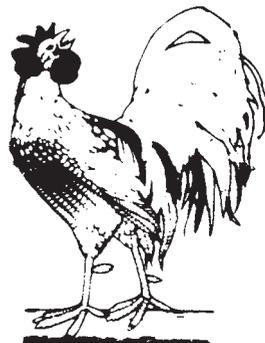


Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014

Issue No: 5



Mr Tom Blake ties a shoaf for Winfarthing Harvest Festival



Editors' Notice Board



East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA) is a 365-day helicopter emergency medical service covering Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

We do not receive any direct Government funding and the £7.6 million we need to raise every year comes directly from charitable donations.

When you think of donating to a charity you probably think of giving money but have you ever thought about giving your time?

Bill Bonar, a former patient and volunteer from Bedfordshire, said: 'It's so rewarding to volunteer for EAAA and to give something back following my ordeal. The fast work of the medical team meant that I was able to get to hospital in the quickest time possible'

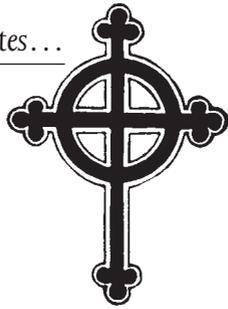
The local people of East Anglia have always been extremely generous to EAAA with their time and money. So if you have some spare time, either regularly or occasionally, come and join our team and help the East Anglian Air Ambulance continue to save lives in your area. There are many opportunities available, working behind the scenes in one of our offices or as a public speaker or event supporter, the choice is yours! We will make sure that you are offered a position which best suits your skills, interests and availability.

Visit our website at www.eaaa.org.uk/support-us/volunteer to find out more or ring Olly Larkin on 01603 489407



Other items
the Editors think
you might like
to know about

Diss Library news	16
Murphy's Rambles	35
Redgrave & Lopham Fen events	26
Riddlesworth Hall Autumn Gift Fayre	33
SNDC Big Switch & Save	10



Some thoughts at Harvest-time

Living in Winfarthing, I am reminded what the time of year is in the farming calendar by looking at the local fields; occasionally the smell also lets me know. It is only when the fields are ready to harvest, when the crops are tightly packed together, that I can see that the farmer has used as much of his land as possible, with no spare capacity. I am not a country person. Caroline, my wife, knows far more than I do. For part of her life she lived in the Wiltshire countryside and has a deep understanding of plants. In fact, it is quite worrying when walking in the countryside with Caroline, for she takes great pleasure in pointing out all the various ways she could easily poison me.

The farmer, with all his knowledge and technical ability has a deep appreciation of exactly what needs to be done at any given moment in time. The more he sows, the greater the income – all things being equal.

At harvest time we sing 'All good things around us are sent from heaven above'. We rightly give thanks for the harvest, but the Harvest that God is also concerned about is US. As it is said during the Holy Communion service 'All good things come from you (God) and of your own, do we give you'. For this reason I find the subject of regular and planned tithing important. It demonstrates one's reliance on God, a thanksgiving for all his love for us in the past, in the present and for the future. It acknowledges one's confidence and dependence upon God's rule and Kingdom. I am very glad that this is voluntary and not obligatory. In Germany where the state takes an extra 10%, there is no similar system. I have witnessed this leading to a lack of human compassion and concern for our neighbours.

'Sparse sowing, sparse reaping; sow bountifully and you will reap bountifully'.
2 Corinthians 9:6-11

Rev David F Mills

BURSTON NEWS

A Sad Goodbye to two villagers

Neville Jude 1939–2014 Neville was born on 16th May at the family home in Great Ellingham. He grew up with his mother Lillian, father Basil, two sisters – June and Ginny and his brother Kevin. He spent many happy times in his local pub (The Crown) and had many friends to whom he was known as 'Boxer' and thoroughly enjoyed fishing.

In 1982 Diane (his wife to be) moved into the village and the house next door. They soon became a couple but often had to meet in the park as Lillian did not approve of Diane because she had three children – Nicolas, Sarah and Heidi. Lillian soon realized that they were very happy together and accepted them as a couple. In 1984 they went on to have a daughter called Amy. They married on 24th June 1989 and Neville worked hard as a sawyer at Clarkes in the local village to provide for the family and, in his spare time, got great enjoyment from making garden furniture and sheds. He was made redundant at the age of sixty but his retirement allowed him to enjoy days out to the coast with Diane.

Ten years ago Neville was taken ill with emphysema and also had an aneurysm which was repaired, but he never fully recovered full health and it was discovered earlier this year that his graft repair had become infected. After spending numerous weeks in hospital he returned home to spend only three days with Diane and his family before he was taken suddenly on June 12th, leaving them heartbroken.

Roger Raymond George Rivett 1962–2014 Roger was born on 2nd November 1962 to proud parents Raymond and Pamela. Roger and the three sisters that joined him, Sarah, Isabel and Teresa were all brought up at Manor Farm here in Burston. Roger went to Burston Primary School before moving to Diss Secondary Modern, as it was then. He liked working on the farm and loved driving tractors when he was old enough. Even when married and with a different career he still liked to help out on the farm.

One day Pam bought him a magazine all about CB Radio. He got bitten by the bug and his room was soon filled with all sorts of kit and electronic components. On leaving school Roger studied electronics at Norwich City College and then moved to Coventry for two years gaining valuable experience working and studying with the general Electric Company. He was then accepted at Hamblins in Diss as a test engineer. He had met Janet at Secondary School and when they met again at Hamblins they soon became an item.

Janet and old school friends Karl Brown and Howard Eden helped Roger to run the 'Solar Disco' which soon became very popular locally and the normally fairly shy Roger was very dynamic behind the controls! Janet and Roger were married on 31st May 1986. Jasmine was their first child, followed by Hannah and then Sally. As his family grew he gave up the disco and became self-employed so he wouldn't miss his beloved girls growing up. Roger had many interests including space and all sorts of vehicles, old and new; the family visited steam rallies but also enjoyed trips to the coast. However he liked to get home to watch 'Neighbours' and followed the plot line for many years. Eventually he worked for Hamblins again but production moved abroad and Roger found himself working for a new company. He then formed his own company, Tech Anglia which was doing well until its progress was halted when Roger was diagnosed with tongue cancer. Throughout the invasive and extensive treatment he remained positive and never complained and didn't want to waste time on being negative. The hospital had the machines and medication set up at home and Janet stood by him every step of the way, cleaning machines and caring for him with love and devotion. Having bravely endured so much illness Roger passed away, peacefully in his sleep, on 19th June surrounded by his loving family.

St Mary's Church

The PCC has been looking at various ideas to improve storage and kitchen facilities in the church. We hope that improvements will be taking place over the next months, which will make the church a better venue for all the groups who use it. Some of the funds for longer term improvements will come from

our grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, but in the short-term we are very grateful to individuals for generous donations of money and time, and to the Friends of Burston Church, for all their fund-raising.

The Friends of Burston Church had a successful Safari Supper again this summer. Everybody tucked into the starters in the garden at Norma and Andrew Ajdukiewicz's – we then 'retreated' to the church for the main course and dessert (the committee put off making a decision about whether we could carry on outside later in the evening; however the weather forecast was so uncertain that we took the cautious view). So many people helped to decorate the church and cooked for the meal – you know who you are – thank you so much for helping to make this another very enjoyable evening.



The next Friends event is our annual fish and chips quiz supper on Friday 17th October. Why not get a team of eight together, or come along and join up with some others? This event is always very popular, so please book your tickets early – either ring Anne Hyde on 07733 182 525 or Len Hobson on 741033.

Rachel Hobson

4th August Remembrance Day

There was a very pleasing response on this day when candles were lit in the church in memory of loved ones who did not return from the front in World War 1. Please note that we will honour the fallen again on Sunday 9th November with a short act of remembrance and wreath-laying, in the Church at 8am.

Churchyard Maintenance

We are grateful to all those who keep the Churchyard tidy. However a little more help would be welcome. If anyone has time to help keep the gravel free of weeds please contact Dorothy Swanton on 01379 741577.

Gift Day

Thanks to those who brought gifts to the Church in response to the gift day invitation when the sum of £325 was raised. Sincere thanks to those who continue to support the Church through standing orders – so vital to the ongoing life of the Church.

Dorothy's Ladies' Luncheon

On 2nd August Dorothy Swanton organized a ladies' luncheon in aid of the Burston Youth Café. Professional artist, Rebecca Lyne spoke and demonstrated portraiture. It was a very successful event, raising £300. Thank you to caterer Julie Botwright, ably assisted by Rueben and Michelle.

Burston 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.

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.

Church Hire

If you are interested in hiring St Mary's Church for please contact Anne Hyde on 07733 182525. Tables, chairs and tableware are available for hire.

A buffet can also be provided.

Burston Chapel

Services: Sunday 11am and 6.30pm

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

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

Information Please

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

Community Primary School

Firstly, we are thrilled to welcome back Mrs Kerr. She will be teaching Reception and Year 1 children

in the mornings and is really looking forward to meeting her new class. We also welcome our new Reception children; Cain, Biddy, Paige, Lumi, Rhys, Pippa and Michael.

Class 1 will be developing pupil knowledge and skills through contextualised learning. Our topic for the first half of term will be 'Down at the bottom of the garden'.

Our reception work will follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, while Year 1 will follow the new KS1 National Curriculum.

In literacy, pupils will continue developing their early reading and writing skills through topic based activities. Phonics will take place daily and year 1 pupils will have weekly spellings.

In maths our focus will be on number skills; including estimation, counting, ordering, addition and subtraction. We will also investigate shape, measure, time and symmetry through a range of practical activities. Emphasis will be placed on using maths in real-life situations and developing problem solving skills.

Class 2 In Literacy we are going to be exploring the same topic whilst looking at shape poems, stories with familiar settings and instructional texts.

In maths we will continue to have daily mental maths sessions which will culminate each Friday with our 'Big Maths' challenges. RE will be based on the celebration of Harvest. We will look at how Christian people celebrate Harvest and we will also look at the Jewish celebration of Sukkot.

Class 3 are going to be starting the year looking at Extreme Earth. This is going to focus on tornadoes, volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and other extreme weathers that happen around the globe.

Our science topic this half term is evolution and inheritance. We are going to be looking at fossils and how scientists have found out a lot about humans in the past from these.

Year 3 to 6 children will be swimming every Wednesday afternoons at Diss pool.



St Mary's church will hold its annual remembrance service on Sunday 9th November. There will be a commemorative ceremony at the war memorial at 10.50am, followed by a service in the Church, with refreshments in the Kemp Chapel afterwards. While Remembrance Sunday is always an important event for the church, the village and the country, the next few years will be especially meaningful as we commemorate the centenary of the Great War. We hope as many people as possible will join us to mark the memory of those who served and those who died to make a better world for all of us.

Friends of Gissing Church

Following our unsuccessful lottery bid we are now preparing to have another attempt and the summer has been filled with meetings with architects, church ambassadors and colleagues from other churches who have successfully navigated the process. With the extra help we hope a second bid may prove more fruitful but take nothing for granted. As a result of the deteriorating condition of the building, it is now on the English Heritage 'at risk register'.

With the pending repairs in mind it is important that fund raising continues apace. The Friends had a very successful stall at the Gissing fete. The weather was kind and we raised over £300. In particular our thanks go to Pat who once again donated her time and a selection of her fine pottery, raising almost half the total on her own.

We have a fundraiser on the 19th of October when Moira is once again doing afternoon teas. In addition to tea and cake, there will be some selected craft stalls and a raffle. This event is also in the village hall and runs from 2 until 5pm.

Daniel Willett has been commissioned to build a disabled access ramp in the church this autumn so hopefully we will make some progress on this matter shortly.

Once again we are grateful for all of the support that we get from Gissing and the surroundings areas – if you would like to help please contact FoGC Chair Fiona Turton at fionaturton@btinternet.com.

Heart of Gissing

Please visit the website at www.heartofgissing.org.uk for up to date information about groups, events and what is happening in the village. In addition, you can google 'Gissing Village Life' and find us, and 'like' us on Facebook. We extend a massive 'thank you' to everyone who helped both with preparations and on the day, to make this year's Wizard of Oz themed summer fete such a success. People came from far and wide for this traditional village event.

Forthcoming fundraising events include:

The St Nicholas Fayre Saturday 6th December from 3pm to 7pm; this seasonally magical event provides a great opportunity to buy interesting Christmas gifts and homemade produce in a lovely setting. There will be an even wider range of stalls to choose from than last year, with entertainment and refreshments available, Father Christmas and his helpers will be there to receive Christmas wish lists. For more information please contact Kelly Pitcher Tel 01379 674511 or email kelpitcher@aol.com. We look forward to seeing you there.

Groups running at present include

South Norfolk Time and Place a series of talks at Gissing Village Hall. For further information, please contact Kate Heath of 01379 677504 or email: admin@heartofgissing.org.uk.

Heart of Gissing Crafter's Cafe meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 10–1 at the Village Hall. The session costs £3 and includes materials and refreshments

Workshop Programme Oct 14th: Handmade Christmas. Share ideas for Christmas crafts.

Nov 11th Upcycling/recycling. Bring along an old garment, some threads, trims, fabric scraps and your sewing kit. See what you can do to give the garment a new lease of life.

For further details telephone: Anne Reynolds 01379 674272 or Kate Heath 01379 677504

Gissing Children's Centre (Pre-School and Playscheme) Contact Linda Nash as below.

Gissing Baby and Toddler Group in Gissing Village

Hall, every Monday from 10–12. All parents, carers and their children (under school age) are welcome to come and chat while the children have fun. The group includes a designated safe 'baby area' within the main play area. For general information about the group, contact Vicky on 01379 674437 or 07946 212779 or email at vhcullum@hotmail.com.

Gissing Youth Club; anyone interested in running this group, please contact Bernie on 07796 545929 or 01379 677254 or email at bernicalton@live.co.uk

Gissing Reading Group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 8 pm at the Old School. For further information about the group, contact Jim Philip on 01379 677352 or just come along.

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

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

Pilates continues every Wednesday evening from 6.30pm at the Children's Centre (the Old School). Call Sharon Calton on 07979 411644 or email sharon@scalton.orangehome.co.uk for details.

Performing Arts East offers ballet, tap, and contemporary dance classes to children (from 3 years of age) and adults and runs from both the Children's Centre (the Old School) and from Gissing village hall. For further details, please contact Sam as below.

Weekly Musical Theatre Class; classes run every Wednesday from 5 pm at Gissing Village Hall for anyone over 7 years of age. The class includes singing, dancing and acting, working on scripts from popular musicals. The group then does recitals for family at the end of term. Contact Sam on 07825 325100 or by email at samiwatt@rocketmail.com

Heart of Gissing Community Arts Group. Any queries regarding this group can be directed to Rose

Eddington on 01379 677790 or email at rose@roseeddington.co.uk.

Stage HOGers puts on performances from time to time. Anyone interested in treading the boards, please contact Sam on 07825 325100 or email at samiwatt@rocketmail.com for further information.

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

Gissing Carpet Bowls: contact 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 bernicalton@live.co.uk.

Bookings to use The Old School: contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9–3 Monday to Friday during term time) or 07796 204367 out of hours or email lindamarynash@yahoo.co.uk

Gissing Children's Centre

The Witchy Wodland Fayre Please come and join us at The Old School on Saturday, 18th October for an afternoon of magical craft activities including wand making, spooky potion concoctions and making your own witch or wizards hat. You can go for a walk through our enchanted wood and if you search hard enough you may find a real life Wizard busy at work. The event is open from 2.30–5.30pm and a delicious selection of cakes and tea time treats will be available to purchase. Dressing up optional. £5 per child, no booking necessary.

Our popular and successful 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 12–3pm. Any families wishing to bring their children to have a look, are welcome to contact Linda Nash on 01379 677300 (9–3 during term time) or 07796 204367 (out of hours) or to send enquiries to preschool@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk to arrange a visit at a time of your choice.

Visit our website www.gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk and our facebook page to see what we have been up to.

Our autumn playscheme for primary school children will run on Friday 31st October from 9–3.30. The cost is £15 per child. Places are bookable and payable in advance, by ringing 07531 810704 or by emailing: playscheme@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk Children will need to bring a packed lunch and some money for tuck. A wide range of autumn and hallowe'en themed crafts, cookery and other workshops as well as various play opportunities, both indoors and outside, will be on offer.

South Norfolk Council
is working with other
local Councils to
help you to
save money on your
energy bills



Just register for free with no obligation and we'll help find you a great deal. We'll tell you how much you could save and you then decide whether to make the final switch.

In the last round of the scheme the average saving was £111

It's free, it's simple and there's no hassle.

The easiest way to register is online at www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk, you will need an annual statement or your latest energy bill.

You can register up to 5 people with one email address, so you can help your friends and relatives to register.

If you don't have the internet you can call South Norfolk Council's energy team on 01603 430627 and we can help you sign up.

Closing date for registering is 13th October.

Use 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 or you can call the energy team on 01603 430627.

SHELFANGER NEWS

A letter from Frank and Sue Paice

Dear Winfarthing benefice friends – We wondered whether anyone might be interested in an update, more than a year since our last service at Shelfanger. We spent those 12 months worshipping in a number of different churches around the city, and this was a real blessing to us. We found a lovely welcome wherever we went (Anglican, Baptist and Methodist). In the end, we have very happily decided to join the electoral roll at Norwich Cathedral and to become 'regulars' at 10.30 am Eucharist, with plans to become involved in a variety of other ways. We love the sense there of profound worship, of a measured balance between sound and silence, of the focus on Scripture and of the warmth of fellowship within the cathedral's community (and cycling to church!). Meanwhile, Frank is considering a request to take on a voluntary Diocesan role; Sue is enjoying supply teaching (four days a week in an inner-city primary last term) and Frank his supervision and counselling. Friends are always welcome at '13', but please do text, ring or email first! (see Frank's box ad page 4 for number and address).

With warmest good wishes – Frank and Sue

All Saints' Church

Our church at Shelfanger continues to provide the pattern of services in which Morning Worship occurs at 11am on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, 8am Holy Communion on the 3rd Sunday and a regular short weekly morning prayer every Friday at 9.15am. You are most welcome at any of these services, the regular worshippers would love to see you; indeed we need the infusion of your support. If you have thought of coming but hesitated, or would like to help on a practical level, hesitate no longer, come along or see Wardens Peter or Roger.

Visitors

Standing in its peaceful setting your church receives a steady stream of visitors from all corners, includ-

ing recently Scotland, Holland and Ireland. One entry in the All Saints' visitors' book is interesting. It goes as follows: 'May our Father bless all who work here, kneel here, serve here, wait here and sing here with all his love, peace and protection.' The writer was reminded by the children of All Saints' School's display on the theme 'Trust' of a verse for this parish: 'Go in the strength you have, the Lord is with you' from the Book of Judges.

WW1 Commemoration

On Monday 4th August we marked the Centenary of the Declaration of War in 1914 and honoured those from Shelfanger who gave their lives in that conflict. A large congregation gathered at the tower memorial and after in the church for vigil and prayer.

Harvest Festival

Shelfanger Harvest Festival will be at 11am on Sunday 5th October. We hope the church will again be richly decorated. Do come and worship the Lord and give thanks for his bounty at this grand rural service, especially if you garden or farm in the parish. Locally grown produce given to decorate the church and glorify God will be sold at the Shelfanger Bus Shelter at 2pm on Monday 6th October, the proceeds going to the Christian work of the Church.



Church Kneelers

Over the last 15 years, keen village embroiderers and stitchers have been working away at creating a complete collection of cross-stitch kneelers. This work is now virtually finished. Two kneelers presently in process will complete the whole set. Warden Peter Harries suggested that the kneelers might be set up on pew bookstands and the total effect of colour and images linked upon a blue background has made a major impact and many have commented on this fascinating feast of colour and imagery. Why not pop into the church and have a look?

Gift Day

The Annual Church Gift Day will take place on Saturday 1st November, marking as usual the patronal

festival weekend of All Saints. Leaflets and envelopes will be circulated at the end of October. Please consider making a donation. Monies gifted will be used to keep the church building in good order, cover insurance and promote Christian work in the local area and diocese.

Personalia

The death of Mrs Elizabeth (Betty) Chiles has occurred in her Bungay nursing home. This is deeply saddening news to the Parish of Shelfanger and to many in the area.

With her second husband David and latterly her daughter Christina and son William she ran the plastic moulding company, K & C Mouldings, at Spa House. Betty and David were most generous supporters both practically and financially of the church, parish council, village hall, the 'Shels' Football Club and much, much more. Betty's kindness and assistance given to many away from the public gaze will be long remembered. Our condolences go to Christina, William and all the family.

Finally, there are many Shelfanger residents presently unwell. We send them all our best thoughts and they are all remembered each day in their Church of All Saints.

Village Hall

Well, the Grand Village Fete on 19th July was a truly roaring success. The massive sum of £2,100 was raised, an all-time record. A further £1,000 was taken on the bar. These monies will be wisely spent on running and up-rating the hall, playing field and social club. (Insurance alone is £1,000 per year).

On a lovely hot afternoon, wellies were wanged, burgers and teas consumed, skittles scuttled, coconuts shied at, bowls bowled, the lucky dip dipped and, to the pleasure of all, children from All Saints' School performed delightful musical items and were a show 'hit'. Too many people were involved to mention individually – thanks to all who helped in any way under the inspired leadership of Tig and Jane Ross.

Flower, Vegetable and Handicraft Show

This annual event held on 23rd August was another special village occasion and, perhaps because of a

rather better gardening year, plants and produce were of a high quality. Cup winners were as follows: Chiles Cup, Ivan Cotton; Colin Mobbs Cup, Tom Blake; Hammond Family Cup, Tom Blake; E L Limmer Cup- Jean Challoner; Olive Chinner Cup, Gwen Mobbs; Freda Stevenson Cup, Sue Palmer; Playing Field Cup, Sue Palmer; Thomas Blake Shield, Ivan Cotton.

Thank you to Colin Mobbs for his superb organisation and to his assistants, Malcolm Barnard and John Kemp. The auction of produce at the show raised just over £100 for show expenses.



Football

Has now resumed on Sunday mornings. Winfarthing FC plays home fixtures at 10.30am on the Shelfanger pitch and greatly welcome support for their Norwich & District League matches.

Picnic event held on 6th September 2014

This was the third year that The Friends of Boyland Common have held this event – a chance for the parishioners of Shelfanger and Bressingham to get together and enjoy the beauty and tranquillity of the newly re-generating Common.

Around 50 people dropped in to enjoy their picnic lunches in pleasant company and lovely surroundings. There was a chance to enjoy a game of Boules or Quoits, or use one of the identification sheets and learn a little more about the plants and flowers that can be found on the Common in September. There was also a chance to make a corn dolly, ably demonstrated and instructed by Jen Read and Jean, and to have a go at preparing and spinning wool on a spinning wheel.

At 2pm, thanks to a grant from a South Norfolk community project fund, the 'Out on a Wing' Falconry flew beautiful birds of prey over the Common, a perfect setting for such a demonstration.

Thank you to all those who came and helped to make the event successful.

Pam Ross, Chairman

TIVETSHALL NEWS

St Margaret

Harvest Festival will be celebrated on Sunday 12th October at 11am. Please leave any donations of produce or flowers in the church at any time on Friday or Saturday morning. Alternatively, please feel free to decorate a window yourself. The produce will be sold at the end of the service and proceeds will be sent to Tear Fund.

St Mary

A Remembrance Day will be held at 10.50am on Tuesday November 11th. Traditionally, this is well attended and we look forward to seeing many of you there again this year.

We do hope that riders have taken note and refrained from riding horses through St Mary's churchyard. This is consecrated ground where several of the more modern graves are still tended by family members.

Thank you to all that have voluntarily given your time to keep the churchyard so well cared-for.

Primary School

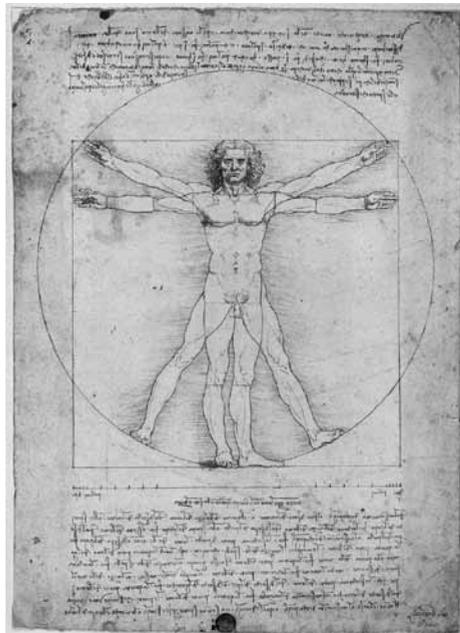
We began July with our partnership Sports Day under a hot sun! The children took part in a carousel of activities. Well done to winning team – Whites.

The weather was not so hot for our day of Forest Schools activities in Tyrells Wood but the day was greatly enjoyed by all. The main activity was den building. Dens were tested for their water-proof qualities with the aid of a watering can and willing volunteers; we are happy to say that no child got wet.

The children have been presented with mugs to commemorate the Burston Strike School centenary and their part in the re-enactment of the Candlestick Walk and Mrs Blows came from Diss Library to remind us about the summer reading challenge.

Our activity week this year had a theme of art, so we began with a trip to Norwich Castle Museum for two art workshops on the themes of Birds and Fossils. We also took the opportunity to look around the natural history displays and current exhibitions. We were joined by our new intake, all looking

very smart in their school uniforms and very well-behaved. Everybody made some very colourful bird sculptures and realistic clay bird 'fossils' to be displayed in the school art gallery.



Vitruvian Man Leonardo da Vinci

The week continued with in-school art activities which included studies of Van Gogh, Leonardo da Vinci, Picasso and aboriginal art. We also designed and made costumes for Gadget Woman and made mosaic tiles which were very impressive. All of our work was presented in Tivetshall Art Gallery. This was opened with a ribbon cutting by Year 6s Holly and Harriet and included 'champagne' and canapés and opportunities to practise art appreciation. Parents enjoyed the opportunity to view the work.

We enjoyed the leavers' lunch during the week when Mrs Brown, Harriet and Holly cooked for 45 people and did a wonderful job. The food was delicious – especially the chocolate cake and ice-cream.

The week concluded with our overnight camp with the school field covered with tents and families staying up round the campfire well into the night. This is always a very successful and fun evening. Even the thunder, lightning and torrential rain during the night failed to dampen anyone's enthusiasm!

Sandra Potter, Senior Teacher

WINFARTHING NEWS

Village Hall

The latest stage of refurbishment of the Village Hall is now complete, with new stage curtains and fire doors, so come and help us celebrate at two evenings of entertainment planned for the Autumn.

On October 4th we have an evening of Norfolk entertainment with Pat Nearney and Danny Platton. These two good ol' Norfolk boys will keep everyone laughing with jokes, anecdotes, poems and songs from their 'Pig in a wheelbarrow' tour. Check their website to see great reviews. Tickets £6.50 including light refreshments and can be booked on 01379 643718 or 650048. Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm. There will be a bar for wines, beer and soft drinks.

The popular quiz night is on 14 November with questions to suit all, great prizes and delicious casseroles. Bring your own drinks and glasses. Doors will open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. Come as a team of 6 or join others when you arrive. Tickets are £6.50 and tables can be booked on 01379 643718 or 650048.

All Saints' Primary School

Pupils and staff are thrilled to be back and are already enjoying the autumn term. After saying goodbye to last year's year-six pupils in a special service in the Church, they were presented with bibles, commemorative mugs and personal portraits. We now welcome ten new reception pupils.

All Saints' reflects on its success of the summer term. Pupils achieved outstanding results at the end of Key Stage Two in their national tests, and All Saints' hosted a phenomenal partnership production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in its new hall.

We now look forward to exciting opportunities ahead. These include Experience Harvest, Harvest Festival, book week, educational visits to Grimes Graves and Strangers Hall and sporting events.

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 643767 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

Louise Norgate, Executive Head Teacher

Diss Library News



Clubs

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.

Online Databases

All Norfolk libraries have free access to a range of online resources including Which? and the family history website Ancestry via our library computers. Keen family history researchers will be pleased to know that Ancestry now has the 1911 census returns for Norfolk online, and that they can use the complete Ancestry database for free at all of our libraries.

We are particularly promoting databases to support new businesses; the first of these is the Complete Business Reference Adviser (COBRA) which compiles guides, reports and factsheets about sectors which are of interest to start-ups, small businesses and the self-employed. If you want to see how COBRA works or find out what support is on offer, come along to 'Enterprise at Your Library; Find Out' event on Tuesday November 4th at 3.30–5pm

Armistice Day

On Tuesday November 11th 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.

Regular Events

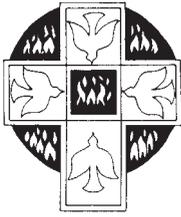
Baby Bounce & Rhyme time has started again after the summer break, so come along on Fridays at 10.30am; new faces are assured of a welcome.

We also run a Knit & Natter session on Wednesday afternoons and two library book groups including one for people with a visual impairment.

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. For mobile library dates and details call 01603 222267 or follow the links to mobile libraries on our website

Opening Hours

Monday, Thursday, Friday: 9–5
Tuesday, Saturday: 9–1
Wednesday: 9–1; 2–7.30.



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 www.dissteamministry.org.uk

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 5	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
October 12	8.00 HC	(join Tivetshall)	11.00 MW	11.00 H	9.30 MP
October 19	10.30 HC**				10.00 VC
October 26	3.00 Taize	(join Tivetshall)	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	9.30 HC
November 2	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
November 9	8.00 R	10.50 R	11.00 R	10.40 R	9.30 R
November 11				10.50 R St Mary's ruin	
November 16	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
November 23	3.00 EP	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	(join Gissing)	9.30 HC
November 30		10.30 5/P			
December 7	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP

FS/Chp Family Service at Chapel | MW Morning Worship | FS Family Service | HC Holy Communion | 4SS Fourth Sunday Service | MP Morning Prayer | 5/P 5 Parish Service | VC Village Church | MS Morning Service | R Remembrance | ** Archdeacon's Visitation

THE COCK CROW TEAM & CORRESPONDENTS

EDITORS

Winfarthing Group: Vivienne Wheeler,
Jacks Barn, Common Road, Shelfanger IP22 2DR
01379 642622 viviennewheeler@gmail.com

Bressingham Group: Tim Colyer, 'Bermick', Tanns Lane, North Lopham, IP22 2LZ
01379 687718 timcolyer@yahoo.co.uk

SECRETARY

Jennie Vere, Southlands, Church Corner, North Lopham, Diss, Norfolk.
01379 687679 jennyvere@btinternet.com

TREASURER Cheques payable to 'Cock Crow Committee' please
Mrs Alison Bannon, 4 Millway Avenue, Roydon, Diss IP22 4QL
01379 652093 ajbannon@btinternet.com

ADVERTISING CO-ORDINATOR

Lynda Sullivan, Rosario Cottage, Rectory Road, Tivetshall St Mary NR15 2AL 01379 676713
copyforcrow@keme.co.uk Further details page 36

CORRESPONDENTS

BRESSINGHAM Diana Burroughes, Burwood, Wilney Green, Bressingham IP22 2AJ
01379 688291 dianajb@btconnect.com

BURSTON Elizabeth Mceniff, Orchard House, Crown Green, Burston, IP22 5TZ
01379 742583 elizabeth.mceniff@yahoo.co.uk

FERSFIELD Richard Hewitt, The Cottage, The Common, Fersfield IP22 2BP 01379 687355 rjhewitt@hotmail.co.uk

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

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

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

SHELFANGER Roger Challoner, Old Post Office, Church Road, Shelfanger IP22 2DG,
01379 642286 opoc@electramail.co.uk

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

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 5th Oct Trinity 16	No Service	4pm Harvest S	9.30am HC	11am FS
Sun 12th Oct Trinity 17	9.30am HC	No Service	11am Harvest FS	4pm Harvest MPW
Sun 19th Oct Trinity 18	4pm Harvest	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 26th Oct Trinity 19	10.30am with Methodists	9.30am HC	11am FS	4pm ES
<i>Please check arrangements for November; some of the services are provisional</i>				
Sun 2nd Nov Trinity 20	No Service	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS
Sun 9th Nov Trinity 21	11.55am Remembrance War Memorial	3pm Remembrance	11am Remembrance FS	10am Remembrance War Memorial
Sun 16th Nov Trinity 22	11am Morning Serv.	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 23rd Nov Christ the King	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	9.30am Morning Serv.
Sun 30th Nov Advent Sunday	10.30am Communion for fifth (Advent) Sunday at Diss Church			
	-	-	3-4pm Crib Festival Ends Posada Starts	-
Sunday 7th Dec Advent 2	No Service	No Service	9.30am HC	11am Toy 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 some 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

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 D Huggins 01379 687201 J Brundell



Humanity in the Modern Age

Hello Everyone,

How do you get on with e-mail? Do you love it – convenient, travel-free, instant; or hate it – inescapable, intrusive, non-selective? Yes, you can fire off a last-minute e-mail and transfer responsibility for something to another person; you can communicate with a distant relative. Or you can be the recipient: summoned to a meeting you would rather miss or be sent a false or spiteful message.

Much of our modern life contains two-sided (or more) issues, whether personal, domestic or communal. Help or hindrance, beneficial or public nuisance, reassuring or a cause of anxiety – and that’s just the mobile phone! The pace of development will probably amplify these issues, so how do we set about achieving some sort of balance?

One uplifting and precious thing I notice is the increasing value being put on our need for our fellow human beings (we really do matter to each other) and on our community life. In a rural setting like ours, we are starting to feel the effects of closing down the places where people may meet, share experiences, happiness, concerns ...and be accepted as themselves. The computer will not replace the closed post-office, the 24/7 supermarket the village pub, the mobile ‘phone the village hall.

We may be waking up – beginning to realise the difference between value, and that great impostor, cost. If we can begin to do that together, then we can explore new ways to provide support and encourage innovation and utilisation of resources for a variety of purposes – put expensive churches at the heart of community within our minster model, for instance. Join up our thinking, even! We’ll need to plan, to accept development, not to put ourselves first. Can we put aside our innate critical nature and really tackle the issues we face on ‘this ambiguous earth’?

Richard

TEAM MINISTRY PAGE

Team Vicar

The very good news is that the Revd Wendy Evans has been appointed as 0.6 of full time Team Vicar. She will have incumbent status and will work alongside Canon Tony Billett – they will decide together how to divide their responsibilities.

Wendy Evans comes to us from Oulton Broad, and knows South Norfolk well. She will be Licensed and Installed in Diss Church on Thursday 6th November at 7.30pm, at a service to which people from all six parishes are warmly invited. She will be formally introduced in the other churches over the following few days.

We all wish her well, and look forward to meeting her and husband Neil.

Cock Crow Treasurer

Following Marie Hewitt’s move to Norway, we have been very fortunate to secure the services of Alison Bannon as Treasurer of the magazine, and look forward to working with her on the Management Committee. (She has worked professionally with Marie, so the handover has been very easy). Her details are printed in the centre pages, so please make sure cheques go to her address.



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

Church News

When I think about the late Jackie Kennedy I always remember the beautiful smile she greeted everyone with. On the day of her funeral, 21st July, the weather also smiled on her as it was hot and very sunny. A packed church assembled for the funeral service which was taken by the Rev’d Canon Tony Billett. Jackie had outlived her predicted 6 months by three years and in that time she completed many of the things on her ‘bucket list’. Her last wish was to be taken to church in a horse drawn hearse. This was truly memorable. The horses made friends with everyone, including children who were present at the service with their parents, having been some of the many children Jackie looked after before and after school.

I would like to thank Billy, Derek, John and Robert who always come up trumps when it comes to making sure all the grass is cut on these special occasions. Also thanks to Brad for looking after the traffic. It makes such a difference to the church when we know we can rely on this help.



After 18 years working part time at the Village Shop, Sarah Dungar has decided to retire due to increased commitment to the village school. Sarah started working there when Peter and Pam had the shop, and went on to work for Allan and Jackie, Ray and Chris, and latterly Charlie. We will all miss you Sarah, thank you for looking after us all these years.

The Harvest Festival Service will be held in church on Sunday October 19th at 4pm. I do hope we will see you there. Please support this very important service.

Harvest Supper is being shared with Fersfield as usual. This year it will be held in Fersfield Church after their Harvest Festival on Sunday 5th

October. The service is at 4pm and the supper starts at 5.30pm. Tickets from Bressingham Shop and me 01379 688291. At the time of going to press I think they will be about £7. Please bring your own drink to enjoy with this two course meal.

Talking of important services, the Remembrance Day Service will be held at the War Memorial on Sunday 9th November at 11.55am. It will be conducted by Rev'd Canon Tony Billett assisted by our new Vicar Rev'd Wendy Evans. This will be Wendy's first visit to Bressingham as she is being inducted as part time Vicar on Thursday 6th November.



We have every hope that the roof of the church porch will be repaired and lead that was stolen replaced with zinc before the end of the year. The money we have raised will only do this part of the work required, but it is the most important part. Zinc has been chosen as it is not so likely to be stolen.

Ideas please!

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council plan to support a year of community events to commemorate life in the villages during World War One. We invite your ideas and involvement. Please contact 07925 389643 or 01379 687729.

St John the Baptist, Bressingham: Plans are afoot for community events commemorating Church and agricultural life one hundred years ago. We welcome ideas and participation. Please contact Leonora Pearce (Tel: 688400) or Linda Holly (Tel: 687729).

Diana

Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council

Mrs Pearce Chaired the September meeting, 5 Councillors CC Spratt and SNDC Weeks were

present. Councillor Spratt said that although there were still some problems with the roads overall they were much improved after the recent works but he was concerned that gritting routes might be cut in winter. Commenting on the structural problems at the Village Hall he said that SNDC should be able to help towards the cost.

Mr Weeks said that from 1st October more items can be re-cycled – plastic food pots, trays and cartons also bottles and jars. He stressed the need to rinse the items of food residue as clean recycling cuts down contamination and achieves a better price.

A Parish Council vacancy had arisen, after nomination Alison Lawson was unanimously elected.

Two letters had been received – one concerned with farm traffic speeding and the other with low water pressure at times, particularly in Fersfield.

The planning application regarding the Chequers in Bressingham is to be discussed by SNDC on September 17th.

A donation to the Suffolk Air Rescue Service was agreed, also to help to provide accommodation at Cambridge for families of children needing periods in hospital.

The Parish Tidy group reported on their work-cleaning the village signs and around the church and suggested a bench seat by the War Memorial. They would appreciate more volunteers.

It was suggested there should be events in 2015 to commemorate the anniversary of WWI which would involve the Church, Village Hall and School

The Harvest Supper will be held in Fersfield Church on Sunday 5th October at 5.30 after a service there at 4pm.

Bressingham and District Ladies Club

After a summer of glorious weather spent out and about in the sunshine, it will soon be time to get back to 'normal' again! As ever, our programme secretaries have been busy putting together a varied and interesting programme to take us through the following year.

On Monday, 20th October, Ben Potterton, local plantsman and bird/animal conservationist with a very lively sense of humour, will be talking on 'Fowl Night, Fowl Day'.

On a similar theme but on a grander scale, on 17th

November Tom Proctor will be speaking to us about Elephant Conservation.

During November we will be going out for the club's pre-Christmas meal which is always an enjoyable get-together for members and partners.

I hesitate to mention Christmas, but on 15th December, Simon White from Peter Beales roses will be giving a seasonal wreath making demonstration, and there are bound to be mince pies and mulled wine as is our tradition.

The club meets on the third Monday of the month, 7.30pm at Bressingham Village Hall.

If you would like to come along as a visitor you will be most welcome (cost £3 to include refreshments). For any further details please call Sue (secretary) on 01379 687541.

Bressingham and Fersfield Harvest Supper

The parishes of St John, Bressingham and St Andrew, Fersfield, will be holding their joint Harvest Supper on Sunday 5th October at 5.30pm at St Andrew's Church, Fersfield. (Fersfield's Harvest Festival service is in the church at 4pm.) Tickets, obtainable from Bressingham Village Shop or by phoning 687711/687355 are £7. Please bring your own drinks. Please notify us by 'phone as above if there are dietary requirements.

There will be a meeting in Fersfield Church for all those willing to help with this event on Tuesday 23rd September at 6.30pm.



It's been a busy summer at St Andrew's. In addition to our programmed services, we have had baptisms and weddings; occasions on which the church has been full to overflowing – even with extra seating. The church has looked truly magnificent for all the functions and so a huge 'thank-you' to all those who care for St Andrew's and create the floral arrangements. We also attempt to make the building as attractive and comfortable as possible for the community-use events that now take place here.

The three-phase electricity supply system is now in place – UK Power Networks and E-on were incredibly helpful, along with our contractors from Scole Electrical, who are now preparing to install the heating system. We are going through the process of the second stage of the faculty process; this can be quite a lengthy business, and we plan to put in some temporary heaters before the final work is done.

We have a busy programme of church and community use of the church over the next few months, and want to keep everyone warm – a welcome departure from St Andrew tradition!

Looking forward, after the Harvest festivities we will be holding the installation events for our new Team Vicar, Wendy Evans. After the Installation at St Mary's, Diss, on Thursday 6 November, there will be services of welcome in each of the Country Parish Churches, that for Fersfield being on Saturday 8th November at 10.30am. Everyone is very welcome and we hope to see you.

Then we shall hold our annual Remembrance Sunday service – at 3pm on Remembrance Sunday, 9th November. This is always a moving and poignant occasion, with the dusk beginning to fall and the crows calling from the Rectory treetops. It is a special time to honour the sacrifice of those young men who gave their lives in the course of the Great War.

In the later Autumn, the new pattern of team worship will be implemented – St Andrew's services will take place at 9.30am on Sunday mornings. Please do look carefully at the worship rotas as we get used to the new arrangements.

Looking forward to Christmas, we can issue an early reminder that we shall hold our traditional

annual Carol Service possibly on an evening at the beginning of Christmas week. Final Ministry Team arrangements are yet to be made and the dates will be confirmed later.

Finally, may I remind you that St Andrew's has a Facebook Page: take a look to see excellent photos of some of the summer events: (www.facebook.com/fersfieldchurch).
Richard

Events at Redgrave & Lopham Fen



Saturday 4 October, 10.30am–1pm
Guided fen walk Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with naturalist John Hill. £3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Sunday 19 October, 10.30am–3pm
Apple Day & Autumn Fair Fruit identification, plant and craft stalls, free family games, recipe swap, refreshments. Adult £3, child £2
No booking required 01379 688333

Tuesday 28 October, 10am–2pm
Hedgehog activity day
Activities, crafts and games to find out about these prickly creatures. For 6–10 year olds £6 each or 2 siblings for £10. Booking essential 01379 688333



Wednesday 29 October, 2pm–4pm
Animal hibernation family afternoon Activities to discover who sleeps through winter. £2.50 per person. Booking essential 01379 688333

Thursday 30 October, 6.30pm–8.30pm
Wild night out family evening Make a lantern and explore the Fen at night. £2.50 per person. Booking essential 01379 688333

Tuesday 23 December, 10am–2pm
Festive fun at the Fen activity day Activities, games, crafts. For 6–10 year olds. £6 each or 2 siblings for £10. Booking essential 01379 688333

Wildlife Watch Group

Saturdays: 11 Oct, 8 Nov, 13 Dec, 10.30am–12.30pm A club for 6–12yr olds, £1
Contact Mike Wraight 01379 644508

LOPHAMS NEWS

St Andrew's Primary School

St Andrew's pupils and staff are thrilled to be back after their summer break and are already enjoying the autumn term. After saying goodbye to last year's year six pupils in a special service in the Church, where year 6 were presented with bibles and commemorative mugs, St Andrew's now welcomes six new reception pupils and three Key Stage two students.

St Andrew's reflects on its success of the summer term. Pupils achieved fantastic results at the end of Key Stage Two in their national tests, and St Andrew's pupils took part in a phenomenal partnership production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

St Andrew's now looks forward to exciting opportunities in the term ahead. These include Experience Harvest, Harvest Festival, book week, educational visits to Grimes Graves and Strangers Hall 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

St Andrew's Pre School

Pre School children and staff have already settled into the new term, and are busy getting to know each other and have fun with all the equipment, both indoors and out. Any new residents with children approaching their 2nd birthday, or a bit older, are warmly invited to get in touch to arrange a visit, 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.

Our sessions are on Mondays 08.45–11.45, and Wed/Thurs 08.45–15.15. Do note that ALL 3 years olds are entitled to 15 hours free sessions each week.

As always, just drop in, view the setting and meet our team. Please note our new contact number is 07854 091257.

PS We are running a mobile recycling initiative, so if you have an old mobile languishing in a drawer, let us take it off your hands and turn it into much needed pennies and pounds for the pre-school.

Lophams' Ladies

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

At first glance the summer meetings may have appeared rather 'dry', but nothing could be further from the truth. In August, Peter Dudley gave a talk on the work of the Citizen's Advice Bureau. We were amazed to learn how wide the range is of problems with which their volunteers can help. As a result of their work and research their national team is frequently called on to give advice to government departments. Christine Humphries' talk about researching her family tree really lived up to the Tears & Laughter of the title, the stories were both moving and very amusing. Christine also provided many tips for those thinking about taking up Genealogy.

A warm welcome is extended to anyone interested in London's Pearly Kings and Queens to come along for Gerry Baxter's talk on 7th October – with authentic costumes to see. On 4th November, we have another deceptive title – Mr Mitchell promises to make 'Trees and the Law' interesting, as he talks about conservation and farming. Visitors are very welcome to come and find out!

Contact 01379 687337 for further details.

Garden Club

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

On 6th August we visited Thorncroft Clematis Nursery at Reymerston. We were made welcome and given a guided tour of the greenhouses, shown how the plants are cared for and how they are packed and posted for their successful mail order business. We then enjoyed a welcome cup of tea or coffee and were able to purchase some beautiful clematis.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, our meeting on 3rd September, when David Bolton was due to give a presentation, was cancelled at the last minute. We do hope that David will be back to talk to us before too long.

Our next meeting is on 1st October when Ian Limmer of Peter Beales Roses will, of course, talk about Roses.

Looking further forward, we shall welcome Ian Carstairs to our meeting on 5th November. Ian will give a presentation entitled 'Cornfield Flowers'.



Lophams Society

On Saturday the 19th of July The Lophams' Society invited the popular jazz combo, Pork Pie Hat, to entertain us with a summer evening of jazz. With an almost capacity attendance the village hall resonated with the smooth sounds of a collection of well-known jazz classics and for once we were blessed with a summer evening that lived up to its name allowing patrons to sit and enjoy the music both in and outside the hall. Many thanks to all those who joined us to make this a most enjoyable evening. Thanks also to the committee for their hard work in ensuring that the evening was a success and especially to those involved in the preparation and serving of the interval supper. Thanks also to the bar staff who were kept busy supplying copious amounts of liquid refreshments to satisfy a very appreciative audience on a very warm night.

Holy Bingo

Continues through the Autumn on the first Monday of the month at 2pm in the Village Hall. Do join us on 6th October and 3rd November at 2pm, for some light hearted fun and banter. Telephone 01379 687679 for help with transport.

Lophams' Village Hall

Two very special dates are nearly here

The Osiligi Troupe of Maasai Warriors will perform at the hall on 11th October, starting at 2.15pm., with two sections and a refreshment interval. Tickets at just £6 for adults and £4 for children are already selling fast, so please get yours in good time to be sure of a seat. Phone Jennie on 01379 687679; e-mail jennyvere@btinternet.com or phone 687718 or 687608

The Troupe's music is incredible, mesmerising to hear and certainly fascinating to watch. Come to experience and enjoy the diverse culture of the Maasai.

The Lophams' Bonfire and Firework Event is on 1st November; the gates open at 6pm and the fireworks will start about 7.30pm. Tickets are £7 adult, £3 child under 16 with a family ticket at £20. There will be soup, hot food and drinks in the hall and on site, plus stalls, so tell all your friends and come for a great evening out.

Bonfire

The field gates will be open on Saturdays and Sundays during October, from 10am to 2pm, so do bring along all your old, clean wood, autumn prunings and burnable garden rubbish. A nominal charge of £1 per load will go towards the firework costs. As usual, please DO NOT bring other items – Environmental Health officers keep a close watch, and will ban the bonfire if unsuitable materials are detected!

During the summer, builders have been hard at work, transforming the storage rooms in the hall, and moving the toilet for the less able to a new site at the rear of the foyer. We do apologise for the dust and any inconvenience for our regular users, but the resulting improvements have all made this very worthwhile. Thank you, Paul Sturman & Co for doing such an excellent job.

The Lottery is a fun way to support the hall development fund, with three chances each month of winning a prize. Recent winners of the Lottery draw are July: first prize of £184, M McCaw; second prizes of £46, J Bernard and P Moralee. In August the winners were: first prize £184, C Yule; second prizes of £46, L Inglis and J Vere. 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.

Farmers' Markets are the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm. Coming Markets are on 25th October and 22nd November. (Details from Mike on 01379 687235)

Judo is on Mondays and Wednesdays (Details from Howard on 01379 688 258)

Dog Training held most Tuesday evenings, trainer Elaine (07845 776110) 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' once each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for more details.

Yoga with P: we hope will return in the Autumn - Watch this space!

To book the hall for private functions, contact 01379 687679. To find out more about the hall, visit the web-site at www.lophamsvillagehall.co.uk.

Samaritan's Purse: Shoebox Appeal

It's time to make plans once again to help very deprived children in Eastern Europe and beyond - If you would be willing to cover a shoe box in Christmas paper then fill it with little gifts, such as stationery, toiletries, a woolly hat and mitts and a small cuddly toy, you would bring great joy to one of them. Shoe boxes need to be brought to Southlands, North Lopham by about 10th November to be sure of getting to their destination in time. More info. from Jennie, 01379 687679. Thanks!

Lophams Art Group Sale

Following on from last year's very successful Art and Crafts Sale, the Lophams art group will be holding their second event at Lophams Village Hall on Friday 14th November 6pm–9pm and Saturday 15th November 10am–4pm. The event provides an opportunity to showcase their paintings and offers visitors the chance to buy. To appeal to a wider audience, local crafts people have been invited to join the event. This year, there will be an even greater selection of pictures and locally hand crafted items to include floristry, pottery, vintage hampers, painted furniture, pens, painted canal ware, dolls and Christmas gifts, jewellery and more. The art group has produced a set of Christmas cards to be sold in aid of the Alzheimer's Research UK charity.

Admission is free on both days, with mulled wine and mince pies served on Friday evening and refreshments available all day Saturday.

NORTH LOPHAM NEWS

Parish Council

Meeting 10/09, present: six councillors, parish clerk, four members of the public. Apologies: from Councillor Bird.

Election of Chair: A 'rolling chairperson' is not recommended practice therefore an election for chair was held. Two nominations were received, Councillor Hammond and Councillor Tate. Councillor Tate did not wish to stand, a vote was taken and Councillor Hammond was elected by four to one.

Matters arising from previous meetings

Footpath the redundant footpath between Jubilee Lane and a private property in The Street is in the process of being extinguished by NCC.

War memorial; the 2nd quotation for cleaning, £895 + VAT was accepted subject to assurances about public liability insurance.

Biomass plant; assurances are to be sought that construction site traffic will not violate the 7.5 tonne exclusion zone, to liaise with SLPC about possible extra signage. Risk assessment and possible contingency planning documentation for the biomass plant will be sought from BDC.

Open spaces; enquiries have been made about improving pedestrian access to the village hall.

Grass and hedge cutting Primrose and Jubilee lanes; Mr West has done some work in Jubilee lane, thanks to him. With SLPC, two quotations have been sought for clearing Primrose Lane (£600/£500). It was agreed to share the cost with SLPC.

Thanks to Mike Cox and Eric and Lesley Bird for cleaning the telephone box and to David Hammond and Eric Bird for saving NLPC £300 by removing another dangerous tree branch.

Methodist Chapel; Councillor Makowski-Heaton is arranging a meeting between NLPC and Methodist representatives to discuss the chapel's future. It was suggested that a sub-committee be formed as this could be a long, complex business.

Financial report it was disclosed that proposed expenditure on the war memorial and footpath clearance would necessitate withdrawing some reserve funds.

Correspondence

A relative reported that one grave has been damaged by grass cutting, to inform the contractors.

Should small photographs of the deceased be permitted on memorials? For further discussion.

AOB

Councillor Makowski-Heaton asked if the 'Quiet Lane' scheme is still in existence and could it be extended to High Common Road? To enquire at NCC highways.

Green Lane is impassable in places; NCC has adopted it but is not maintaining it.

Councillor Makowski-Heaton suggested researching/compiling a historic village walk to commemorate the ending of WW1. To be followed up.

In response to numerous complaints about speeding a letter will be sent to Norfolk Constabulary asking for their assistance to reinforce the current traffic calming measures.

Next meeting 12th November 2014

Methodist Church

A Thanksgiving Service for over 200 years of Methodist worship in North Lopham Chapel was attended by friends from the circuit and beyond, with a delicious tea afterwards. The future of the building is now in the hands of the circuit officers.

Informal Methodist worship and Coffee Mornings are held in St Nicholas' Church at 10.30am on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 22nd October and 26th November. Do come and join us.

St Nicholas' Church

After a quieter Summer, activities are in full swing

The Annual Sponsored 'Bike' Ride was open to car drivers as well this year! It will be interesting to find out what sort of a difference that made.

Lophams' Harvest Luncheon was on Sunday 21st September, in the Village Hall.

We do hope all who came enjoyed the occasion. (report next time)

The MacMillan Coffee Morning was held in church on 26th September – grateful thanks to everyone who supported this worthwhile cause.

Harvest Thanksgiving in North Lopham is on Sunday 12th October. There will be a Family Harvest Service at 11am, with a procession of token

gifts, then a Harvest Praise with Music and Worship (MPW with extras!) at 4pm. Everyone is welcome to either or both of these.

We would be very grateful for any offers of flowers, foliage and produce to decorate the church for the weekend, plus help with the arranging on either Friday or Saturday, so that the church looks its autumn best for the celebrations.

Special dates in November

Friday 7th, from 2.30pm: welcoming the Revd Wendy Evans, our part time Team Vicar. Children from St Andrew's School will join local residents in St Nicholas' Church for their weekly Celebration Assembly at 2.45pm, to share in the welcome.

November 9th is Remembrance Sunday: There will be a Special Act of Remembrance at the 11am Family Service, when the names of all those from the village who gave their lives in the two World Wars will be read.

Armistice Day 11th November. Annual Ceremony at the village War Memorial at 11am, with the Royal British Legion Standard, veterans, local residents and older Juniors from St Andrew's School. The ceremony has special significance in this, the centenary year since the start of WW1 hostilities.



A booklet is being compiled over the next four years about the men from North Lopham who gave their lives. We would be very grateful to hear from anyone with resources they are willing to share, please contact 01379 687679. Thank you.

North Lopham Crib Festival The fourth Crib Festival will run from Wednesday 26th to Saturday 29th, between 11am and 5pm, and on Sunday 30th, from 12 noon until 4pm, with another enormous variety of Cribbs on show in the church, plus displays linked to the Jesse's Tree (you need to come to find out just what that is!) and an interactive corner for the young in heart... There will be refreshments and a stall with seasonal items too, so do make a note of the dates and come along.

At the end of the Festival, the Mary, Joseph and donkey figures will be sent on their journey round both Lophams, seeking a night's shelter with willing hosts – Posada – before they return to the church on Christmas Eve. During November, a list will be displayed in the Church for those willing to join in the experience to sign up.

SOUTH LOPHAM NEWS

St Andrew's Church News

Summer Concert: On Saturday the 26th July we welcomed The Thursday Night Ladies Choir and Four Hands in Harmony for a lovely summer's evening concert. Their previous concerts had raised money to have the organ cleaned and polished which has now been completed so we were delighted that Polina Sosnina was able to play the organ for us. The choir treated us to a variety of songs including, Bring Me Sunshine In a Cup, from 'This Day', Moon River, and The Rhythm of Life. The very talented piano duet of Four Hands in Harmony concluded the evening with Rhapsody in Blue. Refreshments were served in the interval and there was a raffle. Thank you to Archie for organising the concert also to the performers, Cynthia for the refreshments, all the helpers and to everyone who came to enjoy the music. All money raised will go to Cancer Research.

Coffee Morning There will be a Coffee Morning in the Church on Saturday 15th November 10am to 12 noon, Cake Stall, Bring and Buy and Raffle. Please come along and enjoy a coffee and scone.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends held their Annual General Meeting in the Church on Tuesday 2nd September. The following officers were elected, Mrs Evelyn Logsdail: Chairman, Mrs Marion Crisp: Secretary and Mr David Huggins Treasurer.

The Friends held two successful events last year, a Barn Dance and a Strawberry tea and helped to maintain the fabric of the Church. More events will be arranged for the New Year.

South Lopham Parish Council

Meeting 4th September 2014 at Valley Farm Low Common:

John Crisp was in the Chair, acting Clerk Gary Phillips, four councillors and three members of the public were present.

Apologies were received from two councillors. Gary Phillips gave a financial report and confirmed the Council's current balances.

All Saints Hapton and St Andrews Primary Schools partnership: John Crisp confirmed that the consultation document had been read and had nothing to add or report to the Council.

Planning: It was noted that the application for the erection of two agricultural buildings on land at Pooley Street had been withdrawn.

Highways: NCC Highways have now carried out repairs on the Blo Norton road and to pot holes on Low Common, although there is still a drainage overflow onto the A1066 east of the White Horse public house. NCC Highways will again be notified and asked to action.

The speed of traffic entering from the east is a major concern; each of the three members of the public present are directly affected and addressed the Council. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the Council would again request NCC Highways to move the speed limit sign to a position east of the bend in order to make it more visible to motorists and correspondingly the flashing 30 mile per hour sign.

There was also a discussion amongst councillors in regard to an additional sign to restrict the size of site traffic leaving the A1066 in a northerly direction along Church Road.

Footpaths: A quotation is awaited from North Lopham Parish Council for trimming of Primrose Lane. Nothing had been heard from the adjoining land owners.

The cost of one or more dog waste bins for Primrose Lane is to be investigated and presented to the Council.

Councillors were reminded that items for next year's budget were to be brought to the next meeting on 6th November 2014 at Valley Farm.

Riddlesworth Hall

Autumn Gift Fair

Friday 17th October 12 noon - 6pm
Saturday 18th October 10am - 4pm

A fantastic opportunity to **start your Christmas Shopping**, the fair takes place inside the magnificent hall on the Riddlesworth Estate.

Browse stalls selling a wonderful collection of gifts and locally produced food and drink including Lucy Lou Handbags, Ebenezer Cottage, Sandlings, Mary James, Anne-Sofie Ideas, thebigKnit, Indigo Boo, Crystal Pig, Serendipity, Quelques Choses, The Saucy Stag, Wishlist, Aurina, Honeysuckle Days and more.

Enjoy tea, coffee, cakes and lovely home cooked lunches with seasonal food by local caterers Viva.




Tea for Two at the Ritz
West End theatre tickets, raffle in aid of East Anglian Air Ambulance

Entrance £3.00

Find us between Diss and Thetford on the A1066 Postcode IP22 2TA RHSA registered charity no.293896.

From the Registers

Bressingham Group

FUNERAL
Gareth Walters 8th August, followed by burial North Lopham

Murphy's Rambles

Well, it's definitely the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'. Every tree and bush is groaning under the weight of its fruits and now mushrooms are popping up everywhere, as well. Walks are now a slow amble as I sniff and my human grazes on blackberries.

We have seen some lovely sights; a mole hill growing before our eyes and newly hatched caterpillars on nettles in their protective safety bag of cobwebs.

As we walk around the edge of a field we are escorted by fluorescent blue dragon flies and a Muntjac deer, parallel to us in the sugar beet. There are sudden explosions of baby rabbits, surely too small to be out alone.

On clear mornings we watch hot air balloons and an acrobatic flock of birds, dining on a stand of knapweed and the pale yellow of toadflax. We also catch a brief flash of a kingfisher; no mistaking that colouring!

Then there was the wonderful morning when it rained hard, leaving glorious puddles to splash in. Who cares if I am still wet by evening?

Now there are tiny catkins forming, ready for next year and the leaves are turning colour. I guess Autumn is on its way.

Have a great time and get those humans out and about.

