call by White lodge on the corner of Upper Street (knock on the door or leave something in our postbox) with an envelope

marked 'Fencing' – anonymously or by name – and George will pass on the money to the Parish Council who will be purchasing the fencing.

The Parish Council has asked that donations are received by 20 September please and would like George to provide them with one cheque, made out by him, for the total amount. George is very happy to give you a receipt for you cheque/cash if you knock at the door – or leave your address if you're posting an envelope in our postbox – and will count all the money, together with a copy of any receipts that he has issued, in the presence of a member of the Parish Council.

The results of George's labours will feature in a flyer to be distributed with the next edition of 'Cock Crow'. Thank you.

### John Sherman

Readers will be sorry to learn of the death of John Sherman who lived for some years with his wife, Delma, at 'Leaffield' where John spent many happy hours in his large garden, tending his ancient hedges and growing beautiful flowers and vegetables. Another of John's passions was the King James Bible which he read eloquently in church on many occasions. He was a churchwarden and a member of the PCC and took a keen interest in village life. It was no surprise to read that at the service of thanksgiving for John's life the chosen hymns were all about Creation and that one of the readings was Rudyard Kipling's 'The Glory of the Garden' ...a poem that John read so beautifully himself in the Church in Gissing on a couple of occasions. On his 'fun' side John loved dressing up as Father Christmas each year. Perhaps he was not quite round enough (with his long, lean frame) for a traditional Santa, but he looked pretty convincing!

We remember John with affection and send our warmest wishes to Delma who will be staying on in Sussex in the home that she and John made there in 2012.

### Gissing Children's Centre

Our popular and successful community Pre-School, with its very special family ethos, runs Monday to Friday during term time, in two, 3 hour long sessions per day where children can attend from 9–12

and/or from 12–3. Early years funding for 3 and 4 year olds can be used for both morning and afternoon sessions and the Pre-school is now able to offer a limited number of funded places for eligible 2 year olds. Children can attend unaccompanied from 2 years to 5 years old (although we do have limited places for children under 2½ years old). Any families wishing to bring their children, come and have a look. Contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9–3 during term time) or 07796 204367 (out of hours) or email [preschool@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:preschool@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk) to arrange a visit at a time of your choice.

Visit our website ([www.gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk](http://www.gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk)) and our Facebook page to see the sort of things we do. We wish all the very best to the 16 children going to school in September; we shall miss you all. A warm welcome will be given to those children with their families, joining us from September.

We are running Summer Playscheme days for primary school age children on Friday 7th, Thursday 13th, Wednesday 19th and Tuesday 25th August; offering a long day from 9–3.30 at £15 per child or a short day from 9–1 at £12 per child. Places are bookable/payable in advance, call 07531 810704 or email: [playscheme@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:playscheme@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk) Children will need to bring a packed lunch and some money for tuck. A wide range of summer themed crafts, cookery and other workshops as well as construction, sand and various play opportunities, both indoors and outside, will be on offer, including Ian Constance Coaching on the first two days.

After the success of last year, our second Witchy Woodland Fayre will be held during the magical afternoon of Saturday 17th October – so watch out for more details in the next issue of Cock Crow.

### Heart of Gissing

*Gissing Fete 2015* 'Yo ho ho, me hearties,' it's nearly time for the great Gissing fete and this year the theme is pirates! Gissing's scarecrow tradition will no doubt be continued with Johnny Depp look-alikes appearing round the village and eye patches,



parrots and wooden legs are expected to be much in evidence at the fete itself, as will a whole ship load of pirate-related activities.

As well as dressing-up and pirate cake competitions there will be a pirate-themed dance performance to watch, a Buried Treasure Map to work out and a Pieces of Eight trail to follow. Pirates young and old can enjoy the display of can-can dancing and some may be pleased to exchange the rolling quarter deck for a quieter ride in a tractor.

Old favourites such as Splat the Rat, Fishing for Ducks and the Bric-a-Brac stall will, of course, be there too. Live music will be provided by the Tinks and Ball Blues Band outside the Gissing Crown pub where Kevin will be offering a selection of real ales and possibly the odd tot of rum.

Visitors will also find it easier to park this year as the base for the new village car park has now been laid next to the bowling green and church. Car access is from Rectory Road.

So 'heave ho', hoist the Jolly Roger and be sure to be in port in time for the Gissing Fete from 2–5 on Sunday 30th August, at the Old School and on the grounds behind the pub.

### Lottery bid progress

Hopes are high and a lot of fingers are crossed in Gissing this summer as we wait to see whether our bid for substantial funding from the Big Lottery has been successful. Stage 3 of the bid was submitted in June and the outcome should be known by the first half of October this year.

If we get the go-ahead, we can then begin to implement the carefully laid plans for enhancing the facilities at The Old School. Building work could start in May 2016 with completion scheduled for early 2017. There will be a specially designed performance and rehearsal space and a large function room available for community, private and business occasions.

There will also be a simple, part-time café area which will provide an attractive space for people to meet in, whether dropping their little ones off at The Children's Centre in the adjoining part of the building, enjoying some arts and crafts at the monthly Crafter's Café or just stopping off for a chat and a refreshing cup of tea.

A stimulating programme of activities is being

developed to make full use of the new facilities. The Community Arts Group which includes The Community Dance & Theatre Group will run projects and courses for young people in dance, drama and musical theatre and Show Stars will provide arts-related activities for young adults with learning difficulties.



Older people have not been forgotten. An exercise class for the over 65s is on the cards and a series of talks and events which will explore the distinctive historical and ecological features of South Norfolk will be launched under the umbrella of the Claylands Programme. Existing community clubs such as the Gissing Singers and the Gardening and Reading Groups will be able to spread themselves in the more comfortable surroundings of the new building.

Plans of the new building are on display on the notice board near the Gissing Crown; a launch party is planned to really get the show on the road.

### Gissing Youth Group

An important date for your diary if you have youngsters aged 8 to 13 years. We have planned an exciting programme of adventure evenings scheduled to begin in September this year. It is the first of a new initiative to set up various activities/events for young people in the area. Headed up by Heart of Gissing, the sessions will be led by Adam Osborne of Osborne Adventures and the evenings will be held mostly out of doors, near The Old School in Gissing.

Each of the Adam Osborne sessions can only take 10 youngsters, so don't miss out if you would like to take part; early booking is advisable.

Activities will include trebuchet and pioneering challenges, archery, den building, cooking over fires, using air rifles and catapults and tracking. For more information or to book a place, please contact Sarah Willett at [swillett\\_ip22@yahoo.com](mailto:swillett_ip22@yahoo.com) or [admin@heartofgissing.org](mailto:admin@heartofgissing.org)

# SHELFANGER NEWS

## Mrs Joyce Yates

A very large congregation of Shelfangarians, past colleagues, ex-pupils, friends and family attended the funeral and service of reflection for Joyce Yates on 17th June at All Saints' Church.

On retiring to Shelfanger in 2005, Joyce, supported by husband Howard, entered fully into church and community life. Beside countless personal kindnesses, Joyce was Lay Chair of Shelfanger PCC, All Saints' Church organist and governor and church representative at All Saints' School where she taught recorder and assisted widely.

An accomplished pianist and flautist, Joyce organised a series of popular concerts at All Saints' Church in which she used her great love of music to inspire and encourage many friends to take part. She was also a loyal member of the Diss-based Waveney Choir. All that she did was inspired and underpinned by her Christian faith. Her final illness was met with inspirational courage, during which Joyce and Julie Goodwin, Howard and Pip gave each other mutual support. We send our condolences and best wishes to Howard, Rob, Alasdair and the family.

## All Saints' Church

### Attempted robbery

The churchwardens and congregation were greatly dismayed to discover on Friday 19th June that someone had attacked the church donations wall box. In addition to wrecking the lock mechanism, a substantial area of wall was damaged in an attempt to remove the whole box. Such are the perils of maintaining an 'open' church for peace and prayer in today's society. Repairs are nearly complete, the cost of which will greatly exceed the princely sum of £41.71 which the perpetrator failed to steal.

### Shelfanger Parochial Church Council (PCC)

The PCC met for its bi-monthly meeting on 7th July. The meeting began with a minute's silence in memory of Joyce Yates. The matter of the wall box and

other church repairs was discussed as was progress in the application for a grant for building repairs. Peter Harries was proposed as the new Lay Chair of the PCC and was elected unanimously. The council then went on to discuss plans for forthcoming services and church activities starting with the Leavers' Service for All Saints' School on Tuesday 21st July.

### Action this Day

At your church of All Saints' the late summer and early autumn is a busy period. Saturday August 22nd sees the wedding of Carl Churchyard and Pauline Spittles. This is closely followed on Friday 18th September by the wedding of Edward Bailey and Jessica Watkins. These should be two lovely summer occasions and we wish Carl and Pauline and Edward and Jessica all the very best.

On Saturday 12th September the annual Norfolk & Suffolk Church Sponsored Cycle Ride (walk, run or other perambulation) takes place. The funds raised by sponsorship go the upkeep of churches and chapels of all denominations. Fancy having a go? Contact Roger on 01379 642286.

Our Harvest Festival is on Sunday 11th October when the church, decorated in the time-honoured manner, leads our thanks to God for the agricultural year. Do come, and if you would can to bring some garden produce it would be most welcome.

### Shelfanger Grand Fete

As Cock Crow goes to press, preparations for the fete, 18th July, are in full swing. A full report of all the exciting goings-on will appear in our next issue.

### Show time!

The annual Village Produce, Flower, Domestic and Handicraft Show will be held on Saturday 29th August from 2-4 at Shelfanger Village Hall. Schedules are obtainable from Colin Mobbs on 01379 644859. Pot plants or potatoes, gladioli or carrots, knitted jumpers or baked cakes... have a go! It's fun and a visual and tactile feast. The event closes with a grand auction of prize flowers, vegetables and cakes raising funds for the village hall.



### Yard Sale Sunday

20th September

Shelfanger will be holding a Village Yard sale again this year following the success of the two previous sales. Villagers will again be able to clear out items too good to take to the tip but too bulky to take to a car boot sale. Normally up to 20 'yards' have been open and this has attracted large numbers of bargain hunters.

Contact Keith or Vicci Day 01379 643945 for more info or to join the sale this year.

### Allotments

The growing year is coming to fruition. A massive effort of husbandry is about to bear fruit. This has been a hard year. A long dry and cold spell has held growth back. Late May and early June saw many night frosts and potatoes were nipped. In late June and July drying winds and harsh sun sucked up moisture and wonderful methods were used by allotmenters to carry water to their beloved plants. We are about to see what is to be harvested; further reports on the year's results to follow.

### Parish Council

We would like to thank the many residents in the village that cut the grass verges outside their properties. It is particularly helpful where such cutting improves visibility for those exiting driveways onto the highway. The County Council have limited funds for this verge cutting and so we only get the occasional cut. Please be mindful though of the wildlife. Trimming from late July should ensure no harm is done.

Also a reminder to all riparian owners (those whose property is bounded by a water course) to keep their stretch clear as none of us wish to see a repeat of the floods in 2001 which were made worse by the clogged waterway.

We all want Shelfanger to be a place we are proud of living in and everyone's help is appreciated.

### Shelfanger Stitchers

Continues to meet fortnightly where knitting is still proving the most popular pastime amongst the members with some lovely projects in hand. For more information about the group, please phone Helen on 01379 652199.



**Need help with transport?**

**Borderhoppa** is a local Community Transport charity operating in this area.

We can pick you up from your home and take you shopping, to work, to your local job club/job centre or to visit a friend or relative, for appointments at doctors, dentists, hairdressers, vets etc. and take you home again. Maybe you would like to join in with a local community group or go to an event but can't get there and back. Borderhoppa is here to help you make all of your journeys with ease.

We also run members outings to the seaside, gardens, shopping trips, boat trips, pub lunches etc.

Become a member and enjoy all the benefits of our door to door service and join us on our monthly organised outings. (Membership £6 for 6 months or £10 for 12 months and journeys are priced on distance travelled)

### Borderhoppa Outings

#### August

- Thurs 6th Goodies Farm Shop, Pulham & Cherry Lane Garden Centre, Pulham: £7
- Mon 10th Felixstowe: £18
- Mon 17th Fairhaven Water Gardens, nr Acle: £22 (includes entrance fee)
- Sun 23rd Car Boot, Banham: £7
- Thurs 27th Lunch at Chip Inn, Long Stratton: £5 (chips extra)

#### September

- Sat 5th Raveningham Country Fair, nr Beccles: £15 (includes entrance fee)
- Thurs 10th Stowmarket: £12
- Mon 14th Lowestoft: £15
- Mon 21st Lunch at Half Moon, Rushall & visit to Goodies Farm Shop, Pulham: £8 (lunch extra)
- Mon 28th Lunch at Kings Head, North Lopham: £5 (lunch extra)

If you would like to make a booking please call 01379 854800. For more information visit our website: [www.borderhoppa.org](http://www.borderhoppa.org)

## TIVETSHALL NEWS

### St Margaret's Church

#### Flower Festival

A huge thank you to all those that helped make the Flower Festival such a success. Flower arrangers and helpers, cake, produce and flower suppliers, church cleaners, those that gave time and donated money after the event and Lynda Sullivan for doing such a great job with the front cover of Grapevine; your generosity was very much appreciated. We raised a total of £620 which far exceeded our expectations.

### Tivetshall Primary School

Following the May Bank holiday the whole school celebrated Japanese Children's Day. The children enjoyed a variety of craft activities as well as cooking sushi and learning some of the culture of the country. We also welcomed a Japanese teacher into school to teach some Japanese language ahead of a three year project during which our children will be taught Japanese by native speakers, one of very few schools in the country able to offer this.



On the following day Class 1 held an outdoor café when they were joined by family members to enjoy a morning of outdoor activities including den building, nature study and cooking over a camp fire.

The week before half-term was very busy. We held



our annual Teddy Bears' picnic. We welcomed new children who will be joining us in September as well as our whole school and their younger brothers and sisters. It was especially encouraging to see older children playing so well with younger children as well as taking the opportunity to play with sand and dressing up clothes themselves! Later in the week Electrical Safety Day saw the children learning all about this very important topic. Their safety posters were very impressive, as was their recall of facts learned two years previously.

After half-term Class 1 was very busy preparing for the church flower festival. The theme was Nursery Rhymes and our display was about Bobby Shafto.

The following week we held our annual flower arranging competition. The theme this year was 'A Foreign Country' and many children had researched well at home to prepare. The standard was extremely high with Lola as the overall winner with an arrangement about Africa in which she used flowers to create a lion's head. Our solid silver cup was presented, and will be engraved, as it has been since 1950.

The following week Years 5 and 6 set off for Buckinghamshire for the annual residential trip. The children had a wonderful time and the adults accompanying them were pleased with their behaviour.

The week after that was devoted to the Magna Carta on its 800th anniversary. The children experienced a wide range of activities, including learning to cook contemporary food over a campfire and inviting the parents in to join them for a calligraphy session. On Friday, members of staff were surrounded by mini-peasants, knights, barons, ladies and kings as the children dressed the part.

Years 3 and 4 also found time to attend an athletics tournament and Years 4, 5 and 6 went to a rounders tournament.

*Sandra Potter, Head of School*

## WINFARTHING NEWS

### All Saints' Primary School

All Saints' pupils and staff are fast approaching the end of a very busy summer term.

Reception, Year 1 and 2 have enjoyed an educational visit to Redgrave and Lopham Fen where they learnt about the different habitats of various living things.



Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed a sunny day out at the Royal Norfolk Show where learning opportunities included a habitat trail and pond dipping with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

Meanwhile Year 5 and 6 took part in a residential at Kingswood on the North Norfolk Coast. During their visit the weather was extremely kind and children enjoyed zip wire, go-karting, nightline, abseiling and a sunny walk along the coast to get ice-cream.

In addition to this, the school has taken part in a range of sporting fixtures. All Saints held its own, well attended sports morning followed by a picnic lunch, year 1 and 2 took part in the Diss Cluster sports afternoon, year 3 and 4 in Cluster athletics and year 5 and 6 in Cluster kwick cricket and rounders. All Saints' football team are commended for being runners up in the small school league and there is a special mention to Levi Briggs and Ronnie Smith who were recognised as players of the year for their contribution to the football and netball teams.

All Saints' is now focusing on its end of term festivities. Year 6 pupils are currently busy visiting

their High Schools as part of their transition for September and the new intake of 10 pupils in Reception for September have been meeting their class teacher and teaching assistant. Year 6 pupils are practising an end of year production 'I'm a year 6 get me out of here' before taking part in their final end of year service at All Saints' Church, Shelfanger.

All Saints' governors, pupils and staff wish you a wonderful summer.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Norgate, on 01379 642767 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk

We would love to hear from you!

## Fancy a win in Winfarthing?

Have a go at a **Garden Party** at Farthing House (home of David and Yvonne Mitchell opposite the school car park) **Saturday 5th September 2.30pm onwards**

Try archery



croquet, short-mat bowls, tombola (adults and children), bean-bags, kill-the-rat etc.

**Cream teas, sandwiches, cakes**

*Admission Adults £5. Children £2*



All proceeds towards the continuous maintenance of the parish church

# *From the Registers*

## **Bressingham Group**

### BAPTISM

Grace Ellen Tunstall 29th March,  
Bressingham

### FUNERALS

Paul Albert Brooke 18th June,  
Bressingham

Peter Richard John Saunders 18th June  
(burial only), North Lopham

Sheila Anne Curson 24th June,  
Bressingham

Margaret Olive Holding 27th July,  
Bressingham

## **Winfarthing Group**

### CHRISTENING

Luke Martin 3rd May, Winfarthing

### FUNERALS

Lesley Taylor 7th May, Winfarthing

Joyce Yates 17th June, Shelfanger

Ron Leeder 22nd June, Burston

### INTERMENT IF ASHES

Christopher Monument 14th May,  
Tivetshall

### WEDDINGS

Lomas/Leeder 27th June, Tivetshall

Rush/Carlton-Moore 11th July, Gissing

