



# eleven says

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE BRAMERTON GROUP OF CHURCHES COVERING 11 PARISHES

AUGUST /  
SEPTEMBER  
2022

ISSUE 296

## Vineyards

This is the time of year for many churches to hold their Harvest Festival services. No doubt, there will be displays of food, some bought with others grown in gardens and allotments. While gardeners can have pleasure growing fruit and vegetables it can be hard work tending to them, dealing with pests and pruning plants like vines.



The Great Vine at Hampton Court is over 250 years old and is the largest grape vine in the world. It was planted in 1768 while Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was in charge of the gardens at Hampton Court. It produces on average 600lbs of black desert grapes a year and its roots are said to reach the River Thames.

We have two commercial vineyards in our area. Winbirri Vineyard in Surlingham and Chet Valley Vineyard in Bergh Apton.

Jesus knew about the care given to vines. In John 15:1-8 Jesus compared Himself to a vine and referred to God as the gardener. These verses are both challenging and reassuring. In this parable, God is responsible for pruning the vine. He sees what parts are useful and what parts are useless. The unproductive parts are cut away, so that growth is encouraged. Jesus is telling us that God will prune our lives, not to harm us, but to encourage our spiritual growth.

God's pruning cuts away wrong attitudes and wasteful behaviour, all of which serve no useful purpose in our lives. This pruning is required so that we become more fruitful. And the fruit God wants is love, joy, patience etc. (see Galatians 5:22-23) These holy qualities are intended to influence the world to change it from the bad to all that is good.

To encourage its growth a vine has to be regularly cut back. The effect looks drastic, but essential. When God cuts away the dead wood in our lives He does it because He knows how our lives can grow. The pruning knives are in the hands of our Father God who only desires the best for us. This pruning process can be painful, but Jesus says that it is vital if the Holy Spirit is to flow through us to produce the fruit that God wants.

Also in this parable, Jesus said He was the vine and we are the branches. We have no existence apart from Jesus. We can do nothing for God on our own and must be joined to Jesus. In the same way a vine utilises the life-giving sap to flow into the branches, so we need the Holy Spirit to flow His life into us. It is only by remaining in Jesus can He give us the inner resources for an effective fruit-producing life.

Jesus said 'Abide in Me' (John 15:4 King James Version). Abiding speaks of sustenance, being upheld and supported, enduring and withstanding. So, if we are to reap a harvest of holiness, may we be prepared for God's pruning, and continue to abide in Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

## Haymaking during World War II



### Just carry on

Screaming shells overhead  
Danger that we always dread  
German pilots machine gunning  
Ditches nearby, stay, no running.

Us tractor girls cannot stop  
When Messersmitts make a pop  
We'll just carry on uncaring  
In spitfire attacks, just staring.

Noise our tractors made  
We usually always stayed  
As during battles, we don't hear  
See planes shot down quite near.

A poem courtesy of Robyn Thorn  
from her book of poems called  
'Legendary Land Girls'

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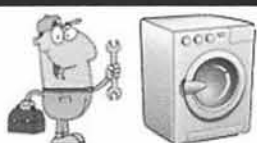
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Please Help! Ukrainians Need Homes

Do you know anyone at all who might be in a position to help find homes for a family and a single man. The two may be difficult to accommodate, but do let's try.

**The first** - A home or homes for 9 people, 6 of them younger than 10. Ideally a single home. Might you know, perhaps, of a generous holiday house owner? Alternatively, two homes reasonably close to each other. The father is here already, in Norwich. His wife, children and sister in law are in Poland and he is anxious to create a secure base for them, here. Please, please help.

**The second** - A single 48 year old professional man with over 20 years' experience in management of companies and organisations, and leadership of large teams. He speaks fairly good English. *"My dream is to organize a trade or manufacturing enterprise in 3-6 months, preferably with UK, Poland and Ukraine. Part of the profits that we make we could send to help the Ukrainian army."*

His aim is to seek a base from which he can begin to search for a home for himself, his daughter and her husband. The father who, despite his health, volunteered for the army, but now feels he would be more effective raising money externally for the country. He has an impressive CV and intends to start a business to do so. With contacts in Norfolk, a host in our area would be ideal.

Please either contact me (preferably) or let me have details so I can be in touch with them.

Christopher Meynell, email: [c.m.meynell@gmail.com](mailto:c.m.meynell@gmail.com)

Wednesday Fellowship

A Meeting for all people in the Bramerton Group and beyond! A Meeting on the second Wednesday of the month 2-4pm at Alington and Yelverton Village Hall with Christian and secular speakers followed by Tea cake and fellowship. All welcome.

**August 6th** -Friends of Yelverton Church coffee morning at the Wheel of Fortune, 10.30 -12 noon by kind permission of Barry Gelder and Naomi Shulver. No meeting in the village hall.

**September 14th** - "Listen to the Song", Karen Bonsall

**October 12th** - the Work of Marie Curie

For more information please contact Rev. Cate Turner 498494 or Pat Barter 493570

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Norfolk Churches Trust - Getting ready for the  
Bike Ride on Saturday 10th September, 2022

Last year the Bike Ride produced another amazing result. An extraordinary total of £130,156 was raised by 711 gallant participants.

This means the Bike Ride has raised over £4 million since its inception in 1983. You have made a great contribution to the church of your choice and you enabled the Trust to continue to give grants last year when almost all other fund-raising activities had been cancelled. We would like to pass on an enormous thank you to everybody who took part either cycling, walking, driving or manning the churches.



The Rt Revd Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich

We are sending out Bike Ride packs to churches during July and registration will also be open. And don't forget the competitions that we run including The Prince of Wales certificate for the individual who raises the most money and the Wall of Fame for the most churches visited. We will publish more about the winners of those later in the year.

**Win £1,000 for your Church.** This year we are again offering a £1,000 prize for the most improved church. In other words, the church which shows the most improvement in its Bike Ride fund-raising compared to last year. This is an opportunity to make a substantial difference to your church's finances. The Trust has a new website where you can find out more details and a new facility to register for the Bike Ride online. You will also find the **Church and Chapel Open List** which we will keep updated.

Any photographs you take during the day will be welcome and we will send the three we like most £50 and they may be printed in the EDP. Please sign up to the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/NorfolkChurchesTrust](https://www.facebook.com/NorfolkChurchesTrust) and Twitter page [www.twitter.com/SaveOurChurches](https://www.twitter.com/SaveOurChurches) and look out for our regular Newsletters sent by email. We also want to promote **Just Giving** as a very good way of raising sponsorship money without having to ask friends and family face to face, which many people find difficult.

We understand that not every church is going to be able to have people available to sign participants in and provide refreshments. We know from feedback that participants respond well to an open door, a cheery note and the 'Record of Participants' being left in a prominent place.

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SUNDAY 2nd October 2022

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Future date - 4th December 2022

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Nick Garrard 01508 538014 or Mandy Ansell 01508 538654

\*\*\*\*\* Café Church All Welcome \*\*\*\*\*



## Rockland St Mary Benefice Update

After the schools finish and the holiday season begins, August usually brings a change of pace. For farmers, the pace may quicken, but for many others it's time to slow down, to reflect and prepare for the challenges of autumn and winter ahead. In church life it's a time to reduce meetings, welcome our summer visitors and find peace and refreshment with God. Our churches are open daily for visitors to explore local history and find cool, quiet sacred space. Fortnightly **Celtic Prayer** in Surlingham churchyard and weekly **Silent Prayer** on Wednesdays in Rockland Church offer the chance for people to come together in quiet reflection.

We're looking forward to Carleton St. Peter's **Flower Festival** on August 13th and 14th which continues this year's Platinum Jubilee celebrations on the theme of 'Past Royal Events'.

I've had some interesting conversations with *Eleven Says* readers about Bird Therapy. There is so much to give thanks for in nature and the **Blessing of Animals** at Bramerton on September 18th is an opportunity to ask for God's blessing on the pets and other animals who share our lives. We're hoping to be outdoors but will go into church if the weather doesn't play ball on the day. All well-behaved pets welcome!

September sees the beginning of the **Harvest Festival** season in the Rockland parishes. We give thanks for the fruitfulness of the earth, the careful stewardship of the farming community who produce our food, and all who work in the production and supply chain on which we depend. As food prices continue to rise steeply, we can show our gratitude by sharing with others who are struggling with the cost of living. May I invite you to bring long-life items for the Norwich Food Bank. We are also happy to receive donations for the Food Bank at the Rectory.

Our Harvest Festivals begin at Claxton on September 18th and will continue into October. Please look out for further dates in the next edition of *Eleven Says*.

We also warmly welcome the Ven. Steven Betts when he makes his **Archdeacon's Visitation** on September 11th. He will preach at a benefice 10am Communion in Rockland Church, followed by refreshments in the Barn.

With all good wishes, **Rev Nick Garrard**

### A heartfelt Thank You....

....To Gary Watson, BYRUS Youth Worker, for all he has contributed to our work with children and young people. Gary's positive outlook, tech skills and care have been a great asset in our schools' work and we wish him well for the future.

... To everyone who supported the Platinum Jubilee events and services that have been held in our benefice. These have been happy community events that have celebrated Queen Elizabeth's remarkable reign and have helped our communities to reconnect after the separations of the lockdown years.

### Finding Rockland Parishes on the Web

It's been really encouraging to see increasing 'traffic' on our parishes' websites on A Church Near You ( <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/> ) If you type in the church or village name on the homepage, you should be directed to our pages.

You can now message us on the Rockland Churches Face Book. You're welcome to make suggestions on what information would be helpful for us to post or share your local news. Please contact us if you'd like to know more.

**Rev Nick Garrard**

## Blessing of Animals at St Peter's Church, Bramerton on September 18th at 3:30pm

Special Service in praise and thanksgiving for our pets and other animals that have been and are our constant companions. Bring them along if you can! All are welcome.



There is so much to give thanks for in nature. This service is an opportunity to ask for God's blessing on the pets and other animals who share our lives.

We're hoping to be outdoors but will go into church if the weather doesn't play ball on the day.

All well-behaved pets (or photographs of them) are welcome!

**Roger Smith, Bramerton**

## Celtic Daily Prayer at Surlingham Church

We sit together to pray and meditate on a Bible reading and a reflection for the day.

We meet at 10am for approximately half an hour on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings of the month.

Our Next Dates are: **9th and 23rd August; 13th and 27th September.**

Everyone from the Group is very welcome to join us. If you are unable to come, but would like to receive the chosen material for the day, please email me and I will send you a copy for your own reflection time.

**Revd. Mandy Ansell,**  
**01508 538654,**  
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## From the Registers

### BAPTISMS

15/05/22 William Harold John BROWN Framingham Pigot

### MARRIAGES

30/04/22 Tidus WARD and Stacy ROBERTSON Framingham Pigot

### FUNERALS, BURIALS, CREMATIONS, INTERMENT OF ASHES

17/05/22	Paul Gilbert WRIGHT	Claxton
18/05/22	Richard LEWIN (58) (Interment of Ashes)	Rockland St Mary
20/05/22	Rosemary HOWELL (88)	Framingham Pigot
20/05/22	Diana PARFITT (81) (Interment of Ashes)	Bergh Apton
20/05/22	Charles PARFITT (81) (Interment of Ashes)	Bergh Apton
27/05/22	Ronald Charles REYNOLDS (91)	Rockland St Mary
10/06/22	Gwenneth NOBBS (94)	Framingham Pigot
17/06/22	Eric BENNETT (84)	Claxton
17/06/22	Monica Maude BENNETT (87) (Interment of Ashes)	Claxton

## Thurton "Songs of Praise!"

We are hosting another "Songs of Praise" service in Thurton Church at 4 pm on **Sunday 21st August 2022** and this will be followed by refreshments. It will be an informal occasion and we welcome anyone from across the Bramerton Group of Churches. We shall be using the Bluetooth speakers to give us some nice music and vocal leadership. If you have a favourite hymn please send the details to us by email and why you would like it included. Or write a brief note with your name on it and give it to us or Revd Cate by **Monday 8th August**.

## Thurton Family service

We are holding a Family service on **Sunday 18th September**. This will cater for both children and adults of all ages and will include craft activities. This less formal service will be followed by refreshments. Like "Songs of Praise" we warmly welcome anyone from across the Bramerton Group of Churches.

Further details from Chris and Rosalind Limbach, 01508 480440, [candrlimbach@gmail.com](mailto:candrlimbach@gmail.com)

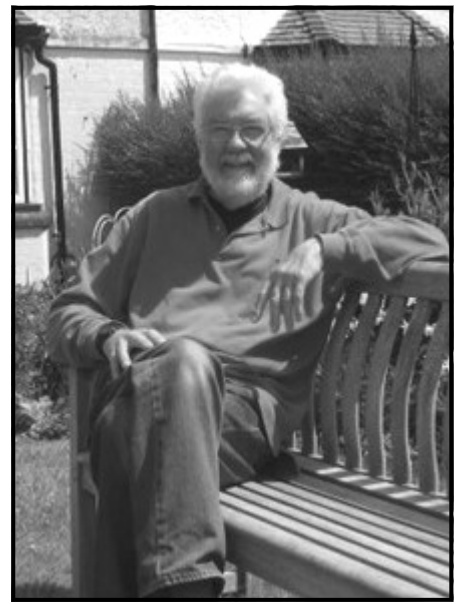


Thurton Church - courtesy of Angie Broadberry

## Obituary

### Paul Gilbert WRIGHT

Paul Wright of Claxton sadly passed away on the 17th of May 2022 and was laid to rest with his beloved wife Lindsey in a service held at St. Andrew's, Claxton.



Paul was well known in the community having been a parish councillor for many years and an active supporter of St. Andrew's Church, Claxton. He participated in many of the community activities including helping with Fair on the Yare, church events including the Flying Festival and Wassail, and was a regular attender of church services.

He will be best remembered for his craft skills and as joint owner of Ward and Wright Footwear retail shop in Timber Hill, Norwich, selling high quality footwear and the handmade sandals he manufactured with the help of Lindsey. Paul developed his skills in business and manufacturing as a management trainee and practitioner in Somerset with Clark's. His expertise in shoe making brought him to Norwich where he created his own shoe manufacturing and retail business with his brother-in-law Peter Ward.

Paul's kindness, generosity and relaxed demeanour will be missed by all who knew him. Our thoughts and prayers are with his three daughters Robbie, Elly and Sophie.

Paul Carter

## Framingham Pigot Wedding

After days of chilly and cloudy weather, the sun shone brightly on **Stacy Robertson and Tidus Ward** as they were married on the 30th April.



Stacy is a regular member of our Framingham Pigot congregation and often helps prepare the church for other people's weddings, so it was lovely that on this occasion she was celebrating her own. Stacy said that it felt so special to be married in a church that had really welcomed them and their son George as a family, and the team had made the day so personal.

They were joined by family and friends for a reception at Sprowston Manor before leaving for a honeymoon in Wales.

## TWIG - The Women's Independent Group

Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the Month at 7.30pm in Alington Village Hall, Church Road, Alington. New members are always welcome.

**3rd August** - This is a change to our usual programme. An outing to Horning for a trip on the Riverboat. Meet at Alington village hall at 10.45am. This is for Members only.

**7th September** - Afternoon Tea with Lynton Johnson. Meet at Bergh Apton village hall at 2.30pm for 3pm.

## Loddon Flower club

Our meetings are held at St John's Church, George Lane, Loddon, NR14 6NB. Doors open at 6-30pm for a 7pm start. A raffle will be held afterwards for the arrangements. Visitors £6.



**Tuesday 6th September** - Tempus Fugit (Time Flies) with Wendy Munnion.

**Tuesday 4th October** - Floral Cocktail with Crystal Dyball.

Contact Tricia Godfrey (Chairman) on 01508-480522, [tricia646@aol.com](mailto:tricia646@aol.com) or Alex Pinder (Secretary), 01508 493869, [nnark@aol.com](mailto:nnark@aol.com).

Our website is [www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk](http://www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk). We are available to arrange flowers for family occasions.

## Seething WWII Control Tower Open Days.

We are pleased to announce our Open Days for 2022.

**14th August** (please note: changed from 7th August, our usual 1st Sunday of the month), **4th September** and **2nd October**. We are open from 10am to 4pm when the Tower and Nissen Hut will be open.

On our Open Days you can enjoy the wide range of exhibits, photographs and read stories of the 448th American Servicemen who were based there during WWII. During this time they held frequent dances and hosted children's parties for those living in local areas.

Coffees, tea and cakes will be available in the Tower at reasonable prices as are the famous "Bomber Burgers". The younger generations can take part in fun activities, and we feel we have something for every age group to enjoy.

We have free entry and parking and hope to welcome you to all of our open days.

## Surlingham Broadnotes

Surlingham Broadnotes are looking for a musical director to lead our community based choir from September this year.

We meet once a week (currently on a Wednesday evening) at Claxton Village Hall.

We are looking for someone who will enthusiastically lead and encourage us in our singing of a wide variety of music. Contact Sarah Carter, [carterclaxton@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:carterclaxton@tiscali.co.uk)

## Engaging Children with Nature - South Yare Wildlife Group

When the Oxford Children's Dictionary was revised recently, many words considered to be no longer relevant were removed, and were replaced by new, more up to date, words. Many of the words that were lost had to do with the natural world, such as; acorn, blackberry, bluebell, kingfisher, lark, nectar, otter, primrose, starling, and many more; and were replaced by more modern words, such as; blog, broadband, celebrity, curriculum, database, voicemail etc. The removal of these nature words was opposed by many, including ;Robert McFarlane, Margaret Atwood, Laurence Rose et alia, who stated,

*"Compared with a generation ago, when 40% of children regularly played in natural areas, now only 10% do so, while another 40% never play anywhere outdoors. Ever. Obesity, anti-social behaviour, friendlessness and fear are the known consequences. The physical fitness of children is declining by 9% per decade, according to Public Health England."*

However, the new dictionary is unfortunately a reflection of the lived reality of modern children's lives; where the natural world is becoming ever more remote, with children having less opportunity to roam freely from home, and the wild environment disappearing under tarmac and concrete. The recent Covid lockdown has only added to this tendency to stay indoors, and just interact at screen based technology, rather than to venture into the real world.

If we are to have any hope of trying to save our environment it is vital that the future generation understands and appreciates the value and beauty of the natural world. The South Yare Wildlife Group is committed to trying to engage with young people and as such we hope to work with local schools in the next academic year.

We are also organising a **Family Wildlife Activities Afternoon** in Loddon, at the Jubilee Hall on Sunday August 21st, 2-5 pm with wildlife games, bird box making, bee hotels, nature organisations etc. etc. It's free to enter so please come along.

Another excellent way of helping children to learn about Nature is through Forest Schools.

**Wheatfen Forest School** at Surlingham caters for children from 0-16 , with a Woodland Toddler Group on Thursdays and Fridays.

For more details please contact Rose Hoare; [wheatfenforestschool@gmail.com](mailto:wheatfenforestschool@gmail.com) or 07956 704195.



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# Village News

## Alpington & Yelverton

### Alpington and Yelverton Celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Over the long weekend of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at the beginning of June, Alpington and Yelverton villagers enjoyed a variety of events to celebrate this unique occasion.

The Jubilee Quiz at the Wheel of Fortune pub was a well attended and fun opening to the events and the following evening's Wine Tasting held at the Village Hall was both informative and a great social occasion.

The traditional Village Fete on the Saturday afternoon was blessed with good weather and very well attended. Mr Sam greatly entertained both children and adults with his Punch and Judy and magic shows, and Splat the Rat and Bowling for the Pig were a hit too! We were also treated to a performance by the Alpington and Bergh Apton Primary School choir. The Tombola stalls had a successful afternoon raising funds for local groups. The TWIG refreshments marquee served delicious cakes which were much appreciated.

During the afternoon, Mrs Jenny Purple (pictured here on the right) was presented with a bouquet of flowers in recognition of her being the longest living resident of the Village, having been born in and lived her whole life in Alpington and Yelverton.



Sunday's Big Picnic had to be moved into the Village Hall due to the inclement weather, but those who attended were treated to a performance of great sing-a-long tunes by Ukulele Group Jelly and the Biscuits.

This culminated in the National Anthem followed by the Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk, Bryony Falkus, cutting the magnificent Jubilee Celebration Cake made by Leo Smith. This delicious cake was then shared out to all who attended.



These celebrations were a success due to the volunteers who planned this over the year, and helped either on the days or beforehand putting up bunting, creating the flyers and banners, erecting the marquee and baking cakes. A big thank you to all the volunteers and also local people and businesses who loaned the marquee, straw bales, games, made banners, donated prizes and supported the events.

Susan Stacey

### Thank you!

A huge THANK YOU from the Church Wardens and the PCC of St Mary's Church to all those who supported and participated in our Platinum Jubilee Flower Festival over 10 days.

It was lovely to see so many displays by local societies and clubs, and also local memorabilia, depicting special occasions spanning 7 decades of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.



We thank you for all donations received and Leo Smith for making the lovely patchwork quilt for the raffle. Proceeds were equally split between St Mary's and The Matthew Project.

### Friends of Yelverton Church

The Jubilee weekend activities went very well, with the Friends' Tombola being an amazing success. A large number of donations, and the quality of them, meant that we had a very enticing selection of prizes on display, and almost sold out - we stopped when the 'odds' of winning became too long. The Tombola raised an incredible £266 towards our next restoration project. At the same time, the Friends participated in the Flower Festival, and our display, covering the decade 2010-2020, and focusing on the Diamond Jubilee, the Olympics and the wedding of William and Catherine, was well received.

Our major fundraising event of the year, the Coffee Morning, will take place on Saturday, 6th August, at the Wheel of Fortune, from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. There will be coffee and cake, a raffle, and the usual stalls, including crafts, bric-a-brac and books. Any offers of items for the stalls, or offers of help, will be gratefully received. We are most grateful to Naomi and Barry, the landlords at the Wheel, for their hospitality, and remind you that after 12 noon the pub will be open, and is now offering a limited selection of pub food, so you may like to continue your socializing over lunchtime.

Mary Fewster

### Alpington & Yelverton History Society

Alpington & Yelverton Village Hall, Church Road,  
Alpington NR14 7NU

Tuesday 27th September 2022 at 7.30 pm we will be hearing from Frances and Michael Holmes of the Norwich Heritage Society about The Old Court Yards Of Norwich.

Guests £3. Refreshments available.

All are welcome



# Village News

## Bergh Apton

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Floats gently down stream ,  
Among diamonds of sunlight  
Returning to the sky.

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As the morning mist  
Floats above the surface  
Of the lush, green meadows,  
On the far side of the stream.

Stay and listen  
To the morning song,  
Bringing music  
To the silence,  
A prelude gifted  
To the rising sun.

Walk with me  
On my journey,  
We will talk  
Of forgiveness  
And peace.

Chris Roe

## Bramerton continued . . .

### Creative Writing Group

A fun and welcoming four-session course in writing fiction. Starts Wednesday 14th September at 7pm in Bramerton Village Hall. £12 per 90 minute session. Booking essential.

For more information please contact Jane on 07890507297 or [jane\\_fielden@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jane_fielden@yahoo.co.uk)

### Future village events:

**Village Hall Garden - Grand opening:**  
Sunday 11th September, 2.30pm - 4pm.

**Community Café:** Saturday 29th October, 10am - 12pm in the village hall

For updates and reminders of village hall events and regular classes, please follow Bramerton Village Hall on Facebook.

## Carleton St Peter

As the Queen wished, Carleton St Peter Celebrated Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. We brought people together through our service of Thanksgiving and we celebrated afterwards by planting a tree in her honour which was followed by a tea party in the Church due to inclement weather.

It did not dampen anyone's spirits though and thank you to all of those who joined in with the event and made it a special one to remember. The Church was filled with four generations and it was great to hear the laughter and see the enjoyment on peoples faces. Thank you to all of you who helped, from baking to decorating, and congratulations to the quiz winners.

Our annual major fundraising event is with us soon, over the weekend of 13/14 August , please pop in and join us at this year's flower festival, the theme is past royal events, and we have some quirky ideas!

Refreshments will be served throughout the two days and these include bacon sandwiches and home made cakes. There will be stalls and most importantly hopefully there will be time to relax and catch up with friends. Please pop along if you can. Doors open each day from 10.30 am.

Wishing you all a good summer

Carleton St Peter

## Bergh Apton & District Society

Bergh Apton Village Hall, Cooke's Road, Bergh Apton, Norwich, NR15 1AA

September welcomes our Autumn/Winter season of in-house meetings with speakers and on **Wednesday 14th September** we have **Stephen Ferrey** coming to speak to us about **MOCO**. What is MOCO? Come along to find out at 7.30 pm on the evening, where you will find a warm welcome.

Admission £3. Tea/Coffee and biscuits are served. Raffle

## Bramerton

### Bramerton Ellacombe

John Firmin, Peter Smith and I have completed the restoration of the Ellacombe apparatus in St. Peter's Church and to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee our church bells rang out using the Ellacombe. This link explains the origin of the apparatus: [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellacombe\\_apparatus](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellacombe_apparatus)



\*Great Paul, the largest bell in the country weighing 16.7 tons was cast by John Taylor & Co. Loughborough, who also cast all our 8 bells. It was rung at 11am on Friday 3rd June at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's Jubilee held at St Paul's Cathedral. Bells around the country also rang out at this time so we joined them to celebrate not only the Queen's Jubilee but the working once again of the Ellacombe.

*\*Great Paul, the largest church bell in the country, was made in 1882, but fell silent in the 1970s due to a broken mechanism. It was restored in 2021 and has been rung on 8 occasions since, but this was the 1st royal occasion where it was rung.*

Tony Evans

# Village News

## Claxton

### Thank you

I am writing to say a very big thank you to all who sent me cards for my 90th birthday and also especially to the 'little bird' who let the secret out.

Once more, thank you all very much.

Anne Mundy

### St Andrew's Church, Claxton

As part of our Village Jubilee Celebrations, St Andrew's Church was decorated with amazing floral displays thanks to our skilled flower arrangers. Around 40 people attended the dedication of the tree planted in the churchyard as part of the Queen's green canopy initiative. It made a great start to the day's activities on Thursday 2nd June.

Hard work applying for grants has paid off and, together with pledges of help from the Village Hall, a local charity and fundraising we are able to meet most of the cost of essential repairs to the thatched roof. Fundraising will continue as we still have to carry out repairs to the church tower.

We are also asking people to 'buy' bundles of sedge. The ridge will require between 350 and 400 bundles at a cost of £5 each. If you would like to buy a bundle please contact Sarah or Paul, [carterclaxton@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:carterclaxton@tiscali.co.uk), 01508 480555.

Look out for our Autumn Quiz - details will be in the next edition of 11 Says.

### Blessing of Platinum Jubilee tree on 2nd June 2022

The photos below show the Rev Nick Garrard delivering the blessing and casting a watchful eye, as 4 of the younger members of the village install The Queen's "Green Canopy" plaque in front of the hawthorn planted to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.



### Claxton Village Hall

The Village Hall was packed with people of all ages for our Village Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. The day began with the dedication of a tree, planted in the churchyard as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. The church was decorated with an amazing display of Jubilee themed arrangements. After the dedication, families were able to follow a trail to the Village Hall. Children who successfully solved the clues along the trail were rewarded with a jubilee medal.



During the afternoon children enjoyed the giant sandpit, built specially for the day, as well as a variety of outdoor games. In the hall there were craft activities, exhibits of memorabilia from the coronation and past jubilee celebrations. There was also a chance to 'Find the Queen's Jewels'. More than a hundred people consumed a substantial afternoon tea which was accompanied by live 1950s music.

The oldest resident present judged the Claxton Crest competition and the winning entries will be displayed on the planters outside the hall.

In the evening Her Majesty the Queen welcomed 80+ residents to the hall, where a hot meal was served and a table quiz challenged everyone's royal knowledge.

Finally, Claxton's own resident piper played everyone up to the beacon including in his repertoire a piece of music special composed for the jubilee.

The beacon was lit at 9:45 along with hundreds of others across the nation.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the day such a success.

Janice Dix



**Claxton Community Café** is taking a break in August, but will be returning on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September, and from then onwards will be held on the first Wednesday of each month between 10 am and 12 noon. Do come along and join us for freshly brewed tea and coffee, bacon and egg rolls, and a selection of home baked goods at very reasonable prices. The Social Club is open every Friday from 8:00pm, earlier on the popular food nights which are outlined below:

**August 12th** Amma's Kitchen Sri Lankan street food

**September 23rd** Sarina and Caroline Malay style curry EAT IN note start time 6pm

**October 14th** Dirty Fryer Boys

**November 11th** Peaky Pizzas

**December 16th** Durban Grill

# Village News

## Rockland St Mary

### Rockland Flower Festival

Thank you very much to everyone who made arrangements, baked cakes or helped over the weekend.

Without you all it wouldn't have been possible to have such a successful event and enjoyable event. The festival raised £673.05 for Church funds.



### Rockland's Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tea Party

The tea party was a tremendous success and was enjoyed by around 70 people. It was a lovely community event and great to see everyone sitting, chatting and enjoying the delicious refreshments. A huge 'thank you' to all the fantastic bakers and my marvellous team of helpers.



Jayne Regan

## Surlingham

### The Jubilee in Surlingham

Her Majesty was there in form if not in person at the Church, hosting the Knitted Tea Party and available for any number of 'selfies'. Proper teas were there too and at the Ferry Pub, Sonya laid on a free 'bring a cake' party together with showing the Trooping of the Colour and also a barbeque. At Coldham Hall there was a Hog Roast and £240 was kindly donated for the Church Tower Fund.

The theme for the Church Flower Festival was Royal Film Premieres of the last 70 years, lots to choose from! To guess which ones were interpreted in inventive and wonderful ways and with such skill; how to interpret A Long Road to Freedom, The Marigold Hotel, a Jewellery Heist and the Lion with the Witch.....? And then a homemade galleon, a lamp post, animals, a shoe, a ship and hiding in the flowers, the Royal Corgis. These knitted, non-biting charmers were taken home by the lucky few children who found them all, in a competition.

The Knitted Tea Party was a masterpiece created by a team led by Alex Evans. It was well publicized and drew people from near and far, many a hand reached out for a sandwich or cake, yummy eclairs! Children and grown-ups put on crowns and joined the teddy's tea party for a photo.

Still exhibited in the Church is the work of the children at Surlingham School covering the 70 years of the Queen's reign. These include some insightful and delightful (imaginary) diary entries made by Her Majesty.

## Surlingham continued . . .

At the closing Church service a cheque for £3000 was given to the church by John and Christine Glynn, proceeds so far from the sale of their book 'Surlingham in Time', for the Tower Fund. Extensive work needs to be done and every contribution supports applications for grants. Copies are still available and it is very interesting to read.

Thanks to the many who contributed to the village celebrations which made for a memorable and very enjoyable Jubilee. A special 'thank you' to Gillian Stiff, chief of the corgi household, the floral wonder crew and so much more. The helpful sum of £1225.35 was raised by the Jubilee event in the Church for Church and Tower funds and it was fun.

The following Saturday, Surlingham School fete was held, organised by FOSS. They say 'thank you to everyone who helped at the fete, we had a great day and we hope that you enjoyed it too. We raised an amazing £2212 which will help provide learning opportunities for the children. See you again next year, the Foss team.

Pippa



### Poringland and District W.E.A - Adult Learning Within Reach Autumn Term 2022 Update

In Spring 2022 we welcomed Mary Fewster, a local historian, who gave 27 students a fascinating ten week course entitled "Defence of the Realm". The number of students was restricted because of Covid, and I apologise if anyone was disappointed by not being able to secure a place. Mary also guided some of us around Great Yarmouth's remaining town walls which are some of the finest in England.

At the time of writing the WEA has yet to announce a tutor for the Autumn term. We have not given up hope however and I suggest you keep checking the WEA website, [wea.org.uk](http://wea.org.uk), or phone the branch on 01508 500993 for any news.

Our tutor for the Spring 2023 term will be Nigel Herwin. Nigel's subject will be "Hooray for Hollywood". The course will consist of 7 two-hour sessions and will begin on Thursday 19 January 2023 at 10.30am at Poringland Community Centre. More details closer to the time in this magazine.

Jane Walker, Chair

The WEA is a charity registered in England and Wales (no. 1112775) and in Scotland (no. SC039239)



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## The Wool Trade - Part 1 (Part 2 in next issue)

East Anglia, particularly Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex, helped make Tudor England rich through the wool trade. Thousands of sheep were grazed to produce wool, which was then spun and woven into cloth. Along with the spinners and weavers, farmers, shepherds, carders, dyers and merchants were all needed to make the trade successful. Fine textiles were produced and exported to the continent as well as raw wool, making the trade one of the most important, particularly from the late 13th century to late 15th century. It did, of course, continue long after that.

One of the largest Norfolk estates was that of Baconsthorpe Castle, owned by the Heydon family, where an estimated 20,000 - 30,000 sheep were grazed. Sir Christopher Heydon is known to have entertained his 30 head shepherds to Christmas dinner in the 16th century. His son John was to extend the castle to accommodate spinners and weavers, thereby controlling the product from start to finish. Unfortunately the Heydons and their heirs tended to live beyond even their lavish means and by 1650 the estate was sold and the castle sold for use as building materials. The Baconsthorpe Heydons were a branch of the Heydons of the Hall and village of Heydon.

King Edward I was the first of successive monarchs to tax the wool trade heavily, mostly to fund his military activities, and Edward III was to protect the Flemish weavers from their French overlords, as part of the Hundred Years War (1337-1453) in order to ensure he retained his taxes.

Flemish weavers fled from the continent as a result of religious persecutions and other economic reasons over a number of years, to set up home in England. Many were to settle in Norfolk and Suffolk, where their distinctive architecture can still be seen in places such as Norwich, Lavenham, Beccles and Sudbury. Lavenham is one of the many villages where it was possible to build and sustain a large church because of the wealth from the wool trade. Monasteries were also great players in the wool trade, making them rich, before Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries.

Governments were instrumental in supporting the wool trade by laws, such as that of the Act of 1571, which said " ... all male commoners over 6 years old to wear to church on Sundays" ... "a cap of wool, thicked and dressed in England, made within this realm and only dressed and finished by some of the trade of cappers, upon pain to forfeit, for every day of not wearing 3s 4d"



Flemish House, Beccles

The Acts of 1668 and 1678 stated that a person had to be "buried in the wool". The aims were "for the lessening the importance of linen from beyond the seas and the encouragement of the woollen and paper manufactory of the kingdom".

These acts required "No corpse of any person (except those who shall die of the plague) shall be buried in any shift, sheet or shroud in anything whatsoever made or mingled with flax, hemp, silk, hair, gold or silver or any stuff or thing, than that what is made of sheep's wool only; or to put in any coffin lined or faced with any sort of cloth or stuff or any other thing whatsoever is made of any other material but sheep's wool only, on pain of forfeiting 5L (£5)". Of the fine one half went to the informer and the other half to the poor of the parish. Within 8 days of burial an affidavit had to be provided, sworn in front of a JP or Magistrate, the vicar or parson could also administer the later that was the most usual way of doing things. The Parish Register would be marked accordingly with "A", or "Aff" or "Affidavit" to show that the act had been complied with, or with those too poor to pay for a woollen shroud, it would be marked "naked". These comments can be seen today in the old registers that survive.

One such Norfolk example can be found in the Feltwell Church Register of St Mary's in 1678 "Roger Sharman was buried in woollen Sept. 14th certified by Justice Longe".

This act was not repealed until 1814, but had not been enforced after 1770.

Through the centuries migrants came to England from the Low Counties and brought their skills with them. In Norwich they were called "Strangers" and they usually arrived by boat via Great Yarmouth, once the home of a prosperous Flemish family.

Incidentally, it was because the Flemish weavers brought their canaries with them in the 15th century that breeding canaries became popular, resulting in the Norwich Canary, which was to be adopted by Norwich City Football Club as their sign and mascot, and being called "the canaries".

One local reminder of the wool trade is the village of Worste(a)d, named for the especially fine woven cloth produced here and also many other places. Worsted yarn was produced from the fleece of the Norfolk Horn sheep, which were the predominate breed in E. Anglia in the Middle Ages. This was because they were suited to the poor soil in the Brecks. In later centuries they were replaced by what was thought to be an improvement in sheep quality, usually South Down sheep. These were then crossed with the Norfolk Horn resulting in the Suffolk sheep breed. The Norfolk Horn almost died out but has been brought back to greater numbers by more recent interest in the survival of rare breeds, which can play an important part in genetic conservation. Nowadays they are of special importance in grazing conservation sites, where they thrive.



*Taken from the Raveningham Group Magazine.*



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Ashby	11.00 MP		11.00 Mass with Incense		11.00 MP PT		11.00 Mass with Incense		11.00 MP PT
Bergh Apton	09.30 HC	10.00 BENEFICE SERVICE HC Admission of Churchwardens	09.30 PT	09.30 HC (BCP)	09.30 HC		09.30 PT	09.30 HC (BCP)	09.30 HC
Bramerton		10.00 HC					15.30 BLESSING OF ANIMALS		
Carleton St Peter	11.00 MP				11.00 MP				11.00 HARVEST
Claxton	09.30 HC		09.30 HC		09.30 MP		09.30 HARVEST		09.30 HC
Framingham Pigot	08.15 HC (BCP)		08.15 HC (BCP)		08.15 HC (BCP)		08.15 HC (BCP)	11.00 HARVEST HC	08.15 HC (BCP)
Kirby Bedon			11.00 HC				11.00 HARVEST		
Rockland St Mary		11.00 HC		09.30 HC		10.00 BENEFICE HC Archdeacon's Visitation		11.00 HARVEST	10.30 -12 Café Church in Parish Room
Surlingham		09.30 HC		09.30 MW				09.30 HC	
Thurton	11.00 HC		16.00 SONGS OF PRAISE PT		11.00 HC		11.00 FAMILY SERVICE PT		11.00 HC
Yelverton	09.30 PT		09.30 HC	16.00 ALL 4	09.30 PT	10.00 BENEFICE HC	09.30 HC	16.00 ALL 4	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. **A Short service of Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Yelverton on Thursday 4th August and Thursday 1st September at 10.30 am.**

Bible Readings Sunday by Sunday: AUGUST and SEPTEMBER 2022

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel	
07/08/22	Genesis 15.1-6	Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16	Luke 12.32-40	8th Sunday after Trinity
14/08/22	Jeremiah 23.23-29	Hebrews 11.29 - 12.2	Luke 12.49-56	9th Sunday after Trinity
21/08/22	Isaiah 58.9b-14	Hebrews 12.18-29	Luke 13.10-17	10th Sunday after Trinity
28/08/22	Ecclesiasticus 10.12-18	Hebrews 13.1-8,15,16	Luke 14.1,7-14	11th Sunday after Trinity
04/09/22	Deuteronomy 30.15-20	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14.25-33	12th Sunday after Trinity
11/09/22	Exodus 32.7-14	1 Timothy 1.12-17	Luke 15.1-10	13th Sunday after Trinity
18/09/22	Amos 8.4-7	1 Timothy 2.1-7	Luke 16.1-13	14th Sunday after Trinity
25/09/22	Amos 6.1a,4-7	1 Timothy 6.6-19	Luke 16.19-31	15th Sunday after Trinity
02/10/22	Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4	2 Timothy 1.1-14	Luke 17.5-10	16th Sunday after Trinity
<b>Harvest Service Readings</b>				
	Deuteronomy 26.1-11	Philippians 4.4-9	John 6.25-35	

**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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