

Church & Village News

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

September 2026



Drought - Hole Farm Pond, Hempstead
Photograph by Charles Inglis

Newsletter Team

Issue No 127 / September 2026

Editors Christine & John Birchall

CVN@matlaske.org.uk / 01263 584290

Copy Date second Friday of the month

September 11 / October 9

Advertising advertising@matlaske.org.uk

Treasurer Justin Hill

Distribution Heather De 07703 261087

Print Clanpress www.clanpress.co.uk

Postal Subscriptions

£15 per year Corinne Youngs 01263 577263

To download previous editions visit:

www.churchandvillagenews.org.uk

Parish Council Chairs

Baconsthorpe Jonathan Cooper 01263 577527

Edgefield Emma Cletheroe 01263 587049

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

Andrew Brown 07970 298695

andrew.brown@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Baconsthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske &

Barningham, Plumstead

Callum Ringer 01263 802784

callum.ringer@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Local MP

Steffan Aqarone MP

Steff.aqarone.mp@parliament.uk

Village Correspondents

Baconsthorpe

hazel.merlin1@gmail.com

Barningham Winter

amelia@barninghamestate.co.uk

Edgefield

richardpeaver@gmail.com

Hempstead

jneville@hempstead-norfolk.co.uk

Matlaske

duncan.wood@cantab.net

Plumstead

harrietwormald@hotmail.com

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

birchalljc@aol.com

Hazel Martin

07879 414577

Amelia Courtauld

07971 050646

Richard Peaver

01263 587486

Jonathan Neville

07836 675369

Duncan Wood

01263 570293

Harriet Rossi

01263 577239

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 - contact the Rector

Sax with 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@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Callum Ringer - Erpingham division

callum.ringer@north-norfolk.gov.uk

What's On

SEPTEMBER

Wed 2 10.30am

Sat 5 10.00am

Sun 6 10.00am

Sun 6 3.00pm

Thur 10 6.00pm

Sat 12 All Day

Sat 12 9.00am

Sat 19 2.00pm

Sun 20 10.00am

Thur 24 10.00am

Fri 25 6.00pm

Fri 25 6.30pm

Baconsthorpe Coffee Morning

Hempstead Arts

Hempstead Arts

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Summer Sizzle + Duck Race

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Bonfire Meeting

Norfolk Churches Trust Ride, Walk & Drive

Hempstead 100 Years of Wedding + Christening Gowns

Hempstead Crafty Creations

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Fête

Hempstead Crafty Creations

Baconsthorpe Pop-Up Pub

Edgefield Pudding Party

Village Hall

Village Hall

Village Hall

Village Green

Village Hall

All Villages

Village Hall

Village Hall

Old Station

Village Hall

Village Hall

Church

OCTOBER

Fri 9 6.00pm

Sat 10 10.00am

Thurs 15 10.00am

Sat 17 10.00am

Sat 17 2.00pm

Saxthorpe Harvest Supper tickets lesley@saxthorpe.com

Hempstead Working Party

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Bonfire Meeting

Edgefield Craft Fair

Hempstead Centenary Tea Party tickets lesley.jennox@project21.co.uk

Millers Barn

Village Hall

Village Hall

Village Hall

Village Hall

Clash Diary

Nov 7 Corpusty Bonfire

Nov 7 Hempstead Autumn Craft Market

Nov 8 Hempstead Autumn Craft Market

Nov 21 Baconsthorpe Craft Fair

To add an event contact

Corinne Youngs 01263 577263

corinne@avyoungs.com

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 - 12.00noon

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.

Banking Hub

Barclays Bank, 16 High Street, Holt, NR25 6BQ

9am-5pm weekdays

Monday NatWest Thursday Santander

Tuesday TSB Friday Lloyds

Wednesday Barclays Halifax

Bank of Scotland

Mobile Library Van

24 September / 22 October

Matlaske 12:40 NR11 7AQ Old Post Office

Plumstead 13:00 NR11 7LG Walnut Farm

Baconsthorpe 14:30 NR25 6LJ Council Bungalows

Hempstead 15:05 NR25 6LE Hare & Hounds

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 Noura Eid, Recent Placement in the Benefice

Noura is Syrian, lives in Barcelona and is exploring ordination

Dear All

During June, I had the privilege of being on placement in the Benefice as part of my discernment of a call to priesthood within the Anglican Church. I want to begin by thanking all for your warm welcome. It was a joy to be with you, to witness weddings, coffee mornings, a fête and so much more.



This letter draws on a sermon I preached in Barningham Winter and Edgefield Churches, reflecting on God's generosity, which I have felt so often throughout my life.

I grew up in a small Christian village in Syria. When the Syrian war began, I was thirteen years old. For several years, our village was isolated by militant groups, and we experienced fear, hardship, and uncertainty. Yet even in those difficult years, through the faithfulness of our church community, I encountered God's healing, hope and above all God's generosity. These experiences drew me closer to Christ, led me to study theology and prepare for ministry. I know that this journey would not have been possible without the generosity of many people.

This is why generosity is important to me. I have seen how God works through ordinary people, to bring life where there is hardship, hope where there is despair, and healing where there are wounds.

Through the Bible, we see both God's abundant generosity and sin – selfishness and pride – leading to a suspicion that God cannot be trusted and that we must secure life for ourselves. In Genesis 18, Abraham welcomes three visitors offering rest and a feast. This is both a reflection of ancient Middle Eastern hospitality, and a glimpse of redemption. Adam and Eve, by contrast, hid from God. Abraham invites the divine visitors (angels) into fellowship. Instead of suspicion, there is openness; instead of grasping, there is giving; instead of hiding, there is communion.

Jesus' teaching, healing and welcoming the outsider reveals the abundance of God's kingdom and complete trust in the Father's generosity. Even in a world of suffering, he gives himself completely, ultimately on the cross. In Jesus, God gives not only gifts but himself.

Christian generosity is participating in God's restoring work in the world. My own story bears witness to this truth. During the Syrian war, God, through the generosity of others, provided opportunities that carried me through ten years and three countries. My life was, and is, transformed by generosity. It has sustained me and continues to compel me to share that generosity with others.

My prayer is that we may participate in God's restoring generosity, recognising the generosity we have received. Christian generosity is more than charitable giving; it is a way of seeing reality: trusting that God is generous and that his kingdom is abundant.

With my thanks

Noura



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for September

2 nd	Wednesday	
6.00pm	Meditation	Barningham Winter
6 th	Trinity XIV	
8.30am	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
10.30am	Eucharist (Arts Festival Weekend)	Hempstead
13 th	Trinity XV	
8.30am	Eucharist	Edgefield
10.30am	Eucharist	Barningham Winter
5.00pm	Evensong followed by refreshments	Baconsthorpe
16 th	Wednesday	
6.00pm	Meditation	Matlaske
17 th	Thursday - Norfolk Churches Trust AGM	
5.30pm	AGM followed by a talk by Rachel Morley, refreshments + short service	Corpusty
20 th	Trinity XVI	
8.30am	Eucharist	Baconsthorpe
10.30am	Eucharist	Plumstead
4.00pm	Family Church	Edgefield
27 th	Trinity XVII	
8.30am	Eucharist	Hempstead
10.00am	Breakfast Church	Saxthorpe
29 th	Tuesday	
6.00pm	Harvest Service	Bessingham
4 th Oct	Trinity XVIII	
8.30am	Eucharist	Matlaske
10.30am	Eucharist	Saxthorpe

Country Mice Baby & Toddler Group

Tuesdays 10am-12noon (term time) Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Coffee Morning

Tuesdays 10.30am - Plumstead Church

Coffee, Cake & Chat

Wednesdays 10am - St Andrew's Saxthorpe

First Wednesday of the month 10.30am - Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Details of all our services: <https://tinyurl.com/mvyfajre>



Baconsthorpe

200 Club £50 T Worboys, £25 W Peck, £10 M Honeyman.
Tickets are still available for the 200 Club. See Website for details.

Church News

At 4pm on July 29th a very moving funeral was held for Jennifer Dagless whose family we hold in our prayers.

Church clean-up & BBQ

Gentle reminder once again that on October 10th at 10am we are planning a 'church clean-up'. This will be followed by a BBQ at 12noon. We hope to tidy up the churchyard, clean the inside and polish the brass. It will be lovely to see as many people as possible for what is always an enjoyable and sociable morning.

The Norfolk Churches Trust Cycle Ride takes place on Saturday September 12th. This year it is the 50th birthday of the trust and to celebrate this, bell ringing will be taking place in the churches. As you know our church is one of the few to have the beautiful tubular bells. During the day there will be a demonstration on how to ring the bells, so why not come along and have a go. Sponsorship forms will be in the church so please do think about taking part either by bike, car, or on foot. It's a great day out which raises essential funds for both our Benefice and the Trust.

So Much to See and Enjoy in Baconsthorpe



On July 17th everyone enjoyed a fabulous evening sitting in the garden at the village hall and watching *A Comedy of Errors*. The sun shone, hot dogs and quiche were available from the kitchen supplied by my husband and the very capable Karen; the bar was open and the actors excelled. I am enclosing some photographs of the performance to give you a taste of the play. Note, the two sets of twins in the photograph of the cast who caused mayhem and all the constant 'errors'!

I would like to thank everyone who helped put up the gazebo on the Friday and the willing helpers at the end of the play. A special thank you to Jonathan Cooper for sound and lighting of the play and managing to fix the set so securely.

If you did not manage to see the play you may be interested to know that next July we will be performing *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Then just a week later at Baconsthorpe Castle we were treated to a performance of *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austin performed by Moving Parts Theatre Company. It was another magical evening. I do hope they will return again next year.



Hazel Martin
07879 414577

New Waste & Dog Bin Installed at the Car Park Next to the Play Area

We are pleased to announce that a new combined waste and dog waste bin has been installed at the car park to help keep the village clean and tidy.

The new bin provides a convenient place to dispose of general litter and bagged dog waste; helping us to reduce littering and encourage responsible dog ownership. We kindly ask everyone using the play area and surrounding footpaths to make use of the bin and continue clearing up after their dogs. The play area is a well used space for families and visitors and the new facility will help keep it clean and welcoming for all.

The other existing dog waste bins are at Long Lane near the water tower and at the castle.

Thank you to everyone for helping to keep our village looking at its best.

Sarah Hayden- Baconsthorpe Parish Council

Village Hall News

Pop-up Pub Friday 25th bar opens at 6pm and food served from 6.30pm. Sausages + Salad on the menu. All welcome.

Coffee Morning We continue to hold our free coffee morning with cheese scones on the first Wednesday of each month. We have a dedicated following but we will always welcome new people between 10.30am – 11.30am.

Last Wednesday it was so lovely to be visited by four generations of one family. The photograph shows Joy, Debra, Georgia and Finley waiting to enter the village hall to have their coffee and chat to everyone.



Sincere thanks go to Dick and Debbie Fiddian who donated £500 to our Village Hall. His garden at Fiddian's Follies, Upwood Farm, North Barningham was open for the National Garden Scheme. This is well worth a visit if you get the chance.

Country Mice Don't forget we are back following our summer break on Tuesday September 8th. We look forward to welcoming everyone.

Teresa Gransden

Rick's Community Garden

Up at Baconsthorpe Allotments, there is a plot in the centre that my husband, Rick Quillen 1963-2026, tended for seven years. He started working on it before he even started working on restoring Stores House with me. Earlier this year he was finally feeling satisfied with it; he had just finished building a second greenhouse up there and I think he felt the allotment was finally how he wanted it.

His allotment has a shed, two greenhouses, one large planting area and one smaller and an orchard. The orchard now, thanks to Jon Cooper, has a beautiful small fire pit, a place to sit around, with friends, sing, think, talk or have a beer. We know that having your own allotment is a dream many people have, but it is so much work and many have tried and, let's be honest, failed to do it. But it is also a really great community up there, during lockdown it was a lifesaver.



Everywhere Rick and I have lived we have planted an orchard and built a fire pit. It's what we do, what we did. Now I think he would want me to share it with you and leave a fitting memorial at the place and in the village he loved. Over this next year I, with some of our friends, will grow and plant perennial vegetables and herbs and flowers (there are already quite a few thriving). And then I will open it to the community.

Jon, who has helped Rick with it a lot over the years and was his best friend, and I envision this as a place where you can come and take some fresh herbs, vegetables and fruit, plant some yourself and tend your own small patch, or you can use the greenhouses to grow seedlings, all we ask in return is that you give a little of your time to do some weeding, or mowing, or strimming.

If you would like to know more, would like to help us with getting it started, or know that you'd like to use it later, please WhatsApp me (07951 746404). I'd love to hear from you.

Mandy Honeyman, Stores House

Barningham Winter

Pizza & Music

The end of July saw the Matlaske & Barningham Winter fundraiser, Pizza in the Park. It was a joyous day and 100 pizzas were sold with the essential help of Susan Fearn and Sarah Meyrick. Another Barningham Winter team, Katherine and Ben O'Sullivan ran the bar, keeping us all rehydrated in what must have been the hottest fête for many years.



Amelia Courtauld
01263 577250

Fiddian's Follies

Well done to Dick and Debbie Fiddian who opened their extraordinary garden, Fiddian's Follies, for this year's National Garden Scheme. The day attracted 599 visitors and raised over £4,000, a huge amount. The NGS donate all proceedings to nursing and health charities.

Classic Cars Start Here!

Don't forget Saturday 12th September, the annual Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, Walk & Drive. Not only does it raise essential funds for the Trust but half the money goes to your designated church. The benefice can really benefit from this great day out. This year, to celebrate the Trust's 50th Anniversary there is a vintage car rally

running on the same day too. One of the starting points will be Barningham Hall so look out for a stream of beautiful cars.

MacMillan Coffee Date

Looking forward, a date for your diary. Michelle French will be hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning on Friday, October 2nd. Enjoy delicious cake and coffee with friends whilst raising money for their essential work.



Edgefield

Church News

The Norfolk Churches Trust (NCT) Cycle Ride takes place on Saturday 12th. This is a great opportunity to cycle or walk around Norfolk, visiting its historic churches, whilst raising money for your local church and the NCT. If you would like to take part, please contact Alison Mawson: 01263 587236.



Richard Peaver
01263 587486



Pudding Party

Come and try a delicious variety of puddings at Edgefield Church at 6.30pm on Friday 25th. Unleash your inner Bake-Off skills and bring your favourite pudding to be judged. Tickets are £10, to include a glass of wine and entry into a prize draw. Please contact Emma on: 07810 806232 if you would like to come along.

Family Service is at 4pm on Sunday 20th. All ages are welcome to this informal afternoon where we will be celebrating God's wonderful creation with crafts, songs, a Bible story, a message and refreshments.

Thank You It was lovely to have so many people at our special evensong service, which we held to say thank you to the many people who support their village church in a wide variety of ways. They included cleaners, flower arrangers, readers, musicians, those who help with maintaining the

churchyard or with fundraising, deliver the magazine, or are helpful and generous with their time and money in any way towards the church. After the service everyone enjoyed socialising over Pimm's and cheese nibbles.

Alison Mawson

Tuesday Club

The July gathering went extremely well, with about 20 people present. The most exciting part was that a team of six lovely Edgefield people baked and served at the event. None of them has been in the village more than five years (one only three months) and yet were so keen to support this community event. Thank you Sally, Karen, Sandra, Cynthia, Debs and Kay. Cheese scones, apricot cake, brownies, carrot cake and marmalade cake were beautifully presented and the bone china cups, saucers and tea plates created a very pleasing atmosphere. Joyce Kinsley, who vividly remembers the previous Tuesday Club in the village, read a few poems and ditties. We look forward to meeting more people on Tuesday 22nd September and Tuesday 20th October at 2.00pm. If transport should be required, contact Kay: 07941 985635.

Kay Harvey

Parish Council News

Edgefield's beautiful village pond is under threat from the highly invasive plant crassula helmsii, and we need your help. A digger will begin the first stage of the restoration on 1st September (by the time you read this it may already have started) but this is only the beginning. Removing crassula is a long-term project that will take years, and we'll need volunteers to help with ongoing clearance and restoration to give our pond and its wildlife the best chance of recovery.

Whether you can spare a few hours occasionally or get involved more regularly, your support will make a real difference. Let's work together to restore one of Edgefield's most treasured spaces for future generations. To volunteer or find out more, please contact :clerk@edgefield-pc.gov.uk

As you may have noticed, the SAM2 (flashing speed sign) is now back up and working on the Holt/Norwich Road. Moving this and recharging the battery has been designated to the Clerk (me) and it's quite heavy! If anyone in Edgefield can help me with this, I'd be very grateful. Contact: clerk@edgefield-pc.gov.uk

Amanda Yacoubian

Hempstead

Coffee & Catchup Friday 4 10.30am - 12noon. All welcome

Social Saturdays Saturday 12 from 10am. Come along and join us or just pop in and collect a takeaway breakfast bap.

Hempstead 200 Club August winners

£50 J Boggis, £25 T Scarff, £15 M Gurney, £10 R Carver

Hempstead Crafty Creations

Saturday 19 2- 4pm / Thursday 24 10 - noon
No topics as yet

History of Wedding Dresses Exhibition

As part of the Hempstead Village Hall 100 Years Celebrations, there will be an exhibition of Wedding Dresses and Christening Gowns from the 1920s to the modern day on Saturday 12th. This will coincide with Norfolk Churches Cycle Ride and Heritage Open Days, so all day refreshments will be available. Thank you to all who have offered to loan us their garments, it's very much appreciated.

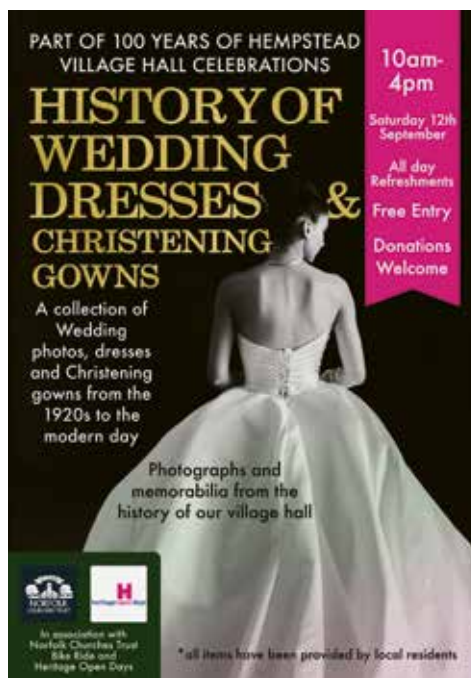
If you have any last minute offers of items, can help setting up or help on the day - please contact Lesley lesley.lennox@project21.co.uk or Sarah family.muddleton@gmail.com

Refurbished Seats

I agree with Jill the seats in the village look absolutely splendid, congratulations to all involved, particularly Douglas Empson, who carried out the work so brilliantly, dismantling the old seats, refurbishing the cast iron frames, refitting them with new timber, repainting and re-erecting them in their old locations, now looking so welcoming. They do not require new concrete plinths, they are not sculptures, just somewhere to sit and relax.



Jonathan Neville
07836 675369



Mike Thody

Hempstead Arts

Residents of Hempstead are invited to the preview of our annual Art Exhibition and sale at Hempstead Village Hall NR25 6TL on Friday 4th at 6.30pm. Take a look: <https://hempsteadarts.weebly.com/2026-catalogue.html>

It's been a mammoth effort to bring the work of 35 local artists together but the result has been well worth it, do come along to see for yourself. There will be an exciting mix of mediums and styles - everything is for sale at modest prices. The exhibition is also open to the public over the weekend: Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th 10am - 5pm. Don't miss this weekend of stimulating artwork in our village. Please let your friends know, so they don't miss out. Refreshments, including cakes of all types, bacon rolls and sausage rolls, home made and delicious! Free entry and proceeds to Hempstead Church Funds.



Drought

July was incredibly dry and only 2.2mm of rain was recorded by Adrian Sewell. The photo of Hole Farm pond used as the front cover of this month's magazine looks more like the South Luangwa in Zambia than in Hempstead, England!

Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride - Saturday 12th September

This is a great opportunity to explore our splendid churches nearby or further afield to help raise funds for the Norfolk Churches Trust and our own church. There are some real gems tucked away in idyllic countryside well worth exploring. Just ask family, friends and neighbours to sponsor you before you set off. Please contact me on 01263 712460 for further details or sign up on the Norfolk Churches Trust website. We have raised impressive amounts in the past from our loyal and generous supporters but many of our long-standing participants have retired and we do need some fresh blood to take their place. Why not give it a try?

Yvette Gibson

Hempstead Church Community

On Sunday 26th July a thank you evensong followed by a Pimms and nibbles drinks party, was held to thank everyone who helps in any way towards Hempstead parish church. This includes those who are regular financial donors, those who clean and arrange flowers and others who contribute with fundraising activities or in any other practical way. Everyone is a volunteer and we are so delighted that we have such a generous parish community to help support the church and its work in the village.



Matlaske

100 Club winners: £25 C De Bunsen, £10 I Bishop, £5 J Barker

Pizza & Music in the Park

This was a huge success again this year. The weather was exceptional, the food great, music wonderful and the atmosphere fantastic. A big thank you to the organisers, the people who helped and of course those that donated. The planning for next year will soon start. Would you like to be part of the committee or have some ideas for games or stalls? Then please contact Marion through email Jim: shepherd123@btinternet.com



Duncan Wood
01263 570293

Plumstead



Solar Eclipse

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of a kind couple in the village, we were all able to enjoy the sight of the eclipse through a telescope and glasses. It was a lovely village gathering and a great opportunity for a catch up with neighbours whilst enjoying the treat of being able to see the eclipse in a perfectly clear sky. Thank you to the owner of the telescope for sharing with us.



Harriet Rossi
01263 577239

Dogs & Footpaths

We benefit from some lovely walks around the village in our stunning countryside and it is a wonderful and popular place for dog walks. We have become aware that some dog walkers are not being as diligent as they should be in picking up after their pets. Dog litter bins are provided so can we all please ensure they are used and our beautiful village is left as we would wish to find it.

Scything in the Churchyard

The long grass in the churchyard has been expertly scythed by two members of the village. This is an art form in itself and a lovely way to keep traditional practices going. We thank them for their hard work, especially in this rather unforgiving heat.



Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Shiver Me Timbers

More than 30 small desperados intent on finding pieces of eight and swashing their buckles descended on St Andrews Church mid way through the month at the regular Wednesday Coffee, Cake and Chat. The 'Pirates and Treasure' theme also attracted around 60 more mature attendees, who watched on with amusement (with excellent coffee and cake) activities such as walking the plank



John Birchall
07810 016976

and treasure seeking, making your own decorated treasure chest, discovering your pirate name, and the application of (non permanent) pirate tattoos. While lots of support was given to make the event such a success, particular thanks go to Sandra Carman, Kay Harvey, Harriet, Vanessa, Rob for the Gazebo and the lovely teachers from Corpusty Primary School, who all ably supported Church wardens Jill and Lesley who are the moving force behind the Coffee, Cake & Chat Wednesdays.



Pop-up Book Shop

An all day pop up book shop at Corpusty station building at the end of July, with refreshments (well it wouldn't be our village without cake!) raised an amazing £340 for the breast cancer charity Coppafeel. The brainchild of Hester Macdonald-Thomas, it was supported by members of Corpusty's The Never Ending Chapter bookclub - which takes place on the last Friday of the month at 7pm either in the Station or the Village Hall building. Hester - who completed a weeklong trek in aid of the charity, which supports younger women who are affected by breast Cancer, earlier in the year raising more than £2,500 has now signed up for a further marathon trek in the Lake District in September. She'd be delighted by any further donations.

Harvest Supper at Millers Barn October 9th

Tickets £25 a head includes food, entertainment and a first drink, from lesley@saxthorpe.com or call 07531 065959.

Ducks & Sausages - Sunday 6th 3pm - 6pm - Village Green

Don't miss the Sausage Sizzle, hugely popular Duck Race and games and stalls. Donations on the day will be shared between St Andrews Church and the Village Hall.

Village Hall

Fête on 20th - Morris Men, classic cars, games, bric a brac, food, bar, old railway station open

Prize Bingo 24 October and 12 December

Breakfast on the second Sunday of the month

Lunch Club on the third Tuesday of the month

www.corpustyandsaxthorpevillagehall.org.uk

Summer Music at St Peters

Every seat was taken at St Peters Church for a wonderful evening of music in aid of the Norfolk Churches Trust. The Saltmarsh strings - Freya Goldmark, Sara Longe, Jim O'Toole, and Ivan McCready - treated the audience to a first half of Dvorak's American String Quartet before following up with more recent tunes - surely the first time the old stones and timbers had resounded to the Bond theme, The Beatles, Etta James and a surprise Abba encore. Another surprise was the sound of rain drumming on the roof, and the audience emerged to an astonishing sunset. Many thanks to all who made the evening so memorable, especially the musicians.



Norfolk Churches Trust AGM at St Peters - Thursday 17th at 5.30pm

Guest Speaker Rachel Morley Director, Friends of Friendless Churches

When Corpusty church appeared in John Betjeman's film *A Passion for Churches* in 1974 it was a boarded-up ruin. There was a 'something must be done' moment during a visit by Lady Harrod turning the church into the catalyst which led to the founding of the Norfolk Churches Trust. In

1982 St Peter's was taken on by The Friends of Friendless Churches who carried out substantial work to the tower. Through them and the efforts of a few locals the building was stabilised. The roof was repaired and the windows glazed to keep out the worst of the weather. In 2009 the church passed into the care of the Norfolk Churches Trust, so it seems apt in the Trust's 50th anniversary year that St Peter's should host their AGM and that Rachel Morley from the Friends of Friendless Churches will be Guest Speaker.

John Perry-Warnes Education Fund helps those in education who live in the Matlaske Benefice. If you would like to apply please submit an application, stating why the funds are required along with the cost of each item and a description of your educational situation. Email submissions to: rector@matlaske.org.uk, or post The Rectory, The Street, Matlaske, Norfolk NR11 7AQ by **1 September 2026**.

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



It is with a sense of déjà vu that I sit here to write this month's article for September, as we are now in our 5th heatwave of the year and it's been a month of the hosepipe ban, so beyond testing times in both the garden and countryside. The harvest such as it was got completed in record time, so the fields for this time of the year are oddly quiet, which in its self has felt all kinds of wrong.

So with a deep breathe I am going to focus on a few things that perhaps can be done. First up is Don't panic! Whilst it's really difficult seeing trees losing their leaves or turning brown a good month or two too early it could well be a natural reaction to stress called premature senescence, where in effect a plant or tree is effectively going into an early autumn dormancy to protect itself as much as possible. This

one is literally a waiting game, there is no point in watering a tree that has decided to go into dormancy early, we just have to sit tight and wait and see what happens come springtime.

The second one up is watering and forgive me for stating the obvious but if we are able to water some plants we should at least hope to be doing it effectively. Any watering I've been doing I've done very early in the morning, it just feels like the best time to water, also I have noticed with the nights getting longer that there is more dew about in the mornings, so it feels as if any watering that is done then must be more effective. When I am watering I am only carefully watering the base of a plant, so it goes where it is needed most.

The third one is if like us you are struggling with pots where the compost has lost all its ability to hold onto water (it has a fantastic descriptive of being hydrophobic compost) then try this tip, after you've filled your watering can add a few drops of an eco-washing up liquid to the water, washing up liquid alters the cellular composition of water so that it literally sticks to pots and pans, so by altering the composition of the water it then sticks to the compost, so tah dah! you are now hopefully watering much more efficiently, rather than just watching it immediately drain straight out of the pot. This is a new tip to me, so I will let you know how it works out for us!

Finally I would say to just enjoy what you can enjoy in the garden, which I know is difficult when it's all so challenging. But all we can do is to work with what we've got and hope for easier times.

Please do also 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 - Arthur Pentney

"A Dirty Car and a Dried-Up Lawn are the Hallmarks of a Responsible Citizen"
"Save Water - Bath With a Friend"



The above two quotes from the Summer of 1976 emphasise just how serious the water shortages had become. OK, the second one is admittedly humorous, but the message is clear and that summer has always been the benchmark used for comparisons with other hot dry summers - even the one we are experiencing now.

1976 differed from the present one as in that summer it was preceded by a dry winter and spring unlike this year when winter and spring were very

wet. Consequently fifty years ago water levels were already low prior to the summer drought.

Heatwave conditions then aggravated those 16 months of low rainfall with temperatures exceeding 30° C for more than 15 consecutive days. Crops suffered with some failing altogether. A hosepipe ban was accompanied by the need for standpipes in some affected areas where no tap water was available.

My recollections from this time are of woods where whole swathes of trees had turned brown, of village ponds completely dried up, of old wells given new life in order to water vegetables, and travelling to work by motorcycle when instead of enjoying cooling air it was like having a hair drier blasting onto you. Food prices rocketed, potato products especially, which doubled in price and of course never came down again. The Government acted - a Drought Minister was appointed which had the desired effect, heavy rain arrived in October and November!

Is the hot dry summer we are now experiencing as severe as the one in 1976? The jury is still out on that one, only time will tell.

Country Mice Group
 Baconsthorpe Village Hall, nr Holt
 Tuesdays 10-12

A group for babies, toddlers and their parents/carers

We aim
 to be a place of belonging and community
 to establish supportive and helpful relationships
 to create a learning environment

£2.50 per family to include healthy refreshments
Message Teresa for info: 07761083701

Chimney Sweep
01263 669012 / 07747 021862

dashingsweep@gmail.com
 www.thedashingchimneysweep.com



CONCEPT

AYLSHAM

FLOORING & BLINDS SPECIALISTS

LOCATED AT 17-19 PENFOLD STREET AYLSHAM

EST FOR OVER 25 YEARS,
OFFERING PROFESSIONAL HONEST
SERVICE, AT AFFORDABLE PRICES.

- LVT
- BEDS
- VINYL
- CARPET
- LAMINATE
- FLYSCREENS
- NATURAL FLOORING
- CARPET CLEANING & BINDING
- FLOOR PREPARATION & GRINDING
- ALL TYPES OF BLINDS & SHUTTERS



01263 732894

sales@conceptcarpets.co.uk

www.conceptcarpets.co.uk



FOLLOW US



Screen Printing Workshops



**Studio
All Day
Long**

Suitable for all, beginners welcome. Meet new people, learn a new skill and take home something useful made by your very own hands!

More info & sign up visit
studioalldaylong.com

Grounds and Garden Maintenance

Ben Grange - 15 Years Experience

- Grass Cutting
- Strimming
- Hedge Trimming
- Pruning
- Tree Care
- General Maintenance

norfolkgrounding@gmail.com
07923056378

D THOMPSON CHIMNEYS LTD

Est. 1995

MASTER CHIMNEY SWEEP

NVQ QUALIFIED CHIMNEY ENGINEER



- All Chimneys, flues and appliances swept
- Certificates issued
- CCTV chimney surveys
- Bird/rain guards / Anti down-draft cowls supplied and fitted
- Stove servicing and maintenance



CALL DAVID OR LUCY ON

01328

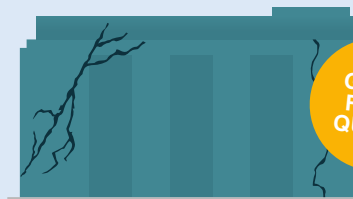
851081

www.the-sweep.co.uk



**Anglia
Oil Tank
Solutions**

**Is your oil tank
CRACKING?
We can help!**



**GET A
FREE
QUOTE**

Serving customers in Norfolk & Suffolk for over 25 years

Call 01953 713560

angliaoil tanksolutions.co.uk



PJElectrics:

High Quality Professional Service

**Any type of electrical works...
big or small we can do it all!**

Free survey and quotation

Test & Certify to IEE18th Edition



Part P Registered

01328 830492

07884 436112

paul@pjelectricsltd.co.uk

www.pjelectricsltd.co.uk

kindly sponsored by



Heritage | Community | Preservation

kindly sponsored by



Win a Bike!
see overleaf
for information on all
our competitions

BIKE • WALK • DRIVE

Saturday 12th September 2026

9am – 5pm

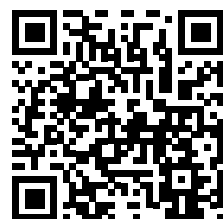
Many of Norfolk's incredible historic churches and chapels are **in urgent need of repair** — from leaking roofs and crumbling stonework to essential timber and window repairs.

Your support helps keep these remarkable landmarks **safe, open and alive** for the communities they serve.

Take Part & Make a Difference

Explore Norfolk's stunning churches and raise money simply by being sponsored for your **bike ride walk or drive** or make a personal donation

**50 years of preserving
Norfolk's Churches**



To donate scan the QR code or visit
norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/donate/

LISA DAWSON

Norfolk's leading makers of curtains,
blinds & accessories



Visit our Aylsham showroom, home to over
8000 fabric and wallpaper samples.

01263 732524

11 Penfold Street, Aylsham, NR11 6ET

lisadawson.co.uk

studio@lisadawson.co.uk

Your legal matters in safe hands for generations

Hayes + Storr Solicitors handle a whole range of family, property and business legal matters with care and professionalism.



Call us today **01263 825959**
www.hayesandstorr.co.uk

- Property Sales and Purchases
- Children and Family Law
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Wills and Probate

HS
HAYES+STORR
SOLICITORS

Sheringham | Holt | Fakenham | King's Lynn | Swaffham

LCR MOTORCYCLES

OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE

70's to 2000's Japanese Motorcycle specialist

SERVICE & REPAIR

- Engine rebuilding, setup, & tuning
- Full renovation & restoration
- Carb rebuilding & sonic cleaning

FOUNDRY COTTAGE, AYLHAM ROAD,
SAXTHORPE, NR11 7DB

✉ LCRMOTORCYCLES@GMAIL.COM

07961 125 357

GOFF HEATING OIL



**Deal direct & save
on your heating oil**

Get a quote – call our
team on **01953 713555**
or order easily online



IVAN'S PEST CONTROL

LANTRA + BASIS REGISTERED

FULLY INSURED

01263 821304 / 07534 455301

ivanallenpestcontrol@gmail.com



R.M.C
autos

- Servicing
- General Repairs
- MOT Tests
- Tyre Fitting Service
- Welding
- Recovery
- Car Sales

Norwich Road, Edgefield NR24 2RL

Contact Ross **01263 587970**

It Pays to Advertise

Free distribution to 900 houses

For details contact:

Kevin Harvey

advertising@matlaske.org.uk

ITTERINGHAM VILLAGE SHOP

Established 1637



General Store • Café • Post Office • Off Licence
Shop open daily 9 am-5 pm Monday - Saturday. 9 am-4 pm Sunday.
www.ourvillagestore.co.uk Instagram: @litteringhamshop



Green Paws Pet & Equine Services

Freelance Groom & Dog Walker – for pets and their people.

Services offered:

- **Dog Walking** – Regular or occasional walks tailored to your dog's needs.
- **Drop-in Visits** – For dogs, puppies, cats, small pets, and exotics.
- **Pet Microchipping** – Licensed to microchip dogs, cats, and small furries.
- **Pet & House Sitting** – Dependable care for your animals and property, including yards.
- **Freelance Groom / Yard Cover** – Ragwort pulling, poo-picking, and holiday cover.



Fully insured and canine first aid trained. Holder of City & Guilds-accredited certificates in Dog Walking, Pet Sitting, and Canine Behaviour.

Covering all areas within a 10-mile radius of NR11. Microchipping services are available across North Norfolk.

**Ready to find the right care for your animals?
Reach out to Kimberley to chat about your needs or
arrange a friendly meet and greet!**

07388 828520

greenpawsinfo@gmail.com



Oliver Husar Tree Services

Tree and hedge work

oliverhusar@yahoo.co.uk
www.oliverstrees.co.uk

07825 214234
01263 577679

Qualified
Insured

Lloyd Durham Funeral Services

Based in High Kelling, near Holt since 1933

A locally-owned, family-run, independent funeral home providing a personal, caring and professional service.

- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
- Masonry Consultations
- Green Funerals

Hayley Pegg Funeral Director

Tel: 01263 713113

Email: lloydurham@northnorfolkfuneralservices.co.uk
11a Avenue Road, High Kelling, Holt NR25 6RD

Corpusty & Saxthorpe Village Hall

Heydon Road, Corpusty

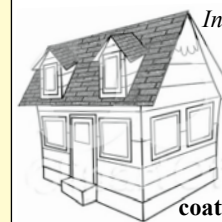
Available for Hire

Suitable for all types of one-off functions and regular group meetings
Ample parking, good kitchen facilities, wifi, AV equipment on request, light & airy halls
For further details and to book contact

Caroline Randell

07528 149835 caroline.randell@hotmail.co.uk
corpustyandsaxthorpevillagehall.org.uk

WILLIAM COATES PAINTER & DECORATOR



Interior & Exterior
Quality Workmanship
Free Estimates

01263 584183

07810 013591

coates_william@hotmail.com

BACONSTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

School Lane, Baconsthorpe, NR25 6LJ

Available for Hire

Wedding Receptions • Christening • Parties • Wakes • Dances
Events • Regular Groups and Much More
Fully Equipped to Cater for up to 100 Guests
• Ample Parking • Bar & Bar Area • Large Garden
Outdoor Seating

To book or enquire: 07500 047732
villagehall@baconsthorpe.org
www.baconsthorpe.org/village-hall

HEMPSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

Available for hire

Facilities include tables & chairs, plates & cutlery for up to 80; stage; overhead projector suitable for films and computer presentations

Contact Richard Roy 01263 715851
richardjohnroy@gmail.com

No matter how far away you are...
Our Man in Norfolk is always on hand

Our Man in Norfolk

Key holding service,
regular property
security visits,
starting from just £10
per week.

A complete second home service

Tel: 07918 776575
www.ourmaninnorfolk.co.uk

R D Goodge

General Building
Flint Work
Roofing

0779 5158447

goodgetd@gmail.com

www.rdgoodgebuilder.co.uk



Services

Stove Installations
Fireplace Renovations
Home Improvements
Land Clearance

Hard Landscaping
Digger Work
Fencing
Equine Infrastructure



www.twhservices.uk
TWH Services
twh.services



R WELLS MEMORIALS

*Your independent
Memorial Mason*

Memorials in marble, stone and
various coloured granites
Brochures upon request

Workshop: 01603 755524

www.rwellsmemorials.co.uk
Unit 8 Sawmill Close, The Street
Felthorpe, Norwich, NR10 4BH

Ivan Fisher
Independent Funeral Homes Ltd
Established 2005

Paul Fisher and his team have been
proudly serving our community for over
20 years. We're always here when you
need us, 24 hours a day.



01263 735161
www.ivanfisher.co.uk

2- 4 Norwich Road, Aylsham, Norfolk, NR11 6BN



IYENGAR YOGA CLASSES

Stretch, Strengthen, Balance and Relax
Beginners and experienced
students welcome

Classes: £12 (block booking) £15 (drop-in)
Edgefield, Fakenham, Reepham and Norwich

morning (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)
and evening (Tuesday and Thursday)
concessions available

Contact Liz Ward: 07740 105 339
e-mail: yogalward@gmail.com

Stuart's
TAXI & TRAVEL



SHERINGHAM 01263 824444

stuartstaxitravel@btinternet.com

HOLT 01263 710088

Serving our customers in North Norfolk and beyond since 1999

'Sharp Lines'
'Quality Finish'



Kevin Nichols

Painter & Decorator
Interior & Exterior

01263 861547 07795 077090

Jill Hill

Designer and maker
of special embroidered garments,
accessories and art textiles.
Mending and alterations
also undertaken.

01263 584155

or call at
The Old Workshop Gallery
Corpusty

www.corpustygallery.co.uk



Andrew Dixon

PAINTER & DECORATOR

*Interior and Exterior
Low Cost - High Standard*

Call Andrew
01263 860204
07770 447714



Norfolk Sewing Machine Service

Most sewing machines repaired
Highly skilled engineers
Fully guaranteed
Free estimate
Fast turnaround

01263 584113

North Norfolk Tree Services

For all your tree surgery Needs

Jeremy Cox

07503 885499

nntrees@gmail.com



Stump Grinding

Woodchipping

22 metre platform hire + operator

Fully Insured

Over 40 years of experience

Call for a free no obligation quote



Upholstery, re-upholstery and repairs.

Made to measure curtains and roman blinds, bed valances and headboards.

Roller, venetian, vertical and perfect fit blinds supplied and fitted.

Our artisan upholsterers hand craft each piece at our West Runton premises with the upmost care and attention to detail to create a truly one of a kind piece.



5 Station Road,
West Runton, Norfolk
Tel: 01263 837611

www.williamsowestrunton.co.uk



SURE Computer Systems Ltd

- New And Refurbished PCs
- New And Refurbished Laptops
- PC And Laptop Repairs And Upgrades
- Virus Removal And Antivirus Software
- Onsite Home And Business Support
- Apple Repairs And Upgrades
- Broadband And Mesh Networks

Hempstead Road
Business Centre
Holt
Norfolk
NR25 6EE

**01263
711052**

Established 1999

Email : info@surecomputers.co.uk

Website : www.surecomputers.co.uk



Edgefield Village Hall

Available for hire with tables, chairs, fully equipped kitchen, stage, table tennis, audio-visual equipment & free Wi-Fi.

Registered Charity No. 1116035
hallbookingonline.com/edgefield

t: 07778 400012

e: jeffwitts@hotmail.com

PETRA FREEMAN

Foot Health Practitioner

Home visits for all your foot care needs

Toenail Cutting, Ingrown Toenails, Corns & Calluses,
Verrucas, Thickened Nails, Cracked Heels,
Fungal Nails & Foot & Diabetic Footcare.

07551036403

freeyourfeet70@gmail.com

www.free-your-feet.co.uk/

Stoves and chimneys

01263 761127

BriantheSweep@gmail.com

BRIAN THE SWEEP

**CORBETT
WOODWORK**

Custom Made Woodwork

www.corpustygallery.co.uk

01263 587111 / 07855 608772

**RTB ROOFING and
BUILDING LTD**

For all roofing needs
and small building works

07979 696565

01603 754969

richard@rtbroof.com

www.rtbroof.com



Find your reason to visit

WALK ■ DISCOVER ■ PLAY ■ EAT ■ JOIN IN

Explore scenic woodland trails, beautiful gardens and the estate at your own pace, with a play area for little adventurers. Afterwards, enjoy family treats in our café or discover workshops and events throughout the year.



PLAN
YOUR
VISIT



Mannington

mannington.co.uk