

Church & Village News

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

April 2021



Double Rainbow over Baconsthorpe
Photograph by Norman Allen

Surprise! Letter from the Editor



After the unsettling and upsetting times we have been living through, I have some thoroughly good news to share: the Church and Village News has been awarded a grant of £4,400 by the National Lottery Community Fund. The application was made by a villager who has asked not to be identified, but I am sure that our whole community will be hugely grateful for his initiative and input.

The difficulties of the last year have damaged or destroyed many enterprises, and although our magazine's purpose is not to turn a profit, we do have to stay afloat – and the grant means that the future of the newsletter is now assured. It has also given us us the confidence to make a change that we have long wanted: from now on, we can have colour on every page.

Part of the grant application process required us to identify the number of volunteers involved in creating and distributing the magazine, and I was as surprised as I was impressed to discover how many are involved. In addition to a management team of four, we have seven village correspondents, regular contributions from the Rector and Benefice Administrator, five columnists, and 37 people who put the magazine through our letterboxes. We also have a growing number of villagers who send in excellent photographs, which are greatly appreciated – do please keep them coming.

To all of the above – and, of course, to the National Lottery Community Fund team, who were so helpful in guiding us through the application process – I offer my thanks.

Things are looking up!

Michael McMahon

Newsletter Team

Editor Michael McMahon
mjmcn25@gmail.com

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Design + Advertising Karen Hall 577547

Distribution Mary Lintott 577718

Treasurer Corinne Youngs 577263

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Parish Council Chairs

Baconthorpe Jonathan Cooper 577527

Edgefield Mark Cook 587735

Hempstead Paul Sanders 713217

Matlaske & Barningham Sara Buxton 577207

Plumstead Nick Fulford 577433

Saxthorpe & Corpusty Imogen Waterson 587610

Parish Council Websites

Baconthorpe <http://baconthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconthorpepc>

Edgefield <https://edgefieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

Hempstead <https://hempsteadpc.wixsite.com/hempsteadpc>

Matlaske & Barningham <http://matlaskeparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

Plumstead <https://plumsteadpc.wixsite.com/plumsteadpc>

Saxthorpe & Corpusty <https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com>

Local MP

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

County Councillor

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

Village Correspondents

Baconthorpe Corinne Youngs 577263
corinne@avyoungs.com

Barningham Winter Sara Buxton 577207
s.m.buxton@hotmail.co.uk

Edgefield Richard Peaver 587486
richardpeaver@gmail.com

Hempstead Diana Spalton 711117
dianaspalton@talktalk.net

Matlaske Marion Shepherd 577521
jim.shepherd123@btinternet.com

Plumstead Mary Lintott 577718
mary.lintott57@btinternet.com

Saxthorpe with Corpusty Sophia Hodgson 587510
saxthorpecastle@gmail.com

District Councillors

Corpusty, Edgefield, Saxthorpe
Andrew Brown 07970 298695
andrew.brown@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Baconthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske & Barningham,
Plumstead

Dr Pierre Bütikofer 838306
Pierre.Butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Church People

Rector Revd Canon David Longe 577252

Lay Minister Gill Peat 734226

Lay Minister Judy Rosser 587584

Authorised Worship Assistant Dr Alain Wolf 577292

Church Wardens

Baconthorpe Tessa McCosh 577611
Harry Steel 07711 890360

Barningham Winter Amelia Courtauld 577250

Edgefield Emma Cletheroe 587049

Angela Turner 587292

Hempstead Airlie Inglis (acting) 577440

Matlaske Thomas Courtauld 577250

Duncan Wood (acting) 570293

Plumstead Eleanor Faulkner 577868

Saxthorpe with Corpusty Kevin Beales (acting) 585067

Cathy Stern 587014

Village Contacts for Co-ordinating Help & Support

Barningham Winter & Matlaske

Revd David Longe 01263 577252 rector@matlaske.org.uk
 Marion Shepherd 01263 577521 jim.shepherd123@btinternet.com

Baconsthorpe

Harry Steel 01263 577686 harrysteel73@gmail.com
 Corinne Youngs 01263 577263 corinne@avyoungs.com

Edgefield

Emma Cletheroe 01263 587049 ecletheroe@live.co.uk
 Iain Mawson 01263 587236 iainmawson@hotmail.com
 Richard Peaver 01263 587486 richardpeaver@gmail.com
 Angela Turner 01263 587292 ajtuner@btinternet.com

Hempstead

Yvette Gibson 01263 712460 yvettegibson@pondhills.co.uk
 Moira Ratcliffe 01263 713658 grasshopper@fast-mail.net

Plumstead

Carolyn & Steve Price 01263 577401 clerkplumsteadparishcouncil@hotmail.com
 Mary & John Lintott 01263 577718 mary.lintott57@btinternet.com

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

Andrea Bell, Cathy Stern and Imogen Waterson
 01263 587998 covidcommunityteam001@hotmail.com

Foodbank Voucher Distributors

If anyone is in need of food please contact the following who can authorise vouchers for the local Foodbank (we can arrange for individuals to deliver food if necessary):

Revd David Longe 01263 577263 rector@matlaske.org.uk
 Michael McMahon 07748 754550 mjmcm25@gmail.com
 Cathy Stern 01263 587014 cathy.duffy5@yahoo.com
 Corinne Youngs 01263 577263 administraor@matlaske.org.uk

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Village Hall

Tuesdays 1.00pm – 4.00pm
 All services

Corpusty Stores 587202

Monday-Saturday 9.00am – 12.00noon
 All services including Euros

Itteringham Shop 587325

Monday + Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

Mobile Library Van

Services are
 currently suspended

Holt Library 712202

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB
 Mon Wed Sat 9.30am-1.00pm
 Fri 9.30am-6.00pm

GOVERNMENT IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS HAVE CAUSED THE
 MAJORITY OF EVENTS TO BE POSTPONED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE
 THIS INCLUDES REGULAR EVENTS

What's On

APRIL

Sun 4	All day	Plumstead Festival of Thanks see page 12	St Michael's Church
Fri 16	11.00am	Baconsthorpe Escape Rooms see page 8	Baconsthorpe Castle
Sun 25	3.00pm	Plumstead Nones at 3 Followed by Tea	St Michael's Church

Clash Diary 2021

May 10	Plumstead Annual Church Mtg
June 19 + 20	Edgefield Open Gardens
June 26 + 27	Hempstead Open Gardens
July 24	Edgefest 5
July 31	Matlaske Fête
August 1	Hempstead Fête & Dog Show
Sept 6	Plumstead PC
Dec 6	Plumstead PC

If you are arranging an event please check
 with Corinne Youngs that there
 is not already an event being held that day
 577263 / corinne@avyoungs.com

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.

Warning to Dog Owners

There have been reports of dog stealers operating in this
 area. Chalk marks and drawing pins have been left on gates
 and fences in Calthorpe and subsequently two dogs were
 stolen. The families are devastated so please be vigilant,
 we don't want any of our precious dogs to be taken.



Increase donations for Matlaske Benefice with easyfundraising. By
 signing-up on-line you will help to raise money for the benefice whenever
 you shop on-line. While it's not possible to hold fetes etc, the benefice's
 income is suffering. This is an easy way of supporting the benefice at
 no extra cost to yourself – all you have to do is sign-up, select Matlaske
 Benefice as your chosen charity and shop on-line!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Letter from the Rector - Reverend Canon David Longe

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



Dear All

It is tempting to say that we don't need Easter, that it was relevant to a bygone age, pre-enlightened, pre-modern era, when society lived simply, not understanding the great scientific advances that have occurred, say, in the last two hundred years.

But I want to state, unapologetically, as this letter appears on your door mat at the threshold of Easter, that Easter is a noble, wonderful and enlightening occurrence, that is not just one off but a continuous act in our lives that can have deep resonance and even deeper relevance.

In short we need Easter.

For Easter is sweet, like that chocolate you may indulge in; Easter is joyous like that bursting of new life we see around us this spring time (although we may find at the moment that joy difficult to experience); and above all Easter is hopefully pregnant with opportunity and light.

It is all those things and many more. It contrasts to the long days of Lent, days of lament, of fasting and of temptation. And it has been a long Lent! Lent seems to have stretched all the way back to March 2020 when 'stay at home' became that dismal mantra.

Easter, though, is the tomb standing empty in a mysterious yet inviting way. Why was it empty? Can we peer in and see? What happened? In the Easter story there is a man - or was it an angel - surely we should assume that it was Divine. It was difficult to establish precisely who or what was

there: however there was a figure in the tomb who was not Jesus. And the figure/angel said to those peering in (Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James), and Salome (cf Mark 16.1): "Do not be alarmed". Some translate this as 'amazed' or 'astonished'. But they were 'alarmed', they were scared. They found not a body to anoint, but an empty tomb with an angel speaking to them... surely bizarre?

The mystery of Easter had occurred. Out of the clutches of pain, devastation, isolation and death; something new, intangible, inexplicable, something bizarre had occurred: resurrection.

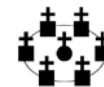
Easter is unexpected.

In this sense Easter is Faith – unexpected, inexplicable, yet bringing with it hope and light. Beckoning us from our long lament of Lent into what can be. It is our lamp. The lamp of faith. As Pope Francis writes:

Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey. To those who suffer, God does not provide arguments which explain everything; rather, his response is that of an accompanying presence, a history of goodness which touches every story of suffering and opens up a ray of light.

That empty tomb was astonishing, alarming and amazing; it also brought a ray of light, which I pray this Easter brings you all.

David



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for April

1 st April	Maundy Thursday	
7.00pm	Eucharist	Barningham Winter
2 nd	Good Friday	
10.30am	The Way of the Cross	St Peter's Corpusty
2.00pm	Good Friday Vigil with reflections	Plumstead
4 th	Easter Sunday	
10.30am	Eucharist	Saxthorpe
11 th	Easter II	
10.30am	Eucharist	Plumstead
18 th	Easter III	
10.30am	Eucharist	Edgefield
25 th	Easter IV	
10.30am	Eucharist	Hempstead
3.00pm	Nones	Plumstead
2 nd May	Easter V	
10.30am	Eucharist	Matlaske
Wednesday 14 th April 10.00am Eucharist Saxthorpe		

Baconsthorpe

March has surely roared in like a lion so hopefully it will leave like a lamb!

Sadly, due to COVID19 yet again Tessa is unable to hold her plant sale at the Old Rectory. This does not mean Tessa has been sitting quietly by her fireside relaxing. As usual she has been busy potting up plants, so do stop by the church stall where you will find many interesting and different plants, as well as the usual well-loved specimens to plant in your gardens.



Corinne Youngs
577263

Welcome to Vince and Dawn Butler who have moved into the Pightle. We hope they will be very happy in their new home in Baconsthorpe.

Village Hall News

We are very pleased to announce that we have received funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to replace the windows at the village hall. The condition of these have been gradually getting worse over the last year or two and are now in a very poor state, so this funding is very timely. We hope to have the work done in June 2021. They should therefore be completed in time for a resumption of some kind of normality in the summer. I would like to thank Kevin Delaney for all his hard work in successfully securing this funding.

We would also like to thank Evelyn Massingham, who has decided to stand down from the Village Hall Committee after many years of service. Evelyn has been brilliant, taking the bookings and helping at the many village hall events, and her contribution will be greatly missed. In future all bookings for the village hall should be directed to Lee Rix at baconsthorpe.villagehall@gmail.com or 07500 047732

Piers Warner

Baconsthorpe Castle - Escape Games



Escape Games Company

From 16th April – 17th May you can go to Baconsthorpe Castle and solve the clues to help save the Heydon family fortune. The game will feature an actor playing Christopher Haydon who inherited his father's estate in the 1560s. Players have to help him find a missing contract lest he lose a deal with a bunch of angry Dutch wool traders and face destitution.

This event is run by Escape Games Company in association with English Heritage.

For more details and to purchase tickets for this event visit:

www.adventureoutgames.co.uk/game-locations/baconsthorpe-castle-norfolk/

Barningham Winter

All quiet on the Barningham Front...

Please do be sure to let Sara know if you have any news in the future!



Sara Buxton
577207

Edgefield

Church News

It was a wonderful and liberating moment to welcome people on Mothering Sunday to our very first service in our church this year! Let us hope that we never again have to be prevented from meeting to worship here when we want to. We had a good laugh when our Rector began to walk away down the aisle, at the end of the service, having somehow over-looked the posies waiting to be given out to the congregation! Many thanks to those who gave us flowers for such a lovely occasion. Now we can look forward to Easter and spring, and the easing of so many restrictions which have made it a difficult winter for everyone. We hope and pray that we can celebrate by having our Open Gardens in June. So, best wishes for a very Happy Easter to everyone!

Angela Turner & Emma Cletheroe



Richard Peaver
587486

Village Hall News

Edgefest 5 is now pencilled in for the evening of Saturday 24th July. The band and a hog roast are booked and tickets costing £10 will be on sale sometime towards the end of April. If you wish to pre-book, please contact me on: james.frost59@hotmail.co.uk

The cancelled quiz night from last April should go ahead in the autumn and your tickets from the original evening will be valid.

February's 200 Club winners were as follows: 1st Malcolm Patten; 2nd Richard Peaver; 3rd Liam Hardesty.

Jim Frost



Cherry Blossom at Hempstead Church - Photograph by Norman Allen

Hempstead

200 Club

£50 D Sanders, £25 J Hurrell, £10 K Wood, £5 T Collier, M Feilden, R Carver

The village hall surrounds are being given a tidy up including new plantings and gravel. Our thanks go to Jill and Dick Roy for the sterling work. Come and admire it all.

M Thody



Diana Spalton
711117

Drop-in Drinks

Hempsteadians! Shake off your lockdown blues and come and enjoy a Pimms (free, on the house) at the Village Hall between 5pm and 7pm on Friday 2nd July. We look forward to seeing you when we hope to be sitting outside with plenty of tables and chairs. Just bring a bottle!

The Hempstead Village Fête & Dog Show

This will be on Sunday August 1st. As always we will be looking for helpers on the day and in advance. If you feel you could help, please contact Yvette Gibson on 712460 or Liz Buxton on 714082.

Hempstead Open Gardens 26th & 27th June

A shout out please for helpers with refreshments on these dates, to bake cakes and biscuits or to man the cafe in the village hall. Several generous people have already agreed to open their gardens, but please get in touch if you would like to take part too. As Granny used to say "many hands make light work" so please let this be a joyous occasion to bring people in the village together – whether you have lived here all your life or just a few months, your help will be most welcome.

Jo Hurrell - 711087 / Jill Roy - 715851

Your Church Needs You!

For people who may not have seen the rather longer note in this regard, which was in the February magazine, and only available on-line that month, Mo and I would be really pleased to hear from anyone who might be willing to join All Saints Church's Cleaning & Flower Rotas. Lasting a calendar month, with the choice of joining either rota if both would prove too much, 'flowers' is as simple as keeping the two small altar vases looking attractive; and 'cleaning' involves hoovering the carpets and polishing / dusting hard surfaces around the altar, lectern, and pews, particularly just before a Service.

We currently have gaps in February and November for flower duties; and in either May or September (both rotas) as a result of one lady wishing to relinquish one of these two months, both of which she is currently responsible for. There could be some scope for swapping if you would like to join us but can't manage these particular months.

We are a small but cheery band, meeting up four times a year collectively to Spring Clean; to decorate the Church at Easter and Christmas; and to enjoy the small social event that takes place immediately prior to the Parochial Church Council's AGM, which is held in the Village Hall. If you think you would like to help, do please give me a call – and thank-you for reading this.

Diane Collier - 713004

Matlaske

100 Club

£25 John Perks, £10 Jan Legge, £5 Ben O'Sullivan

Matlaske Defibrillator

Below is a reminder of the official instructions for access and use of the defibrillator. It is recommended that it should be collected and held on standby whenever anyone is experiencing chest pains or those associated with a heart attack, particularly whilst waiting for an emergency ambulance.

Since its installation the Matlaske defibrillator has been called into action five times. The battery and pads were recently replaced by funds previously raised for that purpose and will last until 2024. When covid restrictions allow we will be putting on another series of training sessions. Any questions to Jim Shepherd (Guardian of the defibrillator) 577521.

Jeremy Norman writes:

The family thanks everyone for all the kind telephone calls, cards and personal comments we have received following Mum's passing. Very much appreciated.



Marion Shepherd
577521



In the event of a suspected heart attack/chest pains, the following procedure should be used:

1. Call 999 and ask for the ambulance service.
2. When asked by the operator, please give the telephone number from where you are calling and the location of this cabinet which is:
**The Old Telephone Kiosk
The Street
Matlaske
Norwich NORFOLK NR11 7AQ**
3. The operator will ask a series of questions which you will need to answer to the best of your ability. This will only take a few seconds and will not delay the ambulance.
4. The operator will then provide you with the access code to open the cabinet.
5. The defibrillator and resuscitation pack should be removed from the cabinet and the ambulance service will stay on the line and give verbal instruction if required.
6. Switch on the defibrillator and it will then provide you with verbal instructions for use.
7. The defibrillator cannot be used incorrectly as it will only deliver a shock to the patient if it detects it is necessary.
8. There are scissors in the resuscitation pack to assist with removal of clothing and a pocket rescue breath mask to carry out CPR.

Remember THINK safety.

Look around before pushing the button to shock and SHOUT the command STAND CLEAR SHOCKING and then check to make sure everyone is clear.

AED LOCATOR (E.U.) LTD
Tel: 01275 332323
Email: enquiries@aediocator.org
www.aediocator.org

Content of this poster has been approved by SWAS Community Response Manager (see message)

Festival of Thanks

St Michael and All Angels
Church Plumstead

Sunday 4th-Friday 9th April

Display of daffodils to lift the Spirits

Funky Bunny Hunt

Cakes for Sale

Church open to give thanks
Donations Welcome

Covid guidelines apply

Designed by Matilda Shaw-Nichols

Plumstead

When I wrote last month's piece there was hope but still uncertainty about how we would begin to come out of lockdown and the restrictions that the Pandemic had brought about. Now with a roadmap in place there is a significant feeling of confidence that everything is moving in the right direction. As a result of this Plumstead has decided to hold a Festival of Thanks.



Mary Lintott
577718

Church Festival of Thanks Easter Sunday 4th April – Friday 9th April

A wonderful opportunity to come and say thank you. Whatever is meaningful for each individual. There is a great deal to be grateful for and we hope to provide a moment of peace and quiet after the challenges of the past year. There will be a stunning display of daffodils and spring flowers to lift the spirits and an Easter Bunny Hunt in the churchyard for the children. As usual there will be cakes and biscuits to buy. Covid guidelines apply. Please come and enjoy

Nones at 3, Followed by Tea St Michael and All Angels' on Sunday 25th April

At the end of the 12th century, St Michael's Church Plumstead and St Thomas's Church Matlaske were among 60 churches cared for by Merton Priory. The first Rector of St Michael and All Angels, recorded on the List of Rectors board in the church, is Thomas de Coldyngham, presented by Merton Priory on April 27th 1320. Before the Reformation, it was the custom at every religious house to meet to pray 7 times a day. In 1998, the tradition of saying prayers at around 3pm, known as Nones, was resumed, in memory of the work of the Canons of Merton Priory and has also taken place, from time to time, in these two churches of the benefice. This year, Plumstead will host the service, at 3pm, which will be followed by refreshments as Covid restrictions allow. All are welcome.



St Michael's Church - Photograph by Simon Knott

Eileen's Story

Some of you may be aware that Eleanor (Faulkner) has written a short booklet (*Eileen's Story*) about life in Plumstead through the eyes of Eileen (Gibbons) during the past 70 years. It is a delightful booklet which you can buy (£1.50) through the church, from Eleanor (577868) or Eileen (577255). However, a shortened version has gone to print in a National quarterly magazine *Evergreen*. Plumstead, Eleanor and Eileen are now "on the map"! The magazine is widely distributed in stores so it is easy to find.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty

As I write, spring is in the air, even if the temperatures deny this. We can look forward to better days ahead with the prospect that we are slowly being eased from 12 months of all things covid. Should that come to pass, I shall say 'hooray'!

Easter Day at St Andrew's

As the Church reopens, we are delighted to be hosting the Benefice Easter Sunday service at Saxthorpe church scheduled for 10.30am. We hope you will join us! Also, it is intended to offer a display of bell-ringing with a few sweet treats to hand afterwards. Note that certain restrictions will remain in place for everyone's safety.



Sophia Hodgson
587510

Church Annual Meeting

Our annual APCM is scheduled to take place on Monday, April 26th at 6pm via Zoom. Please contact one of the Churchwardens if you would like to take part or have items to submit.

The Heritage of Corpusty & Saxthorpe

For those interested in the history of our villages, a limited supply of photocopied and spiral-bound versions of *The Heritage of Corpusty & Saxthorpe* will be available to purchase from the rear of the church for £5, with all proceeds to go to the up-keep of the church. If there is sufficient demand, we will endeavour to produce more copies. Our thanks to the surviving family members of both Janet Wilson and Anne Brewster for their kind permission in reproducing this material in support of the church.

Flower Inspiration & Church Cleaning

Finally, if there are any members of the community with a creative aspiration towards flower arranging, or who might be able to offer help cleaning the church, we would be pleased to hear from you. Because these activities have been well supported by a rota of regular helpers, you are likely to only be called on once or twice a year. As the maxim goes – many hands make lighter work! Please contact Cathy Stern on cathy.duffy5@yahoo.com or tel: 587014 for any information.

Thomas & Eve Hesketh

If anyone has any contact details for the family of Thomas William Hesketh (who died in 2017) and Irene Eve Hesketh (who died in 2006) please could they let the Rector, the Revd David Longe, know by emailing rector@matlaske.org.uk or ringing him on 01263 577252.

Creative Arts East

Improve your well-being, feel more connected and try something new with Creative Arts East's Well-being Packs, inspired by music and movement! If you or someone you know is aged 40+ and living anywhere in Norfolk or beyond, get in touch with Creative Arts East to receive a taster pack in the post! Packs are all free of charge and sent out once a month. Each month is based around a different creative theme led by a professional artist and you can expect activities to keep your mind busy, encourage gentle physical movement from home and offer ways to keep creative! Our packs are designed for people of all abilities to take part in, ideal for older people, those living with dementia and their carers or those with other long term health conditions. For more information or to receive a pack or taster pack please contact me on 01953 713390 or email info@creativeartseast.co.uk

Andrea Bell

Local Priorities

In the February edition of the newsletter I included the following notice, which I repeat here as that edition was digital only it may not have been seen by all:

The parish council (PC) periodically considers priorities for its attention and budget allocation. The areas on which the PC has been focusing are apparent from the minutes of meetings. These are posted on the PC website:

<https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com/agenda-and-minutes/>

If villagers have views as to the priorities that the PC should address, please contact a councillor or the PC clerk, Kirsty Cotgrove (c.sparishclerk@gmail.com), to pass on that information. The PC would like to hear from you.

Corpusty Primary School

I am pleased to report that the school windows, that were damaged by vandalism at new year, are due to be replaced during the Easter holidays.

Snowdrops

As I write this, snowdrops are soon to be planted outside St Andrew's church wall, so when you read this the planting will have taken place. Let's look forward to an early spring display next year.

Litter-pick

The PC has purchased litter-picking paraphernalia, which is planned to be put to good use shortly. You will probably have seen that this is very necessary, particularly on some of the approaches to our villages. As it is likely that a socially distanced litter-pick will take place, on a date to be arranged, before the April edition of the newsletter appears, please keep an eye on the village notice board if you would like to take part, as the date will be posted there.



Saxthorpe Church - Photograph by Carol Brown

The Village Gardener

To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



Photograph by Marcin Jucha

As I write this we are still very much in the throes of the lion version of March! I am sure all gardeners are looking forward to the lamb version leading into April. April can be such a beautiful month, the soil is warming up... there is a sweetness to the air... everything should feel that bit easier... fingers crossed.

First stop this month is the veg patch where quite simply, it's all going on. If you've chitted your main crop potatoes these will be ready to go in this month. If you managed to get your early potatoes in last month then take care to draw the soil up around any emerging stems. If you're fortunate enough to have cloches then you can get going with beetroot, carrots, peas, mangetout, lettuce, spinach, swede. If you've got a nice warm light spot inside then you can get your courgettes, squashes and tomatoes going too. April is a busy month, it's worth keeping a sowing calendar so you can keep a check on who should go in when and where. Nothing more frustrating than missing the right moment to get seeds going! Whilst you are thinking of all the lovely veg you want to grow this year, it's worth thinking of the herbs you would like to use alongside them and possibly how much you use of them. No point growing a forest of one particular type if no one's particularly keen. I say this as prompt for myself as we grow swathes of parsley here (primarily as it's happy here) that we hardly nibble at, whilst any coriander we grow gets razed to the ground the instant it emerges as we use so much of it. It's just worth sowing the amount of herbs you use proportionately to what you realistically use.

Now to the border: April is a good month to think about putting in (or making) any supports you might need for any tall perennials you have. If you're not a fan of metal or wire supports then you can make lovely supports out of hazel which can look charming in the border. If you haven't done so already give the border a good weed then mulch so it's all set up for its moment. It's also a good time to check how everyone has fared over the winter; we were sad to discover that the combination of cold winds and frost had done for our trio of French lavenders. They will be missed

in the border so the plan is to pick some more up this month, it's also worth following these few guidelines when choosing new plants. Do make sure any new plants are not pot bound (large roots coming out of the pot) but also make sure that there are some scant signs of roots as it's better to buy something that has just about filled its pot with growth, as this shows its vigorous and hasn't just been re potted. Don't choose a plant that either looks unhappy or has any moss/weeds on the surface as that might indicate it's spent a long time in a pot and will take a long time to get going in your garden. We are fortunate to have a really good nursery just on our doorstep here, who have a good range and are always more than helpful.

Finally this month's question is from Paul Harris who asks why is spring the best time to feed shrubs trees and hedges? Quite simply this is because spring time is when all three are putting on a large amount of growth and growth takes energy so if you've given them all a good boost by lightly forking in a slow release fertilizer, they will quite frankly repay you in spades!

Do keep the questions coming in! Email us at redmaple@btinternet as ever the most interesting question will be published next month....keep safe!

Michelle & Mick McCarter

Norfolk Bird Names

Remembered by Arthur Pentney

When I was a boy, we all used the local names for birds
which were handed down from our fathers:

denchman - crow	harnser - grey heron
dow - dove	mavis - song thrush
draw water - goldfinch	peewit - lapwing
fulfer - mistle thrush	spink - chaffinch
guler - yellowhammer	



Sparrow Hawk - Photograph by Jonathan Neville

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Meet the Neighbours

Jill Hill & Kay Corbett – Corpusty



Rob & Mary Corbett moved to Corpusty in 1964. Rob had a furniture workshop and taught woodwork at local schools and Mary had a grocery shop. In 1982 Mary closed the grocery shop and opened a craft shop with her daughter Jill Hill – a City & Guilds qualified textile artist. The craft shop allowed Rob's furniture and Jill's dresses and textiles to be displayed, as well as offering a showroom for local arts and crafts.

Over the years the craft shop developed into a gallery. In the 1990s Margaret Melicharova helped Mary and Jill to arrange and display exhibitions and to establish an annual programme of temporary exhibitions whilst maintaining the permanent exhibits from Corbett's Workshop and Jill Hill Textiles.

Today it is still a family business with Jill and her sister Kay Corbett working together. Kay has followed in her father's footsteps to become a joiner and furniture maker after completing her apprenticeship in traditional furniture making and various City & Guild qualifications related to woodwork.

The Old Workshop Gallery normally has four temporary exhibitions lasting a month each through the spring and summer and then a Christmas exhibition. Jill and Kay's own work is on permanent display, as are a selection of handmade cards and ceramics.

The last year has been different for the gallery but Jill and Kay have been busy creating lots of beautiful things that will be available for us all to see when the gallery opens on Wednesday 14th April.

There are two exhibitions planned for this spring. From 15th May – 6th June it is North Norfolk Studios. The gallery will have a Taster Exhibition of local artists and Kay will have an open studio in the Corbett Workshop.

From 18th June – 18 July it is Mary's Garden. This exhibition was planned with Mary before her death last October to celebrate the courtyard garden she created. Thirty artists will contribute one piece of work inspired by Mary's garden, complimented with Mary's other artistic love - ceramics.

Emma Youngs

The Old Workshop Gallery is located on The Street, Corpusty, NR11 6QP / 01263 584155

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