

Church & Village News

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

August 2020



Comet Neowise over Baconsthorpe
Photograph by Tim Venes

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Newsletter Team

Editor Michael McMahon
mjmcm25@gmail.com

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Treasurer Corinne Youngs 577263

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www.churchandvillagenews.org.uk

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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

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

Village Correspondents

Baconthorpe corinne@avyoungs.com	Corinne Youngs 577263
Barningham Winter s.m.buxton@hotmail.co.uk	Sara Buxton 577207
Edgefield richardpeaver@gmail.com	Richard Peaver 587486
Hempstead su@linaria.co.uk	Su Summers 710702
Matlaske jim.shepherd123@btinternet.com	Marion Shepherd 577521
Plumstead mary.lintott57@btinternet.com	Mary Lintott 577718
Saxthorpe & Corpusty saxthorpecastle@gmail.com	Sophia Hodgson 587510

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

AUGUST

Sat 15 6.00pm **Plumstead V J Celebration** Village Flagpole

Clash Diary 2020

Sep 7	Plumstead PC	Dec 6	Matlaske Christmas Party
Sep 16	Matlaske PC	Dec 7	Plumstead PC
Oct 23	Hempstead Quiz		

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

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Tuesdays 1.00pm – 4.00pm
All services

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All services including Euros

Holt Library

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB
Mon Wed Sat 9.30am-1.00pm
Fri 9.30am-6.00pm

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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.

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	iamawson@hotmail.com
Richard Peaver	01263 587486	richardpeaver@gmail.com
Angela Turner	01263 587292	ajturner@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/fakenhamfoodserviceltd/

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:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus

Letter from the Rector - Revd Canon David Longe

577252 / 07881 950294 / rector@matlaske.org.uk

Dear All

A few weeks ago I took advantage of the services being broadcast on YouTube to listen to a colleague. The issue of Black Lives Matter had made the headlines, and I was interested in what my old colleague would say – he was born in the West Indies and is well respected within the church communities.

He spoke of three pandemics: the coronavirus, the environment and racism. As a white male, I wanted to know how I should respond to Black Lives Matter, whether I was capable of understanding the cries that we all hear following the wake of the tragic death of George Floyd. I agree with my friend that we are living through (and I pray will soon emerge from) a pandemic from a virus that stills poses unknown challenges ahead. I also agree that we must not forget the environmental crisis, noting that some of the plastic waste generated from our response to the virus is having a devastating effect already as it finds itself washed up in our seas.

Black Lives Matters asks us to re-assess and to ask questions: To ask whether racism is still prevalent in British society? Whether in 2020 we have moved so individuals are truly treated as equal? Do we subconsciously make decisions based on what we hear and see?

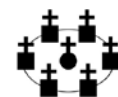
In his book, *Ghost Ship* (SCM Press, 2020), A D A France-Williams, a priest from Manchester, describes being invited to preach at St Paul's Cathedral in London. Checking out the venue a few days before he persuades a vergar to let him up into the pulpit. As he mounts the steps he surveys the Cathedral, imagining who might be there when he preaches. Then he looks up and he sees the words "For God and Empire". "For some" France-Williams writes, "[these words] would no doubt be a source of pride, a high honour. To me, it was code for supremacy and shame; a reminder of my slave ancestors."

I am not convinced that we should suddenly remove statues or, as has been suggested, alter images of Jesus. Jesus was undoubtedly from the Middle East and Jewish. He lived a life that that welcomed people with a compassion and gentleness that we can all learn from. It didn't matter to him whether they were rich, poor, sick, virtuous or wayward, or whether they were Jew, Roman or Gentile (non-Gentile). For Jesus all were – we all are – God's children.

This inclusive way of thinking challenges us, as does France-Williams's book. It asks us to examine our bias and reminds us to be humble, as we realise that at times our actions may hurt others: what is a celebration for one, may well be a lament for another.

To approach life in this way, is to recognise that truth is an ongoing revelation, and as it is revealed, paraphrase Jesus's words in the Gospel of John, we are all set free (John 8.31).

With my continued prayers for you, your families and friends.



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for August

As the Churches in the Benefice emerge from Lock Down, we are gradually bringing back public worship, following the Church of England's guidance. We are using the larger churches initially, so that distancing may be kept. We hope that in time we are able to open up the smaller churches for public worship. Virtual services can be found on the Matlaske Benefice YouTube Channel:

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

2 nd	Trinity VIII	
10.30	Eucharist	Edgefield
5 th	Mid-Week Service	
9.00	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
9 th	Trinity XI	
10.30	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
16 th	Trinity X	
10.30	Eucharist	Baconsthorpe
23 rd	Trinity XI	
10.30	Morning Prayer	Edgefield
30 th	Trinity XII	
10.30	Morning Prayer	Saxthorpe
2 nd Sept	Mid-Week Service	
9.00	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
6 th Sept	Trinity XIII	
10.30	Eucharist	Baconsthorpe

Baconsthorpe

There really is very little news this month. Life in lesser lock down carries on, there are no events to report on and no future events coming up for the time being.

Sadly the mobile shop is no longer functioning and Thursday night clapping seems to be a thing of the past. However, on 4th July the churches were again able to hold services inside. The first service held in the benefice was on Sunday 5th in Baconsthorpe. Over 35 people attended this service, 14 read prayers, lessons and were involved in the service and at the end we all went outside to sing (not allowed to sing inside) *Amazing Grace* accompanied by Jonathon Cooper on his saxophone. The virtual service on You Tube is still available each Sunday. Thank you to the production team, choir, readers etc.

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

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.

Lock Down Memories from Baconsthorpe by Jane Warner



Corinne Youngs
577263

Barningham Winter

There is nothing to report at this time, but Sara Buxton is still willing to collect tablets etc from Aldborough surgery if anyone requires.



Sara Buxton
577207

Edgefield

Village Hall News

The Village Hall is reopening on 1st August for our various clubs and classes, but of course social distancing will need to be implemented by these groups. We have redecorated the interior of the hall, including the corridors and kitchen, so it is looking very fresh and clean. We are also installing cleaning stations for the safety of users and the first three months back will be free to our regular customers. We have decided to continue the 200 Club for 2020/21 with the same membership as 19/20 and will collect the £6 fee when we consider it safe to do so. We hope that everyone will wish to stay in the club, but if you wish to opt out, please contact me on 01263 587110 or James.frost59@hotmail.co.uk.



Richard Peaver
587486

Jim Frost

Hempstead

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

200 Club

£50 P Tomlinson, £25 J Neville, £10 I Hicks, £5 I Tyabji, A Pailing, D Durst

Cancellations

Sadly, we are having to cancel both the fête and Hempstead Arts this year. It is such a shame because, quite aside from the fundraising aspect, these are two events which are fun and see us all working together. Hopefully it will be possible to go ahead again next year.

Thank You

I hope you have noticed how well kept Court Green is looking these days. We have to thank Jonathan Neville for this. It is so nice to enter the village and see it well cared for. Jonathan does this as a volunteer and we thank him very much.

Thank you also to the newsletter delivery team. We have new deliverers replacing three who are now unable to continue and we are very grateful to Yvette Gibson taking over from Ian masterminding the operation.



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710702

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Plea for Rubbish Bin Volunteer

I wonder if there is anyone who could take over the emptying of the rubbish bin by the hall? I used to do this before my illness made it impossible, and it is steadily filling up with rubbish which is unwelcoming and unsightly. Please let me know if you could help with this (710702). Many thanks.

Sponsors Please

James Buxton is training for a triple marathon – 26 mile run, row and cycle in 24 hours to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK in memory of his grandfather, Ted Hotblack, who died recently. The Buxton family have lived in Hempstead for 24 years, but there's an earlier connection with the village on Liz's side of the family, as her grandmother Dove Holtblack (Ted's mother) lived in Hempstead Lodge in the 1950s/early 1960s. Any sponsorship for James would be hugely appreciated, his GoFundMe is <https://gf.me/u/x8r7ya>

Church Cycle Ride - 12th September

Just a reminder to dust off your bicycles and get into training for this years cycle ride! Half the money raised goes to the church and half to Norfolk Churches Trust. This year our church is losing its main fundraising events, so this is very important. As a parish we are one of the top parishes in terms of money raised and we are so proud of our riders and sponsors. This year we need you more than ever.

Cockerel Catchers Required!

Four bantam cockerels have been dumped near the top of Pond Hills Road. This is a cruel thing to do as they will be predated by foxes. If anyone could catch them and give them a good home, they would be doing a kindness. Yvette Gibson (712460) could give you more details of their whereabouts.

Matlaske

100 Club

£25 Michael Spriggs, £10 Cherry Westgate, £5 Chelsea Baynes

Matlaske Quiz

Due to the ongoing restrictions, unfortunately our October quiz is cancelled.



Marion Shepherd
577521

Plumstead

Parish Council News

VJ Day Saturday 15th August - 6.00pm

The Parish Council is arranging a simple celebration at the Flagpole at 6pm to acknowledge the sacrifices made by so many in this country, both in the armed forces and civilian population to bring victory in Europe and the Far East.

Observing social distancing, we can raise a glass to them. Wine will be provided, but villagers are asked to bring along their own refreshments, both of food and drink. Relatives caught up in the war can be mentioned.



Mary Lintott
577118

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More information will be posted at the flagpole.

It would be helpful if you could email the Clerk to the Council clerkplumsteadparishcouncil@hotmail.com if you hope to attend. Here's to a fine day. Look forward to seeing you there.

Church News



Eleanor will be looking for sponsors for the cycle ride on Saturday September 12th. Please get in touch with her (577868) for sponsor forms. If you are able to sit in the Church for an hour your help would be much appreciated – please ring her to let her know.

The first service to be held in St Michael's Church, following Lock-down, was a wedding! What a lovely way to open the church fully. On Saturday July 4th, at 4pm, Emma Stimpson and Chris Nichols were married by our Rector, in the presence of witnesses Julie and Alistair Brown, and the churchwarden. This must have been the simplest a church wedding could be! The church was decorated with vases of garden flowers and dried rose petal confetti was showered upon the couple as they left the church. We wish them well.

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Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Ironically, as we return to a print edition, there is little news to report.

It is reassuring that the Covid volunteer team has been used less and less with only the occasional prescription pick up for the shielding people, and good to see that life is returning to normality, albeit a Covid aware new normality. Enjoy the summer and 'stay safe'.



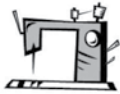
Sophia Hodgson
587510

St Andrew's Church News

For those residing in the environs of Saxthorpe Church, included with this month's parish magazine, will be a printed invitation to become a Friend of Saxthorpe Church. We are asking for your financial contribution in support of St Andrew's - your local, active church, serving the villages of Irmingland, Little London, Corpusty and Saxthorpe. As a friend, your donation will help to sustain the 900 years-old church facility and churchyard, and assist the church in continuing to meet the ever-growing needs of our local villages. Whether you are religious or not, St Andrew's desperately needs your assistance in remaining the focal point of our community.

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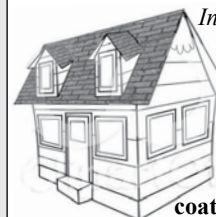
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Norfolk Wartime Remembered

The fourth in a series of recollections by Arthur Pentney

Baconsthorpe under attack - February 1941

In order to complement the other articles concerning the ending of the war 75 years ago, perhaps now is a good time to recall that day in 1941 when Baconsthorpe was actually bombed by the enemy. I was in a good position to hear a first hand report of this incident as my father and his brother Ernest were working in a field adjacent to the rectory at the time of the attack.



Church interior with lovely original window that was blown out and replaced with plain glass

The German aircraft, possibly a Dornier, flew in from the south. Those two workers rapidly dived for cover under a hedge as a stick of bombs were dropped, and the rectory and church machine-gunned.

Being a youngster at the time I was somewhat miffed to hear that my father had taken cover in this way. Why, I thought, did he not stand up and fire his Home Guard sten gun, or let off both barrels of his 12-bore at the enemy? No point really, of course, as even if those guns had been readily to hand, this aircraft was flying at 200 mph, and the whole attack would have been over in just a few seconds. So in hindsight, discretion was certainly the better part of valour on that day.

The fact that the aircraft was flying so low was advantageous, as not all its bombs actually detonated. To explode, a bomb has to be descending vertically, but some hit the ground at an angle and skidded along without exploding. That said, a fair amount of damage was done. Half the Rectory took a direct hit, outbuildings were destroyed, and the large church window blown out. With the bombs now jettisoned, the aircraft now headed rapidly in the direction of the coast, and presumably back to its base in northern France.

Some inhabitants considered the church to have been intended as the real target, but I think this unlikely. I suspect Norwich was a more likely destination for its deadly cargo, but probably the aircraft got lost in some way and decided to dump its bombs anywhere before retuning to base. Herr Goering, the Luftwaffe chief, would not have looked favourably on any of his crews returning with a full payload of bombs still intact, and with machine guns that had not been fired.



The Rectory before bomb damage

The damaged half of the Rectory had to be rebuilt, but not with that lovely pale-coloured Georgian brick. No, utility red brick would have to suffice, which now, almost 80 years on, has mellowed rather well.

I still have one of the cards that was given to me when as school children we were taught to identify aircraft for our own protection. The Dornier, capable of carrying a payload of one ton of bombs, was nicknamed 'The Flying Pencil', which was a good description of it with its slim sideways on profile. I also have a memento of that day – a nasty jagged piece of shrapnel from one of the bombs that did explode. Looking at it now, I can understand just why my father and uncle took refuge under that hedge during the attack.

The Village Gardener

To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



August is a curious month: there is always a combination of not wanting the summer to end, but the garden can look somewhat jaded in the bright light as if it knows it's on borrowed time. But then we have the gorgeousness of September to come so all is not lost.

Happily there is still plenty to do in the garden, first up is the veg patch. I can report that our really unappealing looking carrot fence has worked, although I appreciate it is early days... Standing at a meter high and made of a fine mesh, it does absolutely nothing for our walled garden, but so

far all our carrots have been free from damage. If you are struggling with carrot fly it might be an idea for next year...

Do remember to keep picking any peas and beans that you might have, as you want to trick the plants into producing pods for as long as possible, when they have finally had enough cut the plants off at the base and leave the roots in the soil. Legumes are nitrogen fixers and you will give your soil a boost if you leave the roots in.

Keep an eye out for the dreaded blight, as I write this both our potatoes and outdoor tomatoes are showing signs, if anyone has any blight tips or treatments we would love to hear them! If your potatoes show signs of blight cut off the tops and destroy them accordingly, with tomatoes I would remove any leaves that show signs of blight and just hope you can get them to ripen before it affects the fruit. Do think about setting any seeds for the autumn, we have grown our potatoes in large galvanised tubs so will be planting lots of autumn friendly carrots in those as soon as the potatoes are out. Now is the time to order onion and garlic sets so pop them on your to do list!

In the fruit garden your strawberry plants will be looking a bit sorry for themselves, so cut all the foliage down and remove the old straw. Do set any wanted runners and take off any you won't use. We tried a new variety this year which did not live up to expectations, so will be removing those new plants and setting more Cambridge favourite that just did so well this year. We have been much more aware this year of which plants are thriving in their positions, it's back to right plant right place. So the lavender bushes we had at the front of the walled garden looked sorry for themselves, we've replaced them with Nepeta which is happily romping along! I would suggest taking a moment this month to have a proper look at which plants are thriving and which are failing in the borders; it just might be a case of right plant wrong place!

This month's question is from Kay Ward who asks when the best time to take pelargonium cuttings is. August is a great time, just make sure the cuttings are kept damp and that you use a really sharp knife, also don't forget to label your cuttings... one pelargonium cutting looks very much like another! Good Luck!

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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Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, 12 September 2020

Our local churches are at last open again for us to appreciate their architectural, historical and religious importance to this county, so please pump up your tyres, or dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route to visit as many of them as you can on 12 September. Like many charities, the Norfolk Churches Trust has lost out on many of its fundraising activities during lockdown, so I hope that we can make this event a bumper year. Many people have been getting on their bikes or walking to take exercise which will be great training for this year's Bike Ride!

There was lots of good news to come out of last year's ride. The Bike Ride raised an amazing £94,390 in 2019, which was an increase of £2967 on 2018. The number of people taking part increased by 5% to 567 and the number of places of worship receiving cheques increased from 279 to 293. We would like to pass on an enormous thank you to everybody who took part either cycling, walking, driving or manning the churches. You make a great contribution to the church of your choice and to the trust.

Win £1,000 for your Church

This year we are again offering a £1,000 prize for the most improved church. In other words the church which shows the most improvement in its Bike Ride fund raising compared to last year. This is an opportunity to make a substantial difference to your church's finances. See the website for more details. Last year:

William O'Brien was the Winner of the Prince of Wales Certificate and raised £1,375

Mary Truman won £1000 for her nominated church as it was the most improved on 2018

Michael and Paula were the top cyclists on their tandem and visited 62 churches

James Akehurst was the top walker and visited 51 churches

Three People won £50 cheques for their photographs and had their pictures published

Hempstead, All Saints raised £4,154 and was top church this year, and Burgh Castle, St Peter and Paul came second, another outstanding fundraising effort by Paul Nicholls

Please take a camera and send in your pictures. We will choose three of our favourites to receive £50 prizes but we also use the pictures for social media and we try and use some for an article in the EDP.

We are delighted if people drive round the churches if they don't feel like jumping on a bicycle. This is becoming more popular each year. Justgiving makes it easy to raise money from family and friends. See website for details: <https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride/taking-part/>



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The person who raises the most money receives a certificate from the Prince of Wales.

The Wall of Fame on the website records the people who manage to visit the most churches in the day by Bike and Walking.

If you need any more information please contact me: charles.inglis@holefarm.co.uk

Charles Inglis