

Church & Village News

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

August 2022



A Monday Evening in June - Matlaske
Photograph by Tracey Sands

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safeguarding@dioceseofnorwich.org or 01603 882345

What's On

AUGUST

Wed 3	11.00am	North Barningham NGS Garden Open	Upwood Farm
Wed 10	7.00pm	Baconthorpe Thai Meal	Village Hall
Fri 29	6.00pm	Baconthorpe Pop-Up Pub	Village Hall

Clash Diary

Sep 9 Matlaske Quiz
Sep 24 Baconthorpe Table Top Sale
Oct 8 Edgefield Organ Concert
Oct 15 Edgefield Quiz
Oct 22 Plumstead Dahlia Festival until Oct 29
Nov 19 Baconthorpe Craft Fair
Dec 4 Matlaske Christmas Party
Dec 10 Edgefield Festive Evening

Holt Library

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB 712202
Tues 10am-7pm / Wed 2pm-7pm
Fri 10am-7pm / Sat 1pm-4pm

Post Offices

Baconthorpe Mobile Post Office Van
Wednesdays 10.00am Village Hall

Corpusty Stores 587726
Monday-Friday 9.00am – 12.00noon

Itteringham Shop 587325
Monday + Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

Parish Council Websites

Baconthorpe	http://baconthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconthorpepc
Edgefield	https://edgefieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
Hempstead	https://hempsteadpc.wixsite.com/hempsteadpc
Matlaske & Barningham	http://matlaskeparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
Plumstead	https://plumsteadpc.wixsite.com/plumsteadpc
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.

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

Mobile Library Van

4 Aug / 1 + 29 Sept / 27 Oct / 24 Nov
Matlaske 11.40 NR11 7AQ Old Post Office
Plumstead 12.25 NR11 7LG Walnut Farm
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

25 Aug / 22 Sept / 20 Oct / 17 Nov
Hempstead 3.40 NR25 6TL Telephone kiosk
Baconthorpe 4.05 NR25 6LE Hare & Hounds
4.20 NR25 6LG Old Post Office
4.40 NR25 6LJ Council Bungalows
Times and dates sourced from Norfolk County website: <https://bit.ly/2AJdSGA>

Letter from the Rector - Reverend Canon David Longe

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

Dear All

One of the great privileges of serving as a priest in this Benefice are the weekly assemblies at Corpusty Primary School, and I have just finished my last for the academic year.

The final assembly was with year 6 at St Andrew's Church, Saxthorpe. Here they rang the bells, explored the building including the vestry which is thought to have been the cell (small room) for a 16th century anchorite called Cecily. An anchorite is someone who has retired from the world. They are individuals who have literally "anchored" themselves to God by attaching themselves to a church physically.

Unlike the famous anchorite, Julian of Norwich, we know little about Cecily. Yet, tentatively, we can make some assumptions:

she received communion through the squint to the north of the altar (sadly now blocked up); it is likely that before she entered the cell the funeral rite was said as she was to be "dead to the world, but alive to Christ"; and it is likely she received visitors at her window.

Year 6 were eager to see this mysterious room. As they queued to go in, I explained how Cecily would have received the funeral rite, and they were asked the following:

"If you had to give up one thing in the world to help you focus on God more, what would that be?"

This is a difficult question whatever our age. Some said "sweet things", another "computer games" and another "I'd like to give up being jealous".*

There is a long spiritual tradition of reflecting on what is surplus in our lives, or what it is that blocks us from fully caring and loving those around us and loving God. It is I believe a powerful thing to do what Year 6 did: to walk up the altar, observe the squint, pausing and then imagine Cecily entering her cell and ask ourselves the question as to what is surplus in your life. I suspect we will all answer differently, and some of our answers may startle.

If you do travel up to the altar, do let me know your thoughts: was Cecily's journey into that cell a waste of time? Or was it an incredible act of faith? Is it inspiring? Is it irrelevant?



Julian of Norwich



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for August

7 th	Trinity VIII		
8.30am	Eucharist		Plumstead
10.30am	Eucharist		Barningham Winter
14 th	Trinity IX		
10.30am	Eucharist		Saxthorpe
5.00pm	Evensong		Edgefield
21 st	Trinity X		
10.30am	Eucharist		Hempstead
28 th	Trinity XI		
8.30am	Eucharist		Edgefield
10.30am	Eucharist	Preacher: The Revd Canon Thomas Woodhouse	Matlaske
4 th Sept	Trinity XII		
8.30am	Eucharist		Barningham Winter
10.30am	Eucharist	With blessings for the new path	Plumstead
5 th	Hog Roast		
4.30pm	Hog Roast with Vegan Option + Races		Corpusty Village Green
Wednesday 3 rd Aug + 7 th Sept 9.00am Eucharist Saxthorpe followed by refreshments			

Julian of Norwich was inspired when she was in her cell, and wrote some of the most moving spiritual writing of the last thousand years. Among her work you may find as you contemplate Cecily in Saxthorpe the following helpful:

"Between God and the soul, there is no between... for we are so preciously loved by God that we cannot even comprehend it".

With my prayers

David



ENGLISH
HERITAGE

English Heritage have temporarily closed visitor access to the inner bailey of Baconsthorpe Castle while works are undertaken on the inner gatehouse. They apologise for any inconvenience caused and hope to reopen access in the autumn. Until then access is limited to the grassy area around the outer gatehouse.

Baconsthorpe

200 Club

£50 T Worboys, £25 M Day, £10 R Hall, £5 H Steel, C Youngs, K Benton Worboys

Did you Know?

Did you know that before 1939 Baconsthorpe had a very successful football team and competed in the Holt and District village league? After the war sadly the team was no longer entered into the league but apparently 'friendlies' took place on a meadow around the Bodham new road and Stonefield road area. In the photo below are faces some of us may remember – one I am told lived at Tuppenny Grove in my house and I certainly remember Jimmy Smith who lived next door.



Hazel Martin
07879 414577



Standing left to right: Bill Power (local postman); Fred Doy; Denzil Massingham (lived near the water tower); Harold Grout and Richard Seaman.

Kneeling left to right: Jimmy Smith; Bob Hewitt; Brian Wright; Bob Strutt; Dick Gee and Dennis Scarff. The little lad is Dereck Doy, perhaps he had come to watch his dad play.

I would like to thank Arthur Pentney for lending me this photograph and for his help with the information which is as accurate as he can remember.

Country Mice

It is a few months since I included information about the church led group for babies /toddlers and whoever cares for them. At the moment this includes grandparents and their grandchildren, 2 years and under; a professional nanny and her charge and a Ukrainian family. Everyone will be made welcome at the sessions on Tuesdays from 10am till 12 noon.

They meet in Baconsthorpe village hall which is a lovely venue with outside space. The group is supported by Baconsthorpe church with Canon Longe as the priest. All who live in the villages of Baconsthorpe, Edgefield, Hempstead, Matlaske, Plumstead, Barningham Winter and Saxthorpe/Corpusty are welcome as well as others further afield.

There is sand and water play this term and bubbles and parachute games outside. Country Mice has been blessed with gifts of money and a chance to apply for a grant. This puts the group in a good position to go forward to provide a friendly nurturing space tailored to the children's needs.

They have expanded to provide groups in the school holidays as several parents work in educational settings. There is a WhatsApp group which will keep everyone informed of all summer activities. Kay Harvey has also lent expertise and supported the opening of another group at Corpusty School. For further information call 07941 985635

Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Thai Evening
10th August 6.30-8pm

Come to enjoy Authentic Thai Food
Choose from a classic choice of main courses followed by
our favourite (some may argue, essential!)

Thai Dessert Coconut Mango Sticky Rice

£14 for two courses

Enjoy drinks at the bar

Please book a table by phoning 07729 972386

Cash in advance or on the night.

Moving On

We say a fond farewell to Kevin and Yvonne Delaney who are leaving Strawberry Barn. Our thanks go to Kevin who for many years was treasurer at the village hall. We hope they will be happy in their new home.

Village Hall News

After some consideration we have decided to put on hold the Film Nights. The levels of attendance have not really justified pursuing this programme for the moment. Many thanks to those of you who did attend, we will keep it under review.

We do have some other events we hope will be of interest:

Thai Meal Night – Wednesday 10 August

An evening of authentic Thai food - contact Mike Strong to book your table 07729 972386

Pop-Up Pub – Friday 29 August Pasta Bolognese is on the menu

Table Top Sale – Saturday 24 September 10am – 1pm - £8 a table

Book a table to sell your goodies/unwanted items or just come along to get some bargains. Call Jane Warner on 07789 001094 to book a table. Tea and coffee available on the day.

Quiz Night – date in October to be confirmed, watch this space

Craft Fair – Saturday 19 November - details to follow

200 Club. £100 in prize money is paid out each month: be a winner for a £1 monthly subscription. We still have some numbers available. You can sign up via BACS or pay in cash/cheque. Contact secretary.baconsthorpevillagehall@outlook.com for details.

Piers Warner

Barningham Winter

A dear friend to Barningham Winter died on 2nd June. Donny March had so many connections in Barningham, a true craftsman and so many of the houses had benefited from his skills. He will be greatly missed. His late wife Ruth who died two months before him had sat on Barningham Winter PCC for many years and had given so much to the little church. They both will be sadly missed and we send our condolences to Marion Shepherd and her family.



Sara Buxton
577207

Dick Fiddian's garden at Upwood Farm, North Barningham will be open on Wednesday 3rd August from 11am to 5pm under the National Garden Scheme.

Edgefield

Catherine Longe successfully completed a 230-mile charity cycle ride between 6th - 8th May 2022, raising a total of £785 for East Anglia's Children's Hospices. She would like to thank everybody who kindly donated to her fundraising page.

Village Hall News

Our next event will be a Quiz Night, at 7.00pm on Saturday 15th October. £10 per team of 4 people, plus a licensed bar. Tickets can be obtained by contacting me on 07946 854901 or via our FB page (Edgefield Village Hall). June 200 Club winners were: 1st Mick Bumfrey (206), 2nd Dawn Stolworthy (92) and 3rd Zachary Parsons (182). A member of the committee will be visiting 200 Club members during August to collect your payment for 2022/23. The price remains at £6 per annum. Thank you.

Jim Frost



Richard Peaver
587486

Hempstead

200 Club

£50 C Lantaff, £25 R Hall, £10 J Loach, £5 N Sanders, G Harris and J Buxton

We have lost another Hempstead resident recently I am sad to report. Neil Bond's funeral took place last week. Neil married Maureen Power, a Hempstead girl, and in the 1960s they came to live in one of the Hall cottages. They had five children but sadly, Maureen died some time ago. Neil continued to live in the cottage until he died. We offer condolences to his family.

Village Hall

The Committee is pleased to announce that three new members have joined it at the AGM bringing fresh ideas and expertise. The average age of the committee as a whole has fallen considerably as a result!

Chairman: Richard Roy

Hon Secretary: Lesley Lennox

Hon Treasurer: Andy Wallis

Committee: Chas Lister, Ian Summers, Melissa Weir.

The immediate past Chairman Mike Thody has accepted the position as one of the Trustees of the Hall.

With better times on the horizon, now things are opening up a lot more, we are thinking about how we make your village hall a hub for activities for all. This is a hall for all in the village so we would like to speak to anyone that would like to help out with or organise any events large or small. We are looking for ideas as well of what you think is suitable for Hempstead Village Hall to host or join in with. If you feel you would may, be able to offer your services in any way, please contact Lesley Lennox on 07446 777660 or lesley.lennox@project21.ltd.uk



Diana Spalton
711117

Matlaske

100 Club £25 Evie Radley, £10 Sam Pointer, £5 Sally Chandler

Donny March

Donny's funeral service took place at St Peter's church on midsummer's day. The church was full of people who wished to say farewell to this remarkable man, and the service was dignified and moving. Donny's ashes will be laid to rest with his late wife, Ruth.

Derek and Freda England had their diamond wedding anniversary on the 23rd June. Congratulations to them both on a long and happy marriage

Many thanks to Marion and Cherry who hosted a coffee morning at the Blacksmith's Cottage on 6th July in aid of 100 Club funds. The weather was great and the garden a glorious venue, with people chatting at leisure in the sunshine over coffee and cake and other goodies. It was a chance to meet new people and to take part in a raffle with great prizes. Hopefully, we will be able to hold the fabled Matlaske Christmas party again this year, divine providence and public health permitting.



Duncan Wood
570293

Plumstead

Work at St Michael's Churchyard

Working party – help needed on Wednesday 17th August 2pm, at St Michael's churchyard. If you have a couple of hours free to help in the preparation of ground to be planted as part of a boundary hedge, later in the autumn please contact Brian Faulkner on 01263 577868, or just turn up, with a fork, on the day.

The PCC is so grateful for all the effort that Plumstead residents put in to the upkeep of our pretty church. Particular thanks go to the sterling work done by those on the churchyard mowing rota, and to those who have recently started work on a spring/summer clean inside the church.

Pumpkins & Dahlias in the Church

Friends of Plumstead Church will once again be decorating it with pumpkins, dahlias and other wild colour this autumn, and will be hosting a pumpkin carving competition on the weekend of 29th October. The whole event will run from Saturday 22nd October. Look out for further details in the next newsletters. In the meantime, please let Catherine McMahon know if you are interested in contributing in any way. We use the event to raise money for the church through the sale of cakes, jams, crafts and books and so on.

Church Path Blessing and Memorial Service for Thomas Wormald

There will be a blessing of our lovely new church path at St Michael's church on Sunday 4 September at 10.30am. This service will also be the memorial service for Thomas Wormald. Thomas was a resident of Plumstead for nearly 40 years and churchwarden for around 30. He contributed a great deal to the village and wider community throughout his time in Plumstead, hosting garden openings and church fetes in his garden, fundraising for the church, as member of the PCC and



Harriet Rossi
577239

other village committees, as well as a long-standing supporter of the RNLI. Thomas sadly passed away on 3 June 2020 and the church path has been laid in his memory and represents a further contribution in his honour to the community. We look forward to receiving all of you to this service.

Food Bank

Please remember there is now a collection point in the church for donations to the Food Bank. Items needed are cereals, tins of tomatoes, fruit, vegetables, rice pudding, pasta sauce, squash, custard, tea and laundry liquid / powder. All donations are very gratefully received.

Monday Morning Coffee at St Michael's

With the recent better weather, we have been having coffees sitting in the sun outside the church on Monday mornings. Do drop in for a coffee or a chat from 10.30am onwards. There are crafts, books and jigsaws for sale and don't forget to look at what is for sale on John Durdin's plant stall outside the Old Post Office.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Village Correspondent

As trailed, this is my last outing as village correspondent. I think that 'the News' is a fantastic platform for both providing news and infusing community spirit. I have enjoyed my time. I am pleased to report that John Birchall has volunteered to be our next village correspondent. John is sort of retired, from a career in journalism, so expect more incisive and informative reportage. Thank you John.

So, I am signing-off. Hasta la vista etc...



John Birchall
584290

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Village Hall – Back in Time!

Saturday 24th September 11.00am till 4.00 pm

Provisional programme: A talk with slides on the history of the village 11.30am and 1.30pm
Old photos, metal detectorists, craft stalls and more...

The last time a similar event was held at the Village Hall it was a great success. Do come along for all or part of it.

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Village Hall Survey

Many thanks to all those who returned the survey. Survey results have been posted on the notice board outside the village hall. The village hall committee are actively working on several suggestions for the planned event in September and will continue to consider others for future events.

If you would be interested in joining the committee to turn suggestions into reality, you would be warmly welcomed! Contact either Andy Bell on andybell137@gmail.com or Robert Stern on rsstern8@gmail.com

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The lighting of the Brazier on Corpusty common was an enjoyable, community supported, event. A picture was included on the montage cover of last month's News. The Duke's Head did good business and joined in the celebration, providing villagers with welcome pints and hot dogs, funded by the Parish Council.

Supporting Ukrainian Refugees

Five Ukrainians are settling in well. Liubov is looking for ironing, cleaning or cooking work in the village. Tanya has several jobs and is looking for help with transport to Bayfield twice a week-Tuesday and Fridays. The two 7-year-old girls are settled at Corpusty Primary School. If you are able to help, please contact Imogen Waterson at: [watersonimogen@gmail.com](mailto:watsonimogen@gmail.com) or 587610.

Traffic Calming

The feasibility study into traffic calming in the village is engaging with measuring speeds. More to follow...

Parish Council Vacancies

As two councillors have resigned, two replacements are sought. Please see the notices on the PC notice board.

Tree Survey

The survey, commissioned by the parish council, has identified that one tree on the village green, near the car park opposite the pub, is in a dangerous condition and will have to be taken down.

The Norfolk Churches Trust Annual Ride and Stride

This event will take place this year on Saturday 10th September. It is a significant fundraising day for all Norfolk Churches but particularly for travellers from The Matlaske Benefice who can nominate their church and the Trust will give half the money raised by that participant to the named church. Otherwise through the year the Trust makes generous grants to parishes in the County to assist in repairs to church fabric and other projects. At St Andrew's church on the day, we will have people to receive visitors and sign their forms. We will also offer simple refreshments to aid the travellers on their way. If you can volunteer to spend one hour or more on that day to greet visitors, please get on touch with Charles Tyndall 07484 231443.

Heydon Road Fire

Mick and Ann King would like to say a big thank you to all the kind people who turned up, on what was our hottest day, to help us deal with the fire in Heydon Road. They and the firemen were amazing. Their kindness will always be remembered. Thank you X



Straw Bales, Plumstead by Michael McMahon

The Village Gardener

To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



As I write this we are in the middle of heatwave, the garden is hanging on in there (just) but sadly my back isn't after all the extra watering...! We have several water tanks dotted around the garden, good for the plants but obviously a bit tricky for my back, hoping to delegate that task and recalibrate my back with some yoga so it doesn't happen again. Fingers and toes crossed on that one.

Off to the veg patch! Where I have been super pleased with the cucumber plants I picked up from Edgefield Nursery (this is not an ad!). For the last week they have been producing the best tasting cucumbers I have ever tasted, they took a while to get going but now they are firing on all cylinders, I have planted them outside our greenhouse in large 25 litres pots with a mixture of compost and garden manure with a weekly seaweed feed and they are super happy and prolific. Elsewhere in the garden the courgettes are just about to start running away with themselves. They were late in as I had some seeds that just failed to get going, so by the time I had ordered them again we were a good 3-4 weeks behind. I like Black Forest courgettes because they make good looking plants (which will climb if trained properly); they have very tasty and good textured courgettes. I am experimenting with Monty Don's theory that you can grow courgettes successfully in containers if the container is large enough, so 30 litres or more. I am going to attempt to compare them to the ones directly planted in the garden to see if it's worth it.

The tomatoes are thriving too, no sign of blight (touches wood); it does feel a lot less stressful not growing potatoes this year and it will be interesting to see if that makes any difference. Now to get some seeds set, I am trying a tip I heard on Sarah Raven's grow, cook, eat, arrange podcast where

she suggest shading lettuce seedlings at this time of year so they don't bolt, I will be thrilled if I can get that to work as the lettuces I have been growing (Buttercrunch) as a cut and come again salad leaf have been brilliant and we have saved a fortune on salad leaves, I have set some chicories in too to provide a bit of interest - we shall see! The first couple of weeks of August is probably your last chance to get spinach and chard seeds and beetroot sown. Whilst beetroot was not on my list this year I am determined to grow some small varieties next year, I grew Chioggia (the super pretty striped one) a few years ago and it is stunning especially mixed in with some purple and yellow varieties too.

This month is such a good month for getting biennials seedlings in the ground. Planted at this time of year they can get good and strong before the (dare I say it) Autumn cold slows them down. I am hoping to set some foxgloves, honesty and wallflowers they are also terrifically good value if you start them off from seed. My final tip of the month is to keep feeding deadheading and watering any plants in pots you might have. + With this week's crazy temperatures I would actually suggest watering first thing and last thing in the day to keep your pots looking tip top and happy.

This month's question is from Ellen Fields who is struggling with black spot on her roses. This is something which sadly we struggle with too, however I am going to try something new in our border, we are already a big fan of Salvias, but what I hadn't realised was how useful they were to grow in and amongst your roses. Sarah Raven believes they have sulphur in their scent profile which is a fungicide (black spot is a fungal disease) so she recommends growing the small leaved varieties such as Salvia Microphylla or Salvia Jezebel close to your roses. Larger varieties like Salvia Amistad whilst terrific looking are a bit too greedy to be too near to your roses and the plants need to be closer on hand to be effective. It does sound as if it could be a stunning looking solution to a problem we both have!

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

Michelle & Mick McCarter



Fallen Tree, Baconsthorpe Castle by Jonathan Neville

History Watch - Lost Dwellings

Arthur Pentney

Our current planners seem to have forgotten that Norfolk is a rural county and appear to take the view that the countryside is a town with no houses in it! And so, to rectify that situation, they grant planning approval for large swathes of development in totally inappropriate areas of the countryside.

'Twas not always so. Take Baconsthorpe, where there was no new building at all from late Victorian times, say 1898 to 1948, when the new police house was built. But in that period, several existing dwellings were demolished, and others were to follow in later years.

Adjoining villages also suffered a similar fate. At Plumstead, adjacent to the church and next to the phone box is an open piece of land where at one time cottages used to stand. Moving on to Hempstead, opposite Hole Farm were a pair of semi-detached bungalows – again, these homes are no more. In Baconsthorpe, several details can be recalled: down at the bottom of Long Lane, two cottages stood which were uninhabited and derelict in the 1950s and later demolished. Our local, The Jolly Farmers, was abandoned in the late 1940s and razed to the ground in 1954, and now only a group of outbuildings remain to show of its earlier existence. In Hall Lane, back in the 1930s a pair of cottages were to be re-roofed, but the job just dragged on deterioration set in and they were pulled down – a solitary well now being all that's left.



Now who remembers 'Plumstead Cottages' situated – yes – on Plumstead Road out of Baconsthorpe? These consisted of four or five dwellings that housed farm workers. A television programme from 1962 showed these cottages in an unfavourable light, almost resembling a rural slum, and this programme proved to be their death warrant. All

were demolished in the early sixties, their location still shown by a gap in the hedge there. Finally, more recently, a cluster of five terraced houses in The Street was reduced to four when the end one was knocked down, perhaps for vehicular access. All interesting stuff from a bygone age!



Red Admiral Butterfly by Jonathan Neville

If you have a
SWARM OF BEES
 you would like removed
 please contact

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 07787 517311

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