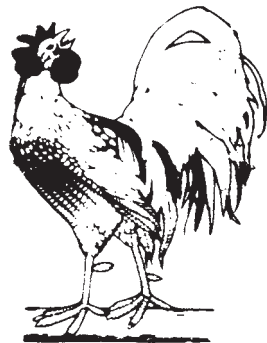


Cock Crow

NEWSLETTER OF BRESSINGHAM &
WINFARTHING GROUP OF CHURCHES

APRIL/MAY 2018

Issue No: 2



Early signs of an Easter Spring

Editors' Notice Board

South Norfolk Community Awards

Volunteers are the stars of our communities.

Nominate your shining star for a South Norfolk Community Award and they could be in with a chance to win **£250** for the charity or community group of their choice.

Nominations close on 29th April 2018.

To nominate go online to
www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/champions
or call 01508 533945



Big South Norfolk Litter Pick

Help keep your local area clean and tidy by joining or organising a litter pick in your neighbourhood. You could also be in with a chance to win **£200** to be spent in your community. For more information and to

book a litter pick date please visit:
www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/litterpick

The Big Litter Pick runs until
31st May 2018



Other items
the Editors think
you might like
to know about



Cock Crow needs a new Treasurer

A volunteer with book-keeping skills is urgently needed to replace our current Treasurer.

The role principally involves maintaining simple income/ expenditure accounts including producing annual accounts for audit; plus producing invoices for and collecting fees from our advertisers.

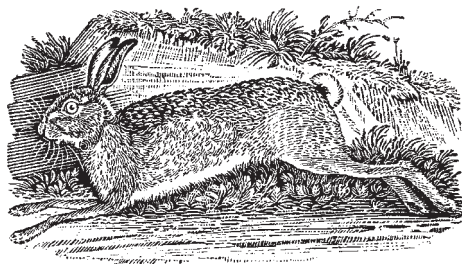
If you would like to help us, please telephone the Cock Crow Secretary, Mrs J Vere, on 01379 687679 or e-mail; jennyvere@btinternet.com for more information.

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Murphy's Rambles

Well, it's a bit nippy as I dictate this – we have deep snow and a cold east wind. Poor human was exhausted today when I got her home, she kept losing the footpath!

Yesterday, we woke to a frosty clear and sparkling morning; I knew in all my paws that it would be special. We started with my female enjoying the churchyard snowdrops when my male pointed out the Muntjac that she was ignoring! On then to scale the glacier that was Heywood Road; female keeps to the verge but male and I go skating! Onto the field; there are 3 deer quietly breakfasting – we tiptoe past, turn a corner and are confronted by 4 more ambling ahead of us. We watched for a while as they moved slowly away, then my male pointed out that in the distance on the far field were another 6. This was getting crazy. Chattering about their good fortune my humans then spooked another in the woods beside us and when we turned onto the next track in that field were another 4! Just in case we were bored with deer – 3 hares. We hadn't finished with surprises though, jokingly checking over a gate into a further field we surprised a barn owl hunting. So wonderful to watch, it would swoop around, then perch for a while, then



repeat; all this was done to the sound of a woodpecker hammering away – magical.

Needless to say we repeated the walk this morning and saw – nothing.

We did see the kingfisher twice in early January but it's back in hiding again. We have an occasional glimpse of the barn owl and a heron to watch, stalking across a scrubby field looking for voles.

Watching a flock of field fares stripping a neighbours fruit tree, they seem to work in relays as we have seen 16 having a rest on the apple tree. They have been there all day and by the evening the tree was bare. Off they went, apart from one straggler who has stayed to see if we can provide anything edible!

Well folks, look out for your humans out there. Remember that spring is coming; it's just hidden under the white stuff at the moment!

PEAT FEST

Monday 7 May 10am – 3pm

Thelnetham windmill and nearby IP22 1JS

A day to celebrate what's beneath our feet!

All things peat including art, natural history, family activities, guided walks, windmill tours, bunting competition, food stalls and more. • Free parking and entry. • Mill tours £4.

See website for further details www.lohp.org.uk





Father of the Nation

It is a big claim to call someone 'The Father of the action.' Yet that is the title given to Nelson Mandela by his fellow countrymen in South Africa, and I think it is one that is well justified. I heard it mentioned on many occasions when I was in South Africa just a few weeks ago – in this, the centenary of Mandela's birth.

The highlight of my visit was a day on Robben Island where Mandela was imprisoned and where, along with many other political prisoners he suffered hugely at the hands of the Apartheid security forces.

I stood at the door of the minute cell where he was incarcerated for so long and stood in the prison yard where he had to crush stones for hours at a time. I was moved to silence at the brutality of a regime that treated people as inferior beings because of the colour of their skin.

Altogether Mandela served 27 years in prison and was released in 1990. In 1994 when Mandela was elected President by a vote of the whole people – previously blacks had not had a vote – he faced the daunting task of creating a new nation, a rainbow nation, as he called it. He frequently showed that he bore no hatred or ill will against those who were formerly his captors and oppressors. He passionately called for forgiveness and reconciliation – often a message derided by both black and white. Thankfully this message of reconciliation won the day – most graphically demonstrated by how he worked together with the captain of national rugby team, the Springboks, a team at the very heart of white Afrikaner nationalism.

As so often, the ones who succeeded Mandela as President fell away from his ideals, and corruption has been widespread. But last month a new President came into office and immediately pledged himself to the ideals embodied in the 'Father of the Nation.' May they re-establish themselves as a beacon of reconciliation – a rainbow nation.

Rt Rev David Gillett

Team Ministry Page

The Rev'd Wendy Evans is to retire, on health grounds, at the end of April. We are all sad to be losing her; she has taken such an active part in the life of the churches, schools and communities, and supported all manner of initiatives with huge enthusiasm. Her last service will be the Team Service in Diss, on Sunday 29th April at 10.30am, our chance to say a big 'Thank You', and then wish her and Neal well for their future in Thetford. We hope lots of folk from across the Team will come along.

Church Wardens for 2018–2019 take office at the Cathedral on Tuesday 15th May. We are very grateful to all who have agreed to take in this role. There are changes this year; the list will be at the foot of the central page of the next issue of the magazine.

Parochial Church Council members will be elected at the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) for the smaller parishes in Roydon Church on Wednesday 18th April. Those interested in the life of the churches are invited to come; those on the ChER (church electoral rolls) may vote. The Rolls are revised during March; forms available in the churches.

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OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

Bressingham & Fersfield

2nd–3rd June, 10.30–5pm, entry £5

Visit lovely gardens in neighbouring villages in the beautiful upper

Waveney Valley.

Varying in size and planting styles, our gardens should appeal to all gardening preferences.

Refreshments, local crafts and 'villagers plants' stalls conveniently sited at Bressingham Village Hall.

Entry by programme from Bressingham Shop, and additionally on the weekend at the Village Hall

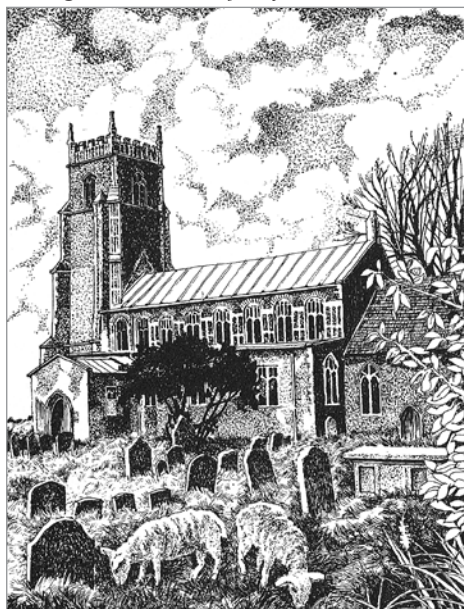
Proceeds to Bressingham & Fersfield Churches and Bressingham Village Hall

BRESSINGHAM NEWS

Church News

At last, the church has reopened as building work is almost complete. Come inside through the north door between 9am–6pm daily and see the porch looking especially good now leaded windows have replaced plastic sheeting!

No one realised, I think, what an enormous challenge we were taking on. Linda Holly has been inspirational, fielding the mountainous paperwork connected with the HLF grant and compiling a booklet on the bench ends which will be on sale in the church by May's end. Throughout the building work Hilary Hadingham, Linda and I managed to supply the workmen with hot drinks etc. gratefully received especially when the weather was so wet. The builders, G F Atthowe Ltd from Norwich, are to be congratulated on the quality of their work.



We are all looking forward to the weekend of Friday 18th to Sunday 20th May. Please come to the talk by Matthew Champion on Friday 18th at 7 for 7.30pm to hear about the architecture of our church. There is no entry charge; glasses of wine

will be available for a small donation. On Saturday 19th May from 10am–5pm and on Sunday 20th May from 10am– 1pm the church will be open for the Flower Festival; light refreshments will be available. Finally we will welcome the Bishop of Norwich to the church for a service at 4pm on Sunday 20th when we will have a Service of Thanksgiving for the Restoration of the Church Roof. It would be lovely lots people from the village at this service.

On March 15th we sadly said good bye to Jessie Lansdell. Jessie, born in Bressingham 90 years ago, lived a lot of her life here. She will be greatly missed by many, me included, as no one made coffee taste like Jessie! Jessie and her late husband George ran a transport business for many years carting sugar beet to Bury factory amongst other things. We send her daughter Linda and her sister Margaret our deepest sympathy.

I am delighted that Hilary Hadingham has agreed to become a churchwarden. Hilary has greatly helped the church since moving here a few years ago and it is fantastic to have another churchwarden.

Following the tragic death of Elizabeth Handy everyone connected with Bressingham church would like to express their deepest sympathy to Charles and the family. Liz worked tirelessly for so many things in Bressingham including giving us the idea of getting an HLF grant for the restoration of the church.

Congratulations to everyone who took a part in the Drama Group's presentation of Hansel and Gretel. Once again it was a wonderful production with some lovely singing and slap-stick.

We have all been through some terrible weather with more snow than I can remember for decades. I was dug out after 3 days and would like, on behalf of the people in the village, to thank all the farmers who came to our rescue. The wind and drifting was unbelievable, completely filling some roads like Halford Lane. Thanks also go to Alan at the Village Shop for feeding so many! At times like this that you realise how lucky we are to have the shop. Thank you all.

Diana

Bressingham Village Hall

Quiz with Ploughman's Supper Saturday 7th April 6.30pm

Food at 7pm. Quiz at 8pm. Tickets £5 at Village Shop or call 01379 688331 to book your tickets.

Murder Mystery Supper Saturday 28th April 7pm for 7.30pm. 2-course hot meal with vegetarian option and choice of desserts plus coffee and mints. £12.50 per head. Tickets must be booked in advance at 01379 688375 [a popular event please book early.

Brenda

Bressingham Primary School

We celebrated World Book Day on 5th March. Children came to school dressed as a book character and much fun was had by all. Thanks to children, parents and staff for making such a wonderful effort.

We were delighted to be chosen for the Tesco Bags of Help scheme. We want to raise money towards an



outdoor canopy so that the two Key Stage 1 classes can use the outdoor area more. £1000, £2000 or £4000 is available to those taking part depending on the number of 'votes' they receive. Our cause was promoted in Diss Tesco store in March with the result to be declared soon afterwards. Here's hoping!

This year, Sports Day is on Monday 11th June. Children will take part in team sports events in the morning and parents are invited to the competitive sports events in the afternoon, from 1.30pm.

School Council, following discussion, has decided on sponsoring a child in Africa and Walking with the Wounded as its charities this year. They have some interesting plans for fundraising; more details will follow.

The school will close for Easter on March 28th and re-open on April 18th.

Friends of Bressingham School (FABS)

Bressingham School Summer fete, Saturday 19th May. Please come and support us and watch for our posters around the village giving more details.

Ladies Club

We were all pleased to meet up again in February after our winter break, when we enjoyed a most entertaining talk by Linda Holly about her career as an Air Stewardess, quite an eye-opener!

On 16th April, Andrew Bailey will be showing us how to spice up our gardens, and on 21st May Glenister Davidson will talk about the iconic Art Deco era.



We meet on the third Monday of the month at Bressingham Village Hall (7.30pm) and all are welcome to come along (refreshments included).

Afternoon Club

Staying Alive Fun Day and Flower Show Sunday 8th July 1–4pm

This show is being held to raise funds for the East Anglian Air Ambulance and Diss First Responders. Many indoor and outdoor stalls, plus carriage rides, a goalie shoot out, teddy tombola, bottle tombola and many more side shows. We are also holding a Super Raffle with some Great prizes.

Please put this date in your diary and come and support two wonderful causes.

More Soft Toys Please for our Teddy Tombola

We've had a great response so far but we would like some more please. Toys can be left on our porch at Abbotswood, High Road Bressingham if we are out. Thank you!



FERSFIELD NEWS

Church News

As I was finishing off these notes I heard that we had lost Liz Handy. Liz... a very strong and loved Bressingham and Fersfield lady, who had so much to offer and give her community. I have written a little more in the 'Parish Council' item, and I'm sure that the whole 'Cockcrow' family will send their love and prayers to Charles and the family at this time.

So – February and March have been pretty much typical for the time of year around Fersfield: snow, ice and the excess surface water but at last the signs of Spring are peering through: first snowdrops and now crocuses and narcissi are in evidence in St Andrew's churchyard. Soon it will be time to start the mower, and to say thanks for God's priceless gift of the seasons' cycle.

Talking of mowers, has anyone the odd, spare half-hour to help with the churchyard and church interior? We really would love to hear from you.

We were rocked by the news that Simon, our contractor for the chancel restoration work, is very seriously ill in hospital and has had to close his firm. We send our best wishes and love to Simon and his family at this awful time.

Preparations are under way for our Plant Sale on Saturday 12 May. We are so very grateful to the village community for all the hard work going into this: please come and buy some of the wonderful plants and gardening items that will be available there. Also, don't forget Bressingham and Fersfield Open Gardens on Saturday/Sunday, 2nd and 3rd June. This promises to be a splendid event – hopefully this year without the rain!

We send our congratulations to our sister church of St John, Bressingham, on their success with the restoration project: a marvellous outcome!

Richard

Bressingham & Fersfield PC

Community Connection, 09.03.18.

Our Parish Council of 5th March was much affected by the news of the death of Liz Handy that morning. Some twenty members of the community and par-

ish councillors were present and observed together a quiet moment to think of Liz and her family. Liz was a former member of the Parish Council, a guiding light in many areas including the establishment of our website. She was someone who valued and energetically supported all members of our community. We will miss her very much.

Correct management for the defibrillator at the Village Hall is still under investigation.

Drainage in the area of Common Road and the allotments, the allotments' ditches and associated water-courses require effective, regular maintenance.

Greater Norwich consultation We have arranged to respond though the pro-forma provided appears not to show some issues of specific relevance to our parishes.

County Councillor, Beverley Spratt, in his report he accepted concerns about this year's Council Tax rise. We passed on expressions about reduced services coupled with tax rises. Beverley hopes to involve senior NCC officials in a review of the A1066 problems – especially the Harvest House access.

District Councillor, Barry Stone, is still too unwell to attend. His monthly report will be published here when available.

Highways; three items: a parishioner's letter about the erosion of Darrow Wood Lane, heavy traffic through Fersfield and the flooding hazard on the A1066. Following Debbie Gosman's address about the Fersfield traffic issue, Vice-Chairman Karl Traynier will convene a sub-committee specifically to deal with it. Remedying the A1066 flooding appears to generate conflict between NCC and the landowners bordering the road. The PC has contacted our area NCC road engineer who is very actively involved.

Proposed A1066 access to Harvest House; we have had lengthy and frank discussions with SLC and NCC officers. None will reconsider the matter of width of access/turning lanes for the proposed development despite considerable public concern. Bev Spratt will approach appropriate NCC officers about this. The PC's request that SNDC refer the whole matter back to committee was rejected by the Leader of SNDC. Barry Stone has been asked to intervene. It seems SNDC and NCC intend to 'sign

off' the current proposals.

We received a good 'within budget' financial report. A £500 grant to help cushion the precious village shop during the 'water-main disruption' was agreed. A member of the community generously gave another £500 to support our shop.

A reminder about the website items concerning Broadband and Neighbourhood Watch/Community Support was given.

We have been awarded £500 towards the cost of a special 'Remembrance Sunday' project to honour the one-hundredth anniversary of the 1918 Armistice. Please support this important all-age event!

Richard

Hansel and Gretel, an appreciation

On 15th February we met with friends at Bressingham Village Hall to watch the latest drama production, 'Hansel and Gretel'.

I would like to thank all the players and people behind the scenes for a wonderful night out.

The play was hilariously funny, well written and beautifully performed. Thank you all for such an enjoyable evening. May you continue to grow from strength to strength.

I already look forward to your next production...

A former Fersfield resident

THE BURGATE SINGERS **40th Anniversary Summer Concert**

Saturday 12th May 7.30pm
Burgate Parish Church

Verdi
Four Sacred Pieces
Handel
Dixit Dominus

With professional soloists and orchestra

Tickets £18 (£16 for under-18s)
available from 01379 677333

All are welcome to a BBQ supper after
the concert at £5 a head and
there will also be a bar

LOPHAMS NEWS

St Andrew's School

Another busy term with the children engaged in numerous activities including exploring different areas of the world, studying habitats, cultures and geographical locations and features. We all visited Norwich for the pantomime and had a wonderful time, so lovely to see the children looking so enthralled. Banham Zoo visited us with different animals and the children enjoyed the hands-on experience. Our collective worship theme this half term is humility and we are exploring different ways this can be shown.

The recent snow closed the school for four days. The children have shown us amazing pictures of their snow creations and the incredible drifting. A burst water pipe the following week led to another day closed but luckily the damage was minimal. Although the de-humidifiers are really noisy, the children are being very sensible and understanding.

The children have attended tag rugby and dance festivals and are looking forward to the football and netball events coming up. School council are working to stage a host of activities for sports relief – apparently more water is involved, but outside this time!

Incredibly, we are already thinking about Easter, our end of term church service is on Tuesday 27th March, at St Nicholas', North Lopham.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit or would like more information about our school, please contact Mrs McGarr on 01379 687253 or by email head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk. We would love to hear from you!

M McGarr

St Andrew's Pre School

We are full steam ahead now after the snow closure of the preschool. We are, like everyone, looking forward to better weather.

We are busy preparing for Easter and for our Easter bonnet parade and afternoon cream tea for families. We will have our usual Easter egg hunt, make some chocolate nests complete with eggs, and



decorate some hard boiled eggs. Our theme for next term is spring and we will prepare our garden for planting.

We have welcomed a new member of staff as pre-school assistant.

We are an inclusive setting and welcome all families. We are open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8.45am to 3.15pm and currently have places available for 3 and 4 year olds and limited places for 2 year olds.

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

Jan Feaver Manager

Lophams' Ladies

Meeting at the Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month, at 7.15 for 7.30pm.

Anita Morton shared much more than 'My Tea Shop' at the February meeting, telling us about the privately owned village, near Holt, where it is located, and about several stars of film and small screen who visited when on location in the estate. Members enjoyed Anita's rich fruit cake with their cups of tea!

Architectural Follies was Sylvia Barrett's subject on 6th March. An array of slides showed follies built in many forms by owners with very large purses and access to very skilled builders.

The AGM on 3rd April will be held at South Lopham White Horse, after members have enjoyed an evening meal together. Potential new members will be welcome, but please telephone 01379 687679 to make your menu choice. The May meeting at the hall will feature stage costumes, especially those for pantomime. Visitors will be very welcome and there will be a 'Bring and Buy' stall. For further information, please telephone Carole Hardstone, on 01379 423143.

Garden Club

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

Unfortunately, Richard Mabey was unable to attend our first meeting of 2018 but we were extremely lucky that Simon McWilliams of Hedgehog Plant and Garden Centre at Risby Barns was able to come instead. Simon talked about plants with winter interest and brought various examples from his well-stocked Nursery. Everyone enjoyed the evening and took away many ideas for use in their own gardens.

Our March meeting was a weather casualty; our next meeting, on 5th April, is when Claire Boothby from the British Trust for Ornithology will talk about Garden Birds.



On 3rd May, the AGM postponed from March will be followed by a quiz and refreshments. It would be good to see friends old and new at this event.

Guy Barker will give a presentation to our meeting on 7th June entitled 'Early Summer'.

Please telephone 01379 687833 for any further information.

Lophams' Society events for 2018

Spring Quiz Friday 13th April

Musical Evening 30th June featuring DixieMix (East Anglia's hottest Trad Jazz Band)

Autumn Quiz Friday 12th October

Christmas Get-together Friday 14th December.

Quiz nights are always popular and tables sell out very quickly. Advance booking is advisable to avoid disappointment on the night.

The musical evening on the 30th June will feature DixieMix who, having provided a great evening's entertainment last year, are back by popular demand. Reserve the date and book early to avoid missing a great evening of Trad Jazz favourites.

For all bookings telephone Roy Clark 01379 688408.

Holy Bingo

At the Village Hall, first Monday each month, at 2pm. Come and join us on 2nd April, Easter Monday, when seasonal treats will feature, then on 7th May.

Lophams' Village Hall

Children's Play Equipment The Trustees are very grateful to those people who have offered to help pursue avenues of funding for activity equipment on the playing field. It would be wonderful to hear from others – all ideas or offers of help with fund-raising welcome. We want to complete this project this year.

Dog Fouling is a persistent problem on the Playing Field. The mess on the far side of the field brings disgrace to all dog owners. A bin is provided please use it! Failure to do so may result in prosecution!

BRIMBO This year's Meet will be at the Playing Field on Sunday 13th May, for motorbike enthusiasts from near and far. Pitch fee £10 (£8 booked in advance), admission £2, with free parking. Refreshments available throughout the day. Look out for local notices, for extra details.

The Village Hall AGM takes place on Friday 25th May at 7.30pm in the hall. We really want Lophams residents to come along to hear about last year's happenings, and to suggest new ventures for the coming months. Don't wait to be asked, just come!

The Village Hall Lottery, now in its ninth year, continues to raise invaluable funds for the hall development fund. If you would like to go on the list for a place when a vacancy occurs, please contact Jane on 01379 688183, or speak to any committee member. Regular draws take place at noon at the Farmers' Market each month. All who have been in for six months are entered into the Christmas Bonanza draw at the December Farmers' Market. In January 2018, the monthly winners were: 1st prize £200, M & D Tipple; 2nd prizes £50, D Hammond and R Bell. One lucky person won the £40 basket of goodies. February's winners were: 1st Prize £200, A Hawes; 2nd prizes £50, K Hatton and A Cook-Bacon. Mrs Green won the basket of goodies.

Farmers' Markets: take place on the 4th Saturday each month, from 9am to 12.30pm, with a wide range of stalls featuring locally produced goods. The next are 28th April and 26th May. Details from M 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 per month including refreshments and a visit from a tutor each month. Contact Jennifer on 01379 687282 for details.

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

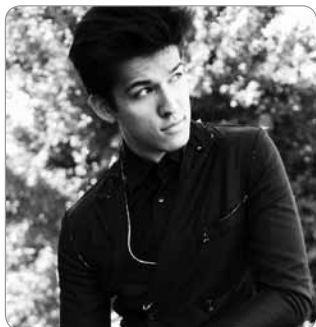
To book the hall for private events, phone 01379 687679, or visit the website.

Midsummer Charity

Classical and Jazz Concert

Sunday 24th June, 5pm until 7.30pm

Cornfield Hall, Hall Lane, Fersfield
IP22 2BH



Dennis Tjiok, the renowned pianist and composer, will be giving a recital of both classical and jazz compositions at our home in Fersfield.

Tickets: £20 per person includes drinks and canapés

Only 40 tickets are available, please ensure your reservation by contacting

Lisa on skolnik@blueyonder.co.uk

All proceeds will be donated to
St Andrew's Church, Fersfield

NORTH LOPHAM NEWS

North Lopham Parish Council

14th March 2018

Before the meeting opened a minute's silence was observed in memory of Cllr Jeremy Callow who died recently.

Present All councillors, Clerk, M McGarr (St Andrews School Head), 5 parishioners.

School Crossing Stephen Askew (NCC) has secured funding for dropped kerb only. No other options except raising parking awareness. Mrs McGarr will approach parents about this.

Parish Plan/Local Plan Committee of 6 looking for younger 7th. No set time frame yet.

Trod completion No confirmation of funding yet.

Planning application at dryer ongoing. Developer wants no low cost housing, BDC wants 27%.

Village Cleanup 12th May meet 09.30 at the mere.

Finger post at Village Hall no council support.

Crown relief road requested regular updates from Cranswick.

Finance balances given and various regular payments approved.

Potholes and blocked drains have been reported to highways.

Parking on grass verges complaints received about the mess this causes, please don't do it!

Next Meeting 9th May 2018

St Nicholas' Church

Methodist friends continue to meet in church for an informal morning service followed by coffee and chat on the fourth Wednesday each month at 10.30am. The next are on 25th April and 23rd May.

Starters and Sweets at the Village Hall was a very happy occasion, though with fewer guests than usual. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed sampling the goodies and discovering how delicious those prepared for special diets can be! Grateful thanks go to those who worked behind the scenes, cooking, setting up and clearing away, and to those who came along, helping to raise just over £200 for funds.

Lent Lunches in homes around North Lopham

continued through March raising funds for a very deprived area in Papua New Guinea, our link diocese. The Rev'd Lynn Fry and husband Tony, from E Harling are working there; a recent letter has interesting photographs.

Mothering Sunday's Family Service focused on families, especially the part that mothers play. Dafodil posies were given to the ladies present, and taken to others not well enough to attend.

Holy Week will be reported next time. After the Good Friday service, gifts of flowers or help with arranging them will be very welcome, to ensure the church looks its best for the Easter Day Communion with Rev'd Wendy at 9.30am on 1st April. The Easter Family Service will end with an Easter egg hunt, and in time for everyone to see the Tractor Run from Palgrave, which arrives at the Kings Head at 12.30pm!

At The Vestry Meeting to elect churchwardens for the coming year, Alan Briggs stood down. He was warmly thanked for all he has done for our church and the benefice; we are glad he will remain on the PCC. For the coming year, Judi Farren-Bradley will become churchwarden alongside Richard Vere. We are very grateful to them both. They take office in May.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in Roydon Church on Wednesday 18th April, at 7pm with friends from the other smaller parishes in our Team. All those interested in the life of the church are welcome; those on the church electoral roll can vote. It's not as boring as you may think!

St George's Day on Monday 23rd April will be celebrated at St Nicholas' Church with a sung Evensong at 7pm, to include a short message from Rev'd Wendy – her last service in N Lopham before her retirement. We will sing traditional English hymns, and follow the service with refreshments. Do Come!

Friday Night is SNYSB+ Night on 25th May. This is our Spring social event, and always great fun for those who perform as well as those who come along. The Band Motto is 'Music is Fun!' and the South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band, plus a few older members, under conductor Mike Booty always live up to it. Tickets are still just £6 and include interval refreshments, when you can meet the band and see some of their more unusual instruments

SOUTH LOPHAM NEWS

South Lopham Estates Charity

(Registered Charity No. 221724)

Any South Lopham resident in need?

Part of the purpose of this charity is to give modest sums of money (say up to £100, but could be increased in appropriate cases) to residents of South Lopham who have a specific financial need.

We are particularly interested in helping young people with the expenses of education and training, including travel.

Other applications for consideration could include anyone suffering because of a bereavement or an unforeseen setback; or problems or expense because of illness in the family such as travel to a hospital or care home; or to assist any resident who has insufficient disposable income to enable him/her to enjoy the occasional treat; or any other cause which the Trustees consider deserving.

If you believe that you or someone in your family may qualify for such assistance please contact the secretary, Keeley Chapman, on 01379 687985 for further details and a simple application form for completion.

If you are aware of any other resident in specific financial need please let the secretary know so that we can approach that person to see if we can help.

Please be assured that all applications will be treated sympathetically and with complete confidentiality.



St Andrew's Church

Easter Service

The Easter Service at St Andrew's Church is on Sunday 1st April HC at 9.30am.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust Talk

On Friday 6th April there will be a talk in St Andrew's Church by Norfolk Wildlife Trust entitled 'The Importance of Churchyards for Norfolk Wildlife'. Tickets, £7.50 which includes refreshments, available in advance from Churchwardens Marion on 01379 687953 or Jill on 01379 687216 or on the door.

Coffee Morning

On Saturday 5th May there will be a Coffee Morning in St Andrew's Church from 10am to 12 noon with a Cake Stall, Raffle and Bring and Buy. We look forward to welcoming you.

Parish Council

6th March at Valley Farm

Present Six Councillors, the clerk Mrs Phillips and the Responsible Financial Officer, Gary Phillips. One apology received.

Weather The Council wishes to thank farmers and everyone else who promptly assisted in keeping access to the village clear during the recent snows.

Finance Gary Phillips presented a revised 2018/2019 budget comprising a summary, precept request and one off items of income and expenditure including war memorial cleaning which was agreed. Other usual monthly expenses agreed. Cost of additional tree cutting and ditch strimming on Blo Norton road agreed: thanks to Alston Farms for donation towards the cost.

SAM2 Speed Sign Steve Reynolds not present to report. Sign has now been moved to all positions except Redgrave Road. Information will continue to be collected and passed to Norfolk Police Traffic department in order to try to improve speed restrictions in the village.

Planning Sarah Martin gave a resume of recent decisions and pending applications. Details available on the District Council website.

Highways Anne Shipperlee reported that Church Road surface had been repaired where necessary. Flooding and road surface at double bend on Church Road had been reported to the County Highways who were receiving regular reminders that work is urgently needed. Please take care on this corner. The whole of Church Road is due for treatment later in the year.

Community Jim Pursehouse has organised a litter pick on 8th April (meet at the White Horse car park 10am) The amount of litter and debris on the road sides and the verges is not good. Why not join the regulars for two hours on the 8th?

Footpaths Rob Webb reported on the good response to help improve access along Footpath 12 off Brick Kiln Lane (see March Lophams News) on 18th February. He also presented details of a proposed parish footpath map which received complete support. Rob will progress further including cost and report back.

Works Simon Puttock confirmed Primrose Lane bench repairs in hand. Simon also to oversee village salt/grit bins to ensure primed ready for winter weather.

Date of next meeting including AGM: 17th May 7.30pm at Valley Farm.

Group Hires with Borderhoppa Community Transport

Did you know that, along with our door-to-door dial-a-ride and outings service for members, not-for-profit community groups can hire our minibuses for their own outings.

Go to destinations of your choice, visit your favourite places or enjoy shopping trips with your group.

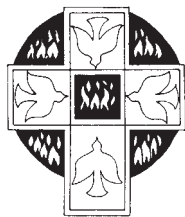
Our requirements are simple. Your group must register with us as a not-for-profit organisation, cost of our annual group membership is £15, and tell us what your group does and when and where you would like use of a minibus.

If you would like to make a booking or would like more information, please call

01379 854800

or visit www.borderhoppa.org





COCK CROW IS THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF THE WINFARTHING

BURSTON
GISSING
SHELFANGER
TIVETSHALL
WINFARTHING

The Rector of the Winfarthing Group
The Revd David F Mills
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| | Burston | Gissing | Shelfanger | Tivetshall | Winfarthing |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| April 1 (Easter Day) | 11.00 HC | 11.00 HC | 9.00 HC | 8.00 HC | 10.00 HC |
| April 8 | 8.00 HC | Join Tivetshall | 11.00 MW | 11.00 MP | 9.30 MP |
| April 15 | 9.30 MP | 11.00 HC | 8.00 HC | 9.30 HC | 10.00 VC |
| April 22 | Join Chapel | 11.00 MP | 11.00 MP | Join Gissing | 9.30 HC |
| April 29 | | | | 10.30 5/P HC | |
| May 6 | 9.30 MP | 8.00 HC | 11.00 MW | 11.00 FS | 9.30 MP |
| May 13 | 8.00 HC | Join Tivetshall | 11.00 MW | 11.00 MP | 9.30 MP |
| May 20 | 9.30 MP | 11.00 HC | 8.00 HC | 9.30 HC | 10.00 VC |
| May 27 | Join Chapel | 11.00 MP | 11.00 MP | Join Gissing | 9.30 HC |
| June 3 | 9.30 MP | 8.00 HC | 11.00 MW | 11.00 FS | 9.30 MP |

Thursday, 10th May: Ascension Day 11am Service at the Cathedral. All welcome.

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 |

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GROUPS OF CHURCHES AND THE UPPER WAVENEY BENEFICE

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 April Easter Sunday | 9.30am HC | 10.30am Easter FS | 9.30am 11am HC Easter FS | 9.30am HC |
| Sun 8th April Easter 2 | 9.30am HC | 9.30am MS | 11am FS | No Service |
| Sun 15th April Easter 3 | 9.30am MS | No Service | 11am FS | 9.30am HC |
| Sun 22nd April Easter 4 | No Service | 9.30am HC | 11am FS | 9.30am MS |
| Sun 29th April Easter 5 | 10.30am in St Mary's Diss: Team HC and farewell to Rev. Wendy | | | |
| Sun 6th May Rogation Sun. | No Service | No Service | 9.30am 11am HC FS | No Service |
| Sun 13th May Ascension Sun. | 9.30am HC | 9.30am MS | 11am FS | No Service |
| Sun 20th May Pentecost | 9.30am MS | No Service | 11am FS | 9.30am HC |
| Sun 27th May Trinity Sun. | No Service | 9.30am HC | 11am FS | 9.30am MS |
| Sun 3rd June Trinity 2 | No Service | No Service | 9.30am 11am HC FS | No Service |

MP Morning Prayers | MS Morning Service | FS Family Service | HC Holy Communion | FHC Family Communion | ES Evensong | EP Evening Prayer with hymns | H&R Service of Healing & Reconciliation | MPW Non Denominational All Age Music Praise & Worship

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

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

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

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

Churchwardens

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Bressingham | D Burroughes 01379 688291 | | |
| Fersfield | J Sumpter 01379 687 711 | R Hewitt 01379 687355 | |
| N Lopham | A Briggs 01953 681989 | R Vere 01379 687679 | |
| S Lopham | J Brundell 01379 687216 | M Crisp 01379 687953 | P Reeder (emeritus) |



The day I nearly saw Di Stefano play

Alfredo Di Stefano, an Argentinean, was regarded by people like Pele and Bobby Charlton as the greatest footballer of his generation. As an 11 year old, living on the Kingswood Estate, near Dulwich, South London, he was a hero of mine. He was a member of the Real Madrid side that won the European Cup 5 times.

On Wednesday 18th April 1962, Real Madrid played their very first game South of Manchester against Crystal Palace. The occasion was the first with the new floodlights, at Selhurst Park. Arthur Waite (relative of Warren Paine of the Fighting Cocks) paid £10,000 for Real Madrid to play the friendly against Palace. Palace lost 3-4.

I would love to have watched that match, but the price increase on the admission to the ground, meant that I was unable to go. Not having the extra 5s (25p), I was unable to go.

Regrets, sorrows, disappointment, pain, anxiety and suffering, are unfortunately part of life's rich pattern. I feel these emotions more frequently during the period we know as Lent. I don't understand why, but I do. Last year my Sister died during Lent.

I have recently been waking up during the night feeling quite dreadful, and for some unknown reason quite sick inside myself. I inwardly sing the chorus 'Praise God from whom all blessing flow, praise him all creatures here below, praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost'. Oh, the power of positive praise; turning negative thoughts into positive thought.

Psalm 137 verse one, expresses such feelings of rejection. 'By the waters of Babylon, we sat down and wept: when we remembered thee O Sion.' It goes on 'How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?' But we can! Not based on anything that we have done or achieved, but only upon what Christ has achieved for us by his death, resurrection, ascension and the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit.

'To God be the glory great things he has done' or 'O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the works thy hand has made... How great thou art!

Rev David F Mills

BURSTON NEWS

Burston and Shimpling Parish Council

At the Annual Parish Meeting last year, concerns were expressed about vehicles speeding in our villages. In response to these comments we now have a fully functioning Speedwatch team. You will see them around our villages with high-viz jackets and a radar speed gun. Drivers exceeding the speed limit can expect to hear from the Police. We have applied for a SAMs speed sensor, which will display vehicle speeds to be shared between us and the Tivetshalls. If we are successful, the device will be mounted at various positions for a fortnight or so at a time.

Council has been involved in commenting on the Greater Norwich Development Plan, and the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan, both of which may influence the amount and type of development in our villages over the next twenty years.

The Annual Parish Meeting this year will be held in St Mary's at 7.30 on Tuesday 24th April. This is not a Parish Council Meeting, although the Council are obliged to arrange it, but is instead a meeting of residents. Anyone can raise any topic they wish for discussion. There will be displays and presentations by many local organisations, and free refreshments.

St George's, Shimpling

This Grade 1 church is 'redundant' and is now maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust. The church is still consecrated, and there are usually two services held in the church each year. In December, at the Carols by Candle-light service, there was standing room only and on Monday 23rd April there will be a service to celebrate St George's Day. As the church is dedicated to St George it is believed that this service will be maintaining a centuries-old tradition of having a 'Patronal Festival' Service. This year the service will be Holy Communion at 10.30am.

The Friends of Burston Church

The 'Friends' is a non-faith organisation who raise funds for the upkeep of the building of St Mary's Church, Burston which is not only a place of wor-

ship but is also Burston's main community space. Our aim is to maintain the building so that it can continue to be available for leisure and recreation use by the whole community. We raised around £1500 last year. Thank you very much to everyone who supported us last year. We hope that you will continue to take part in and enjoy our fundraising events in 2018.

St George's Day Supper

This will be held on the 21st April 2018 commencing 7.30pm at St Mary's Church with a two-course meal and musical entertainment (Please bring your own drinks). Tickets are £12 (£6 for the under 12s). You can book tickets by contacting Christine Stevens on 01379 740505 or emailing her on c.stevens864@btinternet.com

Open Village

An Open Village Weekend on the 2nd and 3rd June is planned, with a scarecrow competition, open gardens and refreshments in the Church. Do you have a garden in Burston? Is it grand; pocket sized; in the making; immaculate; a bit wild? Would you open it for visitors to the Open Village?

Please contact Norma: Tel: 01379 740595 or nor-mandrew6az@btinternet.com

We invite all garden lovers to come and visit Burston on June 3rd.

Further details of this event will be in the June/July edition of the Cock Crow.

If you are interested about our events you can now follow us on Facebook by searching for the Friends of Burston Church for updates and information.

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.

Contact: Stephanie Richardson 01953 887396

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 5pm–6.30pm, in term time only.

Burston School

In class 1 we are learning about the Mayan Civilization during our topic entitled 'The Lost City'. We began our topic by thinking of questions that we wanted to research, many of which revolved around the rainforest. Our FOBs and parents funded a visit from 'Mini Monsters' which we were lucky enough to fit in before the arrival of the snow! The children had the opportunity to meet Mildred the millipede, Fernando and Gary the giant African land snails, Trini the tarantula, Salsa the milk snake and Winston the bearded dragon. The children were able to handle many of these animals and learnt some interesting facts about these unusual creatures. During our lessons, we have moved onto thinking about animals and their habitats, with a focus upon the rainforest. We have also been finding out about the geography of the world, comparing England to countries in Central America, where the Mayans would have lived.



What a half term! Thankfully the snow has melted and learning can continue. This half term our topic is Wild West and the children have been creating some lovely homework which is making a beautiful display! In English, the children are learning how to write a balanced argument, where apostrophes go for plurals and colons! In maths, the children have concentrated on measure, perimeter and area before moving onto fractions. We also celebrated World Books Day, albeit a week late and had some amazing characters come through the school gate: an oompa loompa, the Mad Hatter, Dorothy and Gangsta Granny to name but a few! The children really enjoyed carrying out book related activities and playing 'Guess the Character' quiz!

GISSING NEWS

Thanks for road clearance

Like so many other villages, Gissing was unprepared for the visit from the 'Beast from the East' at the end of February and beginning of March. For a couple of days the village was almost completely cut off from the rest of the civilization. Since such a 'weather event' to use the modern term (somehow the old fashioned 'Act of God' seems to capture the reality better) is so rare in this part of the world, it's always a bit of a struggle to clear it when it comes. Many thanks to the council crews who worked tirelessly with the equipment available to clear our roads and reconnect us to the wider world and especially to all the local farmers and residents who used their tractors and 4x4s to help open the roads and pull cars out of drifts, run errands for people in need and generally help everyone through a rough few days. It was neighbourliness on a grand scale and much appreciated by all those in need of help. A timely reminder of how lucky we are to live in this privileged part of the world.

Holy Communion Easter Day

Easter Day 11am HC at Gissing. As Alma Nobel is a Lay Reader, the 'elements' (bread and wine) will have been consecrated at an earlier HC service. The Service at Gissing will be as usual but minus the Thanksgiving Prayer.

Friends of Gissing Church

Churchyard Maintenance

Completion of some outstanding work in the churchyard recently has included setting out the wildflower conservation areas, with the Community Pay-back Team (CPT) cutting the churchyard hedges and painting the remaining gates. A new section of hedge near the main gates will be planted to renew what was almost certainly, and possibly only, held together by ivy! They will return to restore overgrown graves in the warmer weather and then again in the summer for the hay and rake off for the

conservation areas. Thanks very much to Claire Tyler, Sandra Worthington, and Richard Coombes who helped to keep the cold at bay for the CPT with hot drinks and refreshments during the day.

S and L Restorations will carry out surfacing of the paths and re-seeding damaged grass areas, amongst other remaining 'finishing off' work inside the church, all of which will take place over the coming four months.

Church Floodlighting

Thanks also to all those who responded to a mini survey conducted by George Hammond about the new floodlighting – 'in principle' it seems that everyone likes the lighting but of course we need to re-adjust the direction of the lights to avoid any dazzle.

HLF Grant Heritage Events/Activities

Here is what is planned:

Saturday April 21: Concert by the Pulham Orchestra, in the church – starting at 7.30pm

Monday April 23 Talk by Emily Nobbs, Norfolk Wildlife Trust on the 'Importance of Churchyard Conservation', in Gissing Community Building and the churchyard – starting at 2pm.

Saturday May 12: Talk by Professor Tom Williamson, UEA, on 'The History of Trees and Woods in Norfolk: New Research', in the church starting at 6pm



Friday June 8: Concert by Gissing Singers, in the church – time to be confirmed

Saturday June 23: Talk by Sarah Cassell, UEA, on 'Angel roofs, parish church art and religious belief in fifteenth-century East Anglia', in the church – starting at 7pm.

Tickets for each event cost £5 and light refreshments will be included. It would be helpful in estimating numbers for refreshments, if you could reserve your tickets in advance please.

To book any of these events, contact Fiona Turton,

Tel: 01379 677811, Mob: 07720 949200 or email her on fionaturton@btinternet.com Look out for flyers with further details nearer the times of the events.

During the spring we also hope to have the monuments cleaned, as well as the Victorian tiled floor in the church, ready for the re-dedication and 'opening' event in the summer.

Friends Annual General Meeting

This will be held on 26th April at 7pm in the church. All are welcome whether you are a member of the Friends at present or not. Come and find out what is happening with the Friends, about the final stages of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) restoration project and what the future might hold.

Advanced notice

Don't forget to note Saturday 7th July; come and join us for the Friends' Annual Summer BBQ which will be held at Keepers Cottage once again, courtesy of Heidi and Tony Baxter.

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

Heart of Gissing

(Charity No: 1161599)

There's plenty going on in the Gissing Community Building as 2018 moves into spring and summer. On March 25th, the Heart of Gissing joined forces with the Gissing Children's Centre to provide Easter entertainment for families. Over the Easter weekend itself there will be a family brunch on April 2nd between 10am and midday when all sorts of pancakes will be served.

On the first May Bank Holiday – May 7th – the café will be open again, this time serving a continental breakfast. May 19th will see a Ploughman's Supper during a Quiz Night which starts at 7.30pm. Wine and beer will be available too that evening.

Glorious June (we hope) sees a celebratory mid-summer Party on the 16th. Mick the Baker will provide the music and banter, there will be a full bar. On a more genteel note, a Strawberry Cream Tea on the 22nd of July promises to be equally enjoyable. And

to round the summer off, there's the famous Gissing Fete, back to its usual date on the August Bank Holiday weekend – the 26th.

To keep up with events at Gissing Community Building check out gissingvillagelife.org or for more information contact theheartofgissing@gmail.com.

Gissing Children's Centre

We are now running our extended pre-school opening hours from 8 to 4.30 Monday to Friday which includes a daily breakfast club (from 8 until 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 a small number of spaces left for the Summer Term 2018 for both funded and non-funded children aged from 2 years until 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 the sort of things we do.

We will be running two Holiday Playscheme days for primary school age children during the Easter school holiday on Thursday 5th and Wednesday 11th April. The cost will be £16.50 per child and the sessions will run from 9 to 3.30 with the option of a shorter session from 9 to 1 for £13.50. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and some money for tuck. We will be offering a wide selection of crafts, cookery, lego, play and exploration, making full use of the adjacent woodland. Places must be booked and paid for in advance. email: playscheme@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk Flyers with further details will be distributed to local schools before Easter and information will appear on our Facebook page.



SHELFANGER NEWS

All Saints' Church, Shelfanger

Firstly, best Easter wishes from the church and Cock Crow teams. As this is written, the 'Beast from the East' is slowly retreating but the remains of huge drifts are still visible.

The Shelfanger village community rose magnificently to the snow event. We thank all those who kept an eye on neighbours, who cleared paths or did emergency shopping and collection of medicines. Another thank you must go to farmers with tractors who did sterling rescue and clearance work and to all council workers and range of emergency services who kept the thread of civilisation intact. Let us now hope for Spring.

At your church of All Saints, the season of Lent has run its course and Holy Week and Easter are upon us. On Sunday 11th March, Mothering Sunday was marked by the distribution of posies, (prepared by Pam Harries) to the Mums present.

Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week, was marked by a special service which included the baptism of Matilda, daughter of Nicky and Justin Moore. We welcome Matilda into the family of the church and hope it will be a long, happy, fruitful relationship.

As usual, Holy Week will be a busy and thoughtful one at your church. On Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th March there will be a short service of quiet and meditation, beginning at 7pm and lasting 20 minutes, based on the monastic service of Compline.

On Easter Sunday to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection there is a service of Holy Communion at 9am. We should mention at this point that anyone in the village who requires a home communion may contact wardens, Roger (01379 642286) or Peter (651524) when special arrangements can be made.

Church Annual Meeting

On Thursday 8th March Shelfanger Church held its Annual General Meeting and Vestry Meeting. At these meetings Peter Harries and Roger Challoner were elected to serve for a further year as churchwardens. The meeting adopted the Annual Report

of Finances and Structure for 2017 prepared by Hon Treasurer, Jean Challoner, and heard reports upon deanery affairs, All Saints' School, Cock Crow, the fabric of the church and establishment of a Friends organisation.



Friends of Shelfanger Church

After months of hard work, co-ordinator Keith Day was able to put together a first meeting of some 15 persons interested in being a part of a Friends organisation. This group, not necessarily regular church attenders, would be pledged to see that this lovely 800-year-old building survives for future generations. Following the initial meeting, a further meeting is planned to set up the structure of the organisation and to consider a possible Summer launch event for the whole village.

Shelfanger Village Hall and Social Club

At an extended March meeting members heard of progress on sourcing funding for new play equipment and the extension of the Social Club lounge from Chez Riches. It also heard reports on the status of the defibrillator from Peter Lough and report upon bookings from Ivan Cotton. Plans for the 2018 Grand Village Fete to be held on Saturday 21st July were moved into a more definitive state. The central attraction this year will be classic cars and motorcycles. Enthusiasts in these areas are encouraged to enter. Contact James Easter on 01379 640431.

The successor to John Kemp as Hon. Treasurer

to the Village Hall was considered. John is stepping down after 25 years in this exacting post. What a record! The committee and village are extremely grateful for all his meticulous work, carried out in a cheerful and helpful manner. His experience in the field of health and safety and practical advice over and beyond his financial responsibilities will be very substantially missed.

At the same meeting Ivan Cotton stated his intention to step down as Social Club chairman at the next Social Club AGM. Again, Ivan has been a steady and stalwart leader of the Club from shortly after its inception 25 years ago. The position of chairman of a Social Club and its management in all facets is a complicated time-consuming task which Ivan has carried out with great care and good humour.

A Spring Quiz is due to be held on Saturday 24th March at 7 pm. This is another of the series of quizzes organised by James and Lois Easter and a full account of the evening will appear in our next edition.

On Saturday 21st April, there will be a grand fundraising Auction for the hall. Items to be included for sale will be much appreciated. Sadly, large furniture items and electrical goods cannot be included. Enquiries to James Easter on 01379 640431.

Village Hall Website

To find out what's going on at the Village Hall and Social Club, visit www.shelfanger.com Users can find the Village Hall tab at the top of the page. Click on this link to reveal lots of information about this excellent village amenity.

Shelfanger Parish Council

We echo the thanks given to all who helped the community in any way during the recent severe weather. The Council would like especially to record their thanks to Les Smith for his hand gritting of the bridge and garage crossroads during the bad weather.

Shelfanger Stitchers

This group has welcomed two new members recently and continues producing good projects as well as cheerful conversation and friendship. If you would like to get in touch with your creative side, contact Helen on 01379 652199 for more information.

TIVETSHALL NEWS

St Margaret and St Mary

WW1 Commemorations

The PCC will be working with TFAF and the Parish Council in preparing for a weekend of events in commemoration of the centenary of the end of WW1. Although this may seem a while away there is quite a lot to think about. There will be two church services in the village; the first on 11th November at 10.40 at St Margaret's church and the second at the ruin of St Mary's at 10.50 on the following day, thus enabling the school to participate.

It is hoped that we will have a display in the village hall over the weekend of WW1 memorabilia, photos, children's work etc. If you have anything that you might think be of interest then please contact any member of one of the above organisations. Perhaps you have a story to tell that could be written up?

More details to follow in subsequent editions.



TFAF

Tivetshall Family and Friends wish to thank Sue Bircham, who has stepped down as a Trustee, for her efforts and supporting us since we formed. As part of UK German Shepherd Rescue, Sue has committed to running another Fun Dog Show at our Summer Fete on Sunday 27th May.

Dean Forbes joined as a Trustee in January. He has helped at all the TFAF events since the start.

Film Nights

Our trial film night on the 3rd February was well attended, with 33 people coming along to watch Dunkirk. Thanks to those who completed feedback forms. TFAF will endeavour to use this to improve future film nights.

Our next film is Paddington 2 (PG) being shown on 21st April at 3pm at the village hall. £5 for adults, £3 for children aged 3–12, under 3s go free. Refreshments, popcorn and sweets will be available to purchase. Doors open at 2.30pm, film starts at 3pm.

To book your tickets please contact Tabatha on 07816 881317 – payment on the door.

Summer Fete & Dog Show

We are busy organising the Fete, following a poll on our Facebook Group asking our members what events you would like us to put on in 2018.

This event will take place on Sunday 27th May 11–4 on the Tivetshall playing field.

There will be a Fun Dog Show, Main Arena Attractions, Park Radio from Diss, Lots of Stalls, Fun Games for all ages, Grand Draw, Tombola, BBQ, Licensed Bar run by The Old Ram, Teas, Coffees, Cakes and much more!



Quiz Night

We will be holding a Mighty Quiz on 30th June at Tivetshall Village Hall to raise money for Alzheimer's Research to support their work to defeat dementia. The quiz promises to have something for everyone with a variety of rounds, so join us to show off your skills. We would like to have ten teams each comprising up to six people. We will be charging £3 per person, plus we will have a raffle and be selling refreshments. Doors open at 7pm and the quiz will start at 7.30pm.

For more information or to enter a team please contact Ros Hill on 07830 292074.

You are welcome to enter a team of up to six people; if you don't have enough people, we can put teams together.

Community Lottery

Invitations to renew lottery numbers for April 2018 onwards have been sent out to the 100 ticket holders. If not all of the numbers are renewed for the year,

then tickets will be available to purchase of a first come, first served basis. If you would like to join the waiting list, please send an email to thetivetshalls@hotmail.com

Should you wish to contact anyone from the TFAF, please see the details below.

Tabatha Forbes (Chair) 07816 881317

Robert Alleguen-Porter (Treasurer) 07419 114869 or 01379 674721

Ros Hill (Secretary) 07830 292074

Laura Adam 07923 563881 or 01379 674650

Janine Alleguen-Porter 07903 143840 or 01379 674721

Lisa Thrower 01379 674476

Dean Forbes 07855 468627

Our website is www.thetivetshalls.co.uk – you can keep up to date by visiting this site regularly, we keep the homepage up to date with events coming up. You can also subscribe to our email newsletter.

Go to our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tivetshallfamiliesandfriends/>

Or on Twitter – search for: [@tfaf_events](https://twitter.com/tfaf_events)

Tivetshall Primary School

When we returned to school after the Christmas holidays we started to think about our term's value of Tolerance. This led very nicely into Diversity Week when we thought about accepting everyone, however different they may seem. Both of these themes form important elements of our Learning for Life ethos.

Continuing on this theme our e-safety day work concentrated on social media and mobile phone etiquette.

Class 1's café was on the theme of Pancakes and was very well attended. We especially enjoyed using the pancake maker. Many thanks to Mrs Brown for all of her hard work in preparing this.

The children enjoyed four unplanned days off at the end of February when we were forced to close along with almost every other Norfolk school due to snow and very low temperatures. I am sure that there were lots of snowmen built across the area!

Sandra Potter, Head of School

WINFARTHING NEWS

Cake Stall and Coffee Morning

We welcome you to join in our monthly coffee morning at St Mary's Church, Winfarthing at 10.15am on Saturday 21st April and 19th May 2018. Delicious home cooked cakes are for sale, a great tombola with a variety of prizes, coffee and plenty of friendly chat to be enjoyed. Look forward to seeing you soon!

Village Church

An informal service is held on the third Sunday of each month, run by and involving members of the congregation, starting at 10am in the church; a mixture of traditional and modern hymns, readings, prayers with something to suit all ages. It is also very informative (there is always a quiz!) and great fun on a Sunday morning. Please join us for refreshments afterwards.

Meet & Greet

This informal coffee/ tea morning continues to meet on the first Tuesday in the month at the Fighting Cocks. Drop in anytime between 10.30 and 12 noon. A chance to meet others in the village so you are welcome to pop in on Tuesday 3rd April or Tuesday 1st May.

Winfarthing Walkers

Our next walks are on 18th April and 16th May, averaging 5–6 miles in different locations. All welcome. Contact Marion on 01953 860535 for details.

Oh, What A Night!

The PCC held a Ceilidh at the village hall on Saturday 10th March, and didn't everyone have a great time! A big thanks to the Deneside Ramblers and Jill, the Caller who had her work cut out organising us all for each dance. Everyone commented on the group of under-12s who came along for their first Ceilidh and never left the dance floor. The hall was full of laughter all evening and when the hotdogs were served they were definitely needed to replenish energy levels for more dancing. Thanks to Chris Barker (CJ Barker Butchers, Diss) who provided

the sausages for the occasion – they were delicious! Thank you to everyone who supported this event, the huge raffle raised £90 and the final total for the night will be published in the next Cock Crow.

All Saints' Primary School

This term has been another busy one with the children all engaged in various activities across the school. The children have been exploring different areas of the world and looking at habitats, cultures and geographical locations and features. We all visited the Theatre Royal in Norwich for the pantomime Sleeping Beauty. We all cheered and booed and hissed very loudly and learnt a lot about behind the scenes during the question and answer session afterwards. Our collective worship theme this half term is humility and we are exploring different ways this can be shown.

The recent snow saw the school closed for four days with some amazing pictures the children have been showing us of their snow creations and the incredible drifting.



The children have attended tag rugby and dance festivals and are looking forward to the football and netball events coming up. School council are working hard to coordinate activities for sports relief and we have all taken part in World Book Day, dressing up as characters from our favourite stories.

I can't believe we are already thinking about Easter and have our end of term church service planned for Wednesday 28th March, 10am at St Mary's church.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit or would like more information about our school, please contact Mrs McGarr on 01379 642767 or by email head@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk. We would love to hear from you!

The Royal British Legion

DISS & DISTRICT

Upcoming Events

Hog Roast at Roydon Village Hall Saturday
14th April, 12.30 for 1pm tickets £10

Diss Carnival Sunday 10th June, members
will be taking part in the parade and
providing an information stall in the park.
A raffle, all proceeds to Poppy Appeal and
RBL funds will be held.

Armed Forces Day Saturday 30th June,
events and displays in the Market Place
8am–2pm

Day Trip: National Memorial Arboretum
at Airewas, Staffordshire, Saturday 14th
July, £25 pp. NMA is an amazing place
and well worth visiting. Memorials are
spread over many acres with plenty of
seating. Motorised scooter hire costs £5
per day booked in advance.

Car Boot Sale Sunday 15th July in the
park 7am–1pm. Pitch £5.
These events are open to the public as well
as branch members. Please contact
Jim or Janet on 01379 643363 for
further information.

Tickets are available for **Dickleborough
Branch Folk Night** Saturday 21st April
7.30–11pm, cost £10.

New for Early June! **Day trip to Yarmouth.**
Pick up from your home by Borderhoppa,
travel to Poppylands Restaurant,
Horsey for lunch/dinner, afternoon spent
walking the pier etc, home for 7pm.
Travel £14 pp, meal extra.

Redgrave & Lopham Fen

Regular events

Wildlife Watch Group

Saturdays 14 April, 12 May, 10.30am–12.30pm

A club for 6–12 year olds, £2

Contact marcus.halmshaw@btinternet.com or call 01379 688333

Time to paint

Fridays 27 April, 25 May, 10am–2pm

£5 donation, includes tea and cake. All welcome, no need to book. Contact 01379 688333

Guided fen walks

Saturdays 7 April, 5 May, 10.30am–1pm

£4. Meet at the Education Centre. No need to book.

April

Children's activity: Bird bonanza

Tuesday 3 April, 10am–2pm

For unaccompanied 6–10 year olds £7. *Please book*

Family activity: Springtime dipping

Wednesday 4 April, 2pm–4pm

£4 child, £2 adult. *Please book*



Teens: Young naturalists

Thursday 5 April, 10am–2pm

Seasonal wildlife identification skills

For 11–15 year olds, £7. *Please book*

Plant Sale

Sunday 15 April, 10am–3pm [See poster top right]

Garden birds & wildlife

Tuesday 24 April, 7.30pm

Evening talk with Valley Fens Wildlife Group

£2 per person (includes refreshments)

All welcome, no need to book



Redgrave & Lopham Fen

IP22 2HX

Plant Sale

Sunday 15 April
10am to 3pm

Adults £1.50 • Children free

Over 20 award-winning and specialist nurseries

Bulbs, cacti, campanulas, ferns, hostas, perennials, shrubs, soft fruit bushes, succulents, sweet peas and lots more!

Plus: second hand tools and donated plants

Hot and cold refreshments
Dogs on leads welcome

redgrave.education@suffolkwildlifetrust.org
01379 688333



Registered charity no. 260770 www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

Dawn Chorus

Sunday 29 April, 4am–7.30am

Listen to the birdsong with a local enthusiast, followed by coffee and croissants.

£6. *Please book*. Sorry, no dogs

May

From heath to fen

Monday 14 May, 10am–4pm

Walk with Suffolk Wildlife Trust staff from Knettishall Heath to Redgrave & Lopham Fen £10, including refreshments at the end. *Please book*. Sorry no dogs

A Suffolk Walking Festival event

Activity day for home-educated children

Tuesday 22 May, 10.30am–2.30pm

For 5–9 year olds, £7. *Please book*

Children's activity: Wildlife whodunnit!

Tuesday 29 May, 10am–2pm

For unaccompanied 6–10 year olds

£7. *Please book*

For further details and

to book, visit

www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org

or call 01473 890089



From the Registers

Bressingham Group

FUNERALS

Margaret Rose Fulcher 31st January,
North Lopham

Joan Mary Ravenscroft 12th March,
North Lopham

Jessie Lansdell 15th March, Bressingham

Edward Logsdail 16th March,
South Lopham

Jeremy Callow 19th March,
North Lopham

Elizabeth Handy 29th March, Bressingham

Winfarthing Group

FUNERALS

Eileen Ridding 23rd January, Burston

Chris Bennett 30th January, Shelfanger

Brian Bowen 13th March, Burston

INTERMENT OF ASHES

Eileen Ridding 8th February, Burston

CHRISTENING

Matilda Moore 25th March, Shelfanger



Cock Crow needs a new Treasurer

A volunteer with book-keeping skills is urgently needed to replace our current Treasurer.

The role principally involves maintaining simple income/ expenditure accounts including producing annual accounts for audit; plus producing invoices for and collecting fees from our advertisers.

If you would like to help us, please telephone the Cock Crow Secretary, Mrs J Vere, on 01379 687679 or e-mail; jennyvere@btinternet.com for more information.