

# *Fynn - Lark News*

**JUNE 2021**



*Misty Oak by Gary Farmer*

## **PLANT A TREE FOR THE JUBILEE**

When Charles Barrington stood down from Great Bealings Parish Council, he was presented with a stunning photograph of the 'Lonely Oak' by Gary Farmer. It is, perhaps, not surprising that a tree should be chosen as a suitable memento of a village which is defined by its landscape and which has wonderful vistas of trees in whichever direction you look.

We are very fortunate that trees and hedgerows are such a major feature in our local landscape, making a highly visible contribution to the rich and varied scenery in the area. They play a vitally important role, both individually and collectively, in a number of ways. For instance, they provide a link between the built environment and countryside, helping to set the village in its landscape context and help to reinforce the distinctive, rural character of the villages in which we live. Within villages, they provide privacy for those residents

**Magazine for the Parishes of Great & Little  
Bealings, Playford and Culpho**

whose houses are hidden from the road behind hedges.



*Hedgerow trees in Hall Farm Road*



*Woodland near Rosery Lane*

They make a vital contribution to our efforts to combat climate change and also provide important ecological habitats, supporting a wide range of wildlife. Oak trees, for example can help to sustain hundreds of insect species, mammals and birds. They are still a familiar sight along our hedgerows although, sadly, there are now very few of the pollarded oaks that used to line footpaths to mark parish boundaries.

Great Bealings has retained an above-average number of veteran hedgerow trees, which is due to the efforts of residents and landowners who continue to plant and maintain them. Recent plantings have included young

hedgerow trees along some of the footpaths (with more to follow in the autumn), Lime saplings to supplement and, in time, replace many of the aged Lime trees along the footpath to St Mary's church, and black poplars along the River Lark. Other significant areas of woodland which have recently been created were mentioned in the February edition of this magazine.

This has to be an ongoing process if we are going to sustain our beautiful landscape, and we now have another initiative to encourage us to continue with our efforts to replenish and increase our stock of trees and hedgerows. Communities across the country are being invited to plant healthy native trees and hedges that can thrive in their environments as part of a campaign to create 'The Queen's Green Canopy' to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The aim is for everyone in Suffolk to Plant a Tree for the Jubilee either directly or through someone else. It can be a single specimen, new hedges, small copses, woods or even forests. The choice is ours.

Each of the Parish Councils would love to hear from residents and landowners with views on how we can collectively and individually contribute to this wonderful initiative which will provide a positive and lasting legacy for generations to come. Please contact your local parish clerk with your suggestions and offers of help.

*Great Bealings Parish Council,  
with grateful thanks to Martin Cripps for  
all his work as Tree Warden*

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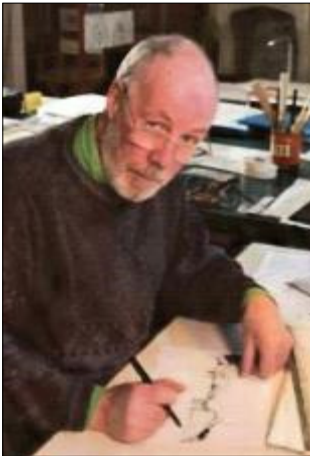
## ***NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST***

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### **CHRIS CHESTNUTT**

**(1938 -2021)**

**- An appreciation, by the Editor.**



Chris passed away on April 20<sup>th</sup>, at home, just three months after being diagnosed as suffering from pancreatic cancer. There will be no funeral, as Chris's body is being donated to medical research, according to his wishes. Chris was well known locally as an architect and artist, with a talent that was disproportionate to the gentle and diffident way in which he displayed it. He and Judy, the twin spirits of Annesley, have, over many years, been so often prepared to offer the unique features of their home to host broadly cultural gatherings there, but the most recent example of Chris's

commitment to the Arts locally was his curating of the special exhibition that was put on in St Mary's Church as part of the 2017 Festival of the Creative Arts.

Chris was born in 1938 in Ireland. He trained as an architect at the Birmingham School of Architecture during the 1960s. He married Judith in Liverpool in 1963. His pen and pencil drawings captured the essence of Suffolk, while his architectural background was evident in the careful observations of East Anglia's built form and its relationship with the region's landscape.

He designed and illustrated three books for The Suffolk Preservation Society 'About Hadleigh', 'Discovering Southwold' and 'Clare-the Place and the People' and has also advised on and contributed material and illustrations for 'Patterns for Suffolk Buildings' edited by Celia Jennings and published by the Suffolk Building Preservation Trust. His buildings have been illustrated in national architectural journals and have won several awards.

He was on the council of the Suffolk Association of Architects 1976-1998, serving on the national council of the Royal Institute of British Architects, on the boards of the British Architectural Library and the RIBA National Architecture Centre 1995-1998 and was Joint honorary director of the Architecture Gallery, Cambridge 1996-1998. He was a longstanding member of the Woodbridge Choral Society.

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It is so fitting that a celebration of Chris' life should take the form of a "Celebration of Life" Exhibition", as wished for by Chris himself. This will take place sometime later this summer. It will be in the last building he designed – the studio at Annesley. In good Chestnutt tradition it will include some words, some music and a party.

Chris was husband to Judy and father to Moyra and Michael. To them and their wider families we extend our sincere condolences, but thank them all for so many good memories of the man they have lost.

If you would like to make a donation in Chris's memory, to organisations which did so much to support the family in those difficult final weeks, contact details follow:

St Elizabeth's Hospice at Home: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/moyra-scott1>

Marie Curie: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/inmemoryofchrischestnutt>

## PROF. FRED STENTIFORD



We hear, with sadness, that Fred passed away on April 25th. He had been ill for some time with Motor Neurone disease.

Many will remember him as the very supportive husband of Rev Canon Pauline Stentiford, Priest-in-Charge of the old Benefice for some 13 years. His illness had very much overshadowed her retirement from ministry. A special retirement service was held in December 2013, and Fred received his own special round of applause. Here, we saw him in a loyal supporting role. He was very active in his own right out on the Peninsula.

Fred enjoyed a distinguished career, his distinction so often masked by diffidence. He won a scholarship in mathematics at St Catharine's College, Cambridge and later a PhD from Southampton University, involving optical character recognition. This research continued with BT and included speech recognition. After joining UCL, his Pattern Recognition research broadened out to include applications relating to visual attention, face recognition and text similarity.

## TRAINS

The following items contain correspondence which serves to highlight the concerns of residents of the Fynn Valley regarding the potential increase in, and management of, rail traffic on the East Suffolk line.

The impact of Sizewell C is clearly of local interest and concern. If this magazine is to reflect local interests we feel that it is our legitimate role to carry items of this nature and to be prepared to be a forum of debate.

## TRAINS -1

To Bealings Parish Council

15<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Sir

I live in Beacon Lane, Little Bealings. At the bottom of our garden runs the East Suffolk railway line. Melton Parish Council is conducting a survey which considers the impact of the EDF Sizewell C plan to run trains on this line through the night

between 2024 and 2034. At their peak during 2024 - 2028 there will be 8 movements per night with each train taking 1 1/4 minutes to pass. The existing train services thankfully run during the day; the trains shake the house, and I am concerned that increasing the frequency and the length of the trains could cause structural damage to our property. Moreover, our sleep is bound to be disturbed.

You will see that EDF are running an environmental assessment on the impact of train noise and vibration. Melton Parish Council have invited their residents to have their say prior to responding to the Planning Inspectorate at the next stage of the planning application next month. I would be grateful to know whether Bealings Parish Council plans to do the same.

Yours sincerely  
*Michael Bettell*

From: The Chairman, Little Bealings Parish Council

Subject: Re: Trains

To: Michael Bettell

15<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Michael

We have requested that the Planning Inspectorate visit Beacons Lane to witness the closeness of properties to the East Suffolk Line.

I am also aware that EDF have produced a leaflet aimed at the boating fraternity within Woodbridge/Melton.

You can also make your concerns known directly by contacting the Planning Inspectorate by emailing them [SizewellC@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:SizewellC@planninginspectorate.gov.uk).

It has been difficult during the lockdown to have public meetings but when Sizewell C has appeared on our agenda (posted on the web and noticeboards) all are welcome to contribute their concerns and provide input for consideration by Councillors.

We do consider these matters seriously. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources of Melton to conduct online surveys but have included in the Fynn Lark News as much information as possible.

Kind regards  
*Ian Ransome*

## **TRAINS-2**

### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR FYNN LARK NEWS**

Dear Editor,

There has been a great deal of debate in Playford and at the Parish Council level regarding the installation of safety measures at Stennetts-2 footpath crossing. There has been debate over the alleged disturbance to wildlife and humans regarding flashing lights and audible warning sounds. Many people consider the safety measures unnecessary as there has never been an accident at this particular footpath crossing.

A crossing, if I may remind readers, that a public outcry at its proposed closure by SZ3 for the duration of increased Sizewell C traffic forced SZ3 to think again and reverse the decision.

There is one thing we must not forget in all of this.

Network Rail is responsible for safety on the railway. They have a duty of care to the general public to make every crossing as safe as they can. Whilst it is true there have been no accidents at Stennetts 2 there were two fatalities in the UK at pedestrian crossings in 2019/20 and 316 near misses. (mainly of people misjudging the speed of a train and taking a chance).

Should Sizewell C go ahead the number of trains per day will increase and therefore the chances of an accident increasing. Even without extra trains, more people are now using public footpaths.

Public footpaths belong to the people, they are an ancient right.

Suppose Network Rail decided to succumb to local pressure and not install the safety measures. Suppose a year later someone was killed or seriously injured at the crossing. Who would take responsibility? Network Rail or the Parish Council? Who would the families sue? And it could be someone from Playford. Remember we live in a very litigious world now.

What is there not to like in better safety measures and saving people's lives?

*Colin Hedgley (Cllr),  
Member for Carlford Ward,  
East Suffolk Council*

## **THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE**

With many more people out discovering and enjoying the countryside around our villages over the past year, it's worth taking a look at the revised Countryside Code recently issued by Natural England.

The revised code contains general guidance and advice for countryside users and much of it is relevant to our local area and those who enjoy it. Here are a few extracts, taken directly from the guide;

*Leave gates and property as you find them or follow instructions on signs. When in a group, make sure the last person knows how to leave the gates. Farmers close gates to keep animals in or leave them open to give access to food and water.*

This is worth repeating – on a number of occasions in the past year I have personally found gates left open on entering or leaving fields where livestock were present. It doesn't take much effort to close a gate.

*Do not feed livestock, horses or wild animals as it can cause them harm.*

There have been a number of cases recently of horses becoming ill, or even dying, as a result of being given unsuitable food by walkers. You may think you are being kind, but the wrong type of food can cause real harm to an animal.

*Slow down and drive carefully on rural roads. Make sure you do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking.*

The old advice to 'drive at a speed where you can stop within the distance you know to be clear' still holds good. You don't know what's just around the corner – walker, cyclist, horse rider, a large agricultural vehicle bearing down on you – it could be any of these. Or possibly white van man rushing to make your next important Amazon delivery, as his satnav sends him hurtling down that lovely quiet country lane you thought you had all to yourself. For walkers on roads, please always make sure oncoming traffic can see you from both directions and high-vis makes such a difference to safety- cars slow down instead of speeding towards you.

*Take your litter home - leave no trace of your visit.*

Don't get me started. Not only it is unsightly and inconsiderate, it causes real harm to wildlife. While on a litter picking walk recently, I found a discarded beer bottle lying beneath a hedge along Holly Lane. I tipped it to empty out the accumulated rainwater (at least I think that's what it was) and the carcasses of three small rodents fell out. They had got inside the bottle and couldn't get out again. Horrible and so unnecessary.

*Always keep dogs under control and in sight. Dog poo - bag it and bin it - any public waste bin will do.*

We've all seen the well publicised reports of occasional dog attacks on sheep, but it's worth remembering that free roaming dogs can also disturb and harm other wildlife, such as ground nesting birds. We

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all enjoy hearing the joyous song of a skylark soaring in the skies above us, these protected and increasingly rare ground nesting birds can be disturbed by an inquisitive dog. It's also worth noting that dogs are occasionally bitten by adders and can become quite ill as a result, with occasional (although rare) fatalities being recorded.

Unfortunately, there has been a noticeable increase in dog fouling on our local footpaths recently. Two paths which seem particularly affected are the cross-field footpath leaving Holly Lane next to the village playing field and the footpath leaving Holly Close across the field towards Playford Mount. East Suffolk Council introduced a Public Space Protection Order in April 2020, making it a legal requirement to clean up dog faeces - their guidance on dog fouling states: *'The Public Space Protection Order makes it illegal to fail to clear up after your dog if it fouls any land that is open to the air and to which the public have access'* - this includes public footpaths.

East Suffolk Council's household waste guide states that bagged dog waste can be placed in your black bin, there are also two dog waste bins available in the village playing field. Does anyone think we should investigate more dog bins in other locations? If so, tell us where.

*Stay on marked paths, even if they're muddy, unless wider access is available, such as on open access land.*

Self explanatory really. At present, there are no registered areas of open access land within the four parishes covered by this publication, the nearest such areas are at Martlesham Heath, Broomheath in Woodbridge and Rushmere Heath. On the subject of public rights of way, the code has the following advice for landowners:

*Keeping paths clear and waymarks and signs in good order and up to date will help people stick to the right routes and*

*access points.*

From my own observations walking around our villages, to their credit most of our local landowners are doing their best to make sure our footpaths and bridleways are unobstructed and clearly signed. Some have also allowed permissive paths, which complement the existing footpath network.

*Be nice, say hello, share the space.*

Perhaps I'm being old fashioned here, but do we really need to be told to do this? Surely it just comes naturally to all of us here in Suffolk anyway doesn't it? This has been particularly noticeable over the past year. When allowed, it was lovely to stop and chat with fellow walkers. Even complete strangers would often happily stop and converse on any number of things. Chance encounters while out walking were a valuable source of social contact for many and through these friendly chats, acquaintances were renewed and even new friendships forged.

Finally, we are advised to; *Enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory.* Sound advice - my only quibble would be that I'm not sure you can *make* a memory. In my experience the best memories often come from spontaneous, unplanned events or encounters with people or nature, often when you are least expecting them. Every walk is different, enjoy it however you can.

*Francis Mutimer  
Joint Footpath Warden  
Little Bealings Parish Council*

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## NATURE NOTES

### - The slow worm

The slow worm is a reptile native to **Eurasia**. It is also called a deaf adder or a blindworm. They are **legless lizards**, growing up to about 20" in length. They are long-lived. The "blind" in blindworm refers to the lizard's small eyes. They may be small but they are still functional. Slow worms are burrowing **lizards**, spending much of their time hiding underneath objects. Their skin is smooth with scales that do not overlap one another. Like many other lizards, they can shed their tails to escape predators. The regrown tail is never as long as the original one.

Slowworms are common in gardens and are carnivorous, eating worms and slugs. If you wish to encourage them to come into your garden and help remove pest insects, all you need to do is place a patch of black plastic or a piece of something like corrugated iron on the ground. These collect heat, thereby attracting the heat-loving slow worms. Domestic cats are mortal enemies to slow worms, as the work has no defence against a cat. They pose no threat to humans, and are a protected species.



Photo: Gary Farmer

The creature illustrated here is part of a

local experiment by Anglia1 to see the effect of underground cables on reptiles, such as this. A number of carpet tiles have been laid down, as part of that experiment – and this is the result. It suggests that there is extra warmth in the soil.

## SAILING WITH CANCER

### – OLLE NASH



The EADT devoted a page to the challenge being currently undertaken by Playford resident, Olle Nash. His exploits, currently underway, deserve full recognition amongst this, his local community.

Olle was diagnosed with bowel cancer in 2019, just two years after losing his daughter in 2017 to pancreatic cancer. A Gulf War veteran, Olle has taken up the challenge of sailing around Britain in aid of those who looked after her, while still continuing his own cancer treatment. He was diagnosed with bowel cancer in 2019, after an operation to remove part of his large intestine in 2018. He was told he would have to have chemotherapy treatment every two weeks for the rest of his life to keep the cancer at bay.

The EADT quoted him as saying: "*There was a sense of denial at first, because I*

*hardly ever get ill – it's not me – but I wasn't upset, because there wasn't much point." And that "It was just another obstacle in life and I had no choice but to get on with it."*

The first time the 63-year-old had to come to terms with a difficult diagnosis, was when his daughter Toni lost her battle with pancreatic cancer in 2017. She was supported by Macmillan nurses through the final months of her life.



*Olle with his daughter Toni on her wedding day - Credit: Nash family*

Olle will be joined on his first stretch of the sailing challenge by son-in-law John, who married Toni whilst she was undergoing chemotherapy treatment. His admiration for the work of MacMillan nurses, both with Toni and with himself shines through: *"It means a lot that some of the nurses who've treated and cared for me are the same as those who treated Toni — how can I ever thank Macmillan for what they've done for my daughter and what they've done for me and my family?"*

It was with the intention of raising funds for this charity that Olle planned to weigh anchor from Fox's Marina on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and then to spend four months sailing around Britain in his boat, *Renegade*. It will indeed be challenging. Olle is forever dependent on a colostomy bag - which the family have named *Boris* - and he will be replacing intravenous chemotherapy with tablet-based medication during his trip. The reality of living with cancer means he will also have to return to Ipswich just three weeks into his journey

to undergo a five-week cycle of intensive radiotherapy treatment.

Olle's love for sailing began, as a boy, on the River Deben. He had been hoping to spend his retirement sailing all over the place, but now finds himself combining this ambition with fund-raising, explaining that decision by saying: *"I just wanted to get on with it, but I did think that perhaps I wouldn't always be as fit as I am now, so if there were things I wanted to do, I should do them."*

Readers can donate towards the target of £10,000 for Macmillan and follow progress on his blog.

#### **SAILING SCHEDULE:**

#### **Hopefully completed by the time of publication:**

May 22/23: Symbolic departure from Fox's Marina. Docked overnight in River Orwell. Left River Orwell for the North Sea, beginning anti-clockwise route around Britain.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

June 14: Olle leaves the boat in Scotland and returns to Ipswich Hospital for scan and five weeks of intensive radiotherapy and recovery. He'll then pick up where he left off when he is able.

End of August/early September: Olle return to Ipswich.

#### **HISTORY CORNER**

Trees have become the theme of this issue of the Magazine. Many of our local trees have been rooted in and around our villages for longer than the human inhabitants. They seem to acquire characters of their own. While compiling for material for the village history I have found myself including many trees within the narrative. Just to give a few examples:

We have within our boundaries:

A Spanish chestnut which is reputed to have been planted to celebrate the defeat of the Spanish Armada. The magnificent avenue of lime-trees surrounding our

church is said to have formed the approach to Great Bealings Hall, which was demolished in the late 1790s. The cedar tree in St Mary's churchyard is in memory of a man who was curator of all the forests in Kenya. We have pigs' valley – so-called because of the oak trees which provided acorns for the local pigs. We have trees which mark parish boundaries. We have trees which allegedly were used for making matches. Our barns are constructed with magnificent oak beams. Our children love climbing trees, and building tree-houses. Just for one bleak moment try to imagine the landscape without trees. Just imagine the colonies of assorted wildlife dependent on trees. We and other species would be bereft. Our trees are intrinsic to our landscape and need to be cherished.



To end on an immediately local note. Trees have shapes: knobby, gnarled, gaunt, skeletal, lofty, bushy, noble, scruffy, ivy-clad, some even dead but still standing. We have a scots pine opposite, which is an integral part of our skyline. It was part of the skyline visible in elderly

photographs. If it were ever to be lost, we would suffer a deep sense of landscape bereavement.

So, let us appreciate our trees, help them to thrive, add to their number, and make sure that trees will be enjoyed for many generations to come.

*Norman Porter*

## **STAGGERING ON WITH GOD'S HELP**

In 2023 I shall enter my 90's, but with God's help I shall reach that winning post, ready for "continuing the race". Like most seniors, I never get enough exercise. In his wisdom God declared that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys and other things thus doing more walking to find them. And God looked down and saw that it was good. Then God saw that there was another need. In his wisdom he made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things requiring them to bend down, reach and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good. So, if you find as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It's all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

*Roger Roseboom*

P.S. A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

## **REMINDER**

### **Summer Edition**

May we remind all contributors that the next edition will combine both July and August. Deadline for the submission of articles is Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Publication of the September edition will be 28<sup>th</sup> August.

*Editorial Team*

# ***Pop Up Pub***

***Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021***

***6.00 p.m. - 11.00 p.m.***

***Bealings Village Hall***

Sausage/Bacon Roll with Vegetarian option  
Food served from 6-8 p.m.

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Sally at [sallyscape@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyscape@hotmail.com)

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## **LEAH HINKS' POTTERY CLASSES AT THE GRANARY**

Leah is hoping to re-open her Wednesday classes as soon as schools can go back after February half-term unless a further lockdown is announced.

Adult classes on a Tuesday evening will be subject to relaxing of the Tier 4 lockdown.

Phone Leah for updates on 01473 735880

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# ***GREAT BEALINGS***

## **PARISH COUNCIL CLERK**

Mrs Dee Knights, Dunure, 39 Avocet Lane, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3SF Ips 624240

## **PCC SECRETARY**

Mr Eric Barnett, Southernhay, Lodge Rd, Great Bealings Ips 738803

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## **ST MARY'S**

A new church year has begun with the re-election of a new PCC, albeit the same personnel as before. As churchwarden, I would like to pay public tribute to all the work that our PCC members do to ensure that we continue to have an active church in our midst. The work of the PCC is deeply rooted in the work of many previous generations, and we are very conscious of our historical indebtedness to those no longer with us, who have cared for and cherished our beautiful church, ensuring that it is a sacred place, fit to fulfill its functions at the heart of village life, and as a venue for major village commemorations and occasions.

We all know that churches today face challenges. Congregations have shrunk alarmingly. It is a challenge to raise the funds necessary to keep a church running. Additional uses have to be found to ensure that a beautiful building is not used for just an hour or so a month.

But change must come. It will be precipitated by the standing-down of your present churchwarden in just 3 months' time. That time lag has been created in order to provide a breathing space to make new arrangements for the future. The shape of that future could well depend on how the village as a whole responds to the new situation. Projects are in the pipe-line. Services still need to be planned. Events still need to be organised. The churchyard needs constant attention. A church should still play a major role in pastoral matters. If we can find small groups of volunteers prepared to help with various aspects of the management of the church, then the standing-down of a churchwarden should be more easily over-come, and the

running of the church spread over several pairs of shoulders. The actual churchwarden vacancy is still to be filled. We have three months to plot a change of direction.

## **LOOKING BACK**

We can but look back on what we desperately hope will be one of the final stages of lock-down. We have just one service a month. This past month that one service was in early May and the congregation was very small. Four people. That is hardly sustainable. With just that one service a month and with all the old habits and routine being challenged by the reality of lock-down it remains to be seen whether we can bounce back. In the past our services have only been advertised in this Magazine, with the occasional notice at the top of the path. Maybe we need to advertise more vigorously, and tap into the possibilities of social media, to ensure that people know what is going on. We will continue to do our best – over to everyone else as to whether they respond.

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

The following notes are provided by our Hon Secretary, Eric Barnett:

- We elected our Churchwarden and members of the PCC as well as appointing officers of the Council e.g., Treasurer. Secretary and Electoral Roll Officer. We are in fact entitled to have two Churchwardens but for many years we have only had one – Norman Porter- and he has done a tremendous job and shown outstanding commitment to ensure that our church continues to serve the needs of our village. Sadly, Norman now feels that he can no longer tackle the work involved as Churchwarden with the same

level of vigour and energy as he has applied in the past and while he has been elected to the post again, it will be a short-term appointment covering the next three months. Father Nigel and the PCC acknowledge and respect his decision but there is a vital need to recruit someone to that post as soon as possible.

- The PCC will be looking at various options and organizational structures which could enable spreading the workload normally carried out by a Churchwarden. It should be noted that Norman will remain a member of the PCC so we will still be able to draw on his experience and contacts.

- The existing members of the PCC were re-elected and have been joined by Bridget Tanno who, along with Virginia Porter, will be members of the Deanery Synod.

- Financial matters figured highly in our discussions and our Treasurer, Will Self, emphasized in his report how the impact

of Covid -19 and the associated restrictions had greatly curtailed our activities, limiting services, festivals, and key events such as the Plant Sale and concerts in the church. Total income for the year has fallen by 33% - £4, 861 and this drop in income has highlighted the importance to the budget of the one-off fundraisers; it is hoped that, as restrictions ease, we shall be able to reintroduce some of these events. Broadly our costs have remained flat, due to the generosity of our new partners in the joint benefice – St. Mary’s, Woodbridge – in their contribution to our Parish Share for 2020 but it remains to be seen what that figure will be this year.

- During the past six months there has been a full survey of the church building and churchyard by our architect – Tim Buxbaum – who has highlighted a number of works which should be done over the next 2-3 years and the PCC have asked for a definitive work programme to be prepared. The electrical

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system of the church has also been surveyed and various issues identified as needing urgent attention. The electrical contractor has been asked to rectify these and work could start soon.

- With the formation of the new Joint Benefice with St. Mary's, Woodbridge we will be looking at future working arrangements and how best we might complement each other and to that end the two PCCs are meeting together on 3 July when we shall be reviewing current activities, assessing local needs and hopefully coming up with a draft strategy for future action.

### LOOKING AHEAD

We have just the one service in June: **Sunday June 6<sup>th</sup>** on the theme of creation – a theme which lends itself perfectly to a churchyard setting, weather permitting. Do join us.

The afternoon of **Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup>** sees a dozen open gardens in Great Bealings. Initial car-parking will be at the church, and programmes, together with the details of gardens open will be available there. See under "Friends of Great Bealings Church. Proceeds will be in aid of church fabric.

We are hopeful that the concert planned for Autumn 2020, arranged jointly with St Mary's, Woodbridge, will be re-arranged for this coming autumn, in the church.

### CHURCHYARD – AND WORK PARTY INVITATION

We have a number of tasks set out in the latest Quinquennial report which could be carried out by non-professionals: cleaning ditches, decorating etc. In order to save money, we hope that it will be possible to get together a dedicated working party on the morning of **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June – 9.00 – 1.00**. Thank-yous, in the shape of refreshments will be available. Do please contact [nhp@rillcott.co.uk](mailto:nhp@rillcott.co.uk) if you can help. There will be some email canvassing too! A list of jobs will be drawn up, hopefully encouraging participants to pick the kind of task they will enjoy doing.

### SCHOOL VISIT

There is a week in June when children from local schools are being invited to visit churchyards to draw up an inventory of wild-life sightings. Fr. Nigel Prior has invited Bealings School to come along to our churchyard, and their initial response has been positive. This is part of a national initiative.

*Norman Porter.  
Churchwarden  
[nhp@rillcott.co.uk](mailto:nhp@rillcott.co.uk)*

## FRIENDS OF GREAT BEALINGS CHURCH

(in partnership with Friends of St Mary's Church, Woodbridge)

### Open Gardens 2021

#### OPEN GARDENS

Our Open Gardens afternoon will take place on **Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup>**. Gardens will be open 2.00 – 5.00. We have signed up a dozen gardens, each with their own specific charm. A major part of the afternoon is the social dimension – giving people a chance to mix and mingle outside, after all the frustrations of lockdown. Hopefully the final stage of unlocking will have happened the previous weekend. So, the purpose is social as well as horticultural. You may pick up a few ideas as to how other people manage their garden space – but you will also be able to chat with garden-owners and other visitors.

It is hoped to have a range of minor activities in some of the gardens viz: tea and cake or biscuits, books, plants, ice-cream, gentle background music – but above all people to chat to.

#### FORTHCOMING CONCERTS

A programme will be available at St Mary's Church from 1-45 onwards, and that programme - on sale @ £10 - will give you a map, all necessary details, entry to all gardens signed up for the afternoon, and a glass of fizzy, thanks to the generosity of Charles and Anne Barrington at The Lodge at 5.00 pm, as a



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grand finale to the afternoon. All proceeds will accrue to church fabric funds.

We would like to have some ideas of numbers likely to attend, so please email [nhp@rillcott.co.uk](mailto:nhp@rillcott.co.uk) if you would like to be part of this first post-lockdown occasion.

### **AUTUMN CONCERTS**

We had a range of concerts set up for Autumn/Christmas 2020. These all had to be postponed because of you-know-what. We very much hope to resurrect these concerts this coming autumn, holding them over weekends at both venues – Saturday at 5.00 pm in St Mary's, Great Bealings, repeated on the Sunday at 4.00 pm in St Mary's, Woodbridge. Details will be published as soon as they are available.

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

Summarised notes of the annual parish council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> may

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Charles Barrington confirmed that he was stepping down as Chairman and would be resigning from the Parish Council at the end of this meeting. The following officers were elected:

Chairman – Sue Prentice; Vice Chairman – Rob Munn; Footpaths – Regan Scott;

Tree Warden – John Carter-Jonas; Village Hall Rep – Sally Johnson. Each person was elected without dissent.

**Presentation** – Colin Hedgley made a short speech thanking Charles for his service to the PC and expressing regret at his departure. He presented him with a leaving gift from everyone

**Trees, planting etc.** - Martin and Sharon Cripps have completed the planting of Black Poplars along the River Lark, complete with stakes, guards and labels, and repair work to the tree guards around the limes near the church is in hand. Other tree planting is postponed until Autumn. Cllrs expressed their appreciation for this work. It is hoped to get a replacement lime tree for the one that has died. The dead Rosery Lane tree has been removed and it is planned to have shrubs in that area.

#### **TALKING BENCH**

This is a great success and is well used. Steps to provide easier access will be completed soon then ESC will inspect it. A handrail was suggested but it was decided that this would raise liability issues.

#### **REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR COLIN HEDGLEY**

The report had been circulated to Cllrs

## **GREAT BEALINGS OPEN GARDENS**

**About a dozen gardens will be open on**

**SATURDAY JUNE 26<sup>th</sup> – 2.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.**

**The event is social as well as horticultural**

**Programmes will be available from the church (initial parking available on church car park) from 1-45. The programme will contain a map, give details of gardens open, and other items on offer (books, plants, teas, ice creams etc.), and will give access to a glass of fizzy at The Lodge (Kind invitation of Charles and Ann Barrington) at 5.00 p.m.**

**Email [nhp@rillcott.co.uk](mailto:nhp@rillcott.co.uk) or ring 01473 735565 if you expect to come – we would like to have some knowledge of numbers. We hope that most people will be on foot for most of the time. Enjoy our new *Quiet Lanes!* Let us know if you need a car park space at The Lodge**

and the full copy is attached to the minutes on the website. CH reported verbally on the recent High Court decision concerning the cessation of virtual meetings. He talked about the distribution of the hardship fund and mentioned that the new financial year has commenced for his Councillor's Enabling Budget.

**Planning Applications - Decision Updates** – The following four applications have all been permitted by ESC:

**DC/21/0728/FUL – Small Acre, Lodge Road** – Extensions and alterations

**DC/21/0848/FUL – Green Close, Lodge Road** – Alterations and single-story extension

**DC/21/0886/FUL – Brook House, Kiln Lane** – Erection of cart lodge

**DC/21/0923/FUL – Rosery Farm, Lodge Road** – Retrospective planning permission for open fronted agricultural building

**Enforcement matters** – Two matters have been reported to the PC by residents and these have been referred to ESC for investigation

#### **REVIEW OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Charles Barrington reported that the PC needs to set up a review in conjunction with ESC. He volunteered to be co-opted as a non-Councillor for this purpose. SP proposed a small working party of four to review this, who can report back to the PC with recommendations for modifications to line up with the new ESC Local Plan. She will join this, as will Steve Condon and Rob Munn.

#### **HIGHWAYS**

**Boot Street Speed Limit Extension** - Despite two requests for an update, SCC have not responded with a start date

*N.B. ESC confirmed after the meeting that implementation of the scheme will commence on 29<sup>th</sup> June and take two days.*

**SAVID/SID** – Colin Hedgley mentioned a forthcoming ANPR camera project which will shortly commence. He will report further to the next meeting. The SID in Lodge Road is now working well

**Quiet Lanes** – Sue Prentice has agreed to

take on this project. She confirmed that the five roads nominated to be included in Wave 2 are Rosery Lane, Grundisburgh Road, Seckford Hall Road, Hasketon Road and Lower Street. There will be a potential cost of approx. £150 for signage, which Charles Barrington offered to personally cover if necessary. The PC formally accepted these nominations and resolved that the scheme should proceed as planned.

#### **BEFRIENDING SCHEME**

Correspondence has taken place since the Annual Parish Meeting, and Steve Condon (SC) commented that this is getting more complicated than envisaged. Anthony Sheppard (AS) talked about the widespread Good Neighbour Scheme and explained how this could be introduced in Great Bealings. A joint steering committee comprising one from each PC and PCC of Great Bealings and Little Bealings should be convened. He volunteered to deal with the legal and administrative matters. It was suggested and agreed that an assessment of need should be carried out before any scheme was introduced. SC and AS will take this forward and liaise with Little Bealings.

#### **REVIEW OF PROCEDURES**

The following documents have all been reviewed and were approved and accepted by Cllrs: -

Freedom of Information – Model Publication Scheme – amended 2021, 2018 Model Standing Orders –amended 2021, 2019 Financial Regulations – amended 2021, Code of Conduct – updated 2021, Risk Assessment (updated 2018), Emergency Plan V2 (2021)

#### **FINANCE AND ADMIN**

##### **Authorisation of payments**

11 payments were authorised for the Clerk's salary and PAYE for May and June, office expenses and working from home allowance, 2 annual donations, SALC subscription and training.

**Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21**– this had been completed and circulated, and was approved by Cllrs. Charles

Barrington expressed his thanks to the auditor Eric Barnett, and to the Clerk for the clarity of the accounts, as mentioned by the auditor.

**Annual Governance Statement 2020/21** - This was approved for signature

**Accounting Statements 2020/21 and Certificate of Exemption** - The Accounting Statements and Certificate of Exemption for 2020/21 were approved for signature.

**Bank Signatories and appointment of new bankers** – Charles Barrington reported that he had investigated Unity Trust Bank (UTB), and had managed to make contact with them. He recommended that they be appointed as the PC's new bankers to enable on-line payments to be made. Cllrs were in agreement and therefore it was resolved that the Clerk should commence the switching process to UTB. New signatories were agreed.

**Precept** – The complete annual precept and grant payment for £5918 has been received

**Annual Bank Reconciliation** – This was approved for signature

### **TREE WARDEN BRIEFING – QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY**

Details of this scheme had been circulated. It will be discussed further at the next PC meeting; it can probably link

in with our existing tree planting scheme.

### **FYNN LARK NEWS**

It is the turn of Great Bealings to provide the lead article for the July edition. Sue Prentice suggested the topic could be trees, and she asked for suggestion from Cllrs

### **RESIGNATION**

The Clerk reported she had received a formal letter of resignation from the PC from CPB. She will commence the necessary proceedings with ESC.

### **LETTER FROM RESIDENTS**

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the residents of Hasketon Road expressing their regret at the resignation from the PC of Martin Cripps.

### **DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

Tuesday 7th July at 7.00pm

The public are welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting and may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes on any item on the Agenda at the beginning of that item. Full draft minutes and approved minutes of the Parish Council are available on the Council's website.

*Dee Knights – Clerk 01473 624240*

*Email: [greatbealingspc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:greatbealingspc@hotmail.co.uk)*

*Website: [www.greatbealings.co.uk](http://www.greatbealings.co.uk)*

## **VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR IN GREAT BEALINGS**

There is currently a vacancy for a Parish Councillor due to the recent resignation of Charles Barrington. A Vacancy Notice has been issued by East Suffolk Council for residents to decide if they require an election. If there are insufficient requests by 3<sup>rd</sup> June, the PC is permitted to co-opt a resident to the Council.

If any resident is interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please contact me by 18th June.

If you would like any more information about the work of the Council and/or the duties of its Councillors, please contact the Chairman Sue Prentice: [chairman.gbpc@gmail.com](mailto:chairman.gbpc@gmail.com) or 01473 738312

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# *LITTLE BEALINGS*

## **PARISH COUNCIL CLERK**

Mrs. Carol Ramsden, The Hollies, Holly Lane, Little Bealings

Ips 610088

## **PCC SECRETARY**

Ms. Helen Clarkson, Leewood House, Sandy Lane, Little Bealings

07889907615

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## **A NEW PUBLIC SEWER FOR PARISH COUNCIL THE STREET - SUCCESS!**

The Parish Council is very pleased to announce that Anglia Water has been told by the Environment Agency that it must install a new public sewer for five properties in the centre of Little Bealings by 31 December 2024.

This follows the Council's application to Anglian Water in March 2014, which was rejected the following year. The Council (and a resident) appealed the refusal to the Environment Agency, which found in the Council's favour in 2017 and instructed Anglian Water to install a public sewer for the five premises. Anglian Water initially said it would do so within its 2020-2025 works programme, but subsequently advised that the installation would be delayed until its 2025-2030 programme and subject to funding.

The Parish Council appealed to the Environment Agency again about the delay, and the Agency has now issued its decision that the works must be completed within the original works programme. The Council understands that other properties will have the right to connect to the new sewer in due course, but will need to make application to do so.

The Environment Agency's decision is subject to judicial review should Anglian Water wish to appeal it further but the Council hopes that it will now start planning for the new installation.

The Parish Council held its Annual Parish Council Meeting on 4 May. This was the Council's last meeting using Zoom, with the legislation permitting remote attendance for Councillors and the public having come to an end on 7 May. Future meetings will take place in the Village Hall and will need to be 'Covid-secure'.

The issues considered at the meeting on 4 May were:

### **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

Ian Ransome was elected Chairman of the Council.

Helen Saagi was elected Vice Chairman.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Two residents raised their concerns about planning applications being considered.

### **GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT SCHEME**

Reverend Gary Jones confirmed that Lt Bealings PCC was not proposing any joint scheme for Gt Bealings PC, Gt Bealings PCC, Lt Bealings PC and Lt Bealings PCC.

### **REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, DELEGATION, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The Council reviewed and approved the above. A policy would be added for dealing with the press/media.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

The following were appointed:

**Webmaster:** Jenny Shaw

**Footpath Wardens:** Francis Mutimer and John Wittgreffe



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**Footpath Volunteer Workers:** Jane Mardell, Liz Mutimer, Anthony Meehan, Keith Beaumont and Anna Beaumont

**VHMC representative:** Denise Head

**SALC representative:** Ian Ransome (and Helen Saagi)

**Woodbridge and District ASB Meetings Representative:** Colin Hopkins

**ESC Community Partnership Representative:** Margaret Wilson

**SAVID representative:** Mike Garnham

**Sinks Pit Community Liaison Group Representatives:** Mike Garnham and Helen Saagi

### **PUBLIC SEWER FOR THE STREET**

The Environment Agency had allowed the Council's appeal against Anglian Water's postponement of the scheme. The Council thanked the Clerk and two residents for their work on this, which had secured the installation of a public sewer in The Street for five premises by the end of 2024.

### **WAR MEMORIAL WORKS**

The application for grant funding awaited determination by the War Memorials Trust, and a Faculty permitting the works was awaited from the PCC.

### **ZOOM MEETINGS WITH DR POULTER ON 18 MARCH AND 25 MARCH**

Issues discussed by residents and Councillors had included the proposed A12 'improvement' works, parking in The Street (which had resulted in Dr Poulter arranging a visit by the Police Commissioner at School pick up time), Sinks Pit and the Admiral's Head.

### **PLANNING POLICY**

It was agreed to explore the work, benefits and potential funding for the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish.

### **APPLICATIONS**

**DC/21/1698/TPO:** The Chestnuts, Martlesham – Tree Works (a full description can be found in the Council's minutes or

on the ESC website) It was resolved to object to this application on the grounds that it would remove a significant number of trees which would fundamentally change the character of the area

**DC/21/1714/FUL: Land North of Martlesham Road and Adjacent to The Old School House, Martlesham Road** It was resolved to object to this application in view of the cumulative impact of new development along Martlesham Road.

**DC/21/1010/FUL, DC/21/1079/FUL and DC/21/1471/VOC: Variation of Conditions for Operating Hours at Sinks Pit, Main Road, Kesgrave (a full description can be found in the Council's minutes or on the ESC website)** The applications had been considered at an ESC Planning Meeting at which the Chairman and a resident had spoken. Determination had been deferred for a site visit.

**DC/20/4969/CLE: Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) C3 Dwelling house – The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road** The applicant had appealed against ESC's refusal of the application.

ESC had approved the following applications:

**DC/21/0054/ FUL Replacement of portacabin Adjacent Existing Weighbridge Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave, DC/21/0753/FUL New timber structure to house outdoor kitchen and seating area Fynn Bridge Barn The Street and DC/20/4866/FUL Alterations to existing vehicular access to create a new driveway & blocking existing entrance Beacon House Playford Road**

### **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

These are available on the Council's website.

### **SAVID**

The erection of poles in The Street for the Speed Indicator Device was still awaited. Use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition would be considered.

### **WOODBIDGE AND DISTRICT ASB MEETING**



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The ASB group was moving to a new educational approach and posters would be distributed. Individual incidents of anti-social behaviour should be reported to the police.

### **EAST SUFFOLK COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

A new 'Green Initiative' subgroup was being formed.

### **FINANCE**

The Council reviewed the internal auditor's report for 2020/21 and its internal financial control system. It approved the accounting statement for 2020/21 and the Annual Governance Statement. Precept and tax base grant income of £6085 had been received and expenditure for the Clerk's salary and PAYE for April and May, annual membership of SALC, an internal auditor's fee and donations for 2021/22 to the Bealings Village Hall Trust and John Belstead Playing Field, the Fynn Lark News and Headway were approved. It was agreed to review banking and savings facilities.

### **THE ADMIRAL'S HEAD**

The public were excluded from the meeting in line with Standing Orders for consideration of this item on the grounds that publicity of the Council's consideration of a community purchase of the Admiral's Head would be prejudicial to the public interest.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The next scheduled meeting of the Council is at 7.15pm on Monday 5 July. Unless new Regulations are in place to allow remote meetings, this meeting will be held in Bealings Village Hall and will need to comply with 'Covid secure' requirements for attendance. The Agenda will be published here a few days before the meeting:

<https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/pc-agenda-list/>

Please visit our website for further information, including draft and approved minutes of Parish Council meetings:

<https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/>

*Carol Ramsden - Clerk  
01473 610088*

*Email: [littlebealingspc@btinternet.com](mailto:littlebealingspc@btinternet.com)*

*Website: <https://>*

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## **REFLECTIONS OF AN ELDER AT ALL SAINTS LITTLE BEALINGS CHURCH- 2 YEARS ON!**

A couple of years ago I was asked to help out at All Saints Little Bealings. I was already quite involved with All Saints Kesgrave, so at first, I was not sure, however Little Bealings is my Home. I have lived in Little Bealings for 16 years, my 3 sons have all gone through Little Bealings Primary, and I totally adore our village, our wonderful people, and the beautiful Fynn Valley in which we live, so it seemed like the right thing to do!

Our village church is truly beautiful, we are so lucky to have it. It has an elevated position on the Fynn Valley Walk path which is magnificent. The church is 720 years old and is a delightful picture-postcard hotch-potch of medieval works, an audaciously large tower, period extensions and patchwork repairs, with a churchyard of old "village friends and relatives" that blossoms with wild flowers every Spring and looks splendid all year round. The perfect English rural scene!

The war memorial sits perfectly aside the old Yew tree, providing a character and ambience that is difficult to find anywhere else. If you've never stood beside the war memorial- please take the time to walk there, it is such an amazing and quiet place.

The interior of the church I find

mesmerising- the interior arches give the church such character, way beyond what it deserves as a small village church! Whilst the grand arched windows give the church such amazing light. The sanctuary is my favourite place, with its superb painted east window, so precious and such a quiet and perfect place for prayer - I make sure I keep it well polished and looking it's best for this purpose!

There has been less opportunity to visit the church during lock-down, however I am now in church every Wednesday morning from 9:30 till 12:00 for anyone to visit, look around, light a candle for a loved one, or spend time in quiet prayer.

Also, Francis Mutimer and I run guided walks every Thursday through the myriad of pathways in the Fynn Valley, starting at the church at 10:30am, with a different route every week. These are very popular. One of the highlights is always the start and end point of the Church itself! Also, now lockdown is easing the church building is more available for community use.

On taking this role I was struck by all the different views and bold moves around the future of the church, the Angela Cobbold hall, and the relationship with the Community Centre and FOTAH. It's just so amazing that so many people have passion for the future of our village of 400 people, and put in so much hard work to make the village such a great place for friendship, community, and of course with All Saints for worship and prayer.

Pastoral care is at the heart of the work of our new Vicar Rev. Gary Jones, and we have been visiting and keeping in touch with many. For services during lockdown, for those who can, we have been providing services online via Zoom or visiting at homes where possible, and now we have re-started services face to face. The church is open for visiting and prayer every Wednesday morning, there's

a service every Thursday morning, and a main Sunday service once a month. Full details are available at [www.littlebealingschurch.org](http://www.littlebealingschurch.org), or if you don't have internet access, most can be found on the noticeboards outside the church door and gate.

For the church itself I think there is a wonderful future. It is such a wonderful place for worship and prayer and community use! Every time I set foot inside, I am excited about the possibilities!

The church truly has its soul, and everyone is welcome. In Revelation there is the concept of an Angel of every church, if this is the case, I think the Angel of Little Bealings Church would be happy!

*John Wittgreffe*

## BETTY SLIM



Most readers will know Betty from her role leading the Bealings WI for many years but there's lots you don't know about her too! Born to older parents in Ipswich, she was "the miracle that came along!" Her mum was one of 6 and her dad was one

of 11 (!) so she had lots of Aunts and Uncles to visit. From spending time with Uncle Bill, who bred Suffolk Shire horses, to watching Uncle Dee, the farrier, shoe horses, and visiting Cousin Bill to feed the pigs, young Betty had an idyllic time in the beautiful Suffolk countryside.

Cared for as an only child, she was always included and treated as an adult and would go to the station to wait for her father—a train driver as he returned from a hard day's work. Times were different then and the family had an allotment under the tunnels by the station. According to Betty the soot from the trains made all the vegetables and flowers grow better and to this day, she is a keen gardener!

As a child, Betty took a great delight in caring for others and her initial interest in nursing was piqued when she would visit Uncle Bert and his wife. Bert was a diabetic and watching him being cared lit the flame of her interest in nursing that was ignited when she was able to study for her Level 3 nursing credential and work at Ipswich Hospital.

Her desire to start a career in nursing was further fuelled by a terrible accident that befell her father in the course of his work as a train engineer. He had a very bad crash on a foggy night in Witham that resulted in burns all over his body and a year in the hospital burn unit where his only relief was a salt bath to soothe his wounds. She still remembers standing with her mother in the field at 2.00 a.m. as the post office van was called to set her father free from the wreckage. Six months after that crash, Betty had rheumatic fever which was a delayed reaction to the horror she witnessed as a 15-year old!

Betty met her husband, Mike-, who enticed her to move to his house in Little Bealings in 1988--when she went to work for him at his shop. While Mike has sadly passed away, she has fond memories of

him and enjoys sitting in the garden remembering all their wonderful times together.

Betty enjoyed her work as a nurse at the hospital, but readily admits that she did not welcome the changes to nursing that took many away from the bedside, hands on patient care she loved to the computer and administration-focused work that typified the evolution of the profession and she chose to work as a healthcare assistant for 28 years in order to focus on the direct patient care that she loved.

In her last two years at the hospital, Betty was asked to focus on caring for those in the last stages of life. While it may seem strange to some, Betty felt they were the best years of her time as a nurse. Even today she is sometimes stopped by people who recognise her and are grateful for Betty's kindness in caring not only for dying relatives, but also tending to family members in difficult times.

Betty's affiliation with the W.I. began in 1991 when she was offered a large glass of red wine by Babs Hicks! She has very fond memories of 4-day courses at the W.I. facility at Denman College near Oxford where the camaraderie and decoupage classes were most lively. Sadly, after many years of very successful and well attended events, the Bealings W.I. in its current form is disbanding, but there is a lot of interest in continuing a monthly gathering so watch this space for news of future get togethers. While the W.I. will no longer be part of our village, Betty continues to enjoy serving on the flower rota for Little Bealings Church, and is, in fact-, the longest serving member of the rota! We look forward to seeing her beautiful creations for services this year and to the group effort to decorate the church at Christmastime. Sadly, we were unable to flaunt our creative talents at the end of

2020, but we are hopeful that Betty will lead the charge in 2021!

## **CHURCHWARDENS' UPDATE**

We are all looking forward to welcoming you back into the Church now that the regulations are easing. We continue to abide by all Covid regulations and hope that we are all through the worst of the pandemic. It has not been easy for many in our village to cope with the demands of lockdown and we are happy that we have been able to assist friends and neighbours in their time of need.

We are delighted that we are finally able to hold in-person services again and we are grateful to Rev. Gary Jones for adding a weekly Thursday 9:30 a.m. service of Morning Prayer and to John Wittgreffe for opening the church every Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for private prayer. We continue to hold services on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, which will be June 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. We have recommenced the Bealings Community Hub activities and the Church is once again available for hire at times that do not conflict with religious activities.

This month, we will be making several improvements to the Church, including the installation of a projector and large screen, and the replacement of the shed. We will also be preparing to reopen the Tearoom in July and will also have a small selection of shop items for sale for those emergency supplies you may need!

The weekly walks, led by Francis Mutimer and John Wittgreffe, have proved a great success and continue to leave from the Church on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. and while the Saturday walks have proven challenging given the rather bad weather

we have endured, we are hopeful that they will shortly restart and prove just as popular as the weekday excursions.

The Churchyard continues to offer its beauty to all passers-by and the buttercups and dandelions are shining this month! As we write this, the weather is rather rainy and drab, but we know that there are much sunnier days ahead for all!

With every blessing,

*Corinne and Tony Fear*

## **BREAKING NEWS AT THE A.C.H.**

Our Biffa Award Grant funds have now been fully utilised. A full description of the necessary repairs and improvements that we have been able to undertake and complete, is now available on the following web site: <https://f.io/gJndGo-t>

A similar video will appear on the Little & Great Bealings Community page. Our next task will be to install a new "working kitchen" at the Hall, funded by our ESC Exemplar grant, with further funds from other Gift Aid donations. As you will note from our separate page of forthcoming events at the A.C.H., we anticipate re opening the A.C.H. on 1<sup>st</sup> July, subject of course to the vagaries of the Pandemic

*Roger Roseboom*

# **ANGELA COBBOLD HALL**

We are pleased to announce that as **from 1<sup>st</sup> July** we will recommence our regular events, subject to Pandemic rules.

## **WEEKLY**

- ★ **Knit & Natter:** in the Reading Room, with light refreshments, (*Donations Welcome*)
- ★ **Classic Films:** with Light refreshments: Fred Astaire, Clark Gable, etc (*Donations Welcome*).
- ★ **Social Fridays:** Table Tennis, Snooker, Darts etc (*Free Entry & Bar*)
- ★ **Harry Potter Season:** Saturday afternoons: from the beginning to its end. (*Donations welcome*)

## **MONTHLY**

- ★ **Luncheon Club:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday
- ★ **Bond Night:** “SKYFALL” - £10 includes a glass of Prosecco + Cocktail bar
- ★ **Big Film Night:** A series of big films from the past - £5 a head
- ★ **Gardening Club:** Chaired by Francis Mutimer and local experts. This Club was warmly appreciated on video by Alan Titchmarsh. Liz Mutimer technical wizard for ‘On Screen’ images. (*Donations Welcome*)
- ★ **Opera Night:** A major classic performance from Baden Baden, with Anna Netrebko, Elina Garanca, Ramon Vergas, Ludovic Tezier. to be followed later in the month by “*La Fille du Regiment*” with Natalie Dessay & Juan Diego Florez: then a series of Musicals: £10 with bar available

## **EVERY 3 MONTHS, but happening soon**

- ★ **Wine Tasting with Cheese:** £15 per head, with “*Cabaret*” interval.
- ★ **Commencing in September:** rehearsals for “*When we are Married*”, a rehearsed reading production, in costume, on stage with lighting to be performed in October.

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# **PLAYFORD**

## **PARISH COUNCIL CLERK**

Mrs. Marian Hedgley, The Coach House, Playford Mount, Great Bealings, IP13 6PH  
Ips 738468

## **PCC SECRETARY**

Mrs. Eileen Stennett, Lux Farm, Playford Road, Playford  
Ips 635236

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## **PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

These are condensed notes of the proceedings of the Annual Parish Meeting held 5th May 2021 A full version of the minutes appears on the website: [www.playford.org.uk](http://www.playford.org.uk)

The Annual Parish Meeting was held via Zoom, attended remotely by councillors and residents.

Joan Metcalfe was proposed as Chairman by Ted Herrington and unanimously voted in.

Joan's report covering the previous two years was circulated prior to the meeting. Briefly she stated that the Precept had been raised to £9,500 for this year to meet the increased cost of parish maintenance, mainly drainage issues.

Preventing the Northern Ipswich Bypass from going ahead was probably the most significant event of the past two years and this was a tremendous achievement.

Seven planning applications had been considered by the PC who supported four of them but rejected the other three.

Playford's Neighbourhood Plan is nearing completion but was held up by Covid restrictions and staff at East Suffolk working from home.

We have unfortunately had to say goodbye to two councillors, Tim Llewellyn and Mike Brewer who have both moved on to other locations.

Playford PC has joined SAVID and will be taking advantage of the SIDs equipment which monitors speeds of vehicles travelling through the village – this is done on a rota basis with nearby parishes.

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Mary Evans was unable to attend in person but sent in her report in which she praised the inspirational response of local communities during the Covid pandemic. Local businesses and volunteers have stepped up care for vulnerable residents and foster carers and social workers have gone to great lengths to ensure the welfare of children in care homes. SCC was one of the first councils to declare a Climate Emergency pledging to be carbon neutral by 2030. SCC's budget for this year is £600m and 75% of this will be spent on caring for vulnerable residents and children in care – they will also be spending £1m on pothole repairs and doubling the budget for Highways and drainage.

## **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Colin Hedgley was unable to attend until the very end of the meeting, but his report was circulated to all participants prior to the meeting. He briefly outlined his spell as the first chairman of the newly formed East Suffolk Council during which time he carried out many civic duties and met some amazingly dedicated people. To assist people financially affected by Covid

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-related issues, each of the 55 district councillors donated £2K from their Enabling Communities Budget to create a Hardship fund which was distributed appropriately. In addition, over 17000 separate payments (totalling £35.9m) were granted to businesses struggling because of the pandemic and the hospitality sector has received up to £9K per business from the new business grants.

## **CHURCH REPORT**

Rev Gary Jones introduced himself as the new vicar of Playford, this being his first Annual Parish Meeting. He spoke of the challenging times we have all been experiencing during the pandemic but that it had brought out the best in people in many cases. Church services have continued where possible, and it is hoped the annual Clarkson service and the Harvest Festival will also go ahead this year.

## **OPEN FORUM**

Veronica Bunbury stated the use of local footpaths had increased dramatically since the beginning of the pandemic and that the safety of pedestrians was often challenged by aggressive cyclists. The small "No Right to Cycle" notices were being ignored and larger ones are needed if anyone is going to heed them – could barriers be erected and could cycling clubs be asked to encourage a culture of politeness to pedestrians?

Jos Saunders was concerned about new safety measures being installed by Network Rail at footpath crossings across the railway lines in Playford as the noise of sirens might disturb the local wildlife, birds etc and local residents. It was felt that these warnings are necessary if

Sizewell C project goes ahead as traffic on the line will increase, also it was a means of keeping the crossings open as it had formerly been proposed that they should close for safety reasons but too many objections to this had been received.

Full copies of reports and the full minutes can be seen on the website.  
[www.playford.org.uk](http://www.playford.org.uk)

*Marian Hedgley – Clerk 01473 738468*

*Email: [playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk)*

*Website: [www.playford.org.uk](http://www.playford.org.uk)*

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

These are condensed notes of the proceedings of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Zoom. A full version of the minutes appears on the website: [www.playford.org.uk](http://www.playford.org.uk)

### **ELECTION AND APPOINTMENTS FOR 2021/22**

Joan Metcalfe was unanimously voted in as Chairman for the forthcoming year and Steve Hicks as Vice-Chairman.

Ben Evans was co-opted as a new councillor for the parish council.

Steve Hicks was voted in as footpaths rep, Joan Metcalfe will be Parish Hall rep and Colin Grimwood will continue as internal auditor.

Declarations of Acceptance of Office were duly signed.

### **ACTION POINT REVIEW**

An appeal has been sent to the Sec of State to speed up the application for reinstating the footpath running between C330 and C3311.

Footpaths Officer Debbie Adams has been asked to report on the progress of problems on FP1.

Permission is to be sought for placing

signs at the bottom of Church Lane, to deter heavy traffic from using this road.

Blocked drainage holes in the wooden casing over the drain cover near the Village Hall car park entrance will be freed.

Two fallen willow trees in the River Fynn near the road bridge are being cleared by a parish councillor and his wife and the situation monitored.

Mud, silt etc at the top of Church Lane will eventually be cleared by Highways during their regular cleansing cycle.

See Action log appended to the Minutes on the website for more details of these items.

#### **FINANCE**

Payments were authorised to Westcotec for SIDs clamps, SC Norse for clearing the ditch outside the Village Hall, to PE Holmes for web hosting, and to the Clerk for salary, and tax to HMRC. Reclaimed VAT has been received from HMRC and the annual Precept from ESC.

The Annual Accounts for 2020/21 were accepted unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

The Annual Governance Statement, Statement of Accounts and the Certificate of Exemption (from external audit), were similarly agreed and signed.

The Clerk will sign all of these documents after the meeting and submit the Certificate of Exemption (from external audit) electronically to auditors PKF Littlejohn LLP.

The pricing of assets was reviewed and agreed and it was agreed to continue the Clerk's salary and her expenses at the same rate as last year.

The annual insurance renewal invitation has not yet been received but is expected to be the same as last year. The annual donation to the FLN has been

agreed and to Grundisburgh Baptist Church in respect of the internal audit services by Colin Grimwood.

The Internal Controls review has been updated by JM and was agreed and signed at the meeting.

Anyone wishing to inspect last year's accounts may do so between 14<sup>th</sup> June – 23<sup>rd</sup> July by contacting the Clerk or the Chairman if the Clerk is unavailable.

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

NP Chairman Keith Carson is awaiting details of an additional grant, to fund adding a Design Code to Playford NP before its completion.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

A root ball Pin Oak has been tracked down to replace the sapling oak bought to commemorate the end of WW1 (which unfortunately died). A rota for regularly watering the new one will need to be established.

Linear potholes in Butts Road will be re-reported to Highways by the Clerk as they have seemingly dropped off the radar.

Bonfires in the vicinity of the stables near Archway Piggeries have lessened but occasional acrid smoke is still being detected from time to time – any intelligence on this would be appreciated.

Updating of safety measures at the footpath/railway crossing near Lux Farm has caused some consternation – this was discussed at the APM preceding this meeting and details can be found in the accompanying notes.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

July 2021 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall  
*(exact date to be confirmed)*

*Marian Hedgley – Clerk 01473 738468  
e-mail: playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk  
website: www.playford.org.uk*

## **PLAYFORD W.I.**

Our zoom meetings continue every month along with a speaker.

Peter Blemings gave out talk in April on the history of The Bath Hotel in Felixstowe which was interesting because we can all remember the Bartlett convalescent home. It has now been sympathetically converted into luxury homes/flats all set in beautiful surroundings.

We have just had our May meeting when we invited Mary Smith-Jones from Kent to talk to us about 'A Schoolgirls War' and what an enthralling story she had to share with us. As head-mistress of Maidstone Girls Grammar School she oversaw modernisation of the school buildings and unearthed many air-raid tunnels and also archives from a former art teacher during WW2. It was a most memorable evening. Mary has produced a book along with many drawings & pictures. If anyone is interested it is called a 'Schoolgirls War' priced at £12 and can be found on the school website [mggs.org/war](http://mggs.org/war) or from [marysmithjones@hotmail.com](mailto:marysmithjones@hotmail.com) Contact her direct please.

We are all disappointed to hear that Bealings W.I. have disbanded but we welcome any members or non-members to join us. Just contact Sue Bruce (Secretary) if you would like any further information.

## **PLAYFORD CHURCH LIGHTS**

23<sup>rd</sup> April: The church floodlights were switched on to celebrate St George's Day.

1<sup>st</sup> May: Sponsored by Barbara Dunnett for the wedding anniversary of daughter Jacqui and son in law Steven.

Love from Mum. And on 2<sup>nd</sup> May the 21<sup>st</sup> birthday of Dylan and also granddaughter Antigoni on her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. Happy birthday to you both.

19<sup>th</sup> May: Sponsored by Veronica Bunbury to celebrate a post lockdown family reunion.

Requests to sponsor the lights to be made to Veronica Bunbury at Church Cottage, Playford 01473 623366 [vronxbunbury@gmail.com](mailto:vronxbunbury@gmail.com)

## **BINKY AND CO.**

Binky was hopeless at gardening. It wasn't that he didn't like it. It was just that he was genuinely hopeless. As he thought to himself once, some of the seeds are so small it's very hard to see if you are putting them in the right way up. That's why he preferred to purchase plants instead.

At one time Binky decided to go into chicken farming. So, he went along to the big chicken farm and bought 1000 chicks. The next month Binky went back and bought 500 more. The following month he goes to the chicken farmer again and buys another 500 chicks, at which point the chicken farmer asks Binky; "Your chicken farm must be coming along quite well now." Binky looked sheepishly at the farmer and said, "Sadly no. I'm not sure what I'm doing wrong. Either I'm planting them too deep, or upside down, or too close together."

So off he would go to the local garden centre and buy whatever they had. At the front of the centre were all the special offers. One was for bags of manure 'Buy one get one free'. Well thought Binky that's not to be sniffed at. Old Bill Gizzit who owned the garden centre would rub

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his hands with glee when he saw Binky pushing an extra-large trolley up the fruit and veg aisles. "Binky, I've got just what you need over here" shouted old Bill as he proudly pointed to about a hundred cabbage plants that had obviously seen better days. "The leaves look a bit yellow" observed Binky. "Well of course they do" said old Bill, "They are called winter yellow cabbages" as he swiftly pulled the labels off them. "I'll take six" said Binky "Six, six?" exclaimed old Bill. "You will need more than that." "Tell you what, take fifty and I'll only charge you double. Deal?"

"Ok" said Binky eager to get away. He didn't trust old Bill. He made his money by clearing leaves from gardens. He raked it in. Well thought Binky he's not going to make any money from me, as he handed over all his cash at the checkout. "Have a nice day in your garden" said the over friendly checkout girl as she burst a bubble with her gum and resumed her inane conversation with her colleague sitting opposite. "I do like those yellow flowers that old git just bought" she said to no-one in particular. Binky ignored her. She was from Chelmsford.

Back home Binky laid into his veg plot with gusto. Digging, hoeing, raking and generally looking busy but in the long run not achieving very much. He looked up to the sky and wondered where the sun had gone. Then it dawned on him. It was only six o'clock in the morning so he decided to go in for a cup of tea. His lovely wife Indigo was at the kitchen tucking it to her "small but wholesome" breakfast of bacon, eggs, sausage, beans, tomatoes and two pieces of fried bread. She didn't offer to make Binky anything but only because she didn't care. It wasn't personal. Binky made himself a piece of

toast and a weak cup of tea using a tea bag from the night before. Which reminded Binky why his lovely wife wasn't speaking to him. All he said last night was "Can you pass the tea, bag" and she had taken offence and stomped off to bed. She hadn't spoken to him since. She slammed out of the house once she had finished breakfast. The days passed but Indigo did not return. Binky thought she may have gone off to her sister's house or perhaps carried out her threat of becoming an airline pilot. The days passed. No Indigo. He reported her missing. Even more days passed. After ten days there was a knock at the door. Binky opened it to find two policemen standing there. "Binky" said the sergeant in a grave manner, "I think you had better prepare yourself for the worst" "OK" sighed Binky, "I'll go down to the charity shop and buy all her clothes back."



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## CULPHO

### PARISH COUNCILLOR

John Lapsley, 1 Abbey Farm Barn, Culpho

Ips 738008

### PCC SECRETARY

Mrs Margaret Gornall, Flintstone Cottage, Dallinghoo Road, Wickham Market

01728 747605

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## CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Certificate was displayed on the Church Notice Board prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May.

### CHURCHYARD

Grateful thanks go to John, Alan, and Peter who kindly gave of their time and energy in helping Churchwarden Richard cut and strim the churchyard grass on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Their help, as always, is very much appreciated.

*Margaret Gornall  
Secretarial Support*

## CULPHO MUSIC 2021

As we move towards some form of regularity, Culpho Music is pleased to announce the start of their 2021 season of wonderful music with J.S. Bach's Goldberg Variations. Robin Walker will give two recitals of this mesmerising composition on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 3 p.m. and again at 7.30 p.m. For tickets, please contact Christine Pearce on 01473 738324 or 07925 251802 or go direct to the Culpho Music website <https://www.culphomusic.uk> where you can book your tickets online. There are likely to be some Covid regulations for us all to follow in July, so please check the website for details or contact me direct.

### REOPENING OF CHURCH SERVICES

As we submit our contribution, there is still uncertainty as to the final date for the easing of restrictions. But assuming nothing changes, Culpho Church will be open for Services from Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July when Evensong will be held at 3 p.m. We look forward to welcoming everyone, when, once again, Culpho Church will be able to take its place at the heart of the Community. It seems to have been a long journey but there is now a hopeful optimism for the future.

### GRUNDISBURGH, CULPHO AND BURGH HIDDEN GARDENS

This event will take place from 2 – 6 p.m. on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Culpho Church will be open, so too will the Church car park, (through the five barred gate and follow the sign towards the rear of the Church) and you are welcome to park your vehicle if visiting gardens within the vicinity of the Church.

If you had booked and paid for tickets for the recital in March 2020, please contact me to confirm your ticket(s) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July.

I look forward to welcoming you back to Culpho Music events.

*Christine Pearce*

### Revision of Church Electoral Roll

The Annual revision of the Church Electoral Roll took place between the 28<sup>th</sup> of April and the 12<sup>th</sup> of May and there are now 25 persons on the Roll. The

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## *CHURCH NEWS*

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### **CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE**

#### **PLAYFORD**

Sunday 13th	10.00 a.m.	Sunday Service with Communion
Wednesday 16th	11.00 a.m.	Midweek Communion

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENT**

Sunday 11th July	10.00 a.m.	The Clarkson Service
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We are all looking forward to a relaxation of the covid rules soon. However, please come prepared for the type of service we have been used to these last six months. (Facemask plus six feet.)

#### **CULPHO**

Wednesday 11th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
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#### **GREAT BEALINGS**

Sunday 6th	9.30 a.m.	Family Communion
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This will be on the theme of Creation, so, weather permitting, could be outside.

Please also refer to services being held, at other times, at St Mary's, Woodbridge

#### **LITTLE BEALINGS**

Sunday 27th	10.00 a.m.	Family Communion
Thursdays	9 30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
Wednesdays	9.30 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.	Private prayer

## WORD FROM THE STUDY

As I write this, we approach Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is the festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter (the name comes from the Greek pentekoste, "fiftieth"). It is also called Whitsun but does not necessarily coincide with the Whitsun Bank Holiday in the UK. Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of the Christian Church, and the start of the Church's mission to the world.

So, what does this mean for the Church?

Well do you remember the advert for Ready Brek where the person would have the Ready Brek and was surrounded by a glow. In a similar way, it is how Christians describe being clothed with the Holy Spirit. When we baptise and welcome people into the Church, we say these words "We baptise you in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit". That paragraph is used to give God's blessing to all His people.

So, what does the Holy Spirit do?

It sounds spooky, but far from it. When that Holy Spirit came upon those Disciples after they were told to wait after the Ascension, it enabled them to go on and do great things and the same is true today. When we are clothed with that same spirit, it becomes our enabler, to enable us to do works for God in Christ's name in the world.

The Bible talks about the fruit of the spirit, the gifts of the spirit, these all come when we accept that personal invitation from God to work for His glory and accept Christ as our Saviour. But it is not a magic wand for life, it doesn't get us round things, it doesn't get us over things, even under things, but it gets us through.

When Jesus read the scroll in the temple from Isaiah, it starts with the words "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me", in other words God working through Him and in Him.

Over the last few months, baptisms have been few and far between due to the pandemic, but as we slowly open up, the Church is now ready and waiting to receive those who wish to be baptised. Whether you are a regular Churchgoer or not, but thought "You know what? I would like to be baptised", then please contact me. There is nothing more that will bring a smile to God's heart than to see one of His children be baptised.

There is a lovely image of a shepherd carrying a sheep that was lost on his shoulders and that is the image that God affords us, because Christ came to save the lost, the lonely and those whose lives need direction. For you, and for me, because when we accept Christ into our lives, our eyes are opened, and we have a different vision of the world.

During normal times, the Church would be colourful with streamers and banners, all depicting the coming of the Spirit. It is a joyful occasion, and one which we are all invited to participate in.

If you are sitting there thinking "It's not for me, I wouldn't know where to start", remember this **everyone started somewhere**. Christ promised not to leave us as orphans, and the Church does not just baptise them and leave them, we help people on their spiritual journey. Have a think about what journey you would like to go on. Please feel free to contact me, even if it is only just to enquire, because the more people we win for Christ, the better the world we can create for people.

Happy Pentecost to you all!

*Reverend Gary Jones*



## JULY - AUGUST 2021 NEWS

Contributions for the July - August 2021 News to be submitted by:

**5.00 p.m. Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June.**

The news will be ready for distribution by **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July.**

### **DISCLAIMER**

**The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Team.**

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