# Church & Village News

Baconsthorpe • Barningham Winter • Edgefield • Hempstead • Itteringham • Little Barningham Matlaske • Plumstead • Saxthorpe with Corpusty • Wickmere with Wolterton

### April 2016



Water on The Green, Edgefield by Jann Visconti

#### Bird Watch - The Robin

The robin has once again been voted

Britain's favourite bird. Perhaps it's

not too surprising, for the sight

of one of these friendly little birds

hopping across the lawn on a cold

winter's morning is enough to brighten

anyone's day. Besides, how many of

our homes are brightened up each

Christmas by colourful cards depicting

One way to attract robins to your garden is to feed them with meal

worms. They are fairly expensive to

buy, but robins absolutely love them,

and as a result they can become quite tame. However, their natural diet

consists of worms, spiders and various other insects, together with soft fruit

Robins sing throughout the year,

and can occasionally even be heard

at night, being fooled into singing by

bright street lighting. It is their wistful

late autumn and winter song that I find

the Robin Redbreast?

and berries.



Photograph by Jann Visconti

the most pleasing. Maybe it's simply because all the other birds have long fallen silent. However, I find there's something about their winter song that somehow fits the mood of a winter's day.

The numbers of robins are swollen in the winter by birds from Northern and Easter Europe, so the robin that has been in your garden this winter may soon be on his, or her, way back across the North Sea any day soon. May they have a safe journey.

Because robins are often seen hopping around the feet of gardeners when busy digging, they are often thought of as friendly birds. However, nothing could be further from the truth, for they are very aggressive birds and will seldom tolerate other robins encroaching on their territory. They've even been seen attacking their own reflection in windows and car wing-mirrors.

Although this year's mild winter weather has been a disappointment for many birdwatchers, it has been a God-send for our songbirds. With so many threats to our birds nowadays, it's heartwarming to know that a good number of our birds should have survived this winter. Soon our summer visitors will be arriving on our shores once again. A little-ringed plover has already been seen on the Norfolk coast on the 8th of March. Listen out for the song of the chiff-chaff, they should be arriving any day soon. If you're out walking by the coast, keep a look-out for returning sandwich terns or for wheatears arriving on our coastal fields. Good luck!

David Braithwaite



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**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.

**Church People** 

#### **Priest-in-Charge** Rev Marion Harrison

587977

Rev Brian Faulkner	577868
Oaktree Cottage, Cherry Tree Rd	
Plumstead NR117LQ	
briantfaulkner@btinternet.com	

Lay Reader 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
Itteringham	Ray Covell	587659
	Derek Turnbell	587259
Little Barningham	Pamela Daniels	577436
	Michael Daniels	577436
Matlaske	Thomas Courtauld	577250
Plumstead	Eleanor Faulkner	577868
Saxthorpe	Merlin Waterson	587610
	Heather Monks	587118
Wickmere	Tony Hurn	577309



Baconsthorpe	Jonathan Cooper	577527
Edgefield	John Seymour	587504
Hempstead	Paul Sanders	713217
Itteringham	Jimmy Fowell	587356
Lt Barningham	Harry Betts	577640
Matlaske & Barningham	Sara Buxton	577207
Plumstead	Alastair Brown	577447
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Imogen Waterson	587610
Wickmere	Leslie Ash	577566

#### What's On

#### APRIL

Fri 1	10.30am	Hempstead Coffee & Gossip Village Hall	
Wed 6	7.30pm	Hempstead Play Reading Village Hall	
Thur 7	10.30am	Matlaske St Peter's PCC AGM Barningham Hall	
Fri 8	7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Pat Nearney & Danny Platton Village Hall	
Fri 8	7.30pm	Edgefield Vestry Meeting & APCM Village Hall	
Tues 12	7.30pm	Plumstead The Norfolk Cranes Story Plumstead Church	
Wed 13	7.00pm	Hempstead Village Hall AGM Village Hall	
Fri 15	7.00pm	Edgefield Film Night: The Imitation Game Village Hall	
Sun 17	7.00pm	Hempstead Cyan Traces Jazz Night Village Hall	
Wed 20	2.00pm	Corpusty LinC Village Hall	
Wed 20	7.30pm	Hempstead Film Club Village Hall	
Thur 21	3.30pm	Corpusty Families Together Village Hall	
Fri 22	7.00pm	Edgefield Church Quiz Night Village Hall	
Fri 22	7.00pm	Wickmere Social Evening Village Hall	
Sat 23	10.00am	Corpusty LinC Table Top Sale & Coffee Morning Village Hall	
Sun 24	12.30pm	Little Barningham St George's Day Luncheon Village Hall	
Tues 26	10.00am	Baconsthorpe Plant Sale The Old Rectory	
Wed 27	2.30pm	Baconsthorpe Parochial Church Council AGM Ash Tree Farm	
Fri 29	6.00pm	Baconsthorpe Pop-Up Pub Village Hall	
Sat 30	10.00am	Wickmere Plant Sale Village Hall	

#### MAY

Mon 2	11.00am	Itteringham May Fayre	Playing Field
Thur 12	7 <b>.3</b> 0pm	Baconsthorpe Village Hall Comm	nittee Meeting Village Hall
Fri 13	7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Jumble Sale	Village Hall
Fri 13	7.00pm	Edgefield Film Night: TBA	Village Hall
Fri 13	7.00pm	Matlaske Quiz Night	The Stables, Barningham Hall
Mon 16	7.00pm	Plumstead Annual Parish Meetin	g Plumstead Church
Fri 27	6.00pm	Baconsthorpe Pop-Up Pub	Village Hall



#### **Regular Events**

#### **Baconsthorpe Village Hall**

Ducomounorpe		
7.30pm	Line Dancing - 711320	Mondays
10.00am	Diocesan Play Van - 07918 027092	Tuesdays during term time
7.30pm	Carpet Bowls - 711320	Tuesdays
Corpusty Village	Hall	
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Bure Valley Quilters & Stitchers	Second and fourth Mondays
	Norfolk Knitters £7 for a 4 week term of	
	Rita Taylor 587507 K2togp1@btinternet	
10.00am - 12noon	Art Group	Thursdays
9.30am - 11.30am	Toddler Group	Fridays during term time
Edgefield Village	Hall	
7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting	Third Monday
2.00pm	Tuesday Club	First Tuesday
2.00pm	Ladies Club	Second Wednesday
10.30am	Coffee Morning - Jeff Witts 587661	Last Thursday
Hempstead Villa	ge Hall	
10.00am	Charcoal Drawing £4 includes coffee, b	iscuits and paper Tuesdays
	Mike Thody 711282	1 1

Film Club - Mike 711282 / Yvette 712460

#### Mobile Library Van

7.30pm

14 April / 12	May /	9 June / 7	July / 4 Aug
Itteringham	11.00	NR11 7AP	The Common
	11.15	NR11 7AY	The Rectory
Lt Barningham	12.05	NR11 7AG	The Street
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
28 April / 26	May /	23 June / 2	21 July / 18 Aug
Saxthorpe	11.50	NR11 7BL	Old Post Office
Corpusty	12.10	NR11 6QP	School
	10 10	NID44 7DII	C IE CI
	12.40	NR11 7BU	Great Farm Cott's
			Adams Lane
	2.00	NR11 6QJ	
	2.00 2.15	NR11 6QJ	Adams Lane 3 Council Houses
Edgefield	2.00 2.15 2.30	NR11 6QJ NR11 6QL	Adams Lane 3 Council Houses 16 Council Houses
Edgefield	2.00 2.15 2.30	NR11 6QJ NR11 6QL NR11 6QL NR24 2AX	Adams Lane 3 Council Houses 16 Council Houses The Street
Edgefield 13 April / 11	2.00 2.15 2.30 3.15 3.40	NR11 6QJ NR11 6QL NR11 6QL NR24 2AX NR24 2AL	Adams Lane 3 Council Houses 16 Council Houses The Street The Memorial
	2.00 2.15 2.30 3.15 3.40	NR11 6QJ NR11 6QL NR11 6QL NR24 2AX NR24 2AL <b>8 June / 6</b>	Adams Lane 3 Council Houses 16 Council Houses The Street The Memorial

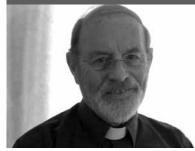
#### **Post Offices**

Third Wednesday

Baconsthorpe Vil	lage Hall			
Tuesdays	Tuesdays 12.30pm – 4.00pm			
Fridays	9.30am – 12.30p	9.30am – 12.30pm		
All services				
<b>Corpusty Stores</b>		587202		
Monday-Saturday	9.00am – 12.00r	noon		
All services including	g Euros			
Itteringham Villa	ge Shop	587325		
Monday-Saturday	9.00am - 5.00pr	n		
Sunday 9.00am – 12.00noon				
All services including Euros				
Holt Library		712202		
9 Church Street, Hol	t NR25 6BB			
Mon Wed Sat 9.30an	n-1.00pm			

Fri 9.30am-6.00pm

#### Reflection: A Little Bit of Paradise



Sandy beaches, full churches in almost constant sunshine with temperatures ranging from 24 – 29c in February. A little bit of paradise – what is there not to like about that? Early last month, my wife Judith and I set off on another of many return visits to the Caribbean island of Antigua. The trip was a combination of work in the Church of the North East Caribbean & Aruba Diocese, holidaying with our grandchildren and enjoying a midwinter break in a warm climate.

A former British colony in the eastern Caribbean, Antigua (9 by 12 miles) has some of the most wonderful beaches in the world and its 90 mile coastline boasts of 365 beaches – a beach for every day of the year. From very modest beginnings, the tourist industry is now the most important sector of the economy – with over 125,000 visitors each year contributing over 60% of all income and half of all jobs.



The contrast between the affluent tourists and the more modest life-styles of the locals is noticeable almost everywhere. Extended family occupation of small wooden dwellings with water fetched from stand pipes and walking or the use of donkeys or buses for transport add up to a tough life for many within the poorer sections of the community.

Among the local population church-life is very active wherever you go. Children are taken to church (usually by their Grandmothers) from an early age. Membership of the choir is popular and necessary as some times church services include as many as twelve hymns. The services begin early in the morning (6.30am or 8am) – before the heat of the day. They last well over two hours but nobody minds. Sunday church is a regular chance to dress up, share your faith and meet your friends & neighbours. They are just thankful to God for the gift of life each day. "No hurricanes, volcanoes or earthquakes have hit this year!"

The strength of their faith was summed up by a local preacher. He spoke of God's call to each of us – calling us to the safety of his arms, stretched out for us on the cross, strong enough and broad enough to meet all our needs and keep us safe. So many memories as the three weeks flashed by – but chiefly of a church that is very much alive and well!

**Rev Michael Banks** 

#### **Church Services for April**

#### Midweek Service Wednesdays 9.00am Plumstead

	,	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Easter 2	Exodus 14:10-end / Acts 5:27-32 / Joh	nn 20:19-31
9.00 9.15 10.45 11.00	Holy Communion <i>CW</i> Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> Matins Family Service	Little Barningham Baconsthorpe Hempstead Wickmere
10 <sup>th</sup> Easter 3	Zeph 3:14-end / Acts 9:1-6(7-20) / Jo	ohn 21:19-31
9.00 10.30 10.45 11.00 11.00	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> Community Sunday Matins Morning Praise Holy Communion <i>CWTL</i>	Itteringham Little Barningham Barningham Winter Saxthorpe Edgefield
17 <sup>th</sup> Easter 4	Gen 7:1-5,11-18 / Acts 9:36-end / Jo	hn 10:22-30
8.00 9.15 10.45 11.00	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> Matins Morning Prayer	Wickmere Plumstead Baconsthorpe Little Barningham
24 <sup>th</sup> Easter 5	Gen 22:1-18 / Acts 11:1-18 / John 13	3:31-35
9.00 9.15 10.45 11.00 11.00	Family Service Holy Communion <i>CWTL</i> Matins Morning Prayer <i>BCP</i> Holy Communion <i>CW</i>	Edgefield Hempstead Plumstead Itteringham Saxthorpe
1 <sup>st</sup> May - East	t <b>er 6</b> Ezek 37:1-14 / Acts 16:9-15 / Jo	ohn 51-9
9.00 9.15 11.00	Holy Communion <i>CW</i> Holy Communion <i>BCP</i> Family Service	Little Barningham Matlaske Wickmere

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#### Baconsthorpe

Fri 87.00pmPat Nearney & Danny Platton - Village HallTues 2610.00amPlant Sale - Old RectoryWed 272.30pmParochial Church Council AGM - Ash Tree FarmFri 296.00pmPop-Up Pub - Village Hall

#### 200 Club

 $\pounds 25$ John Cooper,  $\pounds 10$  Ann Gibbs,  $\pounds 5$  Barry Dennis, Pat Abbs



**Village Hall News** The Bingo was a great success with £300 being made towards the up-keep, repairs and new kitchen flooring. Thanks to everyone who supported us and gave prizes. We are having a Jumble Sale on Friday evening 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. Any good clothes, jumble or bric- a- brac would be appreciated. These may be left at the hall or ring John on 711320 if they need collecting. We hope we will see lots of you at Pat Nearney & Danny Platton on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm for a lovely evening of songs and squit: £7 per person to include refreshments. There will be a raffle. Tickets are on

sale now and going fast – don't be disappointed - book now. OUR NEXT MEETI NG IS ON THURSDAY 12TH MAY AT 7.30PM – ALL WELCOME

#### **Golden Congratulations**



golden wedding anniversary on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. John and Rosemary were married in 1966 at Baconsthorpe Church and Rev Francis Allen officiated. Four cousins were bridesmaids, and John's brother, Christopher, was best man. Rosemary remembers it was a wet morning but the sun came out in the afternoon to shine on the occasion. The reception was held in Hempstead village hall from where John and Rosemary settled into their cottage in Chapel Yard. They spent their honeymoon in London later that year.

To Rosemary and John Hardingham who celebrate their

#### New Arrival

Welcome to Poppy Ann Rix, and many congratulations to proud parents Heather and Karl. Poppy was born on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and is a beautiful first grandchild for Tracy and Adrian Rudd.

#### Pop-Up Pub

At the February Pop-up Pub the mobile fish and chip van called and provided the supper, which was enjoyed by many of us. This month the pub will pop-up on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Come along and meet your neighbours, and supper will be available.

#### Parochial Church Council AGM

This will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm at Ash Tree Farm. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

#### **Barningham Winter**

At the Annual PCC meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March Mrs Amelia Courtauld was elected as Churchwarden, Mrs Sara Buxton as Lay Chairman, Mrs Chuffy de Bunsen as Secretary and Mr John Perks as Treasurer until the end of the year. Mr Perks has given the church 35 years of his time and wonderful knowledge both as Treasurer and Fabric Officer, and we all offer him the hugest and the most sincerest thanks for all his sterling work. He has kept St Mary's church in the most wonderful condition, and whenever there has been any work to do he has had his

ladder there and dealt with the work to the highest standard. He has overseen



it Sara Buxton

many a project and is now working on the latest repair work which has been given HLF support.

The PCC hopes to run a Scrabble evening on 9<sup>th</sup> September at Barningham Hall and a wreathmaking day in the stables on 1<sup>st</sup> December. More information will be published about this at a later date but PLEASE do keep that evening and day free.

Please do let me know of any Barningham news. As we are a rather 'spread out' community I don't always get to hear of what has been happening in your bit of Barningham. If you don't want to speak to me (!) my email address is s.m.buxton@hotmail.co.uk.

#### Edgefield

Fri 87.30pmVestry Meeting & APCM - Village HallFri 157.00pmFilm Night: The Imitation Game - Village HallFri 227.00pmChurch Quiz Night - Village Hall



#### **Film Nights**

Please note that doors open at 7pm for a prompt start at 7.30pm. Entrance is  $\pounds 4.50$  or  $\pounds 5.50$  including Jim's wonderful home-made ice-cream.

Richard Peaver 587486

#### **Church News**

A reminder that our Annual Parochial Church Meeting is at the Village Hall on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. The Lent Course this year has been very good. Thank you, Marion.

The Quiz, which raises much needed funds for the church, is on Friday  $22^{nd}$  April at 7 pm, at the Village Hall. Your tickets, at £7.50, include a Fish & Chip Supper. Bring your own drinks and glasses, but tea and coffee will be included. If you can arrange a table for four, that is excellent, but odd numbers can be sorted out on the night. Tickets, which must be paid for when booked, from Janet, Richard and Angela.

The vestry roof has been recovered with a special felt. We still need a flower arranger for 2 weeks in May, and suggestions cutting the church car park grass in the summer. Help...

Do make a note of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 3 pm, when we shall be holding a Pets' Service, with tea afterwards! Marion will bring her snake, but don't worry, she will be safely tucked away until after the service. She is a royal python, totally harmless, and very friendly! It should be a fascinating afternoon, and probably rather noisy!

We hope to have a special service to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday during the weekend of 10 - 12 June, within the Benefice, and are aiming not to clash with other activities. Angela Turner

#### Village Hall News

March 12<sup>th</sup> saw our annual Irish Night, and yet again it was a huge success and it was lovely to see a lot of people from other villages at the event. Our name appears to be spreading. Although there are several months to go, make sure you pencil Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 6.00pm in your diaries. "Edgefest" is coming to The Green. With music from an excellent band, Hard Rain, a licensed bar, and a hog roast from Graves Butchers, we are in for a fantastic night. Be there or be square! Jim Frost

#### Hempstead

10.30am	Coffee & Gossip - Village Hall
7.30pm	Play Reading - Village Hall - call Su Summers 710702
7.30pm	Village Hall AGM - Village Hall
7.00pm	Cyan Traces - Village Hall - call Ian Summers 710702
7.30pm	Film Club - Village Hall
	7.30pm 7.30pm 7.00pm

#### 200 Club

 $\pounds 25$  A Mack  $\pounds 10$  J Loach  $\pounds 5$  C Inglis, D Durst, P Wallace

On 21<sup>st</sup> May 7-7.30pm Hempstead hosts its May Feast £9 adults and £5 for under 13s for this superb event featuring Graves' gammon and lamb roast, home-made salads and desserts. To make sure of your place for this ever-popular event, reserve places for you and your friends with Tim Scarff 711657 or Ian Summers 710702 (ask about vegetarian and other special requirements when booking). Bring your own drinks and there will be a raffle.

Best wishes to Dave Smith who has been recovering from a stroke in hospital for the last few months.

Congratulations to Iris Hicks who has become a great grandmother for the twenty-fifth time!



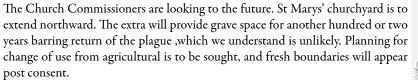
Sadly we are to report our wonderful Uncle Jumbo who has resided in the village for the last year has passed away. He had been responsible for cutting the grass on the play field and green, and came along with me to the last few church occasions and made himself known to everyone. For someone who had so little, he gave so much. He helped run a youth group in Sheringham, and was a regular at the Salvation Army in Briston. He had only returned in October from the Ukraine where he had spent a few weeks doing charity work, and was much loved in that country too. We will miss him enormously. God bless Uncle Jumbo.

Sharon Hanna

711769







Itteringham



Correspondence has been Eric Goodman undertaken with our popular 587278 MP, Norman Lamb, over the

cancellation of the proposed telephone mast a little way up Wolterton Road. The deadline for applications had been 31st October 2015, but planning was not agreed until 19th November. Someone did not 'mind the gap'! In spite of this writers' writings, the writings of others and also the return of writings, it seems unlikely that we shall enjoy coverage for a while longer. The Prime Minister has promised nationwide coverage by 2018, but it may be too soon to consume our pigeons! A friend who recently returned from Laos (a very poor and hilly country) reports that full coverage is available in all parts. In addition to mobile signals, powerful broadband seems elusive in Itteringham.

Sam Barker, late of The Bintree, leapt into the abyss of future a year or several ago and is now described by The National Portrait Gallery as a world class photographer. On 23<sup>rd</sup> January he took not images but instead a bride and she, Kate Rawlinson, lawyer and burlesque dancer, a groom. Burlesquing in her wedding

dress was a wow. Happiness in the long view to you from Itteringham. Elspeth and family are

There is money in the till and so it is possible, even likely, that our aged telephone box may soon achieve its long awaited transformation from relic to relevance as a feature of the village street scene once more. Installation of a working phone remains under discussion.

It is not as easy as simply multiplying ingredients to take account of greater numbers, and so Julie and Paul must be congratulated for their chilli con carne and the alternative without either chilli or carne which were both delicious and much enjoyed. The quiz was skilfully constructed and well balanced and lots of fun. A full house raised around £400 for church funds, and credit to Sandra Walker for her organisational excellence. Applause and encores to all on both sides of the house and to those who contributed prizes for the lottery. A very good evening was had!



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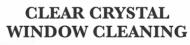
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#### Little Barningham

# Sun 1010.30amCommunity Sunday - Village HallSun 2412.30amSt George's Day Luncheon - Village Hall



Tucked away in a not very often seen part of the village, a new, very desirable residence has been constructed. A complete wooden structure and therefore erected quite quickly. It can

only be occupied by a hunter – hope the Politically Correct Brigade don't hear about it. The hunter of course is an owl! The Owl House is on the north side of the church, and was built and erected by none other than Michael Daniels. I hope the occupying owl appreciates

your handywork, Michael. Other work carried out by Michael – sills on the doors to the vestry and the chancel installed and stained. Work at the church to be carried out later in the year will be the redecorating of the vestry and chancel, one of the few jobs not done by Michael.

Mothering Sunday was agreed by all to be a lovely service, with two mothers reading the lessons. Posies of flowers were given and arranged by Margaret Betts. Everyone in the congregation received one, even the men. Congratulations Margaret, you made the right amount with none left over.

We will not have to wait for a nightingale to visit us to hear lovely singing. We have our own nightingale-Olivia Watson, who has a new CD out. You can see and hear her on you tube (OliviaEmmaWatson) and for more information Olivia's e-mail address is oliviaemmawatson@gmail.com

Community Sunday as usual was very successful, and not just for the village residents, so if you are free come and be part of a very convivial group and the good array of food and conversation. The next one is the 10<sup>th</sup> April.

The St George's Day Luncheon will be held on Sunday  $24^{th}$  April in the village hall. Roast beef with all the trimmings, plus vegetarian option followed by desserts all for £7.50. Places are limited so book by the  $17^{th}$  - telephone Sue 570091.

#### Matlaske

Thur 7 10.30am St Peter's PCC AGM - Barningham Hall

#### 100 Club

 $\pounds 25$  Richard Rowe  $\pounds 10$  Ruth March  $\pounds 5$  Chelsea Baynes

#### A Date for Your Diaries!

At 7.00pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May (lucky for the winners, at least!) there will be a quiz night at The Old Stables, Barningham Hall, by kind permission of Thomas and <sup>Floc</sup> Amelia Courtauld.

#### Mothering Sunday

On Mothering Sunday there was a full church. The service was taken by Judy Rosser in Marion's absence. Karen Neill played the organ. Everyone went home with a colourful bunch of daffodils.



577363

Derek Wintle

570097



#### Plumstead

7.30pm Norfolk Cranes Story - Plumstead Church Tue 12

We have joined the 21st Century and you can now contact me by email - see the front of the newsletter! I am always happy to include news of our village life.

#### The Norfolk Cranes Story

Tuesday 12 April, 7.30pm at the church, tickets £7 on the door; first come, first MaryLintott

served. The natural return of wild cranes to Norfolk is the subject of this illustrated 577718 talk. Chris Durdin, ornithologist and son of John Durdin, long time resident of Plumstead, is kindly coming to share his experiences and involvement in observing and monitoring this amazing event. Chris recently appeared on Countryfile talking about the cranes. He will also show a short film of their reintroduction in Somerset.

#### Clean for The Queen for Her Majesty's 90th Birthday

Driving rain did not deter Plumstead Parishioners who supported the Clean for The Queen campaign with a first class tidy up in and around their village collecting no less than fourteen bags of rubbish, six old tyres, bits of piping and various paraphernalia. Alastair Brown, PC Chairman, said "Despite the weather, we have helped to make the area look at its best for The Queen's 90th birthday and village event later in the year".



#### **Bunting Making**



Five of us arrived at Doreen Hebron's house to make an organised plan of attack with material, scissors, template, ironing board and everything needed to make some new village bunting. Some of us have taken sewing home, so if you are interested in helping out please email Mary.

#### Monday 16 May Plumstead Church

Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm and Annual Meeting of Plumstead Parish Council 7.15pm

#### BBQ Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> 5pm

Look out for Carolyn and Steve who will be bringing the invitations round the Village during April. Adults £6 Children under 16 free.

Steve and Pam Small have, by Norfolk standards, only been with us for a short time but during their stay they became fully involved in the village. Steve became a stalwart on the PEG Committee, and Pam (using her experience with second-hand books) with Steve were an enormous help in organising the two Book Sales we had for PEG. They were often to be found in their immaculate garden and we shall miss their cheery waves when they were kneeling, hard at work, weeding their front borders. The Parish Council and the village thank them for donating a picnic bench to the Village Pond. We now have no excuse not to take a picnic and just enjoy what our lovely village has to offer. We wish them well in their new home in Aylsham.

Dave and Frankie Tull have moved into Fenmoor, and Eric and Libby have moved into Tudor Cottage. We welcome them all to our village and hope that they will enjoy our small community.

Thursday lunch hour or Saturday evenings

www.aylshammusic.org

#### Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Wed 13	7.00pm	Saxthorpe St Andrew's Church AGM - St Andrew's Church	đ
Wed 20	2.00pm	LinC - Corpusty Village Hall	Ł
Thur 21	3.30pm	Families Together - Corpusty Village Hall	5
Sat 23	10.00am	LinC Table Top Sale & Coffee Morning - Village Hall	3
Sat 23	10.00am	Ringing for England - St Andrew's Church	s
Please also	o see Regular	Events page 5	



Judith Banks

Sincere condolences are offered to Lesley Page on the death of his wife, Betty, who 587319

died in February. Betty had been an active member of most of the village societies. She had been PCC Secretary for many years, as well as a teacher and was a much-travelled lady. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Trish Porthouse writes: "Regrettably, Short Mat Bowls' Roll-Ups will have to be suspended for the foreseeable future, due to lack of support. However, if there is anybody out there who would like to play, please contact Trish Porthouse 587667.

#### Dog Owners - A Plea

The newly refurbished children's playground in The Street, Corpusty is being used less by children and more by irresponsible dog owners. The dog waste is not only unsightly, but is unhygienic and toxic. The waste should be bagged by the owners and disposed of in bins. Children of playground age do not always wash their hands and may ingest harmful bacteria. **Please bag it and bin it!** 

#### **Mothering Sunday**

The Mothering Sunday weekend was more like winter than early spring weather-wise, with snow flurries and heavy rain battering the opening daffodils. We are very fortunate having skilled craftsmen in the two villages and beyond, many of whom advertise in these pages. Two such craftsmen worked (outside) through a snow blizzard, sleet, heavy rain and wind only stopping for a hot drink. Thank you gentlemen, for enduring the weather and a job very well done.

#### **Table Top Sale**

LinC are running a Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning at Corpusty Village Hall, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 10.00am to 1.00pm. Tables £5 each, to book ring 584142 or 584196. Proceeds to a local charity: 'Recycle things you no longer need'.

Snowdrops seemed to find the winter weather confusing. When children from Corpusty Primary visited in January, some of The Old Rectory snowdrops had been out for weeks, but they lasted long enough for the party of the Friends of St Andrew's, Saxthorpe on 6<sup>th</sup> February and many were still going strong at the end of the month.

#### **Ringing for England**

On Saturday  $23^{rd}$  April, St George's Day, the church tower of St Andrew's at Saxthorpe will be open for visitors to hear some ringing and have a go at ringing. The ringers will be performing from 10.00 until 10.30 and then will be on hand to show visitors the bells and to help them have a go at ringing. We are looking for more people to join us ringing bells – come along and have a go – it's good fun. The bells at St Andrew's are one of the smallest rings in England and the second smallest in Norfolk. This is part of the RINGING FOR ENGLAND celebration when many church bells across England will be rung. Please come and give us a look and try the ancient art of campanology.



Saxthorpe church from Corpusty church yard by Roger Last

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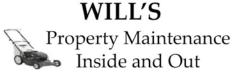
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#### Wickmere with Wolterton

Social Evening - Village Hall Fri 22 7.00pm Plant Sale - Village Hall Sat 30 10.00am

Spring is certainly trying to make an appearance now. The flowers are putting on a wonderful display, the days are drawing out, and even the sun has made an effort to brighten things up.



570043

Paddy has received a cheque from Norfolk Churches Trust for £87.88 for the Bike Ride. This will help boost the funds.

Many thanks to Richard for stepping in and cutting the grass around the Village Hall, until Vic is able to take over again.

Judy has been asked to chase up the Memorial Bench and ascertain when it will finally be in place. Watch this space...

On 6<sup>th</sup> March a lovely Mothering Sunday service was held. Many thanks to Michael Banks for the service and to Judith for the lovely posies and simnel cake. Well done to Laurie who was a very willing helper. And thank you to Penny for stepping in and playing the organ.

George will be holding her annual Plant Sale on Saturday 30th April 10-12pm at the Village Hall. Come along and enjoy a cuppa and a bun, and invest in some lovely plants. If anyone has any plants they want to donate to the sale, George is happy to look after them. Please drop them (not literally!) in at number 8. Fingers crossed for a sunny day.

The re-start of monthly Social Evenings begin on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. The subsequent Social Evenings will be on the last Friday of the month. Look out for posters.

The Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations, nationally, will be over the weekend of 11th and 12th June. George has come up with an idea for a Village Picnic at the Village Hall to commemorate this, but as yet, it is still a work in progress and details need to be thrashed out. If anyone has any other ideas on how to mark this occasion, please get in touch with Richard Hembling.

Birthdays for April are: George, who will be 18 on 15th and Emma Riches who will be 15 on 24th. Many happy returns!

Speaking on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, past and present, we would like to say a HUGE Thank You to Gill and Dom for all their help over the years. Not only as chairman and secretary, but for their tireless contribution to all village activities. They are a lovely couple who are sadly leaving the village for pastures new. We wish them all the very best, and don't forget there will always be a small part of Norfolk you can call home. Good Luck, we'll miss you.

Well done to Mark Sayers who has been elected onto the Parish Council, good luck to him. He also informs me that Jake has moved to New Zealand for a years work, good luck to him too.

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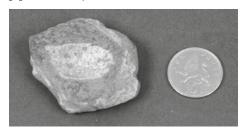
#### **History Watch**



name is possibly derived from the French word 'mousquette', a sparrow hawk; firearms were often named after animals.

#### Clay Pipe This was fou Doy. Clay pi of this one is Clay pipes bot in comp

meant they were difficult to use and easily broken, which is why we seem to find bits of clay pipe everywhere. It is claimed that unlike other materials, a well made pipe gives a "pure" smoke with no flavour addition from the pipe bowl. This example has a cockerel either side, decorating the pipe beautifully.



#### Medieval Pot

The pottery has been recorded by the team at Norwich Castle Museum and has been dated  $13^{th}$ - $15^{th}$  century, it is described as a thumb pressed handle attachment of medieval pottery, externally lead glazed Grimston ware in abraded condition, found also in Hempstead.

Sharon Hannah

Wordsearch solution from page 24

+	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	Т	С	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	$^+$	
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Found in Hempstead and dated roughly between the English Civil War (1642-1651) and 1750. From a muzzle loaded, smoothbore firearm, fired from the shoulder and designed for the infantry. Musket calibres ranged from 13-19mm, and they were only accurate to about 100-150 yards. The

This was found in Holt by Sharon's mother, Sue Doy. Clay pipes are difficult to date, but the date of this one is probably circa 1650-1820.

Clay pipes were unglazed and they burnt very hot in comparison to other types of pipes, which

#### Weather Wordsearch

See how many weather words you can find in the grid. Words can go forwards, backwards, up, down, across or diagonally.														
	CLOUDY DRIZZLE FOGGY FROST GALES													
		HAIL	N	IIST	OVERCAST			SHC	SHOWERS			HINE		
G	F	W	Q	М	С	S	Т	С	R	R	S	L	Y	V
S	L	Н	D	Y	L	S	М	L	Е	Κ	Т	Т	Y	М
Ν	R	Р	J	М	А	G	С	0	U	S	В	F	А	Y
Е	U	V	V	С	D	Р	Κ	U	Ι	Р	Т	Y	Ι	А
J	R	Ν	R	М	Κ	R	Q	D	М	Ι	V	Y	J	L
Р	L	Е	S	J	Ζ	Ο	Ι	Y	А	V	S	Н	Е	Ι
J	V	Е	Р	F	L	Ν	G	Ζ	Т	Х	Κ	С	F	А
0	V	Ζ	Ι	V	Ι	Q	Y	Р	Ζ	Ν	V	0	Е	Н
Р	Н	S	S	Η	0	W	Е	R	S	L	G	Р	Ν	G
Κ	S	Ζ	Е	L	Н	G	J	Т	Н	G	Е	Т	Ι	Р
Ι	Ζ	L	Ζ	L	С	А	J	J	Y	Р	S	Т	Н	R
Т	S	0	R	F	А	С	Q	Ι	F	Ι	S	Κ	S	R
Т	Y	Ι	Y	V	G	G	D	U	М	Y	Е	W	Ν	J
Y	F	S	V	Q	С	Р	С	R	V	С	R	Т	U	L
А	Ζ	Y	U	Р	Т	Ι	0	L	U	Ζ	U	М	S	Т

See page 23 for solution

#### Grow Your Own Hedgehog (well, sort of...)

Things you will need:

- Some old nylon tights (ask, don't just take them!)
- Some earth mixed with sand
- Cress or grass seeds
- A saucer
- Two buttons

Cut a hedgehog-sized tube of nylon, fill it with the earth and sand. Tie at both ends. Press the buttons in place as eyes. Cover with cress seeds. Keep it moist. After a few days, your hedgehog should appear!

Take a photo of it and email it to the editor. If it looks anything like a hedgehog, we'll publish it!

#### Newsletters Past: April 1887

#### HINTS TO COTTAGE GARDENERS FOR APRIL.

Those who have acted on the previous magazine hints will now begin to see the result of taking time by the forelock, as some of their crops will now be beginning to show above ground. Stick the peas "as soon as possible" for protection, and earth up the beans. Let it be borne in mind by those persons who look forward to exhibiting at the Summer Show, that it is the "early" bird who takes the prize in most cases. It is not necessary to sow the whole of a crop at one time, as is generally done, let part be put in in good time, and let the rest follow in a week or two. Another thing I would call especial attention to is this, give your ground a change of crops as often as possible. The farmer knows that if he were to plant the same crop iu the same field year after year, his crop would be small, he therefore changes it every year. Why should not the gardener follow the same plan ? Lay this hint to heart therefore. If possible do not plant the same vegetable in the same spot two years running. This must specially be attended to in the case of vegetables that are attacked by any disease. Anyone reading these notes will often find lime recommended for different purposes. I am a firm believer in lime for gardening. When the garden is dug over it is a capital plan to dig in a good sprinkling of lime. It purifies the soil, and it destroys the insects. Messrs. Slug, Grub, Worm, and Co. hate lime, even more than the gardener hates the above-named company. As the early potatoes come up this month, earth up well to protect their stems from spring frosts. If you see a frost is coming on, cover the tops quite up, if not with soil, then with dry fern, or litter, or leaves. Should the frost take you unawares, and the tops be frozen, all depends upon how much of the stem is left uninjured. Be careful therefore not to neglect this earthing up as the plants grow. Late potatoes should go in as soon as they begin to sprit, and too much care cannot be taken with the first sprits, as the chief strength of the tuber is in them. Handle them more carefully than eggs. Lettuces look well, and are handy for cutting, if planted down the sides of walks; and they cannot be pulled too young, not only for the benefit of the plants left in the beds, but they relish capitally with mustard and cress. These salads may be sown, tended, gathered, and I might add "eaten" too, at intervals during the summer by the juvenile members of the family.

Towards the end of the month a sowing of broccoli and late cauliflower should be made. I would urge the necessity of pricking all green crops out as soon as they can be handled, as by the little extra labour is gained the advantage of having good stiff plants to transplant by and bye between the potatoe rows. Sow a few kidney beans at the beginning of this month, but wait until the end to sow the main crop. Keep the pot boiling with peas and beans. The wrinkled peas may be used with safety this month. Flower seeds may be sown in the early part of this month; they will start sooner if sown (as soon as the ground is workable) after a shower, and covered with fine light soil, with a branch or two over them to keep off the birds. Mind the liquid manure tub is in good order, and make good use of it (but not too strong) as the window plants fill their pots with roots. Gardens that are allowed to grow a good crop of weeds can hardly be expected to grow good vegetables, fruit, or flowers, so cut them down, or better still, pull them up while they are young.

A. H. UPCHER.



#### Mike Strong's Recipe of the Month

From Recipes from the Baconsthorpe Newsletter published in the year 2000 Illustrated by Yvonne Law Mike Strong is currently in New Zealand

#### EASTER CHOCOLATE DIP

Let the children enjoy their eggs - this gem is definitely for the big boys and

girls!

#### Ingredients

7 oz Bourneville dark plain chocolate

- 4 oz ratafia biscuits
- 2 tblsp rum dark

4 oz butter

4 oz caster sugar

1/2 pint milk

2 eggs

2 tblsp whipped cream

#### Method

- Melt chocolate in bowl over a pan of hot water 1
- Soak the ratafias in the rum 2.
- Cream the butter and sugar together then add to the 3 melted chocolate
- Put the milk and eggs into a saucepan and stir over a 4 gentle heat to thicken (to form a custard) it should be enough to coat the back of a wooden spoon. Be careful not to boil it.
- Slowly pour the custard into the chocolate mixture, 5 stirring continuously
- Leave in a cold place or refrigerator until it begins to 6. thicken and set.
- Spoon 1/2 the mixture into a glass dish and cover with a 7. layer of ratafias, leaving out some for the top.
- Continue to cover the biscuits with the remaining mixture 8.
- Swirl the cream through the centre and arrange the 9 remaining ratafias round the edge
- Refrigerate for several hours until required 10.
- Serve with fruit salad or poached fruit. 11.



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hursday evenings from April 14<sup>th</sup> until May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm £7.50 per session Aneesh de Vos & Sebastian Deans 07789 071761 shiatsu.sebastian@gmail.com

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#### Meet the Neighbours - Merlin Waterson



Immediately after leaving King's College, Cambridge, in 1970 where he read History of Art, Merlin Waterson joined the National Trust and stayed there for the next 33 years. He spent 11 years in Shropshire and Wales before moving to Norfolk in 1981 as regional director for East Anglia, overseeing the Trust's work in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk. Merlin must have had one of the most enviable offices in England in a wing of Blickling Hall. For the last three years of his career until he retired in 2004 he was the Trust's Director of Historic Properties.

Since moving to East Anglia Merlin and his wife Imogen have lived in the equally enviable Old Rectory at Saxthorpe and are pillars of their community, Merlin as a church warden at St Andrew's and Imogen as chair of the parish council and as a governor of Corpusty School.

It was on Merlin's watch and with his direct involvement that the Trust acquired Sheringham Park and the wonderful Orford Ness off the coast of Suffolk, which is as near as you can get, he says, to a natural landscape. It was once home to the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. He still enjoys both properties - he is a talented painter and has painted at Orford and he and Imogen enjoy walking through Sheringham Park to the cliffs at Weybourne.

Ever the vulgar journalist, I asked him for his National Trust 'top of the pops', his favourite Trust properties. Two were Sheringham and Orford. The others were Erddig near Wrexham (he again played a central role in its acquisition) and Plas Newyd, both in Wales. In his handsomely produced book *A Noble Thing, The National Trust & Its Benefactors* (Scala), Merlin recalls sunrise over Snowdonia and the Menai Strait, seen from the upper floor of Plas Newydd on Anglesey, and toast and peanut butter teas at Erdigg.

Merlin has had a busy retirement. Until last year he was chairman of the Architectural Heritage Fund and a commissioner of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. He is still a trustee of the East Anglia Art Fund and Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust. As well as painting, he enjoys engraving and exhibits with the Society of Wood Engravers.