# Church & Village News

Baconsthorpe • Barningham Winter • Edgefield • Hempstead Matlaske • Plumstead • Saxthorpe with Corpusty

February 2019





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#### Parish Council Chairs

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Hempstead	Paul Sanders	713217
Matlaske & Barningham	Sara Buxton	577207
Plumstead	Nick Fulford	577433
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Imogen Waterson	587610

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# **District Councillors**

Baconsthorpe, Corpusty, Edgefield, Hempstead, Plumstead, Saxthorpe

Georgie Perry-Warnes

538344

georgie.perry-warnes@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Matlaske & Barningham

Michael Knowles 825995 mike.knowles@north-norfolk.gov.uk

# Parish Council Websites or Email Addresses

http://baconsthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconsthorpepc Baconsthorpe Edgefield http://edgefieldnorfolk.co.uk/theparishcouncil.shtml

Hempstead hempsteadpc@gmail.com

Matlaske & Barningham http://matlaskeparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk Plumstead http://plumsteadparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com Saxthorpe & Corpusty

# Local MP

Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP Unit 4, The Garden Centre Nursery Drive, Norwich Road North Walsham, NR28 0DR norman.lamb.mp@parliament.uk http://www.normanlamb.org.uk/ Office hours are Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm 01692 403752 daily between 10am - 1.30pm

# **County Councillor**

Steffan Aquarone steffan.aquarone.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk 01603 327827

# Church People

Rector Revd Canon David Longe 577252 Retired Priest Brian Faulkner 577868 Lay Minister Gill Peat 734226 Lay Minister Judy Rosser 587584 **Church Wardens** Baconsthorpe Tessa McCosh 577611 Harry Steel 07711 890360 Barningham Winter Amelia Courtauld 577250 Edgefield Emma Cletheroe 587049 587292 Angela Turner Hempstead Ann Udale 713656 Su Summers 710702 Matlaske Thomas Courtauld 577250 Plumstead Eleanor Faulkner 577868 Saxthorpe Merlin Waterson 587610 Heather Monks 587118

# What's On

FEBRUARY			
10.30am	Hempstead Coffee & Gossip	Village Hall	
7.00pm	Barningham Winter Scrabble Evening	Barningham Hall	
7.00pm	Hempstead Play Reading Group	Village Hall	
9.30am	Saxthorpe Snowdrop Viewing	The Old Rectory	
11.00am	Edgefield Snowdrop Viewing	Church Yard	
11.00am	Matlaske Fête Planning Meeting	Old Hall Barn	
6.30pm	Plumstead Parish Council Meeting	Jasmine House	
10.00am	Baconsthorpe Jumble Sale	Village Hall	
7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Village Hall Meeting	Village Hall	
MARCH			
7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Quiz Night	Village Hall	
TBC	Edgefield The Norfolk Nut	Village Hall	
10.30am	Baconsthorpe PCC AGM	St Mary's Church	
7.30pm	Baconsthorpe Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	
TBC	Corpusty & Saxthorpe Past, Present & Future	e Village Hall	
	7.00pm 7.00pm 9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.30pm 10.00am 7.00pm 7.00pm TBC 10.30am 7.30pm	10.30am Hempstead Coffee & Gossip 7.00pm Barningham Winter Scrabble Evening 7.00pm Hempstead Play Reading Group 9.30am Saxthorpe Snowdrop Viewing 11.00am Edgefield Snowdrop Viewing 11.00am Matlaske Fête Planning Meeting 6.30pm Plumstead Parish Council Meeting 10.00am Baconsthorpe Jumble Sale 7.00pm Baconsthorpe Village Hall Meeting  MARCH 7.00pm Baconsthorpe Quiz Night TBC Edgefield The Norfolk Nut 10.30am Baconsthorpe PCC AGM 7.30pm Baconsthorpe Parish Council Meeting	

# **SPRING MARCH FOR CANCER CHARITIES**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 11.30 am around Blickling Hall Park

There will be three routes, a wheelchair route, a longer walk of about 7.5 kms and a walk around the lake of about 3.5 kms, or multiples of these distances. Entry fee £10 online or £12 on the day and £5 for children Car parking, refreshments, first aid cover and toilets included

More details from Judith Banks 01263 587319

# **Clash Diary**

April 30	Baconsthorpe Plant Sale	July 10	Matlaske Coffee Morning
May 10	Matlaske Quiz	Sep 2	Plumstead PC Meeting
May 11	Baconsthorpe BBQ	Sep 16	Baconsthorpe PC meeting
May 13	Plumstead PC Meeting	Oct 4	Matlaske Quiz
May 20	Baconsthorpe PC AGM	Nov 11	Baconsthorpe PC meeting
June 22	Edgefield Open Gardens	Dec 8	Matlaske Christmas Party
June 23	Edgefield Open Gardens	Dec 9	Plumstead PC Meeting

If you are arranging an event please check with Corinne Youngs that there is not already an event being held that day. This will help prevent any clashes.

577263 / corinne@avyoungs.com

# Regular Village Hall Events

# **BACONSTHORPE**

Tuesday during term time	10.00am - 12noon	<b>Diocesan Play Van</b> - 07918 027092
Tuesday	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Carpet Bowls - 711320
Last Friday	6.00pm - 11.00pm	Pop-Up Pub

# **CORPUSTY**

CORPUSTY				
Second and fourth Monday	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bure Valley Quilters & Stitchers		
Second Tuesday	12.30pm - 3.00pm	Citizens Advice Bureau Outreach		
Tuesdays during term time	5.45pm - 7.15pm	Brownies		
Second Tuesday	10.00am - 12noon	North Norfolk Knitters		
		Rita Taylor 587507 k2togp1@btinternet.com		
First and third Thursday	10.00am - 12noon	Art Group Rita Taylor 587507 k2togp1@btinternet.com		
Friday during term time	9.30am - 11.30am	Toddler Group		
EDCEETELD				

#### **EDGEFIELD**

7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
2.30pm	Tuesday Club
2.00pm	Ladies Club
10.30am	Coffee Morning
	2.30pm 2.00pm

#### **HEMPSTEAD**

First Monday alternate me	onths 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday	10.00am	<b>Charcoal Drawing</b> £4 - Mike Thody 711282
Third Wednesday	7.30pm	Film Club

# Mobile Library Van

		•	,
14 Feb / 14	Mar /	11 April /	9 May / 6 June
Matlaske	12.30	NR117AQ	Old Post Office
Plumstead	1.15	NR117LG	Walnut Farm
Baconsthorpe	2.45	NR25 6LJ	Council Bungalows
	3.20	NR25 6LE	Hare & Hounds
	4.10	NR25 6LG	Old Post Office
Hempstead	3.40	NR25 6TL	Telephone kiosk
28 Feb / 28 l	March	/ 25 April	/ 23 May / 20 Jur
Saxthorpe	11.50	NR11 7BL	Old Post Office
Corpusty	12.10	NR11 6QP	School
	12.40	NR11 7BU	Great Farm Cott's
	2.00	NR11 6QJ	Adams Lane
	2.15	NR11 6QL	3 Council Houses
	2.30	NR11 6QL	16 Council Houses
Edgefield	3.15	NR24 2AX	The Street
	3.40	NR24 2AL	The Memorial

# Post Offices

**Baconsthorpe Village Hall** 

1	U	
Tuesdays	1.00pm - 4.00pr	n
Fridays	10.00am - 1.00p	m
All services	_	
<b>Corpusty Stores</b>		587202
Monday-Saturday	9.00am - 12.00n	oon
All services including	Euros	
<b>Holt Library</b>		712202
9 Church Street, Holt	NR25 6BB	
Mon Wed Sat 9.30am	-1.00pm	
Fri 9.30am-6.00pm		

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Church & Village News. Apologies if contributed material is not published due to space constraints. All facts are believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

# Recipe of the Month

Carbonnade of Beef with Mustard Croutes



2tbsp vegetable oil

1.5kg diced stewing steak

2 medium onions, finely sliced

2 tbsp plain flour

1tsp light brown muscovado sugar

2 tbsp red wine vinegar

500ml bottle Guinness

150ml hot beef stock

1 sachet bouquet garner

2 cloves garlic, unpeeled

1 baguette, cut 1cm thick on the diagonal (8 slices)

2 tbsp wholegrain mustard

### Serves 6

Preheat oven to 150c

Heat oil in a large frying pan and brown meat in batches, 3-4 mins, transfer to a plate and season

Sauté onions in pan until lightly coloured - you may need a little more oil

Reduce heat and stir in the flour, then the sugar and vinegar

Continue to stir and add approximately half of the Guinness, mix well

Add stock and remaining Guinness, stirring all the time until thick, smooth and comes to the boil

Reduce heat and simmer for 2 mins

Transfer to a large casserole dish and add the beef, mix well

Place the bouquet garni and garlic in the middle, immersing completely - cover the casserole and cook in the oven for approximately  $2\ \text{hours}$ 

Take casserole out of oven, remove and discard the bouquet garni and garlic

Spread the bread thickly with mustard and place the slices mustard side up on top of the casserole pressing down so slightly in liquid

Return to oven uncovered for 15-20 mins at 220c; the bread should be crisp at the edges

Serve with veg of your choice

Marion Shepherd

# Stay Healthy this Winter

Some advice from the NHS in Norfolk & Waveney

# **Common Sickness Bugs**

Suffering from norovirus or other common sickness bugs? Don't spread it around by visiting your GP or other public places. Stay at home and rest.

# Home First - your bed is the best bed!

None of us wants to go into hospital or a care bed, but if we do it's good to get home if we can. The NHS and social care across all of Norfolk & Waveney are stressing that if someone needs a hospital, or temporary care bed, they will get one, but our aim is always to help people get back home as soon as possible. This is because older people in particular can lose independence rapidly.

Being back home can also help a speedier recovery. So if you know a friend or relative, particularly if they are older, who has to go into hospital it would be kind to make sure they have all they need to get back home, including checking the heating works and they will have food in the house, the washing is done and they feel OK.

# New Year, New You

With the start of a New Year people's thoughts turn to getting fit and improving their health. To stay healthy or improve health, adults need to do two types of physical activity each week: aerobic and strength exercises.

How much physical activity you need to do each week depends on your age. Adults aged 65 or older who are generally fit and have no health conditions that limit their mobility should try to be active daily by doing at least 150 minutes of moderate aerobic activity such as cycling or walking and strength exercises on two or more days a week.

Why not join a local walking group, go for a swim or join a local class? Your library should have information about groups near you.

There are many local services that can enable older people to be more active. A wealth of information can be found through the Norfolk Community Directory.

https://communitydirectory.norfolk.gov.uk/



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# Letter from the Rector - Revd Canon David Longe 577252 / 07881 950294 / djhlonge@gmail.com

Dear All

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them. (1 John 4.16b)

Often, I think, we struggle to describe what or who God is. Is God male or female? If we are made in the image of God, then which image of us most closely represents God? We don't, I think, struggle in understanding what love is. Love is mysterious - we cannot touch it, we cannot see it, and we certainly cannot adequately describe it. Yet love is also known - we can sense when we are loved and can feel overwhelming love for another.

C S Lewis writes of the vulnerability and risk in love: "Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one". This vulnerability is because love in its purest form is unconditional: we love and we don't count the cost. Love is thus a risky business; but a business that brings far more rewards than we can ever imagine.



When a child was laid in a manger in Bethlehem, God took a risk. God gave a child to the world to show what love is. For whatever we think Jesus may or may not have been, Jesus lived a life of love. Jesus's love was risky and it was courageous: he touched the leper, he healed the sick, he embraced the outcast. In short, Jesus loved the unlovable and through this revealed God's love for us all.

Christmas is now a distant memory, but I wonder if I may be able to indulge and bring a little bit of it back to you in this letter, by quoting an Arabic carol which speaks of the risky business of love, in the hope it reveals a truth as relevant in February as it is in December. The carol, Laylat Al-Milad (The Night of Christmas), when translated runs thus:

On the night of Christmas ... Hatred will vanish On the night of Christmas ... The Earth blooms On the night of Christmas ... War is buried On the night of Christmas ... Love is born

When we offer a glass of water to a thirsty person, we are in Christmas When we clothe a naked person with a gown of love, we are in Christmas When we wipe the tears from weeping eyes, we are in Christmas When we cushion a hopeless heart with love, we are in Christmas

When I kiss a friend without hypocrisy, I am in Christmas When the spirit of revenge dies in me, I am in Christmas When hardness is gone from my heart, I am in Christmas When my soul melts in the Being of God, I am in Christmas

My prayer is that you all may know and be in the love revealed at Christmas for the year ahead.



# The Benefice of Matlaske **Church Services for February**

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Presentation of Christ	
9.30 11.00	Eucharist Eucharist	Barningham Winter Edgefield
10 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> before Lent	
9.30 11.00	Holy Communion Matins	Plumstead Hempstead
$17^{ ext{th}}$	3 <sup>rd</sup> before Lent	
10.00 11.00	Eucharist Matins	Matlaske Baconsthorpe
24 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> before Lent	
9.30 11.00	Eucharist Matins	Saxthorpe Barningham Winter
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	1 <sup>st</sup> before Lent	
9.30	Holy Communion With pancakes and refreshments	Edgefield
11.00	Morning Prayer Pre-Lenten drinks and snacks	Plumstead
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Ash Wednesday	
6.00pm	Eucharist with Ashing	Saxthorpe
Eucharist Services Saxthorpe 9am Wednesdays 6 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> / Matlaske 11am every Thursday		

Lent Course				
March 13th	7.00pm	Matlaske Rectory		
March 20th	7.00pm	TBC		
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	TBC		
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm	TBC		
April 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	TBC		

If anyone would like to be confirmed please contact Revd David Longe

David

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# Baconsthorpe

## 200 Club

**December:** £25 Will Peck, £10 Sue Arnold, £5 Nancy Glazebrook,

Yvonne Delaney

Christmas Draw: £20 Julie Rudd, £10 Roger Hall, £5 John White, Alfie Blake,

Ben Dowman, Sheridan Blake



Corinne Young 577263

# Pop-up Pub

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February with Mac 'n' Cheese for supper.

#### **Church News**

The repairs to the lead on the church roof are now complete. On Epiphany Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January David Longe blessed the new roof and we all celebrated after the service with fizzy wine and snacks. By the end of this week the interior of the church will have been completely redecorated and the builders will depart. The church is now in splendid condition and it will be a relief not to have to continually clean up behind the builders and scramble over scaffolding at the services.

This year the Church Electoral Roll has to be renewed. If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll, the relevant forms can be obtained from inside the church and when completed they may be left there and I will collect them.

David Longe is prepared to hold Confirmation classes – if you would like to be confirmed please contact him.

# Village Hall News

Hard to believe, February already, and with it brings a raft of 'things to do' at the village hall. Before announcing some of our forthcoming attractions, it has to be said that we are somewhat lacking on the 'volunteer' front. We are without a Secretary, although to be fair, Karen Benton-Worboys has very kindly agreed to 'stay on' until someone comes forward to take on the role...please. We are also in need of a suitably qualified person (volunteer) to cast an independent eye over our final year (May) annual report and accounts - a requirement of our insurers. In addition, we need some more volunteers to help man various stalls throughout the year. If you feel you might like to join us please contact Susan Belbin on 577474 or susan.belbin@btopenworld.com to find out more. Thank you.

# JUMBLE SALE Saturday 6 February at 10am-12noon

Donations may be left at the village hall during Post Office opening times Tues 1-4pm and Fri 10am-1pm

# QUIZ NIGHT Thursday 14 March at 7pm

£6 per head including supper. Bring your own drinks, booking essential. Contact Emma on 07884 432412

Ideally, we will have an event or two each month throughout 2019 which will include Jumble Sales, Quiz Nights, Prize Bingo Nights, Antique Fair, Musical Acts, Summer Fête, Christmas Party HOWEVER, if you would like to see a variation on the above, do please let us know. We're here to please.

Next Village Hall Committee Meeting is on Thursday 21st February at 7pm - all welcome.

Don't forget, www.baconsthorpevillage.org to keep up to date with what's on and when.

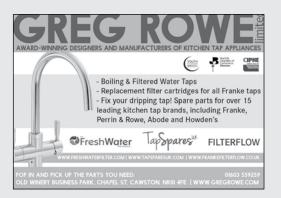
Susan Belbin

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# **Barningham Winter**

Thank you to all those people that made the Christmas season a memorable one. The wreath making was very successful with £400 being raised for St Mary's Church, Barningham Winter. Many thanks to Mrs Tessa Papworth for being a perfect instructor and making the session so enjoyable.



Sara Buxton

The advent service at St Peter's was well attended by people from far and wide, as was the midnight mass service at St Mary's, with both the churches being beautifully decorated with Christmas candles and greenery.

# **Scrabble Evening**

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm for 7.30pm start at Barningham Hall, Matlaske. £10 per head including wine and refreshments. Raffle. Tickets must be purchased or reserved in advance. Contact Amelia 07971 050646 or amelia@barninghamestate.co.uk (Cheques payable to Barningham Winter PCC).

# Edgefield

#### Church News

Thank you to those who helped in the church over Christmas. It was a rush to be ready for the Carol Service with the scaffolding removed just beforehand, but all looked festive and tidy in time.



Richard Peaver 587486

We hope to have our OPEN GARDENS weekend  $22^{nd}$  and  $23^{rd}$  June, and would be very grateful for any offers of help. We especially need some good raffle prizes, as they can seriously influence our profit!

The subject of the services within the Benefice is being discussed at present, and we are hoping to have two services in each parish per month from now on. Do watch out for the details in the magazine carefully.

SNOWDROPS. Come and see the snowdrops in the old churchyard (down the Hunworth road), and inspect all the hard work that has been done there. It would be great if you come on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February, at 11.00 a.m., and we will have some hot coffee and tea and biscuits to welcome you with. If the weather is bad, come on 17<sup>th</sup> February. Looking forward to seeing you there.

# Village Hall News

Angela Turner

A little late I know, but Happy New Year to all our many supporters! Our next event will be a hilarious evening of comedy from "The Norfolk Nut", Pat Nearney, on Saturday  $16^{\rm th}$  March. Pat visited us seven years ago and those that attended will testify as to his terrific sense of humour. The evening will include a light supper. Tickets at £10 from any committee member.

Jim Frost

### **Broadband Issues**

Scott Jones, who has recently moved to Langar Farm on the Holt Road, would be very interested in hearing from any resident of Edgefield who might be able to offer advice on how he can improve his internet connection. BT have advised him that there are no plans to extend fast broadband to his location. He would be grateful for any suggestions as to how he might be able to obtain a better speed. His email is: scottalanjones@hotmail.co.uk.

# HEMPSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

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# Hempstead

## 200 Club

**December:** £50 K Hurrell, £25 J Sanders, £10 J Tyabji, £5 Marianne Scarfe, J Neville, P Loach

Christmas Bonus Draw: This year we added two further £5 prizes, making five, and made it a special draw where only those who had not won anything during the year were entered. The winners were S Thurston, A Lantaff, S Pailing, G Harris, and D Price.



Sharon Hannah 711769

January: £50 G Harris, £25 N Tyabji, £10 M Lintott, £5 R Hall, D Spalton, K Wood

# **Christmas Party**

The Christmas Party was an event not to be missed again this year. Good company, with lots of wonderful food and festive flavour. With copious helpings of Bucks fizz on arrival, Mike Thody taking on the duties of the MC and the Hannah family doing an excellent job of running the raffle, (with the new generations working hard collecting the evenings takings). Well done, girls!! How refreshing it is to have young people at these events. The band had me quickly dispensing with my hearing aids and played until the end. Thanks to them. Thanks too, to all who contributed to producing such wonderful food, including the village hall committee and their volunteers who all ensured we all had a memorable evening.

Thanks again to the fantastic Liz Buxton, Yvette Gibson and everyone else for the first-class evening. Thank you Mo Williams for your out of this world Gooseberry and orange crumble!

# Christmas in Church

The churchwardens would like to thank all the people who made Christmas so special in church: those who decorated the church, those who provided refreshments, the musicians who provided the music at the Crib & Carols (we had two harps, a French horn, a bassoon and a keyboard how special is that?!), the iPad operator for the hymns at Christingle, Rev David and Judy Rosser who took the services and of course, all who attended. It was very special seeing families of three generations walking along The Street to church for the services. We were able to send a generous donation to both The Children's Society and EACH.

Su and Ann

# Coffee& Gossip - Friday 1st February

Village hall at 10.30am to 12noon. All very welcome for good coffee and cake.

# Hempstead Play Reading Group - Wednesday 6th February

Village hall at 7pm for refreshments followed by the reading at  $7.30 \, \mathrm{pm}$ . If anyone is interested in joining us please ring Su 710702.

# **Toading**

It won't be long before our little friends come back again to spawn at Rookery Pit. Hempstead is very blessed with volunteers who come from other villages as well as our own to help the toads make the last and most dangerous part of their journey safely to the pond. If you would like to join us for a shift or two each week, Su would be very pleased to give you more information about it 710702.

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# Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Ride

Better late than never - this is to report that once again Hempstead excelled. Our generous supporters and energetic and committed participants raised over £4,000, an extraordinarily impressive achievement. Half this sum will go directly to our church and the other half to the Norfolk Churches Trust, which provides vital help to our churches for repairs and preservation. We are grateful to all who helped and donated and particularly to those who obtained sponsorship and took to the road - Bruce, Buster and Mathilda Hannah, Su and Ian Summers, Charlie and Lorne Inglis and Robin and Rose Carver. Thank you everyone.

YG

# Concert: Serenato in Vano - Thursday 31st January Refreshments 3.45pm

Composed in 1914 by Carl Nielsen for the unusual combination of clarinet, bassoon, violoncello and double bass. Plus, a couple of arrangements for the same instruments. Music at 4pm-4.30pm. The event is free, for more details please contact Ian Summers 710702 or ian@isdata.co.uk

#### Birth Announcement

We are very pleased to announce the safe arrival of Jack George Sanders born on 11th December 2018 to very proud parents Daniel and Kayleigh Sanders, Grandparents Paul and Joanne Sanders and Great-nanny Pat Doy.



# **And Finally**

There hasn't been room until now to publish a picture of Charles Inglis receiving the Ian MacNicol Memorial Trophy, the Norfolk Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Farm Conservation Award, for 2018. Renewed congratulations!

# Matlaske

# Jellicoe Riseborough RIP

Jellicoe passed away peacefully on 21st December 2018. Apart from the war years and the last five years at Field View Residential Home, Fakenham, he spent his whole life in Matlaske, for the most part at Park View. "He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends," writes his son, Keith. "I would like to thank Marion Shepherd everyone for their kind thoughts following the passing of my father".



577521

# Fête Meeting

Just a reminder that the first fête meeting for this year is on Monday 11th February, 11am at Hall Farm Barns, Matlaske. If you have any ideas on how we can improve our annual village fête, please do come along or e-mail your suggestions to cherrywestgate@hotmail.co.uk so we can discuss. All those new to our village are especially welcome, and we would be interested to hear your ideas and suggestions.

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# **Christmas Party**

Early December saw the start of our festive activities with the village party. It was a delight to welcome so many new villagers including our new rector David Longe and his family. With the invaluable support of our helpers and the generous donation of raffle prizes it was another great way of the community coming together.

# Sing-Along

A team of helpers had decorated the church with foliage tied with ribbons. A Christmas tree with lights stood at the bottom of the bell tower. What a lovely sight to behold the Church in all its glory at Christmas. There was a full Church to sing Christmas songs, accompanied by Karen playing the keyboard. Chanelle, Summer, Claris, Xar and Rex recited Twas The Night Before Christmas and we finished off with mulled wine, mince pies, sausage rolls and chocolate cake.

# **Christmas Day**

Another full congregation witnessed a wonderful service with a special geocache activity for the children. Enjoyed greatly by all.

# Congratulations

To Tom and Lucy Norman on the birth of their daughter, Martha Aleatha, at Banbury Hospital on 5th January, a great granddaughter for Vera Norman and granddaughter for Jeremy Norman. Also to Adam Kinsley and Ellen on the birth of their daughter, Harper, on 21st October, a granddaughter for Louise and Stephen Kinsley and great granddaughter for Pam and John Rounce.

# Plumstead

It's always a pleasure when I start to write at this time of year that the days are lengthening – just – and although there might be many grey cold days ahead, we know that there is some light at the end of the tunnel. Christmas seems a long time ago but a memory of the beauty of the candlelit church for the Carol Service which was a perfect start to the festive season should not be forgotten. It was well supported with some little ones going up to attend to the Nativity with David Longe. Thank you, especially to Eleanor, who made sure that our village had its



Mary Lintott

own service - and also thank you to all those who helped decorate the church and the magnificent tree, and a particular thank you to Michael McMahon who provided it. The princely sum of £131 was raised and given to St Martins - a brilliant homeless charity in Norwich.

#### **Parish Council News**

Please do regularly check the Parish Council website as this includes local information such as police messages, road closures, known power cuts, revised bin collections and other information that affects the residents of Plumstead: http://plumsteadparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

The dates for meetings in 2019 are:

Monday 11 February: 6.30 pm at Jasmine House, Church Street Monday 13 May (Annual Meetings): 6.00 pm in Plumstead Church

Monday 2 September: 6.30 pm at 39-40 The Green

Monday 9 December: 6.30 pm at Carpenter's Cottage, Church Street

A "thank you" to Richard Seaman for providing a tractor and manpower to clear the tree that had fallen into the pond - it is very important to keep the pond clear to prevent a build up of silt which would otherwise diminish the health of the pond - it was much appreciated.

# The Joys of Google Maps - a lesson for us all!

We all now know that technology is king and old methods are for people of a certain age. One of the jewels in the crown is Google Maps. Well, shortly before New Year, Mary and I with our youngest son, were strolling down Jericho Lane and around a corner half way down we saw a car up to its axles in mud where the water collects in the deep ruts. It was not a 4 x 4 trying to show off! I tenderly enquired of the driver and his wife whether they were exploring a scenic route to Norwich. He replied that was not what he had mind and he was looking for Green Farm, Plumstead Green and that Google Maps emphatically told him he was on the right road. I advised him that if he persisted in this struggle his arrival at the destination would be somewhat delayed. We heaved his car out helped him turn round and set him back in the right direction. Not the first anecdote about the wonders of Google Maps, I'm sure, but a reminder to use it with some circumspection!

#### Found

A brooch was found in a box near Stocks Hill about a week before Christmas. It was damp but not wet so hadn't been there very long. If you hear of anyone who has lost a brooch in a box, (a present/new purchase) please contact Mary Lintott 577718

# Saxthorpe with Corpusty

# Neighbourhood Plan

The Corpusty and Saxthorpe Neighbourhood Plan has passed its official inspection. The referendum will take place on March 7<sup>th</sup> and voting will take place in the village hall. All registered voters in the Parish will be entitled to vote and will receive a voting slip through the post. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DETERMINE FUTURE PLANNING DECISIONS IN YOUR VILLAGE. The revised version of the referendum



Sophia Hodgson 587510

document of the Neighbourhood Plan will be available on the NNDC website and the Parish Council website along with the statutory supporting documents from January 31st.

# St Andrew's Church News

The church was filled three times over the Christmas and new year period. First was the school nativity service with the children singing and acting their hearts out. Then the candlelight service on Christmas Eve, a firm favourite with all the village, wonderfully led by our Rector, Revd Canon David Longe. Thanks to the organisers and helpers.

Finally, the funeral of Anne Brewster, one of the village stalwarts, a woman of remarkable achievements, including the appointment of Vice-President for Life of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust having served as president; organising the villages' naturalist group in 1970; being instrumental in setting-up the villages' garden society, that ran for 14 years; helping to set-up a play group in 1974 and encouraging the school to take part in wildlife activities. Her village exhibitions were famous. She will be sadly missed.



#### Other Lives Rembered

Sadly, Bob Sullivan also passed away during December. He was a caring member of the community who never stinted in helping others. He will be sadly missed. More recently, Wayne Southgate died very suddenly. Wayne lived in Corpusty all of his life and will be mourned by family and friends. Pauline Cooper has also passed away. Her funeral was well attended. Pauline was well regarded and had a long association with the village. She too will be sadly missed.

# Snowdrops in Saxthorpe

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February, from 9.30-11.30am, everyone is invited to a snowdrops morning at The Old Rectory, Saxthorpe. There will be croissants and other delights made by Saxthorpe's Polly Quick who is a Paris-trained pastry cook. Donations to St Andrew's, Saxthorpe. Please use the church car park.

### Other news

The contentious application to site a 30m telecoms mast at the Anglia Water site in Saxthorpe has been withdrawn for a second time.

Unfortunately, the response to the monthly Citizens Advice outreach at the village hall has not been strong, and, in that regard, Mid-Norfolk Citizens Advice Holt must cease that service. Potential clients are urged to call Mid-Norfolk Citizens Advice for assistance over the phone, drop in to our office next to the Community Centre in Holt, or schedule a face to face appointment at that office.

There are few pubs left in the area this newsletter serves, so it is great news that the Duke's Head in Corpusty is once again in private ownership. Improvements have already been made with more to follow. The best way to save our pubs is to frequent them.

Advance notice of a special event *Corpusty & Saxthorpe Past, Present & Future* which will take place at the Corpusty village hall on 23 March. More details to follow next month.

# The Village Gardener To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow

Happy New Year! No White Christmas last year but as I write this there is talk of 'seasonal' showers at the start of February and a drop in temperature. If you haven't done so already wrap any pots you are fond of in hessian to prevent from cracking with any big temperature differences. If you do have any ponds make sure you pop a tennis ball on the surface to help any gases that accumulate under the ice to escape. Finally make sure any outside pipes are well lagged, the Beast from the East scuppered my outside tap last year, a rookie mistake I won't be making this year...!

A nice positive task to get on with in February is to either set all your peppers and chilli plants (they need a long growing season to be as productive as possible) in a heated propagator. Do make sure they are labelled well, nothing sadder (or potentially disastrous culinary wise) than growing a varied combination of exciting and exotic chillies and not having a clue which is which! Also, if you are so inclined you can set your bedding plants in your heated greenhouse (lucky thing!)

February is also a great month for chitting your potatoes and if you get to the garden centre early you will have the biggest choice because once they're gone, they're gone! I have two early potatoes that I think are good reliable performers, drum roll please! They are Nadine and Charlotte although my other half does swear by Ratte who is not quite as prolific but has a nice texture and almost nutty quality...so she says.

Finally, if the weather allows and we haven't had a repeat visitation from the beast from the east, take some time to clear your veg patch (if you haven't done so already) and add compost if you have it. You can leave the surface rough as the weather will help break it down.

This month's question is from Heather Cox who asks if she can prune her sweet cherry in late winter early spring? Absolutely not I'm afraid, Heather! Pruning this time of year will put your tree at a much greater risk of getting silver leaf, and this also applies to apricot trees, so hang on till summer!

Do keep the questions coming in! Email me at redmaple@btinternet as ever the most interesting question will be published next month.

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Mick McCarter



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# Meet the Neighbours Martin Jackson from Baconsthorpe



Martin left school at the age of fifteen, after being offered a one-year trial period as an apprentice motor mechanic. He had no qualifications, but he had a job. During an indentured apprenticeship he had the good fortune to be educated at Oxford as well as Cambridge. In reality it was training at the Morris Cowley and Austin Cambridge motor works! He attained a Higher National Certificate in auto-engineering and a Diploma in Management.

During the 1980s Martin was the Honorary Secretary of the Institute of the Motor Industry for the Nottinghamshire region.

He became an Automotive Consulting Engineer and worked for many authorities, solicitors and clients including the magazine Which and the BBC documentary programme Cutting Edge. He was called on numerous occasions to give expert witness testimony in Crown, Magistrates and County Courts. During this time, he studied for a teaching degree. For many years he taught motor vehicle engineering sciences at West Nottinghamshire College where he was a senior lecturer and was course coordinator of the Motor Sport degree programme at Derby University.

Martin and his wife Cynthia have had a home in Baconsthorpe for thirty years. Since retiring they are living here permanently and Martin is now a published author of two thriller novels.

The Blade: Ben McVeigh & The Templar Poignard (Publishers: Lulu books, USA) Ben McVeigh is pursued by a splinter group of the Mukhabarat, a Middle-Eastern military intelligence secret service for an ancient Damascene blade. Falsely accused of murder, he is also pursued by Stefan Robert Thornhill, a police inspector known as "Bostik Bobby", who knows he can make the charges stick no matter what.

Believe Me! The Lost Treasure of the Templars (Publishers: Austin Macauley, London) When Ben McVeigh moves to Norfolk to escape the high maintenance memory of Sally Peters, he has little idea that the silence of the place will soon be broken in a most unexpected way. It will lead to an



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investigation involving sunken islands, the Knights Templar, missing treasure and foreign agents, not to mention the discovery of a new soulmate.

Martin's books can be bought on-line in hardback, softback and kindle formats.

Martin's third novel is completed and is awaiting publication. Watch out for Running with Finn McCool.

Emma Youngs