

Church & Village Newsletter

Nº 2 March 2015



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

Nature Notes



Water – a priceless resource, yet something we in the western world take so much for granted, not always protecting it in the way we should. Only 30 years ago, high levels of pesticides running off fields and effluent discharges from factories, had suffocated the life out of our waterways. Crustaceans, fish and amphibians were struggling, leading to the near extinction of the animal at the top of the river food chain – the Otter. A clean-up of urban and farmland practices has, thankfully, allowed this largest member of the weasel family to make a remarkable comeback, returning to all counties, and many cities, within England.



Once strictly nocturnal, whilst still spending many daylight hours resting unseen, daytime sightings are becoming more common, perhaps due to larger numbers creating more competition for food. Adults need to consume nearly a quarter of their body weight each day, and such large dietary requirements need superior aquatic hunting abilities. For Otters, these are provided by sharp claws and streamlined bodies. In addition, valves that close ears and nose when submerged, and an ability to slow their heartbeat, allow

them to stay underwater for lengthy periods. Naturally, excellent swimming skills are paramount, and whilst capable of achieving a surprising pace on land, it is in water that they become true masters of speed and agility. Dubbed 'Water Snakes', by the Anglo Saxons, they use body flexing and webbed feet to propel themselves, whilst air bubbles and secreted oils in their fur create the perfect wetsuit, keeping them warm and so dry, that the underlying skin never actually becomes wet!

Otters breed at any time of the year depending on the availability of food. As the end of her two month pregnancy approaches, the female chases away her mate to prevent the pups from becoming his dinner, and from then on, the father plays no part in the youngsters' upbringing. Born without waterproofing oils, they stay on terra firma for the first 10 weeks, fed initially on milk before moving on to the spoils of the mother's hunts. Not until eighteen months old are they truly independent.

The health of our waterways will always be an ongoing concern, for they are an integral part of our existence. However, as Otters only inhabit clean water, their presence, even here in our parish, gives hope that we are, perhaps, slowly going in the right direction.

Sue Appleby

From the Rectory



Lent is here and traditionally it is a time when we sacrifice our self-indulgences and give up something - chocolate, alcohol, I've even known someone who gave up his beloved baked beans. Christians do this to ready ourselves spiritually for the return of our resurrected Saviour at Easter.

This year I'd like to offer a different approach. As you know this month sees the formal start of the new Benefice and

this gave me an idea. Instead of giving something up for Lent, why don't we take up the Benefice instead!

For instance, could you use this Lent in trying to meet people from parishes you don't yet know? Or could you try and help families or people you know in our new Benefice who are struggling? Or can you simply tour the Benefice, get to know it and maybe spend some time in a part of the Benefice that is new to you?

Our aim is to grow as one community and this Lent you can help start that process – even if, especially if, you don't go to Church!

Church Services for March

Midweek Communion: Wednesdays 9.00am Itteringham

1	Lent 2	8.00am	Communion <i>CW</i>	Saxthorpe
		9.00am	Communion <i>CW</i>	Lt Barningham
		9.15am	Communion <i>BCP</i>	Plumstead
		10.45am	Matins <i>BCP</i>	Matlaske
		11.00am	Family Service	Wickmere
			Community Weekend	Edgefield
8	Lent 3	11.00am	Benefice HC with the Bishop <i>BCP</i>	Baconsthorpe
		2.30pm	Dedication Service with Bishop	Itteringham
15	Lent 4	8.00am	Communion <i>BCP</i>	Wickmere
	Mothering Sunday	9.15am	Communion <i>BCP</i>	Barningham Winter
		9.30am	Morning Prayer <i>BCP</i>	Edgefield
		10.45am	Matins <i>BCP</i>	Hempstead
		11.00am	Morning Prayer <i>CW</i>	Lt Barningham
			Community Weekend	Saxthorpe
22	Lent 5	8.00am	Communion <i>CW</i>	Lt Barningham
		9.00am	Family Service	Edgefield
		9.15am	Communion	Matlaske
		10.45am	Matins	Plumstead
		11.00am	Communion <i>CW</i>	Saxthorpe
		11.00am	Morning Prayer	Itteringham
			Community Weekend	Wickmere
29	Palm Sunday	9.15am	Communion <i>BCP</i>	Hempstead
		10.30am	Benefice Special Service	Wickmere
		10.45am	Matins <i>BCP</i>	Barningham Winter

CW = Common Worship *BCP* = Book of Common Prayer

What's On in March

- 2 Mon 7.30pm **Hempstead PC Meeting** Village Hall
- 3 Tue 3.30pm **Hempstead – Bishop Jonathan's Visit** Village Hall
Part of the Bishop of Lynn's visit to our villages. A chance to meet and chat
- 5 Thu 7.30pm **Hempstead – Saxophone Quartet** Village Hall
Four years after their first appearance in Hempstead Village Hall, the popular Pinewood Saxophone Quartet will play in styles from medieval to rock via Bach and jazz to pieces specially written for quartets by some of today's contemporary composers. Their diversity of sound creates a unique musical experience. They are well known to Norfolk audiences often performing to packed houses. Tickets (cash/cheque only): Adults £6; Accompanied children (up to 18 years) £2 from Ian Summers 710702. Profits to be donated to East Anglian Air Ambulance. Refreshments included. Please see advertisement on page 23
- 6 Fri 7.30pm **Wickmere – Quiz & Grub** Village Hall
Tickets £3 each for food, £2 each for quiz. Please call Lesley on 577566 to book
- 8 Sun 11.00am **Baconsthorpe – Bishop's Blessing** Church
Bishop of Lynn will bless the repairs to Baconsthorpe Church
Everyone welcome
- 2.30pm **Itteringham – Bishop's Dedication** St Mary's Church
Bishop of Lynn is rededicating the memorial at St Mary's
- 9 Mon 7.00pm **Edgefield – Film Night** Village Hall
We will be showing a German film *Wings of Desire*
- 7.30pm **Itteringham PC Meeting** Village Hall
- 12 Thu 7.30pm **Baconsthorpe – VH & Fête Planning Meeting**
The first get together in the Village Hall to begin planning the Summer Garden Fête. Do come along with your ideas and offers of help, so we can make the fête a real success. Should you not be able to come on that evening, but would like to help, then please contact 577263, who will be delighted to hear from you. This meeting will be followed by the regular Village Hall meeting to which all are welcome.
- 13 Fri 10.30am **Hempstead – Coffee and Gossip** Village Hall
Please come and join us for good coffee and cake. A good time to catch up with friends and neighbours. Any profit to charity.

- 14 Sat 7.00pm **Edgefield – Irish Night** Village Hall
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 Mon 5.00pm **Itteringham – Vestry and PCC Meeting** St Mary's Church
There is to be the annual vestry meeting at St Mary's and you are welcome to attend. This will be followed by the annual PCC meeting which is a closed event to only the members of the council.
- 7.30pm **Baconsthorpe PC Meeting** Village Hall
All are welcome to attend.
- 17 Tue 2.00pm **Barningham Winter PCC AGM** North Barningham House
All parishioners are welcome to attend
- 2.30pm **Matlaske St Peter's PCC AGM** At Wendy Riches
Everyone is welcome to attend
- 18 Wed 2.00pm **Corpusty – Ladies in the Community (LinC)** Village Hall
An afternoon with Wendy Burrows in the Village Hall.
- 7.30pm **Matlaske PC Meeting** St Peter's Church
All are welcome
- 7.30pm **Hempstead – Film Club** Village Hall
- 20 Fri 7.00pm **Edgefield Quiz Night**
Our popular Quiz is fast approaching. Tickets are available from Janet Keymer 587365 and Lorna Ross 712359, at £5 per head. Tables of four preferable. Don't delay, this event is always sold out! Bring your own booze. We will sell tea, coffee, Coke and apple juice. By the end of March, I need to have all the orders for Easter Lilies, £2.22 this year. For newcomers, ring Angela for details 587292.
- 25 Wed 7.30pm **Baconsthorpe – Easter Bingo** Village Hall
- 27 Fri 7.00pm **Wickmere Film** Village Hall
A possible showing of local vintage films at a Social Evening. Keep an eye open for posters nearer the date.
- 28 Sat 10.00am **Baconsthorpe – Easter Fayre** Village Hall
If anyone has any unwanted gifts or can bake a cake we would be very grateful. Please contact John 711320 if you need items to be collected. Thank you.

WILL'S



Property Maintenance Inside and Out

General DIY Jobs, Tiling, Pressure
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Next Three Months

April

5 Sun 10.30am **Itteringham – Easter Service and Egg Hunt**

There will be an Easter family service at St Mary's and an exciting (and rewarding) egg hunt afterwards, mostly for the young, through the churchyard... Don't step on any graves – You might be surprised!!!

15 Wed 7.30pm **Hempstead – Film Club**

18 Sat 11.00am **Plumstead – Book Sale**

Please look out any unwanted books and either ring Mary Lintott 577718 to arrange collection or take them to the Church where there will be a box for storage.

28 Tue 10.00am **Baconsthorpe – Plant Swap & Sale**

Do you fancy some new plants in your garden or have some you would like to pass on? If so, come along to the Plant Swap & Sale coffee morning at The Old Rectory on Tuesday 28th April, 10–12:30 pm. Also a Raffle – Produce – Cakes. Entrance £2.50 to include coffee & biscuits. Always a popular event and well worth a visit so we hope to see you there!

May

1 Fri 7.30pm **Baconsthorpe – Chandler Green**

Looking further ahead we have Chandler Green making a return visit to our hall. Admission is £6 per person to include refreshments Tea/coffee; there will also be a raffle. If you missed them last time please make the effort to come they are very entertaining with songs from 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s plus some humour. Tickets are on sale now ring John 711320.

16 Sat 7.00pm **Hempstead – May Feast**

20 Wed 7.30pm **Hempstead – Film Club**

30 Sat 7.00pm **Edgefield – Dance**

By popular demand we have booked a local band called DNA and tickets, at £5 per head, are available from committee members. Licensed bar.

June

7 Sun All day **Itteringham – Open Gardens Day**

14 Sun 1.30am **Plumstead – Open Gardens**

Organised by PCC.

20 Sat 2.00pm **Edgefield – Open Gardens Weekend**

Open gardens in Edgefield from 2 pm – 6 pm on Saturday/Sunday, 20th/21st June. All welcome.

General News

Please Help us Help Syria

For a year or so now the Seven Churches Benefice has arranged to send simple, needed items to the displaced in Syria. Now we are joined together in the new Benefice we are hoping the appeal will go out to more readers. If you have any unwanted items or can donate – particularly clothing, bedding and toiletries – please call Michael Gandy on 570097 who can collect.

Come and Sing in the Benefice Choir

The Benefice Choir needs more voices, both ladies and gentlemen. We sing at Festivals and other special services, and so rehearse only when these are coming up. For more information please contact Su 710702 su@linaria.co.uk.

Thanks to Alasdair McKenzie

For a number of years Wickmere's Alasdair McKenzie has operated, updated and maintained the Seven Churches Benefice website. This is shortly to be transferred to the Barningham Group website as the Benefice enlarges to become ten parishes.

The members of the Seven Churches Benefice would like to record their gratitude to Alasdair for his dedication, unflappability and sheer hard work in undertaking this task so ably and creatively.

Norfolk Food Awards – Your vote counts!

The search is on for the county's best in the catering, food, drinks and hospitality sectors and you can nominate them. Have you a local pub, shop or neighbour who makes outstanding food or drinks with passion and enthusiasm then vote online until 15 May 2015 on www.theaylshamshow.co.uk/food-hero-awards. The five award categories are: best specialist food or

drink producer, best menu use of Norfolk produce, best food or drink supplier, best new food or drink venture. Category winners will be announced in the summer and the individual food or drink Hero (the President's prize) will be presented at the Aylsham Show on Bank Holiday Monday 31 August 2015.

Lent Ideas

Usually we think of this period as a time of being disciplined and giving something up. But what about doing something positive instead this Lent. For instance, why not visit a lonely person or at long last write (or email) that letter contacting old friends? You could take a house-bound person out in the car. Stretch your imagination – I am sure you will find it rewarding whatever you choose.

Derek Wintle

Letter to the Editor

Sir

Should the Newsletter regularly publish a four-page pull-out supplement to list events that take place in all ten Benefice villages weekly, fortnightly, monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly? I'm keen that everything that our community wishes others to take part in are listed – including film clubs, parish councils, parochial church councils and bus timetables etc. A short summary would be included so that people new to the area could get a rough idea of what is available locally. If room permits, the list of people such as church wardens, those involved in the newsletter and other community information could also be included and not published every month as hitherto. This saving would offset the cost of a slightly larger edition every few months.

Ian Summers

What do you think? Would you find Ian's idea useful? Contact the Editor with your views.

Village News

Baconsthorpe

8 Mar	11.00am	Bishop's Blessing
12 Mar	7.30pm	VH & Fête Meeting
16 Mar	7.30pm	PC Meeting
25 Mar	7.30pm	Easter Bingo
28 Mar	10.00am	Easter Fayre

Golden Couple

Congratulations to Margaret and Alfie Blake, who will be celebrating 50 years of marriage on 20th March. Married at Aldborough Church by the Rev Anthony Drinkwater-Chattaway, they recalled it snowed very hard during the morning of the big day, but by the afternoon this had turned to heavy rain, so hard in fact, the photographs had to be taken inside. Their honeymoon on the Norfolk Broads began with a terrific thunderstorm. In spite of the inclement weather, nothing could spoil this otherwise wonderful day. We wish them many more years of happy marriage.

Baconsthorpe 200 Club

This month's winners: £25 Corinne Youngs; £10 Sue Arnold; £5 Tom Warboys and Karen Warboys. We are grateful to the winners of the 200 club who donated their winnings back to the village hall. Thank you.

John Cooper



Ro Hardingham
577262

Barningham Winter

17 Mar 2.00pm **PCC AGM**

The Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the PCC of St Mary the Virgin, Barningham Winter will take place on 17th March at 2pm in North Barningham House. All parishioners are most welcome to attend.

Edgefield

9 Mar	7.00pm	Film Night
14 Mar	7.00pm	Irish Night
20 Mar	7.00pm	Quiz Night

Annie Brooks

It is with great sadness we report the death on 21st February of Ann Brooks after a short illness. Our heartfelt commiseration and condolence go to her husband Richard and their family. Annie, as she was invariably known, was a well-loved, very popular and significant member of the Edgefield community and will be much missed by her family, friends and the village.

Open Gardens

We have another garden being opened for the church, 20th and 21st June, which is excellent news! We will be much in need of cakes, books, plants, raffle prizes and help over what has always been a lovely and interesting weekend.

Angela Turner

Village Hall News

Our next film night will be *Wings of Desire*, a 1987 Franco-German romantic fantasy film directed by Wim Wenders. The film is about invisible, immortal angels who populate Berlin and listen to peoples' thoughts, comforting those in distress. The following Saturday, we will be holding 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. Tickets are £10 per head. Finally, by popular demand, we are going to hold a village dance on Saturday 30th May. We have booked a popular local band, DNA, and there will be a licensed bar. Tickets at £5 per head can be obtained from any committee member.

Jim Frost



Richard Peaver
587486

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MANNINGTON GARDENS OPEN April 19th for NGS
Then Sundays from 24th May
BIRD FAIR May 16/17

Hempstead

2 Mar 7.30pm **PC Meeting**
3 Mar 3.30pm **Bishop Jonathan's Visit**
5 Mar 7.30pm **Saxophone Quartet**
13 Mar 10.30am **Coffee & Gossip**
18 Mar 7.30pm **Film Club**

Hempstead 200 Club

£25 D Durst; £10 J Smith; £5 V Collier,
S Summers and P Wallace.

Bird Watching News

Lots of people have
stopped me to comment
on the birdwatching news:
for instance there are two
people in the village have
told me that over the
years they have spotted
a Goshawk, Rough-legged
Buzzard, Merlin, Red Kites
and a Black Necked Grebe.

Sharon Hannah



Sharon Hannah
711769

Toad Patrol

Warmer days and nights herald the annual
migration of toads back to Rookery Pit
and Selbrigg Pond. When that happens you

will see Toad Patrol
notices on the road,
and we ask that you
drive slowly in and
out of the village
to protect both the
volunteers and the
toads. Patrollers will be

wearing high-visibility jackets and carrying
torches as they patrol and bucket the toads
to the pond from dusk. If anyone would
like to join us on a shift or two each week,
I'd be glad to hear from you. Su 710702.
Thank you for your consideration.

Su Summers



February Play Reading

Goodnight Mrs Puffin by Arthur Lovegrove
was an excellent choice. Chuckles of
laughter punctuated the evening. Thanks
Su for selecting the play and preparing the
evening for us. *Ian Summers*

What a great evening! Thanks for all
being stars. People who couldn't come
missed a treat... What can I find to follow
that! *Su Summers*

It was a real hoot; the play was well-
chosen. *Diane Collier*

Itteringham

8 Mar 2.30pm **Bisop's Dedication**
9 Mar 7.30pm **PC Meeting**

Change of Date

The Itteringham Open Gardens Day is now
to be held on Sunday 7th June 2015 instead
of the originally-planned 14th June.
Jenny Tibbs

Megan Fowell

Well known as organiser of Itteringham's
famous May Fayre for many years, it is with
sadness the village has heard of Megan
Fowell's death last week. Megan will be
greatly missed by her loving family. And by
all the village.

Penny Blake

Vestry Meeting

There is to be the annual vestry meeting at
St.Marys' at 5.00pm on Monday 16 March.
You are welcome to attend. This will be
followed by the annual PCC meeting which
is a closed event to only the members
of the council. Maggie Vaughan-Lewis
has prepared a brief description of the
restoration of the Walpole window which
is 'takeawayable' from the Church. There
will be an Easter family service at St.Marys'
on Sunday 5th. April and another exciting

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(and rewarding) egg hunt afterwards, mostly
for the young, thro' the churchyard.....BUT
DON'T STEP ON ANY GRAVES. YOU
MIGHT BE SURPRISED!!!

Eric Goodman

Not Dunsinane, Itteringham

A small forest has sprung
up on the Wolterton Road
close by your village shop.
The trees are an interesting
mix and are offered for sale
at irresistably correct prices.
Orders for others can be
made to your various and
varied shop managers. Will
there soon be nothing that is not available
at your village shop? It is the Harrods of
North Norfolk. From mink to monkey
puzzle; mouse trap to clatrap; dish rag to
dahlia. All is here.

Eric Goodman



Eric Goodman
587278

Walpole Window Restoration

Maggie Vaughan-Lewis has prepared a brief
description of the restoration project of the
Walpole window in St Mary's Itteringham.
This is 'takeawayable' from the Church so
do have a look and get your copy.

A Question of Relationships



What is the relationship between the two
images that you see before you? Answer
back page. Taking the picture of the older,
darker, less curly-locked figure first it is
James (Jim) Buxton of 'The Common'.

He has gazed across the water meadows at
the bottom end of the village for thirty or
more years much of that time in company
with the lovely Audrey. She left us all
around nine years ago and since then Jim,
after recovering his equilibrium has spent
his time keeping house and home in order
and in working promisingly on various
constructions designed to achieve a net
output of energy without the benefit of any
recognised fuel. Impossible? Well. It has so
far never been achieved but whilst there are
still budding engineer/inventors concealed
within our villages and hamlets then the
English should not be concerned about
their place in the world. Strength to your
spanners and sprockets Mr Buxton. We are
holding our breath!

Eric Goodman

Little Barningham

**Valentine Curry
& Quiz Night**

What a great night out we
had! Thanks to all who
organised it and made the
village hall look so good –
the tables were decorated
with candles and strewn with
heart shaped chocolates. How romantic
can you get in a village hall? Thank you Sue
Pollard for the quiz – we were all fooled
with the Mr Darcy question (Bridget Jones
not Pride and Prejudice!)



Derek Wintle
570097



Fiona French's lovely
photograph is of Mary
Watson and her new
son, Alexander. Both
are doing well – and
Dad is OK too!
Derek Wintle

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Matlaske

Welcome

We welcome Alain and Lawrence who have moved into Parkview. We hope they will be very happy living in Matlaske.

Paperbank

We are delighted to now have the opportunity to recycle our papers and magazines through the new paperbank which is situated next to the bottlebank at the entrance to the old airfield. All proceeds received from this recycling go to Matlaske Parish Council who will, of course, apply the funds in the best interest of our local community.
Marion Shepherd



*Florence Hunt
577363*

Matlaske 100 Club

The winners of the February draw are: £25 Mrs Hook; £10 Trixie Gough; £5 Ollie Legge.

Plumstead

Please remember that if anyone has any stories to relate or celebrations to mark please do email me: mary.lintott57@btinternet.com
The more amusing the better!



*Mary Lintott
577718*

Defibrillator

With the support of the Plumstead 2000 Fund and Sheringham First Responders, the Parish Council has acquired a Defibrillator and secure cabinet for the village. It will be installed in the telephone box. Anyone may attend a training session, details of which will follow.

Any queries call Julie Brown on 577447

Mary Lintott

Get Well Soon

We wish Emma Stimpson well after her recent operation.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

18 Mar 2.00pm **Ladies in the Community**

Church Graveyard

A message from St Andrew's Church PCC: Please remove all Christmas wreaths from graves as soon as possible. As Easter is very early this year a graveyard tidy-up will be necessary fairly soon.

Saxthorpe PCC

January 'Green' LinC Talk



*Green lion and green man from St Andrew Saxthorpe's rood screen
Photos: Judith Banks*

The January LinC talk in Corpusty Village Hall about 'green men' inspired your correspondent to track down some on the rood screen of St Andrew's Church, Saxthorpe, one of a green man, and one of a green lion. The hunt was successful as the photos bear witness. A 'green man' is a carving in stone, wood or iron where foliage comes out of the mouth, nose, or ears of the animal.



*Judith Banks
587319*

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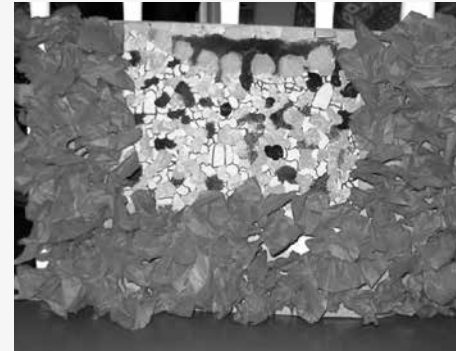
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Thank You Collage



Corpusty School's collage in gratitude for the gift of a ceramic poppy
Photo: Judith Banks

As a 'Thank You' to Saxthorpe's Mrs Heather Monks for her gift of the ceramic poppy from The Tower of London, pupils from Corpusty Primary School created a collage of red tissue paper poppies and a castellated grey card wall. On the inside of the card all the children and some staff had signed their names.

Judith Banks

Wickmere with Wolterton

6 Mar 7.30pm **Quiz & Grub**
27 Mar 7.00pm **Film**

Change of Date

There has been a change of date for the previously-mentioned Quiz & Grub (see What's On). It will now be on 6th March, 7.30pm start for 8.00pm food. £3 per head for food, £2 each for quiz. Please call Lesley on 577566 to book your teams.



Helen Gouly
570043

Candlemas Celebrated

1st February was Candlemas. Thanks to Marion for another lovely service. It is always a very atmospheric service. Just as Marion was explaining the use of candles in services past the sky turned dark and

another snow shower passed through – we lit our candles then shortly afterwards the sun came out and filled the church with sunlight. Scott did try and take the credit for ordering the weather; apparently it's all part of a churchwarden's job! It was also Groundhog Day. The US has 'Phil' their groundhog who is called upon to see whether spring is imminent or winter holds its grasp. We in Wickmere have our own barometer, keep an eye on Terry Shaw. Once he dons his shorts, it's a sure sign spring is on its way.

Cycling Money

Philida Hurn has been in touch, and tells me that she has received a cheque from the Norfolk Churches Trust for £343.13 which is our share of the sponsored cycle ride, which we are very grateful for. Many thanks and well done again to all those who pedalled, walked or rode.

Church Porch

Thank you to Fred and Terry for their work on the church porch. Now the entrance looks as good as the outside.

Please Take Care on Our Roads

As we enjoy the promise of spring, the bulbs are popping up and snowdrops are in full bloom, the evenings are drawing out. It is that time of year that the youngsters are out playing, riding bikes, playing rugby, and getting out in the fresh air. Until every village has a suitable and safe play area, please, please take care when driving through our villages.

New Grandparents

Many congratulations to Gill and Dom Boddington who have become very proud Grandparents. Their son Hugh and daughter-in-law Sarah had a beautiful little girl, Cybil Ruth, on Monday 16th February in the US, weighing in at 7lb 9oz, well done all!

Helen Gouly

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Church is now on Facebook

If you click on Facebook and type in
'Wickmere Church' you'll see St Andrew's,
Wickmere's new Facebook Page. You do
not need to be a member of Facebook to
view it and anyone can post pictures.

Helen McKenzie

Memories

Remember the Hempstead White Horse?



Every week my husband and I enjoy the
company of a long-time Hempstead
resident Mr David Youngs and enjoy his
stories of Hempstead years ago. One
he told us was of when Hempstead
had a pub, The White Horse, where the
Wayside and the Forge stand today. Two
local families who frequented it regularly
annoyed the landlord because they got into
disagreements every time they met and this
always ended up in a fight. So the landlord
decided that the two families could have
separate evenings in the pub – one family
were welcome only on the Friday night and
the other family on the Saturday! I thought
this was very good common sense and
made me think perhaps we should turn
back to these old fashioned ways of living
instead of using ASBOs!

Sharon Hannah

Little Barningham Old Post Office: Before & After



Ruth remembers I was born and bred
just five miles up the road in Barningham
Winter. When I was a small girl, my
sisters and I used to bike through Little
Barningham and I specifically remember
us leaning our bikes against the end wall of
the Post Office and having a breather in the
shade and admiring the pretty roses that
climbed up its red brick walls. Gavin and
I were looking on Rightmove on a Sunday
evening in 2009 and saw the Post Office
was for sale – we drove to the village that
same evening to check it was still for sale
and we both thought it was the place for us.
Gavin's father is a retired builder and had
said if we found a project then he would
help us do it up – I don't think any of us
were expecting quite such a big project!
After three long years of renovating the
house we finally moved out of the caravan
into the house and if we can help it we
don't plan to move again!

Gavin Swinborne and Ruth Buxton

Mervyn's Mutterings

The photo of Stocks Hill showing the
'old teapot' oak in the snow, taken in the
late 70s, reminds us all that we are having
a reasonably mild winter again. However,
Mervyn's memories drift back to 1945...

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Not the harsh winter of 1947 but enough
snow to block the roads. Cherry Tree Road
was in need of clearing.

The DP's (Displaced Persons) who
were living in the old POW camp in the
Barningham Estate yard dressed in their
mandatory black coats and hats with
a distinguishing coloured patch on the back,
were pulled into duty. With spades, they dug
one side of the road clear piling the snow
up on the other side. So, finally, the village
was passable – the 14 year old Mervyn and
his mates thought it an 'idea' to dig tunnels
in the piled up snow – it gave them plenty
of fun and kept them occupied for hours.

What would today's Health and Safety
have made of that?

Merryn Gibbons

Editorial

Who should use our Churches?

Whether you attend church or not, if you
had been at the General Synod of the
Church of England a couple of weeks ago,
you'd have heard unwelcome news about
our church buildings.

The Archbishops of York and of
Canterbury in a document presented to
the Synod ominously stated, "The burden
of church buildings weighs heavily". And

although the Church of England is not
English Heritage no matter what treasures
it has responsibility for, it does have a
duty of care.

There is, however, some good news:
a recent poll for the National Churches
Trust – which is very active in our area
– suggests the negative attitude shown
by some church leaders to our buildings,
including by some of our local hierarchy,
could well be misplaced.

A very high number of respondents
of faith and non-faith, 46%, said they had
visited at least one church in the course of
the past year. And over 75% of all adults,
including people of other or no faith,
thought that churches play a vital part in
society simply as buildings for community
use. About the same percentage of adults
value our churches as part of their heritage.
This significant well of energy and positivity
towards our churches can help defray the
pressures of geography and demography
that dictate 65% of Church of England
churches (10,199) and 66% of our parishes
(8,394) are in rural areas of England despite
the fact that these regions support only
20% of the population. And it also reports
that one fifth of our rural congregations
are growing – which, of course, means four
fifths aren't!

Therefore the Church must capitalise
on the goodwill of its local communities –
whether they are of faith or not – to help
ensure these buildings remain relevant and
maintained. Ideas like Aylsham's Monday
market in the church are to be encouraged.
For instance, our churches are ideal spaces
for drama, music, fitness classes, pop-up
shops, school assemblies or prizegivings,
cafés, meeting halls etc etc.

To survive, our churches must be used,
and not just by practising Anglicans.

Richard Lynam



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£10 per year – please contact Corinne

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AWA Richard Lynam 587899

AWA Judy Rosser

Church Wardens

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



Village Correspondents

Baconsthorpe	Ro Hardingham	577262
Barningham Winter	Sara Buxton	577207
Edgefield	Richard Peaver	587486
Hempstead	Sharon Hannah	711769
Itteringham	Eric Goodman	587278
Little Barningham	Derek Wintle	570097
Matlaske	Florence Hunt	577363
Plumstead	Mary Lintott	577718
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Judith Banks	587319
Wickmere & Wolterton	Helen Goulty	570043



Parish Council Chairs

Baconsthorpe	Jonathan Cooper	577527
Edgefield	John Seymour	587504
Hempstead	Paul Sanders	713217
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Lt Barningham	Harry Betts	577640
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Libraries



Mobile Library Van Every fourth Thursday

	9 Mar	16 Apr	14 May	11 Jun	9 Jul
Itteringham	11.00	NR11 7AP	The Common		
	11.15	NR11 7AY	The Rectory		
Lt Barningham	12.05	NR11 7AG	The Street		
Matlaske	12.30	NR11 7AQ	Old Post Office		
Plumstead	1.15	NR11 7LG	Walnut Farm		
Baconsthorpe	2.45	NR25 6LJ	Council Bungalows		
	4.10	NR25 6LG	Old Post Office		
Hempstead	3.20	NR25 6LE	Hare & Hounds		
	3.40	NR25 6TL	Telephone kiosk		

	5 Mar	2 Apr	30 Apr	28 May	25 Jun
Saxthorpe	11.50	NR11 7BL	Old Post Office		
Corpusty	12.10	NR11 6QP	School		
	12.40	NR11 7BU	Great Farm Cott's		
	2.00	NR11 6QJ	Adams Lane		
	2.15	NR11 6QL	3 Council Houses		
	2.30	NR11 6QL	16 Council Houses		
Edgefield	3.15	NR24 2AX	The Street		
	3.40	NR24 2AL	The Memorial		

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!They are one and the same person!

Page 13 Answer:

Hempstead Village Hall



Thursday, 5 Mar 2015 @ 7:30 pm

Four years after their first appearance in Hempstead Village Hall (NR25 6TL), the popular Pinewood Saxophone Quartet will return to play in styles from medieval to rock via Bach and jazz, to pieces specially written for quartets by some of today's contemporary composers. Their diversity of sound creates a unique musical experience. They are well known to Norfolk audiences often performing to packed houses.

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Village Gardeners - The Best Time of Year

Peter Eglington at work preparing for this year's planting



For me this is the best time of the gardening year, plenty to look forward to, imagining the freshly-dug new potatoes, crisp lettuce, runner beans and the scent of sweet peas and roses. It is also a time for reflection on last year's successes and failures. For those failures, try something different, another variety might be enough to ensure a better crop. I suffered downy mildew on my late peas so this year I am growing a new variety which has some resistance. Two years ago my carrots were ruined by carrot fly so last year I grew them under fleece and we are still digging lovely sweet clean carrots.

As the month progresses prepare the soil ready for planting by applying some general fertiliser and raking the soil to a fine tilth. Wait until the soil is warm, before sowing green seeded broad beans, like Windsor or Green Long Pod, early peas – Kelvedon Wonder or Early Onward and favourite salads, and of course early potatoes. If you have a greenhouse then you can start the seeds in a propagator for an extra-early crop. Sweet peas can be sown in small pots ready for planting out later. Pruning should be completed as soon as

possible of currant bushes and apple and pear trees. Do not prune plums now as it might allow silver leaf disease to enter the tree. They should be pruned immediately after fruiting. Red currants and gooseberries should have the laterals cut back on the main branches to two or three buds. This leaves the bush open and allows healthy growth and easy picking, especially the gooseberries. With blackcurrants, leave about 3/4 of the old stems and remove the oldest branches, dark coloured, from ground level. Apple and pear trees should also have the laterals pruned from the main branches back to 3 or 4 buds. Totally remove overcrowded or crossing branches to allow air to the centre of the tree. Remember, fruit buds are generally rounder in shape than shoot buds, so make sure you do not remove all the fruit buds. Summer-fruited raspberries should be tipped and tied in.

Tidy up in the flower garden and cut back any dead stalks on herbaceous plants. If you have any well-rotted compost or manure spread it thinly on the garden and feed established plants with a general fertiliser. Enjoy the spring flowers.

Peter Eglington