

Fynn - Lark News

MAY 2020



LOCK-DOWN AND US

So, the hardest thing about this article is how to start it without pointing out the screamingly obvious. Our normal way of life has been turned upside down. Unless we work in the health sector or other crucial occupations our early starts and commutes have disappeared. We aren't popping out to the pub or a café at the drop of a hat. The children are omnipresent. Is it possible to wear out an iPad? I guess we'll find out.

We all cope with change in different ways. Some seem to relish it whilst others find any change in their way of life very difficult to cope with. Many will be very worried about their income either because they've been furloughed (a word I didn't even know a month ago) or because they've

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

had to shut their own business. For some, decades of hard work have been put at risk. The government is dishing out billions, but we'll pay it back via taxes or inflation.

There is though some good coming out of the current situation: visits by the Easter Bunny, bunting being hung for birthdays, free vegetables from the school and villagers running errands for one another. There won't be an untidy garage or kitchen cabinet in the country at the end of lockdown. When I go out running, more accurately a slow jog these days, or cycling with my children, the paths are awash with others out walking and biking. All the people I see out in the countryside look relaxed and no less happy than if they were on holiday somewhere. They

look happier than if they were in the queue at the DIY store. Their level of enjoyment appears to be far greater than if they were trudging around Ipswich buying things they probably don't need.

We all know it's hard to change our way of thinking. Research suggests on average it takes 2 months to change a habit. I know how tough it was to wean myself off a daily fix of salt and vinegar crisps and I still relapse some days. As the lockdown carries on there's a chance that our habits change. Do we gain anything from being hyperactive or from bouncing from one opportunity to consume to another? Is there a case for doing less, but better?

Jonathan Fieldsend

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NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST

EDITORIAL NOTICE

OUR “LOCKDOWN” ISSUE

We are pleased that our printers continue to work, and that we can continue to communicate within our four villages in these challenging times. Inevitably we carry very few advertisements about forthcoming events – virtually all have been cancelled for the foreseeable future. We look forward to the time when we can re-start our broad range of community activities. That reduction of advertisements does give us more space to devote to the state of our villages in lock-down. This we do from several angles, hoping that, over-all, we will have painted a picture of “lockdown” living in these villages which may prove of interest to historians in the future.

As for the present, we hope that the sharing and communicating of experiences will help to keep our community together, while physically we are required to keep at a wary distance from our friends and neighbours.

We wish all our readers well, and a safe emergence from it all, while looking forward to a return to something like normality, as and when this becomes possible.

Funding, sponsorship and printing

We are pleased to report that, once grants have been received from all our local Parish Councils, we will be financially viable until the end of the year. This is to a large extent due to the generous response of individuals to the

appeal in the February Magazine. We thank them all for their wonderfully generous support. We particularly thank this month Jonathan Fieldsend, who has sponsored the whole of this particular issue, and who, for his pains, also took on the task of writing this month’s lead article. He is Treasurer of Playford Church.

All in all, we are delighted to be able to sustain ourselves as a means of communication through difficult times – and also take this opportunity to thank our printers, *Printing for Pleasure*, working from Chattisham, near Ipswich, for managing to keep going and to ensure that this Magazine appears as usual.

NEWS SNIPPETS

FLY-TIPPING

Last month we published as picture of several dozen black plastic bags of rubbish dumped on the verges of Rosery Lane. It transpired that this was no ordinary rubbish, the bags apparently contained cannabis waste, the by-product of a criminal enterprise. With such activity going on in our very midst there is a need for utmost vigilance. Do report any evidence of such potentially unlawful behaviour.

This magazine is in a position to communicate messages that may be of help in seeing us all through this coronavirus Lockdown. We accordingly publish material which may be useful reference point for readers.



Karen Finch RHAD FSHAA FRSA

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MESSAGES OF GOODWILL

During these days of social-distancing messages of all types have proliferated, as people discover new ways of communicating, and keeping in touch, albeit at a distance. This picture was sent in by Peter Carr. It shows an ever-growing clutch of messaging eggs and painted stones, set at the foot of an oak tree on a walk between Little Bealings and Martlesham.



We join in with these messages of good will in wishing all our readers all that they would wish themselves in these days of lock-down, withdrawal, and medical and economic concern.

FROM EASTSUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

- The Church of England are offering **phone support for NHS staff** who would like to speak to someone outside the service. This is open to people of any or no religion. To access this service please call 01473 563 563.
- Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) has set up a 24/7 **helpline offering immediate support for mental health difficulties** during the coronavirus pandemic. Staffed by mental health professionals from the Trust, it will provide reassurance, self-help advice,

support and signposting. 'First Response' is available on **0808 196 3494**.

East Suffolk Council continue to invite bids from community groups to their Hardship Fund. Further details can be found at <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/news/new-community-fund-launched-to-help-those-in-need/>

Healthy Suffolk have a dedicated website for supporting people during the outbreak. It includes tips to maintain physical and mental health during this time at www.healthysuffolk.org.uk

Public Health England are promoting their 'Act like you have it' campaign including **free downloadable images and posters** for distribution. Using these helps promote a clear and consistent message across our communities. Downloads are available at

<https://coronavirusresources.phe.gov.uk/anyone-can-get-it/resources/>

NATURE NOTES

We are living in a time of celebrating hitherto unsung heroes emerging into well-deserved limelight. In the world of birds few are less celebrated than one of those "little brown jobs", the dunnock.



The dunnock is a small brown and grey bird – its very name is based on the rather drab colour, "dun". The bird is quiet and unobtrusive, often seen creeping along the edge of a flower bed or near to a bush, or under the bird table. It moves with a rather nervous, shuffling gait. It is an incorrigible ground feeder, scouting busily away as it searches modestly for crumbs falling from the masters' table. It

is timid, and if surprised, flits away at low level, in a trajectory resembling that a high-speed, low-flying mouse. Its call a shrill, persistent trilling note, betrays the bird's otherwise inconspicuous presence. The dunnock builds a neat nest, predominantly from twigs and moss and lined with soft materials such as wool or feathers), low in a bush or [conifer](#). These nests too tend to be hidden well away, like their builders, in the depths of dense bushes and hedges. The eggs are blue and unspotted.

While many other bird species are known to be declining, dunnocks seem to be thriving, perhaps because of their relative domesticity, and readiness to participate in the scramble around ever-proliferating bird tables. They are resilient little characters, well worth watching, even though nature has denied them the gaudier signs of recognisability. No myths or superstitions seem to have accrued to its reputation, a further sign of its relative anonymity.

So - as with all those wonderful unsung heroes who have kept us going during lock-down, let's give this plucky little bird its own round of applause.

Norman Porter

HISTORY CORNER - pandemics

One of the most over-used words in the present situation has been "unprecedented". Is that word even remotely applicable? Perhaps it is not so much the scope, impact and horror of this particular pandemic that is unprecedented, but the circumstances that surround it. Never in the history of mankind have social and economic institutions been more complex. Never have we had so many people living on an over-crowded planet. Never have goods, news and people flowed so freely across it, bringing the hugely increased likelihood of transmission from country to country, continent to continent. And - possibly - never has humanity, as a species, taken so much, including its health, for granted. The coronavirus pandemic has alerted us to the fragility of so much of what we

assumed was our human prerogative to enjoy long and healthy lives, and, just whisper it, what we assumed to be human invincibility and eternal dominance of planet earth.

The current situation is not entirely unprecedented. There have been pandemics before, but often slow-spreading, historically under-reported, and all too easily dismissed as the consequence of our predecessors living in pre-civilised, hygiene-ignorant, medically stunted societies. Perhaps it is salutary to recall scourges from the past.

The **Black Death** was the most fatal [pandemic](#) recorded in human history, resulting in the deaths of up to 75-200 million from 1347 to 1351. The plague created religious, social, and economic upheavals, with profound effects on the course of European history. It is estimated to have killed 30% to 60% of Europe's population. It took 200 years for Europe's population to recover to its previous level. The Great Bealings St Mary's commemoration of 900 years of St Mary's Church notes ruefully, in assessing its local impact:

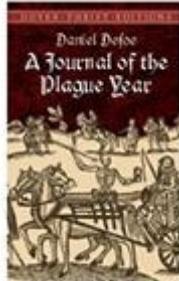
From thirteen six till fourteen sixty-four full fifteen parish priests had come and gone...Bubonic plague, the killer plague, Black Death had stalked the land. The population fell; and anarchy and restlessness were rife among the starving and downtrodden poor.

Daniel Defoe wrote his *Journal of the Plague Year* -1665 - with plenty of gruesome details, and statistics. Some 97,000 were reputed to have died in London alone.

And more recently Spanish flu was an unusually deadly [influenza pandemic](#). Lasting from January 1918 to December 1920, it is said to have infected 500 million people - about a quarter of the world's population at the time. The death toll is estimated to have been anywhere from 17 million to 50 million, and possibly as high as 100 million, making it one of the [deadliest pandemics](#) in human history. And let us not forget the

toll taken by malaria, typhoid, cholera, smallpox, tuberculosis for example, particularly before the development of anti-biotics. The ravages of illness have impacted on the human species across the millennia.

None of the above is intended to belittle the importance of what we are currently undergoing, or to criticise the measures designed to lessen its impact, but simply



and the heroic response of so many people to the challenges of the Covid19. And rightly so. But neither the word “unprecedented” nor its future equivalent “unrepeatable” should, in the light of history, be casually employed.

Norman Porter

PROFILE

DR JONATHAN DOUSE - RESPIRATORY SPECIALIST

We have been relatively lucky in terms of coronavirus cases and fatalities in this part of the country. To that extent, for many people the battle against it is reflected in statistics, concerning other people, rather than in direct personal involvement. Long may that remain the case.

We do, however, live very close to a major hospital, which means that many of

to query the persistent use of the word “unprecedented”. Humanity has been here before, and it will almost certainly come back here again. As Albert Camus presciently, through the voice of his narrator, Doctor Rieux, warned at the conclusion of his 1946 novel **The Plague**, while the population were celebrating the end of the plague:

“...as he listened to the cries of joy rising from the town, Rieux remembered that such joy is always imperilled. He knew what those jubilant crowds did not know but could have learned from books: that the plague bacillus never dies or disappears for good; that it can lie dormant for years and years.....that it bides its time....and that perhaps the day would come when, for the bane and enlightening of men, it roused up its rats again and sent them forth to die in a happy city.”

History does hold lessons for us. We will celebrate the lifting of lock-down. We will celebrate being able to enjoy again the company of family and friends. We will celebrate the triumph of the human spirit



the staff at Ipswich Hospital live within range. While paying tribute to the efforts of all, as we do every Thursday evening, we can also personalise our gratitude by directing our appreciation towards those who live in our midst. One such medical practitioner is Dr Jonathan Douse, a specialist in respiratory medicine, who lives in Great Bealings. That specialty has inevitably put Jonathan directly in the



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front line. Jonathan has been involved in co-ordinating the efforts of those devoting their heavily demanding working hours to caring for those needing intensive respiratory care, and, as such, has a major role in trying to minimise the impact of the virus on those infected by it. As we see at all levels, co-ordination of energies and expertise is vital. While the national press seems to be devoting a disproportionate amount of space finding fault with the nation's response to crisis, we, more locally, take this opportunity to applaud all those politicians, doctors, nurses, scientists who have worked unstintingly in unknown territory to find ways of minimising the effect of corona virus.



Our young people have been part of the national response too, and have found their own ways of participating, so perhaps it is not surprising that young **Dominic Douse** - aged just 14 - has found a 3D way of producing PPE visors for the NHS. Like father, like son. We applaud this family's efforts, symbolic as they are, of the heroic efforts of so many others. Here's Dominic's edited account of what he has done:

You may wonder what is going on in that photo. The machine behind me shows 3D printing face masks. This all started because of an article I saw on a tech youtubers channel called linus tech tips, about Pura printers company in the Czech Republic They had designed a government approved 3D printed mask. I had hated sitting idly by, and I knew that I

could do something. I knew that the NHS was massively under supplied with PPE so I did some more research and discovered that many companies, organisations and individuals were printing face masks so I decided to buy a 3D printer. Then I saw that the printers had either sold out or had doubled in price, so I sent out some feelers and eventually tracked down a 3D printer. Since then things have gone more or less smoothly and so far, I have printed 14 chins for the visors and 7 headbands. I am printing more, and I urge you, if you have access to a 3D printer, to put it over to producing masks. Also, if you have a laser cutter please contact me on twitter as I need someone to cut visors, as doing it by hand only has a 50% success rate.
Dominic

LOCKDOWN REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

As most people are now aware since the start of the lockdown the majority of East Suffolk Council Staff have been moved over to home working. The help centre at Woodbridge library is now shut and the telephone lines diverted to the main call centre at Lowestoft. This centre, usually manned by about twenty people sitting side by side and staring into computer screens all day answering a myriad of questions has had to be reduced in order to maintain social distancing. This means if you do phone them it may take a little longer to respond. All other departments are working normally.

I am sent daily updates from East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council via E mail and I forward all of them to the Parish Clerks for onward transmission to Parish Councillors so that as many people as possible are kept informed of the situation in our area.

ESC is also responsible for some aspects of getting Government money to small businesses.

These are fiendishly difficult rules to navigate and I am trying very hard to help

a local business at the moment to get grant aid. Many of the other queries I get are straight forward and I appreciate that the majority of people are stepping up to the mark and sorting problems out for themselves.

However, you can still contact ESC if you do have a problem or of course if you hit a "brick wall" you can still contact me.

Cllr Colin Hedgley

A Timely Reminder to all Walkers and 'Exercisers'

USING RURAL FOOTPATHS

We are all permitted and encouraged to exercise within a reasonable distance of our homes during this period of lockdown and many of us are using the local country footpaths which is an ideal way to do this. We must all take necessary care when using the paths and ensure that we do not spoil the enjoyment for others or even damage the environment and it is important that we all keep to the designated track.

A number of cyclists are making an increasing use of these footpaths - this not only makes it difficult for people walking along the paths, especially in places where the footpaths are narrow but it also hinders social distancing. In places, people have been forced off the path and into brambles and nettles by aggressive cyclists. In addition, a number of people are not following the rules of the countryside.

We would like to respectfully remind everyone that:

◆ Cycling on footpaths is not permitted unless it is a bridleway in which case cyclists must give way to horses and pedestrians alike.

◆ Remember to leave gates and property as you find them and keep to the designated path – you have no right of way to wander through crops or gates marked "Private".

◆ Keep dogs under effective control as

birds and animals are nesting – the ground nesting species are particularly vulnerable. Clear up after your dog responsibly and take your "doggy bag" and all other litter home.

◆ Our local woods are under private ownership and are strictly private. They are home to a wide range of species including bluebells which flourish undisturbed – human intrusion can destroy their delicate environment so please keep away and please keep to the paths.

If we all honour the above criteria and respect our environment then we will stand a better chance of staying safe and ensuring the beauty and diversity of the countryside for generations to come.

*Marian Hedgley
Parish Clerk to Playford*

HOME DELIVERIES

So many of us have become reliant on home deliveries of many kinds - some people necessarily so. We think it would be helpful, not only to potential customers but also to businesses if we can compile a list of firms, companies and services which offer some sort of on-line delivery service or telephone availability. The name of the company and contact details would be useful. Please send these in the first instance to the Editor - nhp@rillcott.co.uk. We can then decide what to do with this information, dependent on how the situation develops: either pass on the the email news service, and/or publish in this Magazine.

Thanks for all the local support being received in these difficult times from....

Foulgers Dairy,
Grange Farm Shop
Beacon Hill Farm Shop
D.C.Patrick News Agents,

all those delivering post, parcels and orders, and removing rubbish. Special thanks all to those willing volunteers who are keeping us safe and supplied with the necessities of life.

HERE TOGETHER: TODAY AND TOMORROW

St Elizabeth Hospice launches urgent appeal for support

While preparing to cope with the impact of Coronavirus on its end of life care and bereavement services over the coming weeks, St Elizabeth Hospice has launched an urgent appeal to the public to support their local hospice in light of all fundraising events being postponed and all 31 retail shops closing.



The clinical staff at St Elizabeth are working in partnership with the NHS and partners at speed to significantly expand our services both in the community and at the hospice in response to Coronavirus, whilst continuing to care for patients with non-Covid end of life and palliative care needs.

A new rapid response co-ordination centre has been created in the past week to cope with the expected increase in demand for clinical advice and end of life care in the community, doubling the capacity of the hospice's existing OneCall telephone advice helpline.

Last year, the hospice cared for over 3,000 Suffolk patients and their families at a cost of £10.5m, of which 75% was raised by the community through the shops and local fundraising – income-generating activities which are now impossible due to social distancing and self-isolation.

Chief Executive Ru Watkins has called on the local community to support the hospice's new "Here Together" appeal to highlight the role of St Elizabeth at the clinical frontline of the current pandemic and to make sure that its end of life care can continue unaffected when the crisis is over: "Every family who has come into contact with our consultants, doctors, nurses, carers and volunteers over the years knows how dedicated they are to our local community. We are still here with our patients delivering the care they need today so ask everyone to support our efforts together."

With all fundraising events postponed or cancelled, many supporters are looking for alternative ways to support the hospice. As local supporter Wendy Goddard says, "St Elizabeth Hospice was there for me and my family when my daughter Zoe sadly passed away and their support was outstanding. Last month I was due to hold a Charity Night for 300 people to raise funds to support the hospice but sadly this has had to be postponed. I would ask you to do what you can in this time of need to support our local hospice together."

The "Here Together" appeal is being launched across the hospice's social media platforms to raise awareness of St Elizabeth's frontline role in continuing to care for some of Suffolk's most vulnerable patients throughout the pandemic and our shared commitment as a community to protecting its vital services today and tomorrow.

To donate to the appeal, visit the hospice Just Giving appeal page <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/SEHCoronavirusAppeal> or call the hospice on 01473 723600.

To find out how to get involved or fundraise for us then please contact your hospice community fundraiser, Beth Condie at beth.condie@stelizabethhospice.org.uk or call 07900 653972.

LIVING THROUGH HISTORY

A diary of Coronavirus lock-down by Francis Mutimer

A Magazine like this is not just an ephemeral dip into the here and now. Inevitably most copies will finish up in the waste bin, some sooner, some later. But we do and will keep copies for future historical reference. The contents of the Magazine are a reflection of our times, and of potential interest to future generations. It is in that spirit that we warmly welcome the following contribution from Francis Mutimer. We obviously cannot find the space for publishing the entire memoir, but we hope it will become accessible in its entirety on village websites. So please treat what follows as a taster – an edited diary of the Coronavirus Lockdown, 2020. It combines beautiful descriptions of Spring, and wildlife, the local landscape, and changing human routines, while also referring to events at national level – with wonderful photographic illustrations. Thank you, Francis.

Francis introduces the excerpts in his own words:

A little over 3 weeks ago when the current widespread restrictions came in, I hit upon the idea of keeping a daily journal/diary in an attempt to document the effects of the outbreak on the lives of the people of Bealings. This, I hope, is something which may well be of interest to future historians, giving an insight into the day to day lives of people in the village during this time.

So, I've simply recorded my impressions and feelings each day, along with any local happenings, or conversations I've had relating to the current situation. I've also taken photos while out on my 'permitted exercise' walks and in my garden, which I'm using to supplement the entries.

It's **SATURDAY 21ST MARCH 2020**. Springtime is here, daffodils are in flower, a sunny March day with crystal blue skies and a biting east wind. People are out walking, jogging cycling, gardening, enjoying the sunshine after a long, wet winter.

And yet, this year is different. Yesterday, the government announced some of the most sweeping restrictions to public activity seen for decades, since World War Two ended, nearly 75 years ago.

For the past fortnight or so, people have been advised to minimise social contact as much as possible, sports events and other public gatherings have been cancelled or postponed, and travel has been discouraged.

Yesterday, for many people, it suddenly became very real. Pubs, restaurants, theatres, gyms, swimming pools and libraries are all closed until further notice. Schools have closed to all except the children of 'essential workers'. For some pupils, this meant that the last day at their particular school, which would have been at the end of the school year in July, was upon them with a startling suddenness, at little more than a day's notice.

Anyone over the age of 70, people with health conditions which make them vulnerable to infection, and pregnant women have all been advised to stay at home for a period of at least 12 weeks and avoid contact with other people as much as possible.

Over the coming days, weeks and months, if I am spared, I will attempt to document and record the effects of this outbreak on the lives of the people of Great and Little Bealings.

SUNDAY 22ND MARCH

Mother's Day. Bright and sunny, but still tempered by that cold easterly wind. This would normally be a day when families get together and make mums the centre of attention. But things are different now. For to do so would, in many cases, be to actively endanger their health. The risk increases with age and so mothers in many cases have to content themselves with wishes and sentiments conveyed from a distance - by phone, email, social media and still, in some cases, messages on radio programmes or in local newspapers.



I occupy myself in the garden, planting, watering and tending. The neighbourhood is filled with various sounds – spring birdsong competes with the sounds of people mowing their lawns, doing DIY and decorating projects, the children next door playing in the garden.

But there is a subtle difference in the soundscape, you don't notice it at first. But then you realize what is missing. There are no aircraft flying overhead. The usual constant background noise of jets passing overhead on their way to and from the London airports is gone. Only the occasional aircraft passes overhead, noticeable by its rarity. Countries are closing their borders and international flights have all but ceased.



MONDAY 23RD MARCH

At 8-30 in the evening the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, announces that from midnight, everyone is to stay at home, going out only for essential reasons, such as food shopping, medical care, travelling to and from work, or a period of exercise such as walking, running or cycling. All social gatherings are banned. Only shops selling essential items such as food and medication will remain open. We are in lockdown.

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH

A sharp frost overnight. The grass is coated white, daffodils and early herbaceous plants droop their heads. The fields across the Fynn valley in the distance are dusted white. I walk out into the garden, the air has a sharp, dry tang to it. There is plenty of birdsong, despite the cold air. From across the valley comes the sound of wild geese honking in the meadows down by the river.

The plant sale is off. In my inbox I find an email from Norman, reluctantly he has bowed to the inevitable and abandoned plans to hold the sale this year. While the income will be missed, I have a feeling the churches will survive. Those two lovely old flint buildings have lasted through centuries of human affairs and turmoil, and they will most likely survive this.

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH

On Thursday mornings I usually lead a friendly walking group, which starts and finishes at the church in Little Bealings. The group has been going for nearly six months now, every week, whatever the weather. But not today. Any gathering of more than two people is now banned, so for now, I walk alone, or sometimes with my wife.

Later that evening, just before eight o'clock, we step outside into the darkness and the chill night air. As a gesture of recognition and gratitude to all the National Health Service workers, who are under huge pressure right now, people across the nation have been asked to go outside and applaud en masse.

Ours is a quiet, rural neighbourhood. There are just a few houses, not much disturbs the silence after dark. At the appointed hour, eight o'clock, someone nearby begins clapping, soon they are joined by another, further up the lane. We join in too and within seconds we hear applause from three or four more gardens nearby. It is a moving, slightly surreal moment as the scattered applause from unseen hands punctuates the darkness. After a minute, a voice nearby cries out "Stop it, you're scaring the hedgehogs." A little humour to lighten the darkness.

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

I wake at first light and rise early. For a change of routine, I take my daily walk at dawn. It is not yet six o'clock, I have the fields and meadows all to myself. There is frost on the ground and a hint of mist hangs in the cold dawn air. The only sounds are those of nature – the gentle rippling of the river around a fallen tree branch, the splashing and honking of a few geese out on the mere, a woodpecker drumming against a tree in the distance, and small birds in the undergrowth. I stop to watch a pair of Reed Buntings plucking the fluff from some reed mace heads. At length I return home, seeing not a soul on the way. Later today, the paths and lanes will be busier, lots of people have rediscovered walking now.

In the evening I go outside to watch The International Space Station pass overhead.



It appears in the west and perfectly bisects the crescent moon as it rises in the sky, before passing almost directly overhead and then fading to the east. I ponder on how the occupants of that craft must be feeling. Right now, they are the only members of the entire human race who the virus cannot touch. Do they follow the events below them and wonder what kind of world they will be returning to when the time comes? When and *if* the time comes?

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH

So, we are now a week into our 'new reality'. Many people are describing it as the most surreal week of their lives. Partly, this is because all the bad news, and the restrictions imposed on the populace, has been counterpointed by a week of glorious spring sunshine and clear blue skies. Time and again I hear the phrase "Well at least it's lovely and sunny."

As I set off for my walk around mid-morning, there is a noticeable change in the air. A biting and strengthening north-easterly wind brings light cloud scudding in off the North Sea. It is a day for being in a sheltered spot if you are outside. Somewhat perversely, I choose a route across open fields and high ground towards Culpho. It doesn't matter, the cold dry air and the wind are invigorating, and I set a good pace to keep warm.

Although the day is colder, there are still several walkers and joggers out and about. Just before reaching home, I meet a couple more walkers who occasionally join our group. They, like me, have never known the paths and byways to be so busy. We reflect on the fact that this virus which has ended the lives of so many (30,000 worldwide at present), has probably done much improve the health and fitness of others, a paradox to ponder at the end of a surreal week.

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

Last night, the clocks went forward one hour to mark the start of British Summer Time. As is usually the case, the weather responds by producing a day more akin to the depths of winter. A strong and blustery northerly wind brings showers of sleet and snow to dispel any notion of summer, this is the 'blackthorn winter' as it has been known to generations of country folk.



In defiance of the day's wintry

feel, I sow a few seeds – those tiny little packages of life, carrying the promise of better things to come. Just normal Sunday activities, although right now, in the words of the old Morrissey song, "Every Day is Like Sunday."

As we walk along the bridge over the A12, the road below carries hardly any traffic. I stop to take a photo of the empty dual carriageway stretching into the distance, for this is a novel experience and worth recording for posterity.

MONDAY 30TH MARCH

It is now a week since the Prime Minister announced the restrictions on social contact and non-essential travel. Gradually, people are adjusting to this new way of life. Many are finding new and ingenious ways of occupying themselves, some are rediscovering old crafts and skills.

In the evening, I go for a short walk before dark. I take advantage of the lack of traffic and head along Holly Lane and then down the length of Boot Street, past the old family home where I grew up. As I walk down Boot Street only four cars pass by, normally it would be ten times that amount and it would be a risky venture, bordering on recklessness to undertake this journey on foot. This is how it was, back in the 60s when I was a boy.

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL

It is Thursday, and it has now become the custom for folk the length and breadth of the nation to go outside at 8pm and applaud, in recognition of the NHS staff and all the other essential workers who are playing a vital role in keeping the country functioning through the current crisis. So, at eight o'clock we go out into the garden to join in. There is more enthusiastic clapping this week, more than last week, and the addition of someone banging a saucepan nearby, plus a few barking dogs joining in gives the whole thing an extra dimension. It is becoming a small but significant moment of national unity, something which perhaps has not been seen for some time now.

FRIDAY 3RD APRIL

Another cold, bright day to end the second week of lockdown. In Bealings, people seem to be gradually adjusting to this new pace of life and changed circumstances. Some admit to actively enjoying it, or, as one person puts it "certainly not un-enjoying it."

This is not the case for everyone, of course; health professionals, shop workers and many others are having a torrid time right now. The paradox is that the best thing most of us can do to alleviate the pressure on those hard-pressed professions, is to remain at home and refrain from most of life's myriad distractions and diversions.

In the evening I go for a sunset walk across the fields and down by the river. I pass beneath an ancient oak which sits alone in a large field in splendid isolation. A child from the village has left a stone painted bright pink in the grass beneath the oak, with the message 'We are all in this together' written on it. Nearby, someone else has left another stone, painted blue, which bears the words 'To whoever left the pink stone, thank you!! It lifted my spirits'



SATURDAY 4TH APRIL

Everyone seems to be out in their gardens today. While, on a larger



scale, there is now an absence of the usual aircraft and traffic noise, the immediate neighbourhood is busy with the sounds of a multitude of gardening activities and projects being undertaken.

I take my daily walk in the evening, at sunset. I amble along the meadows down by the river in Great Bealings, meeting no one, with just the evening birdsong for company in the mellow golden light. Enjoying the moment.

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL

In the evening, Her Majesty the Queen addresses the nation, a short four-minute speech which is designed to reassure and inspire. She thanks all those who are contributing to the national effort, whether it is those caring for the sick and delivering vital services, or those of us staying at home to help reduce the spread of the virus. She also offers hope of an eventual end to the current crisis, saying “We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again.”

The fact that this is only the fifth time the Queen has addressed the nation during her 68-year reign, gives some indication of the import and historic nature of what we are currently living through.

TUESDAY 7TH APRIL

One of the residents of the village has come up with the idea of surprising people who are having a birthday, by putting up decorations and banners outside their house. She is calling it the ‘birthday bunting bomb.’ It brings a little cheer to those celebrating a birthday or special occasion while we are in isolation.

On my afternoon walk, I pass the house of the latest recipient of this little act of kindness, the colourful bunting lifts the spirits, simply by being there.

I walk for about an hour, through Playford, along the ancient track known locally as Pig’s Valley, and back through Great Bealings. Along Pig’s Valley I spot a hare a few seconds before it spots me. It is in a field about 50 yards away, I stand still and so does the hare. It’s ears are up, it sniffs the air and looks around warily – then it sees me and runs off, crossing the track in front of me before running off across the field on the other side, with that effortless acceleration which hares are capable of.

There is white blossom in abundance now, the blackthorn is still going strong and has now been joined by the wild cherry. The banks are dotted with drifts of Stitchwort and the daisies are appearing in odd sunny spots too.



FRIDAY 10TH APRIL

Good Friday, although unlike any that I can remember. Normally there would be sporting events and various other events happening all over the country, families would be getting together for the Easter break, and the traditional Bank Holiday traffic jams would feature in the news. Good Friday 2020 is eerily quiet.

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

The day dawns bright and sunny again. We decide to go for a walk early, as the day is forecast to be quite warm later. We take one of favourite walks along the meadows by the river in Great Bealings, the wild cherries and pussy willows are now in full flower and they decorate the woods with patches of white and yellow.

Nationally, the news is not good – yesterday 980 deaths of patients with the virus were reported, the highest daily total so far. Three weeks from the start of the widespread restrictions on social contact, the numbers of deaths and new cases are still very high, although the hope is that we are now at a peak and the numbers may be levelling off.

The journal will continue to record local life, both human and otherwise.

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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

ST MARY'S

Our volunteer group set up jointly by the Parish Council and PCC remains in force. We are registered with the County as an official volunteer group, paying all due heed to data and privacy issues. We have close on 30 people willing to help others in various ways, should the need arise.

All we can say at this stage is that the numbers signing up are an illustration of the community spirit that pervades our daily lives, and that the very low number of requests for help is either a sign of how fortunate most of us are in this particular community – or possibly – of a reluctance to seek help. If the latter, do please make contact with either Charles Barrington – 01473 735684 or Norman Porter 01473 [735565](tel:735565) or nhp@rillcott.co.uk, who remain ready to put you in touch with potential helpers. Alternatively, should you know of someone who might be helped, please urge them to seek assistance, even if it is just a friendly telephone call to chat about ordinary everyday life, and to mitigate loneliness or lack of contact with the outside world.

We cannot emphasise sufficiently how lucky we are that Rev Dr John Hare has adopted us as his spiritual proteges. John is not only available for consultation. He also sends us, for distribution, the sermons that he might have preached, had the church been open for services, thereby ensuring that those who look to their faith for guidance in challenging times can have access to his thinking and encouragement.

The church remains closed, even though we could produce arguments for keeping

it open to individual visitors in search of solace and guidance. That decision is out of our hands, but happily our beautiful churchyard remains open – see below.

LOOKING BACK

We can but look back ruefully on a “virtual” month, with no actual church services, apart from the outdoor funeral of Ian Willie, conducted by Rev Dr John Hare in the presence of a sparse congregation of half a dozen mourners, to the haunting background strains of a violin, played by Ian’s grand-daughter, to the tune of “Somewhere Over The Rainbow.”.



John did also very kindly do his best to keep the spirit of Easter alive, by coming along on Easter Day, to bless and light our Easter candle.

LOOKING FORWARD

The future remains uncertain. The installation of Rev Nigel Prior as our new Priest-in-Charge has been postponed from early June, and a replacement date has yet to be arranged. As previously

reported all other services have been cancelled for the foreseeable future. Rev Dr John Hare remains available to chat over the phone should psychological or spiritual concerns arise. See church notices for contact details.

CHURCHYARD

The churchyard remains open, so what better place for quiet contemplation and for consoling ourselves that nature does indeed carry on, oblivious of the stresses besetting our human species, perhaps even benefiting from it. The church itself may be locked down, but there is still scope for spiritual and physical refreshment to be gained from walking around the churchyard, or just sitting and contemplating how lucky we are to be in this beautiful part of the country, enjoying the countryside and the wildlife, rather than confined to a city, and its parks, patrolled by our well-intentioned police. Our cowslips, in particular, seem to be celebrating in abundant style.

Churchwarden

PARISH COUNCIL

INCLUDING SUMMARY OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23RD MARCH

The Parish Council, like most organisations, is having to adjust the way it works as a result of the CV-19 lockdown. The PC met on 23rd March 2020 to pass a resolution, as recommended by SALC, to the effect that the power to discharge the Council's functions, including determining the Council's responses to planning applications, be delegated to the Clerk, as the only standing officer of the Council, having consulted with the Chairman and/or the Vice Chairman. It was agreed to circulate all councillors to make sure we had general support for any such decision. At the time of writing these powers have not been needed. All general CV-19 updates from ESC and

SCC have been circulated on the email system.

The PC is now installing Microsoft Teams for each councillor so that meetings can be held online and the first such meeting will be on 4th May. Grateful thanks to Vicky Norris for her assistance in setting this up. Clearly public attendance will not be possible but the minutes will be circulated and posted on the PC website in the usual way. Meanwhile if any resident has an issue they wish to raise with the Parish Council at this meeting, please do so by contacting the Clerk on: greatbealingspc@hotmail.co.uk. There are currently no new planning applications to be considered.

The Annual Public Meeting has been held over until next year. In this context there will be no changes to Council roles and no need for any elections of officers.

The Parish Council took an early initiative to set up a helpline in association with the PCC and we have received many offers of support from a wide range of volunteers, for which we are extremely grateful. We are happy to report that we have had no requests for assistance, however the need to keep an eye out for any resident who might need such assistance remains and if you know of anyone in that position please contact Norman Porter in the first instance at nhp@rillcott.co.uk. Norman has the full list of volunteers and can direct the help where it is needed.

A recent case of severe fly-tipping occurred on Rosery Lane, but with commendable speed ESC responded to a formal complaint logged onto their system and it was cleared within a few days. Thanks are also due to a number of residents who have used their daily walk in the fresh air to clear roadside litter. Our sincere thanks to those involved.

We are all looking forward to the removal

of the roadworks signage that has now been up for three years in relation to the windfarm pipeline. Work to restore the land has been halted as a result of the lockdown but we have contacted the contractors who confirm that these signs should be removed as soon as work recommences when the lockdown ends. In this context the Parish Council would be grateful for any views on the retention of the passing places that were installed when the work commenced. Please email the clerk if you have a view.

There is one other matter to report, namely that Suffolk County Council have at long last accepted our argument that the speed limit on Boot Street should be extended as far as the Rosery Lane junction. The bad news is that this has been estimated to cost over £10,000 and at the present time the PC has no way of funding such a high cost. Discussions are continuing with SCC as to how this can be resolved. Luckily we now have a newly appointed representative, Andrew Reid, who is cabinet member for roads and traffic at SCC, to look after our parish interests and he is now aware of the problem. Any further developments will be reported in due course.

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

Website: www.greatbealings.co.uk

FRIENDS OF GREAT BEALINGS CHURCH

GERMAN EVENING

We remain hopeful that we will be able to keep the whole “package” together and to find a date when we can safely re-arrange it.

Great Bealings Open Gardens – originally planned for 6th June -

This event seems to be under threat, but even if it has to be cancelled, we invite all gardeners to submit pictures of what visitors will have missed. Our gardens have been major beneficiaries of the lockdown, and should be enjoying a vintage year, so please – don't be modest – take a picture of your garden in its prime and sent it to the Editor in time for the July deadline.

News of developments will appear by courtesy of our email news service.

PLANT SALE

This had to be cancelled, together with our Annual Raffle. Despite tentative schemes to prevent all sorts of hard work going to waste, we had to surrender to the inevitable. We can but apologise to all those who had been preparing plans and seedlings, and very much hope that they managed to find local and individual outlets for their wares. Indeed, there may still be surplus plants looking for a home, so do please ask around about possible availability. Of course, any donations to funds remain welcome, as these were the causes towards which efforts were



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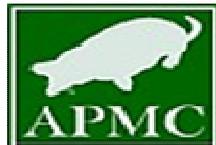
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LITTLE BEALINGS

PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

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

Ips 610088

PCC SECRETARY

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

07889907615

HANS FLECK

Hans, our father, died very peacefully on Tuesday 21st April. COVID was the cause of death. It was all very quick and peaceful following a wonderful life and caring supportive final years at Nightingale House in London.

The funeral / cremation details are yet to be confirmed however, in light of the current restrictions, we are planning for immediate family to attend only with a subsequent celebration of Hans's life 'on the other side of lockdown'.

Stephanie, Andrew & Robert

LITTLE BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The meeting provisionally arranged for 20 April and the Annual Parish Council Meeting due to take place on 11 May were both cancelled due to Covid19 restrictions.

The Council has received advice from both the National and Suffolk Associations of Local Councils that there is now no requirement to hold an Annual Meeting, and that existing appointments can remain in place until a meeting is held, or up until May 2021. In addition, the Council can, if it wishes or needs to, hold meetings with Councillors in "remote attendance", using such means as it chooses and giving notice of a meeting on its website. Remote meetings are open to the public to attend remotely too. At present the Council has no proposed remote meetings. Please check our website for any updates.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2019/20

The Council has received advice that the period allowed for the publication of the Annual Governance Statement and

Statement of Accounts for 2019/20 has been extended to 30 November 2020. The period for the exercise **public rights in respect of the accounts now needs to start on or before 1 September 2020.**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council has been advised by ESC that planning applications continue to be accepted and will be determined. Site visits by officers are not taking place, which is likely to mean that site notices will not be displayed. To keep up to date with any new planning applications in the parish please visit:

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/publicaccess/>

If you wish to let the Council know of your views on an application please write to the Council well before the deadline given for the receipt of comments by ESC, using either the email or postal address below. Please do not telephone with comments, to ensure your views are accurately reported to Councillors. The Council will respond to ESC consultations on planning applications using the delegated authority put in place at its meeting on 16 March, unless it is considered appropriate to hold a meeting with Councillors in "remote attendance".

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

ESC continues to provide this service, but with limitations in respect of site visits.

Please contact

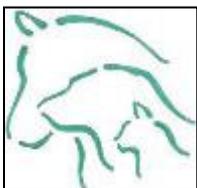
d.c.enforcement@eastsuffolk.gov.uk if you wish to raise any matter.

HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Maintenance issues can be reported here:

<https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/>

or SCC advises phoning **0345 606 6171** if **there is immediate danger to the public.**



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Please check news channels for national advice on whether it is appropriate to be outside and maintain safe distances from other walkers.

Draft and approved minutes of Parish Council meetings are available on the Council's website.

Carol Ramsden - Clerk
01473 610088

Email: littlebealingspc@btinternet.com

Website: www.littlebealings.onesuffolk.net

Postal Address: The Hollies, Holly Lane,
Little Bealings, Woodbridge IP13 6PW

CHURCHWARDENS' UPDATE

As Tony and I sit here in the garden, listening to the birds sing and enjoying the sunshine, we know there are many who are not as fortunate and that these are difficult times for our village and for our church. It is very strange not to be able to welcome you for services and Messy Church, for Pilates classes and concerts, for Tavern evenings and Tearoom lunches, for quiet contemplation and for community activities. We look forward to the day when we can open the doors and continue building on the spirit of service and caring which we have seen as a result of this public health crisis.

We hope that all of you are staying safe and have what you need to get through these tough times. We applaud the efforts of all villagers who are looking out for their neighbours and picking up groceries, prescriptions, and the occasional essential gardening supplies. If you would

like to join Bishop Martin for daily prayers and services, please see the Facebook page "*Bishop Martin and Bishop Mike CofE Suffolk*". Closer to home, we are participating in regular live on-line services at All Saints Kesgrave through Zoom and if you contact me on 07810 355511 or corinnejarvis@hotmail.co.uk, I can guide you through the process.



We do have some wonderful news for you: the Church finally has a new heating system and a sink with hot water and drainage and we can't wait to have our temporary kitchen back up and running and to welcome you to the Tearoom!

We also are delighted to have a very powerful and gently used organ in the church which was procured as a result of a very generous loan from Jane Hartley, our devoted organist and Parochial Church Council member. We look forward to having a fundraising concert featuring this (new to us!) instrument so that we can return her kindness – it is a wonderful addition to the Church and looks very at home near the altar!

While we cannot open the church to services or for private prayer, we do have essential groceries (including toilet paper, a variety of condiments, jams, oils, cooking ingredients, chocolate, tea, coffee, and all the basics) available by appointment and delivery within the 4

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villages, along with the Refill Station which has pasta, legumes, grains, dried fruit, rice and nuts. Don't forget that we also have a regular stock of large homemade pies available which serve 2-3 people. They are handmade locally and kept in the freezer; in stock at the moment we have chicken and mushroom, chicken and ham, steak, steak and kidney, minced beef and onion, and sweet potato spinach and feta. The pies are very popular, and we do have a regular supply coming in dependant on produce availability: orders are welcome – please call 07810 355511 for details.

Finally, like many churches and other charitable organisations, we are struggling to pay the bills which we still need to cover even when services are not

being held. If you could consider making a one-time donation, or just £3 monthly to keep us going through this difficult time, we would be most grateful. In addition to helping us maintain and preserve our beautiful building, you will also be supporting the Bealings Community Hub venue, which has already proven to be very popular with local villagers and their visiting friends and family. Our General account information is as follows: Sort code: 20-98-07 Account number: 63618625.

In the meantime, we hope you will continue to take good care of yourself and others.

With every blessing,

*Corinne and Tony Fear
Churchwardens*





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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

ROSEMARY COCKSEGE

1938 - 2020

Rosemary died peacefully on 12th March after two weeks in the tender and loving care of St. Elizabeth Hospice.

Her one aim in life was to be a wife, mother and granny. That she achieved with distinction being the adored wife of Chris, greatly loved mum of Nicky and Sue and the treasured granny of George, Jamie, Max and Ben.

Rosemary was born in Ipswich during a



heavy snowfall just before Christmas 1938. She was the only child of her parents Alfred and Phyllis Tarbard. She attended Sidegate Lane primary school and then, on scholarship, to Northgate Grammar School. After getting her school certificate she left and for the next 7 years, until Nicky was born, worked for the National Provincial Bank in Ipswich and on secondment in London. For some years she became a housewife until in an emergency and at short notice she took over

the secretaryship of the Ipswich & Suffolk Club (temporarily?) which she did for 10 years

She and Chris, a local solicitor, were married at St. Mary-le-Tower church Ipswich in August 1960 and lived in Dale Hall Lane Ipswich, moving to Playford, fortuitously, in January 1969. Fortuitous, as she was trying to find Lux Farm where Nicky had been invited to a party by her nursery school class friend, William Stennett. In the course of driving round she saw a rather desolate, unattractive new build 60's house for sale having already sold their house in Ipswich

Timbertop proved to be a very happy home for the family. They all loved Playford, the walks, the people and the Church where Rosemary and Chris regularly attended and in which both Nicky and Sue were married.

Rosemary had a lovely nature, she rarely thought ill of anyone and was a wonderful mother to the girls and a special granny to the grandsons and loved her sons-in-law David and Graham.

She was also a tremendous help to Chris in his legal career; she enjoyed entertaining clients and friends to dinner.

Rosemary played golf for some years first at Purdis Heath and then at Aldeburgh which she enjoyed, her handicap even came down from 36 to 26, but her great love was swimming whether it be in the sea or in Nicky's pool.

Travel was also something that always attracted her, be it family holidays in Cornwall or foreign ventures. In her life she travelled to 41 different countries culminating in a 3 month round the world trip by air in 1992.

Rosemary will be greatly missed by her

family and wide circle of friends, but she leaves them with so many happy memories. Her life was a truly happy one.

Due to the dreadful coronavirus it has not been possible to hold a Thanksgiving service in Playford church as was her wish, but it is hoped this may be possible in May or June.

The family was greatly touched by the kindness of the villagers in sponsoring the church lights in memory of Rosemary on the evening of 3rd of April - they looked lovely from Spring Meadow.

PLAYFORD W.I.

A first in our 96-year history, Playford WI met via 'zoom' in April. Aptly, our topic this month was indoor gardens with a demonstration of how to create a terrarium. These sealed containers were invented by the Victorians to transport

plants between the UK and Australia and showed that 'plants can be sealed in without ventilation and continue to thrive'. We hope the demonstrator will join us in person later in the year to see the results of our 'lockdown' creations!

We also heard that our WI's recent litter pick around the village was reported on by Mark Murphy of BBC Radio Suffolk, an interview with our president Sally Herrington being included in his 'PlantSuffolk' environmental campaign.

We very much look forward to meeting in person again as soon as allowed, but meanwhile plan to continue to with 'remote' meetings. We would love to welcome anyone who would like to join us this way, (just bring your own tea and biscuits!) Please contact our secretary Sue Bruce for meeting details.

Tracy Herrington

PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & ANNUAL PC MEETING

Regretfully we are unable to hold these meetings which should have taken place this year on Wednesday 6th May at Playford Village Hall.

We may be able to hold the Annual Parish Meeting later in the year but the APCM will now not take place until May 2021

All being well, our next scheduled Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 1st July at 7.00 p.m.** in Playford Village Hall – this will be confirmed nearer the time.

Marian Hedgley, Parish Clerk Tel: 01473 738468

Email: playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk

LEAKED LETTER FIASCO

There has been a serious leak from somewhere in Whitehall. A full scale investigation is now in progress. However the Fynn-Lark News has managed to obtain a copy of the leaked letter and publishes it here in full.

The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
Whitehall
London

Compost Towers
Long Mile Lane
Bealings on Sea
Suffolk

32nd March 2020.

Dear Prime Minister,

I have been most concerned regarding the panic buying of lavatory paper by members of the public during this present crisis. I myself ran out the week before and had to resort to tearing up old newspapers as per wartime habits which of course you would have no experience of. Although of course, I know you used to work for the Daily Telegraph so you may have had the necessary training. But just a small tip, the airmail edition of The Times works best. I wonder if you could add that little gem to the bottom of your TV advertisements?

However that is not the point of this letter. I have devised a recovery plan that I hope you and your colleagues will consider with utmost urgency.

The Government should issue every person in the land with a packet of 20 Imodium. (not the suppository sort) These tablets should be taken immediately. This should have the desired slowing effect and therefore cease the need for anyone to purchase Izal extra strong or three ply cushion or any other loo roll type.

Meanwhile the Government should order the loo roll manufacturer to go into overdrive working 24 hours every day producing millions of loo rolls in packets of eight. Simultaneously you could give the sewage workers two weeks well deserved leave.

On week three you then issue everyone with a packet of 20 Dulcolax. (not the suppository sort). These should be taken immediately. The supermarkets then stock up on loo rolls and sell them for £30 (excluding 100% vat) for a packet of eight. At the same time you put a loo roll tax of £5 per roll on the manufacturer.

My calculation is that within the month you would have raised £500 billion towards getting this country up and moving again. Of course you would have to impose a temporary stop on the publication of newspapers because I am sure some people would cheat.

As you can imagine this has been well thought out, costed and double checked by those very clever people at Imperial College who insist they are never wrong.

I look forward to your reply

Yours cisternly

Binky

PS. Please note Imodium and Dulcolax are registered Trademarks.



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PLAYFORD CHURCH LIGHTS

3rd April - in memory of Rosemary Cocksedge whose funeral it was this day. Sponsored by many of her friends in Playford

18th April - for Francesca Lang's birthday, sponsored by Victoria and Veronica

The Church floodlights are being lit for 2 hours from 8 pm every Thursday as thanks to all NHS staff and other essential and support workers.

Requests to sponsor lights to: Veronica Bunbury, Church Corner Cottage, Church Lane, Playford, Ipswich IP6 9S Tel: 01473 623366. email address: vronxbunbury@gmail.com

Last minute requests are not normally a problem but to avoid disappointment please ensure that Veronica is at home and be aware that very short notice requests via email or telephone answer machine might not be picked up in time.

Please contact the Church Warden if unable to get hold of Veronica. Sponsorship is now £10 a night.

BINKY'S WIFE HAS A MESSAGE

Hello you gorgeous men.

I have cooked up something really special for you. I went into my pantry and rustled around the long forgotten leftover packets and came up with:-

Indigo's All in one Lockdown Leftover Pie

Ingredients.

6 Lettuce leaves (to be used as a starter).

Small tin of Tesco sardines.

2 Meringue nests

2 Strawberries (for pudding).

Tin of ready-made custard.

8oz plain flour

4oz of margarine.

Method.

Using the flour, margarine and a touch of water make some pastry in the normal way and roll out.

Lay the lettuce leaves in each of the meringue baskets. Divide the tin of sardines and place a sardine on top of the lettuce leaves. Cover each of the filled baskets with the pastry. Place both on a tin tray and cook for 30 minutes at 180 centigrade. When cooked, remove from oven. Place a strawberry on top of each and cover in custard.

You will see from this that it is a starter, main course and pudding all in one. Also saves on the washing up.

See you in the pub later.

Bye

Indigo.

CULPHO

PARISH COUNCILLOR

John Lapsley, 1 Abbey Farm Barn, Culpho

Ips 738008

PCC SECRETARY

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

ST BOTOLPH'S

SHIRLEY GREY

It is with great sadness that we report that Shirley passed away on the 13th April at the Willows Care Home, Ipswich. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband John and family at this difficult time. Shirley was a member of the Parochial Church Council and great friend of Culpho Church. Together with husband John in 1983 they painstakingly repaired St. Botolph's Church both internally and externally. Had they not stepped in the Church would certainly have been classified as redundant and to-day it stands testimony to their dedication and hard work. Shirley will be missed by so many and we are thankful for her friendship and support; she was such an integral part of Culpho and St. Botolph's.

HOME REFLECTIONS

I am sure a great many thoughts have occupied our minds during the last few weeks, some frightening, some heart-breaking, and others humbling at the acts of overwhelming kindness we have witnessed. Clearly our lives have been changed forever and we shall be living in a different world, but hopefully a kinder one.

We have all been touched by the number of those who have lost their lives to this awful virus and the sadness felt when next of kin were unable to be with them in their last hours. The anger felt when you hear how it all started and confusion at the numerous conspiracy theories. The comfort knowing most will be helped

financially but concern for those who will not and for the many isolated in an abusive relationship. The strength and depth of dedication of our N.H.S., the willingness and resolve of those key workers to keep people safe, the kindness of neighbours, friends and family, often too far away to provide tangible help, but close enough through technology, to check on us daily. The generosity of people providing and delivering food to vulnerable people, the imaginative ways of keeping children entertained. Joining in with the applause at 8 p.m. on Thursdays, listening how this has increased over the weeks with more clapping, hooters sounding and cheers in support of those on the front line desperately trying to save the lives they can.

Despite these dreadful times we have taken comfort from The Queen's address to the Nation, the news that the Prime Minister is well enough to return home and the streaming of Church services; all of which has provided the confidence we need to get us through these dreadful times.

A pandemic knows no boundaries and we see other Countries witnessing identical sufferings. We have empathy with them and they with us, we share the same expectations. We may be worlds apart in culture, religion, values and traditions, but we all share the same dreams and aspirations that this virus will soon disappear, a vaccine will be found, the number of lives lost will lessen and all peoples can return to some sense of normality. It will take decades to achieve, but from despair comes hope.

Disasters see the best in people as communities become galvanised and there is renewed optimism. We have witnessed unparalleled acts of kindness and selflessness and no doubt more in the weeks to come. The support of family and friends, neighbours and the kindness of strangers has been quite humbling. More than ever, these are compelling reasons to make this world a better place.

Hopefully in the weeks ahead we can look forward to hearing that Culpho Church is again open and its services resumed.

The Churchwardens and all at St. Botolph's trust and pray that you and all your family are well and remain safe.

*Margaret Gornall,
Secretary*

CHURCH NEWS

WORD FROM THE STUDY

Happy Easter everybody!

Seems strange to wish people a Happy Easter when it is something that happened a few weeks ago at a time when our Church buildings remain closed. For Christians, Easter is a time when we celebrate Christ's victory over death.

Our Church buildings may be closed, and yes that does seem strange, because so many people like to attend the Easter services, but the message of Easter is one of hope and certainty. So many churches have found new and different ways to reach out e.g. holding services online. In the strange times we find ourselves in, shops and businesses are shut, queues to get into supermarkets, social distancing and people being asked to remain at home, all seems a far cry from what we are used to. So where is the good news in that?

In the Book of Exodus, God leads his people to freedom from the Egyptians, a time that must have seemed very hard. They went through a time of trusting and yes, sometimes grumbling. That struck me as resembling something of what we are experiencing now. The good news of

course is that God rescued his people then and he does now. You know it may feel like Friday in our lives, but Sunday is coming.

"Where is God", I hear people cry. Perhaps for some the blinkers need to come off, every Thursday night at 8pm, communities come out and clap for those who work in care homes and for key workers, doctors, nurses, carers, supermarket workers, food banks, dustmen and so on. People who are doing what they do because in going the extra mile they care for those of us who can't and let's not forget about Captain Tom Moore who captured the mood and hearts of the nation.

On a clear night, we see so many stars, they remind me of the blessings that God bestows us on a daily basis. The acts of love given selflessly by others. The song says "Love changes everything" it certainly does. If it didn't, why would Easter ever have occurred? Will we be out of lockdown by the time I write the next article? I don't know. What we do know is this – Easter has given us real hope. Jesus said, "Love one another, as I have loved you". I believe we have witnessed that love time and time again.

When you have a minute, google (other

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search engines are available!) St John chapter 3, verse 16, that tells us all we need to know about Easter.

My heart felt message to you all is stay safe, look after yourselves and look out for those who maybe lonely and vulnerable in our communities.

I look forward to seeing you all again when we come out of this, and to enjoy so many of those things we take for granted on a day to day basis.

Every Blessing to you all.

Reverend Gary Jones

Sadly, almost all our churches remain closed until further notice. However, Playford Church will remain open 24/7 for private prayer during the emergency. Just remember to keep adequate space between visitors. All churchyards remain open, however, so walking around them can be included as part of permitted daily exercise. The Church of England has been doing its best to create virtual and streamed services, while local priests remain accessible to those seeking supportive reassurance.

Culpho:

Rev. Clare Sanders - revclaresanders@tiscali.co.uk 01473- 735183

Great Bealings:

Rev Dr John Hare. john.hare6@gmail.com 01394 387151.

Little Bealings: and Playford

NEW TO THE VILLAGE?

Great Bealings: For a Welcome Leaflet please contact

Norman Porter on 735565 or nhp@rillcott.co.uk

Little Bealings: Please see the parish website for information:
www.littlebealings.onesuffolk.net

Playford: A Welcome Leaflet can be obtained from Mrs Veronica Bunbury at Church Corner Cottage, Church Lane, Playford. For more Information please see the parish website: www.playford.org.uk

BEALINGS AND PLAYFORD NEWSGROUP

An e-newsgroup operates for residents of Great and Little Bealings, Playford and Culpho. If you would like to receive emails about local events and items of interest from the Parish Councils and other groups, please send your email address to: bealingsplayfordnews@googlemail.com

Please say which village you live in so that you can receive the most appropriate information. Your email address will not be shared with others. The newsgroup can also be used to send information that residents would like distributed. BUT-please note that the newsgroup does not distribute any information involving commercial ventures or for the sale of goods and services, other than for charitable fund raising relevant to the parishes.

LOCAL CRIME INFORMATION

The Police Direct scheme sends phone messages/texts/emails with the latest information on local crime, warnings about bogus callers, crime reduction advice and updates from the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Sign up at

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/Services/Police+Direct/Welcome+to+police+direct.htm>
or phone 01473 613500.

Report Anti-Social Behaviour to SCC call 08456 034715

NEED TO REPORT A PROBLEM?

Road repairs and Maintenance – potholes, overhanging vegetation, signs, flooding, verge cutting etc – contact the County Council on their customer service number: 0845 606 6067 or email: customerservice@csduk.com

In an emergency contact the police.

Public Rights of Way Footpath **problems** can be reported to the County Council East Area office at the same customer service number or via a 'public rights of way report a problem' form available at:

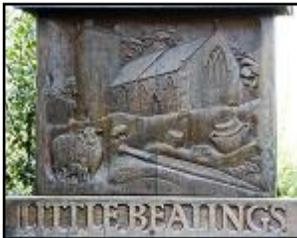
<https://www.csduk.com/CSD/Transportandstreets/Public+Rights+of+Way>

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HOME**

**PROTECT
THE NHS**

**SAVE
LIVES**



JUNE 2020 NEWS

Contributions for the June 2020 News to be submitted by:

5.00 pm Tuesday, 19th May.

The news will be ready for distribution by **Saturday, 30th May.**

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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Fynn - Lark News

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