Church & Village Newsletter

Nº 1 February 2015



Baconsthorpe Barningham Winter Edgefield Hempstead
Itteringham Little Barningham Matlaske Plumstead
Saxthorpe with Corpusty Wickmere with Wolterton

Welcome to our First Combined Newsletter



Church People

Priest-in-Charge

Rev Marion Harrison
Itteringham Rectory, The Street,
Itteringham NR11 7AX
01263 587977 marion681@btinternet.com

Pastoral Team

Rev Brian Faulkner Honorary Assistant Curate) 577868 Gill Peat (Lay Reader) 734226 Richard Lynam (AWA) 587899 Judy Rosser (AWA)

Churchwardens

_	iiuiciiwaiuciis	
	Baconsthorpe	Tessa McCosh 577611
	Barningham Winter	Amelia Courtauld 577250
	Edgefield	Lorna Ross 712359 Angela Turner 587292
	Hempstead	Ann Udale 713656 Su Summers 710702
	Itteringham	Ray Covell 587659 Derek Turnbull 587259
	Little Barningham	Pamela Daniels 577436 Michael Daniels 577436
	Matlaske	Florence Hunt 577363 Thomas Courtauld 577250
	Plumstead	John Durdin 577234 Eleanor Faulkner 577868
	Saxthorpe	Merlin Waterson 587610 Heather Monks 587118
	Wickmere	Tony Hurn 577309 Scott McKenzie 577332

Our Priest-in-Charge writes:

Hello and welcome to everyone; especially those living within the Barningham Winter Group of parishes. My name is Marion and I am the Priest-in-Charge of the Seven Churches Benefice and soon to be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of the Barningham Winter Group as well. This will unite five of the seven churches with the five churches of the Barningham Group to form a new Benefice of ten parishes and their respective churches.

This is a huge undertaking not only for me but more so for you, the parishioners and people of the ten parishes and Churches. To help us in this venture, the Diocese is licensing Rev Brian Faulkner as Honorary Assistant Curate, working on a part-time basis to the new Benefice. I am sure Brian's help will be invaluable. But the task before us is to find a way to unite and move forward as a single Benefice. This will take time, prayer, effort, patience, generosity of spirit, a willingness to put ourselves out for each other and above all else to be gentle with ourselves and each other.

To help with this, I feel we need to think of a new name for our new Benefice, one that will help unite us and that we can all identify with. And so we are asking for your suggestions to be e-mailed or phoned through to the editor Richard Lynam by Easter whose contact details are on page 22. We will publish the most popular of these for your vote in the May issue.

And so, to end my letter, my feelings are that this is a positive move, one that can bring great joy and support to us all. I look forward to meeting new people and working with you all to unite us in discerning God's will and vision for our new Benefice. May His blessings of peace and understanding fill our hearts and minds and guide us in the years to come. Amen.

Marion Harrison

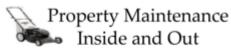
What's On

- **Hempstead Toad Migration** 4 Feb Wed @ 8 pm The toad migration at Rookery Pit and Selbrigg Pond will start in February when the weather warms up. We are always in need of volunteers. This meeting is at The Feathers in Holt and anyone interested in joining our group can come. For more information about what is involved, please ring Su 710702
- 6 Feb Fri @ 10:30 am Hempstead Coffee & Gossip In Hempstead Village Hall until noon. Good Coffee, Cake and a Chat. (Biscuits and Tea also available). Any profit goes to the newsletter.
- 9 Feb Mon @ 7 pm Plumstead PC Meeting In Church
- 11 Feb Wed @ 7 pm Hempstead Play-Reading Group Goodnight Mrs Puffin by Arthur Lovegrove. All welcome - if you would like to join us contact Su 710702.
- 12 Feb Thu @ 3:30 pm Corpusty Families Together In Village Hall until 5:30 pm.
- 18 Feb Wed @ 2 pm Corpusty LinC AGM and Social @ 7:30 pm Hempstead Film Club
- 20 Feb Fri @ 7 pm Baconsthorpe Quiz £6 per person
- 24 Feb Tue @ 7 pm Benefice Licensing Rev Marion Harrison is to be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of the five churches of the Barningham Winter Group at Baconsthorpe Church. She would be delighted if you came along. See Church Services.
- 27 Feb Fri @ 7:30 pm Wickmere Quiz There will be Quiz & Grub (as opposed to chips). Spag Bol, Veg Chilli, Rice, Pasta and cakes on offer to boost the little grey cells. Please call Lesley on 577566 to book team numbers.

Further Ahead

- 3 Mar Tue @ 3:30 pm Bishop Jonathan's Visit Tea and Gossip at Hempstead Village Hall as part of the Bishop of Lynn's visit to our villages. A chance to meet and chat.
- 5 Mar Thu (a) 7:30 pm Hempstead Saxophone Quartet Four years after first appearing in Hempstead VH, the Pinewood Saxophone Quartet returns to play in styles from medieval to rock. Their diversity of sound creates a unique musical experience and they often perform to packed houses. Tickets from Ian Summers 710702: Adults £6; Accompanied children (up to 18 years) £2. Profits to be donated to charity. Refreshments included.
- 8 Mar Sun @ 11 am Baconsthorpe – Bishop's Blessing Bishop of Lynn will bless the repairs to Baconsthorpe Church. Bring your own lunch to the village hall after which the sociable day continues at Itteringham. Everyone is welcome. Continued... 3

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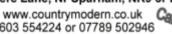


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What's On - Continued

- Sun @ 2:30 pm Itteringham - Bishop's Visit 8 Mar Bishop Jonathan (of Lynn) is rededicating the memorial at St Mary's. 9 Mar Mon @ 7 pm **Edgefield Film** German film Wings of Desire (a, 7:30 pm)Itteringham PC Meeting 12 Mar Thu @ 7:30 pm **Baconsthorpe VH Meeting** All welcome 14 Mar Sat @ 7 pm **Edgefield Irish Night** Our third St Patrick's Irish Night, with dancing to 'Compass Moon' and a wonderful Irish Stew cooked by our award-winning chef, Pete Baker. Judging by the success of the previous two years, you will need to book early. Tickets are £10 per head from any committee member. 16 Mar Mon @ 7:30 pm **Baconsthorpe Parish Council Meeting** In the Village Hall and all are welcome to attend 17 Mar Tue @ 2 pm Barningham Winter PCC AGM At North Barningham House. All parishioners are welcome to attend. 20 Mar Fri @ 7 pm Edgefield Quiz Night Tickets @ 15 will shortly be available for our ever-popular Quiz Night, proceeds from which go to the church. Do get yours soon from Janet Keymer 586365 or Lorna Ross 712359, for tables of four (bring your own drink). I would be grateful for raffle prizes! Any unwanted Christmas presents?! 27 Mar Fri @ 7 pm Wickmere with Wolterton Diary A possible showing of local vintage films at a Social Evening. More details later. Hempstead VH AGM 15 Apr Wed @ 7:30 pm All welcome 18 Apr Sat @ 11 am Plumstead Book Sale In the Church. Please look out any unwanted books and deliver to Church Farmhouse 577718. 16 May Sat @ 7 pm Hempstead May Feast 30 May Sat @ 7 pm **Edgefield Dance** By popular demand we have booked a local band called 'DNA' and tickets will be £5 per head. More details to follow. 14 Jun Sun @ 11:30 am Plumstead Open Gardens Organised by PCC 4 Jul Sat @ 12:30 pm **Plumstead Picnic** By the Pond 9 Aug Sun @ 2 pm Hempstead Fête 2 Oct Fri @ 7 pm Hempstead Quiz **Further Afield** 22 Feb Sun (a) 11 am West Beckham Snowdrop Garden
 - Open until 4 pm, the garden at Chestnut Farm will be open in aid of Norfolk Churches Trust by kind permission of John and Judy McNeil-Wilson. Light refreshments will be served and there will be a plant stall. Entrance $\pounds 4$.

Church Matters

Reports of the Christmas Services in the Barningham Winter Benefice

North Barningham Advent Carols

For the last three years an Advent Carol Service has been held in this redundant but still-consecrated church. The Rev Michael Cartwright was largely instrumental in bringing this about and with any luck we will continue to hold this service in the future as it seems to have become a popular fixture here.

Many people made an effort to turn out this year on 30th November. The Rev Brian Faulkner (our Honorary Curate to be) conducted the service. The Benefice Choir were largely instrumental in making it such a success. There was a festive atmosphere, with everyone dressed up in their thickest winter woolies, regardless of fashion and hot mince pies and mulled wine served at the end of the proceedings. As there is no electricity in the church and the light uncertain at this time of year, the church was decorated with candles on windowsills and ledges.

The combination of flickering light and song was greatly appreciated by the resident small bird who swooped amongst the lighted candles, narrowly escaping a grizzly end.

Chuffy de Bunsen

Baconsthorpe Christingle Service

The children met at the Old Rectory to make the Christingles. These were then taken over to the church for the service. A proportion of the collection was given to the Children's Society, this amounted to £50.

Ro Hardingham

Matlaske 'Joyful Noise' - Psalm 66 v1

Everyone was in good voice at the Benefice Carol Service, taken by the Ven Michael Handley, at St Peter's, Matlaske. The 'sweet singing of the choir and the playing of the merry organ' (by John Richley) contributed to the congregation's enjoyment of the familiar carols. It was good to see some

younger readers taking part in the service; namely Charlie and Matilda Courtauld and Ivo Inglis. Afterwards there was an opportunity for a good mardle over a cup of coffee and a mince pie.

Pauline Wooff

Barningham Winter Crib Service

On Christmas Eve the scene was set for a delightful Nativity Service; a straw stable with a donkey and a sheep. Chanelle Shepherd was Mary and the Pallister children and their friends, the Perk's grandchildren, Ben Shaw (whose father Nick had come from Hitchin to play the organ) were Joseph, the Shepherds and the Kings. The Rev Faulkner took us through the Nativity Service with lessons and carols.

It was a most fitting way to start
Christmas, the little church was full. Thank
you so much to all that helped make the
service so special: to Thomas Courtauld who
set up the stable; to John Perks and Leo
Palmer for the decorated Christmas tree; to
Chuffy de Bunsen for standing in as church
warden; to Amelia Courtauld for helping
with the flowers; to Eleanor Faulkner and
Su Summers who helped behind the scenes
and special thanks to Rita Gallon who
cleaned the church so beautifully after the
service!

Sara Buxton

Hempstead Midnight Service

The church wardens of All Saints, Hempstead, would like to thank all those who contributed in making the Midnight service special, especially to the Inglis children who again did such a good job in decorating the church. The service took place by candlelight with the aid of torches. Special thanks must be given to the harpist who played while people came into the church and again during communion. As a result of generous donations we were able to send a cheque for £200 to EACH.

Ann Udale

Church Services

1 Feb Candlemas 8 am		8 am	Communion CW	Saxthorpe Church	
9		9 am	Communion CW	Lt Barningham Church	
10 am		10 am	Communion BCP	Matlaske Church	
		11 am	Family Service	Wickmere Church	
8 Feb	2nd Before Lent	9 am	Communion CW	Itteringham Church	
		10 am	Matins BCP	Baconsthorpe Church	
	1	10:30 am	Community Weekend *	Little Barningham VH	
		11 am	Communion CW Trd Lng	Edgefield Church	
		11 am	Morning Praise	Saxthorpe Church	
15 Feb	Next Before Len	t 8 am	Communion BCP	Wickmere Church	
9:30 am		Morning Prayer BCP	Edgefield Church		
10 am		Communion BCP	Barningham Winter Church		
Visitin			g Priest: Ven Michael Handley		
		11 am	Morning Prayer CW	Little Barningham Church	
18 Feb	Ash Wednesday	9 am	Communion Ashes	Saxthorpe Church	
		7 pm	Communion Ashes	Matlaske Church	
22 Feb	Lent 1	8 am	Communion BCP	Little Barningham Church	
		9 am	Family Service	Edgefield Church	
10 ar		10 am	Matins BCP	Hempstead Church	
11 am		11 am	Communion CW	Saxthorpe Church	
		11 am	Morning Prayer BCP	Itteringham Church	
24 Feb Tue @ 7 pm Licensing Service Baconsthorpe Church During this service the Rev Marion Harrison will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of the Barningham Winter Benefice with Rev Brian Faulkner as part-time Honorary Assistant Curate. There will be refreshments afterwards in the church.					
1 Mar	Lent 2	8 am	Communion CW	Saxthorpe Church	
		9 am	Communion CW	Lt Barningham Church	

1 Mar Lent 2		8 am	Communion CW	Saxthorpe Church
		9 am	Communion CW	Lt Barningham Church
		9:15 am	Communion BCP	Plumstead Church
		10:45 am	Matins BCP	Matlaske Church
		11 am	Family Service	Wickmere Church

Midweek Holy Communion

February	9 am	Wednesdays	Saxthorpe Church
March	9 am	Wednesdays	Itteringham Church

CW = Common Worship Trd Lng = Traditional LanguageBCP = Book of Common Prayer Ashes = Imposition of Ashes

^{*} Everyone from within the whole community is welcome to attend **Community Weekends** where the village hall will be warm and there will be no structure – just come along and enjoy.

Lloyd Durham

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From Our Village Correspondents - and Others

Welcome to two new Village Correspondents: Sharon Hannah from Hempstead; and Mary Lintott from Plumstead. We are grateful to David Wooff and Chuffy de Bunsen for stepping in for our regular correspondents from Matlaske and Barningham Winter for various reasons.

If you have any **News** or wish to inform our readers of **What's On** in your village please get in touch with your village correspondent – details at the end of each village section.

General News

All Together Better

Welcome to the first issue of the Church & Village Newsletter. As Marion our Priest-in-Charge notes earlier, we all have a large task ahead of us uniting our two Benefices. The editorial team is determined to help and sees this new newsletter as 'glue' for both the churches and the wider community. Speaking of communities, our main purpose is to share news and helpful information between all the ten villages so we can learn from each other. We are very aware that the uniting of such disparate communities will take time to achieve but via this newsletter we hope that you will take a real interest in what your fellow communities are doing and, where you can and so wish to, join in their events as well as your own.

Finally a personal thank you. This first issue could not have made it to press without the dedication and help of Ian Summers. I am so grateful to have such a talented professional working alongside me. I'd also like to thank Corinne Youngs and Clive Rammell for being part of the team to deal with the advertising and finance – again a significant boon to a stressed Editor!

We hope you like what you see so far – although as with any new project there may be the odd teething problem – read and enjoy and please do tell us what you think and, as importantly, how we can improve.

Richard Lynam, Editor

Clash Diary

When planning your events please confer with Corinne Youngs to avoid major clashes of events within the ten villages – 577263 corinne@avyoungs.com

Getting to Know You

Getting to Know You is one of the songs from the musical The King And I – could this be the theme song through the coming year as the two benefices come together visiting each others churches in worship and fellowship. If you have any ideas how we can achieve this getting to know you please contact me. Examples: a casserole or musical evening.

Derek Wintle

Mobile Library Van

Rather than list this in the What's on Section the Thursday's when and at what time the Library Van visits your village will be shown on Community Information page each month. Please support this free resource and save time visiting the library in your nearest town. There is no such thing as a late return using the library van – so no fines.

Holt Caring Society

Needs drivers for Corpusty, Edgefield and beyond: Liz 711243 for more information.

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Baconsthorpe

Events in Baconsthorpe

20 Feb 7 pm **Quiz**

8 Mar 11 am **Bishop's Blessing**

See page 3 for complete 'What's On'

Royal British Legion

Tessa McCosh is enormously grateful to all who contributed to the Poppy Appeal back in November. A record amount of £208 was collected and duly despatched.

Meet the Neighbours

A huge thank you to Emma Youngs and her band of helpers who worked so hard to make this event the great success it was. As a result of the afternoon, an interest was shown for a Summer Garden Fête. The date has been fixed to hold one on Sunday 21st June in the Village Hall and garden. Should you wish to help, or have any good ideas, please contact Corinne Youngs 577263.

Murmuration



Emma Young's picture shows starlings flying at sunset before they roost for the night. She reports they start gathering about 3:30–3:45 pm, and it is so amazing her father can only remember it happening once or twice before in Baconsthorpe.

Baconsthorpe 200 Club

£25 Corinne Youngs; £10 Pauline Fuller; £5 Nick Powell and Geff Reason.

Tribute to Doris Hill

It was with sadness we learnt of the death of Doris Hill, who died on 7th January at the grand age of 90. She was born in the village at 12 Stonefield Rd, where she lived with her mother and grandfather. On leaving school she worked at Bramblewood Nursing Home at High Kelling. For several years she was dinner lady and playground supervisor at the Village School, remaining there until its closure in the the 80s. A founder member of the Village Hall Committee she worked tirelessly over many years to help bring it to the standard it is today. Doris loved a game of bowls and was a much valued member of the Carpet Bowls Club. Active up to the end of her long life she will be

of her long life, she will be greatly missed by many. We offer our sincere condolences to her family.

Village Correspondent Ro Hardingham 577262

Barningham Winter

North Barningham Defibrillator

The inhabitants of North Barningham were recently made aware that a small quantity of free defibrillators were being offered to isolated rural communities, who would have to find suitable sites and meet the cost of the special secure cabinet in which they must

be installed. At the time of writing, we are waiting to hear whether any are still available. *Chuffy de Bunsen*

Village Correspondent Sara Buxton 577207

Edgefield

Crib for Church

A new crib will be made in the village, ready for next Christmas. We hope the problems with the church clock will be sorted shortly.

Congratulations!

Arabella Peaver of Edgefield spent Christmas in Kenya with her family. While there, she and her boyfriend Adam became engaged. They have known each other for thirteen years, so are fairly well acquainted!

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Toads

When we have had a few days of warmer weather, Ian and Janet Keymer would be very glad of help preventing toads and frogs getting squashed on the road by the pond. They go out, armed with buckets, after dark, and do a splendid rescue job. Check with them once the weather improves.

Open Gardens

Surely there must be another good garden to open for our Gardens Open weekend, June 20th & 21st? At present, apart from John and Joyce Kinsley, we have only places in Edgefield Street, so there will only be the (all-important) teas and bookstall elsewhere. We would love offers of help with teas, selling raffle tickets and books, and cakes, of course.

Broadband

Let us hope that the local efforts to get our broadband improved are successful. It is a disgrace that the fibre-optic cable goes right through the village, and we have no access to it.



Richard Peaver 587486

Hempstead

Events in Hempstead

4 Feb 8 pm Toad Migration
6 Feb 10:30 am Coffee & Gossip
11 Feb 7 pm Play-Reading Group
18 Feb 7:30 pm Film Club
5 Mar 7:30 pm Saxophone Quartet
See page 3 for complete 'What's On'

Recording Nature in Hempstead

I have been living in Hempstead now for nearly 10 years (apart from a move for a year to Australia!) and love living here mainly because of its beauty and tranquillity. The wildlife is also amazing; I regularly have a heron in my pond and the barn owl comes to visit often. We have also, in years gone by, had a corncrake – we recorded his sound in the evening and sent it off to a friend who

works for the RSPB who confirmed it was indeed a corncrake.

We are very lucky to have all of this rare nature around us. If anyone has any bird watching news I would look forward to hearing from you. I think it is a good idea to keep a record of Mother Nature in the village.

Welcome

Welcome to Sade, Lydia, Jayden and Issac who have come to live in The Knoll from Norwich, we are sure you and your children will flourish and enjoy living in this village.

Hempstead 200 Club

December: £25 D Durst; £10 W Mack; £5 Y Gibson, T Collier, I Tyabji, A Wallace, V Crocker and B Rudd.

January: £25 I Bassett; £10 Y Gibson; £5 A Mack, V Crocker and J Loach.

Weather in 2014

Here is the usual summary of annual rainfall (rounded figures in millimetres):

	2012	2013	2014	2005-2014
				10-year average
January	34	66	95	54.1
February	21	41	70	53.4
March	44	67	26	46.4
April	104	12	22	34.0
May	45	67	101	58.2
June	109	26	42	65.0
July	85	16	56	56.2
August	49	49	105	77.4
September	45	44	14	42.5
October	82	97	82	69.2
November	94	67	89	75.2
December	98	44	57	59.0
Year	811	596	759	690.6
	(31.9")	(23.4")	(29.9"	(27.2")

The weather last year was mostly benign and nature generally agreed. Let us hope that 2015 will be as kind.

David Durst

The Hempstead Follies

As an outsider (all the way from Edgefield), I would like to congratulate Hempstead on their excellent Christmas party and show. First there was the excellent mulled wine and finger food then we relaxed for the show. Written and produced in the village it



No evidence of a probable plot!

portrayed life many years ago; all the cast were excellent and entered into the farce to perfection. I should not pick out any one in

particular but the 'squire' and the 'parson' really showed us the way the parishes ticked along so well years ago. Well done to you all and thank you; see you again on 5 Dec 2015. Who knows what's in store... Richard Brooks



Sharon Hannah 711769

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Itteringham

Event in Itteringham

8 Mar 2:30 pm **Bishop's Dedication**

See page 3 for complete 'What's On'



St Mary, Itteringham's newly-restored window

It is a second coming. The shuttering is removed. Robert Walpole (his window) is returned to his 'pride' and St Mary's is complete once more. Bishop Jonathan of Lynn is rededicating the memorial window at St Mary's at 2:30 pm on Sunday March 8.

The exodus is done... but no. More of an exchange perhaps. We are losing Blickling and Oulton Street but will gain by joining the Barningham Winter group. This will mean a wider interaction and mix. A greater task though to be carried on the shoulders of our well burdened priest. Her strength and dedication is in no doubt but support will be greeted with grateful, silent applause. Should we look at twinning of parishes with others around the UK for even greater union with the whole?

Austerity has finally descended upon this Newsletter. We are instructed that we must suffer a paucity of word and space because of our exaggerated coverage and so if there is to be a surfeit of news in any one month the format may resemble one of those ancient telegrams that once we may have sent or received. But the word is prime. Poetry may have to rest awhile

A final word on 'the window'. Many, including Maggie and William Vaughan-Lewis, our Church wardens, Derek Turnbull

and Ray Covell, Rachel Sidel and her Brownies, The Heritage Lottery Fund and its operators and contributors, our skilled restorers... and the EDP for their coverage should all be recognized as part of the success of the rescue.



Eric Goodman 587278

Take Part – of interest to all ages

Baconsthorpe Line Dancing – Monday's @ 7:30 pm (not bank holidays) 711320

Hempstead Charcoal Drawing – Tuesday's 10 am (term time) 711282

Baconsthorpe Diocesan Play Van – Tuesday's @ 10 am (term time) 07918 027092

Baconsthorpe Indoor Bowls – Tuesday's @ 7:30 pm (not bank holidays) 711320

Community Arts Group – Sunday's @ 2–4 pm in March 2015 only 570151

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Little Barningham

Christmas

Christmas already seems a while ago, but belated thanks to Elizabeth and Barry Dennis for supplying and putting the lights up the church pathway; to Barbara Thurtell for decorating the Christmas tree so well; the village hall committee for their contribution towards the cost; the anonymous donor for the balance; not forgetting those who decorated the church. All helped the atmosphere of rejoicing at the Christmas services.

Toad Talk

Little Barningham is not the only Norfolk village helping amphibians to survive. From 17 of our recorded villages, Hempstead Toad Patrol were top of the league in 2014, moving 3,232 toads from the road.

Our own efforts ensured that a fortunate 1141 toads, three frogs and four common



newts made it back to their breeding pond last February.

So, jump to it! Join us and hear a bucketful of toads

chirping their thanks this year! Contact: Eleanor at Beck Cottage, Little Barningham 577720 eleanorburton@totalise.co.uk

Defibrillator

We have been promised a defibrillator for free if we can meet the cost of the housing unit. The village hall committee voted to finance this from the hall funds and have arranged a curry evening and table-top sale to help to finance it.

Syria Appeal

Michael Gandy has been pleased with the response for the Syria appeal, but if you can offer any clothing, blankets, toiletries, etc please contact on 570097.



Derek Wintle 570097

Matlaske

100 Club

Money is now due for this year, the first draw to be held in February. If you are not a member then please contact Marion 577521 or Cherry 577827 for details.

'Joyful Noise' in Matlaske

Just after Christmas, on December 28th, Matlaske was again fortunate to have a musical 'treat' at the Matins service taken by the Rev. Brian Faulkner. Nicholas Shaw played the German Reed Organ (Harmonium) to accompany the hymns and the small congregation certainly made a 'joyful noise'! Nicholas normally plays the organ at Lincoln's Inn but he said it was an honour to play the Matlaske harmonium as it was quite a rare instrument.

Christmas Party



There was a good turnout for the party and those who attended met many new friends as well as old. Everyone was enjoying the food, music and atmosphere then Father Christmas and his Elf arrived and gave all the children presents. Music was by Neil Daniels which delighted all and the children loved dancing to.

Bottle Bank

It is good to see the bottle bank back at the entrance to the old airfield and being used. Please support this.

Poppy Appeal

The sum collected in the village this year was $\cancel{\cancel{1}}$ 97.07. Thank you to all who donated plus a special thank you to the collectors. Dennis Whalley

Village Correspondent Florence Hunt 577363

Assisted by David Wooff

Plumstead

Event in Plumstead

7 pm **PC Meeting**

See page 3 for complete What's On'

There has been a dearth of stories from our Village for far too long since we have had no correspondent. So, if you have any stories or celebrations to mark please do email me.

First we wish Frank Hebron well in his recovery after his knee operation. We need you back to do all those building jobs that otherwise just get left!

Demise of an Ancient Oak



Recognized by newcomers as the road by the post box, Stocks Hill became the scene of the demise of the ancient ivy-covered oak which looked like a teapot. Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe, refused to have it chopped down because there was no straight wood in itl

Christmas

On a chilly night just before Christmas the good folk of Plumstead made their way to

the Church to enjoy mince pies and mulled wine. After a lovely evening of laughter, gossip and warming up old friendships helped by excellent mulled wine, we left for home with a warm glow in our hearts, a renewed sense of belonging and another PEG event had made its mark on an appreciative community.

On December 23rd, 19 of us turned out on a breezy evening to go Carol Singing door to door to revive an old tradition. Although fund raising was not the objective £50 was collected and sent to 'Embrace' – a Charity which helps families in the Middle East in their struggle with poverty and injustice.

Parish Council

It is talking to Highways about possible new signs for the Village. If anybody has any views please could they let the Council know at next PC meeting listed. Signs will be subject to Highway regulations.

The Council wants to reinvigorate the wildflower meadow by the Pond, which will need grazing next year. Village Anyone interested in Correspondent Mary Lintott grazing please contact the 577718 Parish Council.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

We look forward to meeting and getting to know our new friends from the Barningham Winter Benefice. An apology from me for calling 'The Candlelight Service', on Christmas Eve, 'The Service of Light'. Two saints have offered their services to deliver the Newsletter in their streets, a big 'Thank You' to them.

Tower of London Poppy

Ms Pamela Thomson had a wonderful surprise, when Heather Monks presented her with a ceramic poppy from The Tower of London art installation, Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red. It is one of the 888,246 poppies designed by artist Paul Cummins and will be on display in Corpusty Primary School.

Tribute

The Rev Richard Dommett has died aged 95. He was Vicar of Saxthorpe with Corpusty from 1981-85 and lived next door to us, newcomers to the village. He and his wife Ursula could not have been more kind or welcoming. Dick was asked to take on this Parish after a number of difficulties with the clergy amongst his predecessors. The Church of England therefore needed a safe pair of hands to steady the ship. They could not have had a more-able or sympathetic man. He was always thoughtful and prepared intellectually-insightful sermons. His wife predeceased him and her maiden name was also Waterson: she claimed that we must have been related. After retirement he went to live in Harleston, South Norfolk.

Imogen Waterson

'New' Chairs



Fifty chairs from Norwich Cathedral now grace St Andrew's Church. They stack and can be linked to each other. Thank you to Heather and Brian Monks who have for many months tried to source chairs which were acceptable both on price and design. Thank you, too, for transporting them.

Nepal Schools

Ann and Peter Eglington wish to thank everyone who supported their vegetable stall last year and raised £1500 for two schools in Nepal. Ann continues: "This supports the



wages of two teachers. We visited both schools in December, and can report, that

they are doing very well. One school has new classrooms, the other has a swing and slide in the playground – a first for a village school!! The photo shows the school is in the clouds a lot of the time and the children have adapted the descent!!!'



Judith Banks 587319

Wickmere with Wolterton

Village Hall News

Terry Shaw and Richard Hembling are to build a shed alongside the hall, to allow storage of tables and chairs. They will also be laying enviro-mats to facilitate disabled access to the hall. This will then all be reseeded and hopefully usable shortly after Spring weather permitting.

The Millennium bench has been removed, after it collapsed. Thanks to Terry who is working to put it back together.

As a Committee we were able to look back on what had been a successful year. With December seeing five events using the Hall. Thank you to everyone who attended the various gatherings. Without you the hall would not be the place it is now.





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Norwich Road, Corpusty

As mentioned in last month's mag, we now have grit bins which were supplied by the Parish Council. Lesley tells me that we are waiting for the Highways Dept to deliver some grit... would be useful. Please *do not* put bottles in these bins as someone has – please put them in your green bins.

Village Hall AGM

16th Jan was the Village Hall AGM – sadly only those on the committee turned up. It was agreed that Jonny Pratt would remain as Chairman, Sharon Savory as secretary and Barbara Shaw as treasurer. Chelsie and George Goulty to carry on as Youth Committee. They will try and arrange more events for the teens of the village to enjoy – wait and see.

Get Well

Sending some get well wishes to the lovely Harley, Karen's grandson, after his visit to the hospital. Hopefully his cheeky grin will be back in the village soon.

Birthdays

Belated birthday wishes to Jenny Slapp and

Philida Hurn for January. Feb Birthdays – Tony Hurn, Ted Slapp, Helen McKenzie. Tom Riches will be 18 on 12th, Chelsie Goulty 18 on 14th, George Madely and Redmond Shaw share birthdays on 25th, Red will be 11. Best wishes to all.



Helen Goulty 570043

Recipe Corner

Roast Butternut Squash Soup

We asked a local lady for a recipe suggestion for her favourite winter warming dish. She took about a nano-second to reply with this.

Serves 4–6 (½ kilo of squash per serving); preparation: 10 mins; cooking: 60 mins; finishing: 15 mins

2 large squash Olive oil Sprig rosemary 1 litre of vegetable stock

- Heat oven to 180 C (gas mark 4)
- Slice each squash into half; drizzle olive oil over; place a sprig of rosemary on each portion and place in a roasting tin
- Roast the squash until soft about 1 hour
- Prepare about 1 litre of vegetable or chicken stock
- Remove sprig of rosemary and discard
- Remove softened flesh from the squash and liquidise
- Use bouillon to reduce thickness of liquidised squash to desired consistency

This soup can be served in two ways: either quite thin, as a starter dish; or quite thick as a main course:

- To serve: swirl a few drops of double cream into each bowl of soup
- If you want to make this a main dish, keep it thicker and scatter grated cheese over surface of soup, in addition to the swirl of double cream

Serve with thick, crusty bread. Delish!! Ed

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Church & Village Newsletter

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Help Wanted

Over the years the Barningham Winter Benefice Newsletter has accumulated a page of useful community information. What would you like to see here details of buses, perhaps

Contact the editor

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	11:15	NR11 7A	Y The Rect	ory
Lt Barningham	12:05	NR11 7A	G The Stree	et
Matlaske	12:30	NR11 7A	Q Old Post	Office
Plumstead	13:15	NR11 7L	G Walnut F	arm
Baconsthorpe	14:45	NR25 6L	J Council F	Bungalows
	16:10	NR25 6L	G Old Post	Office
Hempstead	15:20	NR25 6L	E Hare and	Hounds
	15:40	NR25 6T	L Telephon	e kiosk

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Corpusty	12:10	NR11 6QF	School	
	12:40	NR11 7BU	Great F	arm Cott's
	14:00	NR11 6QJ	Adams 1	Lane
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Nature Notes

Lichen



Illustration of Lichen by Sue Appleby

They say that wherever you are in Norfolk you can always see a church, and wherever there are churches, there are churchyards. Besides providing an important social history of previous generations, these timeless havens of peace provide rich, undisturbed habitats for an abundance of wildlife. There, amongst the flora and fauna, is something so woven into our landscape that we barely notice it – Lichen. Forming a colourful mosaic over trees, benches, walls, and headstones, the damp winter air accentuates its reds, yellows and greys.

Covering 6% of the earth and able to live on all manner of material from wood to rock, glass to mollusc shells, these tiny organisms are hardy enough to survive pretty much anywhere, be it seashore or polar region. The less extreme environment of the churchyard plays host to a third of all UK species, some specimens as old as the stones on which they live – granite, marble and limestone headstones allowing each to thrive in its own micro-habitat.

Neither plant nor animal, lichens are actually the product of a perfectly forged relationship between algae and fungi, the two supporting each other – the fungus offering protection whilst the alga produces food.

Having no roots, lichens absorb water and minerals directly from the air around them, and as a result are sensitive to atmospheric conditions. They all but vanished in the polluted environment of our cities during the Industrial Revolution, whilst in Northern Scandinavia, in the years since the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, they have absorbed so much radiation, that Reindeer grazing on them have themselves become

radioactive, rendering their meat unfit for consumption by the indigenous people.

Whilst providing food, shelter and nesting material for many creatures, it is unsurprising that an organism that has been around for 400 million years has been extensively used by man. From famine food to modern cuisine, manufacture of antibiotics to sunscreen, it has been utilised by virtually every culture, at every stage of history. Romans wore lichen stained purple cloth, Scottish highlanders, yellow stained Harris Tweed. Ancient Egyptians used it in the mummification process, and physicians, right up to the present day, in treating everything

from dog bites to pneumonia. Even top perfume companies add tonnes of the stuff every year to some of their finest colognes – I do hope they choose them carefully to avoid the odd one that smells of rotting fish!

Sue Appleby Wickmere

Norfolk Night Sky



Jupiter is now visible with good binoculars / telescope

As I write this, comet Lovejoy is a splendid sight in the evening sky to the right of, and above Orion. C/2011 W3 (Lovejoy) to give it its proper name, won't return for another 8,000 years, so I thought I had better try to see it! It is best observed with binoculars. A telescope with very low power would also be OK. My binoculars are 20x magnification, and the comet looked like a big glowing ball of light, faintly green in colour. The ion tail was very faint, but just visible.

Jupiter is a fine spectacle in the night sky, so bright it would almost cast a shadow. Do try to observe it with a telescope. You can expect to see the satellites, and the coloured bands on the disc of the planet. If you have keen eyesight and a good instrument, you may see the Great Red Spot.

The New Horizons space probe which is currently close to Pluto is powered by the same computer processor which powered your Sony Playstation 20 years ago! It is also carrying the ashes of Clyde Tombough the astronomer who discovered Pluto in 1930.

It looks as if the Beagle 2 Mars lander did land safely after all, on Christmas Day 2003, but that two of its solar panels failed to unfurl, thereby blocking the antenna. Colin Pillinger would have been delighted!

NASA's Curiosity Mars Lander has already discovered methane coming from the Martian soil. This could come either from micro-organisms or a chemical process in the rocks.

Did you know you can now download an 'app' for your mobile phone which shows the stars and planets in whichever direction you point it!

I do recommend that if you are really keen, that you join an astronomical society. Our local society is the North Norfolk Astronomical Society and is based at Wiveton (NNAS.org).



David Jackson Itteringham

Mystery Object

Any guesses as to what this is and where it can be found. It is somewhere within the about-to-be-enlarged group of ten villages. I've had this picture for a few months waiting for the opportunity to show it in colour – so here it is.

Ian Summers

