



The Bergh Apton Newsletter

June - July 2015

Issue No. 139

Editorial Comment

June is the 6th month of the year, so we are half way through 2015; though as I write this editorial to get it completed by the copy date 10th May we've just had the elections and also commemorated VE Day which as it is 70 years since it occurred reminds me of my age. So let us all be truly thankful that despite world wide

unrest, we can enjoy the benefits of comparative peace, allowing us all whatever age to appreciate our countryside both with its scents and the growing crops; let us look forward to a bumper harvest this year.

Milton Harris (Editor)

COUNTRY DIARY

The full moon of April and its light, as always, witches the night. I remember, on such a night as this, quite some years ago now, another April, when Spring had spelled the plum and cherry trees and each arm of which was ruffed with white blossom. We stood under these trees and in the soft stir of air it snowed petals. The full moon sailed into sight and he points and, for a long moment, the moon seems balanced on his pointing finger. Masked by shifting shadows and lit by the moon's quiet light he becomes a magician of the night.

In this country we see the Man in the Moon but in other countries they see, not a man but a hare and here is how this happened.

Prince Siddhartha left his kingdom in the skies and lived on earth and, because of his wisdom, he became called Buddha which means 'enlightened'. He lived as a hermit and once he met an animal whose kindness was an example to both Gods and Men. The Lord Buddha was sitting in the shade of a banyan tree on the edge of a forest. The sun poured its golden light through the leaves like milk into a cup. He had lit a fire and his pot of water was boiling but, alas, he had nothing to put in it to make a meal. A jay, war painted with blue barred wings, flew by with a spray of little dark cherries, dark as night, in its beak and let them drop into the pot. A monkey swung down and tossed a handful of beans in and a cobra with hooded head brought spices, cumin, coriander and cayenne. A wild dog sneaked near and splashed a stolen egg into the boiling water. Next came a little hare and he spoke to the Buddha,

'You have the look of a good and gracious man but also that of a hungry one.'

'That is quite true my long eared friend,' replied the Buddha, 'but my friends are helping me.'

'I have nothing but myself O Lord Buddha. Enjoy your meal.'

With that the little hare leaped into the pot of boiling water. Down he went and the water hissed, steamed and bubbled but to the hare it felt cool like soft refreshing rain. With the speed of a striking hawk the Buddha snatched the hare from the pot.

'Those who give of themselves little Leaper-in-the-Corn are greatly blessed, it is the greatest gift of all. You will live for ever Little-Racer-Round-the-Field to dance for joy on the moon.'

Then the Buddha hurled the hare up, up and up till he landed on the moon. Now all of us in this world can look up at night and see the Buddha's friend, the little hare and remember his generosity and nobleness.

Here's hoping that those people who think it legitimate sport to hunt and harry the hare will be equally generous and merciful.

Pat Mlejnecky

What it is

The village has a website domain (berghapton.org.uk) that is owned by the Parish Council, on whose behalf (and on your behalf!) a website has been developed.

After a PC meeting in November, concerns relating to security and resilience have been looked into and some additional features that were sought by the community have been developed.

Access to the site has been provided to the various interest groups within the village and you are all encouraged to use it. You can advertise on it, either you or your business; you can sell, schedule (and link to google calendars etc), organise, publish pictures and link to video.

It should work with mobile devices too.

Contents

<http://berghapton.org.uk/>.

For those who prefer the printed word; the site contains the following pages.

1. Home - about Bergh Apton -
 1. Schools - links to local schools
 2. Village Hall - links to village hall website
2. Church - has information about the church and a link to 11 Says publication for download
3. Parish Council - Parish notices
4. Conservation Trust - provides some information about the activities of the conservation trust
5. History Group - reporting the activities and research done by the historians in the village.
6. Arts - links to local artistic endeavors e.g. Anteros
7. Local
 1. News - contains links to Bergh Apton News Letter - electronic version.
 2. Events - a calendar of events organised by the local special interest groups
 3. Lost and Found
 4. Local Business Directory
 5. Classified Adverts
 6. Situations Vacant
8. Country Diary - a natural history interest page - pictures and prose about the beautiful environment in which we live.
9. Contact details

There is also an events calendar that may be helpful for planning within the community.

Technical Details

The site is a WordPress installation - which is used throughout the globe as a method of managing content on community websites. It is also used by top companies such as Economist and Time Warner.

It (Wordpress) currently powers 23% of the internet - a figure taken from their own website - so treat that figure with some condiment of your choice!

One of the reasons that this website technology is so popular (apart from the fact it is free); is that is modular; and may be extended and improved via the installation of modules.

How does that effect Bergh Apton's website?

WordFence - this provides a series of security measures to prevent the hijack of the website that we have experienced in the past.

Directory - provides a searchable directory of local companies - at least one lead for a local company has been received via this channel.

Job Listings - you may advertise situations vacant on this site

E-commerce - it is possible to process orders on the site - tickets for last year's mystery play were sold via this method.

Classified Adverts - you can advertise anything on the site should you choose to.

Updraft - the site is backed up every two weeks - including all data, posts and images.

Help Wanted!

As the so called Webmaster (not my choice of title i can assure you); I can change the website and add events and news items - however so can you!

We are also short of design expertise as well as copy writing.

If you have words or images that you would like to share - please feel free to interact - contact details are on the website.

"Love coming here - really friendly and nice atmosphere"

Why not take some well-planned exercise with expert help but without breaking the bank?

The Community GYM

IS HERE FOR YOU!

"Wonderful facility!"

Run by the community for the community

Cost
£3 per person for each session - no joining fee - multi-session tickets also available at discounted prices

"Finally - a local affordable Gym. Very pleased."

EASTERN RIVERS COMMUNITY GYM AT LODDON

held at the Jubilee Hall George Lane Loddon

open on the following weekdays throughout the year (excluding public holidays)

Monday 2.30pm to 6pm
Tuesday 4.30pm to 7.30pm
Friday 10am to 1pm

For details please text 07443 460599, visit www.loddoncommunitygym.com or follow us on **facebook** at Eastern-Rivers-Community-Gym

For all abilities aged 16 and over

Run by two fully-qualified instructors with a wide range of equipment including treadmills, weights, cross-trainer, rowing machines, bikes

Why not just pop in and ask our instructors about a free "taster" session?

Supported by South Norfolk Council and active norfolk

"It took a lot of courage to come the first time, but now I really enjoy it!"

Thank you

Thank you to the six hardy souls who braved the early rain and took part in the litter pick, organised by Bergh Apton Conservation Trust, on Saturday 25th April. Despite our modest numbers in just two hours we managed to remove the litter from The Street, Threadneedle Street and Cookes Road and even had time to cover some of Back Lane in Alington as well. We filled 10 large bags of litter, most of which was tin cans and plastic bottles so went into recycling, so only a small amount ended up in landfill.

It was a shame it is necessary to do this (why do people throw rubbish from their cars windows?) but gratifying when a car pulled up beside us and a lady complimented us on what we were doing saying "you must be very proud of your village". She got that right.

The Conservation Trust will certainly be arranging more litter picks in future and hopefully with more volunteers we could cover the whole village in a relatively short time.

Bob Kerry

BERGH APTON COMMUNITY ARTS TRUST

THE CANDLEMAS PLAY, 2016

FREE WORKSHOPS FOR THIS PLAY:

Creative Writing workshops with Hugh Lupton to develop the script on **Wednesdays 1, 8 and 15 July**. These workshops will take place at Pat Mlejnecky's home starting at 1000 and finishing at 1200ish.

Lantern making workshop with Kate Munro on Saturday 10 October at Bergh Apton Village Hall from 1000-1600. Lunch and tea provided.

Numbers for these Workshops are deliberately kept small. To take part a place must be reserved so if interested and, to see if a place is available, please ring Pat Mlejnecky 01508 480696

Making stars from reeds with Liz McGowan on Saturday 14 November at Bergh Apton Village Hall from 1000 - 1400. This is a drop in workshop, no need to reserve a place, so come at any time during these times, make your star and stay as long as you like! Tea and coffee provided. The stars will hang from the Church's ceiling.

For those taking part in the play, come and make **costumes and props** and enjoy what is going on! in Bergh Apton Village Hall on **Wednesday 20 January 2016** starting at 1700. Bring any materials etc you need.

There will be a filming workshop, if you are a techie this will interest you. Date to be decided as yet.

Here's looking forward to hearing from you.

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1987

THE BERGH APTON CANDLEMAS PLAY

On 28 April the Tribes of Ton gathered to hear what was next in store. (The Tribes of Ton were devised by Hugh Lupton during last year's Cycle of Mystery Plays, Bergh ApTON, alpingTON, YelverTON, ThurTON, HellingTON, Bramerton, ClaxTON and CarleTON St. Peter. These tribes have close ties with Fram. Pigot, Ashby, Surlingham and Rockland.)

At this recent gathering we realised, on hearing an outline of the proposed play, that it will be very different. It is still evolving and input from the Tribes will be helpful and welcome.

At the moment there are two performances both in Bergh Apton Church at the end of January and the beginning of February so weather might be a challenge. Charlotte Arculus who will be directing the play was full of original ideas and technical wizardry. You may remember that there were three events shortlisted for the Norfolk Arts Theatre Education Award of which the Mystery Plays were one. Charlotte with her Theatre of Adventure in Great Yarmouth was a well deserved winner. If you Google it you can see what a sparky and imaginative group this is. She comes with a wealth of street and community theatre experience. It is obviously going to be not only great fun working with her but an awakening of a rich seam of new ideas and community experience.



The play is quite a different kettle of fish to last year's plays and, so it should be, we do not want to get in a rut. It is shorter, is performed inside, at a different time of the year, there will be a much smaller cast; it will stand in its own right. It involves changes of mood, changes of light; all adding up to a magical hour.

For the Mystery Plays the script was written for us but we have set ourselves a new challenge, we're writing our own! With this in mind we have planned some workshops. You might only think you WRITE shopping lists or Christmas cards so here's a chance to have a go at something different. If you would like to be involved in this please get in touch with Pat Mlejnecky, 01508 480696 or e-mail p.mlej@btinternet.com. Workshops are kept deliberately small so do let us know if you would like to join in.

Also there'll be workshops to make lanterns and stars and film clips. They'll be open to all. And we're calling all bakers of cakes the start of the Great Bergh Apton Bake-off.

It's going to be an exciting time. If you would like to know an idea of the play we can send you an outline as it stands at the moment but knowing Charlotte it will get even more exciting. She e-mailed to say she has a head full of ideas for the play, shadow puppets, humanettes, the church walls grow trees, the cutty wren flies, bees buzz among the trees..... Can't wait!

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU. Actors, Musicians, Practical Doers, Helpers.

If you're interested, keep an eye on Bergh Apton's website, <http://berghapton.org.uk/>, ask any of the Tribes of Ton who came to the meeting or contact Pat Mlejnecky 01508 480696 p.mlej@btinternet.com

It'd be great if you want to get involved – old or young, newcomers or long-sufferers, beauty or beastly! Please do!

Christopher Meynell

THE FETE FLOWER STALL NEEDS A NEW OPERATOR

With the imminent departure to the Midlands of Evy Sayer, our Churchwarden and tireless supporter of all that happens in Bergh Apton, we are looking for someone to take over the Flower Stall that she has run for many years with great success – in terms of both its quality and contribution to the Fete's fundraising total.

Would you like to help? It involves gathering together flower baskets, encouraging people to contribute small flower arrangements, doing flower arrangements yourself, and then setting up and running the stall at the Bergh Apton Fete on 2nd Saturday of July. For this year's Fete it is unlikely that we shall find anyone in time . . . but there's always next year!!

If you're interested – or know anyone who might be – give Hilary Ling a call (480439) or email her on hilary.ling@btinternet.com.

OUR NEW RECTOR TO OPEN THE BERGH APTON FETE

It's a brave man who, as the new Rector of a parish, agrees to open the village Fete less than a fortnight after his arrival. But that's what Chris Ellis, our new Rector for the Thurton Benefice, has agreed to do. Chris, whose Service of Installation and Induction in Bergh Apton parish church is in the evening of Tuesday 30th June, will only a ten-day interval between then and his star turn at the Fete on Saturday 11th July.

It will be an early opportunity for Chris to meet some of his Bergh Apton parishioners and others from his parishes of Ashby St Mary, Alington, Framingham Pigot, Thurton and Yelverton, many of whom we are delighted to see year after year at our Fete in the grounds of Bergh Apton Manor.

Both Chris, at present Vicar of the Norwich suburb of Thorpe Hamlets, and his wife Melanie are from country homes in Norfolk and we hope this early taste of life in the pleasant surrounds of our own rural community will make them feel very much at home.

Do come along to the Manor – where the Fete opens at 2.00 pm on Saturday 11th July, to enjoy all the attractions of the Bergh Apton Fete and, at the same time, take this opportunity of meeting Chris and Melanie.

Bergh Apton wins the Roy Roebuck Quiz Cup – again!

Eleven teams from right across the Bramerton Group of churches came together in Bergh Apton village hall on Saturday evening, 9th May, to compete for the Roy Roebuck Cup* in an eight-round Quiz that tested their knowledge on a variety of subjects ranging from Religion (well it is, after all, a church-based competition!) to Food and Drink and Technical Trivia.

Bergh Apton's team won last year's Quiz, organised by Ashby's Parochial Church Council and thus - by the rules of the competition - was required to set the questions, host the event and do the catering for this year. John Ling, assisted by Hilary, was the Question-setter and Quiz Master and the Bergh Apton team comprised Pat Waters, Michael and Jenny Rolfe, Evy Sayer, Lynne Jermy, Lorie Lain-Rogers and Shirley Rimmer.

At the end of the evening, after a well-fought tussle of knowledge, only five points separated the top three teams. And the winners? It was Bergh Apton again – by three points from Bramerton! So it'll be back to the Encyclopaedia and Wikipedia again next year for John Ling or whoever offers to take over the Quiz Master role from him for 2016!

**The prize for the competition, the Challenge Cup, was renamed to recognise the work of the late Roy Roebuck of Hilltop in Ashby who, until his sudden death on Feb 18th this year, was a key and popular figure in the life of the local community and the work of the Thurton Benefice churches.*

Dates for your diary

JUNE 2015

6 th	09.00	Churchyard Workday
10 th	14.00	BACT Hedge Survey at The Manor
17 th	10.00-12.00	Coffee n Catch Up at the Village Hall
20 th	10.00	BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field
20 th	18.30	BACT Summer BBQ at Pageant Plantation
23 rd	12.30	Tuesday Friends lunch at Church
24 th	19.30	B.A. Fete meeting at Village Hall
25 th	10.00	BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field
25 th	T.B.A.	BALHG Norwich Walk & curry evening with June Boardman
30 th	19.30	Institution & Induction of Rev. Chris Ellis at B.A. Church

JULY 2015

10 th	17.00 onwards	Gathering of goods for Fete at The Manor
11 th	14.00	The Fete at The Manor
12 th	11.00	Fete De-Rig at The Manor
15 th	10.00-12.00	Coffee n Catch Up at the Village Hall
15 th	19.00	BACT Hedge survey at The Manor
15 th	19.30	Parish Council meet at Village Hall
18 th	10.00	BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field
19 th	T.B.A.	BACT visit to River Glaven, Holt
22 nd	19.30	B.A. Village Hall Committee meeting
23 rd	10.00	BACT Workday. Meet at Church Field
25 th	09.00	11 Says assembly at Bramerton Village Hall
28 th	12.30	Tuesday Friends lunch at Church



The Copy Date for the next issue is 10th July.

Please send articles to me Milton Harris [Editor]
at town_farm@btinternet.com
Thank you

Regular Activities

Monday	17.00	Dog Training Village Hall
Tuesday (Alternate)	10.00-13.00	Painting Class Village Hall
Thursday	19.30	Sing-a-Long Village Hall
Friday	10.00-11.45	Yoga Village Hall

Activities Contacts

(BACAT Workshops) Pat Mlejnecky: 01508 480696
(Conservation Trust) Stephanie Crome: 01508 480573
(Local History) John Ling: 01508 480439
(Village Hall) Hilary Ling: 01508 480439
(Painting Class) Barbara Fox: 01508 550168
(Singing) Karen Bonsell: 01508 480018
(Bergh Apton Society) Lynton Johnson: 01508 480629

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Bergh Apton Community Arts Trust, Bergh Apton Conservation Trust, Bergh Apton Local History Group, Bergh Apton Village Hall, Bergh Apton Parish Council, Bergh Apton Parochial Church Council & The Bergh Apton and District Society.



"Bergh Apton is a unique village with more miles of road than any other village in the area. In view of this it is difficult to get to know everyone and keep up with the old friends. The venture set up in January 2014 was to overcome this and allow residents to get together and the monthly coffee meeting has been a great success. It is open to all and is an opportunity to catch up with local news and the occasional bit of "Gossip".

For those who do come there is a wonderful atmosphere, homemade cooking all served in the recently refurbished Village Hall.

It takes place every third Wednesday in the month and transport can be provided if needed.

Please put the dates into your diary because we would love to see you there where a warm welcome awaits." *Gill Waters.*