

ELEVEN SAYS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE BRAMERTON GROUP OF CHURCHES COVERING 11 PARISHES

APRIL /
MAY 2020

ISSUE 282

As free as the wind . . .

One of the great sights of winter for me is watching flocks of geese. They are some of my favourite birds. Every year large numbers of Greylag, White fronted and Pink footed Geese migrate to Breydon Water and the surrounding land from Scandinavia and Russia and we are privileged to see them grazing in fields or flying high overhead.

Wild geese were a source of great wonder for our ancestors. Every autumn they would arrive in this country in big groups, returning to the same places around the same time. No one knew where they had come from, or where they raised their young.

The Barnacle Goose gets its name from the medieval belief that it was formed in a barnacle, rather than hatched from an egg. Then, as Spring approached, they would fly away to an unknown destination, only to return when they chose to, months later.

The lives of wild geese were a mystery to our ancestors. When they were close by, no one could miss their sight and sound. No one knew where they came from or could tame them. 'A wild goose chase' means a hopeless quest. For the Iona Community, a group of Christians based in North-West Scotland, they have come to represent the Holy Spirit.



In the Gospels, we are told that the Holy Spirit came down upon Jesus when he was baptised in the form of a dove. Representing the Holy Spirit as a goose, however, gives us a different perspective. Like God's Spirit, wild geese seem to be as free as the wind.

Today, ringing birds and satellite tracking have taught us how geese travel around the world, and that they really do hatch out of eggs. Soon they will leave us again to begin the long journey to their nesting grounds.

Even now, I still share my forebears' sense of wonder as I watch geese leading their very different lives alongside ours. In their freedom, strength and beauty I am reminded of God's Spirit, moving across the face of the waters, bringing life and light to the world.

Perhaps there are other things that we can find in nature that remind us of our Creator, his goodness and his ongoing life among us.

As Spring returns and Easter comes closer, my prayers are that the wonder and hope that the Holy Spirit brings be yours and mine.

On behalf of all my colleagues in the Bramerton Group, may I wish you a holy and Happy Easter,

Revd Canon Nick Garrard

CORONAVIRUS - BRAMERTON GROUP RESPONSE (17th March 2020)

Since this edition of Eleven Says was put together much has changed due to Coronavirus.

Many people are understandably worried and needing to avoid direct contact with other people. We entirely understand if people feel they would rather not attend Church services and events at this time. Subject to Government guidance, our churches will continue to be open everyday for those who wish to visit, reflect or pray quietly on their own. We have also created a Rockland Churches community Facebook page where news can be posted and messages exchanged.

Church communities are working together across the Bramerton Group area to develop co-operation and support with parish councils and others responding to local needs as they arise. If anyone is aware of people who are self-isolating or are actually unwell or caring for others please offer our names and phone numbers (listed below) as a point of contact for help with deliveries of food or collection of medications, etc. We are also available for telephone or e-mail support to offer companionship and reassurance during your time of isolation. James at Green Pastures, Bergh Apton, the shop at Rockland St Mary and Teles Patisserie, Surlingham plan to run food delivery services for those folk who cannot leave the house. Further details can be found on Page 11.

The situation is changing rapidly and services may be subject to alteration at short notice. Please look out for updates, or ring us if in doubt. We are looking into ways that people can still share prayer and encouragement when meeting up isn't possible. For example, we could light a candle or pray at 6 pm each day, wherever we are, knowing that others are doing the same. The prayer is on Page 5.

If there is anything else you feel that we could help with or support please let us know. Please remember, YOU ARE NOT ALONE.
May God Bless You.

Revd Nick and Revd Helen Garrard (01508) 538014
Revd Chris Ellis (01508) 484174

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Welcome to the new Rector of the Bramerton Group (Rockland St Mary Benefice)



From L to R: Revd Helen Garrard, Revd Canon Nick Garrard, the Right Revd Dr Alan Winton

On Wednesday evening 23rd January it was standing room only at a packed St Mary's Church, Surlingham, to witness the induction of Revd Canon Nick Garrard as Rector of the Bramerton Group (Rockland Benefice) and Bishop's Officer for Christian Spirituality through creative arts, and also the licensing of Revd Helen Garrard as assistant priest.

The service was conducted by the Bishop of Thetford, the Right Reverend Dr Alan Winton assisted by The Archdeacon of Norfolk, The Venerable Steven Betts, The Rural Dean the Reverend David Owen and attended by many clergy from the diocese. It was sincere yet both formal and light hearted. The congregation remained behind for teas, coffees, homemade cakes and nibbles.

Many thanks to Pippa Thurlow, Gillian Stiff, Diane Corbin and to everyone else involved in organising this event.

Thanks also to Churchwardens of all the Benefice PCCs, David Driver, Alex Buckenham, Tony Ridley, Christine Hiscocks for car parking, and Tim Smith, Richard Atkins, Mike and Tom Stiff, Derry Kelleher for car parking duties.

Finally, many thanks to those who baked cakes and brought nibbles, to Sue Stiff and the rest of the kitchen elves, to Janet House, Brenda Packham, David Wheeler, Joy Miller and to Derry for the bell ringing.

We warmly welcome Helen, Nick and their family to their new home at The Rectory in Rockland and look forward to exciting times ahead.



A bit about the Garrards

Two months ago, the removal vans arrived at Rockland and since then Helen and I have settled into a new life and ministry among you. It's been a great pleasure to meet so many people from across the Bramerton Group and we are very grateful to Mandy and everyone who has welcomed us and helped us to find our way.

As I travel around the Rockland Benefice, I have been struck at how much there is to discover here. I hope to learn more about the stories of each community and how the church can best support and help them to flourish together. Recently I visited Surlingham and Rockland Schools and was impressed by the staff's care and pupils' enjoyment of their learning.

Helen and I have ministered in a number of different settings, starting out in North Lancashire before coming to Norwich in 1991. We haven't moved far since then! For the past thirteen years we've served the Broadside parishes, stretching along the River Bure from Salhouse Broad and Acle Bridge. We're very pleased to be living along the banks of the Yare and look forward to exploring the beautiful landscape and doing some birdwatching. In addition to her parish ministry, Helen, who is a trained nurse, is full-time NHS Lead Chaplain based at Priscilla Bacon Lodge.

We have four daughters. Eve, our youngest, is studying for her A Levels in Norwich and hopes to pursue music as a career. Cecily is training to be a teacher with a focus on special needs. Rebecca is a mechanical engineer engaged in research at Birmingham University. Jessica, who is married to Mark, is a trained nurse and currently on maternity leave with our first grandchild, Grace.

In the last fifteen years I have combined ministry with study. My field of interest is art history and particularly focussed on objects and their meanings. I completed my PhD last year, based on research into four Reformation objects in Ranworth Church. I also enjoy linoprinting when time allows!

Helen and I look forward to developing the outreach of the Barn as a place for prayer, friendship and spiritual growth supported by the arts. I also teach pastoral care and spirituality to Reader candidates and students preparing to be ordained in this Diocese.

Above all, life itself is a learning experience, and I look forward to all that we will experience together as we learn more about ourselves, about God, and about the world around us.

What's happening in the Barn.

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Graham and the clergy of our Deanery Chapter to the Barn for lunch and we are developing opportunities to invite people to experience its unique space. However, in light of the current situation all planned events have now been postponed. Please look for news and any updates in Eleven Says, or on A Church Near You website under 'Burning Bush Barn'

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7440/

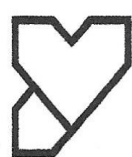
Annual Parochial Church Meeting, April 23rd

Along with the rest of the diocese, we have been given permission to postpone our annual meeting until the coronavirus restrictions have been lifted.

When it does come, we will have a cheese and wine interval. The wine should be well chilled by then!

In the meantime, we are very grateful to our churchwardens, PCC officers and members for continuing their important work for an extended period.

Revd Nick Garrard



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In light of the current situation all of the EXPLORERS and HALO (Youth Club) events have been postponed.

Please keep a look out for any notices of updates that may be posted in your areas.

Ashby & Thurton WI
First Thursday each month at 7.30pm

Alpington, BA & 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

Rockland St Mary & District WI - Formed in April 1920 (Part 2)

In the 1930s The WI members felt they would like to have their own meeting room and asked the local branch of the British Legion to help with this; the leading member of the BL at that time being Brigadier Dale. Margaret Mack (the then Secretary of the WI) organised fund raising events and a piece of land in School Lane next door to the school was eventually purchased.

The building work was begun in 1936 and during this year Margaret sadly died after giving birth to a son. This was an awful blow for the WI but the room was completed and named after Margaret and it is still known as the “Margaret Mack Room” today.

What of the British Legion? They have long since gone and even when were in existence, if any work or expenditure was needed on the room, Brigadier Dale always said they were unable to pay anything. The WI were always the ones who looked after the room. After rebuilding over 3 summers in the early 1980s the Room Trust was vested in the Office of the Official Custodian for Charities, who set up a Management Committee to run it. The WI still play their part in looking after the room with members serving on this Committee.

Other assets given to the village over the years are the red horse-chestnut tree on Rookery Corner to mark our Queen’s Silver Jubilee followed, after much fundraising, by the Village Sign. The seat outside the Post Office was given by the WI and we have since replaced it. We did plant one or two other trees in the Black Horse Dyke area, at the Staithe and on Bramerton River Common. (We are RSM & District - with members from Bramerton) but I think none have continued to grow.

Village groups which have their roots in our WI are The Gardening Club. This grew from Flower and Veg shows organised by the WI to raise money for the rebuilding of The Margaret Mack Room in late 1970s and early 80s. Hilda Thompson gently guided the Club into being. The Bramrocks started after we had put on a play and later a Pantomime - Cinderella Revisited, then the men wanted to get involved and it gradually became “The Bramrocks”. There were still WI members in the group which enabled them to take part in Norfolk Federation WI Drama Festivals and they won cups for performances on a number of occasions.

Yes we still meet monthly on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm in The Margaret Mack Room. Fun, friendship and support for one another are our greatest assets. Why not come and find out more? You would be very welcome.

Daphne Howlett

Rockland St Mary School photo dated 1955!

The photo below was taken way back in 1955. Do you recognise yourself or is there someone you knew, or someone you may know who might still live in the village?



Watch this space for names of the teachers and the children in our next issue!! See how many you remembered!

Wednesday Fellowship

Wednesday Fellowship is a meeting for ladies and men at Alpington and Yelverton Village Hall on 2nd Wednesday of the month.

It is open to anyone in the Bramerton Group (or beyond!). We have a variety of interesting speakers, fellowship, tea and cake.

Transport can be arranged within the Bramerton Group. For more information contact Jo Threadgold 492657 or Pat Barter 493570.

8th April - The Norwich Food Bank - Speaker Hannah Worsley

13th May - Lound Nature Reserve - Speaker Tony Brown

10th June - Canon Pat Atkinson updating us about her work with the Vidiyal Trust in India

Gentlemen, you are cordially invited to a

Mid-Day Mardle

An opportunity for men to quench their thirst for good company and conversation, share good food and, perhaps, to enjoy a glass of something.

New members are always given a warm welcome.

Ferry House, Surlingham

Wednesdays April 1st, May 6th, June 3rd
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Any questions, please contact David Fairbourn on 01508 538437, or email surlingham.midday.mardle@gmail.com

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***** Café Church All Welcome *****



Loddon Flower Club

We meet on the 1st Tuesday in the month at St John's Lecture Hall, George Lane, Loddon, Norwich, NR14 6NB, 6-30pm for a 7pm start. Visitors £6, everyone welcome.



5th April - Our President is opening her garden at 33 Stoke Road, Poringland, NR14 7JN from 2pm onwards. Entry fee is £2 and there will be refreshments, raffle and plants for sale.

7th April - *Attic Attack* - Terri Potter

5th May - *A Wood Affair* - Stephanie Laing

2nd June - Chairman’s Evening - Ready, Steady, Arrange

Please contact our Chairman, Tricia Godfrey, on 01508 480522 or email tricia646@aol.com for further details.

We can also arrange flowers for special occasions.



From the Registers

CHRISTENINGS

25/01/20 Hannah MONTEITH

Yelverton

MARRIAGES

FUNERALS, BURIALS, CREMATATIONS, INTERMENT OF ASHES

17/01/20	Adrian Michael HORNE (56) (Interment of ashes)	Rockland St Mary
23/01/20	Anthony Herbert COLES (97)	Bramerton
23/01/20	Joan COLES (91)	Bramerton
06/02/20	Patricia WILSON (Interment of ashes)	Yelverton
11/02/20	Jean DULIEU (85)	Yelverton
24/02/20	Tony CARR (84)	Rockland St Mary

Rockland Benefice - How the Church will continue to resource our villages and their visitors.

In the weeks ahead, we will extend the welcome of our open churches by placing prayer materials, news sheets and other resources that can be taken away and used. In the Rockland Benefice, there will be a prayer tree in every church. A weekly sheet with prayers, readings and a short service will be available by e-mail or post for anyone who requests a copy. Palm crosses will be left in churches at the start of Holy Week and can be delivered to anyone who wants them at home.

We are looking into the possibility of recording or streaming worship. Updates will be posted on the Rockland Churches Facebook page and in the next edition of Eleven Says. Please ask us by phone or email for any resources that you feel would help and that we can offer.

Normally, so much of church life happens through worship and gatherings where people are brought together and food and drink are shared. At present these are not possible. But as we look forward to the return of these activities, we are using different parts of what it means to be Church in order to carry on serving our communities. Recently, Bishop Graham reminded us of the four key elements we will continue to offer:

Hope - looking beyond the present time

Kindness - showing God's compassion through real concern and generous action

Prayer - offering up people's needs to God's transforming presence

Service - using our time and ability to help and support

Please think of us as we pray for you in love and hope.

Revd Nick Garrard



The Bramerton Group - Thurton Benefice

On 17th March 2020, the Church of England issued the following communication:

'In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice. Churches should remain open where possible but with no public worship services taking place.'

The consequences of this are immense and as the Church we are trying to find ways of responding to the needs of our parishioners. Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting has been postponed in line with emergency church legislation and our celebration of Easter will be impossible as a gathered community. However, please do be aware that:

Our church buildings are still open for private prayer and reflection and you are most welcome to enter and take time to be with God. *Prayer requests can be left in the church or emailed/ phoned to me.*

As the Church in your community we are here to offer help and support in whatever way we can. *If you are concerned for yourself or for someone else, please do contact me.*

I intend to produce a weekly sheet with the Collect, Readings and a short reflection/thought for the day. These will be available in church and also by email. *Please contact me if you would like to be added to the circulation list.*

Palm crosses which will have been blessed will be available in each of our church buildings from Palm Sunday. Please call in and collect one to use as a focus for prayer during Holy Week. *Please contact me if you would like one posted through your door.*

More information and current guidance can be found at: www.churchofengland.org including the opportunity to follow streamed/virtual church services.

Be assured that prayers for you and this community are being said throughout the day by both myself and members of the Church.

We have solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished.

With every blessing at this time,

The Revd Christopher Ellis (Rector)
01508 484174. chris.ellis23@btinternet.com

World Prayer

Let us join together, wherever you are, at 6 pm each day, light a candle and offer the following prayer, in the knowledge that others are doing the same.

God of love and hope,
you made the world and care for all creation,
but the world feels strange right now.

The news is full of stories of Coronavirus.
Some people are worried that they might get ill.
Others are anxious for their family and friends.
Be with them and help them find peace.

We pray for doctors and nurses and scientists,
and all who are working to discover the right medicines
to help those who are ill.

Thank you that even in these anxious times, you are with us.

Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.

Amen.

God bless,

Nick and Helen Garrard

Save the Village Panto



Since 1983 the Bramrocks have started the Christmas season for the villages with their annual pantomime, this year being no exception.

Our production of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" received excellent reviews from NODA (National Organisation for Dramatic Arts) and most importantly from the audiences.

We were able to enlist the help of some of the Framingham Earl Singers and Funky Feet Dance School, who, as well as supporting the main characters brought life and colour to the performance.



However, putting on a pantomime needs a lot of people. As well as more actors, there are many jobs which need to be filled. i.e. set construction and painting, props, stage managers, lighting, sound, publicity, costumes, front of house, bar, etc.

We aim for a family of four to see the show, have a drink and an ice-cream for roughly the same price as one adult Theatre Royal ticket thus providing affordable good quality entertainment. If we are to put on a pantomime this year we really do need more members and helpers.

If you feel that you can help in any of these areas please come along and join this friendly fun loving group.

You can contact us on thebramrocks@gmail.com or speak to any member of the group.

Sandra Barker

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Quick tips to help your garden wildlife

From the freezing depths of winter to scorching hot summer days, helping our local wildlife is certainly an important job all year round. Conditions that are hard on us are also difficult for our garden wildlife to deal with, so it's vital that we do what we can to make things easier for the birds, mammals, insects and other creatures that we share our neighbourhoods with.

Here are some of our quick tips to lend a hand all year round.



Spring

Plant nectar-rich flowers

Although many gardens look impressive, they can actually be deserts when it comes to biodiversity. To attract pollinating insects like butterflies, bees and hoverflies, plant flowers such as lavender, foxglove and cornflower that are rich in nectar. To support birds, you can choose plants that produce berries, like hawthorns, rowan and holly, or offer seed-producing plants such as sunflowers and teasels.

Get composting

As the weather warms up and we start gardening again it's a great time to begin your own compost pile. It is relatively cheap to buy a specialist bin (or make your own) into which you can feed food leftovers, garden waste and paper to provide a valuable habitat for invertebrates and amphibians. Eventually it will turn into an enriching compost that can be used to add nutrients and help promote growth in your garden.

Summer

Make a wild patch

Summer might be the season when our gardens are looking their best but resisting the urge to tidy can be hugely beneficial to our wildlife. Letting grass, weeds and flowers grow in certain areas can provide important habitats for insects, mammals and birds. Try creating your own 'Wild Patch' and watch the wildlife flourish.

Provide fresh water

Offering water for drinking and cooling off is a great way to help wildlife during hot days. Baths or troughs will be greatly appreciated by both birds and insects. Try to use harvested rainwater collected in a water butt for the best results. You could even look into creating a wildlife pond to add a new habitat to your garden – tips can be found on our website to help you out.

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!



Have you got a Wild Patch? Register it on our website and join the Wild Patch community: southarewildpatch.org

Is your garden wildlife friendly? Visit southarewildlifegroup.org southarewildpatch.org for more information, hints and tips



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St Michael's Church, Langley

- **Concert: Baroque Rock** which will be held in Langley Church on **Saturday 18th April at 7.30pm**
- **The BIG Book Sale weekend** which will be held at Langley Church on **Saturday 2nd May and Sunday 3rd May** between **11.00am - 4.30pm**
- **Bluebell Sundays** which will be held at Langley Church on **Sunday 10th May and Sunday 17th May** between **2.00pm - 4.30pm**
- **Concert: Early Choral Works** (including Pergolesi's **Stabat Mater**) with Auriga Capella, Ursula Pank (Cello) and John Nicholson (Piano).

Please note: in light of the present situation, some of these events may be cancelled or postponed. Please look out for updates or notices in your areas

Do you need a space for your regular activity or meetings?

The Margaret Mack Room in Rockland St Mary currently has availability for Wednesday or Friday evenings.

Only £8 per hour or £18 per evening.

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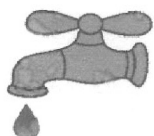
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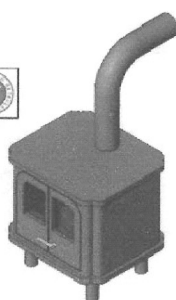
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Village News

Alpington & Yelverton

ALPINGTON & YELVERTON VILLAGE HALL YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU

Alpington & Yelverton Village Hall is a facility that has provided a meeting place for Groups and Clubs for over 90 years. It is run by volunteers and we are looking for new members to join the Committee.

The AGM will be held on Monday 27th April at the Village Hall at 19.30 and we would like to invite you to join us to find out how you can help keep this facility running for present and future generations.

Alpington & Yelverton History Society

Alpington & Yelverton village hall, Church Road,
Alpington NR14 7NU

Thursday 14th May (revised visit itinerary)

Visit to Gt Yarmouth for Blue Badge guided talk & walk of The rows plus guided tour of Yarmouth Oilskins established in 1898 and still operating as a family company by responding to the changing industries requiring its garments and other products.

Tour open to all. £5. Numbers will be restricted. Booking is essential. Please telephone 494443 or 492131 to secure your place.

YOGA

4 Introductory Yoga sessions at Alpington & Yelverton village hall on 22nd and 29th April and 13th and 20th May starting at 6pm; £6 per session or £18 for all 4.

The sessions will be 75 minutes long, run by a British Wheel of Yoga qualified teacher and are open to all abilities.

Either just turn up or contact Richard Williams on 01603 434710 or email richardwilliamsyoga@gmail.com.

Wear loose clothing and if you have a yoga mat please bring it. Hope to see you at one of the sessions.

Ashby St Mary

Ashby St Mary Cricket Club

The new season is fast approaching! We are a small village club who play home games at Ashby Hall at "the meadow": a wonderful location.

Competitive friendlies are played on a Sunday afternoon plus midweek evening games from April to September. 40 games already booked.

If you are new to the area, not played for a while OR perhaps want a change of club, please get in touch. Nets begin at Langley School Sports Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 830 pm, on April 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd.* Come and join us. You will enjoy it!!

PLEASE NOTE: In light of the present situation these dates may change or be postponed! If in doubt please contact Paul Clemence, 01508 218078.



Ashby St Mary & Thurton

Ashby & Thurton Village Hall & Playing Field 100 Club. Thank you to all who support our 100 Club. This helps with much needed funds for Our Village Hall. The winners: February - 28 - G Cooper, and March - 6 - A Somerville. The winning amount each month is £40 with an extra £120 in November.

Community Café. Our community café will be open on the 2nd Monday of each month from 2pm - 4pm. As Easter Monday is the 13th April we have moved our date to April 20th, there after, dates go back to the 2nd Monday in each month from May 11th, June 8th onwards. Everyone is welcome!!! We offer soup (in the colder months), savoury snacks, cakes, hot and cold drinks and activities. If you are waiting to pick up children from school, why not pop in and see us or join us after school. We look forward to seeing you.

Burns Night held on 26th January was a great success. Everyone had a lovely evening and £575 was raised to go towards funds needed for our village hall. A big thank you to all who came and supported.

Treasurer Required. A treasurer is required for Ashby and Thurton Village Hall Committee. Meetings are once every other month at the hall in Thurton. There will be a hand over from the previous treasurer. If you are interested please contact Carol Powell 480089

Short Mat Bowls. A reminder of our short mat bowls sessions in the village hall; beginners are welcome, every Wednesday between 2 - 4pm for friendly games and a cup of tea with a biscuit or two.

Booking Clerk. Laura Vaissiere 01508 480773 or ashbythurtonvillagehall@gmail.com

**Saturday 16th May at 7 for 730 pm
at Ashby & Thurton village hall**

**The famous eleven villages Quiz Night
An annual event since 2007**

In aid of St Mary's Church, Ashby St Mary

Tickets: £6 per adult - includes a fabulous buffet

Bring your own drinks and nibbles
Teams of 6-8 people

Email: anita_kemp611@hotmail.com, or tel: 01508 480151

Bergh Apton

Saturday 13 June 2pm

Bergh Apton Village Hall

Excitement builds!

BACAT is producing another Special event in
October 2020.

To set the scene, come to find out about it, and
decide if you'd like to take part.
All very welcome.

There are roles for
Musicians, Singers, Voices, Rude Mechanicals,
Techies and Practicals

And Workshops too!

Do note the date and let us know if you can be
there.

c.m.meynell@gmail.com



Village News

Bergh Apton

Bergh Apton & District Society

Bergh Apton village hall, Cooke's Road, Bergh Apton, Norwich. NR15 1AA

All meetings start at 7.30 pm. £3. Raffle. Light refreshments.

Wednesday 8th April - Chocolate. This talk is about "chocolate". Beginning with a brief (but amazing) history of chocolate in England, Tony Diamond our speaker for the evening will move us on to the positives (astonishing), disputed (what do you think?) aspects, and then some fairly unknown negatives before explaining the financial bits that make chocolate one of our most valuable (and delicious!) Commodities. All in all, our true intent is for your delight.

Wednesday 13 May - Chocks Away. Come along to hear Terry Holloway, Managing Director of the Cambridge Aero Club, who has amassed over 9500 flying hours in 200 different aircraft types from vintage to jets, talk about "Gliding over the Andes". Terry was the first Englishman to fly a glider over the Andes from Chile to Argentina in 1995 and is still an active pilot and flying instructor.

Admission £3. Tea/Coffee and biscuits. Raffle

Bramerton

Speeding

As part of our efforts to improve road safety Bramerton community speed watch team has started to monitor traffic speeds in the village. You may have seen notices to this effect on signs recently erected on the approaches to the village.



Over a dozen local volunteers recently completed their training and will be out and about at various locations to check on passing traffic. Please encourage drivers in your family and those who are visiting to keep within the speed limit as they pass through our village. Whenever necessary, the community speed watch team will pass details of speeding motorists to Norfolk police.

Can you help?

The Village Hall team needs new members. If you live in the village or local area, and might like to get involved, read on!

As a group we manage the running of our lovely community space. This involves meeting four times a year to discuss matters such as maintenance, bookings, social events and the administration of the hall. Meetings last under two hours. Team members also take turns on a rota to keep an eye on the hall. For one week, approximately every seven weeks, you would check over the hall after a booking, and make sure the bins are taken out. Beyond this, you can get as involved as much as you want to! If you have ideas for social events you would like to organise, or ideas for how to improve the facilities of the hall, there is plenty to keep you busy!

If you are able to help, then please get in touch! You can contact us by phone or email. Telephone Angie on 07584 287058 or email jane.fielden@yahoo.co.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

Dates for your diary.

Wednesday 22nd April, Village Hall AGM

Saturday 25th April, Games Night 7.30 pm

Saturday 13th June, Coffee Morning 10 - 12 noon

Please note: it's possible that these events may be postponed so please watch for notices/leaflets. If in doubt please contact Alison on 01508 538041, Angie 07584 287058 or Jane 01508 538016.

Bramerton

Joan and Tony Coles

Those who heard 91 year old Joan Coles read a lesson with clarity and vigour at Bramerton Carol Service on 15th December will have been particularly shocked at news of her sudden death at home in the early hours of Christmas Day.

Then, just two weeks later her husband, Tony, died at 97. They were married for 70 years, had one child, Alastair, and two grandchildren.

Joan had been a primary school teacher at Poringland and later a supply teacher.

Her enthusiasm for doing things led to a long association with the Bramrocks - on stage, being wardrobe mistress and in general administration.

Joan will evoke particular memories within the groups she supported. To Angie Yeomans, her husband Tony Steggles, and Chris Hawes, it may be being part of the team compiling questions and answers for the Bramerton Group inter-village quiz. To my wife Merry, it will be the "wool exchange", "needle and patterns exchange", as Joan's skills as a knitter became more and more apparent. There is a large framed piece of her talented cross stitch work in the village hall, depicting numerous important historical events.

She served on the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council, the Village Hall committee and played bowls with the Bowls Club. Her Yorkshire tones and her kindness will long be remembered.

Tony loved books. Not only was he well read, but he had a distinguished career in library administration. He became Norfolk's County Librarian in 1979.

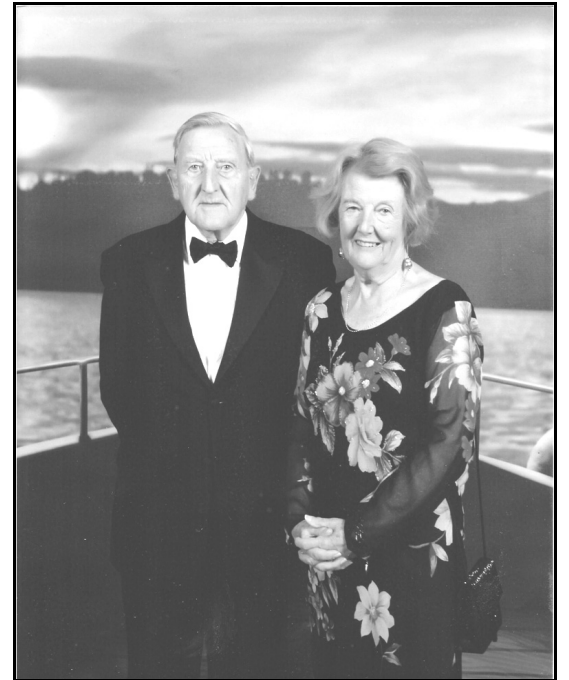
He loved trawling through village records when Clerk to the Parish Council. In 1983, he was one of the leading welcomers at the Cory family reunion, when 86 attended morning prayer and Tony and Joan gave weekend hospitality to two members of the American branch of the family, Chuck and Dorothy Rout of Ohio. They kept in touch ever since.

Tony was possessed of a sharp sense of humour and his friends called him "the village jester". He supported the Bramrocks Drama Group with Joan; and his accompaniment with the late Ray Banger in singing "The Blue Rock Candy Mountain" brought the house down. He also acted as chairman of the group's Old Tyme Music Hall.

In 1989, he had the satisfaction of seeing the village hall completed and opened. There is a photograph of the building gang in the hall, comprising a small number of male retirees, of whom Tony was one.

Who will pick up and run with the community torch which the Coles have handed on?

Richard Crosskill



The "building gang", Geoffrey Bullen, Ray Banger, George Ellis, Tony Coles, Norman Bevan and Terry Edwards. The hall was officially opened by Timothy Colman, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk, in September 1990.

Village News

Bramerton continued . . .

Bramerton Village Hall New Facility

If you're looking for a new, fun and sociable way to keep fit in 2020 then why not try playing table tennis at Bramerton Village Hall?

Earlier this month the hall received the generous donation of a high quality Stiga table tennis table from Claire Mackintosh, who has family in the village. Claire also donated a complete set of bats, balls and a net. The difficulties of delivering the large table were overcome by the help of Mark from Alpha Construction, a building firm based in Bramerton, who kindly lent his time and his van to collect it.

The table was up and running in time for the village Games Night held on January 25th. A fun knock around was enjoyed by the older participants followed by a series of fast and competitive returns once the Bramerton Under 21s took over!



The table is available for all hirers of the hall, so if you would like to have a go please contact Alison on 01508 537014. The hall costs just £4 an hour to hire with a minimum hire of two hours. Or, keep an eye out on the village notice boards and @bramertonvillagehall on Facebook for the next games night which is free to all local residents.

Thank you again to everyone who donated, delivered and came to enjoy our lovely new village facility.

Bramerton Litter Pick



Please note: unfortunately the Spring Litter Pick has been postponed until the Autumn.

For further information please contact Councillor Roger Smith, 01508 538225, email: r.acksmith@btinternet.com

Just walking the dog

The swings, slide and climbing frame are all located in part of the village recreation area which is fenced. Dogs are not allowed on this part of the recreation ground for good reason. Let's be blunt, even the best disciplined dogs sometimes pee and crap where they are not supposed to. Parents are entitled to feel that their children are safe in this space.



There are usually signs to remind owners that this space is out of bounds when walking their dogs. Recently these signs have been deliberately removed or defaced and such anti-social behaviour is most unusual in Bramerton.

It's making me cross that the parish council (using parishioners' money) is having to pay to replace these signs because of petty vandalism. If it's you doing this, please leave these signs alone and, to all dog walkers, please keep your dog out of the play area!

Keith Wheeldon

Carleton St Peter

Sunday 28th June - Cream Teas. Bring and Buy. From 2 - 4pm at Carleton St Peter Church.

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th July - "Victorian Occupations" and Flowers by Friends of the Church. Light refreshments available. The usual Bring and Buy, etc. From 10.30 am - 4.30 pm.

Claxton

News from the Village Hall

Building on our very popular summer quizzes we held our first **Winter Quiz** in February and were delighted with the response and the sum of over **£600** raised for Village Hall funds, with "**The Bookworms**" the clear winners. Thanks to everyone who helped make this such a fun and enjoyable evening - Quizmaster **Mike Balmer** aided by daughter Lizzie, the team from the **Community Café** who cooked and served a delicious meal, the bar staff, team members and everyone who helped in any way.

Attention all babies! A regular "**Sing & Sign**" session is scheduled to begin on **Friday April 24th** from **10.30-11.30**. Details are still to be finalised, so look out for advertisements and check the village website.

We are in the process of planning our next events. In addition to a **Summer Quiz**, we are hoping to have a new and exciting event on **Sunday 30th August** - so put this date in your diaries!

Claxton & Carleton St Peter Community Café is held on the **2nd Tuesday of every month**. A great regular event where you can get together and chat over tea, coffee, cakes and savouries. If you haven't been yet, you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Rockland St Mary

Dog Fouling.

There are 10 dog waste bins around the two villages but in recent months there has been an increase in dog fouling on our pavements. Most people are responsible and clean up their dog's mess but a few dog owners are spoiling it for others.



The whole of South Norfolk is covered by a Public Spaces Protection Order made under Section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This makes it an offence for a person in control of a dog not to clear up the dog mess immediately on any land that is open to the air and to which the public is entitled or permitted to have access. Offenders can be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £80, reduced to £60 if paid within 10 days, or if taken to court, a fine up to £1,000.

If you see someone allowing their dog to foul and not clearing it up, please contact me with the owner's details or photographic evidence and where it happened so that South Norfolk can pursue the matter.

Welcome.

The Parish Council extends a warm welcome to new residents moving into the village. A lot of local information can be found on the parish website: www.rocklandstmarywithhellington-pc.gov.uk.

Parish Council meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month (except August) commencing at 7.30 pm in the Parish Room. At the beginning of each meeting there is a public participation session. Come along and meet your local councillors !

Monica Armstrong,

Clerk to Rockland St Mary with Hellington Parish Council.

Email parishclerk@rocklandstmarywithhellington-pc.gov.uk

Village News

Rockland St Mary continued . . .

Rockland St Mary And District Gardening Club

The last talk before we commence the garden visits for the summer will be on **April 23rd** when John Carrie will give a demonstration on basket weaving.

Prior to John's talk the Annual General Meeting will take place but this will be short!!

Meetings commence at 7.30 pm in the Parish Room. Members and non-members most welcome.

Monica Armstrong
Club Secretary 01508 537025

Flower Festival

St Mary's Church,
Rockland St Mary

**Saturday 2nd and
Sunday 3rd May
10 am - 4 pm**

And to commemorate 75 years
of VE day

Donations from the flower
festival in aid of the church.

Light refreshments

Contact Jayne (01508) 538087



Rockland Quiz Friday 24th April

Put your thinking caps on and come along to the Rockland St Mary quiz. It will be held in the Parish Room, The Street, Rockland St Mary. It costs £5 per person with all the proceeds going to support St Mary's Church. Bring your own drinks and food.

We aim to have teams of 5/6 people but don't worry if you have less or on your own as you will be able to join someone else's team. Its a great way to make new friends.

The Hall will be open at 7 pm and the quiz will start promptly at 7.30 pm. To book a place telephone Jean Carr 538260. A splendid time is guaranteed for all!

Please note: due to the present situation it may be necessary to postpone this quiz. Please keep a look out for posters/leaflets that may be posted around the village nearer to the above date.

Thurton

Are you sitting comfortably?

Village folk have been worshipping and finding peace at the site of St Ethelbert's church in Thurton for many centuries.

As part of the ongoing refurbishment plans, we wish to purchase some cushions to make sitting on wooden pews more comfortable.



Anyone wishing to make a donation, large or small, specifically towards these cushions, can give it to Rector Chris Ellis at The Rectory 29 Ashby Road or to churchwarden Rosalind Limbach at 8 St Georges Close.

If you were able to sign a Gift Aid form your gift would be worth an extra 25%.

If you wish to know more please contact Chris Limbach on 480440.

Help available in our local areas.

In light of current events local deliveries are being offered to those who have been advised to self isolate due to underlying medical conditions and for the most vulnerable over 70s in our villages.

Rockland St Mary Post Office and store

Alan, Karen and Emma Tranter of Rockland St Mary Post Office and Store will be happy to deliver **emergency essentials** to those living within our local villages, i.e Kirby Bedon, Bramerton, Surlingham, Rockland, Hellington and Claxton. They are offering 'out of hours' shopping for pensioners who will also be able to use the Post Office if they wish. **The 'out of hours' shopping will be offered daily from 7 - 8 am and 8 - 9 pm by arrangement only!** Please call 01508 538123 to confirm a morning or evening 'slot'.

Green Pastures, Bergh Apton

James is pleased to offer to deliver any orders above £10, with a delivery charge of £3, to ANY address within 5 miles of the Bergh Apton Farm Shop at Green Pastures. Seasonal fruit and vegetable boxes, ranging from £10 to £40, are being prepared, although you can contact them to discuss your personal requirements. Their aim is to provide a flexible service to support their customers in this time of need and will do their very best to deliver any order within 24 hours. As they expect demand to be high at first, please bare with them! To place an order, or for further information, please telephone 01508 480848.

The Patisserie, Surlingham

The Patisserie at Surlingham have kindly offered extra services/help to everyone who needs it within a 5 mile radius of their café and the Yare Valley Shop. They will deliver bread, pastries, soup, meals, and some emergency supplies.

Orders for food/ meals, etc will be delivered the following day. They have also offered to help with shopping, paying bills, walking the dog, in fact will try to help in any way they can.

They will continue to remain open during their normal hours - 10 am - 4 pm - as long as they are allowed. Windows will be open to keep fresh air circulating, and their already strict cleaning measures will become even more strict!

Also, as you may know, there is a big outdoor area where you can relax, with your dogs which are always welcome, and enjoy a cuppa, cake, etc.

Please contact the Patisserie on 01508 538892

Teles Patisserie

SPECIAL DELIVERIES

Due to the possibility of having to be restricted to our homes, we will provide delivery of goods locally.

Orders placed on the previous day to be delivered next day.

Goods (bread, cakes, soup and light meals) will be paid by bank transfer and delivered at your door.

Stay together. Stay strong. Stay safe.

Teles Patisserie

SPECIAL DELIVERIES MENU

Soup of the Day - £5,50

Bruschettas (toasties with sourdough bread, smoked ham, breaded ham, chorizo, cheese and tomatoes) - £4,50

Light meals - £10.50

Beef, Pork or Chicken breast in a roll served with salad and roasted potatoes

Cod pastries - £2.00 each

Pork pastries - £2,50 each

Chicken pies - £2,50

Pasteis de Nata - £2.00 each

Croissants - £1,50

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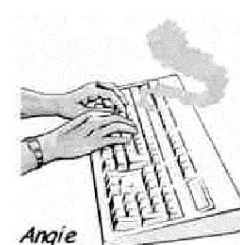
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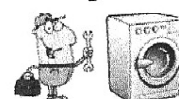
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Rockland St Mary - Margaret Mack Hall available evenings and weekends for private parties, meetings and social activities. Rates per hour or per day. Contact after 4pm please, either Debs Sayles, 01508 537077, email: debssayles@yahoo.co.uk or Daphne Howlett, 01508 538553.

Rockland St Mary - The Parish Room is available for hire. With kitchen facilities it is ideal for social functions, parties, clubs and meetings. Our hire rates are extremely reasonable. Please contact Jayne Regan, 01508 538087.

Candlemas and Gift Day Service with Revd Nick

The Rev Nick Garrard took his first service, our Candlemas and Gift Day Service, at St Mary's Church, Surlingham. Many thanks to the congregation who welcomed him and to Diane and Gillian for preparing the cakes for afterwards.



Rev. Nick Garrard with Felicity (who exchanged her candle for a cheese straw) and dad Simon Hofmann.



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Yes there is fear.
Yes there is isolation.
Yes there is panic buying.
Yes there is sickness.
Yes there is even death.
But,
They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise
You can hear the birds again.
They say that after just a few weeks of quiet
The sky is no longer thick with fumes
But blue and grey and clear.
They say that in the streets of Assisi
People are singing to each other across the empty squares,
keeping their windows open so that those who are alone
may hear the sounds of family around them.
They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland is offering free meals and
delivery to the housebound.
Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with her number
through the neighbourhood
So that the elders may have someone to call on.
Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are preparing to
welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary
All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting
All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way
All over the world people are waking up to a new reality
To how big we really are.
To how little control we really have.
To what really matters.

To Love.
So we pray and we remember that
Yes there is fear.
But there does not have to be hate.
Yes there is isolation.
But there does not have to be loneliness.
Yes there is panic buying.
But there does not have to be meanness.
Yes there is sickness.
But there does not have to be disease of the soul
Yes there is even death.
But there can always be a rebirth of love.
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.
Today, breathe.
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic
The birds are singing again
The sky is clearing,
Spring is coming,
And we are always encompassed by Love.
Open the windows of your soul
And though you may not be able to touch across the empty square,
Sing.

Richard Hendrick
(Brother Richard) in Ireland
March 13th 2020

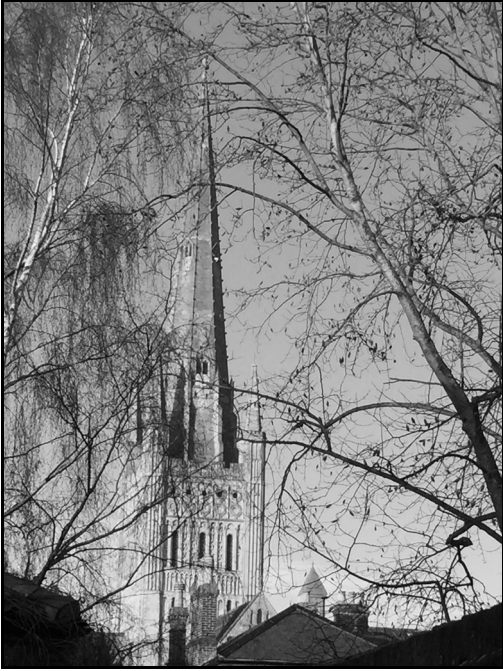
Following the Church of England’s guide lines there will be no formal services until further notice.

Bible Readings Sunday by Sunday: April & May 2020

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel	
05/04/20	Psalms 118.1-2,19-29		Matthew 21.1-11	Palm Sunday
06/04/20	Isaiah 42.1-9	Hebrews 9.11-15	John 12.1-11	Fig Monday
07/04/20	Isaiah 49.1-7	1 Corinthians 1.18-31	John 12.20-36	Temple Tuesday
08/04/20	Isaiah 50.4-9a	Hebrews 12.1-3	John 13.21-32	Spy Wednesday
09/04/20	Exodus 12.1-4[5-10], 11-14	1 Corinthians 11.23-26	John 13.1-17,31b-35	Maundy Thursday
10/04/20	Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12	Hebrews 10.16-25	John 18.1 - 19.42	Good Friday
or		Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7-9		
12/04/20	Acts 10.34-43	Colossians 3.1-4	John 20.1-18	Easter Day
or	Jeremiah 31.1-6	Acts 10.34-43	Matthew 28.1-10	
19/04/20	Acts 2.14a,22-32	1 Peter 1.3-9	John 20.19-31	2nd Sunday of Easter
26/04/20	Acts 2.14a,36-41	1 Peter 1.17-23	Luke 24.13-35	3rd Sunday of Easter
03/05/20	Acts 2.42-47	1 Peter 2.19-25	John 10.1-10	4th Sunday of Easter
10/05/20	Acts 7.55-60	1 Peter 2.2-10	John 14.1-14	5th Sunday of Easter
17/05/20	Acts 17.22-31	1 Peter 3.13-22	John 14.15-21	6th Sunday of Easter
21/05/20	Acts 1.1-11	Ephesians 1.15-23	Luke 24.44-53	Ascension Day
or	Daniel 7.9-14	Acts 1.1-11		
24/05/20	Acts 1.6-14	1 Peter 4.12-14; 5.6-11	John 17.1-11	7th Sunday of Easter
31/05/20	Acts 2.1-21	1 Corinthians 12.3b-13	John 20.19-23	Pentecost/Whit Sunday
or	Numbers 11.24-30	Acts 2.1-21	John 7.37-39	
07/06/20	Isaiah 40.12-17,27-31	2 Corinthians 13.11-13	Matthew 28.16-20	Trinity Sunday

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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Times of Masses

Saturday	6 pm Loddon
Sunday	9 am Poringland
Daily Mon-Fri	8 am Poringland
Saturday	9 am Poringland

Staff days off.

Monday	Chris Ellis
Thursday	Mandy Ansell
Friday	Nick and Helen Garrard

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NEXT ASSEMBLY: SATURDAY MAY 30th, BERGH APTON VILLAGE HALL, COOKE’S ROAD, NR15 1AA,. 9am - 11am (approx)