

ELEVEN SAYS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE BRAMERTON GROUP OF CHURCHES COVERING 11 PARISHES

FEBRUARY /
MARCH 2019

ISSUE 275

Austrian Ave Maria



My wife and I have recently returned from a wonderful holiday in Austria where we celebrated a 'significant' wedding anniversary. Directly opposite our hotel room was the local village church. Every day, at midday and at 6pm, the Angelus was observed - the devotion consisting of the ringing of the church bell and the singing of 'Ave Maria'.

The latter was not, however, observed quietly in church, but broadcast by loudspeaker over the entire village, resounding around us. Each time it was performed, people would pause as they were walking by or come out onto their balconies to listen. Melanie and I affectionately referred to it as 'Ave Maria' time.

I find it intriguing that in so many parts of our world, the Church proclaims the faith with confidence; assured in what it believes and what it represents it speaks with authority into the secular and political world and is an integral part of community life. Something we witnessed in the Austrian mountains. Can we say the same for the Church in this country? Can we imagine 'Ave Maria' being broadcast across our towns and villages twice a day? I can already hear the complaints that would flood in of religious oppression or of causing offence to people of other religions. Why do we not have confidence in our faith? Why have we allowed our faith to be backed into a corner in our society? Why do we allow our politicians to pass laws which undermine our Christian heritage?

We have a gospel to proclaim; a gospel that speaks of justice, equality, hope, healing, peace and love. All things that our world seems in need of now more than ever. So why are we too frightened or too embarrassed to proclaim it? Perhaps each of our PCCs should buy a CD player and a copy of Ave Maria, set them up in the church tower and see what happens!

You can see a YouTube clip of the Angelus I refer to - simply search for 'Pertisau Ave Maria',

Yours with confidence in Christ,

Rev Chris Ellis

World Day of Prayer Services

Friday 1st March

Title - "Come, Everything is Ready"
Prepared by the Women of Slovenia

**The local service for the Bramerton Group of Churches
is at 10.30 am in Ashby & Thurton Village Hall**

Refreshments and children's corner. All welcome.

***If you would prefer to attend an evening service
then a warm welcome awaits at***

St John's Church, Loddon at 7.0pm

followed by refreshments

For further details, including the singing rehearsal at St John's Church, do contact Genny Godber on 01508 528843



Group Away Day Bowthorpe Church Centre

**Saturday March 23rd
10am – 4pm**



Bowthorpe Church is very modern, with all the space and facilities needed to break into small groups, worship together and with places to eat, chat and relax as well. The day will be led by Rev. Keith James. We will have the opportunity to meet and talk about the Away Day at our 10am Group Sunday Service on February 10th in Rockland Church.

The Away Day is totally free and funded by Group Funds. Bring your own picnic lunch, light refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Park your car for free in Roy's Supermarket car park.(next to church). The church address is Bowthorpe Hall Road, Norwich NR5 9AA We do hope you can come. It's the first Away Day the Group has organized for many years. To book your place, or for more details, contact either Mandy 01508 538654 mandy.ansell44@gmail.com or Chris 01508 484174 chris.ellis23@btinternet.com



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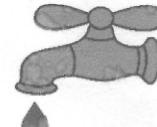
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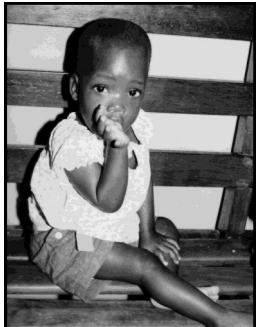
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Sanyu Babies Home, Kampala, Uganda



THANK YOU and A HAPPY NEW YEAR

To all of you who have contributed to the Appeal for SANYU's babies, Darius Muwanguzi (one of them) says "Thank you".

So many of you, including PCCs, have given so generously, also by buying plants from the Everetts at Applebee..

Your interest in the Babies and their Welfare is really, really appreciated. Some of the costs are: A Morning visit by Dr Alex, £21. Anti malarial Mosquito Net, £4. A week's stay in Mengo hospital, £115.

There is still room for further gifts before we remit to the Home - our target is £4,000 of which about $\frac{1}{4}$ has come in since we began the appeal. We are so nearly there – do please help us achieve the target.

How you can give:

Hand to John or Ruth Everett of Applebee Orchard, Rockland, or

Cheque to Bergh Apton PCC to obtain Gift Aid, or

Cheque to Sanyu Babies Home

Both to Liz Meynell, Bergh Apton Hall, NR15 1AX.

For more information contact Liz Meynell, 01508 558440

Welcome to your local Filling Station



The Yare Valley Filling Station, held monthly at Green Pastures Garden Centre in Bergh Apton, will be three years old on St Patrick's Day.

Filling Stations are an informal way to find out more about the Christian faith and are led and run by volunteers who offer a warm welcome to local adults in relaxing friendly environments. Admission is free with coffee, tea and cakes provided.

There are around 90 UK monthly mid-week evening 'celebration' meetings held in non-church venues, which importantly helps and supports Christian communities grow in depth and numbers.

The Filling Station offers high quality speakers, personal stories from attendees, contemporary sung worship and powerful, accessible prayer ministry.

Meetings are designed to be overtly spiritual but presented in a manner that those not familiar with church surroundings would feel comfortable. Meetings aim to be short, sharp and focused in character. People are encouraged and many meet God through these meetings and faith is built up.

Future dates are Thursdays: 21 February, 21 March, 18 April, 23 May, 20 June, 18 July, 19 September, 17 October and 21 November (no meetings in August and December). Coffee and cakes served from 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Finish is 9.30pm. Well worth a visit.

More details available from Alwyn Evans, Tel: 07760 770797. yarevalley@thefillingstation.org.uk. www.thefillingstation.org.uk Also Facebook.



If you need a priest . . .

If any parishioner in the Rockland Benefice needs to speak to a priest during the interregnum (vacancy of an incumbent) please telephone
Rev Mandy Ansell, 01508 538654
or email mandy.ansell44@gmail.com.

If unavailable please telephone **Rev Chris Ellis, 01508 484174** or email chris.ellis23@btinternet.com.

Otherwise please telephone **The Rural Dean, David Owen, 01508 522993** or email david.chetvalley@gmail.com

Gentlemen, you are cordially invited to a

Mid-Day Mardle

An opportunity for men to quench their thirst for good company, conversation and, perhaps, to take a glass of something. New members are always given a warm welcome.



The Ferry House, Surlingham anytime between 12 and 2pm

Wednesdays Feb 6th, March 6th, April 3rd

(every month, normally the 1st Wednesday)

Any questions, please contact David Fairbourn on 01508 538437, or email surlingham.midday.mardle@gmail.com



Enjoying our Mid-day Mardle Christmas lunch at Surlingham Ferry. Many thanks to Sonia and her staff for great food, great service and a great atmosphere.

Wednesday Fellowship

A Meeting for all people in the Bramerton Group and beyond!

Meeting on the second Wednesday of the month 2 - 4pm at Alpington and Yelverton Village Hall. Christian and secular speakers followed by tea, cake and fellowship. All welcome

February 13th - More poetry and Pictures with Paul Binney

March 13th - House Plants Speaker Mrs Robin McDonald

April 10th - Turkish Embroidery Jenny Gibb

For more information please contact Jo Threadgold on 01508 492657 or Pat Barter on 01508 493570

Thank you to all who attended our November Coffee Morning we were able to send £250 each to The Nook Appeal and to The St. George's Dementia Group in Upper Stoke Holy Cross.

Café Church - ALL WELCOME

The Parish Room, The Street, Rockland St Mary.

Refreshments, Newspapers, Bible Stories, Crafts, Puzzles and Good Conversation.



For all ages.

All with our compliments!

**Sunday
10th March**



Theme: We Are Forgiven

Drop in any time between 10.30am - 12.00 noon

Please contact Rev Mandy Ansell on 01508 538654 for details or for possible help with transport

Café Church - ALL WELCOME

Ladies' organisations

Ashby & Thurton WI

First Thursday each month at 7.30pm

Alpington, Bergh Apton & Yelverton TWIG

First Wednesday each month at 7.30pm

Rockland St Mary WI

Second Tuesday each month at 7.30pm

Surlingham WI

First Thursday each month at 7.30pm

Alpington, Bergh Apton & Yelverton TWIG

February 6th - A Year of Wildlife - RSPB.

Minsmere - Alexandra Bass

March 6th - EACH - Tim Jenkins

April 3rd - Around Britain on a Bus Pass -

Malcolm Metcalf



Loddon Flower Club

Loddon Flower Club meet on the 1st Tuesday in the month in the main hall at Hobart High School, Kitten's Lane, Loddon, NR14 6JU, 7pm for a 7-15pm start.



5th February - Simon White from Beales Roses, Attleborough with a slide show entitled "Beautiful Bulbs". There is a competition for members with the same title. The meeting will be held at the back of the school in the classroom of the future.

5th March - Bernard Collingworth with his demonstration "Village Life".

Visitors are usually £6 and everyone is welcome. For more details on our Club take a look at our web page on loddon.org or contact Margaret Turner (Chairman) on 01508-520135 or Alex Pinder (Secretary) on 01508-493869.

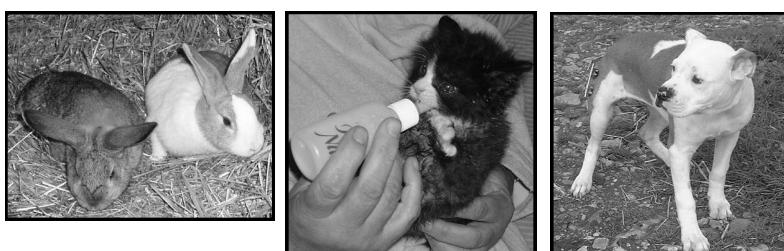
At our December open meeting our Vice-Chairman, Tricia Godfrey, presented a cheque for £500 to Nina Owen from The Church in Loddon. This money was raised from a Flower Festival held at Holy Trinity Church, Loddon last September as part of our 60th anniversary celebrations.

PACT

Make a PACT to Help Animals! They did! In 1995 the PACT Animal Sanctuary was registered as a charity. Situated at Woodrising near Hingham, the 15-acre PACT site is the largest 'all animal' sanctuary in Norfolk and Suffolk and cares for over 1200 animals and birds; hamsters to horses and canaries to peacocks. There is also a dedicated 2.5 acre secure wildlife site where animals and birds who have recovered from injury and could not survive in the wild can live out their natural lives.

With a fully equipped veterinary unit, where a veterinary surgeon attends one day per week and an emergency ambulance which is on call 24/7, PACT rescues, rehabilitates and where possible, rehomes neglected, injured and abandoned animals.

In 2012 a difference was made to 1364 animal lives and homes were found for 602 animals.



No government funding is received. All our income being self generated or donated and at least £1200 is required every day to care for the rescued animals, and improve facilities. PACT totally relies on the generosity of animal loving supporters who collect outside stores, distribute collection boxes, run marathons and hold coffee mornings. More collectors are sought. Please consider helping by giving a couple of hours each month.

PACT Animals Need Your Help! If you would like to become a 'Friend of PACT' and receive regular news of the sanctuary please phone 01362 820775 or see our website www.pactsanctuary.org

PACT Animal Sanctuary, River Farm, Woodrising, Hingham, Norfolk, NR9 4PJ. Telephone : 01362 820775. Charity Reg. No. 1154444.

PRIMROSE - *Primula vulgaris*

The Primrose's common name comes from the Latin 'prima rosa', meaning 'first rose' despite not being a member of the rose family. In different counties of England it is also referred to as Butter Rose, Early Rose, Easter Rose, Golden Rose and Lent Rose. It is one of our most familiar and attractive native wild flowers.

This low carpeting perennial has pale yellow flowers with deep yellow centres and blooms from March to May, although this hardy little plant can flower from as early as December in mild years.

It favours woodland clearings,

hedgerows and grassland habitats, and sometimes even gardens. Primroses are the food plant of the caterpillars of the rare Duke of Burgundy butterfly.



Edwina Beaumont

The flowers are pollinated by bees, bumblebees and other long 'tongued' insects including hover flies and butterflies. Seeds ripen in June and are dispersed by the wind and ants attracted by oils in the seed coat.

Since Victorian times, April 19th has been known as 'Primrose Day' in honour of the late Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli and Primroses, his favourite flowers, are placed at his statue in Westminster Abbey and his grave at Hughenden in Buckinghamshire.



Poringland Community Cinema at Poringland Community Centre

Friday 8th February - MADAME (15)

Comedy/Romance. Stars: Toni Collette, Harvey Keitel, Rossy de Palma Tickets £5 (includes tea or coffee) from Poringland Budgens, the Library, or on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm, film starts 7.30pm.

Friday 8th March - KING OF THIEVES (15)

Thriller/Crime/Comedy. Stars: Michael Caine, Charlie Cox, Michael Gambon, Tom Courtenay. Tickets £5 (includes tea or coffee) from Poringland Budgens, the Library or on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm, film starts 7.30pm.

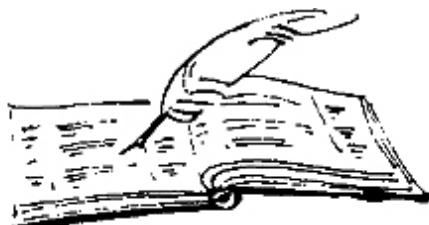
Friday 12th April - BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY (12A)

Music/Drama. Stars: Rami Malek, Josph Mazzello, Mike Myers, Aidan Gillen. Tickets £5 (includes tea or coffee) from Poringland Budgens, the Library or on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm, film starts 7.30pm.

Buena Vista Social Club at Poringland Community Centre

Friday 1st February - Film Night

Friday 1st March - Quiz and Supper Night. Book your table NOW for this popular event. £8 per person. Up to 6 people in a team. Doors open 6.45pm, Quiz starts at 7.30pm. For more information please contact Maureen on 01508 494358 or Carol on 01508 492630.



From the Registers

FUNERALS, BURIALS, CREMATIONS, INTERMENT OF ASHES

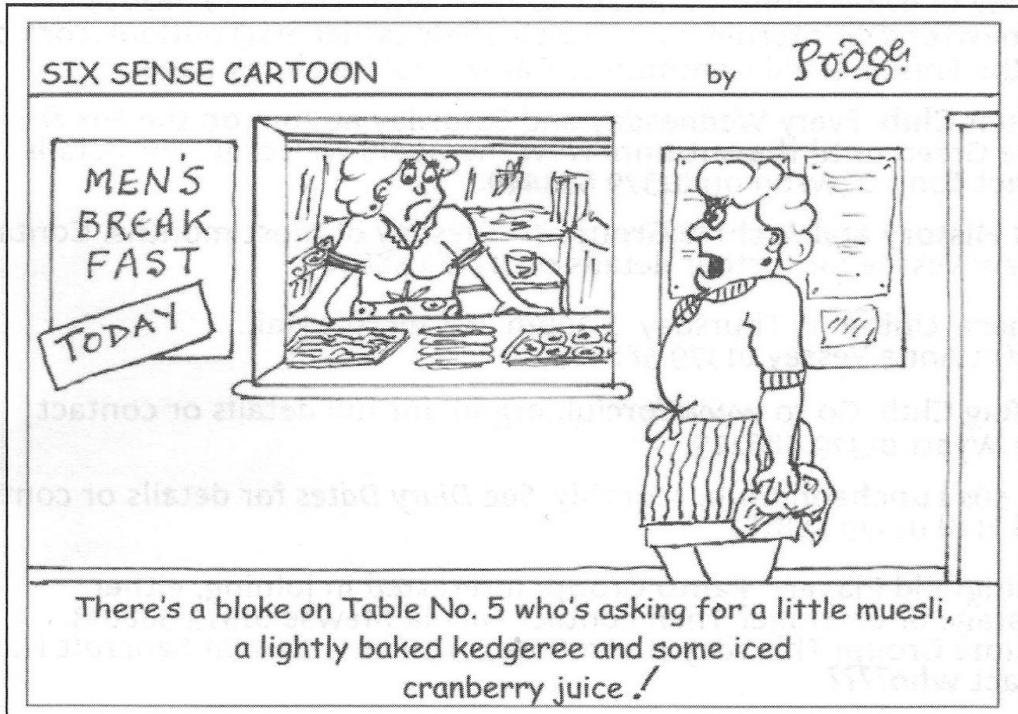
17/11/18 Reginald Charles INGRAM (92)
(Interment of ashes)

Hellington

Thank You!

Melanie and I would like to say a very big **thank you** for all the cards, gifts and good wishes we received for Christmas and the New Year. We do hope you had a joyful and peaceful Christmas season and wish you all every blessing for the year ahead.

Revd Chris Ellis



Wordsearch Challenge

Can you find these Valentine-related words hidden in the grid?

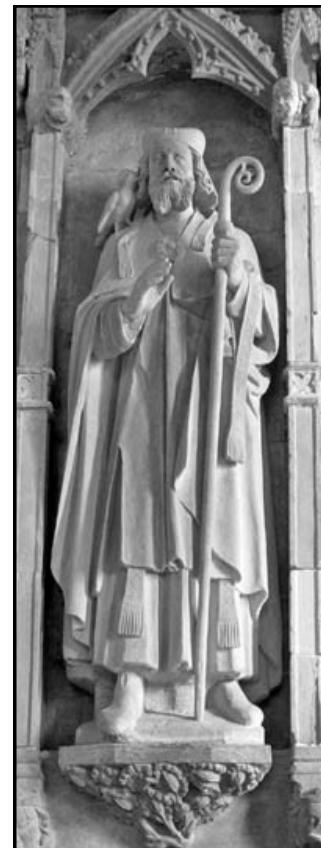
admirer	courting	flirt	poem
adore	crush	forget-me-nots	romance
amorous	Cupid	gift	rose
be mine	darling	girlfriend	smitten
beau	date	heart	St. Valentine
betrothed	desire	hug	suitor
card	embrace	kiss	tulips
cherish	Eros	love	
cherub	fiancee	passion	



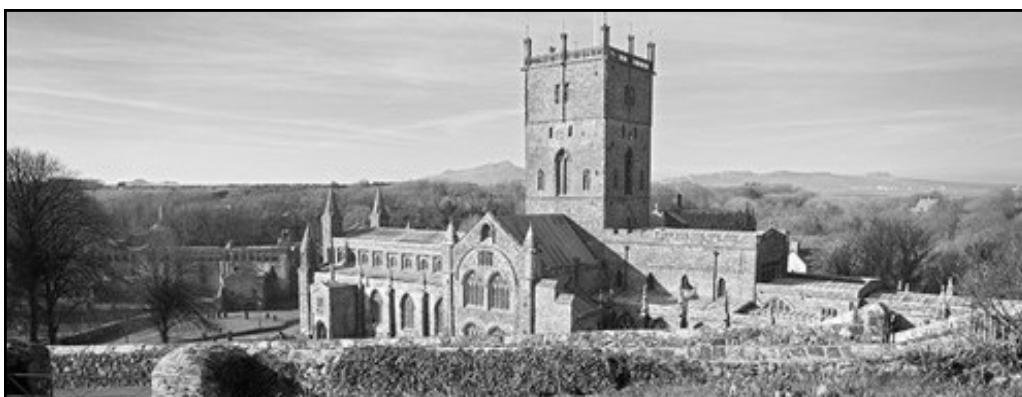
St David – Patron Saint of Wales

The 1st of March is St David's Day, and many celebrations are held throughout Wales. The exact date of his birth is unknown, but David is said to have been born around the year 520, reputedly born on the Pembrokeshire cliffs during a wild thunderstorm. Story has it that David was the son of Sant (aka Sanctus), King of Ceredigion and a nun named Nonnita (Non).

As a young man, David became a monk and became known as DewiDyfrwr (David the Waterdrinker) because of his modest monk's diet of bread and water. Even meat and beer were forbidden. Historically he is known to have been Bishop of Menevia (St David's), to have taken a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and to have presided over two synods. Pope Calixus made him a saint in 1120. St David is also patron saint of poets.



He is said to have founded a monastery in around the year 560, close to the place where he was born. The surrounding area (in Pembrokeshire, west Wales) is now known simply as 'St Davids'. It's believed that St David's Cathedral, see photo below, and St David's Bishop's Palace are built on the site of the original monastery. The existence of the cathedral means that St Davids is Britain's smallest city, with a population of roughly 1,600 – compared to an estimated 358,000 in Wales's capital, Cardiff. The tenor DewiSant bell in the cathedral weighs 2,700lbs!



According to legend, St David was a miracle maker. He was said to have been able to restore a blind man's sight and bring a child back to life by splashing the boy's face with tears. While preaching to a crowd in the village of LlanddewiBrefi, St David is thought to have performed his most famous miracle. Some of the crowd were finding it difficult to hear the sermon, when a white dove landed on St David's shoulder. As it did, the ground on which he stood is said to have risen up to form a mighty hill, making it possible for the gathering crowd to finally see and hear him. The dove became St David's emblem, often appearing in his portraits and on stained-glass windows depicting him. Today, a church stands on the crest of the special hill.

By the 12th century, more than 60 churches in Wales had been dedicated to St David, but his influence was not limited to Wales alone, as churches and chapels dedicated to St David can also be found in south-west England, Ireland and Brittany.

He is believed to have died on 1 March 589 and after his death, a shrine was built in his honour at his cathedral. Pope Callistus II thought of it so highly that he declared to Catholics that two pilgrimages to the shrine was worth one to the Vatican in Rome. After his 1284 military campaign in Wales, English King Edward I took the head and arm of St David from the cathedral and displayed the remains in London.

The nickname 'Taffy' for a Welshman links back to St David as the original and ultimate Welshman. The term dates to the 17th century and derives from 'Dafydd', the Welsh for David, and many today mark St David's Day by wearing a leek or a daffodil, the national emblems of Wales, or by displaying the flag of St David, which features a yellow cross on a black background.

Schools across Wales hold festival celebrations, with some of the girls dressing in traditional costume - a black hat with white trim, long skirts and shawls - and many of the boys wearing a Welsh rugby or football shirt. Many schools across the country also hold an Eisteddfod (a traditional festival of Welsh poetry and music) on this day.

South Yare Wildlife Group

Would you like to learn more about how we can help bees and other pollinating insects in our area?



The South Yare Wildlife Group (SWYG) is pleased to announce that Paul Hetherington of 'Buglife' will be coming to the Poringland Community Centre to talk about 'B-Lines' on Thursday, March 14th. The door opens at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 start. There will be time for discussion if you have ideas you would like to share. It is free for members of SYWG, or £2 for non-members.

'B-Lines' are a solution to the problem of the loss of flowers and pollinators. They are a series of 'insect pathways' running through our countryside, villages and towns, along which the aim will be to restore and create a series of wildflower-rich habitat stepping stones. They link existing wildlife areas together (from reserves and commons to gardens and Wild Patches) creating a network that will weave across the landscape. This will provide areas of new habitat benefiting bees and butterflies – and a host of other wildlife.

Bergh Apton Conservation Trust (<https://berghaptonconservationtrust.org>) has taken the role of the lead organisation for the 'Chet B-Line', and this received a boost recently when Poringland Parish Council voted to support it at its January meeting. The Council agreed that the B-Line could start in the Community Land Project when that project is up and running. At the other end of the river, Chedgrave and Loddon Councils have also passed motions to support it.

If you live in the Chet Valley between Poringland and Hardley you could also be part of this B-Line, helping bees and other pollinating insects in our area.

Visit southyarewildpatch.org or www.buglife.org.uk

www.southyarewildlifegroup.org



Wheatfen / Ted Ellis Trust

If you go down to the woods today you are in for a big surprise. That is certainly true at the Wheatfen Nature Reserve at Surlingham run by the Ted Ellis Trust. For one small part of the 140 acre reserve is now home to the Wheatfen Forest School. The school, which is entirely independent of the Trust and is part of the wider Forest School network, runs weekly woodland sessions for children aged from just one-year-old to age 13. Their ethos is to encourage nature-based educational activities and make learning fun. It's all about connecting with the natural world from an early age. The school was founded by Rose Hoare whose grandfather, renowned naturalist Ted Ellis, lived at Wheatfen for 40 years.

For Rose, the words of Ted have served as an inspiration: " *I'm often asked 'How does one become a naturalist?' Looking back, I'm sure nearly all the little boys and girls I played with and walked round the fields, lanes, woods, cliffs and beaches with were curious about flowers, caterpillars, snails, crabs and seaweeds....how is it there are not more naturalists? I know the answer to this one: grown-ups arrange too many other activities for the young.*"

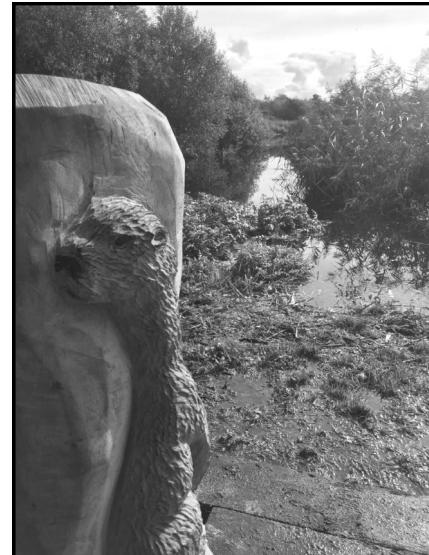
The school can be contacted at www.wheatfenforestschool.co.uk for more information.

There are other opportunities to get involved at Wheatfen. Volunteers play a crucial role in preserving and protecting this unique wetland with its waterways, woodland and broads. Anyone interested should contact the Warden Will Fitch. His e-mail is info@wheatfen.com or telephone 01508 538036. Becoming a Friend of Wheatfen is easy too. It costs £12 a year, £18 for a family. The Membership Secretary is Gill Walpole, e-mail gill.walpole@btinternet.com

The Trust itself is looking to enhance its skill base by appointing new Trustees with business and financial skills allied with a strong conservation ethos. Contact the Trust Chair, Dick Meadows, on dick.meadows@virgin.net

The photo shows part of a new bench which was made from recycled Wheatfen wood and carved with an otter by Paul Kelly from Surlingham.

Dick Meadows



Eleven Says contribution appeal

Many thanks to all those who have contributed to this appeal. At the time of going to print we have raised £860, almost enough for one complete edition.



It's not too late to contribute and we would be very grateful for your donation. Please make cheques payable to *Eleven Says*.

You can either deliver to the Treasurer or give to your local collector outlined below.

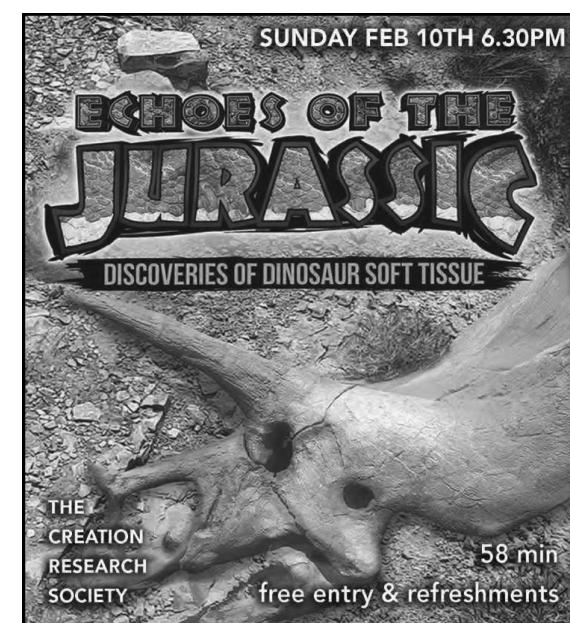
Village	Name and Address
Alpington & Yelverton	Christopher and Christine Kemp, 3 St Mary's Close, Yelverton
Bergh Apton	Shirley Rimmer, Hazeldene, Threadneedle Street,
Bramerton	Angie Yeomans, 15 Bramerton Lodge, East Hill Lane
Framingham Pigot	John and Patricia Roberts, 5 Stoke Road, Poringland
Claxton	Paul and Sarah Carter, Birches, The Street
Rockland St Mary	Rev Mandy Ansell, 44 The Street,
Surlingham	Clive Evans, Mayfield, Ferry Road,
Thurton	Rev Chris Ellis, The Rectory, 29 Ashby Road,
Treasurer	John Everett, Applebee, Rockland St Mary

Bramerton Film Night

Everyone is welcome to come along to the Christadelphian Meeting Room, The Street, Bramerton, NR14 7DW, to see this very informative film, *Echoes of the Jurassic*.

Did T-Rex roam the earth over 65 million years ago? Prepare to be shocked as you learn of PhD scientists finding some INCREDIBLE things inside freshly-recovered dinosaur bones.

Other films are planned during 2019 so please watch this space.



There are also a series of eight 20 minute talks plus discussion sessions scheduled throughout 2019 which everyone is invited to. Please note the following dates in your diaries:

In the beginning . . .

10 March - How life began

21 April - Why there is life?

Is there meaning to life?

19 May - God's plan for us

30 June - What we must do?

Why do morals matter?

25 August - A guide for life choices

22 September - Is faith in God rational?

The world's future is certain

20 October - The return of Jesus Christ

17 November - Where are you heading?

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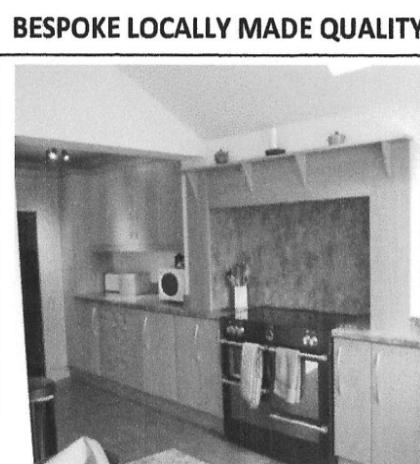
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Village News

Alpington & Yelverton

Alpington & Yelverton History Society

Alpington Village Hall, Church Road, Alpington NR14 7NU

Tuesday 12 March - Welcome to the Workhouse. When Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries, who would look after the poor and needy? In 1834 there was an amendment to the Poor Law Act and the Workhouse was born, but who was going to pay for it? Speaker Richard Mann

Tuesday 14 May - Burston Strike School - This establishment was founded as a consequence of a school strike and became the centre of the longest running strike in British history, lasting from 1914 to 1939 in the village of Burston in Norfolk. Speaker Robert Knee

Members Free. Guests £3.00

Play Area Update

Many readers with children in their households and at the local school kindly responded to a survey from the Parish Council about their use of, preferred enhancements and improvements to the **Play Area** (situated behind the Village Hall), subject to funding. This valuable feedback has enabled the Parish Council to prepare plans, costings and to start seeking extra funding.

We would welcome sponsorship from families and local businesses as we aim to reach our fundraising total. Please contact Kevin Gotts of the Council for more details, kevg316@gmail.com.

We plan to carry out these improvements over the Summer months.

St. Mary's Church, Yelverton Easter Lilies

If anyone would like Easter Lilies in Remembrance or Thanksgiving in St. Mary's Church, please would you let Liz Bloomfield know, 01508 493958 or email e_bloomfield@talktalk.net. There will also be a list in the back of the church.

Lilies are usually around £1.50 - £2 depending on weather and demand. We charge the price we obtain them for, so will bill you after Easter.

Community Café

A big thank you to everyone who donated toys and tins for the Salvation Army. Several boxes were taken in plus £74.42.

Next cafés in the church at Yelverton:

February 5th - Charity Boaddicca Breast Cancer Appeal

March 5th - Air Ambulance

April 2nd - to be decided



Ashby & Thurton Village Hall

100 Club - Thank you to all who contribute to the 100 club. Winners for November were: 70, S. Goate won the super draw. 72, B. Mickleburgh. December winner: 13, Pre School. January winner: 33, E. Bircham. This helps with much needed funds for our village hall. The winning amount each month is £40 with an extra £120 in November if we have 100 members. We hope to have your support again this year.

Short Mat Bowls - A reminder of our short mat bowls sessions in the village hall; we have 10 members so far and welcome anyone who would like to join us. Held every Wednesday between 2pm and 4pm. Come along for a game and a cup of tea with a biscuit or two.

Ashby St Mary

Cricket Nets!!!

Pre season nets have been confirmed, so get these dates in your diaries and on your family calendars - permanent marker please - in capitals, double underlined and highlighted while you're at it... !



As per last season, sessions are taking place at: **Langley School (NR14 6BJ)**. All are **Monday** evening - **19:00 - 20:30**.

18th March, 25th March, 1st April, 8th April, 15th April.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you there as possible - **we really do need good attendance** - and please bring along anyone who may be keen to play a bit this year (feel free to forward this email on)

Any questions, please give me a shout - 07785 543074.

Thanks. **Rob**

Bergh Apton

Bergh Apton Society

The following events to be held in Bergh Apton Village Hall, Cooke's Road, Bergh Apton, NR15 1AA, at 7.30pm.

Wednesday February 13

David Ashworth, Fire & Rescue CEO, Norfolk

Wednesday March 13

Georgette Vale, Five o'clock tea with Betsy – Meet Mrs Elizabeth Fry in 1845 and hear her tell of her life as a Quaker and work as a prison reformer, philanthropist, anti-slavery campaigner and more.

Refreshments available. Raffle. £3.00

Bramerton

New Parish Clerk

Following the retirement of Brian Ansell, Bramerton Parish Council has appointed Yvonne Wonnacott as the new parish clerk.

At the end of a busy parish council meeting friends and relations gathered in the village hall to mark Brian's departure with a small reception and presentation. In his farewell speech councillor Roger Smith thanked Brian for his long years of service which were in the true spirit of public service.

He went on to say that councillors may come and go, either through their own volition or as a result of elections, but Brian had stayed the course!

Keith Wheeldon (right) chair of the parish council gives his best wishes to Brian on his retirement



Yvonne Wonnacott takes over the post on 1 January 2019. If you need to contact her about parish matters, please email bramertonpc@outlook.com .

Village News

Bramerton

Yet another cracking coffee morning!

December 1st and another fantastic coffee morning organised by Jane and Angie and their band of helpers.

Great choice of freshly brewed coffee, tea or seasonal mulled wine and tables groaning with a wonderful selection of superb home-made cakes.



The village hall was packed and it was good to see so many new faces as well as established and ex-residents there enjoying the chance to meet up with one another and put the world to rights.



Many thanks to all involved for organising this splendid community gathering. We'll let you know when the next event is being held as soon as a date is fixed.

Keith Wheelden

Carleton St Peter

The PCC would like to thank everybody who came and supported the Bingo Night on November 10th, and a big thank you to Ray and Lynton for organising it for us. It was all great fun, with plenty of laughter. Thanks also go to Peter and Brian for doing the raffle, and to Linda, Maureen and Anne for doing the refreshments.



Enid would like to thank everybody who has got a Children's Society Box. She banked £94.50p after she opened Box 2018.

The Carol Service on December 9th was taken by Nigel Sullivan, and the music was arranged by Ursula Panks. It was a very interesting and lively service and the church looked most beautiful. Thank you to all flower arrangers for making it look so stunning. Thank you to Linda for dressing the tree and all the candle swags. Thanks also to Linda and Maureen for making all the lovely mince pies, which went down well with the sherry. Also a big thank you to Ursula for playing the organ.

The Christingle Service on December 23rd, taken by Rev Mandy Ansell, was very well supported on such a very wet day. It was a lovely service and we had lots of excited children there too. The Christingle Oranges, made by Linda Goffin, were super, thank you Linda. Many thanks to everybody who came to the service and again, many thanks to Ursula for playing the organ then and throughout 2018.

Claxton

News from the Village Hall

The monthly **Claxton & Carleton St Peter Community Café** celebrated its third birthday in January with a raffle, free drinks and a fun photo quiz. The Café organisers would like to thank everyone who has come to the Café over the last three years for helping to make it the huge success it is. We are always delighted to see new faces as well as the regulars and everyone is welcome – **10.00 till 12.00 on the second Tuesday of every month**.

We will soon have details of our **Village Hall events for 2019**, which will include our ever popular **Quiz** and following this year's success – another **50/50 auction!** There are also some new events in the pipeline – so watch this space!

Kirby Bedon



This beautiful picture of Kirby Bedon Church was painted by Geoff Groombridge.

As the adjacent plaque outlines, it was presented to the church by his wife, Sadie Groombridge.

Angie Yeomans

Rockland St Mary with Hellington

Parish Council News

Precept -At the January meeting Councillors discussed the setting of the precept for the next financial year 2019/20. The precept is the sum received from South Norfolk and enables the Parish Council to finance the day to day running of the two parishes. It was agreed to set the precept at £9,500. This will lead to a slight increase on the Council Tax Bill received from South Norfolk as the Parish Council no longer receives a grant in respect of Council Tax Support.

District and Parish Council Elections - On the 2nd May 2019 District and Council elections will take place. Rockland with Hellington Parish Council has seven Councillors – six representing Rockland and one for Hellington. A councillor can serve for a period of four years (May 2019 – May 2023) although they can resign at any time.

Continued on next page

Village News

Rockland St Mary continued . . .

A good parish council plays a vital role in representing the interests of the community it serves. It endeavours to improve the local environment, delivering services to meet local needs and influencing decision makers, for example in planning matters. The council strives to work as a team and each councillor is a valued team member.

If you are interested in standing as a councillor please do contact the Clerk, email rocklandparishclerk@gmail.com

Further information regarding the election process will be posted on the website www.rocklandstmary.org.uk and the two notice boards with regular updates.

Black Horse Dyke Car Park - Councillors have agreed to create a tranquil area at Black Horse Dyke. The first stage has been to fence around the grassed area. The next stage will be for the Parish Council to consider having some benches and to decide whether to invite parishioners to sponsor a bench in memory of someone.

Change of bus operators - As from the 21st January 2019 "Ourbus" will be operating the 85 bus service. The timetable is displayed on the notice boards and the parish website www.rocklandstmary.org.uk

Monica Armstrong
Clerk to Rockland St Mary with Hellington Parish Council

Surlingham

Surlingham School lunchtime invitation.

The school held a very successful trial session of inviting the over 60s to join them for a school lunch in November and they would like to make it a regular event every half term.

At the last lunch time session, held on 23rd January, Roast Beef or Baked Potato were on the menu, at a cost of £2.80.

Booking is essential for this popular event! For more information or to book your lunch please telephone the school on 538214.

Surlingham Remembers

The Parish Councillors would like to thank all who joined them at the Parish Hall for the WW1 Commemoration. It was almost 2 years ago that the late Peter Hiscocks, Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, mooted the idea that information on the soldiers of Surlingham and their families should be collated and given to the school to record the part each one played in WW1, and hopefully, to illustrate what life was like at that time.

It was heart warming to see the hall full and the whole community coming together.

In the playground, children represented the Surlingham soldiers and read their role honour.



Surlingham continued . . .

County Councillor, Vic Thompson, and the Chairman of the Parish Council, John Broom, lit the beacon uniting with other towns and villages around the United Kingdom and abroad.

The event ended with everyone joining in with the children to sing marching songs.



Below are some of the photographs taken at our well attended WW1 Exhibition held in the Parish Hall.

Huge thanks to the many organisers including The Parish Council, Surlingham School, Padmaloka, St Mary's PCC, all the exhibitors, the cake makers, the schoolchildren and of course the late Peter Hiscocks whose brainchild the event was.



Village News

Surlingham continued . . .

Atmospheric carols at the Church

There was a packed church for the Carol Service. Clive led the service admirably, and the atmosphere was enhanced by live music from Judith and Peter.



Thank you to all those who organised it and helped.

Happy New Year to you all.

The photo on the right shows Violet Wadham lighting the Advent Candles.



THANK YOU!

EDP Books for Schools!

A massive Thank-You to all who handed in EDP books for schools vouchers. At the final count Surlingham School collected over 3000 tokens!

A great achievement which means the school will have earned £300 worth of new books. We could not have achieved this without the support of the wider community and we are really very grateful.

Old Man

By your side
There is peace,
A quiet place
Of beauty and realisation,
Where wisdom
Seeks reason and understanding,
Where myth is laid to rest
By the reality of knowledge.

By your side
There is hope,
That arrogance and greed
Will not destroy,
That selfless love
Will prevail.

By your side
Life is sacred,
A future
For the children
To unfold.
By your side
In your presence
There is love.

Because of you



Can you say at close of day
Before you meet the night
Of all the troubles in the world
You helped to put one right?

That just one heart was happier
Because your smile was true,
One wrinkle in the folds of life
Was smoothed ... because of
you?

Kathleen Partridge

Ashby and Thurton Playground Project Update

December was a busy month starting with the 'Big Toddle'. It was yet again another incredible event. Reception, Year 1 and 2 from Thurton Primary, The Preschool, Wednesday's Playgroup and the Little Fish children's group all came together on a rainy day to raise money for the Playground. The children warmed up and then set off across a pretty wet and muddy field...some going once round, some twice! Once finished they all received a sticker and the chance to get warm in the village hall and have a drink and piece of cake amidst the Christmas decorations! Thank you to everyone who came and helped set up, baked goodies, marshalled, held finishing ribbons, handed out stickers, served tea and helped clear up. We couldn't do these events without you. Thank you to the staff at Thurton primary and to everyone who brought their children, who toddled and cheered!! We raised an amazing £301.82 towards a six way swing set.

The week before Christmas, members of the Playground Project, their families and ladies from the Loddon Choir sang their way around Ashby and Thurton. It was a really joyful night with many people standing on their porches to listen, thanking us and even making requests! We finished by singing carols in Thurton George and Dragon and consuming the most delicious homemade mince pies and sausage rolls. Our thanks go to the One Voice Glee club ladies of the Loddon Choir for adding some harmony to our singing. It's was a lovely evening of Christmas cheer and spirit and raised £193.41.

We've also been busy writing to local businesses for their support and have been overwhelmed by their generosity. Thank you to both 'Continental Product Engineering' and 'Mussett Engineering' of Loddon who have each donated £100 towards our project and to 'D N Catchpole & Son Farming' who have kindly donated a picnic bench. We are so, so grateful to you all and look forward to many picnics when it gets a little warmer!

We're still hoping to raise funds and attract donations for bins and fencing. Anyone who would still like to donate can do so by contacting us on our Facebook page @thurtonplaygroundproject or by emailing sorrelkatjakelly@gmail.com for more details.

Works on our park are due to start at the beginning of March with an opening date in time for the Easter holidays. Watch out for details of our official opening celebrations in the next edition.

Ashby & Thurton Playground Project

St Valentine's Day - 14th February



Legend has it that St. Valentine was a priest who secretly married couples against the dictum of the Emperor Claudius of Rome. The Emperor had ruled that soldiers were not allowed to marry as it made them bad warriors.

St. Valentine also ministered to the Christians who were persecuted under the Roman Empire.

During his imprisonment he was said to have healed the daughter of his jailer Asterius. Legend states that before his execution on 14th February 270 he wrote her a letter and signed it 'Your Valentine' as a farewell.

Valentine's Day was first associated with romantic love in the time of Geoffrey Chaucer in the Middle Ages.

Nowadays red roses, chocolates, greetings cards and other gifts are exchanged.





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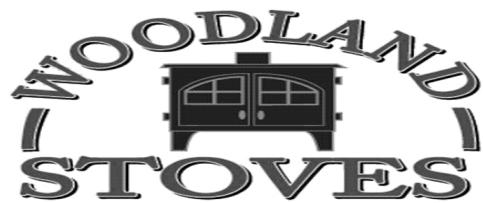
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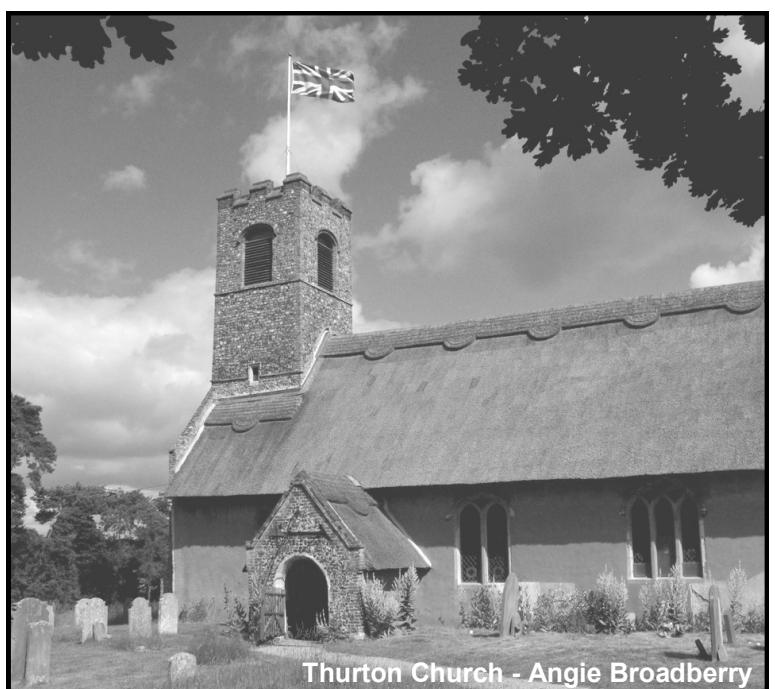
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	3 rd Feb Present. of Christ Gold/ White	10 th Feb 4 th Before Lent Green	17 th Feb 3 rd Before Lent Green	24 th Feb 2 nd Before Lent Green	3 rd March Sunday Before Lent Green	6 th March Ash Wednesday Purple	10 th March Lent 1 Purple	17 th March Lent 2 Purple	24 th March Lent 3 Purple	31 st March Mothering Sunday Rose	7 th April Passion Sunday Purple
Ashby	11.00 MP	Join Rockland	11.00 HC	11.00 PT	11.00 MP	Ash Wed service at Thurton	Join Fram. Pigot	11.00 HC VM	Join Surlingham	11.00 PT	11.00 MP
Bergh Apton	09.30 HC	Join Rockland	09.30 PT	09.30 HC(BCP)	09.30 HC VM	Ash Wed service at Thurton	Join Fram. Pigot	09.30 PT	Join Surlingham	09.30 HC(BCP)	09.30 HC
Bramerton	9.30am MP	Join Rockland	Join Claxton		9.30 H.C.	Ash Wed service at Thurton		11.00 am H.C. Benefice	Join Surlingham	11.00 Mothering Sunday	
Carleton St. Peter	11.00 HC	Join Rockland			11.00 MW	Ash Wed service at Thurton			Join Surlingham		11.00 H.C.
Claxton		Join Rockland	11am H.C. Benefice Claxton V.Hall	9.30am Morning Worship		Ash Wed service at Thurton	9.30 HC	Join Bramerton	Join Surlingham		
Fram. Pigot	08.15 HC(BCP)	Join Rockland	08.15 HC(BCP)	11.00 HC	08.15 HC(BCP)	Ash Wed service at Thurton	10.00 Benefice HC	08.15 HC(BCP) VM	Join Surlingham	11.00 HC	08.15 HC(BCP)
Kirby Bedon			Join Claxton	11.00 HC(BCP)		Ash Wed service at Thurton	11.00 MP	Join Bramerton	Join Surlingham	Mothering Sunday 11am H.C.	
Rockland St. Mary		10am GROUP HC	Join Claxton V.Hall	9.30 Morning Worship	9.30 HC	Ash Wed service at Thurton	Café' Church 10.30 -12 Parish Room	Join Bramerton Benefice	Join Surlingham	9.30 Mothering Sunday	9.30 HC
Surlingham	8.30am HC(BCP)	Join Rockland	Join Claxton V. Hall	11.00 MP(BCP)		Ash Wed service at Thurton	11.00 Morning Worship	Join Bramerton Benefice	10am GROUP H.C.	11.00 Mothering Sunday	8.30am HC*
Thurton	11.00 HC	Join Rockland	11.00 Village Hall Service	16.00 EP (BCP)	11.00 HC VM	19.30 HC with the Imposition of Ashes	Join Fram. Pigot	11.00 Village Hall Service	Join Surlingham	16.00 EP(BCP)	11.00 HC
Yelverton	09.30 PT	Join Rockland	09.30 HC	16.00 All 4 Sunday	09.30 PT	Ash Wed service at Thurton	Join Fram. Pigot	09.30 HC VM	Join Surlingham	16.00 All 4 Mothering Sunday	09.30 PT

CODE: HC = Holy Communion; E. Praise = Evening Praise; FC = Family Communion; FW = Family Worship; MP = Morning Prayer; EP = Evening Prayer; PT = Parish Team; VM = Vestry Meeting. **Weekday Holy Communion at St Mary's Yelverton on Thursday 7th February & Thursday 7th March at 10.30am**

Bible Readings, Sunday by Sunday: February & March 2019

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel	
03/02/19	Malachi 3.1-5	Hebrews 2.14-18	Luke 2.22-40	Presentation of Christ in Temple/Candlemas
10/02/19	Isaiah 6.1-8[9-13]	1 Corinthians 15.1-11	Luke 5.1-11	4th Sun before Lent
17/02/19	Jeremiah 17.5-10	1 Corinthians 15.12-20	Luke 6.17-26	3rd Sun before Lent
24/02/19	Genesis 2.4b-9,15-25	Revelation 4	Luke 8.22-25	2nd Sun before Lent
03/03/19	Exodus 34.29-35	2 Corinthians 3.12 - 4.2	Luke 9.28-36[37-43a]	Sun next before Lent
06/03/19	Joel 2.1-2,12-17	2 Corinthians 5.20b - 6.10	John 8:1-11	Ash Wednesday
10/03/19	Deuteronomy 26.1-11	Romans 10.8b-13	Luke 4.1-13	1st Sunday of Lent
17/03/19	Genesis 15.1-12,17-18	Philippians 3.17 - 4.1	Luke 13.31-35	2nd Sunday of Lent
24/03/19	Isaiah 55.1-9	1 Corinthians 10.1-13	Luke 13.1-9	3rd Sunday of Lent
31/03/19	Exodus 2.1-10	Colossians 3:12-17	John 19:25-27	Mothering Sunday
07/04/19	Isaiah 43.16-21	Philippians 3.4b-14	John 12.1-8	Passiontide begins



Please note: At Holy Communion, where only two readings are used, the first reading will usually be the Epistle, and the second will always be the Gospel reading. At other services where two readings are used, the first will usually be the Old Testament reading, and the second can be either the Epistle or the Gospel readings.

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NEXT ASSEMBLY: SATURDAY 30th MARCH, BERGH APTON VILLAGE HALL, 9am to 10.45am (approx)				