

Church & Village News

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

April 2017



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To download previous editions visit:
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Parish Council Chairs

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Baconthorpe | Jonathan Cooper | 577527 |
| Edgefield | John Seymour | 587504 |
| Hempstead | Paul Sanders | 713217 |
| Matlaske & Barningham | Sara Buxton | 577207 |
| Plumstead | Alastair Brown | 577447 |
| Saxthorpe & Corpusty | Imogen Waterson | 587610 |

Parish Council Websites or Email Addresses

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Baconthorpe | http://baconthorpeparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk |
| Edgefield | http://edgefieldnorfolk.co.uk/theparishcouncil.shtml |
| Hempstead | hempsteadpc@gmail.com |
| Matlaske & Barningham | s.m.buxton@hotmail.co.uk |
| Plumstead | http://plumsteadparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk |
| Saxthorpe & Corpusty | https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com |

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.

Village Correspondents

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
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| Plumstead mary.lintott57@btinternet.com | Mary Lintott 577718 |
| Saxthorpe & Corpusty mummybanks@hotmail.com | Judith Banks 587319 |

District Councillors

Baconthorpe, Corpusty, Edgefield, Hempstead, Plumstead, Saxthorpe

Georgie Perry-Warnes 538344
georgie.perry-warnes@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Matlaske & Barningham

Michael Knowles 825995
mike.knowles@north-norfolk.gov.uk

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What's On

APRIL

| | | | |
|---------|---------|---|---------------------------|
| Sat 1 | 10.00am | Little Barningham Thank You Barts Coffee Morning | Village Hall |
| Mon 3 | 10.00am | Hempstead Church Spring Clean | Church |
| Wed 5 | 7.00pm | Hempstead Play Reading | Village Hall |
| Thur 6 | 7.00pm | Plumstead Talk by Tony Leech | Church |
| Fri 7 | 10.30am | Hempstead Coffee & Gossip | Village Hall |
| Sat 8 | 7.30pm | Baconsthorpe Bethany Marshall | Village Hall |
| Mon 10 | 2.30pm | Baconsthorpe APCM | Ash Tree Farm |
| Wed 12 | 7.30pm | Hempstead Village Hall AGM | Village Hall |
| Mon 17 | 10.00am | Hempstead Coffee, Cake & Easter Egg Hunt | Church |
| Wed 19 | 2.00pm | Corpusty LinC | Village Hall |
| Wed 19 | 7.00pm | Saxthorpe APCM | St Andrew's Church |
| Wed 19 | 7.30pm | Edgefield APCM | Village Hall |
| Thur 20 | 3.30pm | Corpusty Families Together - 6th Birthday Party | Village Hall |
| Mon 24 | 7.30pm | Hempstead APCM | Village Hall |
| Tue 25 | 10.00am | Baconsthorpe Plant Swap & Sale | The Old Rectory |
| Sat 29 | 12noon | Plumstead Spring Fayre | Baconsthorpe Village Hall |

MAY

| | | | |
|--------|---------|--|-----------------------------|
| Sat 6 | 10.00am | Corpusty LinC Coffee Morning | Village Hall |
| Fri 12 | 7.00pm | Matlaske Quiz Night | Barningham Hall Old Stables |
| Wed 17 | 2.00pm | Corpusty LinC visit Heydon Church & Tea Rooms | Village Hall |
| Wed 17 | 7.00pm | Baconsthorpe Bingo | Village Hall |
| Sat 20 | 7.00pm | Hempstead May Feast | Village Hall |

Clash Diary 2017

Please e-mail your dates to Corinne Youngs corinne@avyoungs.com

| | | | |
|---------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| June 17 | Plumstead BBQ | Sept 2-3 | Hempstead Arts |
| 24 | Baconsthorpe Fête | 8 | Plumstead Quiz & Supper |
| 24 | Corpusty LinC Edgefield Gardens | 15-17 | North Barningham Concert |
| 24-25 | Edgefield Open Gardens | 18 | Plumstead PC Meeting |
| July 5 | Matlaske Coffee Morning | Oct 6 | Matlaske Quiz |
| 17 | Plumstead PC Meeting | 25 | Baconsthorpe Quiz |
| 29 | Edgefest | Dec 3 | Matlaske Christmas Party |
| 29 | Matlaske Village Fête | 4 | Plumstead PC Meeting |
| Aug 6 | Hempstead Fête | | |

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Regular Events

Baconsthorpe Village Hall

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---|
| Tuesday during term time | 10.00am - 12noon | Diocesan Play Van - 07918 027092 |
| Tuesday | 7.30pm - 9.30pm | Carpet Bowls - 711320 |
| First Thursday | 12noon | Soup & Cake |
| Last Friday | 6.00pm - 11.00pm | Pop-Up Pub |

Corpusty Village Hall

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---|
| 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 | Norfolk Knitters £7 - 4 weeks or £2-1 week |
| | | Rita Taylor 587507 K2togp1@btinternet.com |
| First and third Thursday | 10.00am - 12noon | Art Group Non-members £10 a session |
| | | Professional artist in attendance every 3rd week |
| Friday during term time | 9.30am - 11.30am | Toddler Group |

Edgefield Village Hall

| | | |
|------------------|---------|--|
| Third Monday | 7.00pm | |
| First Tuesday | 2.00pm | |
| Second Wednesday | 2.00pm | |
| Last Thursday | 10.30am | |

Hempstead Village Hall

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|--|
| Tuesday | 10.00am | |
| Third Wednesday (not Dec) | 7.30pm | |

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday Club

Ladies Club

Coffee Morning - Jeff Witts 587661

Charcoal Drawing £4 - Mike Thody 711282
Film Club

Mobile Library Van

13 Apr / 11 May / 8 Jun

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| 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 |

27 Apr / 25 May / 22 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 |

We wish Michael McMahon, our Editor, a full and speedy recovery after a nasty fall which culminated in a short spell in Hospital. He is back home and hopefully able to enjoy this wonderful spring weather.

On behalf of Michael and all the Village Correspondents we owe a great debt of gratitude to Karen Hall who stepped in and has taken on the role of Editor for this and the previous newsletter. Thank you so much Karen.

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 |
| 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 | |

View from the Pew



I've been thinking a lot about journeys just recently. There are the small ones, taken locally, and the longer haul. There are the planned ones, and the unexpected ones. The ones we travel alone, and the ones we share with others. And there are journeys which are filled with joy, and others that are filled with sorrow. We have our allotted share of them all.

There are three journeys in particular on my mind at the moment. The first is the journey of the toad, who walks several miles at spawning time to get back to the spawning pond, only to face the greatest hazard of all a stone's throw from the pond; having to cross a road in the face of traffic. Luckily there are volunteers who extend a helping hand, and bucket, and deliver them to the pond. But some don't make it at other times because at their moment of crisis there is no one to help them. They need a saviour.

The second journey is the one we are walking at the moment in our group of churches forming the new Benefice. We are making this journey together, working towards unity and the joy of welcoming a new Priest here. Attending not only our own parish services, but travelling to others within the Benefice to support those too, is really important. We are each other's 'helping hand' and we need each other.

The third journey is the one Jesus made in that last week of his life, from the hosannas of his journey on Palm Sunday, through his death on the cross, to his resurrection on Easter Day. We can follow that journey with him during services in Holy Week. Don't let us ever forget that Jesus was human, despite being the Son of God, and the agonising pain of the crucifixion was felt in human terms. We can be there for him, this Easter. However, the reality is that he is holding our hands and giving us strength as we struggle with his suffering. Wonderfully, He is with us on our journeys, always. I, for one, need Him.

Su Summers



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Church Services for April

9.00 Holy Communion at Saxthorpe Wednesday 5th April & Wednesday 19th April

| 2 nd | Lent 5 | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 9.15 | Family Service | Edgefield |
| 9.15 | Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> | Barningham Winter |
| 11.00 | Matins | Hempstead |

| 9 th | Palm Sunday | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 9.15 | Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> | Baconsthorpe |
| 11.00 | Morning Prayer | Plumstead |
| 11.00 | Morning Praise | Saxthorpe |

| 13 th | Maundy Thursday | |
|------------------|---|-------------------|
| 7.00 | Evening Holy Communion <i>CW TL</i> | Hempstead |
| 14 th | Good Friday | |
| 2.00 | Hymns, Readings, Reflections and Prayer | Baconsthorpe |
| 16 th | Easter Day | |
| 9.15 | Holy Communion <i>TL</i> | Edgefield |
| 11.00 | Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> with Benefice Choir | Barningham Winter |

| 23 rd | Easter 2 | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| 9.15 | Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> | Matlaske |
| 11.00 | Holy Communion <i>CW</i> | Saxthorpe |

| 30 th | Easter 3 | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 10.00 | Benefice Sunday | Baconsthorpe |

CW = Common Worship *BCP* = Book of Common Prayer *TL* = Traditional Language

Church People

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------|
| Lay Minister | Gill Peat | 734226 |
| AWA | Judy Rosser | |
| Church Wardens | | |
| Baconsthorpe | Tessa McCosh | 577611 |
| 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 | Merlin Waterson | 587610 |
| | Heather Monks | 587118 |

Whilst we have no incumbent,
anyone with queries about baptisms,
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Rev Jeremy Sykes 860280
briston.vicarage@gmail.com

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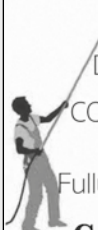
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Baconsthorpe

Sat 8 7.30pm **Bethany Marshall** - Village Hall
Mon 10 2.30pm Annual **Parochial Church Meeting** - Ash Tree Farm
Tues 25 10.00am **Plant Swap & Sale** - The Old Rectory



Corinne Youngs
577263

200 Club

£25 John Wells, £10 Tessa McCosh, £5 Pat Abbs, Edwina Gee

Church News

Most of you will have heard by now that a large amount of lead has been stolen from the church roof – approximately 6 tons. This is devastating and was not helped by the heavy rain which poured through the roof before it was possible to cover it temporarily with polythene.

Perhaps this could be an incentive for as many people as possible to support our annual plant Sale & Swap held in the Old Rectory on Tuesday 25th April 10.00am - £2.50 entrance to include coffee and homemade biscuits.

On Monday 10th April at 2.30pm is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. This is a public meeting, everyone is welcome to attend. It should be held in a public place and would normally be held in the church, but as things are, it is to be held at Ash Tree Farm.

Quiz & Supper

Thank you very much to the 12 teams who came to the Quiz on 9th of March in the village hall. £267.00 was raised to go towards the speed awareness camera which is fantastic. Congratulations to Piers, Jane, Annie and Vernon who won.

Pop-Up Pub

The next Pop-Up Pub will be on Friday 28th April - supper will be Chicken Surprise. The pub has now been running for a year and a half. It is entirely run by volunteers and all the profits are used to support ventures in the village. To date it has bought a dog waste bin, a tree to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, £800.00 has been given to the Parish Council towards the speed awareness camera and there was a free buffet at the December Pop-Up Pub. This amounts to £980.08. As the bar prices have been the same since September 2015 we need to increase them a little bit from this month to help cover costs – hall hire, insurance, licence and stock.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help with the pub or has any suggestions on other items to spend the profits on, please contact Jonathan or Emma. Thank you for the amazing support that the Pop-Up Pub receives.

Village Hall News

The first Soup & Cake Lunch was a success. Eighteen people came and hopefully more will come this month on Thursday 6th April 12noon in the village hall - £3 a head.

A brief reminder that Bethany, the very talented singer, will be entertaining us with sounds from the 50s, 60s and 70s. Tickets are £6.00 each in advance from Yvonne on 07759 215869 or £7.00 on the door.

We're planning lots of events for the coming months including Bingo on May 17th, the fête on Saturday 24th June, a table top sale in August, more quiz and bingo nights and surprise events. More details to follow.

Susan Belbin

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Barningham Winter

As you are on your way past Barningham Park, the sight of scaffolding slowly rising level-by-level round the tower of the church in its midst may just possibly have caught your eye.

This scaffolding marks the beginning of the second (or delivery) phase of the works on the church with which the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Barningham Winter are now able to proceed, thanks to the award of a very generous grant of £163,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, in addition to £10,000 each from the Norfolk Churches Trust and the Churches Conservation Trust respectively.

Wish us well! We pray for no mishaps or set-backs and a successful outcome to a venture bigger than any this PCC has undertaken for many, many years, if ever.

Appearances to the contrary, the church will be open as usual for regular worship on Sundays, but on weekdays, builders are likely to be present during working hours and visitors are urged to proceed with care.



Sara Buxton
577207

Edgefield

Wed 19 7.30pm Annual **Parochial Church Meeting** - Village Hall

Church News

Easter Lilies will be £2.40 each this year, and I would be very grateful if any orders could come in good time.

I am delighted we now have seven gardens opening for us on 24th and 25th June this year, of which two are new to us, and one hasn't been open for several years. There may be another one in due course. So do put our Open Gardens in your diaries/calendars. This is our important fund-raising effort for the church! We will be very grateful for any offers of help, especially making cakes etc for the teas and helping at the village hall. Second-hand books are very welcome, and, naturally, lots of plants, properly labelled.

Our Quiz Night seemed a great success and much enjoyed by everyone. We had fish and chips to sustain us (many thanks to Ian Ross for coping with that) and made £233 for church funds. Huge thanks are due to Stuart Ross and Janet Keymer for organising it all and preparing the questions, to Ghislaine for doing the raffle, and to Sarah Cletheroe for being the "runner".

The parish profile is complete and Ian Summers has done a brilliant job with it. Now we hope it entices a really good member of the clergy to accept the post for our benefice.

Linda Cletheroe did a marvellous job helping to clear the tower and put temporary netting over the west window to keep the pigeons out, after they broke through the rusting wire. Roger Allsop has now completely removed the old and installed new wire netting, and huge thanks are due to both of them. Two more windows to do, but miles easier as not behind the bell and clock mechanisms!



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Village Hall News

Two things of note from our village hall. We are having an audiovisual surround-sound system installed in the hall in the next few weeks. This addition to our facilities will enable us to facilitate film nights and accommodate meetings where guest speakers wish to use Powerpoint-type presentations. We are all very excited about it.

A date for your diary. Following the success of "Edgefest" on the Village green last year, we have decided to hold "Edgefest 2". It will be on Saturday 29th July and we will be entertained by a local band, plus food and a licensed bar. See you there!

Jim Frost

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Hempstead

| | | |
|--------|---------|--|
| Mon 3 | 10.00am | Church Spring Clean - All Saints Church |
| Wed 5 | 7.00pm | Play Reading - Village Hall |
| Fri 7 | 10.30am | Coffee & Gossip - Village Hall |
| Wed 12 | 7.30pm | Village Hall AGM - Village Hall |
| Mon 17 | 10.00am | Open Church & Easter Egg Hunt - All Saints Church |
| Mon 24 | 7.30pm | Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Village Hall |



Sharon Hannah
711769

200 Club

£25 I Tyabji, £10 Mary Scarff, £5 J Neville, James Matthews, S Price

They Spied for Germany

Some good publicity attracted a sizeable audience to the village hall on 24 February for a talk by Geoffrey Harris accompanied by Ian Summers at the Powerpoint providing well chosen illustrations.

He told the story of two Germans recruited and trained to travel to England in 1940 to spy for Germany. Their preparation involved extensive travel to USA, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Sweden. Just when we expected them to land in England, Geoff called a perfect dramatic pause for refreshments! These were of the usual high standard customary in village hall events and enhanced by anticipation of the completion of the story.

After two failed attempts by boat to reach Cromer they were parachuted in to the North of London. Their time available for spying was quite short as they were soon arrested due to some elementary errors of language and culture. An evening to remind us how different things were then compared with now.

RJR

Church Spring Clean

This will be held on Monday 3rd April at 10am and the Churchwardens would be delighted if anyone would like to join us to give the church its annual Spring Clean. Lots of small jobs to be done. More details from Su 701702

Play Reading

The group will next meet on Wednesday 5th in the village hall, refreshments from 7pm, reading starts at 7.30pm. This month we will read *The Doctor's Dilemma* by George Bernard Shaw.

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Village Hall AGM

This will be on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm in the hall. Please come and support your village hall committee who work hard to provide interesting occasions on offer, and of course, with the church and annual fête. If anyone can spare any time to help out organise events or if you would like to ensure the future of the village hall then show your support by coming along. Alternatively please contact Tim Scarff: 711657.

Open Church and Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Monday 17th April the church will be open for tea, coffee and cake from 10am till 1pm. Everyone is welcome from any parish, in aid of All Saints Church, Hempstead. The children's Easter Egg Hunt will start at 10.30 am at the church - all Hempstead children are invited to join the fun. No charge.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

This is on Monday 24th April in the village hall at 7.30pm. Everyone on the Church Electoral Roll is encouraged to attend and support the church.

May Feast- Save the Date

To make sure of your place at this popular event, reserve places for you and friends by contacting Tim Scarff: 711657 or Liz Buxton: 714082 (please ask about vegetarian option and other special requirements when booking). Bring your own drinks and there will be a raffle to be brought on the night.

Hempstead May Feast

Sat, 20 May at 7 pm for 7:30 pm

£9 adults and £5 for under 13s

Reserve places for you and your friends with

Tim Scarff: 711657 or Liz Buxton: 714082

(ask about special diets when booking)

More details on Hempstead Page

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Welcome

We have several newcomers this month. Christan and Jennifer have moved into 29 The Street, James has moved into Jubilee Cottage and Mark and Ann are doing some improvements to 4 The Green before they officially move in. We welcome them all and hope they will enjoy life in Matlaske.



Marion Shepherd
577521

Fête News

Can you grow the biggest marrow or the most shapely potatoes? Time to get planting! This year's fête will feature a produce competition with categories to include horticulture, produce, baking, photography and fun junior classes too - detailed schedule of classes to follow later. Also new this year, a later start time of 3.30pm, live music, sausages, wine and beer, owls, alpacas, fortune telling and much more.

Defibrillator

After some recent fund raising activities we are moving in the right direction for the acquisition of a new battery which needs to be renewed every 4 years to keep it operational.

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Plumstead

The daffodils through the village are almost at their very best as I write this - I hope that we can all take a moment to enjoy them as we rush through in our cars on our daily round of chores!

Please be aware that there has recently been an oil theft of 500 litres from a house in a neighbouring village.



Mary Lintott

577718

Church Events

The Church is holding two fund raising events in April. Thursday April 6th 7pm Plumstead Church Dr Tony Leech's talk *A Rose By Any Other Name*, a fairly light hearted look at the naming of plants and animals. Look out for the tempting flier (another great design from Doreen Hebron - thank you so much Doreen).

Spring Fayre on Saturday 29th April at Baconsthorpe Village Hall

By the time you read this the plans for the Spring Fayre will be well underway - please do consider us for any Spring decluttering that you might be thinking of doing. Books you not longer wish to keep. Unwanted gifts or general bits and bobs that can adorn our Bric-a-brac stall. Wine bottles with screw tops - thank you Fred and Jill for the ones you have already given me. Any jams or chutneys that you may have in your cupboard that you can spare and finally cakes, buns, biscuits whatever is your favourite on the baking front. Please contact Eleanor at Oak Tree Cottage 577868 or Mary Church Farmhouse 577718. We will be happy to take these items off your hands

Parish Council News

On a somewhat miserable morning in early March a number of intrepid villagers including, Oscar Fulford aged 6, sallied forth to clear our hedgerows and byways of litter. Our spirits rose as the sun began to shine and the final tally was ten bags of rubbish and two tyres. (I am always bemused as to where they come from?) It's a great credit to Alastair Brown whose commitment to this scheme means that we find ourselves lucky enough to be living in a cleaner village. Thank you Alastair.



Working Parties for the Village Pond

There will be some dates and times given in the next newsletter so do look out for them. Please support Alastair and the Parish Council in their desire to maintain the beautiful village pond area. It is something we and visitors to our village can all enjoy and in my view it is so beautiful and tranquil on a sunny day. Somewhere to get away from the endless round of emails and phone messages.

There is a continuing influx of grandchildren for the more mature residents of Plumstead! Nick and Linda Fulford welcome Harry to their family, a son for James and Sophie and a brother for Oscar and Martha. John and Mary Lintott welcome their first granddaughter, Lara, a daughter for Rory and Sophie and sister for Jack.

My apologies to the family of Melanie Faulkes, I gave a couple of pieces of misinformation - Melanie was 44 years old and had lived in Plumstead for 16 years. We send our thoughts to Rob and Ben at this difficult time.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Sat 1 10.00am **Thank You Barts Coffee Morning** - Barningham Village Hall
 Wed 19 2.00pm **LinC - Visit to Tea Barn** - Village Hall
 Wed 19 7.00pm **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** - St Andrew's Church
 Thur 20 3.30pm **Families Together 6th Birthday Party** - Village Hall



Judith Banks
587319

There is no need for an alarm clock these days as the dawn chorus is noisily assuring us that spring is on its way. We wish Liz Potter well after her operation for which she has been waiting several months. Liz has been a very committed Co-ordinator for LinC, for which she is thanked, and has given us much pleasure with her pottery exhibitions. Also we wish Mary Newstead well after her recent fall. We miss her smiling face in Corpusty Stores or on her trusty bicycle. As we mentioned in the last newsletter, LinC, is looking for new members, and



at the AGM held in February, Judith Banks was chosen as Co-ordinator for the coming year. The following programme of events shows that we have moved away from speakers and more into a gathering of folk to chat, enjoy tea and see places of interest, locally. March saw a group visit a very wonderful set of new lambs, followed by a delicious tea. In April we plan to go to a tea venue in a barn near Bawdeswell, followed in May by visiting Heydon church and tea at Heydon Village Tea Rooms.

In June we plan an outing to view Edgefield Open Gardens and enjoy tea; while in July, we have our Summer Buffet. Perhaps in August we should go for a walk to reduce some of the calories we will have enjoyed earlier in the year! If you would like to join us on any of these occasions, please ring 587319, to assist with catering. Thank you.

It is very sad for me to write about dog poo again! But the playground opposite The Old Gallery has been littered with it over the past weeks and months, and now that the better weather is with us more children will want to climb, scramble and swing without falling off into the excrement. **Please dog owners clear up after your four legged friend.** An early date for your diary, St Peter's Church, Corpusty will be celebrating its Patronal Festival at 3.30pm on July 2nd. The beautiful church at the top of the hill is under the care of Norfolk Churches Trust as Merlin Waterson spoke of in a recent edition of this newsletter.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan is nearing completion. A draft will have been discussed at the Parish Council Meeting on 22nd March. If the Parish Council approves, this draft will be sent to all neighbouring parishes, statutory consultees and North Norfolk District Council for comment. It will also be made available on the Parish Council website at: <https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com/>. If you would like a digital copy of this draft please ask Tony Barnett and he will send you one (tony.barnett6@btinternet.com). There will be a public meeting in the week beginning April 17th, please look out for posters. When you have read it, please send comments to imogen.waterson@btinternet.com and tony.barnett6@btinternet.com.



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Meet the Neighbours - Alex Etchells



Brought up in Norfolk and now living in Matlaske, Alex is a software engineer at the UEA. He writes bespoke control software for one-off scientific research devices that are used to monitor the effects of greenhouse gases and air pollution on the atmosphere. He started his career engineering scientific instruments and when it was decided that a particular device would benefit from a computer, Alex bought a book and taught himself to write computer programmes.

Last year Alex was part of a team that went to the Antarctic for three months to set up instruments that measure oxygen and carbon dioxide concentrations in the air. The Antarctic was chosen as it has the cleanest air in the world.

Having flown to Cape Town, Alex boarded the RSS Ernest Shackleton that sailed for two weeks and then broke ice for one week before docking on the ice closest to Halley VI, the latest home “on skids” of the British Antarctic Survey (BAS). The BAS have had a permanently manned research station there for 60 years. Interestingly, all the vehicle drivers that spend our winters with the BAS are farmers from the UK who are used to driving a variety of machinery and have good mechanical knowledge to fix them.

Before arriving at Halley VI, Alex remained with the ship for eight days helping to unload all the supplies that they had brought with them and loading up all the rubbish and waste that must be taken away from the Antarctic. Throughout his stay in the Antarctic, Alex’s research was carried out alongside maintenance tasks around the station.

Working with computers, Alex spent his days working in a heated building and, in his free time, learned how to Nordic ski, ride a skidoo and make friends with the local penguins. He was able to keep in touch with home via a very poor email connection, even worse than the Matlaske exchange!

Alex’s project has proved very successful, providing valuable data that is contributing to the world picture of greenhouse gases and their impact on climate change.

Emma Youngs

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