Church & Village News

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

August 2023

Hollyhocks in Plumstead
Photograph by Mike Ray-Jones

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Parish Council Websites

Baconsthorpe

http://baconsthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconsthorpepc

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

Village Websites

www.baconsthorpe.org www.hempstead-norfolk.co.uk www.plumstead.org.uk



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Baconsthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske & Barningham,

Plumstead

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Safeguarding concerns please contact the Police on 999 or Diocese of Norwich Safeguarding Team safeguarding@dioceseofnorwich.org or 01603 882345

What's On

AUGUST

Coffee & Catch Up Ash Tree Farm Fri 4 10.30am All villages Classic Car Run Sat 5

Hempstead Fete Sun 6

Mon 14 11.30am Councillor Callum Ringer Matlaske visit

Drama Youth Group Sun 20 5pm Saxthorpe Church Pop-up pub Baconsthorpe Aug 25

Every Friday 5.30 – 6.30 Pond Life Friday at Plumstead Village Pond

Clash Diary - to add event contact Corinne Youngs 577263/ corinne@avyoungs.com

Sept 2/3 Hempstead Arts Oct 6 Saxthorpe Harvest Supper Sept 4 Corpusty Sausage Sizzle Oct 6 Matlaske Quiz Sept 9 Churches Bike Ride Oct 7/8 Edgefield Craft Fair Sept 23 – 30 Plumstead Michaelmas Fair Oct 14 Baconsthorpe Murder Mystery Sept 30 Edgefield Retro Disco Oct 21 Edgefield The Samphires

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Mobile Post Office Van

Wednesdays 9.40am – 10.40am Village Hall Corpusty Stores 587726

Monday-Friday 9.00am - 12.00noon **Itteringham Shop** 587325

Monday + Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

Local MP

Duncan Baker MP Tudor House, Grammar School Lane North Walsham, NR28 9JH duncan@duncanbaker.org.uk www.duncanbaker.org.uk Monday - Friday 9am – 5pm 01692 557140

County Councillor

Steffan Aquarone steffan.aguarone.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk / 01603 327827

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.

Mobile Library Van

3 August / 31 August / 28 Sept / 26 Oct

| Matlaske | 12:40 | NR11 7AQ | Old Post Office |
|--------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| Plumstead | 13:00 | NR11 7LG | Walnut Farm |
| Baconsthorpe | 14:30 | NR25 6LJ | Council Bungalows |
| | 14:55 | NR25 6LE | Hare & Hounds |
| Hempstead | 15:05 | NR25 6TL | Telephone kiosk |
| Edgefield | 15:45 | NR24 2AL | The Memorial |
| | 16:10 | NR24 2AX | The Street |
| Corpusty | 16:35 | NR11 7BU | Great Farm Cotts |

Times and dates sourced from Norfolk County website: https://bit.ly/2AJdSGA Tel: 01603 222303

Holt Library

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

Sanders Bus Timetables

https://sanderscoaches.com/timetables

Letter from the Authorised Worship Assistant – Professor Alain Wolf

Dear All

As I start to write this, I am about to set off, like many of you, on my summer travels. After those few months of serving in the Benefice, it seems appropriate to say thank you to all those who make my time in this place such a delight. Among other things, I have been the victim in a Murder Mystery play, I have led a Lent course with very convivial parishioners, and I have expatiated on Lazarus being raised from the dead after seeing my partner jump out from beneath the altar swathed in loo paper from head to

Before leaving, I would like to reflect briefly on this cycle of arrivals and departures that punctuates our lives. Arrivals are often joyful affairs: Jesus told us parables about what happens when that which was lost is found again. But things can go awry. I remember how as a student I used to come back home



full of the knowledge I had acquired at university where I studied Philosophy. One day, I met one of my relatives who was toiling with a digger, flattening the rocky ground where his future house was to stand. I turned away from the pile of rocks and looked pensively at the Mont Ventoux, that Provençal giant of a mountain, and said, uninvited: 'Of course, if you stop perceiving the dreary rocks, they just cease to exist.' Needless to say, that comment, which I got wholesale and unassimilated from the philosopher Bishop Berkeley, was not well-received. 'Is that the kind of rubbish they teach you at those universities?' was the absolutely justified reply I got for my effort. At that moment, I experienced what countless other students must feel upon returning home, 'reverse culture shock'.

Leaving is not much easier. Jesus was aware of that when he remarked: 'You heard me say to you, 'I am going away and I am coming to you. If you loved me you would rejoice that I am going to the Father because the Father is greater than I'. The disciples, so attached had they become to his presence after the resurrection, must have wanted him to stay on. But they did not lose him. The Holy Spirit drew them into the fire of divine love, the fire which at Pentecost reverses that insufferable Babel curse of mutual unintelligibility and gives the disciples courage to communicate the good news across languages and cultures.

And so, when we leave, when we are 'sorrowful, yet always rejoicing', Jesus wants us to know that God does not relent in seeking out what is temporarily absent. When we get lost on our many journeys this summer, God is always there, seeking us out. For in the words of C.S. Lewis, 'the hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men and his compassion is our liberation'. May God seek us out this summer in our arrivals and our departures.



The Benefice of Matlaske **Church Services for August**

| 30 th July | Trinity VIII | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 8.30am 10.30am | Eucharist Eucharist | Matlaske Hempstead |
| 6 th | Trinity IX | |
| 10.30am 5.00pm | Eucharist Evensong | Edgefield Baconsthorpe |
| 13 th | Trinity X | |
| 10.30am 5pm | Eucharist Evensong | Matlaske Hempstead |
| 20 th | Trinity XI | |
| 10.30am 5pm | Eucharist Play by Youth Drama Group | Plumstead Saxthorpe |
| 27 th | Trinity XII | |
| 10.30am 5pm | Eucharist Evensong | Saxthorpe Barningham Winter |
| 3rd Sept | Trinity XIII | |
| 10.30am 5pm, | Eucharist Evensong | Baconsthorpe Hempstead |
| 10 th | Trinity XIV | |
| 8:30 10:30 | Eucharist Eucharist | Matlaske Barningham Winter |

Mondays 10.30am - Coffee - Plumstead Wednesdays 10am - Coffee, Cake & Chat - St Andrew's Saxthorpe

The John Perry-Warnes Educational Fund exists to help those in education who reside in the Matlaske Benefice (the parishes of Baconsthorpe, Barningham Winter, Edgefield, Hempstead, Matlaske, Plumstead, and Saxthorpe with Corpusty). If you would like to apply for this fund, please submit an application, stating why the funds are required along with the cost of each item, and a description of your educational situation. Please can all submissions be emailed to rector@matlaske.org.uk, or posted to The Rectory, The Street, Matlaske, Norfolk NR117AQ by 1st September 2023

HELP WITH ENERGY AND HOUSEHOLD COSTS

If you know anyone who need help with their energy costs please contact Revd David Longe: 01263 577252 rector@matlaske.org.uk

Cromer Food Bank can help with both food provisions and with household bills including pre-paid meters and meters paid on receipt of bills, gas, coal, oil and wood.

The Matlaske Benefice Support Fund can also help with the above and other issues that household may face.

Baconsthorpe

200 Club

£50 S Wilson, £25 H Martin, £10 M Cooper, £5 M Honeyman, £5 R Quillen, £5 H Steel

n,

Hazel Martin

Church News

Update on St Mary's bells – you may recall in the June newsletter that I reported $07879\,414577$ an imminent visit from Ellacombe Bells to assess the cost of returning the church bells to their former glory. The gentleman duly arrived – all the way from Dorset! However, in his opinion the Victorian ladder leading to the clock tower needed to be far more robust before he could ascend! We await developments.

Thank you

Community spirit is alive and well in Stonefield Road. Matthew from No 5 took time to decorate the Stonefield sign very tastefully with plants and even attached two hanging baskets. Norman Allen spotted his work on one of his walks and kindly sent me the photograph. How sad that Matthew's kind gesture was rewarded by someone stealing the hanging baskets.

On the subject of saying thank you (something my mother constantly drummed into me) I thought this was a good opportunity



to thank those in the village who deliver this newsletter to your homes every month; to thank the generous people who supply the village stall with preserves and plants (the stall provides funds which are so important to the church) and to thank the few people who provide flowers for the church.

Good News

I am pleased to be able to report to all concerned readers that the two golden Guernsey goats – Sugar and Spice – who went missing on Saturday July 10th are safe and well back home. The owner believed that they were frightened by the fireworks display nearby. If such an event is planned in the future, we would all be grateful for a warning.

Murder Mystery

I am pleased to report that the cast for the murder mystery play 'Who Killed the Director?' is now fully cast. The play will take place on the evening of October 14th in Baconsthorpe village hall. The cost is again £13 per person which covers the food and the entertainment for the evening. Our last murder mystery play which was in March, was hugely enjoyed by everyone. In fact, two tables have already been booked for the evening in October. So do contact Lee – villagehall@baconsthorpe. org if you want to reserve a table.

Drama Youth Group

Another very enjoyable session with the drama group took place Saturday July 15th at Baconsthorpe village hall. This is an absolutely delightful group of young people – very enthusiastic, talented and polite. The Good Samaritan has been cast and hope fully the lines are now being learned ready to be performed at Saxthorpe church on August 20th at 5pm. The short play will be followed by refreshments.

Village Hall News

Many thanks to all of you who helped at and attended the Fete on 22 July. It was a great day and we are grateful for all the support from those gave their time, energy, and donations.

The Pop-Up Pub is on Friday 25 August. Chicken and chips is on the menu.

We have a lovely new bench in the garden at the Hall, which has been kindly donated in memory of John Cooper, who served on the Village Hall Committee for many years.

We still have numbers available for the 200 Club, where you could win £50 each month for a £1 a month subscription. Details of how to subscribe are on the Baconsthorpe website or call Piers on $07493\ 227591$.

Barningham Winter

We send our congratulations to David Radley who at the Royal Norfolk Show received his award for his 43 years of service to the Barningham Estate as their gamekeeper. Well done to you, David.

Our councillor Callum Ringer of the Gresham Ward has opened a new district councillor Facebook page. It will contain information and news about things happening around the ward and district. He will be visiting Matlaske on Monday 14th August between 11.30am and 12 noon if you want to meet him or if you would like to contact him his email address is callum.ringer@north-norfolk.gov. uk or his phone number is 07824381519.



Sara Buxton 577207

North County Council are re-consulting on the closure of the tip on the A148 and its relocation across the road. Councillor Callum Ringer thinks that the NBCC should prioritise using its funds toward the Holway Road roundabout and extending the existing site rather than a costly relocation.

Norfolk Open Churches Classic Car Run 5th August

The cars are stopping for a picnic lunch at Barningham and will probably start to arrive at about 12 -12.30 onwards.

Edgefield

Church News

I cannot remember doing any work in the churchyard this time last year. Everything was dried up and burnt to a frazzle, was it not? But perhaps I am totally wrong. This year the rain defeated us, and the forecast is not helpful. As soon as we have some dry weather, do please let me know you will



Richard Peaver 587486

come and help, and I will try and gather more people together. There is a lot of long grass around the graves that badly needs cutting.

On 5thAugust we have a Classic Car Run passing through the village and stopping off at our churchyard. There should be a great number of interesting cars to come and see from 10.30am until about noon. The annual Norfolk Churches Bike Ride will be on Saturday, 9th September, and it would be lovely if more people from Edgefield took part. Alison Mawson will have the details and necessary forms.

With the gardens and fields so much happier this year with the rain, I hope you all have a lovely summer and the farmers have a splendid harvest.

Angela Turner

The late Brian Slaughter

Carole Slaughter and family would like to thank family, neighbours and friends for the kind messages of sympathy and donations received for 'About with Friends' following the sad loss of Brian.

Village Hall News

Edgefest 6 has been and gone and despite the high winds a great night was had by all. We sold 200 tickets (a sell-out), raised £350 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance and it was lovely to see so many from our village including several of our new arrivals. Welcome all. Our next event will be a 70s/80s/90s disco on Saturday, 30th September. Tickets £10 (to include a buffet). Tickets from Jim on 07946854901 or James.frost59@hotmail.co.uk. Be there or be square!

Jim Frost

Hempstead

Hempstead Fete preparations are ongoing, ready for Sunday 6th August. We still need volunteers - cake makers, help with running some of the games and folk to help set up and dismantle. Of course, anything you have fit for the bric-a-brac stall, including books or suitable prizes would be most welcome. Fete news and updates will always be on the Notice Board page of the website www.hempstead-norfolk.co.uk If you have any thoughts or queries do contact Jonathan Neville 07836 675369 jneville@hempstead-norfolk.co.uk or Lesley Lennox 07446 777660 lesley.lennox@project21.ltd.uk. Many thanks to all the volunteers who turned up to help clean the



Jonathan Neville 07836 675369

outside of the Village Hall - it looks much smarter now!

Hempstead Arts weekend

is on 2nd & 3rd September.

Hempstead 200 Club

£50 Richard Mack; £25 Shelby Sanders; £10 Mitch Fitton; £5 N Sanders, Francis Feilden, Guy Matthews

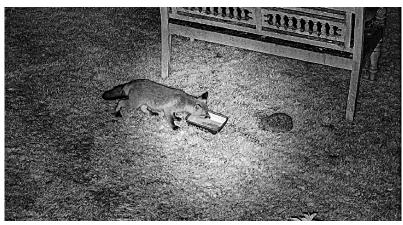


Coffee & Catchup

4th August 10:30 to noon: This month we will meet at Ash Tree Farm, Baconsthorpe courtesy of Corrine Youngs.

Crafty Creations

will not be holding any workshops in August but will be back on stream again in September - if anyone has any requests for a particular craft session, do contact Lesley 07446 777660 lesley. lennox@project21.ltd.uk or Moira 07973 712829 grasshopper@fast-mail.net



Fox cub and hedgehog meeting in Hempstead

Jonathan Neville

Plumstead

Church Repairs

Good news – a further grant of £5000 has been awarded, this time from the Norfolk Churches Trust, towards the repairs to the church building, and £1000 has been received from the Paul Bassham Trust to pay for the new tower ladders and other minor repairs. We now await responses from two other grant making bodies.



Harriet Rossi 577239

Michaelmas Fair

This year our village's floral celebration will take place over Michaelmas. As you will know, Plumstead church is dedicated to St Michael and All Angels and it seems right to celebrate this fact this year. We will be decorating on Friday 22nd September and would welcome contributions from your autumn gardens and hedgerows. For a week, 23rd to 30th September, there will be stalls of books, plants, crafts, seasonal produce, and children's toys, all for sale in aid of the restoration.

Most importantly, a throng of Angels is needed! Adults and children are invited to create angels, from any medium e.g. clay, card, wool, for display in this event. Please bring them to the church on or before Saturday 23rd September.

Matlaske

Our councillor Callum Ringer of the Gresham Ward will be visiting Matlaske on Monday 14th August between 11.30am and 12 noon and if you would like to meet him or contact him his email address is callum.ringer@north-norfolk.gov. uk and his phone number is 07824381519.

100 CLUB

£25 Wendy Kendle £10 Jack Donoghue £5 Felicity Rushmer



Duncan Wood 570293

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Classic cars at St Andrew's

Once upon a time drivers had to know how their bonnet catches worked - and over 100 who do will be bringing their classic cars to St Andrew's, Saxthorpe on Saturday August 5th. The church is a stop on the annual Norfolk Open Churches Classic Car Run, so come along between 10.15 and 11.30 to admire them. Cake stall and refreshments on offer, of course!



John Bircha 584290

Drama group show

On Sunday 20th August (5pm) the benefice Youth Drama Group will present their interpretation of the parable of the Good Samaritan at St Andrew's Church. The production is particularly aimed at families, so come along and see how our young actors present one of the best-known Bible stories.

Delays to Norwich Road houses

Plans for 38 houses south of Norwich Road, Corpusty, remain on hold because of 'nutrient neutrality' rules introduced last year to protect water quality in streams and rivers, including the Bure. The Parish Council is anxious for an update on this from Broadland Housing Association, and is concerned that affordable housing should not suffer as a result of higher costs. (See North Norfolk DC's website for further information, application PF/21/1990.)

National praise for home-grown biography

A lifetime fizzing with fun, unconventional views and outstanding talent has been chronicled by Sarah Knights in her second biography - much of it written in her small office at home in Corpusty.

Just published by Little, Brown Book Group, *Thoroughly Modern* tells the story of pioneering 1930s photographer Barbara Ker-Seymer and her extraordinary circle of friends. It is Sarah's second biography, with The Times describing it as 'Thoroughly entertaining... Knights expertly evokes this hedonistic period'.



"I'm delighted with the reviews, and naturally, relieved!" said Sarah.

Her fascination with Barbara Ker-Seymer grew from her first book, *Bloomsbury's Outsider*, an award-nominated biography of novelist David Garnett. One of Barbara's affairs was with the novelist, many years her senior. It was clear that to Sarah that Ker-Seymer was an extraordinary

woman, not only a ground-breaking photographer, she also had pioneering attitudes, hating racism and homophobia.

Yet neither book would have appeared if Sarah had not been absorbed by biography as a reader. A friend suggested the UEA's Life Writing courses, and after completing a Master's, Sarah researched the life of David Garnett for her PhD.

Years of research also lie behind *Thoroughly Modern*. After combing archives in London, Sarah would make copies and retreat to Corpusty to write. When lockdown kept her at home she had enough material to keep busy. The book is now widely available, including Amazon, although Sarah urges readers to support local bookshops if they can.

So what next?

"Still scratching my head about that one!" she said. "I'm sure an idea will spring to mind, but meanwhile it's nice to have a break . . . "

Uplifting Belles!

Marsham Belles brought the cheerful sound of hand bells to one of the



regular Wednesday Coffee Cake & Chat gatherings at St Andrew's. The well-known tunes were warmly received by an audience of more than 30 people, and some even had a go themselves (pictured).

Winner Bean!

Five-year-old Jack from Corpusty Primary School, a winner in the benefice bean-growing competition.





Kestrel, Hempstead Photograph by Jonathan Neville



10 11



August in the garden can be a month of contradictions: on the one hand you can have an abundant harvest and glorious show of flowers, on the other hand your garden can start to look somewhat jaded after the long spring and summer months. But help is on hand if your garden needs a bit of a lift! The other thing to remember is that August is very much a transitional month where we have one foot in summer the other stepping into autumn, and it's better to embrace that than be in denial! So, if your garden like ours is looking a bit spent in August, then the trick is to sharpen up the edges to help give it a lift, so give your hedging a trim and give your lawn edges a good cut too, both these will help pull the garden together. The other trick is to persevere with your dead heading to help keep your borders looking their best, it really does make a huge difference. Pots and planters will not only need daily watering but would also benefit from a good liquid seaweed fertilizer to get the most out of them.

So, looking forward to autumn in your kitchen garden it's worth working out which herbs you'd like to have on hand for your cooking. At this time of year, mint can look a bit sorry for itself, but fortunately mint responds quite well to radical revitalization. If like us you grow it in a pot (or in our case a metal bucket . . . pre drilled plenty of drainage) then you tip the whole plant out, chop it in half with a spade (I did say it was radical!) and re-plant the best-looking half. This rather drastic action seems to trigger the plant into putting on a lot more fresh growth, which is exactly what you want from mint. I have grown a lot of our herbs this year in galvanised buckets, which I have been really happy with. I have stuck with one type of herb per bucket and they have all really flourished. Whereas terracotta looks lovely, the smaller pots tend to dry out too quickly, but the buckets have worked really well and they look charming! I will still grow what I call my fresh green herbs in the raised beds like flat leaf parsley and dill and coriander and those three are very much on my list for re doing in August so I've got them for the autumn winter months. There will also be a concerted campaign to ensure there is a good sowing of autumn winter lettuce leaves too, to ensure there is some fresh leaves for the months to come.

All this forward thinking means we must take care to not forget to look after what we have now in the kitchen garden, and here that is primarily the tomatoes in the greenhouse, as we are now in the race to get as many ripened as possible, the best way to do that is to strip the lower leaves from the plants, this helps the tomatoes ripen (literally because the leaves are no longer shading the fruit) As the weeks pass you can keep stripping off the leaves until you mainly have just ripening fruit. Do keep an eye out for blight too, ventilation is key for (hopefully!) keeping that at bay. I have stuck with my resolve on not growing potatoes in our garden and last year (touches wood) was the first

year our tomatoes didn't get blight, which was just a joy. It is a sad price to pay but fortunately we do have a few really good honesty stalls out our way who sell freshly dug new potatoes . . . Thank goodness!

This month's question is from Joan White who wrote in saying she struggles to keep her large planted terracotta pots looking good in late summer, as I alluded to earlier any plant displays you have in pots do require you to go the extra mile this time of year. First up are some tips for when you plant up the pots next year and a confession! If you are planting in terracotta pots... whilst they are beautiful you will lose more water from them (evaporation from the porous terracotta) so a good tip is to line them with old compost bags to slow this process down. I would also think carefully about what compost you use in spring. Don't choose one you know dries out quickly, you need a good quality compost that retains moisture well. Now to the confession! We have moved (nearly) completely away from terracotta pots here to galvanised, which is much more our look but I also feel they are much easier to look after. We had lost too many clay pots to frosts and whilst it is preferable to 'bring' under cover any vulnerable terracotta pots before the frosts, logistically that just doesn't work here.

Now to how to look after them well now, the trick is to remember that even if you've used a good quality compost, most of the 'food' so to speak will have been used up by this point in the season. This is where watering with a good quality seaweed feed once a week is essential and when we get to September I would up that feed again just to get a last good 'show' from your pots. Hope that helps! Do keep the questions coming in! Email us at redmaple@btinternet as ever the most interesting question will be published next month.

Michelle and Mick McCarter

NATURE WATCH - The Harnser (Ardea cinerea) Arthur Pentney



"Thin as a Harnser" is an old Norfolk expression, and there are pubs at Stalham and Cley called 'The Harnser.' Unless you are a local this name is probably lost on you, for 'Harnser' is our own Norfolk name for what most people would call a grey heron.

This bird with its long, spindly legs, long neck and long beak could never be considered an attractive creature, but it does have a certain charm. Its usual haunt is water, and its favourite food is fish, so the Broads area is where you are most likely to see one. However, they are known to come into our locality looking for gardens with a fish pond

and so to partake of any expensive carp found within. They are not fussy eaters either, as their diet can also include small mammals, amphibians, and even baby ducks!

If you should spot a Harnser, it will probably standing next to water and absolutely motionless, just like a statue, but then immediately prepared to pounce on any unsuspecting prey.

My favourite view is to see them up in the air. They have an impressive six-foot wingspan, and with feet stretched right out behind and with a fairly slow, languorous flight, they do make an impressive sight as they make off for their heronry at the top of some tall tree.

Long may they stay in Norfolk, these old Harnsers of ours!

Corpusty & Saxthorpe

Proudly Present

The Great September Sausage Sizzle!



Corpusty Village Green Monday 4th September 4.00 - 6.00 pm

o cake stall

O Children's Races

OTUG O' War

O Sack Race

O vegan options

No Charge! - Donations towards village funds

Children's Activity Morning Edgefield Church



Last day of school holidays

Tuesday 5th September 10.30-12.00

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www.facebook.com/EdgefieldVillageHall Registered Charity No 1116035

Bike ride volunteers needed!

It's time to get your bike out of the shed, get some three-in-one oil on those Sturmey Archer gears and 'tickle up' the brakes.

The Norfolk Churches Trust annual sponsored bike ride takes place on Saturday 9th September, so register at norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk, sign up lots of sponsors and visit as many churches as you can between 9.00 and 5.00.

At St Andrew's there will be a warm welcome for all visitors and Charles Tyndall is looking for helpers to meet and greet at the church during the day. If you can spare an hour or two,

please send an email to charlestyndall@btinternet.com. Biscuits or spare fruit from the garden to offer our visitors would also be good.



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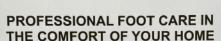
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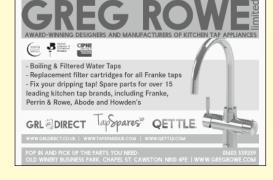
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