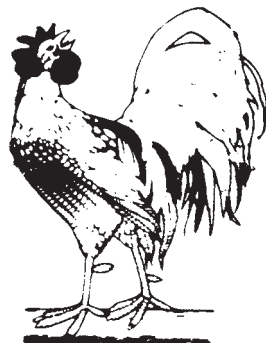


Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

Issue No: 5



Poplars bend in blustery showers at Low Common South Lopham

Editors' Notice Board

Ann Ward

At this time of year it is appropriate to think back to darker times but on this occasion, also, quietly, to celebrate.

Ann Ward (née Taylor), who is to mark her 100th birthday on 13th November, joined the WRNS in May 1940. On the staff of the Flag Officer Submarines (FOS) she was secretary to the Intelligence Officer. Part of her job was to relay up to date information on submarine movements off the coast of Norway and in the Bay of Biscay to RAF Coastal Command.

In June 1941 after an Officers' Training Course, Ann returned to FOS for two more years as 3rd Officer.

In autumn 1943 Ann was transferred to Devonport, her duties there included reporting information received from Allied destroyers hunting German U boats and armed Merchant Cruisers trying to evade the blockade. Shortly after, she was sent to Dartmouth to work for the CO of 15th MGB flotilla, which carried out cross channel expeditions to contact French Resistance groups. This ended on D-Day.

After a spell in London, in February 1945 Ann was sent via Colombo to Delhi to work with the Combined Services Group which was planning attacks on the coasts of Burma and Malaya. She returned later to Colombo Naval Headquarters to work as Secretary on the 'East India Intelligence Notes' publication continuing beyond VJ day until February 1946 when she returned to England for eventual discharge in May of that year.

Ann joined the Royal British Legion Women's Section at an early age and eventually became Ladies President, until the Ladies Section closed in 2016. She then transferred to the Men's Section at Diss where she is still an active member and still attends to flower arrangements at the Diss War Memorial by St Mary's Church.

Thank you Ann and congratulations



Other items
the Editors think
you might like
to know about



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Murphy's Rambles

Some of you may have noticed I haven't been out and about as much. Early in August I hurt my leg and have been restricted to a very short walk a day. Boring!

However, I am fit now so I can take human out and about again. She says she has noticed more as we have been ambling so slowly; the sun shining through a field of downy thistle heads, direct sunshine making nettle leaves look navy not green, the way every piece of vegetation has its own cobweb with no two alike as if there is a cobweb art competition. One morning we disturbed two weasels playing on the path ahead of us. Reaching the road and walking under the telephone wires festooned with swallows, we've seen an egret in the stream, a water vole and, a few days later, a heron.

As I have been housebound I have spent ages on the settee (don't tell human) watching the bird bath and feeder. Chattering sparrows pick up the seeds that the greedy pigeons scatter. Later the blue tits, green finches and robins return. The starlings come in noisy gangs and sometimes empty the fat ball feeder. The bird bath is the most fun, from those who come for dainty sips to those who dive in for a full feather ruffling splashy bath!

We started July in a heat wave and hoped that the weather would stay dry for harvest; why is it that as soon as the wheat is touched, along come the intermittent rains? Poor farmers! Still, it's all in now – just a few bales left in the fields to be given a good 'woofing' in case they pose any danger to my human.

Sometimes you have a morning walk that's a 'champagne' one – blue sky, columns of snowy white clouds and the sun making every thing sparkle; we amble along picking blackberries giving that taste of the summer sun. We spotted a hot air balloon in the distance and then realised that another was sneaking up behind us. Whilst my humans had a mardle with a friend, I watched a deer gracefully walking up the next field watching us to ensure we posed no threat. We met up with two of my doggy chums – no romps though, as we were all on leads – maybe next time.

Cheers now folks – get those humans out there to enjoy the lovely autumn.



Borderhoppa is looking for volunteers and trustees to join our vital community transport service in south Norfolk and north Suffolk.

Users of the service include the elderly, young people, community groups, the rural isolated and those with impaired mobility. Our door to door dial-a-ride service helps people to carry out important tasks such as attend medical appointments, go shopping, pay bills, participate in social events and visit friends and family.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer/trustee or both and supporting us we would love to hear from you.

For more information please contact
Tom Clarke **01379 854800**



Winfarthing Group Rector writes...



Remembrance

Sarah, my niece, has recently been researching a part of the Rothery family history, as my Mum's maiden name is Rothery. She came across an old, crumpled, photograph of Private David Rothery of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, who died on the 15th July 1916, not surviving his second gas attack. He is buried at St Patrick's Cemetery, Loos en Gohelle, Pas de Calais in France. He was married with two very young girls. I was only recently informed that I was named David after him. Sarah also came across some details of an Emily Rothery (known as Red Emma of Southwark). Today, with modern technology, I can look at photographs of David and Emma and remember them.

Remembrance is a very powerful emotion. The Royal British Legion (of which I am a member) made two important decisions; one was to use the term Remembrance as a way of describing their activities and the other was the powerful use of the image of the poppy. Remembering the sacrifice made by men and women in two world wars and subsequent conflicts, the cost suffered and endured; the pain both physical and mental. No wonder the RBL uses the phrase 'We will remember them'.

In my office, I have a small drawing of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. He is kneeling in intense prayer; above him is a very faint chalice. This picture reminds me of the words 'Not my will, but thy will be done'. I find great comfort in remembering that picture.

The picture also reminds me of the very simple act of receiving the bread and wine in Holy Communion. In the words of Cranmer 'Do this in Remembrance of Me'

For me, it is not just about remembrance; it is how we use 'remembrance' in our daily lives. For remembrance should also lead us into action.

Rev David F Mills

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BURSTON NEWS

Burston Sewerage Scheme

There will be a lot of road closures in Burston over the next seven months as the new sewer is laid. Please take great care on the diversions as there will be a lot of two-way traffic, including buses, on many of our narrow lanes.

The Parish Council reports that 'there are mixed feelings in Burston about this project, with the first road closure starting on 11th September. This will enable those homes in the village that have septic tanks or cesspits to be connected to a 'proper' mains sewer, but it is clear that there will be lots of inconvenience over the coming months.'

Burston and Shimpling Parish Council

Piers Bilston has resigned from the Council. We thank him the contribution that he has made to the Council over the past two years. I hope that by the time you read this we will have co-opted a new councillor so that we remain at the full strength of seven councillors.

We have been negotiating with potential funders to obtain the money for us to take action to drain the BMX track on the playing field, and we hope to be in a position to start work within the next few weeks.

There are also mixed feelings in the village about the Strike School Rally. The Council has talked to the Unite union, who organise the event, trying to ensure that there is the minimum of disruption. This year I did publicise my mobile phone number so anyone who had a complaint could raise it immediately, but my phone did not ring – from which I deduce that the inconvenience caused by the rally was acceptable and not a real problem, even though the event was attended by more than three thousand people.

Nigel Frankland

Burston & Shimpling Community Action Team

The team organised a village Barbecue, held on Church Green on Saturday 2nd September, the Saturday before the rally. This year there were two

bands to entertain the crowd, Groovey Arts Club, and Stumpy Joe. The burgers and sausages were well cooked by a team of experts, and everyone who came said that it was a good event.

Friends of Burston Church

The Safari Supper has gained a reputation beyond the village. Among the 30 people who joined us on Saturday 15 July was a visitor who came to see if the idea could be adapted for her parish.

After drinks and canapes in Lynn and Jim Howard's beautiful garden, guests strolled along the lane to The Old Granary where we dined in a marquee on Dorothy Swanton's lawn. Thank you to all of them for hosting us.

Everyone enjoyed an evening of good food and agreeable company. The event raised £294 towards the upkeep of Burston Church as a village amenity.

Our next event is the popular Fish & Chips Quiz on Friday 13 October. Tickets £12 (£6 for under-12s) from Norma: 01379 740595; normandrew6az@btinternet.com or Christine Stevens: 01379 740505; c.stevens864@btinternet.com

Have you heard the church bell?

When St Mary's tower crumbled in 1753, the 5 bells, together weighing over one and a half tons, survived. The parishioners needed £225 (over £1 million in today's money) so the bishop gave them permission to sell four bells, probably to Tibenham. This enabled them to repair the west wall using brick, cheaper than flint.

The smallest, treble bell was hung in a bell-cote at the west end of the roof. It was made at Darbie's bell foundry in Ipswich, and is inscribed: IOHN DARBIE MADE ME 1683.

Arthur Ford, a Burston wheelwright, who rebuilt the bell-cote in 1906, also rehung the bell and erected the weathercock (no compass points as the church is aligned E-W). Unfortunately Mr Ford's expertise was in wheels, not bells. He used iron to suspend the bell and positioned the clapper to strike the bell's side instead of the rim which both increased the risk of cracking.



When the church was restored in 2016, thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund, a serious crack was found in the bell. Special scaffolding, with a pulley to lower and raise the bell, was needed. Extra funds had to be found. It was repaired at Newmarket, one of two remaining bell foundries in England. The other is in Whitechapel, London. Both have a waiting list so repair was delayed. Also the bell-cote had rotted and was in danger of crashing down bringing the bell with it.

The bell-cote was rebuilt by Richard Rumsby. The bell was rehung by the bell-hangers Kevin Baines and his son in January 2017. Pete Hyde kindly restored the weathervane. He found a date 1892 punched into the cockerel's tail. Our thanks go to all who contributed to this project. We are also grateful to the English Heritage Lottery Fund, the Paul Cattermole Fund for a grant of £1000, and the Friends of Burston Church who funded the scaffolding.

The bell now rings out clearly and should do so for many years to come.

Burston School

What an exciting term we have ahead of us! Our topic this term is castles and we have lots of great activities planned involving knights, princesses, castles and dragons. Baby dragon eggs arrived this morning and we can't wait to care for them and watch them hatch!

We cannot believe that it is the start of a new year already and are pleased to welcome in our new Reception children, Sophia-Rose, Esmee-Grace, Ariana, Elijah and Elodie, as well as Tedi in year 6. As always with the autumn term, in class 2 we are hitting the ground running. We are starting a class read by Michael Morpurgo based on the legend of Beowulf. As this story is from the Saxon era, this will run nicely alongside our topic for the half term which is Anglo-Saxons. We will be using drama, art and design technology to help us to find out about how they lived, their beliefs and how they came to settle in England. In science the children will begin a topic on evolution and inheritance, looking at how animals evolve to their habitat.



GISSING NEWS

A Farewell

Earlier in the summer, the village bade farewell to Melvin 'Mel' Wenn, a Gissing native, who, after a long career in the Merchant Marine, returned to his native soil. Mel, his parents and his brothers were all well known to the older generation of Gissing residents, and he was a familiar figure to those more recent additions to the village after his return from the high seas. Gentle and unassuming, but always ready with for a laugh, there was no better company than Mel. One of nature's intellectuals, he took an interest in anything presented to him, and could converse fluently and entertainingly on a wide variety of subjects. At his request, his funeral was a moving churchyard service, attended by a host of family and friends. Gissing will miss him.

Friends of Gissing Church

Structural Repair Programme The repairs on the church are proceeding well, with work continuing on the south chapel (vestry) roof, and the re-installation of the restored weathervane, which is a lovely way to mark the 2017 restoration project.

The focus for the structural work has now moved to the north porch roof and flint work, as well as the unseen but essential work associated with more effective drainage systems and soakaways. Both chapels need new guttering and rainwater goods added to help prevent damp problems developing in the future. The archaeologist has been busy with a previously unknown medieval tomb being unearthed and possibly the entrance to the crypt!!

An important aspect of the project has also begun which is the laying of 3-phase cabling for the electricity supply and water pipe, and the installation of pew heaters and the new lighting system. The latter will be such a wonderful way to illuminate the very special angel roof. This means that the church remains closed to visitors for safety reasons.

Work has also begun on flood lighting for the churchyard which will show off the church to great effect. It would be on a strictly timed, and only for special occasions such as Christmas and New Year.

As part of a consultation with Gissing residents in the summer, people supported the installation of both a lightning conductor and roof alarm system. Both will be undertaken as soon as funds allow but the main project has made such demands on the available grants and contingencies that we are not yet able to go ahead with either... but as soon as we can cover the costs then both will be installed. We hope with the roof alarm that there may be grant assistance available to contribute towards the costs, and we are investigating that at present.

Friends Events

On 19 August, the Friends hosted a 'Meet the Bats at Gissing Church' event at Gissing Community Centre and the church. This proved very popular and it was great to see some children attending. Phil Parker, a bat expert working with the church during the restoration, gave a very interesting talk. The audience also could see some bats 'up close and personal' as Phil had brought some recuperating bats with him – these were being nursed back to health prior to release back into the wild. Claire Calton-Moore kindly provided refreshments after the talk. Phil took people over to the church to see and listen to the resident bats. The bats proved to be rather shy (they could be heard on the bat detector) so despite the infrared viewing equipment we were not able to see them in the church at the time. However, later they were back in the church so they had the last laugh! Believe me, they are certainly there and were flying around with the angels of the roof!

The next event involving the Friends will be the St Nicholas Fayre on 2 December – more news on this will be in the next edition.

For further information about the Friends please contact: Fiona Turton, Tel: 01379 677811 or email: fionaturton@btinternet.com or Ed Scoggins, Tel: 01379 674669 or email: edward.scoggins@live.co.uk

Gissing Children's Centre

It has been lovely to start the new term in a newly refurbished building with a complete redecoration and new flooring in our main rooms. Improvements don't stop there – we are looking to reinvigorate our entire outdoor area and refresh some of the furniture indoors over the coming months. Our main theme

for the Autumn Term will be healthy eating, when we will be encouraging the children to prepare healthy food, try new foods, look at portion sizes etc. We welcome all our new starters and those coming back to us for a truly fresh start.

We are now running our extended opening hours from 8–4.30 Monday to Friday which includes a daily breakfast club (from 8–9). We also offer up to 30 hours free childcare for eligible families, to be used flexibly, and we are registered as a provider for tax-free childcare. We still have some spaces left for the Autumn Term 2017 for both funded and non-funded children aged from 2 to 5 years so if you would like to visit, please contact Linda Nash at manager@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk or ring 01379 677300 between 8.30 and 3.30 Monday to Friday during term time or leave a message on 07796 204367. Do visit our website (www.gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk) and our facebook page to see what we do.

We will be running Holiday Playschemes for primary school age children during the October half-term. The cost, as usual, 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. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and some money for tuck. There will be a distinctly autumnal theme and will comprise craft workshops, cookery, construction and other play opportunities both indoors and outside. Places must be booked and paid in advance, by ringing 07531 810704 or by emailing: playscheme@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk Flyers with dates will be distributed to local schools before the middle of October and information will appear on facebook.

Do come along to our very popular Witchy Woodland Fayre which is taking place on Saturday 14th October from 11–3 for children of all ages. There will be lots of magical goings on in the woodland and round and about – you will be entranced! Tickets per child cost £6.50 and places need to be booked in advance as time slots will be given. To book, text 07789 776680 or email kelpitcher@aol.com

Heart of Gissing

(Charity No: 1161599) The new Community Building has been put to good use during the summer months and has a similarly busy programme lined up for the autumn and winter.

Its light and airy internal spaces, peaceful outlook and rural setting make it ideal for therapies to promote well-being. Yoga, Pilates, and Qigong classes have proved popular. Yoga, on Friday morning, and Qigong on Tuesday evening continued throughout the summer – a new Pilates with toddler dance will start on September 28th for an initial 4 week course. Heather Ormerod Pilates has teamed up with Performing Arts East to create 'Fitness and Fun', a great opportunity for mum to regain fitness, strength and confidence, through Pilates whilst her little one enjoys a creative dance and music lesson.

Other successful events have included a well attended Quiz Night in aid of the LEAF Club which was and very enjoyable. Organiser Steven Sell said:

'A big thank you to all who helped and attended the end of July quiz night. An enjoyable evening was had by all and £267.00 raised for the club. LEAF stands for Leisure, Entertainment and Friendship, a local club for those with special needs and learning difficulties meets once a month, on the last Tuesday evening of the month at Shelfanger Village Hall. New members are always welcome.'

A beautifully presented Bank Holiday Monday Breakfast also attracted a lively group of people, including some new Gissing residents who were given a warm welcome.

Events to look forward to are a Harvest Lunch on 8th October and an Autumn Concert and meal on November 11th. On 2nd December there will be Gissing's much-loved St Nicholas Fayre with Father Christmas, craft stalls and festive food in the new Community Building and an Angel Festival in St Mary's Church.



Gissing Community Building

For all enquiries and for booking this stunning new venue please email theheartofgissing@gmail.com or telephone 01379 677790 text 07504 895182

SHELFANGER NEWS

All Saints' Church, Shelfanger

In this early autumn season the tempo of church activity quickens again. Firstly, a reminder that the Harvest Festival is to be held on Sunday 8th October at 11am. Do come and share in this celebration of God's bounty and of rural life. Any gifts of garden produce would be enthusiastically received. Produce will be sold in aid of church funds on Monday 9th October at the bus shelter (2pm).

On Saturday 28th October your church will hold its annual Gift Morning – a crucial fundraiser to keep your church open. All gifts at this time will be most gratefully and sincerely appreciated. During October, the information leaflets and donations envelopes will be distributed throughout the village.

Remembrance Sunday falls this year on 12th November. David, our Rector, will conduct Shelfanger's tribute to our Fallen and to all those who have given their lives in the service of our country. The service commences at 10.50am in the church, moving to the Memorial at the base of the church tower for the traditional silence and Act of Remembrance at 11am.

The Arts Society Presentation Service

At a celebratory service on Sunday 10th September, Shelfanger Church was presented with a book recording in detail the church structure, furnishings, artefacts and property; in fact a complete snapshot of the church as it is now. This huge project was undertaken by the local church recording group of the Arts Society in Diss & District under their leader, Michael Richards.

School Farewells

Shelfanger church was packed on 21st July for the annual All Saints' School Leavers' Service marking the end of the school's academic year and farewell to its most senior pupils. Music, poetry and spoken dialogue entertained parents and school friends, providing the background to the presentation of awards and the saying of goodbye and good luck to those pupils moving on to secondary education.

Annual Norfolk Churches Cycle Ride

On Saturday 9th September the annual Norfolk and Suffolk Church's Cycle Ride took place, raising funds for the maintenance of our local historic places of worship. As usual Shelfanger church was pleased to welcome cyclists; a sincere thanks to everyone who took part or helped in any way.

Village Hall News

The 2017 Grand Fete was a great success. From the new roadside signs to the friendly alpacas, from the exhibition of art work to the visiting police and fire services, from the coconut shy to the tombolas, from the treasure hunt to the ski ball, it was a lively, busy and cheerful afternoon full of variety and interest. The final sum raised after all expenses had been met was £2,400. The Grand Raffle and the adults and children's tombolas were major earners but the opportunity for people to mix, meet old friends and 'be a village' was a big 'plus'. Thank you to all who helped and all who attended. Finally, particular congratulations and thanks to James and Lois Easter for the successful completion of their first village fete.

Annual Flower Show

Saturday 26th August saw the village hall busy with the arrival, display and judging of entries. The exhibits were expertly judged by Olive and Ken Jolly.



Entries were markedly up on last year. The Chiles Challenge Cup and the Tom Blake Shield were won by Ivan Cotton; the Hammond Family Challenge Cup, the Playing Field Challenge Cup and the Edith Limmer Cup were won by Graham Lanchester and the Colin Mobbs Challenge Cup was won by Tom Blake. In the Homecraft Section, the Olive Chinnery Cup was won by Sue Mobbs and the Freda Stevenson Cup was won by Anne Surman. The Village Hall committee extends its very sincere thanks to the judges, to organiser Colin Mobbs for his superb work as usual and to the stewards, John Kemp, Kevin and Gwen Mobbs, and to the village sponsors. A total of £194.11 was raised for hall funds.

Committee News

At our most recent meeting, we thought carefully about the recent fete. A number of tweaks and changes were considered for next year's event. The results of the survey on 'What is needed at the village hall?' conducted by the lucky programmes at the fete were discussed. The most popular suggestions were to improve the children's play area and to enlarge the Social Club lounge, and these are being actively pursued.

Plans for the installation of a defibrillator unit in the old telephone box at the garage crossroads have taken several steps forward. Grant aid from the Lottery Fund is now nearly assured and BT has agreed to provide the electricity for the converted unit. Thanks to Peter and Karen Lough for their ongoing work on this project.

Shelfanger Social Club

It has been pleasant in recent weeks to welcome a number of new faces. We hope they continue to enjoy the Friday evenings of chat and, as they say in Norfolk, 'squit.' The Social Club AGM will be held on Thursday 12th October at 8pm. Please come to this important meeting and hear how the club runs and take the opportunity to ask questions and put forward your ideas on ways to develop and improve it for the future.

New Year's Eve Party – book now!

The Social Club intends to hold an evening of music, dancing and companionship with a glass of bubbly

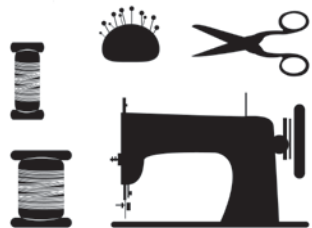
at midnight. This is a chance to celebrate with family friends and neighbours in a local situation. In order to plan and organise accurately, entry will be by ticket only at £10 per person. Please book early by contacting Karen or Peter Lough on 01379 640042 or 07747 771609, as spaces will obviously be limited and sought after.

Shelfanger Parish Council

As the brisk early autumn days are upon us, we ask residents to take advantage of and use the cleared and cut footpath network around the village. These paths are now a credit to Ivan Lord, Linda, Lynne and Dave. Surprise yourself and see your village from a different angle.

Shelfanger Stitchers

The group continues to meet fortnightly with a variety of creative projects underway. As winter approaches, gloves, hats and scarves are back on the agenda with donations to Norwich Night Shelter and other charities. Being a member of Shelfanger

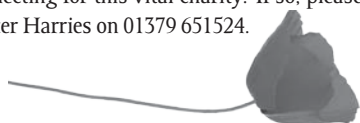


Stitchers offers a chance to develop your knitting skills generally and get help if you need it, not just for charitable but also for your personal projects.

You are welcome to come and enjoy a couple of hours with this cheerful and enthusiastic group. (Telephone Helen for more information on 652199)

Poppy Appeal: New Collectors Needed

Shelfanger has always had an outstanding record of contributing to the RBL Poppy Appeal. However, the collectors of recent times are suffering rather from the effects of the passing years and new, more supple, collectors are needed. Could you have a go at collecting for this vital charity? If so, please contact Peter Harries on 01379 651524.



TIVETSHALL NEWS

Tivetshall St Margaret Church

A huge thank you to everyone that helped to make the flower festival a great success, we raised £445. As always the church looked amazing; what talent we have in Tivetshall. Thank you to the flower arrangers, those that donated flowers as well as donations for the cake stall and prizes for the tombola. Not forgetting those that worked so hard on the cake stall and answered questions from visitors. Lastly, thank you to David and Rob for making the churchyard so neat and tidy.

Last month members of the congregation spent a morning removing ivy from the church walls and clearing the drains (as instructed by the architect). John Grimmer has kindly offered to clear the gutters again.

Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 8th of October, 11am, all are welcome. It would be lovely to see some new faces so please come along for our Thanksgiving service, refreshments at the end of the service!



Village Hall

Hall floor during the summer we were finally able to find a gap in bookings (along with co-operation from SMB and Amanda Pilates, for which we are very grateful) to have the floor professionally refinished. The old floor finish was peeling and difficult to clean, this 'new' floor looks brighter and cleaner

and with a new entrance mat also installed, hopefully will be appreciated by all who use the hall.

Help needed there are still a number of smaller jobs that need attention so the Village Hall Management Committee have produced a list and would be grateful to any volunteers who can help out, the list will be widely published with contact details so if you are willing to help the hall committee and can do some of these jobs it would be much appreciated.

Broadband progress The Committee and your Parish Council have recently agreed to site a cabinet for the B4RN fibre broadband project at the hall (this will help connect all in the village who wish to do so) I am pleased to confirm that as part of this the hall will be given a free wifi of 1.000Mbps for all to use.

Our AGM will be held at Tivetshall village hall at 7.30pm on 10th October 2017, we welcome all and hope more villagers will come forward to help run the hall and become trustees of this versatile facility.

Tivetshall Families & Friends

The Tivetshall Yard Sale, organised in conjunction with St Margaret's Flower Show was another successful event. TFAF raised £174.80 which will go towards funds for our cinema equipment project for the village hall.

The Christmas Craft Fayre is on Sunday 26th November, 11-3. Pop the date in your diary!

We are seeking donations of full jars of items such as jam, pickles, chutney, pickled onions etc. for our Jar Tombola.

We would also welcome donations of mulled wine for our refreshments.

If you would like to donate any of these items please contact Ros Hill on 07830 292074.

Stallholder enquiries: send to thetivetshall@hotmail.com

Christmas Carol singing at The Old Ram Victoria from The Old Ram has contacted TFAF with an idea of having a carol singing evening in early December, if you like a good sing song and would like to join us please get in touch with any member of TFAF.

The committee would love to hear from residents

with ideas you have for future events you would like us to organise next year. At the time of writing this article, ticket sales for the Family Disco have been very slow, which may suggest this type of event is not of interest.

Please contact us on thetivetshall@hotmail.com with your ideas, or visit our website at www.thetivetshall.co.uk

We really hope TFAF can continue to go from strength to strength so we do need your suggestions to make sure we organise events which you all enjoy.

If you prefer to speak to us, contact details for TFAF are:

Tabatha Forbes (Chair) 07816 881317

Janine Alleguen-Porter (Treasurer) 07903 143840 or 01379 674721

Ros Hill (Secretary) 07830 292074

Laura Adam 07923 563881 or 01379 674650

Robert Alleguen-Porter 07419 114869 or 01379 674721

Sue Bircham 01379 677149

Lisa Thrower 01379 674476

You can also go our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tivetshallfamiliesanfriends/>
Or on Twitter at @tfaf_events

On behalf of the committee, thank you all for your continued support this year. We are very grateful to everyone who has supported our community events.

Tivetshall Primary School

July began with Year 6's Leavers' Assembly which preceded the residential trip to Aylmerton and was followed by Year 6 spending the last two weeks of term at Archbishop Sancroft in Harleston. The rest of the school enjoyed our annual Activity Week. The children chose the theme of Films this year and activities included crafts, a treasure hunt; a quiz, film afternoons, and a trip to Abbeygate Cinema in Bury. The week concluded with our annual camp night which was enjoyed by all.

We also took part in the church flower festival with a display on the theme of the hymn 'Dove of Peace', linked with the film Pocohontas.

Sandra Potter, Head of School



WINFARTHING NEWS

Village Hall Quiz and Casserole Night

Book your table now for this popular event! 10th November, £7, 7.30pm (Doors open at 7pm). Bring your own drinks and glasses. Call Nick or Jennie on 01379 643718 for information or to book your table.

Harvest Festival Supper

Tickets are on sale for the next Harvest Supper at the Village Hall on 7th October 2017 at 6.30 for 7pm. Tickets are £10 which include 2 course meal and tea or coffee. £5 for under 12 years old. Come along and enjoy the company of our villagers! Tickets and info: Vicky Mitchell 01379 642830



Church Coffee Morning

The next coffee mornings will be held on September 16th and October 14th at 10.15. All welcome; it's a great place to meet the villagers. There are cakes and savouries to purchase along with tea and coffee. We also have a raffle too!

The money raised goes towards the upkeep of the church building. So far we have purchased a new carpet for the church.

We are always happy to receive raffle and cake donations and thank you to all the stalwarts that make this possible.

All Saints' Primary School

The Autumn term is now in full swing at All Saints' Primary School and we have warmly welcomed new Reception pupils and staff into the school community. Lots of exciting holiday memories have been shared and the pupils are very excited about the installation of a brand new trim trail on the school field. We are also welcoming new members of staff to the team and know they will contribute greatly to school life.

The pupils have been inspired by the new topic of Super Heroes and have thought about what is important to them. I'm sure that we all have our own super heroes! Our current theme for school worship is hope and after the half term break, we will be thinking about friendships. It has been great to see the pupils form new friendships and build on existing friendships in the school.

All Saints' governors, pupils and staff hope you had a wonderful summer. If you wish to make an appointment to visit when term starts, please contact Mrs McGarr, on 01379 642767 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk

We would love to hear from you!

Apple Day

The Walled Garden

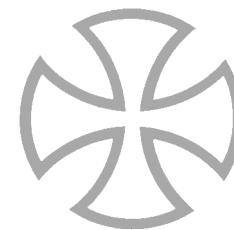
Beyond the Wall, Thornham Magna, Eye IP23 8HA

Sunday 15th October 11.30am to 3.30pm

Apples ♦ live music ♦ cakes ♦ Morris dancing ♦ barbecue ♦ produce stall
Childrens' Games and lots of apple-related activities for all ages to enjoy



Upper Waveney Benefice Rector writes...

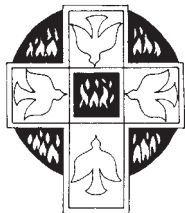


Assessing One's Options

Those of us who have been involved as pupils, in the upper part of secondary school, will remember the business of selecting 'options' – the subjects to accompany the 'core' subjects – as progress is made towards taking external examinations. Choosing the appropriate options can be a complex business, especially when a difficult choice between two favourite subjects arises. As we progress through life, other option situations arise: perhaps concerning career, choice of partner, things to buy – even selection of what to wear or the upholstery and 'non-standard' equipment for a new car.

I can hear someone saying 'it would be nice to have a choice', and I fully agree the facility for having a rich range of options in our lives is not evenly distributed. It's fascinating to hear children discussing their future hopes and dreams, and, many of their aspirations are based on the assumption that there will be choice. As we get older, many dreams fade, and the range of options for how we live our lives seems to decrease. Many factors can contribute to this: career openings, family responsibility, finance, the influence of others – the list of reasons is endless. Sometimes we may feel unhappy that our option range is limited. We may be upset that our option range does not spread far 'upwards' – to big houses, exotic holidays, smart cars – all that sort of thing. But, let us consider those for whom options do not exist at life's very basic levels, where people cannot 'opt out' of lack of shelter or place to sleep, dirty, parasite-ridden water, disease, high mortality. Yes, it's glum for some. Let us be thankful for those who have worked to give us some option in our lives, those who have fought and died for our freedoms, those who have made sacrifices for us. Can we, I wonder, even in a small way, make some sacrifice in our lives so that others may experience the great gift of being able to exercise some choice in theirs?

Richard



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

	Burston	Gissing	Shelfanger	Tivetshall	Winfarthing
October 1	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
October 8	8.00 HC	Join Tivetshall	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
October 15	10.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
October 22	3.00 EP	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	Join Gissing	9.30 HC
October 29	10.30 5/P HC				
November 5	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP
November 12	8.00 HC/R	10.50 R	11.00 MW/R	10.40 R/FS	9.30 MP/R
November 19	10.30 MP	11.00 HC	8.00 HC	9.30 HC	10.00 VC
November 26	3.00 EP	11.00 MP	11.00 MP	Join Gissing	9.30 HC
December 3	9.30 MP	8.00 HC	11.00 MW	11.00 MP	9.30 MP

MW Morning Worship | FS Family Service | HC Holy Communion | MP Morning Prayer | 5/P HC 5 Parish Service |
VC Village Church | P/P Prayer and Praise | R Remembrance

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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.



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 1st October Trinity 16	No Service	No Service	9.30am 11am HC FS	No Service
Sun 1st October	There will be a Patronal Festival Evensong at Roydon at 6pm with Diss Church Choir and preacher the Dean of Norwich			
Sun 8th October Trinity 17	9.30am HC	9.30am MS	11am Harvest Festival	No Service
Sun 15th October Trinity 18	9.30am MS	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 22nd October Trinity 19	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	9.30am MS
Sun 29th October Trinity 20	Fifth Sunday, so Holy Communion at Diss at 8am and 10.30am			
Sun 5th November Trinity 21	No Service	No Service	9.30am 11am HC FS	No Service
Sun 12th November Remembrance Sunday	9.30am HC	3pm Remembrance	11am FS + Remembrance	No Service
Sun 19th November 2 before Advent	9.30am MS	No Service	11am FS	9.30am HC
Sun 26th November Christ the King	No Service	9.30am HC	11am FS	9.30am MS
Sun 3rd December Advent 1	No Service	No Service	9.30am 11am HC Toy Service	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)

Team Ministry Page

Remembrance Sunday always means a change to the usual service pattern, so do please check the Services page and local contacts.

Open the Book

Our team of local volunteers has been retelling Bible Stories at the primary schools in Diss and North Lopham, each half term during the last two years, with drama, humour and costumes. These 'performances' are hugely popular with the children and do bring the stories to life for them. We would very much welcome some more volunteers to join the group. You don't have to learn any lines and it doesn't matter what age you are or height; you may wish to help with costumes or props behind the scenes rather than be on stage. To find out more, please contact Rev'd Wendy or Jennie Vere (01379 687679)



Detail from window Ely Cathedral

Local Trusts and Charities

There are several small trusts/charities operating in our parishes. These bodies can give small grants to individuals in need. Local churchwardens will be able to advise who to approach for help.

The Bacon Trust exists for the benefit of young people who have attended school in one of several villages, including South Lopham and Bressingham, and the grants given are for educational purposes – eg books, travel costs. Those seeking help this Autumn are asked to write to Mrs R Powell at 2, Fir Tree Cottage, Redgrave, before 14th October, with details of their request.

BRESSINGHAM NEWS

Church News

I have two very important things to ask in this report. We are absolutely desperate for someone to offer to take the minutes at the PCC meetings. No other secretarial work is required. The meetings are held in Bressingham on Monday afternoons and we have about 4 a year. Please, if you can help us do contact me.

Secondly, may I appeal to everyone in the village to help us raise some money for everyday running costs, such as building insurance. If we could find a few more people who would be willing to covenant just £5 a month – £10 if you were able – it would make such a difference, especially if you are a UK tax payer in which case we can claim from HMRC another 25p for every £1 you give. We have so many things to pay for each year, mainly from collections and fund raising events, and that includes Cock Crow. Recently, our entire fundraising effort has been directed to fulfilling our obligations under the rules of the HLF grant for the repairs. Do contact me about either of the above reports – Diana Burroughes 01379 688291 or dianajb@btconnect.com

With the above in mind we are holding a series of 'Tasty Teas for Everyday Needs'. The first of these will be at Burwood, Wilney Green (IP22 2AJ) on Sunday 22nd October from 2.30pm. Please come and support us.

Diana

Heritage Lottery Fund Building Works and Heritage Activities

Builders took a well-deserved summer break in August and once the bat breeding season was over, relaying the nave and south aisle roofs could finally begin in early September.

More than 430 people attended our Medieval Weekend Heritage Lottery Fund heritage activity at the church on the 5th and 6th of August. Heavy rain on the first day did not deter people from attending. It proved to be a great success, thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding it. Demowbrays Retinue, a troupe of living history interpreters, was superb. Each of the seventeen characters,

ranging from the Duchess, Elizabeth de Mowbray, to a humble baker, managed to bring 15th century England to life.

Demowbrays attention to detail was astounding and historical research meticulous. Bressingham manorial court under the lordship of Sir Thomas Pilkington in the 15th century was recreated! All the tents, costumes and artifacts, such as medieval fiddles, were carefully researched and authentically reproduced. Demowbrays stayed in character throughout – visitors could have come early in the morning to see them mustering and holding household prayers in Latin. Processing each afternoon into the church led by the visiting Duchess, Elizabeth de Mowbray, Demowbrays were truly magnificent to see. A balance between entertaining and informing people about the medieval manorial court system was skillfully maintained. The court culminated with the baker, found guilty of selling underweight bread, being led out of the church to the stocks to be pelted with eggs by the visitors! Photographs at www.bressinghamandfersfield.org

Visitors enjoyed looking at the historical docu-



A re-enactment of the manor of Bressingham manorial court, inside the church

ments and local history display in the church and admired the rare and magnificent ornately carved bench ends dating from the late 15th to mid 16th century, highlighted by the recent Heritage Lottery Fund funded bench ends research project. Visitors further appreciated seeing the archaeological finds discovered during building repair ground works; especially as archaeologist Simon Underdown was there to explain them. Medieval music beautifully played on the organ by Adrian Kitchen, added atmosphere.

Refreshments, served by a welcoming team of volunteers, included a wide variety of home baked cakes and savouries, plus Pimm's and a delicious local ale. At the end of each day, Demowbrays Retinue re-entered the church to drink this ale in recreation of traditional leet ale.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at the event, baked cakes, delivered or displayed flyers and shook Donation buckets. Special thanks must go to Diana Burroughes for her absolute dedication to the survival of Bressingham Church and encouragement of the Bressingham Church team!

Linda



The Duchess de Mowbray and Lady Pilkington, wife of Lord Pilkington, lord of the manor of Bressingham in the 15th century.

FERSFIELD NEWS

As I write this, there is a positive deluge of water falling from the skies and the storm drains are working overtime. Co-incidentally, the water rate demand has just arrived – or is it notice of a hosepipe ban? Whatever, I can't help thinking of those poor souls in places where the hurricanes and floods are wreaking such havoc – or of those people, especially the children, where there is no clean water to drink or wash in and where disease is so rife. Shallow as it may sound, heavy rain or not, our part of Norfolk is a wonderful place in which to live; perhaps we should not take things for granted too much and should do something to help those who live in less hospitable parts of our world village.

The new term/semester will now be under way: those at school and in further or higher education will be well involved in their studies. We wish our students and their families – and teachers – a very successful academic year.

St Andrew's played host to a splendid Music Camp Day on Monday 21 August. Under the expert tuition of Rosie and Chris Warren-Green, and their colleagues, local youngsters were able to learn anew, or develop, their musical skills, learn about the instruments of the orchestra and take part in the inaugural 'Fersfield Symphony Orchestra' performance. We hear many of those who attended and who were

introduced to playing a musical instrument are now hoping to take regular lessons. It was a great day and thanks to everyone who made it possible.

Our Harvest Festival, jointly held with Bressingham, will have taken place on Sunday 17 September. We look forward to reporting on a special service and great lunch!



Sunday 12 November, is, of course, Remembrance Sunday. Fersfield's service will take place in St Andrew's and around the War Memorial (in the churchyard) at 3 p.m. Please join us for this evocative and moving event.

As we work in Fersfield to try to make St Andrew's a hub for all our village family, we realise how lucky we are to live in such a supportive community: we can never thank people enough for making our village events possible – or for quietly going about the many tasks and actions that keep the village functioning. It really is a good place to be!

So... we look towards Christmas – already! Details of the Annual Carol Service, with Michael Dann and 'Discord', will be available shortly. In the meantime, we wish everyone a very enjoyable Autumn!

Richard



Tips from the maestro Fersfield Music Camp Day



Drums Fersfield Music Camp Day

LOPHAMS NEWS

St Andrew's School

The autumn term is now in full swing at St Andrew's Primary School and we have warmly welcomed new Reception pupils and staff into the school community. Lots of exciting holiday memories have been shared and the pupils are very excited about their new classes. We are also welcoming new members of staff to the team and know they will contribute greatly to school life.

The pupils have been inspired by the new topic of Super Heroes and have thought about what is important to them. I'm sure that we all have our own super heroes! Our current theme for school worship is hope and after the half term break, we will be thinking about friendships. It has been great to see the pupils form new friendships and build on existing friendships in the school.

All Saints governors, pupils and staff hope you had a wonderful summer. If you wish to make an appointment to visit when term starts, please contact Mrs McGarr, on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

M McGarr

CONGRATULATIONS! To Mrs McGarr and everyone connected with St Andrew's. The Report following an Ofsted Inspection at the end of last term has just arrived. It states that the school is Good, and praises many of its features. It could not have been a better start for the new school year.

St Andrew's Pre School

Greetings from everyone at St Andrews Pre School.

The new term is now under way and we will be looking at colours and shapes for the first half of the term, culminating in a sponsored rainbow rally in the week before half term to raise funds for Pre School.

We have welcomed some new children this term but still have places available on all days. We are an inclusive setting and welcome all families.

We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8.45–3.15. We were rated a 'good' at our last

Ofsted inspection and can take eligible 2 year old funded children as well as 3 and 4 year olds.

For further information or to book an appointment to look round and meet our friendly staff, please call Jan on 07854 091257.

Jan Feaver, Pre School Manager

Lophams' Ladies

Meeting at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm.

In August, Janet Major showed slides and real examples of the wonderful knitting produced in the Shetland Isles, and including the gossamer fine shawl she herself had made, taking 200 hours of work. A Bring & Buy stall raised £24 for funds.

Linda Scoles' focus 'Need a Lifestyle Adviser!' in September, had everyone aching with laughter, as she described her attempts to keep some Millennium resolutions.

Visitors are always welcome to our meetings, and the next two may have wider appeal, beyond our own members:

On October 3rd, Peter Dunnett's subject is The Burial Train. This talk will be of great interest to all those seeking to know more about the return home of those who died on the battlefields of Europe; a special welcome awaits both men and women who would like to join us. There will be a Bring and Buy Stall.

Stephen Pope will focus on Norfolk Workhouses on November 7th. These places were the only option for people with no work, right up to the advent of the welfare state. Admission to either meeting is just £2, to include refreshments.

For further information, please telephone Carole on 01379 423143.

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.

Our July outing to Kings Seeds production line followed by a visit to Marks Hall Gardens and Arboretum was very much enjoyed by us all despite having to dodge a heavy rain shower!

We enjoyed meeting Dr Ian Bedford on 3rd August and Ian gave a most interesting and

entertaining talk about Garden Bugs. He really gave us food for thought about whether these creatures should be 'managed' by gardeners or whether it is best just for the natural order of things to manage them for us.

On 7th September we welcomed Will Twentyman who gave a talk entitled 'Rare and Unusual Shrubs'. Will gave us lots of tips and ideas to put to good use in our own gardens and also showed many slides to illustrate his talk and also brought along a selection of plants for sale.

Our next meeting is on 5th October when Shaun Hooley will talk about 'Hedgehogs – Your Garden Friends', and on 2nd November Melanie Collins will give a presentation entitled 'Hostas'.



Our competition in October will be The Longest Carrot and for November, A Garden in a Basket (any size).

Please contact 01379 687833 for any further information.

Lophams' Society

Bookings are already being taken for the Lophams' Society's Autumn Quiz which will take place in the Village Hall on Friday 13th October at 7.30pm. As table numbers are limited for this very popular event early booking is strongly advised to avoid disappointment on the night. As the previous two quizzes were sold out prior to the night and to ensure that Friday the 13th is not unlucky for your team, please book in advance by Telephoning 01379 688408 to make sure of your table. Entry is £6 per person which includes a ploughman's supper. Teams are limited to a maximum of 6 players per table and remember 'you have to be in it to win it.'

Maureen Gaynor

Holy Bingo

We meet on the first Monday of each month at the Village Hall at 2pm: (next two 2nd October and 6th November) and new faces are always welcome for the usual fun time, with plenty of chat, alongside the actual bingo games. If you need a lift, please contact Jennie on 01379 687679 to arrange transport.

Lophams' Village Hall

Lophams' Community Outdoor Fitness Gym There are four pieces of apparatus, suitable for anyone over 140cm tall (about 4ft 8in) all mounted on a suitable sprung base. It has been well used already, by people of all ages. It would be great to have equipment for younger folk too (under 140cm) so we are already seeking some funding for this.

There have been some big compliments recently for the hall and its impressive setting. Eugene and his team have worked very hard through the holiday season to redecorate the whole inside of the hall, including cloakrooms and store-rooms, so it really does look even better. Please help us to keep it looking so fresh and inviting!

Bonfire and Firework Event This always popular occasion will be on Saturday 4th November. The gates will open at 6pm, with the bonfire beginning to burn; the firework display will begin at about 7.30pm. Admission will be £8 per adult, and £4 per school age child, with a family ticket pegged at £20.



There will be all the usual extra attractions – hot food and drinks, plus soup in the kitchen, a bar and children's fun items, so do book the date and come along for this spectacular event.

As before, we will be accepting all burnable garden waste during weekends from 7th October to

4th November, so do bring all your prunings, clean wood etc to the field on Saturdays and Sundays between 10am and 2pm. A donation of £1 per car load and £5 per lorry load would be very gratefully received and will help pay for the fantastic fireworks. Please do not bring any potentially toxic items eg containing rubber, metal, plastics, etc. which could cause Environmental Health to ban the bonfire! Thank you.

An evening of comedy and song with Pat Nearney and Danny Platton on 18th November at 7.30pm is another special date for the diary – based on the experiences of a Town Crier!

Tickets are just £9 from Eileen (01379 687608) or Jennie (687679)

The Village Hall Lottery continues to raise invaluable funds for the development fund, with a full complement of members at the moment. If you would like to go on the list for a place when a vacancy occurs, please contact 01379 687718, or speak to any committee member. Regular draws take place at noon at the Farmers' Market each month. All who have been in for three months are entered into the Christmas Bonanza draw at the December Farmers' Market. The July winners were: first prize of £200, M Fulcher; second prizes of £50, R Bassett and Land L Kercher. The basket of goodies went to Mr Nelson from Thetford. In August, winners were: first prize of £200, J Brown; second prizes of £50, R Flack and M Collier. Ted Young won the £40 goodies basket.



Farmers' Markets take place every month, on the 4th Saturday, from 9am till 12.30pm, with a wide range of stalls to choose your locally produced goods. Next Markets are on 28th October and 25th November. Details from Mike Shipperlee on 01379 687235.



Judo is on Mondays and Wednesdays, contact Howard on 01379 688258.

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

Pilates on Thursday mornings from 11–12, with Jean Wilcox, 07488 268334.

Dog Training Most Thursday evenings with Rob Jessup; Rob's telephone number is 01379 873144.

To book the hall for private events, 'phone 01379 687679, or visit the website.

Lophams' Churches – Harvest Supper

It will be held on Friday 6th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The menu this time will be home-made Shepherd's Pie, with green salad and beetroot, followed by traditional apple pie and ice cream. Fruit juice and hot drinks will be available; if you wish for alcohol, please bring your own, and glasses. There will be a Raffle.

Tickets are £8.50, from churchwardens and PCC members. We hope to see lots of local people, plus friends from the churches. For more information, please ring Jennie Vere on 01379 687679.



NORTH LOPHAM NEWS

North Lopham Parish Council

13th September. Matters discussed

School Crossing patrol: update

Village Design Statement/Parish Plan discussion/flyer to be distributed 17 September

Breckland Local Plan (letter and attachments dated 15th August 2017)

Update on Tanns Lane/pot holes

Final payment for Trod: update

Purchase of Dog Waste bin in Kings Head Lane: Steve Hitchins @BDC

Parish Partnership grants: any suggestions Elizabeth Truss

Rangers update

Financial Matters various regular disbursements considered.

Planning Applications The following planning applications were considered

3PL/2017/0948/0: Demolition of Agricultural dryers and erection of 15 dwellings: PC has commented

3PL/2017/0952-0953: 2 storey extension – application supported

3PL/2017/0909: 27 The Street proposed dwelling to rear, application supported

3PL/2017/0734/F: new agricultural storage building, Application approved by BDC

3PL/2017/0640/HOU: rear ext to car port 5 The Street, Application approved by BDC Signed

Next meeting 8th November 2017

(Editor's note: The NLPC meeting took place well after the October/November deadline for Cock Crow consequently this report is not of its usual 'up to the minute' standard; my apologies!)

St Nicholas' Church

Methodists' Services Methodist friends from the area continue to meet in church for an informal morning service followed by coffee and chat on the fourth Wednesday each month at 10.30am, and are always happy to have local friends join in. The next services are October 25th and November 22nd.

The Biggest Coffee Morning in the World: Friday 29th September from 10–12. Our effort to help raise money for MacMillan Cancer Care will take place in the church. Everyone is invited to share the event to help this great cause, with a Raffle and Bring and Buy alongside the refreshments.

Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal As the end of the year approaches, readers are invited to consider filling a decorated shoebox with goodies to go to a child in Eastern Europe, or further afield, who will otherwise receive no gifts at Christmas time. If you want to help, you can get more information from Jennie Vere on 01379 687679. Filled boxes need to be brought to Southlands, Church Corner, North Lopham, by 10th November, for collection and transportation in time for Christmas. We sent 56 boxes in 2016; please help us to match or exceed this!

Our Harvest Festival Service is on 8th October at 11am. Everyone is invited to share this celebration. If you would like to help decorate the church, please bring flowers, foliage and produce on Friday or Saturday. The decorations will remain in place for the School Harvest Service on 9th Monday, after which gift parcels will be distributed, and any surplus will go to the Waveney Food Bank collection, via St Mary's Church in Diss.

Knitted Bible Festival 2017

25–30 October, 11am–5pm. Knitters are busy making the figures for the extra scenes to complete our version of the most important Bible stories. The aim is 50 scenes, using the suggestions from last year's event as far as possible. It isn't too late to join in – even one more person for the crowd scene at Pentecost would be very welcome! If you would like a pattern (and the wool if necessary), just 'phone Jennie on 01379 687679. Do put the dates in your diary now, so you don't miss this year's display! As always, admission is completely free and there will be activities, refreshments, craft items and preserves available.

Remembrance is the important theme for November

A *Remembrance Ceremony* will be held at the village War Memorial on Friday 10th November at

10.50 for 11am. The older pupils from St Andrew's School have been invited to join veterans, local residents and members of the American Air Force for this remembrance, when they will plant poppy crosses and join in the service

On *Remembrance Sunday*, 12th November, a special ceremony will take place at the beginning of the Family Service at 11am, when all the names from the war memorials will be read, as we give thanks for all the sacrifices made.

Thelnetham Mill Tour and Walk



Sunday October 8

LOHP (Little Ouse Headwaters Project) are organising a **guided walk** and **sheepdog demonstration** in conjunction with **Thelnetham Mill open day**.

The walk starts 10.30am opposite the mill and will be led by newly appointed Conservation Manager Rob Martyr.

This will be followed by a sheepdog demonstration from our grazier Denis Jenkins at about 12–12.30pm.

Free to attend but donations welcome.
Please wear robust footwear

The mill is open from 11am–4pm with guided tours throughout the day and light refreshments being served.

Entrance fee to mill £3.50 adults/£2 children over 5. No booking required.

Further details online at lohp.org.uk or by emailing enquiries@lohp.org.uk.

SOUTH LOPHAM NEWS

St Andrew's Church

Church Windows

The PCC are pleased to see the Church Windows have been repaired and re-installed. They look splendid. The PCC would also like to thank the Friends of South Lopham Church for their efforts in raising the money and organising this much needed repair for our beautiful village Church.

Remembrance Service

The Service of Remembrance for South Lopham this year will take place in St Andrew's Church on Sunday 12th November at 10am.

Coffee Morning

There will be a Coffee Morning in the Church on Saturday 18th November from 10am to 12 noon, with Cake stall, Raffle and Tombola; we look forward to welcoming you.

Friends of South Lopham Church

The Friends are pleased to say that the three South Chancel windows are now repaired and replaced and look splendid.

Watch this space for our next project!

South Lopham Parish Council

The Council met on 5th September at Valley Farm. Six members and the Clerk, Mrs Phillips, were present and one apology. Apologies were also received from Mrs Chapman Allen, our District Council member.

The meeting was pleased to hear that Mrs Chapman Allen is improving from her recent illness and had now returned home.

Little Ouse Headwaters Project The clerk had heard from Dr Smith of the project, clarifying the position of a new Trustee from the Parish. The Clerk will continue to pursue.

SAM2 Speed Restriction Signs Project continuing. Half the cost will be funded by NCC

Potential donors identified for the balance and they will be contacted.

Financial Report Delivered by the Clerk.

Planning Mrs Martin updated the Council. Current matters may be viewed on the Breckland Council website. No new applications.

Hedges/Trees adjoining Public Highways The Council wishes to remind all landowners that these must be trimmed back so that public highways are not obstructed. Financial repercussions will result if the Highway Authority has to undertake this work.

Footpaths Rob Webb reported on his contact with the Countryside Access Officer for Breckland and South Norfolk. He will seek further assistance from her in connection with clearing blocked footpaths. Further access to the Playing Field was discussed. Landowners who have public rights of way are reminded of their responsibilities. A large number in the Parish are impassable. Please act NOW.

Works Simon Puttock to deal with refurbishment of bench on Primrose Lane.

Litter picking All welcome to join in the Litter Pick which Jim Pursehouse is organising. Meet at the White Horse, Sunday 19th November, 10am.

Next meeting Tuesday 7th November 7.30pm at Valley Farm.

From the Registers

Winfarthing Group

FUNERALS

Robert Wenn 29th June, Gissing.

Jean Easthaugh 17th August, Winfarthing

Harold Baxter 22nd August, Burston

CHRISTENINGS

William Cole 8th July, Winfarthing.

Daisy Mae Richards 9th July, Burston

Molly and Ruby Corbyn 30th July, Shelfanger

WEDDINGS

Selina Woodrow 22nd July, formerly of Tivetshall

Trixie Marshall 25th July, formerly of Tivetshall

Bressingham Group

BAPTISM

Grace Soanes-Gilding 3rd September, North Lopham



The Royal British Legion

DISS BRANCH

Christmas Lunch in the Tithe Barn at Brome Grange, Thursday 7th December 12 noon to 4pm. Tickets £20 pp (120 available so please invite your friends!)

Menu

• Roast breast of turkey, pigs in blankets, chestnut stuffing with goose fat potatoes • Slow braised feather blade of beef, horse radish dumplings and goose fat potatoes • Confit of duck, new potatoes, orange and thyme sauce • Roast fillet of cod, roasted new potatoes, cauliflower and salsa verdi • Vegetarian fennel and chestnut loaf, roasted new potatoes with vegetable jus
♦ Traditional Christmas pudding with brandy sauce ♦ Trio of deserts (glazed lemon tartlet,

rich chocolate brownie and Eton mess
♦ Exotic fruit salad ♦ Christmas pudding
ice cream with homemade egg nog ♦ Tea/coffee, novelties and Christmas cracker

Raffle: The main prize is a Christmas Food Hamper including a £50 meat voucher with a smaller hamper as second prize. Draw at approximately 3.30pm at Brome Grange on 7th December. All proceeds will go to the Poppy Appeal.

To book, please contact Jim Bidwell, 5, Copeman Road, Roydon, IP22 5RH; 01379 643363 or mob 07752 624564
A non-returnable £5 deposit is required on booking, balance due by 23rd November.

Events at Redgrave & Lopham Fen



Regular events

Wildlife Watch Group

Saturdays 14 Oct, 11 Nov 10.30am–12.30pm

A club for 6–12 year olds, £2 Contact marcus.

halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333

Healing plants

Fridays 6 Oct, 3 Nov 10.30am–12.30pm

Come and learn about medicinal plants and work towards creating your own personalised herbal
£5, no booking or previous knowledge required
Contact: Tania Harrington 01379 652136

Time to paint

Fridays 27 Oct, 24 Nov 10am–2pm

Bring some artwork and join like-minded people in an informal setting. £5 donation, includes tea/coffee and cake/biscuits. All welcome, no need to book. Contact: Deborah Key 01379 688333

October

Guided fen walks

Saturday 7 October, 10.30am–1pm

Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fen with enthusiast and naturalist John Hill. £4, meet at the Education Centre, no booking required.

Apple Day & Autumn Plant Sale

Sunday 15 Oct, 10.30am–3pm

Apple ID, plants, crafts, free family games, refreshments, plus Kenninghall Morris, £3 adults, £2 children, 01379 688333

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Children's activity: Signs, tracks & trails

Tues 24 Oct, 10am–2pm. Become a wildlife detective. For unaccompanied 6–10 year olds, £7, booking essential

Family activity: Wild night out

Wed 25 Oct, 6.30pm–8.30pm

Make a lantern and explore the fen at night
£4 adults, £2 children, booking essential

Young naturalists

Thurs 26 Oct, 10am–2pm. Seasonal wildlife identification. For 11–15 year olds. £7, booking essential

Vivid oceans and secret seas

Tuesday 31 October, 7.30pm

Evening talk with Valley Fens Wildlife Group
£2 per person (includes refreshments)
All welcome, no need to book

November

Two colour woodblock printmaking

Thursday 2 November, 10am–4pm

£35, inc materials, booking essential

Chutneys and jellies masterclass

Sunday 12 November, 10am–3pm

With local master preserver Janet Peachey
£25, booking essential

Festive wreath, willow heart, star workshop

Saturday 18 November, 10am–1pm & 2pm–5pm

With local basketmaker Karen Lawrence
£30, booking essential

Pre-Christmas preserves

Sunday 26 November, 10am–3pm

With local master preserver Janet Peachey
£25, booking essential

Activity day for home-educated children

Tuesday 28 November, 10.30am–2.30pm

£7 per child, booking essential

Bird migration

Tuesday 28 November, 7.30pm

Evening talk with Valley Fens Wildlife Group, £2 (with refreshments). All welcome, no need to book

For further details and to book, visit

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or call 01473 890089

