

Church & Village News

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

March 2020



Barningham Winter Church
Photograph by Roger Last

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Edgefield TBC
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 <http://edgefieldnorfolk.co.uk/the-parish-council.shtml>
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

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Tudor House, Grammar School Lane
North Walsham, NR28 9JH
duncan@duncanbaker.org.uk
<https://www.duncanbaker.org.uk/>
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01692 558458

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01603 327827

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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 Ann Udale 713656
Su Summers 710702

Matlaske Thomas Courtauld 577250
Plumstead Eleanor Faulkner 577868
Saxthorpe Judith Banks 587319
Cathy Stern 587014

What's On

MARCH

Tues 3	7.00pm	Matlaske Scrabble Evening	Barningham Hall
Fri 6	3.45pm	Hempstead Music	Village Hall
Wed 11	10.30am	Matlaske Fête Meeting	Hall Farm Barn
Wed 11	7.30pm	Matlaske Parish Council Meeting	St Peter's Church
Sat 14	10.00am	Matlaske Church Clean	St Peter's Church
Sun 15	11.00am	Baconsthorpe PCC APCM	The Manor
Mon 16	7.30pm	Baconsthorpe Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Tues 17	7.00pm	Corpusty & Saxthorpe Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Fri 20	7.30pm	Hempstead Geoff Harris Talk	Village Hall
Mon 23	7.00pm	Hempstead APCM	Village Hall
Wed 25	10.00am	Hempstead Annual Spring Clean	The Village
Wed 25	4.00pm	Plumstead APCM	St Michael's Church
Sat 28	7.00pm	Edgefield Quiz Night	Village Hall
Sat 28	10.00am	Plumstead Annual Spring Clean	The Village

APRIL

Tues 21	10.00am	Baconsthorpe Plant Sale	The Old Rectory
Wed 22	7.00pm	Corpusty & Saxthorpe Vestry Meeting and APCM	St Andrew's

Clash Diary 2020

May 2	Baconsthorpe Fashion Show	Aug 2	Hempstead Fête
May 4	Plumstead PC AGM	Aug 15	Baconsthorpe Fête
May 7	Plumstead Film Evening	Sep 7	Plumstead PC
May 8	Plumstead VE Day	Sep 16	Matlaske PC
May 13	Matlaske PC	Oct 9	Matlaske Quiz
May 14	Plumstead Community Coffee	Oct 23	Hempstead Quiz
May 15	Matlaske Quiz	Dec 6	Matlaske Christmas Party
May 16	Hempstead May Feast	Dec 7	Plumstead PC
June 7	Hempstead Charity Lunch		
June 27	Hempstead Open Gardens		
June 28	Hempstead Open Gardens		
July 8	Matlaske Coffee Morning		
July 11	Edgefest 5		
July 15	Matlaske PC		
July 25	Matlaske Fête		

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

Regular Village Hall Events

BACONSTHORPE

Tuesday	10.00am - 12noon	Country Mice Play Group
Tuesday	7.30pm - 9.30pm	Carpet Bowls - 711320
Second Wednesday	7.30pm	Book Club - All welcome
Third Thursday	10.30am	Community Coffee - All welcome
First Friday	6.30pm	Cinema NB May will be second Friday
Last Friday	6.00pm - 10.00pm	Pop-Up Pub

CORPUSTY

Second and fourth Monday	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bure Valley Quilters & Stitchers
Tuesdays during term time	5.45pm - 7.15pm	Brownies
Second Tuesday	10.00am - 12noon	North Norfolk Knitters Rita Taylor 587507 k2togp1@btinternet.com
Friday during term time	9.30am - 11.30am	Toddler Group

EDGEFIELD

Third Monday	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
First Tuesday	2.30pm	Tuesday Club
Second Wednesday	2.00pm	Ladies Club
Last Thursday	10.30am	Coffee Morning

HEMPSTEAD

First Monday alternate months	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday	10.00am	Charcoal Drawing Mike Thody 711282
Third Wednesday	7.30pm	Film Club
First Friday	10.30am	Coffee & Gossip

Mobile Library Van

12 March / 9 April

Matlaske	11.40	NR11 7AQ	Old Post Office
Plumstead	12.25	NR11 7LG	Walnut Farm
Hempstead	3.40	NR25 6TL	Telephone kiosk
Baconsthorpe	4.05	NR25 6LE	Hare & Hounds
	4.20	NR25 6LG	Old Post Office
	4.40	NR25 6LJ	Council Bungalows

19 March / 16 April

Edgefield	1.55	NR24 2AL	The Memorial
	2.15	NR24 2AX	The Street
Corpusty	2.45	NR11 6QP	School
	3.40	NR11 7BU	Great Farm Cott's
Saxthorpe	4.10	NR11 7BL	Old Post Office
Corpusty	4.30	NR11 6QJ	Adams Lane
	4.50	NR11 6QL	16 Council Houses

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

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Tuesdays	1.00pm - 4.00pm
Fridays	10.00am - 1.00pm
All services	

Corpusty Stores

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

Holt Library

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB	712202
Mon Wed Sat 9.30am-1.00pm	
Fri 9.30am-6.00pm	

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

Letter from the Rector - Revd Canon David Longe

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

Dear All

And the King said: "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25.36-40)



Jesus Feeds The Five Thousand

These words of Jesus have had a profound impact throughout history, shaping much of the Church's response to those in need ever since.

During Christmas we donated money from some of our services to many good causes, among them the Food Bank and the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP). SVP does wonderful work, at its heart it seeks to help all who are in difficulty or hardship, irrespective of who they are. If they need something, members of SVP give if they can without counting the cost. This echoes Jesus's story above.

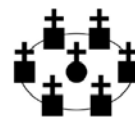
Recently I visited SVP's North Norfolk group, and I was inspired by a project that it supports every Wednesday afternoon to help the homeless in Norwich. A small group bring food and soup to some 20 homeless people in the city centre. Many who come are elderly and have lived on the streets for a long time. They receive hot drinks, soup, sandwiches, biscuits and food vouchers as well as company and a real sense that someone cares about them.

This is love in action. Caring for those in need is central to Jesus's message. It is part of loving our neighbour, irrespective of who they are.

This letter will arrive during the first week of Lent. Perhaps if you have not decided on something to give up in Lent, perhaps you might like to take up the call to help those in need and not just for the Lent period. You might want to donate some of your time, even if it's only once a month, to make some food (some soup or sandwiches) to go to those in Norwich, or may be volunteer to take the food? If you would like to help please do contact me.

I pray that you may have a blessed and fruitful Lent, and that we all may care for those in need around us.

David



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for March

1 st Lent I / Theme: To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom		
9.00	Eucharist	Plumstead
11.00	Eucharist	Baconsthorpe
5.00	Evensong	Matlaske
8 th Lent II / Theme: To teach, baptise and nurture		
9.00	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
11.00	Mattins	Edgefield
5.00pm	Evensong	Hempstead
15 th Lent III / Theme: To respond to human need by loving service		
9.00	Eucharist	Plumstead
11.00	Mattins	Barningham Winter
22 nd Mothering Sunday / Theme: To transform unjust structures		
10.30	Mothering Sunday Service Hempstead Service with Eucharist	Baconsthorpe / Edgefield Hempstead / Saxthorpe
29 th Lent V (Passiontide) / Theme: To care for creation		
9.00	Eucharist	Matlaske
11.00pm	Eucharist	Edgefield
5 th April Palm Sunday		
10.30	Palm Sunday Procession with Eucharist	Baconsthorpe
	Meet at the Village Hall for the procession	
	Preacher: The Reverend Colin Chapman. Colin served as a priest in the Middle East for many years, lecturing in Islamic Studies at the Near East School of Theology in Lebanon. He is an expert on the Holy Land having written several books. He now lives in the UK.	

Mid-Week Eucharist Services

Saxthorpe 9am Wednesday 4th / 18th Followed by coffee and tea
Matlaske Rectory 10.30am Thursday 26th Followed by coffee, tea and cake

Lent Course starting Wednesday 4th March, 7pm, Matlaske Rectory

We will be reading *Be Still & Know* (1984) by the late Archbishop Michael Ramsey
For information on further venues please contact Revd David Longe

Baconsthorpe

200 Club

£25 Roger Hall, £10 Peter Cope, £5 Shirley Wells, Nancy Glazebrook

After 30 years of running the 200 Club, Daphne is resigning and handing it on. In all that time her number was never drawn. Yet as soon as she'd decided to retire, she won £5 in the next draw. A timely, if very inadequate, thank you for all her efforts. She says she's going to miss meeting everyone but is very happy to never have to walk down one particular path leading to the back-door ever again. Under her guidance I'm trying to introduce myself to every member. Please be patient, there are rather a lot of you to find. Thankfully when I make a mistake or need help Daphne's happy to put things right.

Sarah Wilson, Castle View, The Street or telephone 577200



Corinne Youngs
577263

Congratulations

To Daniel and Laura Watts on the birth of their beautiful daughter, Jasmine Ann Louise Watts on 23rd January 2020. Jasmine is another precious grand-daughter for Adrian and Tracy Rudd and niece to Heather and Karl Rix and cousin to Poppy and Harry.

Church Clock

The electrification of the clock mechanism is now complete and the clock is again chiming the hours. All the work on the clock has been donated by the Mott-Radclyffe family in memory of Theresa Courtauld. Theresa was the eldest daughter of Sir Charles Mott-Radclyffe and grew up at Barningham Hall. She eventually moved to Baconsthorpe Manor and became an active member of our community in every way. She was on the original Village Hall Committee, a Parish Councillor and Church Warden. If anyone was ill or distressed Theresa was the first person round there with her basket containing a treat of some sort. She was a true and kind friend who is still missed on a daily basis. She would be thrilled that the church has benefited in this way in her memory.

Old Rectory Plant Sale

This will take place on Tuesday 21st April. Entry £2.50 to include coffee and homemade biscuits. Proceeds to the church.

PCC AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Parochial Church Council is on Sunday 15th March at 11am at the Manor. Anyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

Village Hall News

The first of the new Film Nights at the Village Hall was a great success. The film *Judy* was shown to a very appreciative audience on 7 February. The bar was well supported and there were more than 35 people in attendance for the film.

On Friday 6 March the next film will be *Official Secrets*, a taut thriller based on the true story of a Government whistle-



blower in the run-up to the Iraq war. Keira Knightley, Matt Smith and Ralph Fiennes star in this excellent British film, released in 2019. Tickets are £4.50 on the door, doors open 6.30pm. We hope to see you there.

The Village Hall now has a full premises licence which means we can run a bar at all of our events. As noted in the February Church & Village News we have now brought the Pop-Up Pub under the overall management of the Village Hall Committee. This does not affect how the Pop-Up Pub will be run or any other aspect of how the hall is used, it just gives us more flexibility.

All of our events are run by volunteers, so the money generated can go back in to sustaining the Village Hall for the benefit of the local community. We are happy to welcome new volunteers: if you are interested in helping out please contact us at baconsthorpe.villagehall@gmail.com. A set of keys was found in a bag of book club books. If anyone is missing a set please call Karen 577547.

Film Night	Friday 6	6.30pm	Film is <i>Official Secrets</i>
Book Club	Wednesday 11	7.30pm	All welcome
Community Coffee	Thursday 19	10.30am	All welcome
Pop-Up Pub	Friday 27	6.30pm	Food is cottage pie

Piers Warner

Barningham Winter

Scrabble Evening

Tuesday 3rd 7pm for 7.30pm start, Barningham Hall, Matlaske

£10 per head including wine, refreshments and a raffle

Tickets must be purchased or reserved in advance from Amelia

07971 050646 or amelia@barninghamestate.co.uk



Sara Buxton
577207

Edgefield

Church News

How thankful we should all be, living in East Anglia, and away from the appalling flooding in other places. I feel so desperately sorry for the people there. Here, with daffodils coming out, and spring on the way, there are 26 species of flowers out in my garden. Strange weather indeed.

Looking forward to Easter, will anyone wanting to order an Easter Lily, in memory of someone, please let me know in good time? Small ones will be £1.50 each, larger ones £2. We are sadly not having a service here in Edgefield on Easter Sunday, but the Rector says we may put vases of the lilies on the font and in the Lady Chapel for the Maundy Service on the Thursday of Holy Week, and then put them out normally for Easter itself. There will be a Benefice Service in Saxthorpe Church. Let me know if you would like a lift: 587292.



Richard Peaver
587486

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Advance notice: the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 17th April. This is the equivalent of an AGM for a company or a charity, and can be attended by those whose names are on the church electoral roll.

On a slightly more disturbing matter, two individuals were seen flying a drone repeatedly over the church roof a few weeks ago. They were asked what they were doing, but did not reply, and promptly left. If anyone notices similar activity taking place, please ask them politely to leave (and inform a churchwarden or member of the PCC). It would be helpful to make a note of their descriptions, if possible.

Angela Turner

Village Hall News

A reminder that we have a quiz night on Saturday 28th March. A few tickets at £5 per head remain. Please contact me on 0587110. Future events include EDGEFEST 5 on Saturday 11th July, and look out for another bingo evening in the autumn! January 200 Club winners: 1st Mick Sillis (52), 2nd Ghislaine Kinsley (39), 3rd Iain Mawson (190).

Jim Frost

Hempstead

200 Club

£50 D Sanders, £25 D Spalton, £10 E Buxton, £5 A Pailing, A McFayden, S Hawkey

Coffee & Gossip will be held on Friday 13th March; please note this is a week later than usual. We look forward to seeing you between 10.30am and midday, for tea/coffee and cake, and chat with friends, in the Village Hall.

Welcome to Emily Quin who has come to join her parents in the village.

Music in Hempstead

March 6th sees a return of the choir, singing a collection of spirituals. As usual, tea and cake at 3.45pm with music starting at 4pm lasting about half an hour. This is a free event and we look forward to seeing you in the Village Hall.

Film Club continues on 18th March at 7.30pm

Election of Trustees for Hempstead Village Hall

Overall responsibility for the Village Hall is vested in a board of 8 Trustees (who must live in Hempstead and are appointed for life) while day-to-day administration is by a Management Committee. Some Trustee vacancies now need to be filled and this is done by election by residents of the village. Further details can be obtained from the Chairman, Mike Thody (711282) or Hon Sec Richard Roy (715851). If you wish to be a candidate please send your name and address, together with the signatures of your proposer and seconder with their names and addresses to the Hon Sec at The Forge, The Street, Hempstead NR25 6TL or email richardjohnroy@gmail.com by 15th March. If there are more candidates than vacancies an election will take place on 20th March in the Village Hall.



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 710702

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Village Hall Talk 20th March at 7.30pm Prison Life in the 1880s

Free presentation by Geoff Harris followed by wine, cheese and raffle (prizes welcome) and concluding with a light-hearted item on Prison Life in the 1980s. Geoff says: This talk is taken from the original illustrated lecture given in the late 1800s and which was to show the advance made in the treatment of prisoners and the efforts being made to reform them. The unique and rare images were taken from the actual life in the prison at that time. They illustrate the prisoner's life in Dartmoor and Wormwood Scrubs, and show their work in the stone-yard, in farming as well as lighter work such as making clothing, shoes and other items. Inmates were put to work in an occupation best suited to their capability and health with the intention that on discharge, each would have a trade and would not return to crime.

Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting - Village Hall - Monday 23 at 7pm

All members of the (church) Electoral Roll are very welcome to attend and vote in the election of the new PCC. Others are very welcome but do not have a vote.

Annual Church Spring Clean - Wednesday 25 at 10am

Anyone who could lend a hand would be so very welcome. More hands mean we get done more quickly! Thank you.

Toad Patrol at Rookery Pit - Annual Migration

This is in full swing, so please, if driving through the village from dusk onwards, be aware of the possibility of toads on the road and volunteers with their buckets endeavouring to take them safely to the pond. They are especially likely on a warmish, damp evening. We are very grateful to all those who turnout each night to save Hempstead toads.

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email: yogalward@gmail.com

Matlaske

100 Club

£25 Maureen Pakenham, £10 June Stevens, £5 Wendy Riches

Very sadly Christine (known as Bunty) Howarth (né Brown) died peacefully on 11th February. Christine grew up in Matlaske with her sisters, Freda and Janet and brother David. There will be a service of Thanksgiving for her life at St Peter's Church Matlaske on 5th March at Midday.



Marion Shepherd
577521

Church Clean

Could you spare a little time on Saturday 14th March to help clean St Peter's Church, Matlaske? Starting at 10am, feel free to join when you are able.

Matlaske Fête

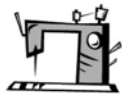
This year's first Fête Meeting is Wednesday 11th March, Hall Farm Barn at 10.30am. Do you have any ideas for this year's Fête? If so please come along and share. If you are unable to attend then please e-mail Cherry with your idea: cherrywestgate@hotmail.co.uk

Diary Dates

This year's Matlaske events, for your diary are: Quiz Nights 15th May & 9th October, Coffee Morning 8th July and Christmas Party 6th December. Further details nearer the time.

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Plumstead

I hope everyone survived Storms Ciara and Dennis - despite it the garden is blooming with spring flowers and the Cherry Plum is already out in the hedgerows.

Church News

The annual church meeting (APCM) is on Wednesday 25th March at 4pm in the Church and is open to anyone in the parish to attend. (This is when churchwardens and members of the church council are elected and reports of the year's activities are given. It is also an opportunity for others to have a say about the life of the church.)



Mary Lintott
577718

Please Put These Dates in Your Diary

May 7th A Film Evening of Plumstead life will be shown, and also a beautiful compilation of Dave Chilvers' photography of the local area. More details in the next issue.

May 14th 10am-12noon Oak Tree Cottage Open / Community Coffee morning. There will be a small sale table (bring something, buy something) and any donations received will go to Christian Aid.

Parish Council News

Anyone visiting or even driving past the pond and meadow at Plumstead Green may have noticed signs of activity down there. First of all, the access from the road into the meadow has been made wider to enable it to be possible to get larger equipment onto the meadow to cut, bale and remove the hay. Also, a group of sycamores have been felled that showed the first signs of virus and will allow more light onto the pond with less leaves falling into the water. Finally, work has been done on part of the bank to remove brambles and make it less steep. There is now some tidying up to be done and grass seed applied. We are keen to continue to develop this area as a beautiful place and haven for wildlife. We remain hopeful that more residents of our village will take an active interest in what is done. Increasing the diversity of the wildflowers, planting trees, purchasing another picnic table are all in the mix. Does anyone have any ideas? The noticeboard needs a revamp - if you have thoughts about what to put in it. Maybe someone would like to construct an owl box or boxes for other bird species? The duckweed on the pond is a difficult problem. Getting rid of it or at least reducing it would be wonderful. Last year, it was very bad covering the whole surface and life in the water was pretty much killed off. Does anyone know of ways we could control this problem?

Plumstead will say "THANK YOU" on VE Day

Friday 8th May, 6pm at the Flagpole

A thank you to parents, grandparents and great-grandparents who lived through WW2 and contributed to saving our nation and bringing peace to Europe

Let us honour and celebrate what they did.

The Parish Council is organising this Village event.

At 6.55 there will be Prayers for Peace in the Church

The Church bells will be rung at 7pm, as they will be everywhere.

Please come and make the "thank you" a fitting tribute.

Refreshments will be provided.

There will be more details next month.

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Spring Clean

As part of the 'Keep Britain Tidy' campaign, Plumstead Parish Council plans to hold another Spring Clean of our village over the weekend of 28 – 29 March. We are looking for volunteers to join in with a view to various teams taking on a specific area at a time that is convenient to you during that weekend. If you are interested in helping please let Carolyn Price the Clerk know asap. Her email is clerkplumsteadparishcouncil@hotmail.com

Plumstead Parish Council has a new website. You can visit the site at the following address: <https://plumsteadpc.wixsite.com/plumsteadpc>

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

St Andrew's & Saxthorpe Snowdrops

The Snowdrop Walk was successful on many levels. Storm Dennis stayed away long enough for folk to enjoy the walk around the garden of Merlin and Imogen Waterson, which was floored by a variety of snowdrops, in the dry. Generous gifts were made by visitors, who came from these two parishes, neighbouring villages, as well as further afield. In St Andrew's church the excellent croissants, made by Polly Quick from The Sidings in Melton Constable, were accompanied by 'proper' coffee and home-made jam. The church was adorned with stalls selling home-made marmalade, jams, cakes, books, Edgefield Nurseries' Plants, St Andrew's Church mugs and tea towels, and a tombola, making it a happy venue for folk to sit and chat out of the wind. There was a really good feel to the event. Thanks to all those who supported the morning and gave generously to raise over £550 for church repairs. Thanks also to those who set up the stalls, provided the books, plants, and food, and those who gave of their time on the morning and helped to clear up afterwards.



Sophia Hodgson
587510

VE Day Memories

The Mayday bank holiday will take place on Friday 8 May this year, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe during World War II. The Parish Council would like to mark the occasion at the village hall with villagers sharing the experiences of their family and friends who were involved in the conflict. If there is sufficient interest, villagers will be asked to share those experiences either by telling histories and/or sharing photos and written stories. Please contact Kirsty Cotgrove (c.parishclerk@gmail.com) if you would like to be involved.

Village Hall Committee

Our village hall is the host of all sorts of activities, from the brownies, to Pilates and parish council meetings. Details of regular events are displayed on the notice board within the hall.

All villagers will be aware of the village hall, but some may not know that the Village Hall Committee is responsible also for the former village hall, now used by the school, and the old station building. The Village Hall Committee is looking for new blood, to assist in the administration of the buildings and the activities that take place within them. If you are interested in assisting, please contact Diane Oliver (notrobena@yahoo.com). Previous administration/legal experience would be helpful, but far from essential.

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Community Transport

The consultation that took place as part of the process to create our Neighbourhood Plan identified that there may be a need for community transport. This would be to assist villagers who do not have their own vehicles and are not adequately supported by the current bus services. If you would use community transport, if it were available, please contact Kirsty Cotgrove (c.sparishclerk@gmail.com) and let her know what journeys you would wish to undertake and how often.

APCM

The Annual Vestry meeting, when new church wardens and officers are elected, closely followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, (APCM) will be held on 22nd April at 7pm in St Andrew's Church. Anyone may attend the meeting, but only PCC members may vote in the officers.

Norfolk Open Library Scheme

Open Library lets you access your local library, its books, computers and spaces even while the building is unstaffed.

Just talk to a member of staff and they'll add the extra access to your library card.

If there's no member of staff available, give us a call on 01603 774777.

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For more information please visit: shorturl.at/iELQT

Norfolk Wartime Remembered

Life at Home - The first in a series of recollections by Arthur Pentney

75 years on from the ending of the Second World War in Europe, it is now perhaps an appropriate time to recall some memories of those times.

Sheltering under the kitchen table with my mother and Aunt Mary, as aircraft machine-gunned each other overhead.

Father being reprimanded by my mother when he pulled a red-hot poker out of the fire and described in graphic detail what part of Adolf's anatomy he would like to apply it to!

Seeing pictures of the awful 'Squanderbug' and the long-nosed 'Mr Chad' with the slogan 'Wot, no sugar?' or similar.

Recalling the 'utility' symbol on items of furniture, clothing, etc.

Being given a clay model rabbit as a substitute birthday present, which has miraculously survived to this day – few toys were available in the war.



Food: eating 'fake banana', consisting of mashed up parsnip with banana essence; on occasion having to resort to tins of powdered egg and powdered milk; being threatened with Lord Woolton (Minister of Food) if not all my meal was eaten; eating bread and margarine with either a sprinkling of sugar on it, or spread with condensed milk; Mother reminiscing about pre-war Stork margarine compared to the standard wartime issue.

Recalling the days of 'Make do and Mend', especially when the ceiling in one of our bedrooms fell in and had to be repaired with sections of plasterboard supported by wooden laths. (It was still going strong 50 years later!); seeing my mother make a lovely kitchen rug with sacking for a base and scraps of old material woven into place to give it body.

Hearing my father talk about the "War Ag" (The County War Agricultural Committee), who advised farmers what to grow and where to grow it, and to plough-up as much grassland as possible.

Recalling black-outs when shutters had to be fixed outside any window to stop light being seen from outside.

Singing 'She'll be coming round the mountain when she comes' with my parents.

Seeing ration books and remembering the points system, and the need to be registered with your chosen supplier for all essential food.



Collecting aircraft identification cards – not an innocent pursuit, but deadly serious: it paid to know which aircraft were friendly and which were not!

And, in May 1945, being picked up by my mother and told, "The war is over!" Over, maybe – but not forgotten!

Norfolk Dial a Ride

The North Norfolk Community Transport provides several services that might be helpful to know about it.

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The service is bookable Monday to Friday (subject to availability) and charged at 45p per mile, plus VAT, from North Walsham and back again. Payment will need to be made to the driver, on the day of travel. All journeys include a waiting time of 2 hours. Each additional half hour is charged at £5 to cover additional driver costs.

Please contact them for more information:

01692 500840 or 01263 839009

info@nnct.org.uk <https://nnct.org.uk/transport-services/>

North Norfolk Community Transport
15 Cornish Way
North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 0AW

Recipe of the Month - Welsh Cakes



225g plain flour
 85g caster sugar
 ½ tsp mixed spice
 ½ tsp baking powder
 Baking powder
 50g butter
 Butter, cut into small pieces
 50g lard, cut into small pieces, plus extra for frying
 50g currant
 1 egg beaten
 splash milk

Tip the flour, sugar, mixed spice, baking powder and a pinch of salt into a bowl. Then, with your fingers, rub in the butter and lard until crumbly. Mix in the currants. Work the egg into the mixture until you have soft dough, adding a splash of milk if it seems a little dry – it should be the same consistency as shortcrust pastry.

Roll out the dough on a lightly floured work surface to the thickness of your little finger. Cut out rounds using a 6cm cutter, re-rolling any trimmings. Grease a flat griddle pan or heavy frying pan with lard, and place over a medium heat. Cook the Welsh cakes in batches, for about 3 mins each side, until golden brown, crisp and cooked through. Delicious served warm with butter and jam, or simply sprinkled with caster sugar. Cakes will stay fresh in a tin for 1 week.

Recipe from: <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com>



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The Village Gardener

To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



March can be an interesting month! By this time, we are all very keen to get going with spring, and as I write this, we have some tentative signs. Although we are still in the turbulent wake of Storms Ciara and Dennis, I can only hope you all did not suffer too much damage. Nearly all our trees here came through OK, but the same cannot be said for various roof tiles... or more sadly the greenhouse, which has lost a couple of big panes of strengthened glass. Extraordinary weather: in the last 48hrs we have seen torrential rain, gales, brilliant blue skies, frost, hail, thunder and snow!

Here's hoping March will bring slightly more settled weather. If you haven't done so already, you could place cloches on the ground in the veg patch to help warm the soil up. If the ground feels warm enough you can make a start on sowing carrots, parsnips, leeks, radishes, beetroot, onions and broad beans – the emphasis is on 'if'! Don't forget to chit your potatoes so they are raring to go when the soil is warm enough. If conditions still aren't right in the veg patch, then focus on clearing some other tasks out of the way. (Do remember just how good cold frames are this time of year as really useful halfway houses whilst the seasons are sorting themselves out!) You can make a start on pruning some bush roses. This will encourage good healthy growth, which will mean the rose bush does not become woody and congested. It's worth taking your time to look at the shape of your rose before you start pruning, to visualize how you want the finished rose to look, and remember the golden rules: always cut above a bud and remove any crossing stems. Elsewhere in the garden the hardworking dogwoods deserve some attention for their winter efforts! Do cut down to size to encourage a fresh flourish of growth, it's also worth doing the same to any buddleia if they have become overgrown. With any luck by the end of the month the ground will be ready to set those most cheering of summer colour: dahlias. Here's hoping!

This month's question comes from Joy Smith who asks if it's too late to plant bare root in March. My answer is yes and no! It's yes if you have enough time to ensure they are religiously well watered but if you're short of time or water, I wouldn't risk it and would wait till autumn. I hope that helps!

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



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