

Church & Village News

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

April 2025

The Path to Plumstead Church

Photograph by Mike Ray-Jones

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Hempstead	Paul Sanders	713217
Matlaske & Barningham	Vacant	
Plumstead	Brian Faulkner	577868
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Guy Hodgson	575277

Parish Council Websites

Baconsthorpe
<https://baconsthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconsthorpepc>
Edgefield
<https://edgefield-pc.gov.uk/>
Hempstead
<https://hempsteadpc.wixsite.com/hempsteadpc>
Matlaske & Barningham
<https://matlaske-pc.gov.uk/>
Plumstead
<https://plumsteadpc.wixsite.com/plumsteadpc>
Saxthorpe & Corpusty
<https://corpustyandsaxthorpe-pc.gov.uk/>

District Councillors

Corpusty, Edgefield, Saxthorpe
 Andrew Brown 07970 298695
 andrew.brown@north-norfolk.gov.uk
Baconsthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske & Barningham, Plumstead
 Callum Ringer 802784
 callum.ringer@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Local MP

Steffan Aquarone MP
 Steff.aquarone.mp@parliament.uk

Village Correspondents

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Matlaske duncan.wood@cantab.net	Duncan Wood 570293
Plumstead harrietwormald@hotmail.com	Harriet Rossi 577239
Saxthorpe with Corpusty birchalljc@aol.com	John Birchall 584290

Village Websites

www.baconsthorpe.org
www.corpustyandsaxthorpevillagehall.org.uk
hwww.hempstead-norfolk.co.uk/village-hall.html
www.plumstead.org.uk

Church People

Rector Reverend Canon David Longe 577252
Asst Curate Reverend Judy Rosser 587584
Authorised Worship Asst Prof Alain Wolf 577292
Lay Minister Dr Jane McLarty 07791 870104

Church Wardens

Baconsthorpe	Hazel Martin	07879 414577
	Harry Steel	07711 890360
B Winter	Amelia Courtauld	577250
	Rebecca Hill	07960 739593
Edgefield	Emma Cletheroe	587049
	Alison Mawson	587292
Hempstead	Airlie Inglis	577440
Matlaske	Thomas Courtauld	577250
	Duncan Wood	570293
Plumstead	Eleanor Faulkner	577868
Saxwith Corp	Lesley Last	587782
	Jill Perry-Warnes	584 221

Safeguarding Officers

Catherine McMahon
 01263 577357 / cmcmahon161@gmail.com

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

County Councillor

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

What's On

APRIL

Wed 2	10.00am	Baconsthorpe Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Fri 4	7.00pm	Corpusty Film Night - Gladiator II	Village Hall
Sat 5	10.00am	Corpusty Village litter pick	Corpusty Green
Mon 7	2.00pm	Hempstead Crafty Creations Hessian Rings	Village Hall
Sat 12	10.30pm	Hempstead Family Easter Craft Day	Village Hall
Sat 12	10.00am	Corpusty Spring Wreath Making	Village Hall
Thur 24	10.00am	Hempstead Crafty Creations Garden Hangers	Village Hall
Fri 25	6.00pm	Baconsthorpe Pop-Up Pub	Village Hall
Sat 26	10.00am	Matlaske Little Lifts Trail Run	Barningham Hall

MAY

Fri 3	7.00pm	Corpusty Film Night	Village Hall
Sun 4	10.00am	Guist Stately Car Boot	Sennowe Park
Wed 7	10.00am	Baconsthorpe Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Sat 10	7.00pm	Matlaske Quiz	Baconsthorpe Village Hall
Wed 14	10.00am	Saxthorpe Plant Swap Day, Coffee, Cake & Chat	Church
Fri 30	6.00pm	Baconsthorpe Pop-Up Pub	Village Hall
Sat 31	7.00pm	Saxthorpe Evening Concert - Serendipity	Church

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

June 8	Blickling Lodge Open Gardens	Aug 2	Hempstead Fete Fair
June 28-29	Edgefield Open Gardens	Oct 10	Saxthorpe Harvest Supper
July 12	Baconsthorpe Fete	Dec 7	Matlaske Christmas Party
July 26	Matlaske Music + Pizza in the Park	Dec 13-14	Saxthorpe Living Nativity

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Mobile Post Office Van
 Wednesdays 10.45am - 11.30am Village Hall
Corpusty Stores 587726
 Monday-Friday 9.00am - 12.00noon
Itteringham Shop 587325
 Monday + Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

Holt Library

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB 712202
Staffed Hours
 Tues 10am-7pm / Wed 2pm-7pm
 Fri 10am-7pm / Sat 1pm-4pm
Unstaffed Hours
 8am-7pm weekdays Sat 8am-4pm Sun 10am-2pm
 accessible with Open Library Access

Sanders Bus Timetables

<https://sanderscoaches.com/timetables>

Mobile Library Van

10 April / 8 May / 5 June

Matlaske	12:40	NR11 7AQ	Old Post Office
Plumstead	13:00	NR11 7LG	Walnut Farm
Baconsthorpe	14:30	NR25 6LJ	Council Bungalows
	14:50	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 Cottis

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

Banking Hub

Holt Community Centre, Kerridge Way, NR25 6DN

9am-5pm weekdays
 Monday NatWest Thursday Santander
 Tuesday TSB Friday Lloyds
 Wednesday Barclays

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.

Letter from the Rector - Reverend Canon David Longe

01263 577252 / 07881 950294 / rector@matlaske.org.uk

Dear All

It is difficult to know how to react to the events in the world since the beginning of the year. How are we to react as we watch those in political power slog it out?

While the church has at various points wielded political power, this is not its nature. We only need to remember that Jesus was nailed to a cross like a criminal, had to borrow someone else's grave, before baffling all and rising from the dead. This is not power on a political level, but on a more profound level that we can - I believe - only experience through prayer.



Prayer is the gift we are given by the Divine. While it is easy to write off, it is wrong to do so, for prayer is revealing and inspiring. Prayer shifts our perspectives from the impossible to the possible, from the human to the Divine. It requires us to trust that God is – in the mess of all – in control.

We see this in Holy Week, which is almost upon us, with Jesus revealing who he is through the mystery of the last supper – breaking bread which he speaks of as his body; and giving wine which he speaks of as his blood. And on Palm Sunday the crowd hail Jesus as King, yet by Good Friday they shout “crucify him”.

Throughout this drama, Jesus does not point to himself as in control, but to God being in control, echoed in his final words on the cross: “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” (Luke 23.46)

These words show the intimacy, the trust, that Jesus has with the Father. It is to this that we are invited through prayer.

Entering into prayer does require a conscious effort to soften our hearts to the concept that there is a Divine and realisation that prayer will not always be answered as one expects. We need to forgo our egos and make ourselves at one with the interests of God.

For the church, the interests of God are revealed in Jesus. This is no guarantee of an easy life – the lives of the saints illustrate that. But it is an assurance that God is with us. To seek to encounter God in prayer is not about getting a ‘handle’ on God to shape our lives to our own designs. It is a selfless act to allow God to take control requiring us to enter the unknown and encounter the unfathomability of God. For God’s ways (as Isaiah writes) are not our ways, God’s thoughts are not our thoughts.

Does this help us when we are faced with such a moving political landscape? This question can only be answered by experiencing prayer. For me as a parish priest my first response must be prayer trusting that whatever the craziness in the world God’s goodness will prevail. his is the fundamental message of Easter that God’s goodness, revealed in Jesus, is more powerful than anything we can imagine.

May God be with you

David



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for April - Holy Week & Easter Services

The final part of Lent, Holy Week, is a special season for prayer and reflection. The services are open to all, and each has its own character, from the quiet reflection of Compline and Stations of the Cross, to the moving traditions of Maundy Thursday and the solemnity of Good Friday. These allow pauses and reflections on the Easter story as we follow the events of Holy Week. Easter Day is a joyful celebration of love conquering all and the hope of resurrection - whether greeting the dawn on the hill at Corpusty or gathering for an uplifting service in Edgefield for the whole family. All are welcome, whether you are familiar with church, curious, or never been before. Come as you are, and I pray you find a warm welcome in our churches this Easter.

6th	Lent V	
8.30am	Matins	Matlaske
10.30am	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
13th	Palm Sunday	
10.30am	Eucharist - Preacher Revd Richard Lamey Meet at Barningham Hall to Process to the Church	Barningham Winter
14th	Holy Monday	
6.00pm	Stations of the Cross	Matlaske
15th	Holy Tuesday	
6.00pm	Compline	Edgefield
16th	Holt Wednesday	
6.00pm	Meditation	Hempstead
17th	Maundy Thursday	
6.00pm	Eucharist with foot washing - Preacher Revd Richard Lamey	Plumstead
18th	Good Friday	
2.00pm	Veneration of the Cross Children's activities in the Village Hall during the service	Baconsthorpe
20th	Easter Sunday	
6.00am	Dawn Service	Corpusty Church on the hill
10.30am	Eucharist	Edgefield
27th	Easter II	
10.30am	Eucharist	Hempstead
4.00pm	Family Church	Edgefield
4th May	Easter III	
8.30am	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
10.30am	Eucharist	Matlaske

Tuesdays 10am-12noon Country Mice Toddler Group Baconsthorpe Village Hall
Wednesdays 10am - Coffee, Cake & Chat - St Andrew's Saxthorpe

Details of all our services: achurchnearyou.com/benefice/26-271D/

Baconsthorpe

200 Club

£50 H Martin, £25 J Benton, £10 W Peck

Church News

April 18th at 2pm (Good Friday) there will be a service in St Mary's to 'Venerate the Cross'. Do hope lots of you will come along and that the sun will shine.

May 10th – church clear up. This is a gentle reminder to save this date. We will gather at 10am to tidy up the churchyard; attack the chicken wire inside the porch and clean the interior of the church, The urn will be boiling for tea and coffee. Do come and join us, bring any tools appropriate.

Noah's Ark

There is within the church a designated children's area which has toys, books and all kinds of treats. Corinne Youngs and her trusty band of helpers are now creating a mural of Noah's Ark to hang on the wall in this area. I thought it would be nice to share a couple of photos of their lovely work thus far.



Hazel Martin
07879 414577

Thai Evening

Friday 18th April Baconsthorpe Village Hall
6.30 pm
Traditional Chicken Satay, (Peanut Sauce)
or
Colourful Pork Green Curry
Accompanied by Fragrant Coconut Rice
(vegetarian options for both choices)
£10 cash on the night.
Please book on 07729972386

Welcome to Tuppenny Grove

I'm happy to extend a warm Baconsthorpe welcome to Sarah and Jason who moved next door to me in December. I hope they are enjoying our lovely country walks with Alfie and Ginny their two lovely spaniels.

Baconsthorpe Book Club

In the last issue I spoke of a new social event – a book club. So far only two people have shown a keen interest. Please do get in touch and join us. Why watch repeats on TV when

there are so many terrific books to read? And of course there is the added incentive of drinks and nibbles in good company! Call or text me on 07879 414577 or Jo Brannigan on 07787 533212.

Did you know that in 1865 there was a shooting at Baconsthorpe Rectory?

In that year the Reverend Arthur Upcher was shot and seriously wounded. The assailant was an orphan lad, 15 years old named Frederick Butcher. He was a nephew of the rector's coachman and while apprenticed to a carpenter in the village he was allowed to live at the rectory with the Upchers where he was treated as one of the family. Subject to sulky moods Frederick would often shut himself into his bedroom for days, refusing to join the family for meals. However at night when the family retired he would wander around the house. One particular night he went

into the rector's study and found a pistol in a drawer. The next day as the lad refused to leave his room for work the rector forced the door and the boy fired the gun. Although he was severely wounded Reverend Upcher raised the alarm and Butcher was arrested. Later when held at Holt police station Butcher insisted it was an accident, but to no avail. Later that night he was lodged in the prison at Mousehold Norwich. My thanks to Tommy Worboys for providing me with this article – I have summarised the content.

Village Hall News

Pop Up Pub – Friday 25 April. Fish pie on the menu from 6.30pm. Bar opens at 6pm

The village fete is on Saturday July 12 from 2pm. There are still numbers left for the 200 Club where you could win £50 for £1 a month sub. See village website for details.

We are looking for some new members to join us on the village hall committee. If you are interested to find out more please call Piers Warner on 07493 227391.

A Warning for Dog Walkers

Diana Muir of Manor Farmhouse, Baconsthorpe is appealing for information following a terrible injury to a friend's terrier. "A friend who was staying with me was walking along the track that leads from my house down to Plumstead Hall Farm with his small terrier" writes Diana. "It darted off and he thought it would follow him when he turned back but when he got to my house the little dog wasn't with him so he went back up the track and found the dog lying on the ground unable to move and clearly in a bad way. No immediate evidence of anything on the outside but, the vet hospital in Taverham realised that he had massive internal bleeding as a result of a bad blow to his stomach which they said was almost certainly a vicious kick. I am appealing for any information or witnesses." Anyone who has information can contact Diana on 07435 294510.



Barningham Winter

Bakers Needed!

Help us to support people with breast cancer by baking for our upcoming charity event!

The Little Lifts Trail Run
Saturday 26th April

For details contact Georgie at:
07988189910 or georgie@norfolkcardiac.com



little lifts

Calling our Easter Chicks

A flowerpot will be delivered to your home soon and please bring it along to the stable yard at Barningham Hall between 10am and 12pm on Wednesday, 16th April and spend the morning decorating it. If you haven't been given one, there will be one here for you, so come along and join in. Paints, ribbons, feathers and flowers and all sorts of things to make it look beautiful. Refreshments will be on offer.

We have heard that the Easter Bunny is planning on visiting the churchyard of St Mary's Barningham Winter so come prepared for and a hunt and see what you can find. You might even spy a few spring lambs on your walk to the church. So come along and join the fun.



Sara Buxton
577207

Little Lifts Trail Run

Be quick if you want to join the Little Lifts Trail Run at Barningham Hall on 26th April (featured on last month's cover). There are 10km 20km or 30km courses - but if that doesn't tempt you, why not help on the day, or provide some home-baked goodies for the cake stall? Contact Georgie Rodwell at georgie@norfolkcordial.com or call on 07988 189910. Find out more about the event and Little Lifts's work at www.littlelifts.org.uk.

Edgefield

200 Club

£50 Andrew Duffield, £30 Sally Dodge, £10 Richard Peaver

Church News

Coffee & Croissants

We have started serving coffee and croissants after 08.30am services. This is proving to be very popular, no need to have breakfast before church. Do join us!

Flowerpot Painting

All primary school age children should be receiving a flowerpot in their Easter Gift Bags, which we invite you to bring to church to decorate on Tuesday 8th April, 10.00am-12noon. Paints will be provided so you can get creative and make your pot look beautiful!

Easter Day

The 10.30am service on Easter morning will be a family service with children's activities, a hunt in the churchyard and refreshments afterwards. All are very welcome to come and celebrate Easter with us!

Open Gardens 28th-29th June

Planning for this wonderful village event is going well. So far, nine kind villagers have agreed to open their gardens, as has Norfolk Flower Farm. Tickets and maps will be sold at the church and refreshments provided at the Village Hall. We would welcome donations of raffle prizes and help with baking cakes and serving refreshments. Please contact alisonmawson@hotmail.com 587236.

Alison Mawson

Village Hall News

Tickets priced £15 are now on sale for Edgefest 7, which is on Saturday 19th July on the village green. Featuring the Hot Crumbs as well as Phil B, plus a hog roast and cheap licensed bar. Contact me on 07946 854901 or james.frost59@hotmail.co.uk or via our FB page or any committee member - Jeff and Catherine Witts, Dawn Hulbert, Tom Fox and Amanda Yacobian.

Jim Frost



Richard Peaver
587486

Hempstead

200 Club

£50 I Summers, £25 Y Gibson, £10 B Harmer, £5 J Hurrel, S Price, K Hill

Coffee & Catch-Up

Fridays 4th April and 2nd May - all welcome .

Crafty Creations at the Village Hall

Monday 7th April 2- 4pm top hessian rings



Jonathan Neville
07836 675369

Saturday 12th April 10.30am - 4pm - family Easter craft day - all ages very welcome to join in at any time.

Thursday 24th April 10.00 - 12.00 pm - garden hangers

February Tabletop Sale

Another successful fundraising event for the village hall. With the hall full of sellers with a wide variety of items for sale we welcomed a steady flow of visitors coming along to browse and enjoy their bacon roll along with other refreshments. Look forward to the next one in the coming months.



New Hempstead Village Hall Offering

After having had two very successful Sound Bath evenings at the Village Hall we are now offering this as a monthly event in a Wednesday evening from 7.15pm. Next one with The Sound Wizard is Wednesday 23rd April. Come along on the night or pre-book online.

Contact Lesley Lennox: lesley.lennox@project21.ltd.uk 07446 777660 for more details.

Matlaske

Prayers For Cyclist

Prayers were said at Matlaske Church after the terribly sad death of a cyclist at Blossom Hill, Matlaske on March 1st. Despite an ambulance being called, the man in his 60s died at the scene. Norfolk Police have confirmed that the cyclist died as a result of a medical episode and there was no third party involved.



Duncan Wood
570293

100 Club £25 Lucy Raynes, £10 Shaun Boyhan, £5 John Cornelley

Quiz Nights for Diary

These will be held at Baconsthorpe Village Hall on 12th May and 11th October at 7pm.

From the History Books - Yarmouth Independent - Saturday 9 June 1923

North Norfolk. In the Parishes of Matlaske, Barningham and Wickmere. George Durrant & Sons are instructed by the Trustees of the late Rev G M Norris, deceased, to offer for Sale by Auction, at the Royal Hotel, Norwich, on Saturday July 14th 1923, the very attractive small agricultural and sporting estate, known as Matlaske Hall, comprising a small mansion, with gardens and grounds, bailiff's house, two sets of farm premises, fifteen cottages, and about 368 acres of fine mixed soil arable, old pasture, and woodland, as now in the occupation of Mr G Lee. Particulars & Conditions of Sale, with plan and views, may be had in due course of Messrs Norton, Peskett & Forward, Vendors' Solicitors; and the Auctioneers, Beccles. [Note: the Hall was roughly where the big modern barn is now.]

Plumstead

St Michael's Church

Spring has sprung, the Church will be a little warmer and coffees are starting again on Monday March 31 from 10.30am. Do come and say hello to fellow residents, stop for a chat or a coffee or both.



Harriet Rossi
577239

A very welcome anonymous donation of £1,000 has been received to be used for church repairs. This is most timely as the five yearly inspection of the church building is booked for June this year. This will inevitably lead to a list of necessary repairs. Thank you to the donor!

The Church will once again celebrate Easter with a floral display which will be set up on Easter Saturday morning. There will also be a sale of goods, books, plants, garden paraphernalia and so on. Visitors are most welcome after 12noon on that day and during Easter Week.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Join the Spring Clean!

Help us put winter firmly behind us by joining a big Corpusty & Saxthorpe spring clean! Litter pick nippers and bags will be available to anyone who comes along to the red phone box at the Green at 10am on Saturday 5th April.

Early Spring, before roadside verges and hedgerows really get growing, is the best time to deal with litter that has been carelessly dropped or deliberately tossed on to verges. The litter pick, organised by the Parish Council, will help our villages look their best as more of us get out and about in warmer weather.

But litter isn't just unsightly. Animals, large and small, eat discarded wrappers and rubbish, which can be fatal. Glass bottles can trap small animals, and easily smash into lethally-sharp shards - not good for people or animals. And it doesn't end there. Plastic breaks down into microscopic pieces that impact on a whole host of creatures. So join us on the 5th!

Walking Our Public Paths

Parish councillors pulled on their walking boots to review the condition of all the public paths that run through our villages. A number of problems have been noted, such as the pictured broken stile at the Holt Road (B1149) end of a lovely path (FP 20) along the meadows from Briston Road (B1354). Other issues have included missing, broken or overgrown signs, and an obstruction on Adams Lane (a restricted byway). A report is being sent to County Highways.

If you are interested in exploring public rights of way, which include footpaths, bridleways and restricted byways, they are shown online here: <https://maps.norfolk.gov.uk/highways/>

Spring Concert by Serendipity

Don't miss the chance to hear Serendipity, an outstanding female vocal ensemble, at St Andrews Church on Saturday 31st May at 6.30pm. Serendipity's members hail from Norwich and north-east Norfolk; all experienced singers, including soloists and choral directors in their own right. They are led by Andrew Mildinhall who has accompanied a wide variety of singers and musicians at the English National Opera and for 12 years was Director of Music at St Mary at Nantwich, the Cathedral of South Cheshire. It promises to be a wonderful evening, and we can look forward to vocal music ranging from Renaissance to Abba, Schubert to Elton and beyond. There will be something for everyone! Tickets £12.50 including pre-concert drink and canapes with coffee afterwards. Tickets from lesley@saxthorpe.com, or at Coffee & Cake at St Andrews on Wednesday mornings.



John Birchall
584290



Dawn Easter Service at St Peters

Leave the Easter Eggs until later and savour the real flavour of Easter Sunday (April 20th) at the 6am Dawn Service at St Peters Church, Corpusty. Everyone is welcome to this very special service at a very special church that once faced demolition. There will even be sausage rolls and bacon rolls for the early risers.

May Plant Swap at Coffee & Cake

Last year's plant swap at Coffee, Cake & Chat (every Wednesday at St Andrews, 10-11am) saw dozens of plants, large and small, change hands, so it is being held again this year on 14th May. So if you've suddenly found green fingers and have more spring seedlings than you expected, don't consign them to the compost heap, bring them along! No charge for plants, but donations to Church funds welcome, as always.

CC&C Vegetable Contest

On the same green and growing theme, a vegetable competition will be held at CC&C on Wednesday 1st October. Nothing from the supermarket - just home or allotment grown! More details in future editions, but get sowing and planting.

Pot Decoration for Children

Children - have you received your terracotta pot? (See page 14) If so, please bring it along to the workshop at Saxthorpe Church on Saturday 5th April (10am - 12noon) where there will be plenty of ideas and inspiration as well as paints, ribbons, feathers and flowers, in fact, all sorts of things to transform your pot into something special. If you haven't got yours yet, there will be one at St Andrews for you, so come along and join the fun. Refreshments on offer for you and your grown-ups.

Hive of activity at the Village Hall

Lots happening at your village hall! Breakfast and table top/car boot once a month, lunch club fortnightly, film nights monthly, Tech & Tea monthly, new drama for children every Friday and many other regular events - see www.corpustyandsaxthorpevillagehall.org.uk for details.

Coming Up in April

Friday 11th we have Prize Bingo, doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm - bar and snacks available. Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th Karen is running a Spring Wreath Making workshop - prebook at karenkeenan2@gmail.com.

Film Club members can see 12 films (first Friday of the month) for just £30 a year - and have a say in the films we show.

Station Building Progress

The station building is being painted inside and (weather permitting) outside. Volunteers will clean and seal the parquet floor, clean the platform and generally tidy up outside. To help contact us at c.s.villagehall@gmail.com. Another way of helping is to use the village bottle bank, rather than putting jars and bottles in your green bin. The Parish Council has agreed that bottle bank income should help the Village Hall raise funds for the station building. If you struggle to get to the bottle bank we can collect from your house - contact us on c.s.villagehall@gmail.com.

SERENDIPITY
VOCAL
ENSEMBLE

31ST MAY
6.30PM

ST ANDREWS CHURCH SAXTHORPE

An eclectic mix of vocal music ranging from Renaissance to Abba, Schubert to Elton and beyond. There will be something for everyone.

Led and accompanied by the accomplished pianist Andrew Mildinhall

Tickets £12.50
Includes pre-concert drink and canapes
Contact: Lesley 07531065959

Children Youth & Families

Children and their families are about to enjoy Easter holidays, hopefully with spring weather and lighter evenings it will add to their joy.

This April primary school aged children living in our seven villages, will receive a flower pot and an invitation to bring it to one of three workshops, do pop along with your parents/carers to take part at:

Saxthorpe Church, Saturday 5th April 10-12

Edgefield Church, Tuesday 8th April 10-12

Barningham Winter Old Stables at The Hall, Wednesday April 16th 10-12

If you are visiting and would like to take part or fall out of the primary school age group, please drop us an email so we can find you a spare pot Youth@matlaske.org.uk



We would love to take photos of the decorated pots and display them. Children are mostly so creative and inspiring given the opportunity to shine. These workshops are organised and funded through your local church. Their aim is to show love, value and respect to each child within the seven parishes. Whatever you believe in and whatever your circumstances, you will be made most welcome. particularly at Easter when the message is of love and hope. Should these events be successful then there may be opportunity to arrange more like this. Please show your support and encourage families you know to come along.

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



As I write this in the middle of March, thinking of April to come, we have had yet another sharp frost making me briefly sigh with relief that my week had turned completely to pot so that I hadn't managed to pot up my new dahlias..

In light of this I have actually decided to wait until April to get going with the dahlias, they are far far happier when it's a bit warmer and what really works best for them is good steady growth, not stop/start growth in seesawing temperatures. This means I get to prep my pots in good time, warm the compost and most importantly make decent labels for them all, that will all be then transferred to the walled garden... hopefully!

I have ordered a new variety of dahlia called 'Rhubarb and custard' which I am very excited about, it literally does look as if someone has

swirled rhubarb and custard together it's also a single dahlia and whilst I love double dahlias and all their glamour, I do try and grow more single ones just because bees can access nectar and pollen much easier. Happy bees happy garden!

Last dahlia tips...Choose the right size pot for each tuber, small tuber small pot ...large tuber large pot, basically it's not helpful for tubers to have loads of compost around them when you are trying to kick start them, so if they are looking lost in a pot downsize them . Be very careful with watering, give them a quick water when you first pot them up then wait till they start to shoot before watering again, too much water at this stage can cause them to rot.

April can be so joyful in the garden with everything literally bursting into life again, there will be LOADS to do in the garden but after what has felt like the longest greyest winter ever. I for one cannot wait!

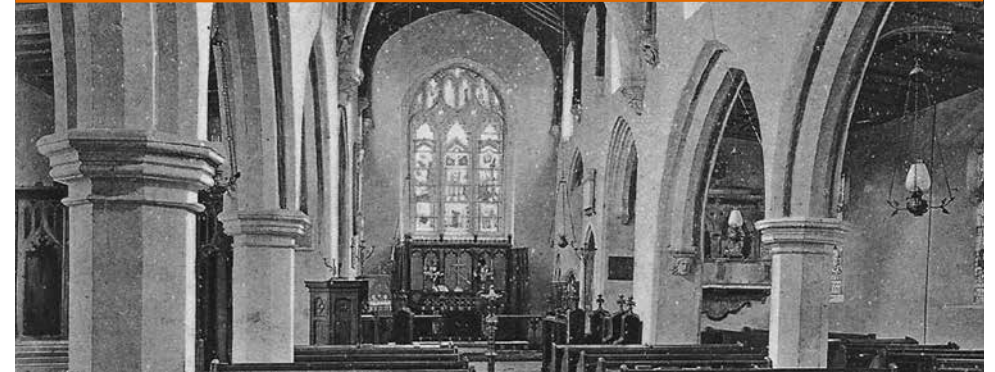
This month's photo features a glorious display of wild garlic and if you're lucky enough to come across a patch of it this month, I do have a very good recipe from Lucy Brazier for 'wild garlic salt' which I will happily email to you.

This month's question is from Maryann Konoba who asks is there a good time to divide hot poker plants, the answer quite simply is yes now! They can be quite tough to divide so use two forks back to back to prise apart and replant the more vital outside parts of the plant and discard the tired centre, water well if we have a dry patch but they should rejuvenate quite nicely...Good Luck!

Please 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

History Watch - Baconsthorpe Electricity Arrives - March 1950



This article has been prompted by a recent unexpected four hour power cut in the village, it was then you realise just now dependent on electricity we are. How can you manage without it? Well us lot in Baconsthorpe had to wait until it finally arrived here exactly 75 years ago.

Prior to that date oil was the main method of obtaining light was with paraffin in Tilly lamps providing just enough illumination for reading and writing. Even our church needed oil lamps

which some may still remember. The accompanying photo taken from a postcard c1921 shows lamps in evidence giving the church a certain atmosphere that electric lighting could never emulate. But it was in the cooking and washing of clothes that the main changes were to occur. A wall oven heated by a coal fire was used for baking and a large copper in an outhouse had fire lit under it and came into play each Monday washday. Entertainment? No TV of course, but there was a battery powered radio to hear the news, "Dick Barton" for the kids and Mrs Dale's Diary for our mothers.

Now all those old fashioned aides were to be swept away, replaced by an electric cooker, a Burco water heater for washdays, and lighting available in every room at the touch of a switch. Some of the older residents refused point blank to have this modern 'elec-trickery' installed and so probably had the last laugh when power cuts occurred.

Arthur Pentney

Stately Car Boot Sale to Benefit Local Churches



THE NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST

Norfolk Churches Trust Stately Car Boot Sale is on Sunday, May 4th at Sennowe Park, near Guist. All proceeds are going to the Norfolk Churches Trust which helps parishes fund essential repairs and conservation work on their church buildings.

The 2022 Stately Car Boot sale attracted 10,000 shoppers, ideal for anyone looking to pass on beloved items to new homes. There are even experts on hand to help with pricing. This event is specifically for private individuals looking to part with personal items, and so not open to dealers or traders. For visitors (entry £5, under 16s free), high quality local food producers and vendors will be at the event, so no need to bring a picnic.

Pitches are limited to 200, and the deadline is 1^{0th} April. To secure yours visit the event page on the churches trust website <https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/events/save-the-date-stately-car-boot-sale-2025/> or contact events@norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk. Also on the Norfolk Churches Trust website you can apply to become a member unlocking other benefits for just £30 a year, or make a donation if you can't attend the event.

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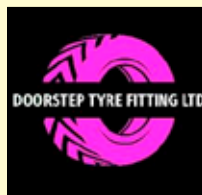


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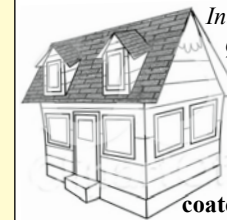
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