

Church & Village News

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

July 2026



Brighter future for St Peter's, Corpusty
Photograph by Roger Last

Newsletter Team

Issue No 125 /July 2026

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Hempstead	Paul Sanders	01263 713217
Matlaske & Barningham	Lucy Raynes	07894 061571
Plumstead	Ruth Campion-Ridge	
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Guy Hodgson	07771 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
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andrew.brown@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Baconsthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske & Barningham, Plumstead
Callum Ringer 01263 802784
callum.ringer@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Local MP

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

Village Correspondents

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Barningham Winter amelia@barninghamstate.co.uk	Amelia Courtauld 07971 050646
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Plumstead harrietwormald@hotmail.com	Harriet Rossi 01263 577239
Saxthorpe with Corpusty birchalljc@aol.com	John Birchall 01263 584290

Village Websites

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

Church People

Rector Revd Canon David Longe 01263 577252

Asst Priest Revd Judy Rosser 07469 390178

Lay Minister Dr Jane McLarty 07791 870104

Church Wardens

Baconsthorpe Harry Steel 07711 890360

B Winter Amelia Courtauld 01263 577250
Rebecca Hill 07960 739593

Edgefield Emma Cletheroe 01263 587049
Alison Mawson 01263 587236

Hempstead Airlie Inglis 07540 566766

Matlaske Thomas Courtauld 01263 577250
Duncan Wood 01263 570293

Plumstead Vacant

Saxwith Corp Lesley Last 01263 587782
Jill Perry-Warnes 01263 584 221

Safeguarding Officers

Emma Youngs 07884 432412
safeguarding@matlaske.org.uk

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

County Councillors

Andrew Brown - Holt Division
andrew.brown.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

Callum Ringer - Erpingham division
callum.ringer.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk

What's On

July

Mon 6	2.00pm	Hempstead Crafty Creations	Village Hall
Mon 6	2.00pm	Miss Bulwer's Embroideries talk	Village Hall
Wed	10.30am	Baconsthorpe Coffee Morning	Village Hall
Sat 11	7.00pm	Edgefest	Village Hall
Wed 15	6.00pm	Baconsthorpe Village Hall AGM	Village Hall
Fri 17	7.00pm	Comedy of Errors, Baconsthorpe	Village Hall
Sat 18	2.00pm	Hempstead Crafty Creations	Village Hall
Sat 18/Sun 19		Corpusty Weekend (see village page)	Village Hall & Station
Wed 22	10.00am	Saxthorpe Teddy Bears Picnic	Churchyard
Thur 23	10.00am	Hempstead Crafty Creations	Village Hall
Sat 25	6.00pm	Matlaske Music & Pizza in The Park Barningham Hall	
Sat 25	7.00pm	Northanger Abbey	Baconsthorpe Castle
Sun 26	1.00pm	Sound Bath (see village page)	Baconsthorpe Castle
Thur 30	3.30pm	Hempstead Music - Keziah Thomas	Village Hall
Fri 31	6.00pm	Baconsthorpe Pop-up pub	Village Hall

August

Sun 2 - **NGS open day - Fiddian's Follies at Upwood Farm, North Barningham**

Clash Diary

to add an event for 2026 contact
Corinne Youngs 01263 577263
corinne@avyoungs.com

September

5/6	Hempstead Arts, Hempstead VH
12	100 years of Wedding Dresses exhibition, Hempstead VH
Sept 12	Norfolk Churches Ride

Holt Library

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB 01263 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

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Mobile Post Office Van

Wednesdays 10.45am - 11.30am Village Hall

Corpusty Stores 587726

Monday-Friday 9.00am – 12.00 noon

Iteringham Shop 587325

Monday + Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Church & Village News. Apologies if contributed material is not published due to space constraints. All facts are believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

October

9	Harvest Supper , Millers Barn, Saxthorpe
17	Craft Fair , Edgefield

November

7&8	Autumn Craft Market , Hempstead Village Hall
Sat 21	Craft Fair , Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Banking Hub

The Venue (Community Centre), Kerridge Way

NR25 6DN 9am-5pm weekdays

Monday	NatWest	Thursday	Santander
Tuesday	TSB	Friday	Lloyds
Wednesday	Barclays		

Mobile Library Van

2 July / 30 July / 27 August

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 Cotts

Times and dates sourced from Norfolk County website: <https://bit.ly/2AJdSGA> / Route No CEN 411
Tel: 01603 222303

Letter from The Rector, Reverend Canon David Longe

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

Dear All

Is humanity capable of great beauty?

We know all too well from the media that humanity is capable of great ugliness. Yet I believe that humanity is beautiful and capable of greater beauty than we can ever fully imagine. This truth - that humanity is beautiful - is essential for us to hold onto as the AI era dawns.

Last month, Pope Leo wrote a letter¹ to the church on AI. His central claim is that humanity is magnificent, and that the rapid advancement of AI risks obscuring this fundamental truth. For those who believe the Church should restrict itself simply to spiritual matters, he notes that Jesus was born into this world, with all its difficulties, pain, and wounds, and as such the Church must address itself to these realities.

The Pope illustrates his points with two Bible stories:

In the story of Babel, humanity attempts to build a tower to reach heaven. Their desire for stability was understandable; yet they also sought to “make a name” for themselves. Such ambition is dangerous when it is driven by pride and self-sufficiency. The tower collapses leading to confusion and division. The message is that we run great risks when we sacrifice humility and dignity for the pursuit of power.

In contrast, when Nehemiah, who served a Persian king some 2450 years ago, learnt that Jerusalem lay in ruins, he sought permission to rebuild it. Nehemiah, unlike the people of Babel, did not rush. Instead, he prayed, gathered the right people, organised them, and assigned each of them a portion of the wall around Jerusalem. It was by shared work for the “Common Good” that the city was restored.

The point is clear: when great power is in the hands of a few, there is a danger that wisdom, accountability and the Common Good are forgotten. Without doubt, AI is helpful in many areas, not least medicine, but it must be approached with care, reflection, humility, and collaboration.

True progress requires wisdom. By working together, we are more likely to perceive that not everything that can be done should be done. Progress must respect the uniqueness and the beauty of humanity, and the wider creation of which we are a part. The Bible speaks of humanity being made in the image of God, of being created for cooperation, mutual care and to pursue the Common Good. Our dignity matters; it matters more than data; more than productivity.

The test of any new development is not about how powerful or profitable it is, but whether it enables creation to flourish into its full God-given potential.

AI will shape our future. Yet woe betide us if it does so at the expense of the magnificence, beauty and creativity of humanity. Technology is a human achievement; it is not our master.

May we never lose sight of the magnificence of humanity,



Bol, Hans. *The Tower of Babel*.
c. 16th century. Wikimedia Commons

David

¹Pope Leio XIV, *Magnifica Humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the time of Artificial Intelligence*.



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for July

1 st	Wednesday		
6.00pm	Meditation		Barningham Winter
5 th	Trinity V		
8:30am 10:30am	Eucharist Eucharist		Matlaske Saxthorpe
12 th	Trinity VI		
8:30am 10:30am	Eucharist Eucharist		Edgefield Barningham Winter
15 th	Wednesday		
6:00pm	Meditation		Hempstead
19 th	Trinity VII		
8:30am 10:30am 4:00pm	Eucharist Eucharist Family Church		Baconsthorpe Plumstead Edgefield
26 th	Trinity VIII		
10:00am 5:00pm	Breakfast Church Evening Prayer followed by refreshments		Saxthorpe Hempstead
28 th	Tuesday		
6:00pm	Evensong followed by refreshments		Edgefield
2 nd August	Trinity		
8.30am 10.30am	Eucharist Eucharist		Saxthorpe Matlaske

Country Mice Baby & Toddler Group
Tuesdays 10am-12noon (term time) Baconsthorpe Village Hall
Coffee, Cake & Chat
Wednesdays 10am - - St Andrew's Saxthorpe
Details of all our services: <https://tinyurl.com/mvfyajre>



John Perry-Warnes Education Fund exists to help those in education who reside in the Matlaske Benefice. 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 email submissions to rector@matlaske.org.uk, or post The Rectory, The Street, Matlaske, Norfolk NR11 7AQ by 1 September 2026. For more details email rector@matlaske.org.uk.

Help with energy and household costs: If you know anyone who needs help with their energy or other household costs please contact Revd David Longe rector@matlaske.org.uk Cromer Food bank can also help with food provisions and with following household bills including pre-paid meters, and meters paid on receipt of bills, gas, coal, oil and wood.

Baconsthorpe

200 Club £50 E.Youngs £25 S.Belbin £10 H.Steel.

Tickets are still available for the 200 Club. There is a top prize of £50 every month for just a £12 a year subscription. See village website for details.

Church News

A date for your diary. On October 10th at 10am we are planning another church clean up. This will be followed by a BBQ at 12.00. It will be lovely to see as many people as possible for what is always a fun, social occasion.

Flower Rota

My sincere thanks to those who supply flowers to our lovely church. We are always looking for anyone in the village who would like to lend a hand. If you are interested – there are just two vases to fill on the altar, but of course there is lots of room in the church for extra displays. We generally take the task on a monthly basis. Do give me a call if you would like to take a turn. Hazel 07879414577.

July 17th – A Comedy of Errors

Comedy of Errors is underway! I have been talking about this play for the last two months. On June 7th the cast met for the first rehearsal and I am pleased to report that the play is set. We are planning costumes and searching for props. Another six rehearsals and we will be ready! All we need to do is pray for a dry evening. Arrive as early as possible to grab a good spot, bring your own chair, relax and enjoy the performance. The play begins at 7pm. Food will be on sale and the bar will be open

Baconsthorpe Castle – special events

A number of events are planned at the newly-reopened Castle. On Saturday 25 July Moving Parts Theatre Co present a new adaptation of Northanger Abbey (7.00pm to 9.30pm - tickets online at Eventbrite) and the next day (26th) English Heritage are running an hour-long 'Sound Bath' starting at 1.00pm. (Details and tickets from the EH website).

Country Mice.

What a wonderful year 2026 has been so far – as we look back at all the fun, learning and growing friendships we have shared.

It has been a joy watching the children grow, explore and reach new milestones over the past few months; especially our babies now that we have expanded our group to welcome children from birth.



Hazel Martin
07879 414577

ABRIDGED VERSION OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAY 'A COMEDY OF ERRORS'



FRIDAY 17TH JULY 2026

STARTS AT 7.00PM

IN THE GARDEN AT

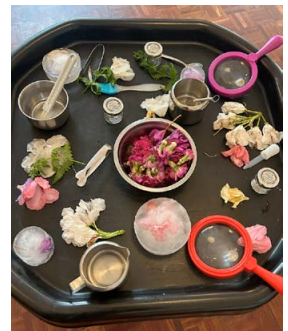
BACONSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

FOOD WILL BE ON SALE

BAR OPEN

NO CHARGE – DONATIONS GRATEFUL

Baconsthorpe Village Hall, School Lane, Baconsthorpe, Holt, NR25 6LJ
Registered Charity No: 29257



Images show some of our favourite activities and equipment that has been popular so far. Looking ahead – we meet every Tuesday in term time and would love to welcome new families. Please feel free to come along to Baconsthorpe Village Hall from 10am or contact Teresa.tamd@hotmail.com or follow us on Facebook.

Teresa Gransden.

Holt Caring Society.

It has been brought to my attention by a Baconsthorpe resident that Holt Caring Society are desperately in need of drivers. The Society provides a wonderful service taking patients from the area covered by Holt Medical Practice to hospital and doctor's appointments. At the moment the lack of drivers has meant expensive taxi fares are the only alternative. Holt Caring Society has been in existence for 45 years and has been rewarded with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. Patients pay a modest amount for the service and the drivers are reimbursed on a payment per mile basis.

I remember both my parents, after they retired, spending many years driving for the Society. There are no firm demands on any volunteer – just do what you can, when you can.

If you can help or know someone would like to, please call 01263 711243 for more information.

Village Hall News.

Coffee Morning on the first Wednesday of every month. Free coffee and homemade scones. All welcome – 10.30 am – 11.30 am.

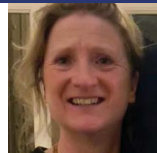
Village Hall AGM on Wednesday July 15th at 6pm.

Pop Up Pub on Friday 31st July. The bar opens at 6.00pm and food is served from 6.30pm.

Barningham Winter

Michael Cartwright

Many of you will remember the charismatic Rev Michael Cartwright who was the Rector of our Benefice twice and who lived with his wife Jo, for a brief period in Barningham Winter when they retired and before they took on their last parish, Foulsham. We were sad to hear of his death on 26th May but very happy to know that his wish was to be buried at St Mary's, Barningham Winter.



Amelia Courtauld
01263 577250

A wonderful Requiem Mass was held at St Mary's, led by Father Howard of Holt. Many of you will be disappointed that you were not aware of his funeral but we apologise, the service had to be organised at very short notice because of their daughter and grandson's planned return to the U.S.A. There were smells, bells and melodic, dramatic hymns (played by Mark Jones) and tea at Barningham Hall where family, friends and parishioners from many of Michael's flocks recalled their memories of a very special man who always had a smile, a story and time for you. He was a talented musician, having graduated from the Royal College of Music and there was nothing he liked more than playing the piano, singing and sharing a drink with friends and parishioners. He is fondly remembered by many.

A date for your diary, and one which Michael would have enjoyed, is the opening of Fiddian's Follies at Upwood Farm, NR11 7LA on Sunday, 2nd August, 10.30 to 5.00, for the NGS. Adults £7 - cash on the day or book through the NGS website.

Countdown to Edgefest!

By the time you read this, there will only be a few Edgefest tickets remaining, so call Jim on 07946 854901 if you want to join in the fun on Saturday 11th July, 7pm to midnight at the Village Green. The evening features The Hot Crumbs and Phil B. Tickets include hog roast. During the evening we will be collecting money in for the 200 Club (cash or card) as we are reaching that time of year when our annual collections begin. On that note, winners of the May draw were: 1st Glyn Rogers (£50), 2nd John Higgins (£30) and 3rd Sam Smith (£20).

Jim Frost

Church News (from Alison Mawson)

The Samphires Concert

It was lovely to have a full church enjoying the beautiful sound of The Samphires' glorious singing interspersed with Jonathan's lyrical poetry readings. Thank you to Richard Peaver for arranging the event and baking delicious cheese straws and to the performers for entertaining us so brilliantly.

Plant Stall

We have been given a wonderful selection of plants to sell, so please have a look at the stall beside the church porch. All purchase money will go towards the care of the church and graveyard, for which funds are desperately needed.

Family Church

Family Church 4pm on Sunday 19th July we will be planting some seeds and finding out what they need to grow. All are very welcome to come along to this relaxed and friendly service suitable for all ages.

Old Churchyard Needs Your Support

Before Edgefield Church moved to its present site in the 1880s, it stood on Hunworth Road. Today, the ancient octagonal tower and historic churchyard remain, providing a peaceful reminder of our village's rich heritage. For many years, local volunteers have lovingly maintained this special place. Unfortunately, the ride-on mower that helped keep the churchyard tidy has now reached the end of its life and can no longer be repaired. In addition, there are no longer any volunteers available to operate it.

The Edgefield Parochial Church Council (PCC) has kindly agreed to fund regular maintenance, with a groundsman cutting paths through the churchyard every fortnight. However, church funds are already stretched, and this ongoing commitment places additional pressure on limited resources. We would therefore be grateful for any donations towards the upkeep of the old churchyard, helping to preserve this important part of Edgefield's history for future generations. Donations can be made to the PCC and will be used exclusively for the maintenance of the old churchyard via: rb.gy/3kvcwl or the QR code to the right. Thank you for your support.



Tuesday Club (from Kay Harvey)

Many older members of the community remember the Tuesday Club from years gone by. It was an opportunity to meet others over refreshments and while away an afternoon in company. The plan is to recreate a club for villagers to come together, particularly those who may not get out so much any more. Dates: Tuesday 28th July 2.00pm and Tuesday 25th August 2.00pm. If there are people who would like to support and help, please text or call Kay 07941 985 635.

Hempstead

Coffee & Catchup

Friday, 3rd July 10.30 - 12.00. All welcome

Social Saturdays

We will continue with our Saturday morning get togethers - Saturday 11th July and Saturday 8th August from 10am.

Come along and join us or just pop in and collect a takeaway breakfast bap.

Hempstead 200 Club winners

June Draw Winners:

£50 J Spencer-Jones; £25 J Tyabji; £15 A Spalton; £10 D Collier

Hempstead Crafty Creations

July meeting dates

Monday 6th July 2.00 - 4.00pm

Saturday 18th July 2.00 - 4.00pm

Thursday 23rd July 10.00am - midday

There will be no meetings in August while we have a summer break.

All welcome to any of our meetings just pop along and enjoy a fun couple of hours with like minded friends.

Music in Hempstead - Thursday 30th July 2026 at 3:30 pm

We welcome the return of internationally acclaimed harpist Keziah Thomas. She will be joining local musicians to play an arrangement of Debussy's Petite Suite and d'Indy's Sarabande and Menuet. Both lovely pieces to play and listen to. Join us for tea and cake followed by the music at 4.00 pm.



Jonathan Neville
07836 675369



Village Hall Working Parties

Once again we thank all those volunteers that have given up their time to help us in our task of smartening up our village hall. After the initial clean we have started the painting of the exterior and interior with great results. To continue with this process our next volunteers working party will be Saturday 4th July from 10am. Please join us if you can and thank you, your help is very much appreciated.

Hempstead Arts

Hempstead Arts takes place this year on 5th and 6th September, with the Hempstead residents and artists private view on Friday 4th.

Please put the date in your diaries, more information to follow nearer the time

100 years of Wedding Dresses and Christening Gowns

To continue to mark the village hall centenary, we are organising an exhibition of 100 years of wedding dresses and christening gowns on Saturday 12th September. This will coincide with Norfolk Churches Cycle Ride and Heritage Open Days. To be able to make this event a success, we are needing as many wedding dresses and/or christening gowns as possible to display in the hall. If you are willing to lend us any items to enhance our display, please contact Lesley Lennox on lesley.lennox@project21.co.uk for more details. We also need a few more mannequins - do you have one we could borrow? Thanks as always.

Clash Diary

Hempstead Arts - 5th & 6th September

100 years of Wedding Dresses exhibition Saturday 12th September

Autumn Craft Market - 7th & 8th November

Matlaske

100 Club Winners: £25 - K Norton, £10 - J Whiteside, £ 5 - A Scaiffe

A huge thank you to Shaun who has restored the village bench.



Matlaske Music & Pizza in The Park (poster)

Just a reminder to everyone that our annual event is on Saturday 25th July starting at 3pm, we hope everyone will come and support. On the 10th July don't forget to put out any donations for the Raffle, Tombola or Bric-A-Brac by 9am for collection.

Any queries please contact Marion on 577521 or e-mail jim.shepherd123@btinternet.com

Archive Notes: Speedy travelling

from the Norfolk Chronicle -

Saturday 21 October 1826

The Public are respectfully informed, THAT THE MONARCH New Light Post Coach, from Holt to Norwich, will start on Tuesday Morning next, the 24th inst, and on every following Tuesday, Thursday, and

Saturday Mornings, at Ten Minutes before SEVEN o'clock, from the King's Head Inn, Holt, by way of Hempstead, Baconsthorpe, Matlask, Itteringham, and Aylsham, to the Norfolk Hotel, St. Giles', Norwich, where it will arrive at Quarter-past TEN, and which place it will leave at FOUR O'CLOCK on the Afternoons of the above days, and proceed to Holt by the same route.



Duncan Wood
01263 570293

JOHN BOLTON & Co. Proprietors, Who will not be accountable for any Package or Parcel whatsoever above the value of Five Pounds, unless entered and paid for accordingly. October 18th, 1826.

Plumstead

No updates this month.

Please contact Harriet with any news, events or activities before July for August

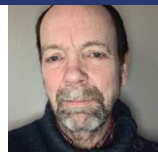


Harriet Rossi
01263 577239

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

An evening with the Saltmarsh Strings

Close this page for a moment and look at this month's cover. Roger Last's evocative cover picture could easily represent the fortunes of St Peter's Church, Corpusty, which has emerged from dark times to a much brighter future. But there's no pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, so do come along to St Peter's on Thursday 30th July (7.00pm) for an summer's evening of music by the Saltmarsh Strings in support of the Norfolk Churches Trust, who look after Corpusty church.



John Birchall
07810 016976

The programme includes music from Dvorak to the Beatles. Tickets are £25 each including a Drinks Reception.

The Saltmarsh Strings comprise Freya Goldmark, violin, Sara Longe, violin, Jim O'Toole, viola, and Ivan McCready, cello.

As well as St Peter's, there are 12 other Norfolk churches directly in the Trust's care. The Trust, which this year celebrates its 50th Anniversary, also gives generous grants to other churches across Norfolk. St Andrew's, Saxthorpe, has been a recent beneficiary. Please lend your support for what promises to be a delightful evening in equally delightful surroundings. For further details to go norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/events.

Corpusty Weekend! Saturday and Sunday 18 /19 July

A different sort of event is planned for the weekend of July 18/19 when the old Station platform (part of the Village Hall site) will provide the stage for a series of performances - along with food and a bar. Entry to the events themselves are by donation.

Saturday 3pm : The Core performing live - a high performance and very popular local group. The band performs a wide range of blues classics from the 1960s to present

Sunday 3pm : Gospel According to Jazz - weaving familiar foot tapping songs with gospel, Motown funk, soul and jazz, to tell a story of redemption and hope in a unique way

Sunday 7pm : A Comedy of Errors abridged version of the play directed by Hazel Martin promises to be a very good evening. Bring a chair!



100k trek in all weathers!

Corpusty cleaning impresario and mum of two Hester Macdonald Thomas celebrated her birthday in June by trekking 100k along the Jurassic Coast in aid of Coppafeel - the UK's only breast cancer charity aiming to raise awareness of the disease in younger women.

“Having had a scare myself last year, the level of kindness, efficiency and care I got from the Breast Clinic was amazing. I want to make sure I give something back. We have all lost someone directly or indirectly to the horrendous disease that is Cancer. And if me stepping outside of my comfort zone and pushing myself to new limits will make a difference even in the smallest way then it's the least I can do.”



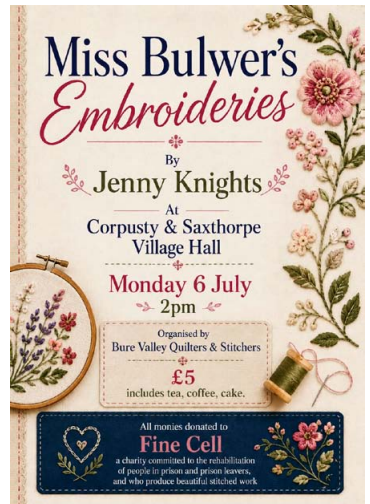
So far her epic journey has raised £2,530, but if you'd like to support her raising more you can do so via this QR code.

Remember, remember the 6th September...

Sunday 6th September could see the return of the popular Sausage Sizzle on Corpusty Village Green. Plans are still being made, so look out for more information in the August edition.

Embroidery behind bars

Embroidery helps people in prison rebuild their lives, and also produces truly remarkable examples of needlework. Miss Bulwer's Embroideries, and other incarcerated embroiderers is a talk with visual aids by Jenny Knights on Monday 6 July at 2pm at the Village Hall. The event is organised by the Bure Valley Quilters & Stitchers. £5 includes tea / coffee / cake. All donations to the charity Fine Cell Work.



Brownies become Dementia Friends

The Corpusty Brownies have all become Dementia Friends after an Ambassador from the Alzheimers Society came to one of our meetings and taught them about dementia. This was arranged by one of the Brownies as part of her Gold Award, because her grandfather had been diagnosed with dementia and she was keen for others to learn more about the condition. The girls now understand the effect dementia has on a person, know how to recognise when someone may be struggling and how best to assist them. They were encouraged to share their newfound knowledge with family and friends.



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



July is a good month in the garden to finally see (literally!) the fruits of our labours, all that hard but good work should be paying off and in the most delightful of ways. June so far has been an abundance of rain and our garden looks much happier for it and we feel more confident about going into July with all the water butts replenished. We were able to heavily mulch the walled garden just after a day of heavy rain, the difference it's made is huge! Everything looks so much happier and they are growing well.

Unfortunately the one thing that the rain hasn't helped is the spraying of the box moth caterpillars. Once the box moth caterpillars wake up (between late February to early June-temperature dependent) then you need to start controlling them to stand any chance of not having your box plants decimated. It is very important you spray on dry leaves and have

a window of 3-4 hours afterwards with no rain. I will admit I am not a fan of spraying, but I do feel the exception is the box caterpillar which is hugely destructive. I follow Kwekerijgoossens on Instagram and being a long established Topiary Nursery I take his advice quite seriously. He makes a very strong case for doing a thorough spraying between the dates of 10-15th October just before the caterpillars go into hibernation a period of time when they cannot be destroyed. If you successfully do this spraying then you shouldn't (in theory) need to start spraying so early in the season as you shouldn't have any re awakening box moth caterpillars (unfortunately that week in October last year it rained every single evening so we weren't successful in eradicating them) This in turn means you should only need to spray in July 10th-15th then in August 15th-20th then in September 10th-15th and then that all important spray in October 10th-15th and not a day later. To me it makes sense to make fewer but more effective spraying sessions.

Now over to happier times in the greenhouse! Do keep removing tomato side shoots that grow between the plants main stem and branch, I tend to nip them off first thing in the morning whilst the plants are turgid as it helps prompt healing. I also religiously grow French marigolds amongst my tomato plants to help ward off white fly. We have a lovely crop of basil in the greenhouse too, that I make sure is only watered first thing in the morning and not at night so the plants don't sit in cold damp conditions which can cause root rot.

Finally this month, do remember to put in flower supports before they need them, this reminder is as much to me as to you.... As it's number one on my garden to do list!

Please do also keep the questions coming in. Email us at redmapple@btinternet as ever the most interesting question will be published next month.

Michelle & Mick McCarter



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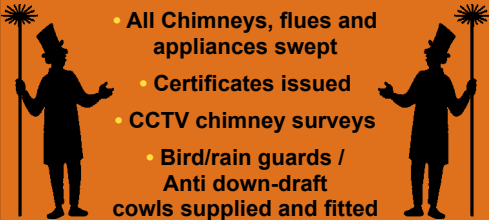
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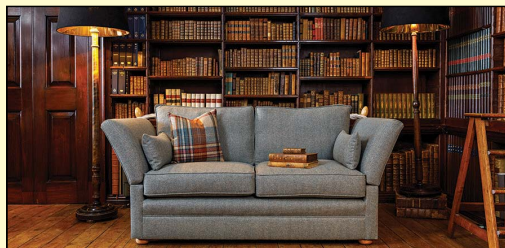
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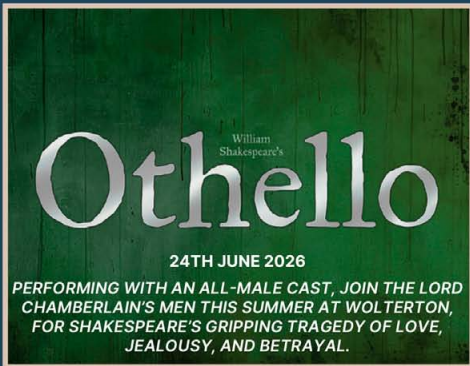
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