Church & Village News

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

December 2017 & January 2018



Monk's Lane, Saxthorpe Roger Last

Skipper

Skipper's Corner

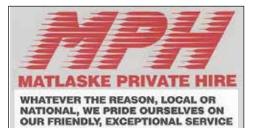
Snippets that Skipper approved by wagging his tail when they were read to him

Skipper was amused by these household hints in the Woman's Own Book of the Home (1931) but he does not recommend that the advice is followed today:

COCK-CROWING, to prevent: Loosely suspend a small lath about 1½ feet above the bird's perch, so that when he stretches his neck to crow, his comb will come gently in contact with it; this will stop the noise.

SHOES, to repair: Old cycle tyres can be utilised for soleing children's shoes. Cut to the necessary size for shoe soles and heels and nail on with sprigs. These will last well, and one tyre will do many shoes.

UMBRELLAS, to renovate: Take half a cup of strong tea, and two tablespoonfuls of sugar. Open umbrella and sponge well. Tea revives the colour, and sugar stiffens.











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

Parish Council Websites or Email Addresses

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

Local MP

Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP Unit 4 The Garden Centre Nursery Drive Norwich Road North Walsham, NR28 0DR norman@normanlamb.org.uk http://www.normanlamb.org.uk/ Office hours are Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm 01692 403752 daily between 10am - 1.30pm

Church People

Lay Minister Gill P	eat	734226
Lay Minister Judy H	Rosser	587584
Church Wardens		
Baconsthorpe	Tessa McCosh	577611
Barningham Winter	Amelia Courtauld	577250
Edgefield	Emma Cletheroe Angela Turner	587049 587292
Hempstead	Ann Udale Su Summers	713656 710702
Matlaske	Thomas Courtauld	577250
Plumstead	Eleanor Faulkner	577868
Saxthorpe	Merlin Waterson Heather Monks	587610 587118



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What's On

DECEMBER

		DECEMPER	
Sun 3	11.00am	Barningham Advent Carols St Peter	s Church
Sun 3	4.00pm	Matlaske Christmas Party Baconsthorpe Vil	lage Hall
Mon 4	7.00pm	Plumstead Parish Council Meeting	0
Tue 5	10.00am	Barningham Wreath Making Barningham Ha	ll Stables
Fri 8	10.30am	Hempstead Coffee & Gossip Vil	lage Hall
Fri 8	6.30pm	Edgefield Christmas Festive Evening Vil	lage Hall
Sat 9	7.00pm	Hempstead Christmas Party Vil	lage Hall
Sun 10	11.00am	Saxthorpe Toys & Tins Service	Čhurch
Sun 10	4.00pm	Edgefield Carol Service	Church
Thur 14	3.30pm	Corpusty Families Together - The First Christmas Vil	lage Hall
Sat 16	7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Christmas Sing-Along Vil	lage Hall
Sun 17	3.00pm	Baconsthorpe Christmas Party Vil	lage Hall
Sun 17	7.00pm	Matlaske Sing-Along St Peter	s Church

JANUARY

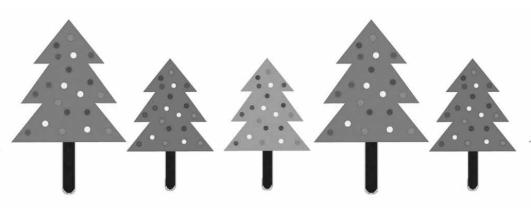
Fri 5	10.30am	Hempstead Coffee & Gossip	Village Hall
Thur 11	7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Village Hall Committee Meeting	Village Hall
Fri 26	7.00pm	Plumstead Mince Pies & Mulled Wine	Church

From the Editor

Christmas is a time of thanking as much as giving, so it is a good time for me to offer thanks to all who work so generously to produce our magazine: to Karen, our designer, to Corinne, our treasurer, to Mary, who is in charge of distribution, and to all the members of her team - and, of course, to all our regular and occasional contributors, and to our loyal village correspondents. Your work is greatly appreciated: many thanks, and happy Christmas!

Michael McMahon

Many thanks for all your hard work too Michael!



Regular Village Hall Events

BACONSTHORPE

Tuesday during term time Tuesday Last Friday

Second and

10.00am - 12noon Diocesan Play Van - 07918 027092 7.30pm - 9.30pm Carpet Bowls - 711320 6.00pm - 11.00pm Pop-Up Pub

CORPUSTY

Second and fourth Monday	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bure Valley Quilters & Stitchers
Second Tuesday*	12.30pm - 3.00pm	Citizens Advice Bureau Outreach
Tuesdays during term time	5.45pm - 7.15pm	Brownies
Second Tuesday	10.00am - 12noon	North Norfolk Knitters
		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

Third Monday
First Tuesday
Second Wednesday
Last Thursday

7.00pm 2.00pm 2.00pm 10.30am

Parish Council Meeting **Tuesday Club** Ladies Club **Coffee Morning**

Film Club

h

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HEMPSTEAD

First Monday alternate months	7.30pm
Tuesday	10.00am
Third Wednesday (not Dec)	7.30pm

* Please note December's Citzens Advice will be on Wednesday 13 December at 12.30pm

Mobile Library Van

21 Dec / 18 Jan / 15 Feb / 15 Mar					
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		
Ŷ	3.40	NR25 6TL	Telephone kiosk		
7 Dec / 4 Jaı	n / 1 F	eb / 1 Mar /	/ 29 Mar		
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		

Post Offices

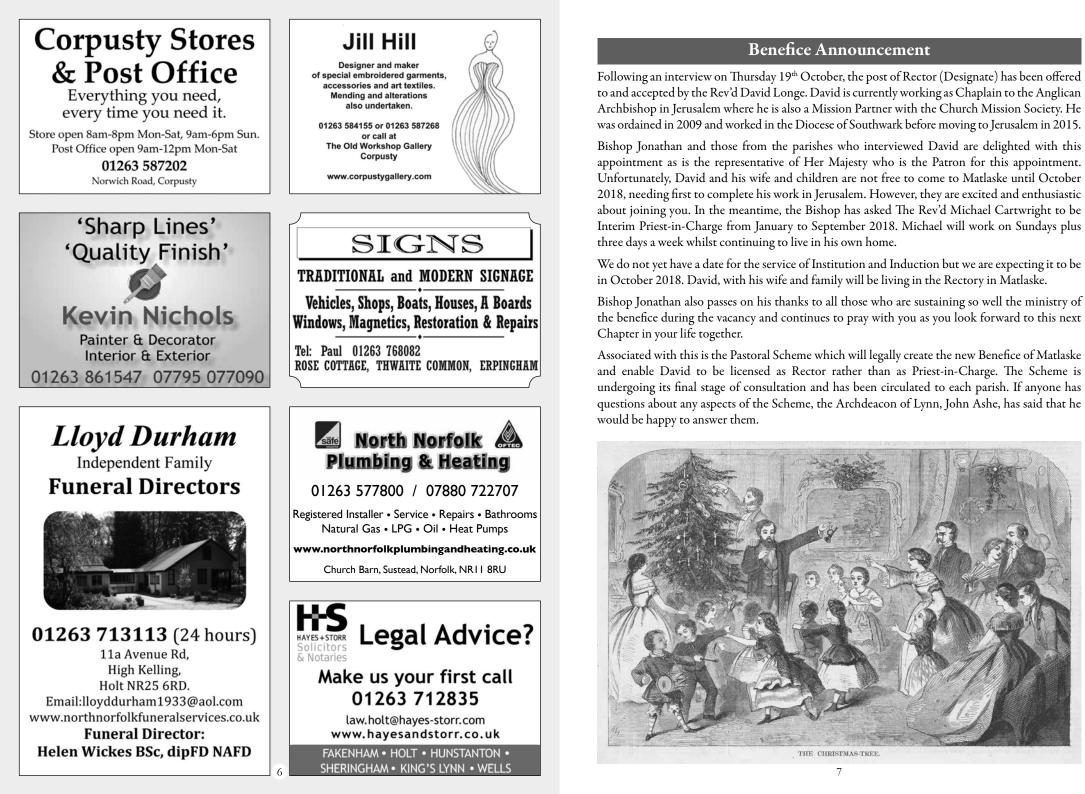
Parish Council Meeting (next is 6 Nov)

Charcoal Drawing £4 - Mike Thody 711282

Baconsthorpe Village Hall			
Tuesdays	1.00pm – 4.00pm		
Fridays	10.00am – 1.00pm		
All services			
Corpusty Stores	587202		
Monday-Saturday	9.00am – 12.00noon		
All services including	g Euros		
Holt Library	712202		
9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB			
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			

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elieved t	o be	correct	at the	time of	going	to pres	s.



<image>

The church wardens have asked me to tell you a little about my family and myself. I want to begin by saying how humbled I am to have been offered the extraordinary and exciting role of serving your community in such a beautiful corner of God's Kingdom. My wife, Sara (a violinist) and our three children - twins aged seven: Rex and Alexandra (known as Xar), and Artie, aged five - are thrilled that we are coming to Matlaske.

As some of you may know I am currently serving as the Chaplain to the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem. Last night, I went to a Roman Catholic's priest's house for supper with the Archbishop. The priest asked me where I was from, and how long I was here for. I explained that I was working for three years in Jerusalem and that I finish in 2018; and that my family are also with me. He then asked me where I was off to.

I explained that I was going to serve in Norfolk. He looked quizzically at me – where is Norfolk? (He is Italian.) I said it's a beautiful corner of God's creation, north of London on the coast. Then another guest chipped in and said, "David will be running nine churches, you know".

The Roman Catholic priest was silent – I could tell he was thinking - "Nine churches – how do you 'run' nine churches?" I said, "Well, it's actually seven, as two of them now have only three services annually.

At that point another guest changed the subject, which is a pity, because what I wanted to say was: "Yes there are seven churches, but there is so much opportunity there". I wanted to explain to him that as the son of an apple farmer from Suffolk, I knew how much the rural church had to offer the wider church – through the sheer simplicity of seeing and perceiving God in creation – through a reflection in a puddle, or the crisp frost in the garden in the morning. I wanted to say that this community in North Norfolk sees God at work day-by-day in the most glorious way. I wanted to explain that there are some challenges, that not many people come to church, but that we must always look beyond numbers (priests can become obsessed) because the church is not about buildings, it's about a community.

I know he would have retorted: "But won't it be too different from Jerusalem?" And I would have responded - yes and no. YES - Jerusalem is a unique place, but NO - at root, Jerusalem and its problems are about human relationships, about people trying to live alongside each other; people trying to work out how to fulfil Jesus's commandment that we love one another as we love ourselves. And I would have stressed that that was the challenge not only in Jerusalem, but in Damascus, Edgefield, Hempstead, Saxthorpe, Corpusty, Plumstead, Baconsthorpe, North Barningham, Barningham Winter and Matlaske. We are all trying to work out how to be good neighbours to each other. We, as a family, see this every day when we drive the children to school from Palestinian, Arabic, and mostly Muslim East Jerusalem to Israeli/Jewish West Jerusalem through the Hassidic quarter- mental barriers are put up that divide us. These barriers can be seen sometimes through the way people dress; through a lack of civility, like simply saying "hello"; or and this is pertinent here - through a physical wall that not only divides Palestinians from Israelis, but members of the same family from one another, farmers from fields. All these barriers, whether physical or mental, prevent us from seeing each other as human beings, created beautifully in the likeness and image of God.

This morning's Eucharistic reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans puts it very well: "Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." For "love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." (Romans 13.8 and 10)

I am truly honoured and very excited about the opportunity to come and serve, and I pray daily that I may be of some use to the community in which you live. The Roman Catholic priest is right – it's a big task. I cannot do this alone – I can only serve you through the grace and goodness of God; and vitally with your help. God does not call us to be alone (well – he does call some people to be hermits, but not a parish priest), he calls us to work together, collaboratively as a team, so that we may seek to fulfil that request at the heart of the Lord's prayer, that God's "will be done in earth as it is in heaven".

I know how hard all are working during this period of interregnum, especially the ministry team and the church wardens with the Reverend Michael Cartwright. I do hope that I will be able to meet you soon, and continue to hold you in my prayers. May God be with you all.

Church Services for December

3 rd A	dvent Sunday			
9.15	Benefice Holy Communion BCP	Matlaske		
11.00	Advent Carols	North Barningham		
10 th Ac	lvent 2			
9.15	Holy Communion	Plumstead		
10.45	Holy Communion CW TL	Hempstead		
11.00	Toys & Tins	Saxthorpe		
16.00	Benefice Carol Service	Edgefield		
17 th A	dvent 3			
9.15	Holy Communion BCP	Matlaske		
10.45	Morning Prayer	Baconsthorpe		
24 ^h Ch	nristmas Eve			
10.00	Familly Service with Carols	Hempstead		
10.45	Holy Communion BCP	Barningham Winter		
17.30	Candelight Carol Service	Saxthorpe		
22.00	Holy Communion CW TL	Edgefield		
25 th Cl	nristmas Day			
10.00	Family Communion	Baconsthorpe		
31 st Lo	w Sunday			
10.45	Holy Communion	Plumstead		
17.00	Evensong & Licensing	Saxthorpe		
CW = Common Worship BCP = Book of Common Prayer TL = Traditional Language				
December 31 st at 5pm Saxthorpe Church				
The Bishop of Lynn will licence the Rev Michael Cartwright as our interim				
	Priest in Charge at a service of S			
	5	8 8		

Please join us on this special occasion

Holy Communion Services Wednesdays 9am Saxthorpe 6th & 20th / Little Barningham 13th & 27th

Church Services for January

7 th Epiphany 1		
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion <i>CW</i>	Saxthorpe
14 th Epiphany 2		
9.30 11.00		Baconsthorpe Saxthorpe
21 st Epiphany 3		
9.30 11.00		Barningham Winter Edgefield
28 th Epiphany 4		
9.30 11.00		Plumstead Hempstead
4 th Candlemas		
10.00	Benefice Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>	Barningham Winter
	CW = Common Worship BCP = Book of Common Prayer	<i>TL</i> = Traditional Language

Holy Communion Services Thursdays 10am at Matlaske

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE ST. PETER. NORTH BARNINGHAM 3rd DECEMBER 2017 11am



Chilly church, warm welcome! Do join us for this traditional service During December, anyone with queries should contact the Rural Dean:

Fr Phil Blamire 588268 blamire376@btinternet.com

From January queries should be directed to:

Rev Michael Cartwright 577865

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A New and Easy Way to Raise Funds for the Benefice

With the exciting news of our new Rector arriving next year, our minds are turning to getting our parishes ready for him. As you are all aware, our seven churches are now known as the 'Matlaske Benefice, and we have to raise money to pay the Diocese our 'Parish Share' as we have the wonderful church buildings to run and preserve.

Many of us are already busy fund-raising or supporting fund-raising activities for our separate churches with fetes, coffee mornings, concerts and fabulous art exhibitions. There is only so much time in the day and money in our pockets to give to these events, but there is one way of raising money that needs no organisation or dipping in to our own funds and it could raise a significant amount for the Benefice as a whole. It is easyfundraising!

Some of you who shop online may have heard of easyfundraising. It is a very simple way of making money for the Benefice at no cost to any of us.

Every time you buy anything online from the 3,100 participating retailers, they will give Matlaske Benefice a donation.

It is that simple!

All you have to do is register with easyfundraising.org.uk and you are away!

Have a look at their website. This is what you do:

- 1 Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Click on the button to sign-up
- 3 Select Matlaske Benefice as your cause for donations
- 4 Shop via the easyfundraising website or install the Find & Remind Toolbar which means you shop directly from the usual websites
- 5 Do your normal shop, the price is exactly the same
- 6 The retailer makes a percentage donation directly to the Matlaske Benefice account onyour behalf

It is great! The Benefice make money at no cost to us. It soon all adds up.

Now is a great time to register because we can all take advantage of our Christmas shopping. All the supermarkets are registered with easyfundraising, so even weekly shops going forward can make money for the Benefice. I hope that you feel that it is worth while supporting our group of churches. They are places of peace, tranquillity and great beauty and have much to offer to so many people in so many different ways.

Amelia Courtauld



Baconsthorpe

200 Club

£25 Nichola Hems, £10 Jonathon Cooper, £5 Susie Belbin, Julie Rudd

Best wishes to Karen Benton Warboys for a speedy recovery following her recent riding accident.

Pop-up Pub

Corinne Youngs Friday 29th Dec - no supper but free finger food. Friday 26th Jan - supper will be 577263 meatloaf, potatoes and veg.

Church News

David McCosh has resigned as PCC Treasurer. He has looked after the church finances since 1995 and was responsible for securing the grants which paid for re-leading the chancel roof and repairs to the vestry. Richard Youngs has taken on the Treasurer's job, something he did from 1972-86.

The insurance company have finally paid for the lead stolen from the church roof - £15,000 for the two thefts. This week the Diocesan architect is doing a condition survey so we should know what the final cost of repairing the roof will be - probably nearer £100,000.

Five of the men responsible for the theft have been caught and are now in prison.

Village Hall News

Once again, the Quiz Night was a resounding success with £399.71 being raised for the hall. Lots of fun and laughter was had by a capacity crowd. Thank you to everyone who participated and a special thank you to Emma and Yvonne for making it all possible.

Please note that from December 16th - 29th January inclusive, Yvonne on 01263 577305 will be taking all Bookings for the Village Hall.

The next Committee Meeting will be on Thursday 11th January at 7pm.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 16th December Christmas Sing-Along 7pm-9pm. Mulled wine, familiar songs, great company and lots of fun.

Sunday 17th December Christmas PARTY 3pm-6pm, for ALL AGES. Games, food and fun for all the family. With a special visit from you-know-who.... ADMISSION FREE!

Finally, with another year drawing to a close, we would like to thank all our supporters; those who have attended events, those who have volunteered at events and all those who have hired the Hall. THANK YOU. Without you, there wouldn't be a village hall. Here's to you. A very happy new year to you! Susan Belbin





Barningham Winter

On Sunday 3rd December at 11am there is the Advent Carol Service at St Peter's NORTH BARNINGHAM. This has become an annual celebration so please do come and join in. The Rev Michael Cartwright will be taking the service and refreshments will be offered at the end of the proceedings. Please dress warmly!



Thank you to everyone who came to the harvest celebration service and following the lunch, which was held in the Stables, Barningham Hall on the 29th October, and to all the kind people who made delicious puddings and supplied the drinks for

Sara Buxton 577207

this occasion. Huge thanks to Mr and Mrs Thomas Courtauld for hosting the lunch. A collection of over £100.00 was given to the church.

Don't forget to use the bottle and paper bank on Matlaske airfield over Christmas. It is such a help to Matlaske and Barningham Parish Council finances.

I cannot quite believe that it is this time of year again - where has 2017 gone? But may I wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.

Edgefield

200 Club

163 Jeff Witts, 48 Libby Fox, 24 Karen Massingham

Church News

We were lucky on Remembrance Sunday that the sun shone while we were at the War Memorial, and then it rained for the rest of the day!



We look forward to welcoming The Rev Michael Cartwright as our Priest-587486 in-Charge on 31st December, when he will be licensed in Saxthorpe Church at

Evensong at 5.00pm. He will then take our services until our new incumbent, The Rev David Longe, arrives from Jerusalem in October. We will be having a seven-week rota, which will mean fewer services here in Edgefield, which is a shame, but cannot be helped. The churchwardens are all hoping that people will go to other churches in the Benefice on the Sundays that we do not have a service. We have an amazing group of lovely churches, and you will be made very welcome.

We are having a Benefice Carol Service here on 10th December at 4.00pm. The Benefice Choir will be singing for us, and there will be mince pies and wine afterwards as usual. Do come and join us. Also, it would be great to see many of you on Christmas Eve at 10pm for our Christmas Service. With best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and New Year to you all from Angela and Emma.

Angela Turner

Village Hall News

It has been requested that we publish the results of the "200 Club" in the Parish Magazine, which I will do from now on. Please see above. Please note that because the draw is always held on the last Thursday of every month, the published results will always be a month behind in this magazine. In the meantime, the committee of Edgefield Village Hall would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas.

Jim Frost

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PILATES FOR BONE HEALTH Edgefield - WEDNESDAY 9.30-10.30

10 Jan for 4 weeks. Book before 31 Dec to receive a special rate! Designed for over 60's, suitable for those with Osteoporosis, however all ages are welcome!

For all other class details or to book one of the above courses, Call or email Jayne: 07495 053 319 jayne@fullmotionpilates.co.uk or vis www.fullmotionpilates.co.uk ILATES

Accommodation to Rent

Edgefield Cottage Trust (Charity No 243061) has a small bungalow in the centre of the village available to rent. Under the terms of the Trust, preference has to be given to elderly or infirm residents of Edgefield, or those with a connection to Edgefield or the surrounding villages. All enquiries and applications should be sent in writing to: The Secretary, Ambergate, Ramsgate Street, Edgefield, Melton Constable NR24 2AY.

Hempstead

200 Club

£50 A Feilden, £25 N Tyabji, £10 G Matthews, £5 A McFadyen, T Geens, E Summers

We are sad to report that Vic Crocker has passed away. Condolences to his family, who wanted to note the exceptional care he received during his stay at a care home in Alysham.



Dec 8th and January 5th, 10.30 till noon in the Village Hall. A belated thank you to

all who attended the October Coffee and Gossip which was in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. With your help we raised £100. Thank you, too, to the Village Hall Management Committee who donated the hire cost of the hall.

Christmas Party

Saturday 9th December 7pm - Hempstead Village Hall. Please join us for a pre-Christmas celebration - there will be food and live music from the Back to the 60s band. There is no charge for the evening, but an idea of numbers would be useful to assist with catering, so please ring Liz Buxton 714082 and let her know if you will be attending. Any offers of help gratefully received, please ring either Liz 714082 or Yvette 712460. Please bring wrapped raffle prizes on the night and your own drink. Everyone from Hempstead is very welcome.

Carol Service

We would love to see families in church on Christmas Eve at 10am for a family service with carols. Watch out for a special invitation for the children. It is the only Christmas service at All Saints and we would like to make it a memorable occasion.

Hempstead Play Reading Group

The 2017 season ended with the annual End of Season Supper and reading of an episode of Fawlty Towers. It was a lot of fun and excellent food. Thanks to those who cooked! We break now till February 7th 2018. If anyone would like to join us for the new season, please ring Su (712702).





711769

Matlaske

100 Club

£25 Pauline Woof £10 Belinda Radley £5 Michael Cartwright

Christmas Sing-Along Don't forget to join us at St Peter's Church, Matlaske on Sunday 17th December at



7pm to join in or just listen to a variety of festive songs and carols. Afterwards we Marion Shepherd will be having mulled wine and mince pies 577521

Evening Concert

Folk trio THREESCORE (www.threescore.uk) in concert with special guest Tony Hall, 9th December, 7pm at The Belfry Centre for Music and Arts, Cromer Road, Overstrand, NR27 0NT. Tickets from The Belfry (01263 579196 / 07763339052). Tickets £10, or £8.00 for concessions. Proceeds to EACH & MIND.



Tickets £10/£8 from The Belfry on 01263 579196 or 07763 339052 OR on the door (subject to availability) www.thebelfrycentre.co.uk

All proceeds in aid of EACH children's hospice Quidenham and MIND

Matlaske Parish Council

Following the resignation of Florence Hunt, we would like to thank her for her many years of valuable service. Florence joined in June 1999 and took the position of Chair in September 2001 until 2011 when she became vice-chair until May 2016. We are pleased to welcome Dick Fiddian onto the Council. He has taken the place of Donny March.

Welcome Back

We are delighted to welcome back Father Michael Cartwright who has agreed to look after our Benefice until our new Rector David Longe takes over in October 2018.

All that is left to say is Happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy 2018 to you all.

Plumstead

Parish Council

As I write this, it is just over five weeks to Christmas Day. It's a busy time for most of us as we spend time thinking about presents, what to buy, where we shall spend the festive season, family, maybe a work commitment or maybe choosing not to engage with the hustle and bustle of it all. Whatever occupies our energies may we all Keep Calm and Carry On: Merry Christmas!



577718

Help Needed

Saturday 16th December 2pm - please come and help decorate the church. There will be a service on the Sunday after Christmas to which you are all welcome.

A date for your diaries

Something to look forward to in the drear month of January: Friday 26th. Where is our annual Mince Pie & Mulled Wine event? This has for some years been organized by PEG and has celebrated the Christmas Season in the Village. Well, this year, the PCC have taken on the mantle of arranging an event but with a difference. We are avoiding the pre-Christmas rush and plan to have it on Friday 26th January 6.30pm in the church. Often a somewhat flat time before the days begin to lengthen and we are recovering from the excesses of the festive season. In this age of relentless change, we might alter the format slightly so come and find out. It will also be a time to welcome back Michael Cartwright, who has agreed to become our Vicar from January until October next year when David Longe and his family will join us. We are very grateful that Michael will guide us during this time. He knows us well and I am sure will keep his flock on the straight and narrow in this interim period!

Claire and Lucas moved into Plumstead only a few weeks ago and we now welcome their new arrival Max, a brother for Eli. Congratulations to you all, and to Mike and Gill Wilton on the arrival of another grandson.

We also welcome Julie and Keith to Plumstead Green and hope they will be very happy living in our village.

Please remember there will no be Newsletter in January.



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Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Sincere condolences are offered to the family of Ann Elizabeth Lee (née Mears) Sophia Hodgson who sadly died on 5th October in Milton Keynes. Ann was born in Corpusty on 587510 8th September 1949, and was educated at Corpusty Primary School and Melton Constable. She was married to Mick in Saxthorpe Church on 3rd September, 1967, and then lived in Hills Close whilst their children Sadie and Gary were attending Corpusty School.

Bonfire Night

All the clearing up on the Green had been done by 9.00am - thank you and well done to all those involved!

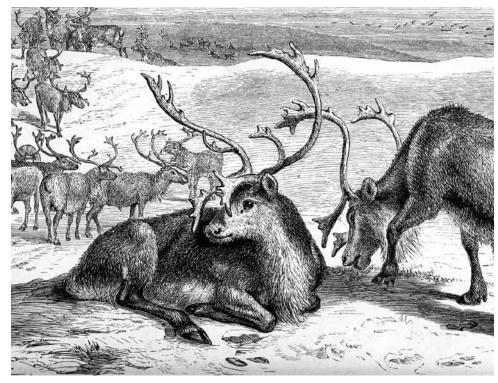
Lighting for the Church

It is great news that thanks to three very kind private benefactors from our twin villages, we have now got added security with the floodlights etc.

Citizens Advice

Due to a conflict of use, the Citizens Advice session will be on Wednesday the 13th December rather than Tuesday 12th, from 12:30 to 3:00 pm in the Village Hall.

We hope everyone enjoys the festive season and has a lovely Christmas and New Year..







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The History of the Christmas Stocking

While there are no written records of the origin of the Christmas Stocking, there are popular legends that attempt to tell the history of this Christmas tradition. One such legend has several variations, but the following is a good example:

Very long ago, there lived a poor man and his three very beautiful daughters. He had no money to get his daughters married, and he was worried what would happen to them after his death. Saint Nicholas was passing through when he heard the villagers talking about the girls. St Nicholas wanted to help, but knew that the old man wouldn't accept charity. He decided to help in secret. After dark he threw three bags of gold through an open window, one landed in a stocking. When the girls and their father woke up the next morning they found the bags of gold and were, of course, overjoyed. The girls were able to get married and live happily ever after. Other versions of the story say that Saint Nicholas threw the three bags of gold directly into the stockings which were hung by the fireplace to dry.

This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols for St Nicholas. And so, St Nicholas is a giftgiver. This is also the origin of three gold balls being used as a symbol for pawnbrokers.



A tradition that began in a European country originally, children simply used one of their everyday socks, but eventually special Christmas stockings were created for this purpose. The Christmas stocking custom is derived from the Germanic/Scandinavian figure Odin. According to Phyllis Siefker, children would place their boots, filled with carrots, straw, or sugar, near the chimney for Odin's flying horse, Sleipnir, to eat. Odin would reward those children for their kindness by replacing Sleipnir's food with gifts or candy. This practice, she claims, survived in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands after the adoption of Christianity and became associated with Saint Nicholas as a result of the process of Christianisation.

Today, stores carry a large variety of styles and sizes of Christmas stockings, and Christmas stockings are also a popular homemade craft. This claim is disputed though as there is no records of stocking filling practices related to Odin until there is a merging of St Nicholas with Odin. St Nicholas had an earlier merging with the Grandmother cult in Bari, Italy where the grandmother would put gifts in stockings. This merged St Nicholas would later travel north and merge with the Odin cults.



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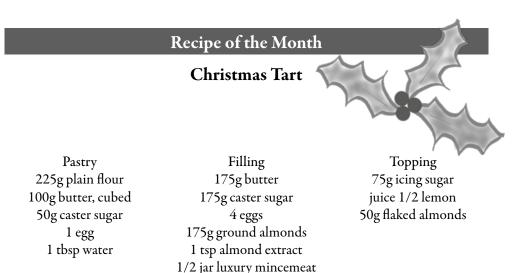
Wedding and Celebration

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BAKES



Preheat oven 170c, Gas 5. Line the bottom of a 28cm flan tin.

Make pastry either by hand or food processor. Roll pastry out on floured surface and line tin, prick base of pastry with fork and then chill.

Make the filling by creaming butter and sugar until creamy, add eggs and blend then mix in ground almonds and extract.

Spread the mincemeat over the base of the pastry and spoon the almond mixture on top. Bake for 40-50 mins until pastry crisp and golden brown.

To finish make a glace icing with the icing sugar and lemon juice adding water to make a pouring consistency. Spread over the tart and sprinkle with flaked almonds. Return to oven for 5 mins.

Marion Shepherd

Do you care for a relative or friend? Would you like some help or an opportunity to relax?

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The Village Gardener To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



December might be a busy time indoors, but there are still bits and bobs to do outside. If you are still sorting out your roses or any other climbers, take care not to tie in using wire, as long term this will just eat into the rose. Far better to use twine, or my new favourite – flexi-tie, a great product that stretches as the plant grows. If you are fortunate enough to have wisteria in your garden, this also needs attention. Cut back any summer side shoots to two or three buds. For those locals with hydrangeas - I know you're out there! - don't be tempted to cut off the faded

flower heads, because these offer protection to the swelling buds further down the stems... less is sometimes more with these shrubs!

Now that your joyful dahlias have given their all, it's time to give them a good rest. Lift the tubers, making sure that at the same time you attach a label directly to the tubers otherwise you will have no idea if it's the Bishop of Llandaff or Prince Charming that you're trying to re-home come late spring.

A satisfying job that is perfect for a cold frosty day is to properly turn over your compost bin top to bottom. This ensures the compost is breaking down evenly as the moisture is redistributed. The compost heap you hopefully turned last year will be now fit for purpose.

Mistletoe figures in our Christmas as I have a partner of a somewhat romantic disposition, but however tempting it might be to save berries from your own mistletoe decorations, you will be much more successful if you use ripe berries straight from the plant in March-April if you are attempting to grow your own.

All that's left to say is if you have any gardening questions, feel free to email me at: redmaple@btinternet and the most interesting question will be published next month.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mick McCarter



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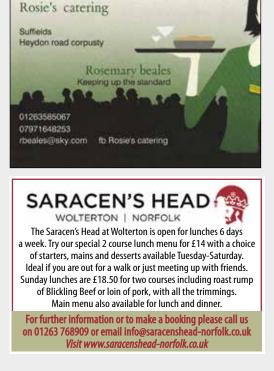
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Meet the Neighbours - Richard Brooks



Richard grew up on his family's farm in Essex. When he was nineteen he went to Cirencester and studied Estate Management. He returned to Essex and oversaw the farm and became involved in the family's corn merchant business. He thought that he had a job for life, but this was not the case as the business was taken over.

Richard moved to Edgefield in 1970 and worked in Norwich for Lloyds of London's Agricultural Claims Department for the East of England before becoming an independent insurance assessor in 1984.

In the 1990s Richard became involved with the Worshipful Company of Farmers – a livery company in London. In 2000, he was made Master. His

second-in-command was HRH Princess Anne, who as Warden had to hold the doors open for the Master! During his year as Master, the foot and mouth disaster occurred, and the Worshipful Company of Farmers became very involved with the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution helping to raise money to support farmers left devastated by the outbreak.

When Richard was eight years old, he went to stay with his godmother on her farm in South Norfolk. There was an old horseman who would sit in the corner of the field at lunch and tea times making corn dollies, and he taught Richard how to make them. Most years since, Richard has made a few corn dollies.

It is tradition that at the end of year as Master of the Worshipful Company of Farmers you give them a gift. Richard made a corn dolly and wanted to have it 'silvered'. After several years of searching he found a company in Plymouth that, using technology developed by NASA, was able to coat the corn dolly with silver without burning the corn. So far as Richard knows this is unique in the world and it is now on permanent display in the City of London.

Emma Youngs