Showers on the road to Diss
Editors’ Message

In the light of Her Majesty’s Government’s measures to control the spread of ‘Covid 19’ virus many local events have already been cancelled. We have attempted to verify which but with new advice emerging daily the situation is rapidly changing. Our advice is always to check the situation with organisers, this includes Church Services.

A chance to help: we’ve printed cut out forms on page 26 which you might like to fill in and place with a neighbour who may be in a vulnerable group or self isolating.

We all need to be responsible and look out for each other…

Richard Vere

The members of the Cock Crow production team are sad to hear of the death of Richard Vere, husband to Jennie (Cock Crow chair) as we go to press.

Our condolences are with Jennie and her family at this very sad time. Richard as in many other things, was a staunch supporter of Cock Crow.

Vivienne and Tim

Church Services

Please note that we have been advised not to hold public worship in any of our churches until further notice. They will still be open as usual for private prayer and reflection.

The service pattern in the centre pages will not, therefore be applicable, neither will most of the published ‘coming events’ in individual parishes. In case of doubt, contact your churchwardens.

A prayer: Living God

In our hour of need we turn again to you, for we have nowhere else to turn.

We put our faith in you, because you have proved your faithfulness time and again.

We reaffirm our love for you because you have never let us go.

We thank you that you are not distant from us, but have drawn near, in your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

He has shared our life, tasted our death and defeated it;

He understands our worries and our fears.

Help us to respond as your children now.

We pray for this pandemic spreading across our world, remembering all who have lost loved ones, and praying for those seriously ill at this time.

We uphold the National Health Service as it responds to this added pressure on already overstretched services.

We pray for doctors and nurses and all in the caring professions, who work to help and support people as best they can.

We remember those working behind the scenes testing samples, confirming results, giving information to patients.

We uphold others trying to understand this virus better, working to create an effective remedy.

We pray for our Governments in Westminster and Holyrood, as they work with the best medical advice to guide us on how we should respond, and what action we should take.

We pray that these guidelines might be taken seriously and that all would put them into action.

May this crisis bring out the best in us not the worst.

Help us to live by faith and not by fear, to build bridges not barriers, and to resist all who would speak ill of any other group.

May we not forget our responsibility to one another, not least to the vulnerable and voiceless in our communities.

Help us to find ways of keeping in touch and offering reassurance to those with underlying health issues, for any who feel particularly vulnerable or in danger at present.

As the virus spreads, we pray for the disruption it causes to normal life, bringing new fears and anxieties:

We pray for those who have been laid off as their work disappears;

for financial hardship for individuals and businesses;

for the impact on the economy and pensions, when austerity has already left its mark.

We pray for those whose trips, both for business and pleasure, have been cancelled; and others where events, long anticipated and planned for, have been postponed:

for those making contingency planning for home based work or child care or exams.

May our inconvenience not blind us to others’ loss.

We remember those who cannot visit loved ones in locked-down care homes;

for the elderly whose social contacts have been severely curtailed;

help us to find creative ways of keeping in touch, of assuring them they are not forgotten or ignored.

May congregations find new ways of living though this time.

May we not forget our faith, but draw strength from it.

So may our worship be heartfelt, our fellowship deepen and our service increase.

May our worship be heartfelt, our fellowship deepen and our service increase.

May we not forget our faith, but draw strength from it.

God of grace and God of mercy, hear our prayers at this time.

Strengthen us, by your Spirit, so that: we may carry on our lives as best as we are able, looking out for others, showing love in action, being faithful in prayer, and bringing encouragement, hope and peace: always trusting in you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

These prayers we bring to you in Jesus’ name. Amen.
Now here’s a question…

‘What can I do to inherit Eternal Life?

Now that’s a question we have heard before! Jesus was asked it as we read in our Bible and how many sermons have we heard on the subject?

But I have heard the question many more times, outside the context of Church or Bible study, asked in other ways… more, ‘I do lots and lots… does that mean I will inherit Eternal life/go to heaven/find God?’ Perhaps you too have been asked the question like this, if so, how did you answer?

It can be really difficult when faced with an earnest, well meaning, rational acquaintance, to say, ‘sorry, that won’t do’

Now, to quote the politicians, ‘let me make it perfectly clear’… Am I saying that ‘Good Works’ count for nothing… no, absolutely not. ‘Good Works’ indeed help the world to go around… care for the sick, helping a neighbour, care for the climate and natural world, prayer, Bible reading, charitable giving… (the list is long!) Every effort we make to care for others brings blessings, hope, encouragement… and we all want to be a part of that… However…

However… here we are in Lent, anticipating Good Friday… we may have given something up (calories would be good Michael!) We may have added something to our daily round… some Bible study or church attendance… ‘well over the fast’

Let me suggest that a good way to spend Lent is to look deep within, to ask the question, ‘am I ignoring God in the world he has created… am I doing it my way?’

‘God will Provide’ we read… and surely, he has provided a way for us, to inherit. It will be our sin which bars the door, but should we be able to stand before God without the stain of sin, the Curtain will be torn in two and we shall enter in. And how shall that be?

God has provided… the Cross… the Punishment has been laid on him… meaning the punishment I should receive is dealt with on that Cross. ‘The Price is Paid’ we sing… now that makes it a very ‘Good Friday.’

Rev. Michael Crawford

Team Ministry

The five ‘country parishes’ in the Diss Team hold a joint Annual Parochial Church Meeting, at which reports on matters of general concern are shared, before individual churches hold their own APCM to hear about local matters and finances, and then to elect the members of the PCC for the next twelve months. Only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to take part in that vote! The meeting will be held in Roydon Parish Room, at 7pm on Wednesday 22nd April. (Check first)

Church Electoral Rolls are currently being revised, so anyone interested in joining their local church Roll is asked to contact a churchwarden to ask for an application form, which should be returned by early April, so that up to date lists can be displayed for 15 days before 22nd April.

Bressingham News

One of Bressingham’s most well known gentlemen, Laurence Flatman, has sadly died. Laurence was a gardening expert in many fields. He had worked for the Bloom family virtually all his working life with the exception of National Service and had been greatly respected by them, especially the late Alan Bloom. I have no doubt that many of us have reason to thank him too, and I know he certainly helped me create part of my own garden. Laurence also served the community of Bressingham in many ways having been chairman of the Parish Council and a governor at Bressingham School to name but two. We send our deepest sympathy to Doreen the family.

Sadly, the Open Gardens on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st May has been cancelled in line with advice from HMG about Covid 19 however the Decorated Wheelbarrow Competition is still very much ON!

Casting seeds: detail window Ely Cathedral

Bressingham Open Gardens

Planted Wheelbarrow Display

Help make our villages look even more special for the Open Gardens weekend

It could be any planted container, you don’t have to be opening your garden Theme of your choice

Prize for the most original

Have a go: enter your name and address on the list in Bressingham Shop, or contact Katherine Smith 01379 687207 ktsmith6638@btinternet.com
Bressingham Church is delighted to announce that on Sunday 12th July from 1pm – 5pm (last admissions 4pm) the gardens at Three Gates Farm in Fen Street, Bressingham are being opened by kind permission of Mervyn Lambert. If you have never seen this unique garden and lakes set in more than 8 acres and which is continually being enlarged you are in for a treat. This is the only time it is being opened in 2020. The Gislingham Silver Band will be playing during the afternoon and the entrance fee is £7.50 for adults. Tickets will be available from Bressingham Village Shop or Diana on 01379 688291. dianajb@btconnect.com Teas will be on sale. You are advised to check whether this event is going ahead.

Thanks go to everyone who attended the Coffee Morning at Burrowood on February 15th when just over £600 was raised. The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting is being held on Wednesday 22nd April at 7pm at Roydon church and everyone is welcome to attend. (Check first)

Diana

Bressingham Village Hall
The panto raised a total of £1656.

All events are cancelled until further notice.

The Lowest Pair concert; future events of this type are planned, search The Ludlam Pikes for further details.

Help The Village Hall needs new members to help with functions and the smooth running of the hall. It’s not necessary to join the committee, just be willing and able to help out occasionally; your help would be greatly appreciated!

FERSFIELD

Church News
It doesn’t seem possible now to ignore the implications connected with the Coronavirus outbreak. There does seem to be something surreal connected with this, yet the facts are probably clear enough to us. We have a disease which is easily transmitted and which can be dangerous to people with a pre-existing condition. In consequence, we need to raise our standards of hygiene, adopt careful ways of greeting each other, (no kissing please!) and be prepared to put others’ wellbeing before self. The latter has particular resonance for Christian communities – right down to a very local level. Obviously, we hope that our diaries and calendars will not be badly affected, but there will be possible implications! We have to rise to a possible challenge in every home, every street and every village. We hope that in Fersfield and all our parishes people will come together to support each other and forge new relationships. That way, let us hope we may derive some positive and lasting benefits from what could be a very testing time.

All being well, we have a busy couple of months coming up in Fersfield – they are listed below: please put them in your diary!

Richard

St Andrew’s School
We can’t believe that we are in Lent already and the start of 2020 has whizzed by so quickly. The children visited the Theatre Royal for this year’s pantomime ‘Cinderella’ and had a wonderful time and we are all extremely grateful to FOSTA for their financial contribution to enable this to happen.

We are still learning about ‘Innovators’ this term and children in Endeavour will be looking at adventure and mystery stories and The Romans. Victory class will be identifying different kinds of animals including humans and different stages of matter in science. The children in Discovery class are looking at the history of Steiff Teddy Bears and different stories containing bears.

As we approach World Book Day, the children are looking forward to bringing in their book characters designs by either fruit or vegetable. For Sport Relief this year the children are going to be bringing in their bikes and have the opportunity to buy and decorate biscuits. For science week we are spending a morning learning about forensics in a fun way. Children will also be bringing in their experiments to show the others in the school. During Collective Worship we are looking at Forgiveness and the importance of Lent to Christians.

If you wish to make an appointment to visit or would like more information about our school, please contact Mrs McGarr, on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!

St Andrew’s Pre-school
We have been very busy at pre-school with ‘in the moment’ child initiated activities such as making volcanoes using bicarbonate of soda, making dinosaur land, going on bug hunts, making mud pies in our mud garden, programming our bee bots, exploring paint and different media using house hold products. We have been busy counting and learning our colours, taking care of ourselves by learning to wash our hands and spread our own butter. We have made banana bread and we would like to thank

St Andrew’s Church: Forthcoming Events
Wednesday 1 April, 2020. Roger Jones’ ‘Mary Magdalene’ performed by the outstanding Waveney Choir, conducted by Sarah-Jane Bullock. Tickets, costing £5, will be available at the door. The performance starts at 7.30 pm, refreshments will be served afterwards and the Fersfield Easter Raffle will be drawn at the end of the performance. at approximately 9 pm. Please don’t miss the chance to enjoy this beautiful work. (Bring a cushion if you find pews a little hard!)

Easter Sunday. Holy Communion in St Andrew’s at 9.30am with the Rector.
To look forward to
On the afternoon of Sunday 10 May, the professional theatre company organising the ‘Ink Festival’ will be visiting St Andrew’s, Fersfield, to perform a play: ‘No Ordinary Joe: No Ordinary Kennedy’, dealing with the story of Joe Kennedy’s posting to the United Kingdom during World War 2. It is so appropriate that Fersfield, the location of his air base, should be the setting for this event. This play will have gone on tour across East Anglia – the final performance is to be in Fersfield’s Parish Church. (Contact organisers for advice)

Tickets are still available for Fersfield’s Easter Raffle @ £1 each or £5 per book. The first prize is £100 and the second £25. Tickets may be bought at Bressingham Village Shop, our grateful thanks to Alan for his help.

Bressingham & Fersfield Community Event
Sunday 03 May 2020 2pm to 4pm, Bressingham Village Hall
The event sponsored by the Parish council and South Norfolk Early Help Hub has been cancelled in line with HMG advice about Covid 19.

LOPHAMS NEWS NEWS

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If you wish to make an appointment to visit or would like more information about our school, please contact Mrs McGarr, on 01379 687253 or by e-mail head@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk We would love to hear from you!
everybody who supplied us with empty milk cartons so we could make our amazing igloo.

At St Andrews pre-school we value and believe in the children learning through their own choices in play. The adults enjoy creating opportunities for this to happen.

We are open Mon, Wed and Thursday’s during term time 8.45am to 3.15pm.

For further information or to arrange a visit please contact us on 07854 091257.

Lophams’ Ladies

We meet in the Village Hall on the first Tuesday each month, at 7 for 7.30pm. Visitors and potential new members are always welcome. Admission is just £2 which includes refreshments. We have an interesting programme of topics, and are hoping to attract men as well as women in the coming months. This will be discussed at the AGM in April, so do consider whether YOU would be interested. A name change could be a possibility.

At the February meeting, Frances Hart donned a sumptuous costume to illustrate her talk, ‘Rings on my fingers’, which revealed some of the secrets of Celia Fiennes’ colourful life. Celia is a member of Ralph Fiennes’ family, so adventure must be in the blood! In March, our own Ann Seddon led a craft evening, making greeting cards. Such was her skill they could be a possibility.

On February 12th, Emily Pocner’s simple print-making tutorial was another chance for us to enjoy flexing our creative muscles in unfamiliar territory. Some pleasing results fired the enthusiasm of some members to continue developing their skills in this medium.

Lophams Art Group

Meets Wednesdays 09.30–12.30 at Lophams Village Hall. We welcome new members of all levels of ability so if you would enjoy discovering or improving your artistic talents in a supportive and non critical atmosphere then you should phone or text Tim on 07854 900103 for more details.

On February 12th, Emily Pocner’s simple print-making tutorial was another chance for us to enjoy flexing our creative muscles in unfamiliar territory. Some pleasing results fired the enthusiasm of some members to continue developing their skills in this medium.

The members of the Village Hall Committee send very best wishes to Eileen, for a steady recovery from her recent severe stroke, and hope to see her with us before too long.

Regular groups using the hall include

Keep Fit for Mums and Tots is on Mondays from 9.30am (Contact Rose of Hill Fitness, on 07795 029981)

Judo is on Monday evenings (Contact Howard on 01379 688258)

Lophams’ Art Group meets on Wednesday mornings, from 9.30am. The cost is £1.50 each per month, and includes refreshments and a visit from a tutor once each month. Phone or text Tim on 07854 900103 for more details.

Dog Training Now on Wednesday evenings with Rob Jessop, Rob’s telephone number is 01379 873144.

The Lophams’ Society

Due to the health risks and Government advice regarding the outbreak of Coronavirus the Lophams Society committee has decided to cancel The Spring Quiz scheduled to take place on 24th April.

For further information please telephone Roy Clark on 01379 688408.

Garden Club

Interested in gardening and want to know more? Then come and join our friendly and informative monthly meetings which are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in Lophams’ Village Hall.

There have been changes to the Membership arrangements of the club, the subscription is now £15 for the year. This gives you free entry to all our speakers with free tea and biscuits included, so no further meeting payment is required other than perhaps the raffle if you feel inclined. We have also reduced our visitor charge from £4 to £2.50. When spread over the year this means that each meeting costs just a little over £1.00, a small price to pay to avoid the boredom of watching yet more repeats on TV! So come along and support the club, visitors and new members are always very welcome.

The programme for the year covers a wide range of topics from a visit to the garden of a local bonsai specialist, a talk on Medlars and also a presentation on creating a new garden.

Covid 19 Our meeting on 2nd April Pauline Harper’s ‘Vegetables in small spaces and containers’ is postponed. 7th May Simon White’s presentation on ‘Gardens of East Anglia’, check before attending.

For more information telephone 01379 687853.

Back to the more familiar, Katie Millard’s water-colour tutorial on March 25th was cancelled (Covid 19). Chris Gamble is scheduled to visit on April 22nd and Trevor Osborne on May 6th, subject to confirmation (Covid 19).

There are now examples of the Art Group’s work on display at the Village Hall, take a look when next you visit the Farmers’ Market!

Village Hall

Eileen

The members of the Village Hall Committee send very best wishes to Eileen, for a steady recovery from her recent severe stroke, and hope to see her with us before too long.

Brimbo

The annual BikeMeet with Auto-jumble will be held on the playing field on Sunday 10th May, (subject to confirmation) from 10am, with refreshments available in the Hall. Pitches are available for £12.00. Admission is just £2.

All details from Rodney, on 01379 688208.

Advance Notice Lopham Vintage Rally has been booked for Sunday 26th July.

All details will be in the next issue of the magazine, but do put the date in your diaries now.

The Village Hall Lottery

During the last ten years, over £37,000 has been distributed in prize money and over £19,000 has been contributed to the Village Hall Development Fund. Sincere thanks from the hall management committee to all those who have participated, your support has allowed us to make important improvements to the building and its surroundings. Please remember that our principal purpose is to maintain the fabric of the hall as an attractive venue for the use and benefit of local people and that the proceeds from the Village Hall Lottery are designated entirely for this. If you’re not in the lottery but would like to join, please ring 01379 688183, supply your contact details and you will be notified as soon as a vacancy arises. The January winners were: 1st prize of £194 – M Shipperlee; 2nd prizes of £48.50 – E Else and A Bird. The February winners were: 1st prize – P Blanchet, second prizes – P Blanchet and C Huggins. Mr Bassett won the basket of goodies.

Farmers’ Markets

Usually take place on the fourth Saturday each month, from 9am til 12.30pm, with a wide range of stalls to choose your locally produced goods. The next Markets are on 25th April and 23rd May (subject to confirmation) For details, contact Mike Shipperlee on 01379 687235.

Botolph’s Bowmen meet on the Playing Field on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, plus Sundays. Visit their website botolphsbowmen.co.uk to find out more.

Diss Family History Group meets on some Tuesdays at 1.30pm.

For all of these, check first with organisers.

To book the hall for private events, phone 01379 687679, or visit the website.
In May 1995, we remembered VE Day by holding an event round all four parishes.

In each parish, the Rector, David Hunter, led a part of the service in church, then planted a special VE Peace cross, made by Richard Vere, at the village War Memorial.

We had a beautiful sunny Sunday, so were able to enjoy a picnic lunch altogether in the Sumpters garden. 25 years on, we look back to a very special weekend, and the many people who shared in it but are no longer with us.

The two Lophams also held a special event in the Village Hall, decorated with camouflage net and John Wyer’s model Spitfire plane. Veterans of the World War 2 shared their memories and memorabilia, as did some of those evacuated to this area.

School children dressed as evacuees shared in singing some of the WW2 songs, and the refreshments used wartime recipes. At sunset a beacon was lit on the playing field.

**Parish Council 11.03.2020**

Present All councillors, J Crossley (Clerk), M Chapman-Allen (BDC), Jonathan Spinks (County Broadband), 5 parishioners.

Matters Arising The chairman apologised for previously missing three consecutive meetings and offered to relinquish his post – no takers. Issues raised about representation of NLPC’s views on Meadow Lane development at BDC planning committee discussed and resolved. Agreed that in future, for clarity, individual NLPC councillors must sign plans to say if they approve or not. Majority will be NLPC’s view.

County Broadband JS explained CB’s aim is to provide Hyperfast internet service to rural areas in line with Central Government initiative. At least 30% of households must provisionally register before 1st May for scheme to progress. These will be connected free if scheme goes ahead. Benefits and costs were discussed. NLPC agreed to a circular going out to all households to explain this.

Reeds in Mere One estimate for clearing £1000 + VAT. Other estimates to be sought.

Village Clean Up 28th March.

SNAP No report

Double Yellow Lines Outside School NCC says definitely NO!

Affordable Housing Survey letters sent, results next meeting.

Trod Parish Partnership Scheme scheduled for 2021 when NLPC has saved enough money for its 50% contribution.

Finances various payments approved.

AOB Moles in churchyard – no action. Overgrown hedges, letters to offenders followed by possible involvement of NCC highways who may bushwhack them (and the hedges)!

Next Meeting + AGM 13.05.2020

**Broadband**

North Lopham could miss out on upgrading its broadband network.

North Lopham has the chance to secure Hyperfast full-fibre broadband through County Broadband. Thousands of premises in over 130 villages across East Anglia have already agreed to join CB’s new network which does not use the old, unreliable copper wires to connect to internet, TV and phone services. Construction will begin if at least 30% of residents and businesses sign up and these will get free connection, the school will receive a free connection and service. If the network is installed, residents who did not pre-register may still connect later but there will be a charge. North Lopham has until 1st May 2020 to reach 30% take up otherwise it will lose this opportunity to modernise its telecommunications systems for the foreseeable future.

Visit www.countybroadbandfibre.co.uk/futureready to find out more.

**St Nicholas’ Church**

**Holy Bingo**

For the time being, Holy Bingo sessions are suspended. It would be lovely to restart them, or something similar later in the year. Are there enough people who would like to come for a whist afternoon, or ‘knit and natter’ from time to time? Please do contact Jennie on 01379 687679 if YOU would be interested!

**Methodists**

Methodist friends hold their monthly informal service in St Nicholas’ Church, usually on the fourth Wednesday at 10.30am, with coffee afterwards. All are welcome to come and share the friendly sessions on 22nd April and 20th May. (Check First)

End of Lent and Easter

Lent Lunches on Tuesdays to help the Bishop’s Lent Appeal had to be cancelled this year after the first one – thank you, Diana for holding one. This year’s appeal is supporting our Link Diocese of Papua New Guinea, which is in desperate need of cars to transport personnel between small scattered communities. Any donations received will be passed on to the Diocesan Office.

**Mothering Sunday** will be on 22nd March. This special Family Service, celebrating families, and the special place of Mothers, will be reported next time.
Palm Sunday on 5th April marks the start of Holy Week, the most solemn week in the church year. Palm crosses will be distributed at the services, as we remember Jesus’ final entry to Jerusalem. (Check first)

There will be special services in St Mary’s, Diss, each day up to Maundy Thursday. (Check first)

On Good Friday, there will be a ‘Last Hour at the Cross’ led by Rev’d Samuel Thorp, starting at 2pm. After this service, the church will be open for Easter decorating. Gifts of flowers and spring foliage, or help with arranging everything will be warmly welcomed so that the church looks its festive best for the Easter Family Communion at 11am on 12th. This service will be followed by refreshments and our traditional Easter egg hunt. (Check first)

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting for the five ‘country’ parishes is on 22nd April. We urge anyone interested in the life of the church in North Lopham to come along, hear about the last twelve months and contribute ideas for the coming year. Those on the church Electoral Roll are asked to think about joining our church council, which is now very small, friendly charity who meet three times each year with the aim of helping those in need in South Lopham. Trustees live within the parish and come together for the good of the community.

We are currently looking for a parish resident to take on the role of Treasurer for SLEC. No formal qualification is necessary because the task is not an onerous one. Although some bookkeeping skills or experience with budget management would be helpful, all applications will be considered. With only 30 or so transactions per year to deal with and three pleasant evening meetings to attend you can make a difference within our community and to people’s lives with a relatively small input.

If you are interested and have modest time to spare, please do get in touch with our Secretary, Keeley Chapman. We look forward to welcoming you as another valued member of our charity.

Contact details: Keeley Chapman, Fen Farm, Low Common, South Lopham, IP22 2JR. Telephone (Work) 01379 687645. (Home) 01379 687985. Email k.chapman@chapmansurveyors.co.uk

South Lopham Estates Charity (Registered Charity No. 221724) Any South Lopham resident in need?
Part of the purpose of this charity is to give modest sums of money (say up to £100, but could be increased in appropriate cases) to residents of South Lopham who have a specific financial need.

We are particularly interested in helping young people with the expenses of education and training, including travel.

Other applications for consideration could include anyone suffering because of a bereavement or an unforeseen setback; or problems or expense because of illness in the family such as travel to a hospital or care home; or to assist any resident who has insufficient disposable income to enable him/her to enjoy the occasional treat; or any other cause which the Trustees consider deserving.

If you believe that you or someone in your family may qualify for such assistance please contact the Secretary, Keeley Chapman, on 01379 687985 for details and a simple application form for completion.

If you are aware of any other resident in specific financial need please let the Secretary know so that the Trustees can approach that person to see if we can help.

Please be assured that all applications will be treated sympathetically and with complete confidentiality.

Are you a resident of South Lopham?
If so, we need you!
South Lopham Estates Charity (‘SLEC’) is a small, friendly charity who meet three times each year with the aim of helping those in need in South Lopham. Trustees live within the parish and come together for the good of the community.

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South Lopham Parish Council
South Lopham Parish Council met on 3rd March. Six members were present plus the clerk and Steven Askew (NCC) for part of the meeting. Apologies from one member and Mrs Chapman Allen (BC).

Highways Dustbin speed limit stickers still available. Thanks to Steve Askew for funding these from his council budget. Letters have been sent to a number of residents where overgrown hedges and trees are hindering motorists’ visibility. The speed and size of vehicles using parish roads was discussed. Speeding vehicles are a continual issue. A recent initiative checking the validity of HGV vehicles on restricted roads in the area has found most had valid reason for doing so.

Suffolk Wildlife Trust A copy of the expired lease for a small piece of land adjoining the Fen was produced. This was discussed further and it was decided that the Chairman would read the old copy and the clerk would check the council’s liability policy and both would report at the next meeting.

War Memorial The Council has accepted a quotation for the renovation work to be carried out later in the year. Application for grant funding is in hand.

Planning Letter from the BC enforcement officer re the use of land at the corner of Brick Kiln Lane was discussed. The council still finds this matter unsatisfactory. It was agreed that the use now be brought to the attention of Environmental Health with the assistance of our county councillor. Another planning application was discussed and response agreed and also the position regarding the location of field shelters for horses on agricultural land (to be researched by the clerk).

Footpaths Rob Webb continues to work on keeping Parish paths open. Two council members recently attended footpaths seminars. Efforts are being made to undertake tree planting on suitable land in the parish.

Sam2 speed sign Apologies to the Parish that this was out of action for so long. It is now functioning again located facing South in Church Road.

Litter Pick Our parish has too much litter on verges and paths discarded in the main by lazy thoughtless people. If you agree, PLEASE JOIN a two hour pick organised by Jim Pursehouse on 19th April 10am at the White Horse.

Next Meeting: 12th May (tbc) Valley Farm.
## The Cock Crow Magazine of Winfarthing Group

The Editor of the Winfarthing Group

**The Revd David F Mills**

Winfarthing Rectory

Church Lane, Winfarthing, Norfolk IP22 2EA

Tel: 01379 643646

E-mail: revdfmills1812@gmail.com

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### All Services CANCELLED Until Further Notice

#### Burston
- **April 5**: 9.30 MP, 8.00 HC, 11.00 HC, Join Burston 9.30 MP
- **April 9**: 7.00pm HC

#### Gissing
- **April 10**: Good/F 2.00 M, 12.00 noon M

#### Shelfanger
- **April 12**: Easter/S 10.00 HC, 8.00 HC, 11.00 HC, 9.00 HC

#### Tivetshall
- **April 19**: Missionary Drive, Join Tivetshall 9.30 MP

#### Winfarthing
- **April 26**: Join Chapel 11.00 MP, Join Gissing 9.30 HC

#### Burston Gissing Shelfanger Tivetshall Winfarthing

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### The Old Upper Waveney Benefice

**Diss Team Ministry**

www.disssteamministry.org.uk

The four parishes, and Roydon, are all parishes of the Diss Team Ministry, led by The Revd Canon Tony Billett, Rector of Diss Diss and Team Vicar, The Revd John Cruse, plus our Deacon, the Revd Samuel Thorp and assistant Curate the Revd Maggie Swayze.

To arrange Weddings or Baptisms, contact Diss Parish Office 01379 643783.

For other pastoral matters requiring a priest, contact one of the churchwardens, who will put you in touch with the appropriate individual.

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### Services

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>BCP</td>
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**MP Morning Prayers**: FS Family Service | HC Holy Communion | MP Morning Prayer | **V** | **S/P** | **HC 5** | *Parish Service* | VC Village Church | P/P Prayer & Praise | M Meditation

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**Holy Bingo**: Meets on the first Monday of each month in Lophams’ Village Hall at 2pm. It’s a fun event, not for serious bingo enthusiasts. Do come, for happy socialising.

**Morning Prayer**: At present is at 8.30am on Monday and Tuesday at North Lopham and on Thursday at South Lopham in addition to the service held each weekday in St Mary’s, Diss at 8.30am.

**Wednesday Communion**: is at 10.45am in St Mary’s Church Diss.

**Discover Group** meets on some Thursday afternoons at 2pm at 1 Beechcroft, South Lopham, and at venues in Diss. Contact Marion (01379 687953) or Jennie (01379 687679) for precise dates.

**Diss Parish Office** 01379 643783 or 01379 687679 for serious bingo enthusiasts. Do come, for happy socialising.

**Churchwardens**

Bressingham: N Lopham: S Lopham: S Lopham:

D Burroughes 01379 688291 H Hadingham 01379 688475

J Sumpter 01379 687 711 R Hewitt 01379 687355

J Farrer-Bradley 01379 687818 R Vere 01379 687679

J Brundell 01379 687216 M Crisp 01379 687953

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**Bible**

Meets on the first Monday of each month in Lophams’ Village Hall at 2pm. It’s a fun event, not for serious bingo enthusiasts. Do come, for happy socialising.
‘Christ before the High Priest’
Matthew 26:57–66

Before training for the ministry, I was a solicitor’s conveyancing clerk to Withers of London WC2. Today they are called ‘Withers World Wide’, and have offices throughout the world.

One of the joys that I had at the time was the occasional visit to the National Gallery. There are many different artists and paintings that I admire, and relish the opportunity to spend longer there.

There is one painting that affects me more than any other: it is ‘Christ before the High Priest’ by Gerrit Van Honthorst, painted in Rome between 1610 and 1620. Conveniently there is a bench you can sit on, opposite the painting. The main focus of attention is the burning candle in the centre of the picture; in the shadow to the left is Caiaphas, the High Priest, seated and by the side of him there is a book; containing all the due punishments prescribed in the Mosaic Law. To the right of the candle, in partial light, is Christ standing with his hands bound in front of him; facing the High Priest. The false accusers surround the High Priest in the shadows. Christ is brought before the High Priest by the Roman Guard, on the instructions of Pontus Pilate. Pilate is seeking a way to avoid trouble with the Romans and is hoping that the High priest can deal with the situation. Under Jewish Law the High Priest cannot demand that Christ be Crucified; so he releases Christ back to the Roman authorities, for them to carry out the Crucifixion, on their behalf.

The painting by Van Honthorst depicts only one element of the Maundy Thursday / Good Friday / Easter Day account. But the image of Christ standing quietly, patiently, fearlessly against the false accusations by the crowd and by the religious leaders and government of the day, is so powerfully and wondrously portrayed. Knowing that He voluntarily accepted the unjust, cruel death on the cross is outstanding. Deliberately substituting Himself for our sakes at the cross - the benefits of which are truly ‘World Wide’.

Rev David F Mills

The Friends of Burston Church
It’s been a long, wet winter so we need a bit of cheer up. The Friends of Burston Church are now looking forward to our events for 2020. On Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30pm we are having a comedy evening with Ben Langley supported by the local ukulele band ‘Daisy and the Continentals’. Ben Langley is a well known local writer, actor and all round funny man who wowed the judges in Britain’s Got Talent in 2018. He has kindly agreed to arrange a comedy evening just for us. The tickets are £10 and there will be a licensed bar. If you would like to come along please contact Christine or Jan (details below) to book.

Coffee Morning on Saturday 2nd May we will be holding a Spring Coffee morning with homemade cakes, savouries and tea and coffee. Why not pop along and share a cuppa with your neighbours or buy some of our homemade produce to take away.

For further details please contact Jan Frankland on 01379 644788 or Christine Stevens on 01379 740505. You can find all the details of our events on facebook: search for The Friends of Burston Church.

Burston and Shimpling Parish Council
The Parish Council have agreed a budget for 2021-2022, and have also agreed to increase the precept by £1 more for the Parish Council this year. The majority of the expenses incurred by the Council cannot be avoided. We have to maintain the playing field, and the play equipment, and this is one of our major expenses. We also have to maintain the churchyard in Shimpling, and we contribute to the churchyard upkeep in Burston.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be in St Mary’s, Burston at 8pm on Tuesday 21st April. This is a meeting at which local residents can raise any topic they wish. There will be a lot going on, so come and find out what is happening in the local community.

On Saturday 2nd May there will be the annual litter pick along all of the roads of the parish. Last year several very large sacks of rubbish were collected from our ditches and hedgerows, and a quick look shows that it is now time to repeat the exercise. We will be meeting at the church, and there will be free refreshments for all litter pickers.

Friday 8th May is the Bank Holiday to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. There will be an exhibition in St Mary’s the preceding week, and on the Friday there will be a Street-Party style event, funded by a grant from South Norfolk Council and local businesses.

St George’s Church Shimpling
There will be a St George’s Day service at 9.30 on Thursday 23rd April, on the Saint’s Day of this ancient church, maintaining a tradition that extends back across the centuries.

Andrew Adam Brzechwa-Ajdukiewicz 1935–2020
Andrew was a nomad. He was born 23 in Lwów, Poland (now Ukraine). His father was taken prisoner of war by the Germans in Sept 1939. In 1940 the Russians invaded Poland. Andrew, his mother and baby brother were transported by cattle-truck to Kazakhstan (Siberia). There, his mother worked as a farm labourer while Andrew learnt songs about ‘Uncle Jo’ (Stalin). He also became a champion collector of cow dung, fuel for the stove in their one-roomed hut.

When Russia changed sides in 1941 and granted an amnesty for Poles to join General Anders army in the Middle East, the family crossed the Caspian Sea in an overloaded boat and, via Teheran and Baghdad, reached Jerusalem. His mother worked for the Polish Red Cross. Andrew went to school in Nazareth. In 1944 they moved to Cairo where his brother died. Andrew learnt English at Victoria College in Alexandria.

His father joined them in 1945 and in 1947 they sailed for England. After a year in refugee camps, they settled in London. He went to Lord Weymouth’s School in Warminster. Wiltshire and then to Bristol University qualifying in Medicine in 1961 and continuing his training there until 1964 when he went to University College Hospital, Ibadan, Nigeria on a university exchange scheme and met Norma, working in Paediatrics. They were married in Eng...
land in 1966 and had two daughters, Eva and Louise, before returning to Kaduna, Nigeria where Katherine was born. After 4 years (and 3 coups) they moved to the Medical Research Council in The Gambia, for 6 years where Claire was born (and another coup).

In 1983 the family moved to the South Pacific for 18 years, where Andrew was Chief (ie only) Consultant Physician in the Solomon Islands, visiting the islands in very small aeroplanes. In Fiji, as Associate Professor at the Fiji School of Medicine, he helped to develop a problem-based curriculum for students from many Pacific island countries. In the 1991 New Year’s honours list he was awarded OBE for services to Medicine in Solomon Islands.

He was always curious about medicine, and people and their way of life. He liked to greet patients in their own language. In retirement, here in Burston, he enjoyed football, music, gardening and good food and wine. He delighted in his 4 daughters and 7 grandchildren who, like me, will miss his wicked sense of humour, his compassion, kindness and expertise, together with his gift for and interest in teaching others.

Norma Ajdukiewicz

Burston Primary School

This half term, Key Stage 1 children have begun swimming lessons while our reception children practise their PE skills with their peers from Tivetshall. Our learning focus this half term will be to develop a sense of humour, their gift for and interest in teaching others.

Heart of Gissing

In spite of the seemingly non-stop rain of January and February the hardy souls of Gissing’s Habitat and Heritage Group continued their work at Mill Green in preparation for spring and summer, clearing brambles and installing a new gate. At the beginning of March a bird-ringing demonstration was held there, following a fascinating talk on the subject earlier that week in the Community Building.

The Habitat and Heritage Group is proving to be a very popular new activity for the Heart of Gissing’s members, attracting both those who are interested in the natural environment – the ‘Habitat’ aspect – and those who are keen to explore Gissing’s history – or ‘Heritage’. Plans are currently under way to produce an archive which includes both oral and written memories of those living in the village, and a summary of its history in the years since the Millennium. New members and their contributions are always welcomed.

Another fairly recent addition to the range of activities taking place in the Gissing Community Building is Film Night and the programme continued in March with a showing of ‘Rocket Man’, the epic musical fantasy about Elton John’s breakthrough years. The May film will be ‘The Italian Job’, the original Michael Caine version, which will be presented as part of an Italian evening which will include a delightful Italian supper.

Other social highlights of the Heart of Gissing calendar are an Easter Bingo session on April 3rd, running from 5.30 to 7.30pm and an Afternoon Tea for Borderhoppa users on April 6th. On the 19th of April from 2to 4pm there will be a Table Top/Indoor Car Boot sale. The charge for a large table will be £6, and there will be a cafe serving a range of lunch-time snacks and cakes. For more details on any of these activities and events, please contact admin@heartofgissing.co.uk

The Life of the Hare

In February, we enjoyed a great evening with Sue Alderman, chair of the Hare Preservation Trust. Sue revealed many interesting facts about the life of this secretive creature which continues to thrive in its stronghold of East Anglia, though numbers are dropping. The average life cycle of the hare is just one year. Hare coursing is a big problem in this area and we learned that new legislation is much needed in order to help protect this fascinating animal. Ticket sales raised £287 for the Friends of Gissing Church. Proceeds from raffle ticket sales amounted to £73 which was given to the Hare Trust. Thanks are due to the Heart of Gissing for running the bar and to everyone who came along to help make the event a success.

Parish Meeting

Gissing Parish Council will hold the annual parish meeting on Tuesday 12th May, at 7pm in the Gissing Community Building. There will be a programme centred on the results of the recent village survey and the evening will, as always, provide an opportunity for parishioners to ask questions, voice concerns and comment on parish affairs. All parish residents are invited and encouraged to come along and take part in this annual event.

GISSING NEWS

GISSING NEWS

A community pre-school

As we enjoy spring-time, planting and getting out and about at the pre-school, we are also looking forward to trialling integral Forest School sessions within our provision. Scheduled for after Easter, we are very excited to be in a position to offer this to our pre-schoolers going forward.

We will be running our Holiday Playscheme over the Easter school holiday on Monday, 6th and Tuesday, 14th. April and then during the May half-term on Tuesday 26th May. The cost remains at £16.50 per child and the sessions will run from 9–3.30, with the option of a shorter session from 9–1 for £13.50. There is a sibling discount available. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and some money for tuck. We will be offering a wide selection of lovely Easter crafts, cookery, Lego, play and exploration, making full use of the adjacent wooded copse for appropriate activities. Places are bookable and payable in advance by emailing playscheme@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk

Our extended pre-school opening hours are from 8–4.30 Monday to Friday which includes a daily breakfast club (from 8–9). We also offer up to 30 hours free childcare for eligible families, to be used flexibly, and we are registered as a provider for tax-free childcare. Our charge is £4.15 per hour. We do have a few spaces left for the school year 2019/20, although our register is almost full for both funded and non-funded children aged from 2 to 5 years. However, it is still worth a visit if you are interested in putting your child’s name down from Septembmer 2020. Please contact Linda Nash at manager@gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk, ring 01379 677300 between 8.30am and 3.30pm Monday through Friday during term time, or leave a message on 07796 204367 to arrange to come along. Do visit our website (www.gissingchildrenscentre.co.uk) and our facebook page to see the sort of things we offer.
All Saints’ Church
We send greetings and sincere best wishes for Easter to all Shelfanger parishioners. The season of Lent is coming to an end and Easter is nearly upon us. Palm Sunday falls on the 5th April, being marked in Shelfanger by an 11am service and the distribution of palm crosses. During the following week (called ‘Holy Week’) Shelfanger has three short, ‘quiet’ services at 7pm on Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th April in which the events leading up to our Lord Jesus Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection are considered. Finally, on Easter Day, the greatest day of the church’s year, the service at Shelfanger is a celebration of Holy Communion at 11am.

Friends of Shelfanger Church (FOSC)
Vigorous activity continues. The Burns Night Supper in January raised approaching £550 – a magnificent sum for this inaugural running of a Burns night. Plans are afoot to repeat this very popular event next year.

An Easter Themed Flower Arranging Day will be held on Tues 7th April 11-2.30 at the village hall led by Lorna Trudgill. Easter decorations will be supplied and a light lunch will be served. The cost is £20 per person. To book a place call Vicci on 643945. Proceedings are shared between the Village Hall and Friends of Shelfanger Church.

Finally, repeating the popularity of last autumn’s guitar concert in the church, the Friends invite you to look for news of road closures, meeting agendas and other local news on our website - www.foscshelfanger.org.

Village Hall & Social Club News
As the light returns and the days lengthen, it is time to get active!

Here are some of the Village Hall events coming up during April and May. Full details will be published in the Village Hall Newsletter ‘Shell-life’ in April but jot these dates in your diary now: Saturday 4th April 7pm, Bingo Night; Saturday 11th April 10.15am, Walking Group; Friday 8th May, special VE Day Celebrations; Saturday 9th May 10.15am, Walking Group; Saturday 16th May, Quiz Night; Saturday 23rd May 7pm, Bingo Night and finally Sunday 31st May, Car Boot Sale.

For information on these activities and future events at the Village Hall phone James on 01379 640431.

Finally, apologies to Cock Crow readers that the Shelfanger column is somewhat shorter this time. We hope to resume normal service in the next issue.

Parish Council News
The Parish Council is organising the village litter picks again this year, as part of South Norfolk Council’s Big Litter Pick. A very successful day took place on Sunday 8th March and another litter pick is planned for Wednesday 19th April at 10.30am, meeting at the village hall. We now have our own equipment which will enable us to arrange litter picks at intervals throughout the year.

As Spring is officially here now and things are starting to grow at speed, please can we remind those residents whose property is adjacent to a footpath or roadside, to ensure vegetation and hedging is kept cut back so it doesn’t obstruct users.

The Parish Council is facing a time of change as Ros Hill, who has been Clerk for the past three years, ended her employment on 31st March 2020. The new Parish Clerk for Tivetshall is Rosie Riches and she will be taking up the position of Clerk and can be contacted on the PC email address below.

The Annual Parish meeting: Wednesday 20th May at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. This is a good opportunity to come along and hear about what various organisations are doing in our community.

The PC website and Facebook pages are where to look for news of road closures, meeting agendas and minutes and other news, our website address is www.tivpc.co.uk. Please be aware that paper copies of the full minutes of Parish Council meetings are also available from Tivetshall Post Office.

Tivetshall Parish Council is operating with just four councillors out of a possible seven, resulting in three councillor vacancies. More councillors are urgently needed, if any are interested in becoming a councillor please contact the Clerk by emailing Parish.Clerk@tivetsshall.org.uk

VE Day Celebrations
Details of the event are on page 31. If anyone has any artefacts of interest and are willing to lend for an exhibition please contact Maggie Rowan 674116 or Claire Kirby 677373.

On Saturday 9th May we shall be giving the interior of the church its annual clean. Please come along if you can, the depleted and ageing congregation really would appreciate a helping hand. Start time is 9.30am and refreshments will be provided.

Grapevine
Tivetshall Parish Council decided to cease publication of Grapevine due to making extra work for the Parish Clerk and due to parish commitments no councillor wanted to take the job of editing it.

Some Parishioners felt strongly that the paper Grapevine should continue obtained quotes and produced a mock-up version for Councillors consideration. One parishioner offered her services completely free of charge to originate the publication, but the Parish Council insisted anyone editing the magazine would need to be a parish councillor.

However the Parish Council agreed to financially support a new publication outside of its own remit with advertising subsidising part of the cost but unfortunately due to strict rules and regulations apparently from NALC (National Association Parish Councils) and other bodies the only way to proceed would be for person/s to set up an organisation and also a bank account which would be completely separate of the PC.

It is felt that this is too complicated and onerous on individuals when Grapevine has in the past run very smoothly being produced in the parish and kindly delivered by Cock Crow deliverers. Those who have tried to resurrect the Grapevine are disillusioned with the stance taken by the Parish Council.

Grapevine started in 1994 in the Tivetshalls and was overseen by the Parish Council for many years until only recently.

If there are any parishioners who wish to resurrect Grapevine then contact Tivetshall Parish Council or speak to them at their Annual Meeting in May

Claire Kirby, Lynda Sullivan, Paul Playford

Claire Kirby, Lynda Sullivan, Paul Playford
We proudly announce that our pop-up café Tivetshall Tea Junction (TTJ) was awarded a five star food hygiene rating following a recent inspection by South Norfolk Council. If you haven’t tried us yet you are missing out on a wide range of tasty treats and drinks, all at reasonable prices – by the community, for the community. The dates of the next cafes are 1st and 15th April, 20th May and 3rd June.

VE Day Celebrations, 9th May

We are planning an afternoon of family fun and games, with stall-holders and refreshments to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day between 1.30 and 4.30pm. This will be followed at 7.30pm by an evening of Jazz music by Ian Miller (saxophone) and Dominic Spencer (piano) as part of their UK tour titled Jazz in the Village. Tickets £10, under 16s free. ‘Expect warm, intelligent, reflective, human music.’

Tivetshall Lottery as the village lottery run by Tivetshall Families and Friends comes to an end we are going to set up a new lottery to raise funds for the village hall. We will start selling tickets for the lottery at TTJ on 15th April and hold our first draw on 17th June.

Our AGM will be held at 7.30pm on 7th July, at the village hall and we would be pleased to welcome hirers and members of the public. The village hall is an important hub in our community and it is the dedication of a few volunteer trustees on the Village Hall Management Committee who keep it going. We would be very pleased to welcome a few more trustees to lighten the load and share our vision for keeping the village hall at the centre of our community. If you would be interested in finding out more please get in touch with us before the AGM.

See our website (www.tivhall.co.uk) for more information or email tivhallenquiries@gmail.com.

Tivetshall Family & Friends Winding Up:

In January 2020, we made an announcement on our Facebook Group, below is a summary of that:

After much deliberation, the TFAF Trustees have decided to wind down the unregistered charity Tivetshall Families & Friends. This has not been an easy decision to reach. However with a reduced team and other village and personal commitments we have come to the conclusion that running events under the separate entity of TFAF is no longer viable within the village.

The Trustees have decided to donate remaining funds being held as follows:

£677.56 Village Hall Committee
£677.55 St Margaret’s Church
£150 Friends of Tivetshall School (FOTS)
£100 St Mary’s Church
£100 The Monday Club

The TFAF community lottery will cease after the last draw in March 2020.

We are also sorting out any assets, and plan to offer them to village charities and will contact the Chairs of those committees in the coming weeks.

Since the last issue of Cock Crow, B4RN came down to visit us in February to do some work in Scole/Diss and to also blow fibre through the main core route of our village network. On the whole this went very well with the work being completed ahead of schedule. The B4RN workers always tell us how much they like blowing fibre in South Norfolk as we have so few blockages compared to what they normally get in Lancashire – a nice compliment for the quality of work undertaken by our volunteers!

With the main route blown, for the past couple of weeks we have been doing the final preparation work for the first 30 properties that will go live. For each property we need to fit a house kit to the wall, connect UV protected black ducting from the orange ducting in the ground to the house kit, and then blow fibre from the nearest chamber to each house. We’ve had quite a team of people out over the last couple of weekends and have made very good progress with many houses now completely ready to go live. We expect to finish the remaining first batch of properties by the end of March. B4RN have been booked to come back at that time to make the cabinet live ready for a big switch on!

There is of course one caveat to these timescales and I’m sure you can all guess what that is. We are hoping that Coronavirus will not impact our plans too much but at this stage we have to just take each day as it comes and plan accordingly. One thing that has become even more apparent with this outbreak – with more people wanting and needing to work from home both now and in the future, it is essential to have a fast broadband service in our village to support that.

We will continue to post regular updates on our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/tivetshallbroadband
Hello folks

Well will this rain never stop – human says she longs for a walk without wellies and worries about our feet getting webbed! Mind you, we visited the allotments the other day and I think all they will be growing is rice.

It’s been lovely looking for the clumps of snowdrops that have appeared in the wild and especially the church yard – so many this year and now as they are fading the primroses (her favourites) are flowering. Sometimes they just seem to have popped up overnight to cheer us on a gloomy morning. The celandines are now opening as are the wild violets and we love passing the gardens with their crocus-es and daffodils nodding in the breeze, well ok winds! Strangely we have red and white dead nettles and speedwells blooming, not so pretty but great for insects.

The elder leaves are sprouting along with the hawthorn with others slowly joining them whilst the plum blossom is just glorious and from the swelling buds the blackthorn will be out soon.

We have been so lucky seeing barn owls for nearly two weeks now – one morning we saw two, one at each end of Druids Lane but usually it’s just one hunting the fields along Common Road and if you play statues coming in so close. The ducks are pairing off as well we keep interrupting one courting pair who fly off voicing their displeasure loudly.

The deer are more prevalent, we usually see them on distant fields but one lucky morning four were on the next field. Our village muntjac is still about – we spot- es and daffodils nodding in the breeze, well ok winds! Strangely we have red and white dead nettles and speedwells blooming, not so pretty but great for insects. The elder leaves are sprouting along with the hawthorn with others slowly join- ing them whilst the plum blossom is just glorious and from the swelling buds the blackthorn will be out soon.

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Murphy’s Rambles

Hello folks

Well will this rain never stop – human says she longs for a walk without wellies and worries about our feet getting webbed! Mind you, we visited the allotments the other day and I think all they will be growing is rice.

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Well chums that’s all from me, get your humans out there as spring is here, oh yes and tell them to watch out for toads as they will be out and about soon!
Bressingham Group
FUNERALS
John Scott
20th January South Lopham
Alice Furniss
26th February Fersfield

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

Just call or text me and I’ll do my best to help you (for free).

Urgent supplies ☐
A friendly phone call ☐
Posting mail ☐
Picking up shopping ☐

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:

My phone number is

I live locally at

My name is

HELLO!
If you are self-isolating, I can help.