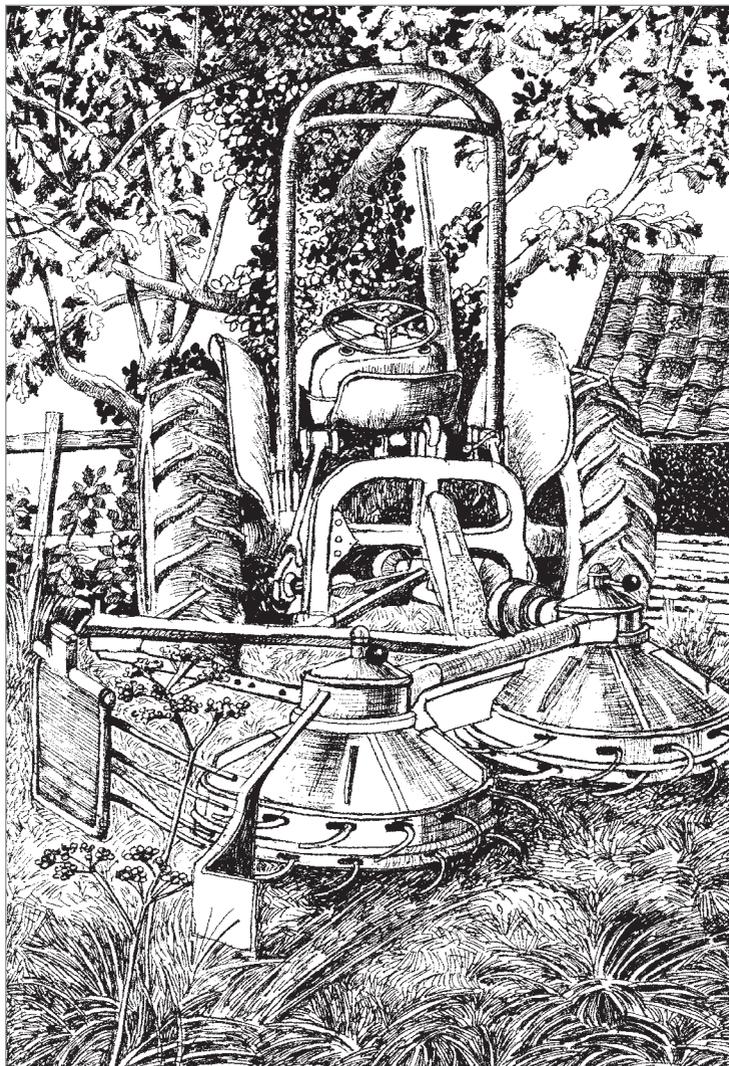
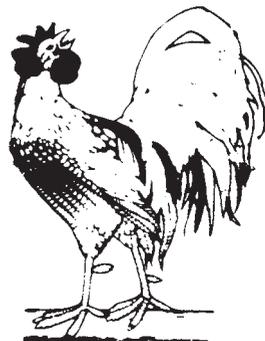


Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

JUNE/JULY 2016

Issue No: 3



Ready for the hay

Editors' Notice Board

Is dog fouling blighting your local area?



South Norfolk Council works proactively with community groups to spread the important message about clearing up after your dog. We are currently working with school children across the district to design posters containing this important message.

Dog fouling is a public nuisance and a threat to health. It costs local taxpayers thousands of pounds every year for South Norfolk Council to clean it up. It is not only unpleasant it is dangerous. The biggest threat to public health from dog excrement is toxocarasis. This is an infection caused by a roundworm parasite. The eggs of this parasite can be found in soil or sand contaminated with faeces and can cause eye disorders, vague ache, dizziness, nausea, asthma and, in extremely rare cases, seizures/fits. Often the eggs are ingested when passed to the mouth by the hands; this can occur through touching inanimate objects including the wheels of toys, prams and soles of shoes.

It is the responsibility of the dog owner or person in charge of the dog to always clean up after the dog using a poop scoop or a bag. The bagged poo should then be disposed of in one of the 470 dog poo bins available across South Norfolk or taken home to put into your own wheelie bin. Bags containing dog poo should not be left, hung on trees, gate posts or left on paths in parks or rural areas. Not clearing up after your dog is an offence for which we can issue a fixed penalty. The current fine is £80. Failure to pay may result in a prosecution in the magistrates' court where the maximum fine is £1,000.

To report dog fouling to South Norfolk Council please call 0808 1682 999.

Other items the Editors think you might like to know about



Blooming Bressingham & Fragrant Fersfield	22
Borderhoppa New Bus Club Lottery	6
Bressingham & Fersfield The Afternoon Club	23
Friends of Chernobyl's Children	5
Friends of Tivetshall School Quiz Nights	15
Lopham & Redgrave Fen	34
Murphy's Rambles	2
Winfarthing Street Party	16

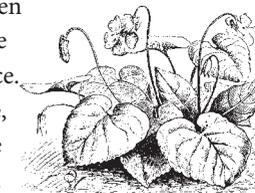
Murphy's Rambles

Well who would have thought we would have snow on 26th April? We were out in the open fields watching a wall of white coming towards us. I loved it but not sure about human, something about it getting in her eyes. Weird that when it had passed, you could feel the temperature rise. We feel so sorry for the baby birds, imagine being born with no feathers into this weather and we know there are some as we have already found 3 speckled blue egg shells and 1 white.

We saw the kingfisher once more in early March and the owl was still our usual morning companion, but now we are serenaded by skylarks and delighted by the antic of yellowhammers and wagtails.

People wonder why we walk so early in the mornings but it is beautiful; when else can you see each blade of grass with a single dew drop it its tip sparkling like diamonds and finding the spiders are back with us as their webs glisten in the sun. Two deer in the next field so busy with breakfast that they just amble away, two hares charging down the lane towards you so intent on their courtship that we were only seen at the last moment, much to their amazement. Frosts that make simple leaves into things of beauty, mists burning off as you walk through as the sun rises and seeing the leaves swelling more each day till they unfurl; suddenly the chestnut candles are not only there, but flowering. We watched a shape moving towards us through a grass field that turned into a Muntjac that just glared at us as it stalked across the road.

The primroses are still with us, lots of them and now they have been joined by a profusion of cowslips but we felt sorry for the violets; one moment they were there and then gone, not like last year's abundance. The rest of the spring flowers, delicate white stitchwort, purple bugle, red and white dead nettles, bright blue speedwells, not forgetting the dandelions and daisies and last Sunday the first early purple orchids.



Well, bye now folks! Never mind the weather, just get your humans out into the fresh air!

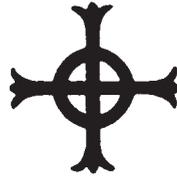
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Dare to Dream



Some people like my wife Caroline have vivid dreams and can recount the feelings and emotions of the experience. Other people like myself rarely dream at all. For some dreams are happy and pleasant, for others it can be an horrendous experience and leave you waking up in a full sweat.

For some people the ability to dream could simply be another method of the body releasing various tensions, mulling over existing problems. As you are aware I am no expert when it comes to dreams.

Every year I have a wish (a dream) that Crystal Palace will win the FA Cup, reality tells me differently. One year in the 1950s Palace was knocked out of the FA Cup in the first round by Great Yarmouth! But this year I dream as I do at the beginning of each new season but only time will tell. So I dream of Palace playing in Europe next year as winners of the FA Cup. On Cup final day I will be in the 'Fighting Cocks' along with other Palace supporters living in Winfarthing dreaming that at the end of the match we will be singing 'Glad all over'.

In the Old Testament Joseph had a God given ability to be able to interpret dreams. For the King of Egypt's cup bearer it was good news he was to be restored to his old job; but for the King's chief baker the news was bad, he was soon to be executed. Joseph was the only one who was able to interpret Pharaoh's dream and because of this was put in command of the nation; thereby saving the people from starvation.

Dare to dream, but keep a close watch on reality. Palace for the Cup! And the answer is ...?

Rev David F Mills

BURSTON NEWS

St Mary's Luncheon Club

This club is for retired folk from Burston and the surrounding villages and meets 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.

Church Hire

If you are interested in hiring St Mary's Church for a special event please contact Rachel Hobson on 07712 670928. 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.

A Royal Garden Party!

Where and when?

Church Green on the afternoon of Sunday 12th June. Royal Garden Party with a Royal Treasure Hunt, a Tea fit for a queen, a 'Best Crown' competition for children, an entertainer and lots more. All for free!

St Mary's Church

The Friends of Burston Church held a most enjoyable St George's Night supper – on St George's Night itself! We had delicious food, were entertained by Barry Jones – busker supremo – and the church was decorated beautifully in a suitably red and white theme. 'For Farmers' sponsored the entertainment – very grateful thanks to them. A lot of people helped with cooking, advance preparations and on the evening itself, so huge thanks to all concerned.

With over £600 raised in ticket sales and £200 from the raffle, it was not only fun but has added much-needed funds to the account.

The PCC and Friends of Burston Church are preparing for another fund-raising 'heave', in order to raise more money to finish off the repairs and refurbishment – most of which have been paid through the Heritage Lottery Fund grant we were fortunate enough to have. Do look out for details of individual events but particular dates for your diaries: 16th July – Safari Supper, and 16th September – Gala Auction. We are also planning our annual fish and quiz supper in October (date to be confirmed).

If you feel that you could spare a few hours from time to time and would like to join the Friends of Burston Church, do please get in touch with our chairman, Norma Ajdukiewicz – she would be delighted to give you more information (her contact details: ajduk@btinternet.com or 01379 740595).

Rachel Hobson 07712 670 928

Burston and Shimpling Parish Council

There was a real party atmosphere in St Mary's Burston on Tuesday 26th April. Before the meeting began, there was a request for anyone with a birthday of 26th April to step forward. Councillor Lindsay Bilston answered the call, and blew out a candle on a birthday cake that had been made and decorated by Christine Stevens. More cakes were available, baked by Alison Wakeham and Ann Baker, and the evening started with a convivial session of tea drinking and cake eating, and a lot of mardling.

Firstly, a report from Nigel Frankland, summarised the major activities of the Council over the previous 12 months. He thanked the clerk and councillors for their specific inputs to the progress that had been made. Alison Wakeham had played a leading part in considering Planning Applications, and in carrying out the duties of Responsible Financial Officer. Christine Stevens had been in charge of footpaths and rights of way, and had edited the quarterly newsletter *The Planet*. Tom Grieve had played a leading role in organising an event for the opening of the new play equipment, and the administration of the Don Swanton Award. Piers Bilston had assumed responsibility for the Playing Field Advisory

Committee, and Clare Cowan was to become the new Tree Warden, and will in future produce The Planet. Lindsey Bilston has contributed on matters relating to wildlife.

The Community Action Team reported on events run by them during the year, and the Burston and Shimpling Oil Group provided a brief report; all the officers were re-elected for another year.

Tom Grieve then presented the Don Swanton Award to Dorothy Swanton. The award is presented to a resident who has contributed to village life. Dorothy was born in the village, and has helped in many ways over a long lifetime; as churchwarden, instigator of the removal of fixed pews and the building of a kitchen and toilet at St Mary's, the establishment of the Youth Cafe, to name but a few

John Atkinson, the retiring Tree Warden and producer of The Planet was presented with a tree in recognition of his services to the village over the past 17 years. It was then time for village organisations to make presentations.

Len Hobson gave a very interesting explanation of the local Emergency Plan, and provided booklets covering various aspects of this essential bit of forward thinking.

Marion Charnley from Paramount Personnel was present. Her business provides Human Resources and Health and Safety support for local businesses. Marion has offered to help youngsters at the Youth Cafe with the preparation of CVs.

Pastor Sam Brinkley spoke about the Chapel and its activities. Lisa and Izzie Webster spoke about their recently established business in 'The Space' – opposite the Mill – where Lisa provided many types of massage, and Izzie is in charge of the Yoga department.

Len Hobson 07831 377769

Burston School

The whole school enjoyed a visit to Blacksmiths Cottage and Shorelands Nursery. Ben gave us a excellent tour and introduced us to storks, cranes, Eric and Ernie the miniature donkeys, alpacas, lemurs, and monkeys, chickens, ravens, and miniature owl.

Thank you to everyone who voted for us in Tesco recently regarding our pond area. We have had a visit from Tim Page, who is hopefully going to help

with our exciting plans to renovate this area. If anyone has any logs they do not require, we would be grateful as these are needed for sculptures and wildlife homes.

In April, the school had a celebration photo with Tivetshall as it has been 10 years since the two schools joined in partnership.

The year 5 and 6 children will be off on their residential trip in June. They will be visiting the Eaton Vale centre and taking part in lots of super activities.

Well done to the Year 2 and 6 children for working hard with their SATs.

We are also looking forward to going to the Norfolk Show this year, the children and staff will enjoy all the stalls and shows.



April 2016 marked the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster and whilst it has faded from many people's memories the ongoing effects are still being felt in Belarus, where the vast majority of the fallout landed. People continue to live and eat food grown on contaminated land and the associated effects on their health are significant.

Friends of Chernobyl's Children (Diss & District) is the local branch of a national charity. We work to bring groups of disadvantaged children from the worst affected areas in Belarus to the UK for a 4 week visit each year for 5 years. Whilst here they are hosted by volunteers who provide a loving home and uncontaminated food and the charity organises a program of activities based from a day centre in Diss.

Could you host an under-privileged child from the area worst affected by the Chernobyl disaster?

Could you help with fundraising events or help to staff activities?

Please contact Coordinator Sharna Banham on 07801 069712 or email focc.diss@gmail.com if you would like more information.

GISSING NEWS

Music Day at Gissing Church

Saturday 10th September from 10–4: Calling all music lovers! How would you like to come and join in a day of informal music-making in Church? Everyone welcome – all kinds of music, all ages and standards. Bring your guitar, flute or clarinet ... solo singers, singing groups, duos, trios, quartets, anything goes. We have a pipe organ and a honky-tonk piano ... and the acoustics are good.

The event is in memory of three local musicians who contributed to music in worship in our parishes – Andrew Jackman of Tivetshall, Florrie Sell of Gissing and Joyce Yates of Shelfanger. Andrew was a composer and some of his music will be performed. You can play whatever you like – jazz, blues – anything goes.

Our aim is to celebrate the joy of music making, not to achieve perfection! So don't be shy. No formal concert, just an opportunity to turn up on the day if the spirit moves you and a 'come and go as you please' audience. Light refreshments on offer and donations welcome. Hope to see you and bring your friends. There may be a few lycra-clad cyclists in and out of church too as it's the day of the Norfolk Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride so if you happen to be a cyclist, rather than a music lover, you might prefer to take to the saddle. Joe Cromley will have details and sponsorship forms in due course. Of course you could do a bit of cycling around local churches and still have time to drop in, have some well-earned refreshments and stay awhile to enjoy the music!

Give me a call if you'd like more information. I'd love to hear from you.

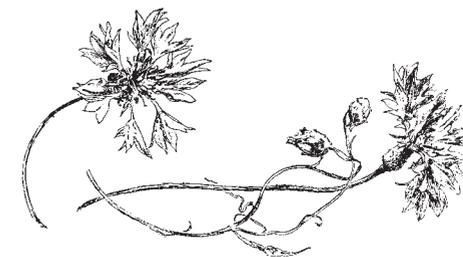
Daralyn Hammond on 01379 677633

Friends of Gissing Church

Wildflower Trail in the Churchyard

As part of the effort to enhance the use and attraction of Gissing Church, the PCC and the Friends of the Church have agreed, with the help of the Norfolk

Wildlife Trust's churchyard conservation section, to try and establish a wildflower trail and meadow in the older, less visited parts of the churchyard. As a consequence, while the newer section will be mowed regularly as always this summer, large parts of the older area will be left uncut until August, so that a survey of existing wildflowers may be undertaken. A poster on the church bulletin board offers a broad explanation of the programme, and anyone wishing to know more can contact Fiona Turton, on 01379 677811, or Joe Cromley, on 01379 677817. More details on this new project will be published in the summer editions of Cock Crow.



Gissing Singers

Although this small choir originated in Gissing, is based in Gissing and meets to rehearse each week at Gissing Village Hall, the majority of its members come from outside it, from as far away as Atleborough, Topcroft, Harleston and six or seven other towns or villages. New members are always welcome – especially if they have some previous experience of singing – although this is not essential! The choir is booked to perform at Wacton on 17th June and at Barsham on 24th June; and to sing at Mayfield Care Home at Long Stratton in the same month. Enquiries should in the first instance be made to Andrew on 01379 674518. Or just turn up at the Village Hall, Rectory Road, Gissing at 7.25pm on a Monday (except Bank Holidays!).

Gissing Children's Centre

Our popular and successful Pre-School, runs Monday to Friday during term time in two, 3 hour long sessions, where children can attend from 9–12 and/or from 12–3 with an option to collect at 1pm. Children can attend, unaccompanied, from 2 years up to 5 years old/starting school. Early years funding for

2, 3 and 4 year olds can be used for both morning and afternoon sessions. We also welcome children who do not attract funding. Any families wishing to bring their children to come and 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 email preschool@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk to arrange to call in. We are currently taking space reservations for September but do have one or two spaces left for this Summer term. Do visit our website www.gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk and our Facebook page to see the sort of things we do.

We are running a half-term Playscheme for primary school children on Wednesday 1st June. The cost will be £15 per child and the sessions will run from 9–3.30 with the option of a shorter session from 9–1 for £12. Places need to be booked and paid for 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 activities including crafts, and other workshops, construction etc, focussed around our adjoining woodland, will be on offer including outdoor physical activities. Dates for our series of summer playschemes over the school holiday, will be released in early June.

We are collecting EDP Community Chest tokens on an on-going basis and would welcome any unwanted tokens so that when we get enough for a particular month, we can, hopefully, obtain some additional outdoor resources. Tokens can be left in our metal post box by the wooden entrance gate. Many thanks to those members of the community who have dropped in tokens for us already; we really appreciate this.

Heart of Gissing

Charity No: 1161599

A quick round up

We extend a huge thank you to our Buildings Committee and other individuals who have worked so tirelessly to help prepare the site around the Old School, for the forthcoming Lottery-funded building works. The proposed works have now gone out to tender and contractors are scheduled to be on-site

by August. It is all very exciting. Anyone who would like further updates or specific information is very welcome to contact admin@heartofgissing.org.uk.

Heart of Gissing Vintage tea party

May Day bank holiday saw the village hall in Gissing dressed up for a special, vintage style afternoon tea. The hall was decorated with flowers and bunting and the tables laid with pretty embroidered tablecloths and fine bone china. We were delighted to have a string quartet to entertain our guests while they enjoyed a delicious luxury afternoon tea and the odd glass of Prosecco. There were dainty sandwiches, savoury tartlets, scones, jam and cream and a large selection of scrumptious cakes to enjoy, all served on china cake stands. We had some wonderful feedback from our guests who seemed to thoroughly enjoy the event. This was the first afternoon tea that we have organised to help raise funds towards the equipment and fittings for our new community space at the old village school. We were delighted with the response to the event and by popular demand will be holding another one in the near future.

Our next event will be a strawberry cream tea, to include: unlimited tea or coffee, sandwiches, savouries, scones, with jam and cream, a selection of home-made cakes and biscuits and of course strawberries and cream. Included in the price of £12.50 will be a glass of Pimms or non-alcoholic fruit cup. It will take place on Sunday June the 26th from 3pm to 5pm in the Village Hall, Rectory Road, Gissing.

We anticipate a big demand for this event and it will be essential to book in advance (with payment on the day). If you enjoyed our last event please tell your friends and consider bringing a group to enjoy pleasant conversation and another delicious tea. To book, either: email admin@heartofgissing.org.uk, text 07789 776680 or phone 01379 677790.



Wednesday Adventure Evenings

The last three evenings in this series (course of 10) for children aged 8–13 years, are as follows:

- 15th June Air Rifles
- 22nd June Catapults
- 29th June Fires

These highly supervised, standalone sessions are a great experience for youngsters who can dip in and out, attending only the ones in which they are particularly interested.

The sessions take place from 6–7.30 on Wednesday evenings at and around The Old School, Lower Street, Gissing and cost £4 per evening.

Telephone 01379 677567 or 07917 645867 or contact swillett_ip22@yahoo.com to book and for further details.

Evening Pilates Classes

At the Old School Gissing

There is still room for 2 more in the beginners class so if you looking to get stronger, leaner and to reduce stress and tension, how about joining Pilates instructor Heather Ormerod on Monday evenings.

Monday 7–8: Beginners/Gentle Pilates Matwork class is designed for those new to Pilates, or for those returning to exercises after a break. You will be guided through the fundamentals of Pilates helping you to improve your alignment, breathing and core Stability. The class will focus on building confidence and understanding of the technique.

Monday 8–9: Improvers Matwork Class is for those who have Pilates experience or who are currently partaking regularly in other forms of exercise such as running, gym etc. During your improvers class you will develop a deeper understanding of your Pilates technique and physical skills by means of a balanced, effective, total body workout - with particular focus on your core

Bookings: heatherormerodpilates@gmail.com

Heather has gained Level 4 Low Back Pain and GP Referral qualifications in addition to her Level 3 Pilates Diploma. She trained under renowned Pilates teacher Anoushka Boone ensuring an in-depth understanding of the technique. Heather has over 13 years of teaching experience ensuring is she able to work sensitively and appropriately with individuals, offering support, guidance and bespoke classes.

Performing Arts East

We are looking forward to the biennial school show on the 11th June with performances at the Central Hall, Wymondham.

For more information on Ballet, Tap, Musical Theatre and Contemporary classes in Gissing and tickets for our show email performingartseast@mail.com. Tickets are £5 (£4 concessions) with performances at 12.30pm and 6.30pm).

www.performingartseast.com

Heart of Gissing Theatre Project will be running its musical theatre summer school from the 1st to 6th August at Coronation Hall in Aslacton this year (due to the building work in Gissing). As always, it is going to be a lot of fun but if you are unable to come along and join us for the full week, come to our performance on the 6th at the Central Hall in Wymondham to support our talented youth cast. For information email performingartseast@mail.com.

Stage HOGers is looking forward to our next panto, after our superb sell out performances in January. If you would like to come and join our friendly cast and stave off boredom, please email performingartseast@mail.com. for information.

Heart of Gissing is looking forward to offering the use of the stage facilities in the new Community Building to Performing Arts East for their programme of performances for 2017. It will be great to see their shows on 'home ground'.

Village Fete 28th August

This year's village Fete theme will be Nursery Rhymes, which should give plenty of scope for some interesting Scarecrows to pop up around the village. All of the usual entertainments, refreshments, cream teas etc, plus a Story Teller for young ones and older. Put it in your diary please.



SHELFANGER NEWS

Boyland Common Wild Flower Walk

Once again the Friends of Boyland Common have been lucky enough to persuade Stella Taylor, our local Wild Flower expert, to lead us in a walk around Boyland Common appreciating and identifying the ever increasing varieties of wild flowers that are to be found since we began to re-manage the welfare of the Common in 2012. Stella has a wealth of experience to share, and has keenly monitored the wild flower development of our Common for many years.

The date of the walk is Sunday 5th June, meeting at Boyland Common at 3pm. The walk will take around one hour, maybe an hour and a half; hand lenses and identification keys will be available to borrow. This is a free event and is a great chance to learn a little more about our lovely Common.



All Saints' Church

'Hail the day that sees Him rise.' These words from the famous hymn are ringing in our ears as these words are written. Easter and Ascension have come and gone and Pentecost/Whitsun is upon us.

Special Village Meeting

A heartfelt 'Thank You' to all members of Shelfanger Parish who responded to the village-wide invitation to attend a special meeting held in the church on Saturday 9th April.

70 parishioners filled the church and heard outlined the present state of the church, its immediate prospects and needs and lastly its long-term future. The meeting was led by the Rector, David Mills, together with members of the church council. Following a prayer, the main situation statement and

questions, those present mingled in groups to discuss particular areas of interest while light refreshments were served.

As a result of the meeting and discussions, several parishioners most kindly offered their help. This has been gratefully accepted as follows:

Keith Day, assisted by David Leeder, has kindly agreed to take over liaison between the church, the Diocese, the appointed Architect and various grant-aiding bodies in the management of restoration and maintenance of the church building. Linda Nash has agreed to become Shelfanger Church Council representative to All Saints' School, Winfarthing. Sally Handousah and Linda Leeder have agreed to join the church cleaning team and Lorna Trudgill and Brenda Bailey have already joined All Saints' flower arranging group. Dave Masters (already an assistant clock-winder!) has offered further practical help, as has Anne Surman together with Christina Clendening who are joining the Cock Crow delivery team. Church Farmhouse will continue to keep a security watch on the church and there were other expression of willingness to help in practical ways if called upon.

Although the meeting was not primarily a money-raising project, a small number of parishioners have taken the opportunity to begin regular financial contributions by standing order (forms are available in the church or direct from the Treasurer, 01379 642286) and we are most grateful to all who have elected to help in this way.

However, one major problem remains. In spite of some serious enquiries and questions, no one has at present made a firm offer to 'understudy' or share the posts of warden, treasurer or secretary. The church council hoped very much that they could be 'bringing on' new blood for these positions so that a new team of administrators for the church might begin to emerge. Could this still happen?

Anne Chinn

It is with sadness we note the passing of Anne Chinn formerly of Glebe Cottage. Many will remember fondly Anne's faithful service to both the church and the village as a whole, particularly her involvement with Shelfanger WI where she served as president for several years. At All Saints' she supervised the

flowers to great effect being a talented arranger and tutor. She master-minded Harvest Suppers and Mothering Sunday lunches to a high standard and enjoyed all aspects of village life. Having travelled the world with her late husband Tony, she felt that Shelfanger was her 'coming home.' We send our love and sympathy to Sarah-Jane, Michael and David.

Anne's ashes will be interred at Shelfanger on Friday 3rd June at 12 noon followed by a small reception in the church. All are welcome to this gathering to mark Anne's passing.

Finally, we send our very best wishes to all in the parish who are not very well. They are remembered every day in prayer at the church.

Thank you all very much

My grateful thanks to all the lovely people who sent cards, flowers, good wishes and who prayed for me and my family; also for the cheering visits.

The kindness of so many people has helped enormously during a very difficult time. Progress has been slower than I hoped for with several set-backs but, hopefully, I am now on the road to recovery.

My special thanks to my beloved family for their constant love, care, support and patience.

My love and thanks to you all.

Pat Webster

Village Hall News

Changes to the Committee

Following the retirement of Malcolm and Jan Barnard, the April meeting of the Village Hall and Playing Field Committee was chaired by Mrs Marian Paines and a number of changes to the committee were settled. Three new members were elected; Anne Surman, Tig Ross (already serving as chairman of the Fete Committee) and Dave Masters.

Following this, the Committee looked at filling the vacant posts of both chairman and secretary. Vice Chair, Marian Paines, felt that chairmanship of the village hall committee might generate a conflict of interest with her role as Chair of the Parish Council and therefore declined the position.

Meanwhile, the Hall committee has for some time been trying to get its age profile down and

after discussion and proposals Christian (Tig) Ross was elected Chairman and Anne Surman, Secretary. Other members of the Committee are Ron and Marilyn Hurst, Ray Leeder, John Kemp (Treasurer). Anne and Derek Lord, Roger Challoner and Ivan Cotton (Bookings Secretary), all of whom are, or have at one time, served as officers.

Gift to the Village Hall

The Committee was delighted to receive a water-colour painting gifted to the hall by former Shelfanger resident, Molly White, and the picture will be displayed in the foyer. It was originally presented to her in 1995 to mark her contribution to Shelfanger village life together with that of her friend, Heather Dunnett. Molly and Heather's involvement with All Saints' Church and the parish is still remembered with affection by many.

Shelfanger Grand Fete

This will be held on Saturday 16th July at 2 pm on the playing field. Plans are already well in hand. As befits a proper rural fete, there will be all the traditional, classic side-shows and stalls. Among lots of activities, you can make a lucky dip, shy at a coconut, bowl at skittles, cast a hoop, chance your luck at tombola, browse for a book or enjoy a cup of tea, a pint or a burger.

There will be lots more publicity as we approach the event, including special attractions, so come and have a great afternoon.

Offers of help to man stalls are always very welcome – a great way to get to know the village if you've just moved in! Also, if there are any strong persons out there interested in helping the fete team to move stuff around, we can use your enthusiasm on the field each evening from Tuesday 12th July to Friday 15th July from 7pm

Shelfanger Parish Council

Attention all dog walkers and ramblers! Have you noticed any footpath markers and/or finger posts which have been damaged or lost? If so, please contact Helen (Parish Clerk) on 652199

Meanwhile, don't forget the village website www.shelfanger.com Please use the website regularly to check for updates on all village activities.

TIVETSHALL NEWS

St Margaret's Church

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and The Annual Parochial Church Meeting for both St Mary's and St Margaret's were held on April 10th in St Margaret's church. Eleanor Henson and Maggie Rowan were elected as churchwardens and Maurice Webstell is to continue with his verger duties. Harry Henson was elected as sidesperson.

In the Anglican Church, a sidesperson (archaically known as a sidesman or usher) is responsible for greeting members of the congregation, overseeing seating arrangements in church, and for taking the collection. In England they are usually appointed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting and receive guidance in their duties from the churchwardens.

Our parish will be remembered in prayer at Norwich cathedral on Sunday 18th June.

We are always looking for help on the cleaning and flower rotas as well as churchyard maintenance. Please contact Maggie on 01379 674116 if you are able to help in any capacity.

FRIENDS OF TIVETSHALL SCHOOL

Quiz Nights

25th June

8th October

10th December

7pm start at Tivetshall Village Hall

Admission: £7 includes Jacket potato

Licensed bar, raffle, tea/coffee etc

For detail/tickets, contact the school office or
Ian Henson 07739 049214

To raise funds for the school

The Monday Club

In May, we celebrate 30 years of The Monday Club. We have seen many changes and our numbers are now very few. But we meet every second Monday in the month in Tivetshall Village Hall, put the world to rights and arrange where and when we will go for our next lunch. We talk a lot and are proud that we have kept going all these years.

Congratulations to us!

If you would like to join us we would be happy to welcome you (a lift can be arranged if you would have trouble getting to the village hall). Do contact us: Val on 01379 852453 or Pam on 01379 677396.

Tivetshall Primary School

New Nursery Provision

We are looking forward to introducing a nursery class in the school. Children born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 will be most welcome to attend daily from 9–12. We will follow the Early Years curriculum, making use of the expertise of teaching staff and all of the resources of the school whilst children are gently introduced to mainstream school. Please contact the school on 01379 677350 if you would like to enquire further.

School News

As always, we celebrated Mothers' Day with a café in the school hall which was well attended by mums and other family members. The room was filled with laughter. Many thanks to all who attended and to Mrs Brown who organised cooking and Mrs Tully who organised events on the day.

Years 3 and 4 attended a tag rugby tournament at Diss High School and did very well to come third. As ever, their good behaviour was commented upon. In the same week Class 2 invited parents in to look at their work in literacy in a curriculum café and the school council organised fund raising events for Sport Relief.

Years 5 and 6 spent an exhausting day at Diss High School improving their skills in football and netball. Special congratulations to the netballers who worked hard and were good representatives of their school.



The children made a brilliant effort to produce their Easter gardens for the Easter Garden Competition. Every single garden was one that the children could be proud of; special congratulations to age group winners Aiden Farrow, May Chamberlain and Vikki Frizzwell and overall winner Vikki. The term finished very happily with an Easter Egg Hunt organised by The Friends. Grateful thanks to them and to all of the families that took part.

Once we returned from the Easter holidays we greatly enjoyed the Bi-monthly Quiz in the village hall. This is open to everyone. Please contact the school office if you are interested.

Class 1 recently welcomed parents to school to enjoy a Chocolate café! This was linked to our work on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and was great fun for all involved – of course, no chocolate was eaten! Parents also had the opportunity to have a go at the new Year 2 Reading SAT.

Sandra Potter, Head of School

Winfarthing Village STREET PARTY

19 June at 3pm at the rear of the Fighting Cocks

Come and meet friends and neighbours and join in the 2016 group photograph at the WINFARTHING STREET PARTY to celebrate The Queen's 90th birthday. Bring a plate of cake/food to share at the tea and stay on to enjoy the music, games and BBQ

WINFARTHING NEWS

Winfarthing Village Hall hosted the 'Pantaloons' theatre group on 11th March when they gave a very entertaining account of Oscar Wilde's 'The importance of being Ernest'

This opportunity, courtesy of Diss Corn Hall, has shown what a good venue the hall is for future theatrical events. Any suggestions please contact the committee.

All Saints' Primary School

All Saints' children, staff, governors and parents have returned to school after a lovely Easter break and are enjoying the warmer weather of the summer term.

During the spring term the school council organised a wonderful charity day for Sports Relief. Children came to school dressed in their favourite sports gear, held a cake stall and took part in circuits during the afternoon.

Also during March Key Stage 2 children enjoyed an educational visit to London to see the musical the Lion King. This was a fantastic day out and all spoke positively about the performance. The children were praised for their exemplary behaviour.

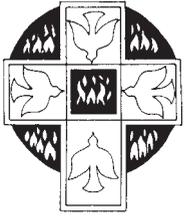
The netball and football team have been extremely active in March winning all their matches in the small school league. The science team also proudly won the Diss Rotary science quiz and look forward to hosting next year's event.

The Home School Association have also been active organising a well-attended Easter disco and St Georges Day celebration.

This term the children are focusing on the topic 'Our Norfolk, Our Adventures'. They will be looking at archaeological digs in Winfarthing. During this topic the children will be gaining a greater understanding of the history of the village through story telling.

If you wish to know more about All Saints' Primary School please contact the school office on 01379 642767.

Louise Norgate, Head Teacher



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 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
June 5	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
June 12	8.00 HC	Join Tivetshall	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
June 19	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
June 26	3.00 EP	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	Join Gissing	9.30 HC
July 3	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP
July 10	11.00 Chapel	Join Tivetshall	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
July 17	9.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
July 24	3.00 EP	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	Join Gissing	9.30 HC
July 31					10.30 5/P HC
August 7	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 FS	9.30 MP

Chapel 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 | MS Morning Service

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chloe.rudge84@gmail.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)
Sunday 5th June Trinity 2	No Service	No Service	9.30am HC 11am FS	No Service
Sunday 12th June Trinity 3	9.30am HC	9.30am MS	11am FS	No Service
Sunday 19th June Trinity 4	9.30am MS	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sunday 26th June Trinity 5	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	9.30am MS
Sunday 3rd July Trinity 6	No Service	No Service	9.30am HC 11am FS	No Service
Sunday 10th July Trinity 7	9.30am HC	9.30am MS	11am FS	No Service
Sunday 17th July Trinity 8	9.30am MS	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sunday 24th July Trinity 9	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	9.30am MS
Sunday 31st July Trinity 10	Holy Communion for fifth Sunday, 10.30am at Diss with Bishop Alan			
Sunday 7th Aug Trinity 11	No Service	No Service	9.30am HC 11.30am 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 J Brundell 01379 687216 M Crisp 01379 687953 P Reeder (emeritus)

Norwich Cathedral Spire

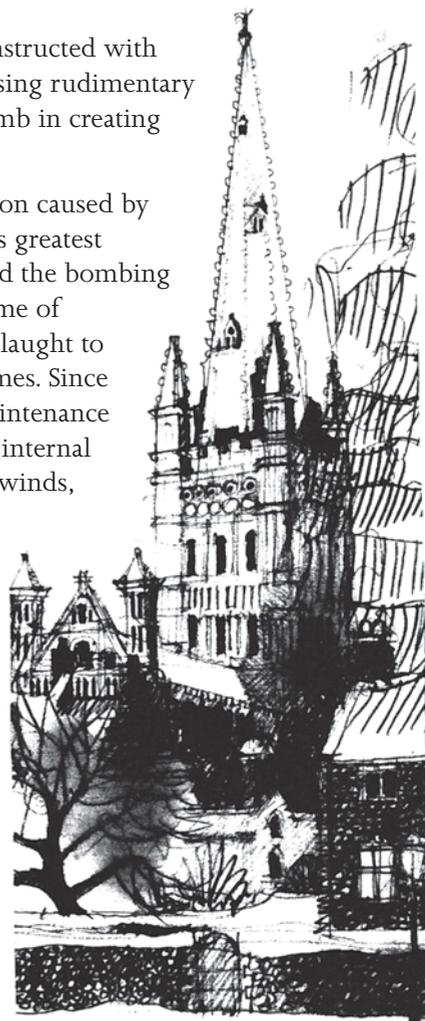
'Like a finger pointing up to heaven.' So said George Lyon, our inspirational head master in a morning assembly at Larkman Lane Junior School. He was describing the view from his bedroom window which reminded him each day of God's Eternal Kingdom. That view of this majestic spire reinforced his belief in God, a faith he wished to pass on to us children sitting cross legged on the school hall floor before him.

Conceived as an act of faith, the spire was constructed with much skill and determination by craftsmen using rudimentary tools and equipment, often risking life and limb in creating this beautiful structure.

Since completion, the spire has endured erosion caused by the weather and air pollution, but probably its greatest threat came during WW2 when Hitler ordered the bombing of our Cathedral Cities. Our spire, like the dome of St Paul's Cathdral in London, survived the onslaught to be an inspiration to the citizens in anxious times. Since the war the spire has required continuous maintenance and restoration, including the insertion of an internal stainless steel 'spring' to add stability in high winds, and like similar structures, the spire needs constant attention to keep it safe.

Long may the spires, towers and domes which adorn our places of Christian worship stand tall in our townscapes and landscapes, as signposts directing us to our heavenly home.

David Summers, Reader (retired)



Team Ministry News

Revd Wendy's e-address is revwendydisstm@gmail.com

Bishop Alan's Visitation

The Bishop of Thetford, the Rt. Rev. Alan Winton, is coming to our Team at the end of July. On 28th he will join a Benefice walk, starting at South Lopham Church at 10am, visiting North Lopham, and Fersfield Churches en route for a packed lunch at Bressingham Church, then continuing via Roydon to Diss Church for a final service and afternoon tea. All who can walk some or all the route will be very welcome, as will those who want to join in at their local church, where drinks will be provided. Revd Wendy will be available all day to transport people or packed lunches between stops.

On Sunday 31st there will be a fifth Sunday Communion service in St Mary's, Diss at 10.30am, at which Bishop Alan will preach. Afterwards there will be another chance to talk to the bishop over lunch, and he will meet various Ministry groups.

All church members are warmly invited to take part in both events.

Recycling

Please note that there are now collection boxes for used postage stamps in all the churches. Stamps, with a 5mm border, are sorted and sold to raise funds for the Leprosy Mission, a very worthy cause.

The collection of newspapers and magazines at the Fersfield shelter helps church funds; soft bottle tops collected in the churches boost the funding for the Norwich Matthew Project.

Team Ministry Website

The address in 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

The Open Gardens event on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June is almost here and I am pleased to say that tickets are now available to buy from Bressingham Village Shop at £.5 each. Accompanied children under 16 are free. This will give entrance into 22 gardens in Bressingham and Fersfield. We also hope many others will plant up a wheelbarrow to brightened the villages even more. These will be judged by the Rev'd Tony and the Rev'd Liz Billett. Perhaps you are like me and just want to make the entrance to your home more welcoming, but either way I do hope you will make the effort and plant one. Please let us know if you are by adding your name and address to the list at the village shop. On both days there will also be a Craft Exhibition and Craft Sales at Bressingham Church and a Photographic Exhibition and Plant Sale at Fersfield Church. Food will be available all day at Fersfield Church and the Village Hall. Tickets on the day will be available from both churches and the Village Hall.

Gardeners Question Time, on Saturday 25th June at 7 for 7.30pm in the Village Hall, will be chaired by

BLOOMING BRESSINGHAM AND FRAGRANT FERSFIELD
OPEN GARDENS 25-26 June 2016
Prosecco shared between Bressingham & Fersfield Churches & the village hall for open work

BEAUTIFUL and INTERESTING LOCAL GARDENS
 to visit and enjoy

PLANTED WHEELBARROW COMPETITION

GARDENERS' QUESTION TIME chaired by **ADRIAN BLOOM**
SATURDAY 25 JUNE at 7.30pm
Question Time Presenters
 Jaime Blake, Ben Potterton, Guy Barker, Chris Grey-Wilson

REFRESHMENTS **PLANT SALE**

Crafts sale **MUSIC**

PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBITION

Tickets for Gardeners' Question Time & Open Gardens from the Village Shop
 Tickets and further information please contact
 Linda - 01379 687729 - hollyj@btinternet.com
 Katherine - 01379 687207 - ksmith6838@btinternet.com

Adrian Bloom, with a panel of 4 well-known gardeners. Tickets for this event are £5 and are on sale now at the Village Shop.

We are looking for people to make cakes for the teas which will be on sale at the Village Hall during both days. Also if you could spare a couple of hours to man the church or help on the days I would love to hear from you. Please contact Diana on 688291, 0787 9692461 or dianajb@btconnect.com Your help for this community event, which will benefit both Bressingham and Fersfield churches and the Village Hall, would be much appreciated.

Talking of food I must say how lovely it is to now be able to go in the Village Shop and buy meals prepared by Alan and ready to take away. You can also buy sausage rolls and mini quiches etc.

We are now collecting in church used postage stamps for the Leprosy Mission. These should be cut from envelopes leaving about a half inch border.

I hope by the time you read this the hail, snow and rain will have gone and we can think about summer. I really do look forward to seeing you at the two above events, and please tell your friends.

Diana

The Afternoon Club

Bressingham & Fersfield Village Hall
Second Tuesday of each month, 2–4pm
(next meeting 14th June)

£2.50 inclusive of drinks and cakes

- come and have fun – everyone welcome – no age limit
- plenty of tea, coffee and cakes
- sit, chat, relax or try something new
- scrabble, chess, dominoes + plenty more
- knit squares for charity, sew or make a card
- crosswords, word searches & drawing available
- darts and table skittles
- help share your hobbies with others
- free admission

If you can help (in any capacity)
please come along or contact

Reg & Kay 01379 688331

Afternoon Club

The first three meetings have been remarkably successful attracting a good number of people enjoying a wide range of activities. The club continues to evolve by offering several new activities including darts, table skittles, dominoes and cribbage which should appeal to the menfolk.

With warmer weather approaching it is hoped to expand to include outdoor activities too. There is always room for new members (membership is free) so why not come along and join us on the second Tuesday of each month from 2–4 pm in the Village Hall. Admission is £2.50 and includes drinks and cakes with lots of fun and chat.

Next meeting June 14th

Bressingham and District Ladies Club

The AGM marked the end of a successful year for the club during which we have enjoyed a colourful spectrum of speakers and outings. We thank Jan Hewitt for her energetic leadership over the past year, and welcome new chairman Sharon Cole. In April members enjoyed an entertaining and inspiring talk by Annie Chapman, organiser of the Pink Ladies Tractor Run and presented her with a cheque for £150, raised by the club, for Cancer Research.

On 20th June we are looking forward to an evening of 'Music, Song and Chat' with Helen Frazer, and on 18th July our speaker will be Celia Stevens who will be telling us about Women Racing Drivers at Le Mans.



Visitors are always most welcome at our meetings, held at Bressingham Village Hall, 7.30pm, cost £3 (including refreshments). Why not come along and make some new friends.

For further details, please call Sue 01379 687541

Remember to check Spotted in Fersfield, Spotted in Bressingham and the Bressingham & Fersfield website www.bressinghamandfersfield.org for the latest information.

FERSFIELD NEWS

Perhaps the Summer really is on its way: I'm actually sitting in the garden writing this (second week of May), and whilst it's a tiny bit breezy, it really is very pleasant. The Lilacs are nearly out, the pied wagtails are settling in and the cuckoo has already been heard over Wood Lane. It's time to wish all those people (increasingly right across the age range) who are taking exams the very best of fortune and to prepare ourselves for a very busy few months.



A little while ago we had a very happy Saturday morning Spring Event in St Andrew's, when parishioners and friends came together to enjoy refreshments, a raffle, cakes books, crafts and tombola. The main intention was to have a good community 'coffee and chat', which we did, whilst in the process raising well over £300 towards the repair of the chancel 'hole'. On the subject of this, we are still awaiting the result of our application for a grant from the Listed Places of Worship scheme. An excellent piece of news is that we have been given a cash grant of £1,000 from the Allchurch Trust. At its last meeting, the PCC agreed to release the first tranche of money towards the restoration of the chancel (£8,000) which will be used for roof and guttering issues – it will be good to see something actually happening! Another very positive move has been the award of a grant from the County Council to cover 50% of the cost of the work needed at the church verges and the churchyard gates. We hope to see this matched with other funding and the long-awaited improvements materialise. It is to be hoped that the heavy lorries will stay on the road, and not use our verges as passing or parking places.

We come to the 'Blooming Bressingham and Fragrant Fersfield' open gardens event of 25–26 June, when we hope the villages will resound to the

sound of visitors admiring the gardens, church exhibitions, refreshments, stalls and other attractions. We really hope everyone knows all about this now: there will also be posters, banners and media items. Please do look carefully at Diana's and Linda's Bressingham items. You will also see information about decorated wheel-barrows, to be on show for both the open gardens weekend and the 'Anglia in Bloom' event in July. (We have just heard that the judging of the barrows for this latter event is likely to be 14 July.) Please do display a decorated barrow if at all possible and also give a hand for an hour or two during the weekend – and DO come!

June's services in St Andrew's will be Morning Service on Sunday 12 June and Holy Communion on Sunday 26 June, both at 09.30. The church will be looking great for the service on the 26th, complete with the Photographic display by Diss Camera Club on the theme of 'Gardens'. Finally, we're so pleased to see Richard (Vere) making such an excellent recovery after a recent hospital visit.

With our best wishes and God Bless, everyone,

Richard

*Make Bressingham and
Fersfield look beautiful*

*Why not PLANT UP A
WHEELBARROW
to go outside your home for*

OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND
25-26 June
and
ANGLIA IN BLOOM in July

Check www.bressinghamandfersfield.org or
call 687729 for further details

LOPHAMS NEWS

St Andrew's School

St Andrew's children, staff, governors and parents have returned to school after a lovely Easter break and are enjoying the warmer weather of the summer term.

During the spring term the children enjoyed the theme 'Passport Around the World'. In Discovery class a travel agent shop and hot air balloon arrived to help pupils plan their own imaginary holidays and adventures. Victory class learnt about natural disasters around the world and Endeavour class studied the European Union. To bring the topic to a close the School Council organised a special 'Jungle Day' when pupils came to school dressed as a jungle animal.

Also during March, Key Stage 2 children enjoyed an educational visit to London to see the musical the Lion King. This was a fantastic day out and all spoke positively about the performance. Children were praised for their exemplary behaviour.

FOSTA were also active during March by encouraging the children to celebrate St Patrick's day by coming to school dressed in green, and organising a Bunny Drive!

This term the children are focusing on the topic 'Our Norfolk, Our Adventures' which looks at past occupations in North Lopham. During this topic the children will be gaining a greater understanding of the history of the village through story telling.

If you would like to know more about St Andrew's Primary School please contact the school office on 01379 687253.

Louise Norgate: Executive Headteacher at All Saints Primary, Winfarthing, St Andrew's Primary, North Lopham and Hapton Primary.

St Andrew's Pre School

Greetings from everyone at St Andrews Pre School.

We are having fun this half term exploring nursery rhymes; we particularly enjoyed our visit to a local farm to see a real life 'Baa Baa Black Sheep', feed orphan lambs and hold some baby bunnies.

After half term we will be concentrating on our lovely outside area and enjoying the warmer weather. We will be weeding, planting and tidying up our garden area and looking for frog spawn in our wildlife pond, we have four resident frogs and a newt so there should be lots to see. We will be enjoying our usual walks around the village and local footpaths as well.

The latter part of the term will be busy with visits to reception class at the school for stories and activities in readiness for the transition in September, leavers' party and sports day.

We have a few spaces still available on all days and are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8.45am-3.15pm.

For further details or to arrange a visit please contact Jan on 07854 091257.

Jan Feaver Pre-school manager

Lophams' Ladies

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

At the AGM in April, Sarah Frizzell kindly agreed to continue as Chairperson for one more year. Those who have retired from the committee were thanked, and we were pleased to welcome Jan Hewett to the team. The evening concluded with fun quizzes which were enjoyed by all. In May, Emma Lord gave a presentation about the work of EACH, particularly at Quidenham Hospice and explained how the NOOK project will enable the work to grow and expand in ways that the present hospice cannot. The June meeting will be a visit to Furse House Gardens at Rushall; David Morton will come in July with an illustrated talk about the Tower of London.

The annual Car Boot, Bric-à-brac, Books and Jumble Sale is on Saturday 2nd July in the Village Hall. The doors open at 1.30pm, admission is free. Please think of us as you do your annual 'Spring Clean and Clear Out'! We can collect, if necessary. For more information, please contact Sarah on 01379 687337, and 687679 for Jumble.

Lophams' Garden Club

We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in Lophams' Village Hall and visitors and new members are always very welcome.



On 7th April Joan Garnham from Waveney Trees came and gave a talk on 'Garden Trees'. Joan gave us much good advice on what to take into consideration when planting new trees as well as what can and can't be done to established trees.

Unfortunately, our planned trip to Stody Lodge had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers, however we are looking forward to our next meeting on 2nd June when we shall welcome Gary Alderton who will give a presentation entitled 'Propagation'.

Please telephone 01379 687833 for further details.

Holy Bingo

Continues in the Village Hall, on the first Monday of the month at 2pm, when new faces are always welcome to come and share in fun sessions, with plenty of time for a chat. The next sessions are on June 6th and July 4th.

Please telephone 01379 687679 for further details or for help with transport.

Art in the Garden

On July 30th and 31st, 10am-5pm at Church Farmhouse, North Lopham (just opposite the church). In addition to enjoying the farmhouse gardens, visitors will be able to view works by local artist Tony Osler, local textile artist Pauline Hammond and visiting textile artist Chris Loversidge displayed on the farmhouse walls. Visitors will have the chance to meet the artists and discuss with them their work and the creative processes involved in its production.

Teas will be served. Admission £3, all proceeds to North Lopham charities.

The Lophams Society

Despite Friday the 15th of April being a wet and miserable evening more than 60 people joined us in the Village Hall when the Lophams' Society hosted its first quiz in 2016. Chairman Roy Clark provided the questions ably assisted by Mike Cox at the scoreboard. After eight closely fought rounds it

was the team on Table One who emerged victorious and took both the honours and the prizes. Thanks go to all our regular supporters who we are always pleased to see and it was good to be able to welcome both newcomers and old friends back amongst our numbers. Thanks also to all the committee members and helpers who prepared and served a tasty ploughman's supper in the interval and to Bill Bedford who kept everyone refreshed at the bar.

The next Lophams' Society event will be a Musical Evening on Saturday 9th July and the next Quiz will be on Friday 14th of October.

Lophams' Village Hall

BRIMBO The British Motor Bike Owners Classic Bike Meet and Auto-Jumble on 8th May had superb weather for once, which meant an excellent turn-out. The grounds team and the catering ladies worked flat out all day to ensure the bikes were correctly sited and everyone was well fed, so many thanks to all of them for giving all comers such a good time!

Hall Improvements: Some money from the Development Fund, to which a percentage of the Lottery money is directed each month, has been used this Spring on kitchen refurbishment – specifically tiling the walls and fitting a dehumidifier to avoid condensation. As this mammoth job is nearing completion we say thank you to the hall users who have been inconvenienced by the upheaval, and a huge thank you to Eugene who has worked so hard on our behalf.

Village Hall Lottery: We do want to keep up 100 members, so please get in touch if you would like to join as soon as a new vacancy occurs. 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. Recent winners are: March, first prize of £200 M Baker; second prizes of £50 M Tipple and A Wallis; April, first prize of £200 A Bush; second prizes of £50 T Young and E Jacob.

Farmers' Markets are usually the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am till 12.30pm, so the next are on June 25th and July 23rd. (Details from Mike on

01379 687235) In addition to the Lottery draw, there is a monthly Farmers' Market raffle with one superb prize, which includes an item from every stall – a wonderful array of goodies for the larder. The April winner was I Bowden.

Judo is on Mondays & Wednesdays, details from Howard on 1379 688258

Dog Training: is on most Thursdays, details from Rob on 01379 873144

Lopham Art Group: meets Wednesday mornings, from 9.30am. Cost: £15 each per month, includes refreshments and a visit from a tutor each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for more details.

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



Borderhoppa Community Transport

New Bus Club Lottery

The New Bus Club Lottery was established to help Borderhoppa replace older vehicles coming to the end of their useful life. New Bus Club Lottery is open to everyone aged 16 or over.

Each lottery number costs £2 per month and participants can purchase any amount of numbers each costing £2 per month.

The lottery draw takes place on the last Friday of each month and all winners are notified by post.

If you would like to support your local community transport service and join the New Bus Club Lottery application forms are available to download from our website www.borderhoppa.org, from our drivers or by calling us on **01379 854800**.

NORTH LOPHAM NEWS

North Lopham Parish Council

Council meeting and AGM 11th May 2016

Attendance: Councillors Eagle, McManus, Hammond, Tate and Tipple; Parish Clerk (Mrs Crossley); Mrs. Chapman-Allen (Breckland Council); two members of the public.

Election of officers: Parish Clerk conducted the election of officers for the new term.

Chairman; Cllr Hammond proposed by Cllr McManus seconded Cllr Eagle, no other proposals, vote unanimous.

Vice Chair; Cllr Tate proposed by Cllr Tipple seconded Cllr Eagle, no other proposals, vote unanimous.

The new chairman reported of the past year's activities. These included the induction of two new councillors, a number of traffic calming measures, the parish plan, the trod, the telephone box restoration with village information board and the defibrillator. He thanked the councillors and all those who had made contributions in whatever form. The councillors thanked the past chairman for his endeavours.

The trod: The Bull to The Cherry Tree footway. Funding is in place, work should start either late this year or early next.

Lophams News: £10/month rise in production costs, the increased expenditure was approved.

LOHP: Increased costs mean their newsletter will cease.

Neighbourhood Plan: No progress to report. Further consultations will be announced soon, important that representation is made then by PCs and the public.

Tanns Lane Water: Continuing problems with drainage water flooding Tanns Lane. The Environment Agency, Anglian Water and Highways have been informed. Opinions were expressed that drainage ditches behind the properties on the north side of the lane are blocked.

Finance: Various compliance requirements were dealt with.

Broadband: Superfast BB should be available by the end of the year, individuals will need to contact their provider re access.

Defibrillator: The annual maintenance cost will be covered by the King's Head as long as George and Angie are there.

Next Meeting: 13th July 2016

North Lopham Methodist Church

Methodist friends 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. Forthcoming dates are June 22nd and July 27th.

St Nicholas' Church

Lent Lunches

Grateful thanks to all the hosts, and to those who came along to support them, for enabling us to raise £245 for the Diocesan Lent Appeal to fund projects in Papua New Guinea.

Good Friday

A Meditation for the Last Hour at the Cross, led by the Team Vicar, the Revd Wendy Evans, was greatly appreciated by everyone who came along. Later in the day, the 14 foot cross across the chancel arch was taken down, and a team of people began to transform the building from the starkness of Lent for the glory of Easter. Many thanks to all those who provided flowers, or arranged them so beautifully.

The All Age Easter Communion was presided over by our good friend, Revd Chris Davidson. The children had a great time hunting for chocolate eggs, and everyone had a 'real' Easter egg to take home, afterwards.

Momentous Anniversaries

21st April 2016 marked 90 years since the dedication and first peal on the bells in St Nicholas' Tower, following their re-hanging, as well as 90 years since the birth of Princess Elizabeth, now our Queen.

The bells rang out on 21st April, as they have whenever possible, to mark the Big '0' anniversaries. A Quarter Peal was led by Jeremy Warren,

who was in the team to mark the 80th anniversary in 2006. On that occasion Albert Driver, one of the original ringers from 1926, took part at the age of 92!



A traditional BCP Evensong with sung canticles and responses on Saturday 23rd April at 4pm, marked both St George's Day and the Royal Birthday. The service, led by the Rector, the Revd Canon Tony Billett, included hymns with a national interest, by English authors and composers and enabled the congregation to have a good sing! The church was decorated appropriately, with flowers and flags. After the service everyone enjoyed tea and a share of the celebration birthday cake.

Pentecost, the 'Birthday' of the Christian Church on 15th May was celebrated with another birthday cake, following a Family Service which remembered the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples, some 2,000 years ago.

An Art Exhibition in St Nicholas Church, from 6th to 8th May, showcased the talents of the local Art Group, alongside pictures by recognised East Anglian professionals. The local talent really was remarkable – congratulations to them all. The launch evening was a very happy occasion, with people from across the Diss Team able to meet some of the artists, as they had a first chance to view the exhibition and affix those important red dots denoting a



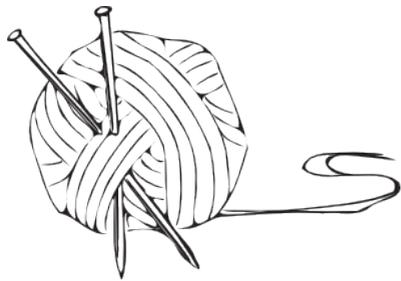
sale. The glorious weather over the weekend meant rather fewer visitors than we had hoped for, but we were thrilled to welcome people from Oxford and Hampshire as well as more local people. We are very grateful to Tony and Alan who organised the exhibition so professionally, the artists, the transport team and those who helped with stewarding and refreshments. All the hard work should raise about £800 for funds.

Annual Meetings

At the Vestry Meeting in March, Richard Vere and Alan Briggs were elected to serve a further term as Churchwardens. At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April, Gill Partridge was asked to join the PCC team, and was duly confirmed as a member at its next meeting. We say a sincere thank you to all of them, and to all those who help the church in any way: caring for the building, delivering the magazine or supporting fund raising efforts. Every bit of help is really appreciated.

Coming Events

A Summer Coffee Morning in and around the church will be held on Wednesday 6th July, from 10am until 12. In addition to the usual delicious refreshments, raffle and tombola, there will be a Bring and Buy Stall, some plants, and a Jigsaw Bring and Buy. We look forward to seeing YOU there. If you need transport, just phone 01379 687679.



Knitting The Bible

The project to knit figures for scenes from the bible for a display at the end of October is well under way, but it isn't too late to join in, just 'phone 01379 687679 or e-mail jennyvere@btinternet.com We would love to hear from you!!

SOUTH LOPHAM NEWS

St Andrew's Church

Coffee Morning A Coffee Morning was held in the Church on Saturday 19th March and we were delighted to welcome many people from this parish and the wider benefice. Coffee, scones and Easter biscuits were enjoyed and a lovely large Easter egg was the main raffle prize. Thank you to all who came to support this event, £260 was raised for St Andrew's Church.

Vestry meeting At the recent Vestry Meeting, Peter Reeder retired from his position as Churchwarden. Peter has been a Churchwarden at St Andrew's Church, South Lopham for over 40 years and we thank him most sincerely for his commitment and dedication in this roll. The PCC would like to wish Peter all the best in his retirement. Jill Brundell will continue as Churchwarden and is joined by new Churchwarden Marion Crisp.

South Lopham Parish Council

The AGM 2016 and regular meeting was held at Valley Farm Low Common on 5th May. Four Councillors and the Clerk, Mrs Phillips, were present, three councillors gave apologies.

Election of officers: John Crisp was elected Chairman and Mrs Sarah Martin Vice Chairman. Thanks were given to Councillors for their work over the year, to our Clerk for her constant attention during the year and to Gary Phillips our Responsible Financial Officer.

Mrs Chapman-Allen our District Councillor had attended various meetings throughout the year for which the Chairman expressed his thanks.

Audit: the Clerk presented the annual governance statements and the accounting statement which were approved.

Financial Report: presented by the Clerk together with the current balances and various accounts for approval. The Clerk is obtaining quotations for renewal of the Council's annual insurance.

Planning: a fresh application for the erection of three dwellings on the site of Willow Brae in the Street and a new application for the conversion of three buildings and extension to house and buildings at Poplar Farm have been made; details available on line or Councillors will have paper copies in due course.

The Enforcement Officer has issued an unauthorised change of use notice in respect of land at the corner of Brick Kiln Lane and Low Common.

Highways: Councillors will continue their speed reduction on the A1066 campaign with NCC.

Some pothole repairs have been carried out on the Blo Norton road but more are needed.

Works: a successful litter pick was carried out on Sunday 10th April; various assorted rubbish collected; thanks to organiser, Tim.

Bus shelter: work to be carried out on date to be agreed.

Other Business: a letter of thanks for the donation sent after the last meeting has been received from the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Letters of support and a petition have been forwarded to Breckland Council in connection with the grant application to refurbish the Village sign on Church road.

Next meeting: 7th July 7.30pm Valley Farm.

South Lopham Estates Charity

South Lopham Estates Charity is a local charity set up to help those in need in the Parish of South Lopham. It owns parcels of lands in the Parish and uses the rent to support St Andrew's School, North Lopham as well as parishioners who have a particular need for modest financial assistance.

Events: Redgrave & Lopham Fen



Wildlife Watch Group

Saturdays, 11 June, 9 July 10.30am-12.30pm
A club for 6-12 year olds, £2
Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333

Guided fen walks

Saturday 6 Aug 10.30am-1pm
Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill.
£3 Meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Summer holiday activities

Family events: £4 child, £2 adult
Wednesday 27 July, 10am-12noon:

Butterflies and moths

Wednesday 3 August, 2pm-4pm:

Wild play

Wednesday 10 August, 10am-12noon:

Treasure hunt

Wednesday 17 August, 2pm-4pm:

Animal Olympics

Children must be accompanied by an adult
Book online at www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Activity days:

For 6-10 year olds 10am-2pm, £7 per child
Tuesday 26 July: **Marvellous minibeasts**
Tuesday 2 August: **Wild fun and games**
Tuesday 9 August: **Dens on the Fen**
Tuesday 16 August: **Hedgehogs**
For unaccompanied children only. Book online at www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org



Young naturalists: £7 each

Thursday 4 August, 10am-2pm
For unaccompanied 11-15 year olds
Wildlife skills & practical conservation work
Book online at www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Art Exhibition

Sat 27, Sun 28 & Mon 29 August, 10am-4pm
Artwork by local artists inspired by nature.
Free entry. Refreshments available.

The Trustees are all local people from a range of backgrounds who meet three times a year to discuss management of the charity's property and applications for financial assistance. Every year the Trustees use the long summer evenings to inspect all the sites owned by the charity followed by a social gathering with families.

If you would like more information about this long established charity, or wish to make a confidential application for financial assistance, please contact the Secretary, Keeley Chapman on 01379 687985 or via email keeleychapman@hotmail.co.uk

Friends of South Lopham Church

Garden Party The Friends of South Lopham Church cordially invite you and your friends to a Garden Party to celebrate Her Majesty's 90th birthday on Saturday 11th June at 3pm at Flint Farm, Brick Kiln Lane, South Lopham. Tickets are £6. We look forward to seeing you there.



From the Registers

Winfarthing Group

FUNERALS

Betty Rout 17th March Winfarthing
Maureen Underdown 13th April
Winfarthing.

CHRISTENING

Florence Brown 14th May Gissing

Bressingham Group

FUNERALS

Olive May Emms (North Lopham)
25th January, Bury Crematorium
Patrick McManus 8th February,
North Lopham (burial)
Timothy Allen O'Dowd 10th February,
North Lopham (then Cremation)
John William Yates 12th April,
South Lopham