

Church & Village News

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

July 2020



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Photograph by Jenny Feilden

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www.churchandvillagenews.org.uk

Parish Council Chairs

Baconthorpe	Jonathan Cooper	577527
Edgefield	Mark Cook	587735
Hempstead	Paul Sanders	713217
Matlaske & Barningham	Sara Buxton	577207
Plumstead	Nick Fulford	577433
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Imogen Waterson	587610

Parish Council Websites or Email Addresses

Baconthorpe	http://baconthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconthorpepc
Edgefield	https://edgefieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
Hempstead	hempsteadpc@gmail.com
Matlaske & Barningham	http://matlaskeparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
Plumstead	https://plumsteadpc.wixsite.com/plumsteadpc
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com

Local MP

Duncan Baker MP
Tudor House, Grammar School Lane
North Walsham, NR28 9JH
duncan@duncanbaker.org.uk
<https://www.duncanbaker.org.uk/>
Monday - Friday 9am – 5pm
01692 558458

County Councillor

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

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District Councillors

Corpusty, Edgefield, Saxthorpe
Andrew Brown 07970 298695
andrew.brown@north-norfolk.gov.uk
Baconthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske & Barningham,
Plumstead
Dr Pierre Bütikofer 838306
Pierre.Butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Church People

Rector Revd Canon David Longe	577252
Lay Minister Gill Peat	734226
Lay Minister Judy Rosser	587584
Authorised Worship Assistant Dr Alain Wolf	577292
Church Wardens	
Baconthorpe Tessa McCosh	577611
Harry Steel	07711 890360
Barningham Winter Amelia Courtauld	577250
Edgefield Emma Cletheroe	587049
Angela Turner	587292
Hempstead Airlie Inglis (acting)	577440
Matlaske Thomas Courtauld	577250
Plumstead Eleanor Faulkner	577868
Saxthorpe Judith Banks	587319
Cathy Stern	587014

What's On

THE MAJORITY OF EVENTS ARE CANCELLED OR POSTPONED
UNTIL COVID-19 IS UNDER CONTROL
THIS INCLUDES REGULAR EVENTS AND THE MOBILE LIBRARY VAN

What's On

JULY

Sat 11 TBC **Edgefest 5 - provisional** Village Hall

Clash Diary 2020

Aug 2	Hempstead Fête	Oct 9	Matlaske Quiz
Sep 7	Plumstead PC	Oct 23	Hempstead Quiz
Sep 16	Matlaske PC	Dec 6	Matlaske Christmas Party
		Dec 7	Plumstead PC

If you are arranging an event please check with Corinne Youngs that there is not already an event being held that day
577263 / corinne@avyoungs.com

Barningham Hall by Jonathan Neville



Useful Organisations

Silverline: 0800 4708090 www.thesilverline.org.uk

Confidential, free helpline for people aged over 55 open 24/7 offering info, friendship, advice; links to local groups and services; regular friendship calls. They also protect and support older people who are suffering abuse and neglect.

The Samaritans: 116123 - whatever you are going through the Samaritans will listen.

Social Services in Norfolk: 0344 8008020

Childline: 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

Helps anyone under 19 with any issue they're going through - big or small. Free, confidential and available any time, day or night.

Local Blog Writers

Baconsthorpe Nature Diaries

Paul Nichols from Baconsthorpe has started a blog about his walks and nature observations during the lock-down: <https://baconsthorpenaturediaries.blogspot.com/>

Edtechs Info Blog

Mandy Honeyman is a teacher and specialist in home education who lives in Baconsthorpe. She writes a blog with resources for parents that might be helpful for those with children at home, including self-isolation education ideas: <https://bit.ly/359ojCT>

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Tuesdays 1.00pm – 4.00pm
All services

Corpusty Stores

587202
Monday-Saturday 9.00am – 12.00noon
All services including Euros

Holt Library

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.

Mobile Library Van

Library van is cancelled

Matlaske	11.40	NR11 7AQ	Old Post Office
Plumstead	12.25	NR11 7LG	Walnut Farm
Edgefield	1.55	NR24 2AL	The Memorial
	2.15	NR24 2AX	The Street
Corpusty	2.45	NR11 6QP	School
	3.40	NR11 7BU	Great Farm Cott's
Saxthorpe	4.10	NR11 7BL	Old Post Office
Corpusty	4.30	NR11 6QJ	Adams Lane
	4.50	NR11 6QL	16 Council Houses
Hempstead	3.40	NR25 6TL	Telephone kiosk
Baconsthorpe	4.05	NR25 6LE	Hare & Hounds
	4.20	NR25 6LG	Old Post Office
	4.40	NR25 6LJ	Council Bungalows

Times and dates sourced from Norfolk County website:
<https://bit.ly/2AJdSGA>

Letter from the Authorised Worship Assistant Dr Alain J E Wolf

Dear All

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to those of you whom I have not had a chance to meet, yet. I am a lecturer in linguistics and second language acquisition at the University of East Anglia, researching into various aspects of communication across languages and cultures. As some of you know already, on 12th January 2020, I was authorised by the Bishop of Lynn and the PCCs to conduct and assist in services in the benefice of Matlaske. As I write this, I realise what an honour it was to be chosen to preach amongst this very special community. I had time enough for one 'authorised' address in which I talked about the need to live in unconcerned hope rather than abject fear. Little did I know then that fear was about to strike all of us and that we would need more than ever to feel the presence of our Lord, no longer in the upturned naves of our churches, but in the very midst of our seriously disrupted lives. Presence and absence were themes that were to run through the very fabric of our existence henceforth, and I had another chance to address you, this time on-line, when I talked about how we, as Christians, are used to defeating absence and loneliness in the everlasting certainty of Christ's invisible presence in the Eucharistic feast. It is, indeed, this invisibility with which I myself have been vying, talking incessantly, it seems, to my ageing mother and to my students, hiding behind screens that failed to reveal their smiling faces, their amazed reactions to my many, doubtless, incongruous, digressions.

This month, we celebrate the feast of St Thomas, the apostle who did not believe unless he saw, and was gently rebuked by Jesus, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'. We also celebrate the feast of Mary Magdalene, that much maligned woman in the New Testament. Far from being the sinner that many have represented her to be, Mary's faith in Jesus was one of the most unshakeable. Believed to have been exorcised of seven demons, she surrendered herself completely to the healing love of our Lord. Now more than ever, shouldn't we surrender ourselves to the 'Lord that healeth the broken in heart and boundeth up their wounds'? But we may well ask, like Zedekiah (Jeremiah 37): 'Is there any word from the Lord?' Of course, for many of us, the Lord's silence may shake our faith to the core, but a word from the Lord is not like an oracle telling us what to do. Then, what is it? A word from the Lord is a small disempowered voice which, coming from the depth of our broken situation, transforms our concrete problems into an ultimate and divine reality. I believe none of us are without such experiences when suddenly in our temporal existence, the touch of a loving child, a partner, a beloved animal make the beauty and greatness of the eternal known to us. May we keep ourselves in silence, and open our ears for a 'word from the Lord'.

And so I end this letter with my thanks to all who have already supported me through my incipient and somewhat arrested assistantship, and I look forward, when all of this is over, to meeting more of you and sharing with you the joys of new beginnings and the fulfilment of our lives, because where there is joy, there is indeed fulfilment.

Alain

Norfolk Wartime Remembered - Outside Activities The third in a series of recollections by Arthur Pentney

Collecting rose hips from the hedgerows – these would be made into rose hip jelly.

Picking up 'window', thin pieces of metallic strip dropped out of aircraft to confuse radar signals. They made lovely Christmas decorations!

Digging into old refuse dumps trying to find jam jars that could be reused.

Remembering the "Pig Club" situated in the Rectory grounds.



Travelling into Norwich on the Eastern Counties service 25B, when the bus pulled a trailer containing gas to fuel the engine.

My mother worked at the Rectory, so I saw at first hand the bomb damage to the Rectory itself and to the outbuildings, and also the church window that had to be replaced, again due to bomb damage.

"Sticking", going into the woods collecting firewood. An old perambulator was the tool of choice for this job.

Cycling to see my relations at Oulton near Aylsham, and having to detour due to the road from Matlaske school to Dale Head being closed because the airfield was in use. This detour meant struggling up the hill past Little Barningham church.

Remembering signposts with all the sign arms removed to make it difficult for any enemy to find their way about the country.

Watching a film show of Walt Disney characters, Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, etc at 'Barningham Hut', in a wood at Barningham Winter.

Seeing the Anderson shelter that my grandparents had installed at Rambler Cottage, The Street.

Carrying your identity card with you at all times when travelling outside. I do not recall ever being asked to see it by any responsible officer of the law, but the penalty for not having it could be severe.

Remembering a house fire off Long Lane. Later, Kenny Harrod lived there, but it was the Norton family at that time, I think.



Baconsthorpe

200 Club

The 200 Club, run by the Village Hall, is suspended for the time being. No money is being collected and all advanced payments will be carried forward when things return to normal.

After 3 months of the newsletter being published on-line, this month we have returned to a paper copy. A lot of you will not have been able to read the newsletter on-line so I am repeating some news from the last three months.

At last we have had some welcome rain and the farmers are almost smiling! Isolation is relaxing a bit and we are able to see more friends and family. Those who have been working so hard in their gardens and allotments are now reaping the harvest from all their efforts.

There are still a few allotment sites available in Baconsthorpe. Sizes can be flexible and the ground has been cleared and rotovated. Contact Michael Day for details: 07768 816331

One weekly event when we are able to go out and meet with others (strictly 2 metres apart!) is the visit by the mobile shop. This appears on Thursdays and is well worth supporting. To check when they will be in Baconsthorpe the link is <https://www.neallskitchen.com/villagevan> or Google Neall's kitchen for a list of his produce and to check times.

The annual plant sale held at the Old Rectory had to be cancelled but all the plants produced have been put on the church stall at Ash Tree Farm. Thank you to everyone who has supported this, we have taken over £1,000 for the church and do keep looking, there are still more plants to come. Again a huge thank you to all our customers.

Thank you Jonathon for providing a village concert at 8pm on Thursdays when we turned out to clap for the NHS.

On Sundays, thanks to the hard work of the production team, choir, readers etc, you can log into the You Tube service held in the Rectory Garden or outside one of our churches

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3SRmYGfta8vpzhIIQqPR3A>

The service lasts approximately 15 minutes and is an absolute delight.

Regretfully it has been decided to cancel the village fete planned for 15th August. An enormous amount of work goes into running the fete and weeks of forward planning, so to do all this and then find we are not allowed to hold the event is not really sensible. Hopefully when lock down finally ends we will hold a village celebration.

We were all so sad to hear of the death of John Cooper. John was born in Baconsthorpe, attended the village school and lived for most of his adult life in the village before moving to Holt. He had been a member of the Parish Council and was chairman of the Village Hall for 30 years. Under his stewardship many grants were successfully applied for and many alterations and improvements were made to the hall. John was a lead member of the bowls club and present at all events and activities held at the hall. The village owes John many thanks for the huge amount of work he put into the hall and our thoughts and prayers go to Pat and his family.



Corinne Youngs
577263

Just to remind you 'Help in Baconsthorpe with Coronavirus' is working well. If you need shopping, prescriptions or help of any kind there is a team of willing helpers ready to do what is needed, we can't thank you all enough. If you do require help please phone me on 577263.

If anyone is struggling financially please remember the food bank which is there to help people in need at this difficult time. David Longe can issue food vouchers. Confidentiality is assured.

Barningham Winter

We send our condolences to Mrs Sonia Palmer and all the Palmer family following the death of Leo who died peacefully at home on the 13th May. Mr Palmer was a very well-respected man in our little community and he shall be sadly missed.

St Mary's Church is open again. Please do use the hand sanitiser etc when you go in. Thank you to Mrs Courtauld who dealt with the spiders that had been having a happy time in there during the closure.

I am still happy to collect to deliver a prescription to Aldborough surgery or to pick up the tablets they require. Do please just phone me or leave a message.

Living where we do we have noticed lots of extra cyclists on our roads during the last few months. Whilst most of them are in complete control of their bikes some of them are very wobbly on our narrow lanes so like the sugar beet lorries just be aware of them!!!



Sara Buxton
577207

Edgefield

Church News

It was a wonderful feeling to open our church on Monday morning. It had seemed so wrong to have it locked up for weeks on end. Thank you to anyone who has helped with keeping the place tidy, and especially Roger Cletheroe who has mown the car park and Phil the graveyard. David's services on-line have been so well done, and thank you to all who have worked hard to provide them each Sunday. To those who have had coronavirus, it is a relief and joy that you are recovering well. Keep it up!

Ian Ross died on 15th June and is a great loss to the village. He and Lorna moved into Valley Farm after their marriage in 1957 and have always been such loyal supporters of the church. Ian mowed the new car park for many years and his mole exploits were legendary! Many memorable fundraising events have taken place at Valley Farm, including Ian taking people around the farm on a trailer, always popular with children. Ian and Lorna commissioned and provided our splendid village sign on the Green. Ian was a member of the Parish Council and the Cottage Trust for many years and supported so very many activities around the village. We owe him a great debt of gratitude, and shall miss him so much. We send our deepest sympathy and love to Lorna, Stuart and Diana and their families.



Richard Peaver
587486

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Village Hall News

Our "200 Club" will continue for 2020/21, but as yet we do not know the precise details regarding the collection of the £6 fee. Please check next month's Parish Magazine where we will publish information re payment/collection, etc. The winners for May were:
1st Tina Clarke, 2nd Bob White, 3rd Jan Munn. Thank you.

Jim Frost

Warning

On Tuesday 2nd June, at around 9.00pm, when it was still light, two men were spotted in the garden of a house on Peck's Lane, dressed in black and wearing balaclavas. It appears they did not steal anything and it is not known what they were looking for. The alarm was raised and the men made off at speed in what may be a Honda Civic, dark coloured, and with a loud exhaust noise. The police have visited the premises, and it seems possible that it may have been the same people who carried out a burglary at Edgefield Nursery earlier this year. It is suggested that everyone increase their security, if that is possible.

Hempstead

Village website: www.hempstead-norfolk.co.uk

What a change in the weather but it was brilliant for gardeners that we received rain at last! The lawn is greening up again and plants are looking much more enthusiastic in the vegetable patch. What a relief! No doubt weather-watchers will be able to tell us how much rain actually has fallen, but still we need more - could we have it at night, though?!



Su Summers
710702

200 Club

Prizes for April, May and June have now been distributed (Thank you, Francis!).
April: £50 K Wood £25 D Sanders £10 M Thody £5 J Tyabji, D Spalton, K Hurrell
May: £50 J Buxton £25 B Harmer £10 J Smith £5 R Roy, G Gurney, D Durst
June: £50 P Hawkey £25 G Matthews £10 L Matthews £5 C Lantaff, D Sanders, R Hall

Village Hall News

The Village Hall Committee are delighted to announce that the purchase of the freehold of the Village Hall is complete and Hempstead now owns the hall. Its future is secure.

New Arrival at Hole Farm



Meet Poppy! As promised, she arrived just at the beginning of June, born to Grace her proud mother. More hugely long legs and, because she is a filly, a double joy to swell the numbers of Irish Draught horses. Sadly for us, she and Grace have moved on to pastures new.

News from Selbrigg Pond

This year John Mangan and his team of toad watchers safely helped 6,179 toads, 239 frogs, and 20 newts across the road at Selbrigg. Cranwich, which competes for most numbers,

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pipped Selbrigg by saving 6 more toads during the season... a close run thing! Many more tadpoles have been seen and toadlets (as small toads are called) have now begun leaving the pond.



The resident Mute Swan pair gave birth to 8 cygnets, of which at the time of writing 7 survive and give much pleasure to those visiting the pond. Alas, on the first day of fishing being allowed, the male swan has become entangled in fishing line and at the time of writing his prognosis is unknown. I have very mixed feelings about allowing fishing on the pond, as every year we have several incidents of man versus nature and consequent deaths. However, many people report happy childhood memories of learning to fish on the pond with parents and grandparents.

I don't charge for fishing, simply requesting responsible use and that rubbish is removed; this also is not always the case. For the last couple of years I have had a 'count to five' policy; should five serious incidents occur then fishing would stop, I have made it to 4 ½ (being generous) both years. I would be interested in views. (selbrigg@gmail.com)

Francis Feilden

Church News

The church is now open again, giving back to us a place for reflection and prayer. Please read the notice on the door before entering and be sure to sanitise your hands on entering and leaving. Sanitiser is provided. Thank you.

The PCC would be interested in views as to whether the trees (mostly yew trees) that are cut in round balls to the north side (right hand side as you look at the Church from the gate) should be either radically cut back (to about 12 inches) or removed completely. This is because they impede access along the path, particularly for wheelchair and pushchair users. No decision has been taken but we understand there may be strong feelings about this and would like to consider all views. The trees on the south side would remain as current. Please contact treasurer@matlaske.org.uk or any PCC member.

In the wake of the devastating fire at Budgens, anyone previously relying on their delivery service and who now needs help, should contact Yvette 712460 or myself 710702.

Matlaske

100 Club

£25 Richard Amis, £10 Stacy Buckley, £5 Rob Whitwell

All winnings not yet received will be delivered with the next printed newsletter.

Matlaske Fête

Sadly it will not be possible to hold our annual fête as it would normally be. This year on the 25th July, we would like all Matlaske and Barningham residents to enter their most creative cake, largest or smallest ridiculous vegetable and best decorated door/gateway.



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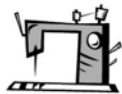
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These will be judged on your doorstep starting at 2pm. Barningham residents to leave their cake/
vegetable on a table provided at St Peter's Church, Matlaske. There will be no entry fee but a
prize for the best will be given.

Further activities will be published in July on our Facebook page 'Matlaske Annual Summer Fête'
and e-mails will also be sent out.

Thanks

Angela Gillard would like to thank everyone who contributed to her lock-down birthday surprise
decorations. Also for all the birthday wishes she received.

Plumstead

The Wildflower Meadow for the past few weeks has been a delight and continues
to be so as the next wave of wildflowers come into bloom. It is wonderful to walk
through on a warm evening listening to the insects and observing the different
colours — the knapweed is just about to burst into flower.

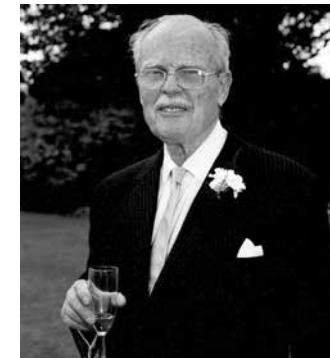
The pond, however, is again completely covered with duckweed, suffocating all life
beneath. This is despite a significant clearing operation, when a lot of the weed was
removed. One suggestion on the Internet is to introduce 'Green Carp'. Do any villagers have any
knowledge of this animal? Is it a good idea? Please contact Nick Fulford 577433 if you can help.

A thank you to Catherine and Michael who cut the winding path in the meadow and enable us to walk
through and enjoy the richness of this habitat. Also thank you to Keith and Julie who cut the Green
area — it enhances the Plumstead Green inviting us to explore the joys of the pond and meadow.

We welcome two new couples to Plumstead. Heather and Suraj have moved into St Michael's
Cottage with their new kittens, David and Karen into Tudor Cottage. We hope they will enjoy
living in our village.

Eleanor as Churchwarden is delighted to remind you that the Church is now open for
contemplation, private prayer or a visit. We still hope to have our Pumpkin Festival in October—
its many weeks away yet but growing large pumpkins and beautiful dahlias requires some attention
to detail. Keep feeding them! We will keep you informed.

Thomas Wormald – 16 April 1932 – 03 June 2020



Thomas had a very active working life, having obtained an MA
in Forestry from the University of Oxford he pursued a long
and successful career as a Tropical Forestry Consultant.

His work took him all over the world, his first posting taking
him to Kenya for some years, followed by jobs in such far flung
places as The Philippines, Solomon Isles, Ethiopia, Tibet, Sabah
and another significant amount of time in Nepal.

Some of his main contributions through his work were a book
he wrote in the early 1970's on the Pinus Patula pine tree and
a training programme as part of the Gurkha Re-integration



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Scheme run by the British Government in Nepal, where ex-soldiers were trained in modern methods of forestry. Here Thomas set up two eucalyptus tree nurseries to produce wood for fuel and thereby save some of the native species.

Thomas moved to Plumstead in the mid-80s with his family and when not abroad after retirement dedicated himself to the village community and church, working for many years as churchwarden as well as serving on various village committees for fundraising and improving the quality of the village. He also made significant contributions to the local branch of the RNLI, in terms of fundraising and organising events as well as recruiting volunteers.

He was a keen gardener as well as tree expert and always happy to lend a hand or give advice to fellow gardening enthusiasts.

He will be remembered for his contributions to the church and community and as a much-loved friend to many.

Soon after Thomas moved to Plumstead he was invited to be churchwarden. Thus began 28 years of dedicated service. Kind, generous, reserved, Thomas never changed in all those years. In addition to the routine duties of dealing with services, the church building and the churchyard, there were two major restoration projects in that period. For around 20 years Thomas opened his garden each year for the church fête, occasions fondly remembered and so valued by the whole community.

The floodlighting of the tower was one of his projects, another was the erection of the illuminated star high on the tower each Christmas. Many of us will remember Thomas when we see the star reappear and think of it as a fitting memorial to his long service to the Parish.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

After a stunning spring, summer has definitely arrived with welcome deluges to revive our gardens.

A number of "Thank yous" need to be made this month.

Firstly, thanks to The Matlaske Benefice in conjunction with the Corpusty and Saxthorpe Parish Councils for their invaluable pastoral and practical help during lock-down. Thank you to the individual team members, Andrea Bell, Cathy Stern, Imogen Waterson, and Jane Brewster. The Team's contact details are: 01263 587998, email : covidcommunityteam001@hotmail.com



Sophia Hodgson
587510

It is reassuring that the team have been receiving fewer requests, with the world returning to some form of normality.

It has been noted that several volunteers have taken it upon themselves to keep the churchyard, church car park and the new extension graveyard mowed and looking thoroughly cared for. Thank you to all of you. Similarly, many of the verges outside the church perimeter wall have been mown. Again thank you, whoever you are. Thanks also to the Highways Rangers, who have repaired the broken steps on both sides of the roundabout.

The parishes of the Matlaske Benefice have been blessed with live-streamed services via You Tube, every Sunday and Festival Days, in lock-down. Thanks must be given to Rector David, the 'ad hoc' choir, readers from all of the parishes, and the technical wizardry of James Deveson and Karen

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Hall. The seamless stitching of all parts together has produced some professional- looking acts of worship. If you would like to share in these services, go to: You Tube Matlaske Benefice, where you can visit all of the services. The service is available each Sunday at 9.00am.

Finally, thanks to the team of workers who have cleaned, disinfected and made preparations for St Andrew's church to be open for private prayer from 15th June. A great team effort.

Track & Trace Scam Alert

Please be aware of the following very plausible and concerning telephone Track & Trace scam which was reported last week.

"Good morning, I'm calling from the NHS Track & Trace Service. According to our system, you are likely to have been in close proximity to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. This means that you now need to self-isolate for 7 days and take a COVID-19 test."

"OK. Can you tell me who that person was?"

"I'm not able to tell you that. That is confidential information."

"Right...so..."

"But you do need to be tested within the next 72 hours. So can I just get the best mailing address so that we can send a kit to you?"

"OK (gives address)"

"Thank you - and I just need to take a payment card so that we can finalise this and send the kit to you."

"Sorry - a payment card? I thought this was all free?"

"No - I'm afraid not. There is a one-off fee of £50 for the kit, and test results. Could you read off the long card number for me, please, when you're ready?"

"No - that's not right. This is part of the NHS so there's no charge."

"I'm afraid there is. Can you give me the card number please - this is very important, and there are penalties for not complying."

Increased threat from Courier Fraud in the west of Norfolk | 17 June 2020

Please visit the link below for up-to-date information on this and all other related news:

<https://www.norfolksafeguardingadultsboard.info/>

Village Contacts for Co-ordinating Help & Support

Barningham Winter & Matlaske

Revd David Longe 01263 577252 rector@matlaske.org.uk
Marion Shepherd 01263 577521 jim.shepherd123@btinternet.com

Baconsthorpe

Harry Steel 01263 577686 harrysteel73@gmail.com
Corinne Youngs 01263 577263 corinne@avyoungs.com

Edgefield

Emma Cletheroe 01263 587049 ecletheroe@live.co.uk
Iain Mawson 01263 587236 iainmawson@hotmail.com
Richard Peaver 01263 587486 richardpeaver@gmail.com
Angela Turner 01263 587292 ajtuner@btinternet.com

Hempstead

Yvette Gibson 01263 712460 yvettegibson@pondhills.co.uk
Su Summers 01263 710702 su@linaria.co.uk

Plumstead

Carolyn & Steve Price 01263 577401 clerkplumsteadparishcouncil@hotmail.com
Mary & John Lintott 01263 577718 mary.lintott57@btinternet.com

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Andrea Bell, Jane Brewster, Cathy Stern and Imogen Waterson
01263 587998 covidcommunityteam001@hotmail.com

Foodbank Voucher Distributors

If anyone is in need of food please contact the following who can authorise vouchers for the local Foodbank (we can arrange for individuals to deliver food if necessary):

Revd David Longe 01263 577263 rector@matlaske.org.uk
Michael McMahon 07748 754550 mjmcm25@gmail.com
Cathy Stern 01263 587014 cathy.duffy5@yahoo.com
Corinne Youngs 01263 577263 administraor@matlaske.org.uk

Local Initiatives for Support

Fakenham Food Service is offering free home deliveries in a 15 mile radius. Their details can be found on their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/fakenhamfoodservice/

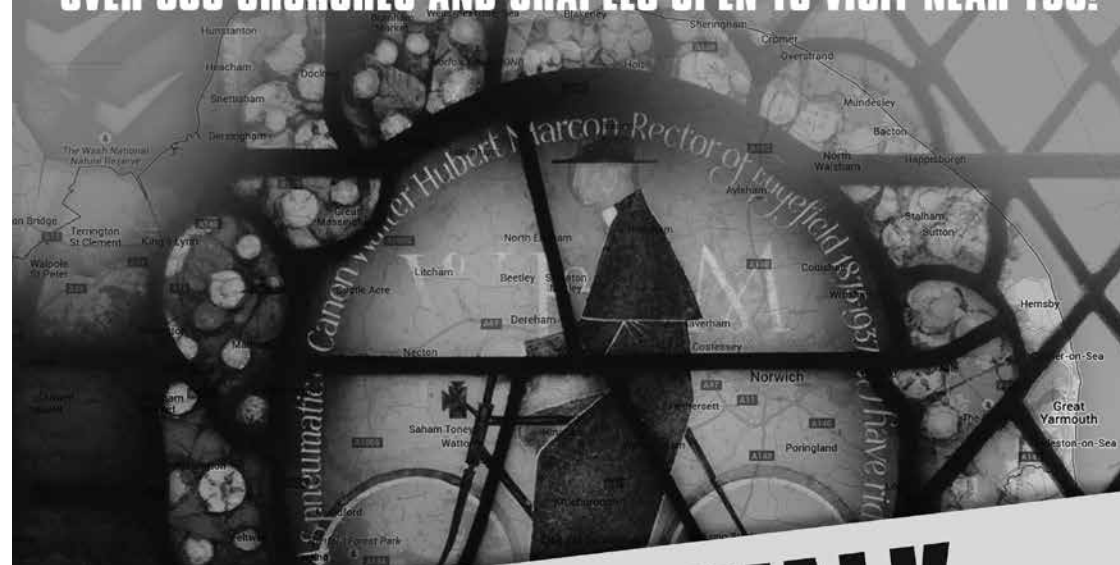
The **Love Holt** initiative has a page on their website of useful information: www.loveholt.com

Norfolk Online community noticeboard: www.norfolkonline.co.uk/

Norfolk County Council:

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The Village Gardener

To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



As I write July's piece one word sums up our rainfall... unreliable! I cannot fault the glorious sunshine we've had but the lack of rain is tricky in the garden, especially the veg plot! All I can keep saying is mulch well after a good watering to try and retain as much moisture as possible and make sure you water last thing at night. If you haven't got a water butt or tank, do give it some thought when we do get our unreliable rain its very satisfying to see them fill up.

With all this extra time we have had at home we have made inroads into our unrealistic 'to do' lists.

One of these was to make a water feature which immediately sounds horrendous but has been really good fun. We had both been very struck by the effective but simple design we had seen in George Carter's garden at Silverstone Farm North Elmham (NGS open day...well worth a look when everything settles down). The design we came up with recycles the water used and works off a solar pump... lots of brownie points for that! Having had some dabbling with water features in the past we have thoroughly learnt from our mistakes. Less is very much more in this case! The long and short of it is that the results are charming and bring a lovely different dimension to the garden which is immediately calming and cheering at the same time.

Now off to the veg patch: everything should be firing on all cylinders, so try and keep on top of weeding, feeding and tying in, and make sure there is room in the freezer for any (hopeful!) excess. Remember to harvest your garlic when the leaves start to wither and turn yellow. Make sure your potatoes are mounded up to protect your crop and keep your eyes peeled for the dreaded blight. If you are unfortunate to get blight then remove and dispose of the tops as soon as possible and whatever you do don't compost the tops, they need either burning or binning. Try and spare a moment for planning the next lot of planting in the autumn to get the most out of your patch.

Lots to do in the borders... keep dead heading your roses, making sure your secateurs are properly sharp for the task to prevent unnecessary damage. We've transformed all our tools with a proper sharpening stone, I cannot recommend them more highly! Do split any clumps of irises that have become congested they will be much happier the following year for that. One last tip for the border: if you want a repeat show of your lupins, keep cutting them back after flowering.

Do also try and take the time to just enjoy your garden – all too often we get caught up in the slog when we should (in this month at least) be smelling the roses.

This month's question is from Anita Sharp who is very worried about her lawn which is looking very sorry for itself because of the lack of rain. My advice would be to avoid cutting the lawn if it looks really unhappy. You don't want to add to the strain on your lawn, as most sorry lawns rectify themselves in the autumn with cooler temperatures and a bit more rain.

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



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Meet the Neighbours

Ben Elwes – Barningham Winter



Ben is a professional photographer who was born and brought up in Burgh-next-Aylsham. After working for PR companies and magazines in London Ben completed a Fine Art Photography MA at the UCA Kent and now works independently developing publications.

From 1990 – 2010 Ben regularly went to Keys Auctions in Aylsham and documented the Monday sales. These photographs were kept in a box until 2016 when they were unearthed and put together in a book called *Monday Market: Photographed at G A Key Fine Art Auctioneers & Frazer's Yard of Aylsham Norfolk (1990-2010)* with passages of text by Elspeth Barker and the retired Keys auctioneer Martyn Fox MBE. Keys sales started in 1955 and Ben's images capture the characters and workings of the sales. Rural Norfolk seems to

change very little and Ben's book demonstrates this beautifully whilst also remembering the livestock sales at Frazer's Yard.

In 2016 Ben went on an American road trip to photograph events either side of the infamous Presidential Election. Having seen how the European Referendum had divided the UK he thought that the Presidential election in America would cause the same sort of divisions and wanted to be there to hear people's stories. He started in Brownsville in the south and travelled 8,000 miles through 13 states in all including reaching the gates of The White House in Washington, DC and then returning to Brownsville and returning to Mexico where he also lives. The publication *Divided States* is now complete, and Ben is approaching publishers and hopes to do a further journey covering this year's highly emotive and important US election.

In 1912 Ben's great aunt, Honor Elwes, went on a camping trip with two other young women and a groom in a horse drawn caravan around Norfolk. A really very unusual thing to do over one hundred years ago. They started in Castle Rising, followed the coast to Overstrand and went home across the Broads and south Norfolk. In 2019 Ben retraced their journey with family genealogist Juliet Webster using historic documents, photographs and poems written by Honor. Juliet then published the book

The Yellow Caravan: Camping Round Norfolk in 1912 which features Ben's contemporary photos of their 2019 trip to compare with the Box Brownie photos from 1912.

Monday Market is available for sale at Keys reception and *The Yellow Caravan* in Jarrolds Norwich. *Monday Market* is also available to buy at The Saracen's Head which is run by Ben's brother Tim. <http://www.benelwesphoto.com/>

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