

ELEVEN SAYS

FEBRUARY /
MARCH 2018

ISSUE 269

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE BRAMERTON GROUP OF CHURCHES COVERING 11 PARISHES

An Outward Visible Sign



This edition of Eleven Says covers the two month period from the end of Christmas and Epiphanytide, marked by Candlemas on 2nd February, and Easter Day which this year falls on April 1st (no comments about April Fool's Day please...!!) Within this two month period lies the season of Lent, which is an opportunity to both look back to Christmas and forward to Easter, the two great festivals of the Christian Faith and two moments when heaven and earth 'touched'.

Through the Incarnation, Christ entered our earthly realms to reveal the loving purpose and nature of God as the ultimate source of love. By Christ's death on the Cross and subsequent resurrection, that love is both emphasised and made real to us. The doorway between heaven and earth is left ajar and we are invited to enter through faith.

The role of the Church which Christ initiated on earth is both to evangelise through teaching and preaching, and to continue Christ's ministry through special, if mysterious, moments of re-connecting heaven and earth. Within the Church we call such times the sacramental ministry. The word sacrament is derived from the Latin *sacramentum* which is a translation of a Greek word meaning 'mystery'. The sacramental ministry of the Church, therefore, is the means by which we participate in the 'mystery of Christ' and that mystery is revealed in the stories of Christmas and Easter.

In the Western Church, it is generally accepted that there are seven sacraments through which we experience this connection with Christ (Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Confession, Extreme Unction; Ordination and Holy Matrimony). St Augustine defined a sacrament as 'an outer visible sign of an inner spiritual grace' and that outer sign takes many forms. In the Eucharist it is the bread and wine; in Holy Baptism it is the water; in Holy Matrimony the joining of hands and the giving of a ring; in Extreme Unction (anointing the sick and the dying) it is the oil of infirmatum. But there is more to a sacrament than just the physical sign and the words that together constitute the 'rite', be it a service of Holy Communion, of Baptism or of Marriage.

At the heart of the sacrament is The Word itself and this takes us back to the incarnation and the events of Christmas. For many, Christmas would not be Christmas without the words of St John as the last reading at the Carol Service:

'And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.' *John 1:14*

Through the sacraments of the Church, we are touched by both the glory and the mystery of Christ, which leave an indelible mark upon us. Within the Catholic tradition, a sacrament effects an encounter with the Word, by which the heart and mind are opened to the incoming grace of God. Three of the sacraments – Baptism, Confirmation and Ordination – are held to implant an abiding mark or character on the soul and therefore cannot be repeated. By contrast, Holy Communion is a regular and repeated encounter with Christ, through which we both give and receive. Within the context of our church buildings, the Sanctuary is kept as a Holy space because it is home to the altar, the place where through the Holy Communion heaven and earth meet; where we offer the earthly food of bread and wine to God and through his grace receive spiritual, heavenly food in return.

It is a privilege for me as a priest to be a Minister of the Sacraments and through the mystery of Christ to seek to bring those I minister to nearer to God. Through the sacraments we are given the opportunity to draw nearer to God; to reach out to Him as he reaches out to us, seeking a Holy embrace. At Christmas we are reminded that God reached down to us in love, seeking a welcome. As we look forward to Easter, may we be reminded once more that through faith in Christ and his resurrection, we reach up to God with that same love. And a welcome is guaranteed.

Revd Chris Ellis

Women's World Day of Prayer

This year's Women's World Day of Prayer is on
Friday 2nd March.

Entitled "All God's creation is very good"
prepared by Christian women of Suriname, a small
country found in the north of South America.



Local service in the Bramerton Group at 10.30am at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall

Refreshments following the service.

Children's corner. All welcome - men, women and children.



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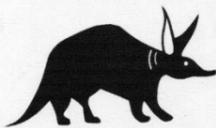
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Singing at the Burning Bush Barn

Have you ever fancied having a go at singing for fun alongside others? We have some singing sessions planned at the Barn this spring so maybe this is now your chance to give it a try! All sessions are led by Clare Pastorius who is experienced at leading groups of mixed ability – you don't need to be able to read music to join in.

Fridays 7 - 9pm - January 26th, February 9th, February 23rd, March 9th, March 23rd. There is no need to book for these - just turn up when you can. No fixed charge but donations are welcome.



March 3rd - Saturday workshop 10am - 3pm

Clare will be teaching us new songs on this day, so don't worry if you haven't been to any of our other singing sessions before. We will provide drinks and biscuits but lunch will be on a bring and share basis. We suggest a donation of £15 to cover the day but would not wish to exclude anyone from attending for financial reasons. We will need a minimum number of people singing to make this day viable so please get in touch to book a place. Email bbbarn@gmail.com

To find out about other events coming up at the Barn during 2018 check out our blog www.burningbushbarn.blogspot.co.uk

Snowdrop Sundays -

St. Michael's Church, Langley

Enjoy the early appearance of Spring by viewing the magnificent display of snowdrops in the Churchyard and surrounding woodlands of Langley Church.



2.00 - 4.30 pm Sunday 18th and 25th February 2018

Free Admission. Entrance from The Avenues, Langley NR14 6BL

Light refreshments available

All proceeds for the heating and lighting fund.

Have you any idea about this?

TV Presenter and former medical Doctor Richard Kent has produced some surprising answers to some big questions in a series of DVD's.

Creation - is the Genesis Account nonsense?

The Bible - is it supernatural?

Abortion - what does God think about it?

Evolution - is it impossible?

The Crucifixion - did it happen and why?

Heaven - when I die, how can I get there?

Life after Death - what is the evidence?

These DVDs are available Free on loan from John Wright at Kirby House, Kirby Bedon. 01508 494366 info@branchpress.com

Gentlemen, you are cordially invited to a

Mid-Day Mardle

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

New members are always given a warm welcome.



The Ferry House, Surlingham. Anytime between 12 and 2pm

February 7th, March 7th and April 11th

Any questions, please contact David Fairbourn on 01508 538437, or email surlingham.midday.mardle@gmail.com

ALL WELCOME

The Parish Room, The Street, Rockland St Mary.

Refreshments, Newspapers, Bible Stories, Crafts, Puzzles and Good Conversation.



For all ages.
All with our compliments!

Sunday
4th February



Theme: Good News, Fake News

Drop in any time between 10.30am - 12.00 noon

Please contact John Shaw on 01508 538619 or Mandy Ansell on 01508 538654 for details or for possible help with transport

ALL WELCOME

Wednesday Fellowship

Wednesday Fellowship is a meeting for ladies and men held at Alington and Yelverton Village Hall from 2 - 3.30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. It is open to anyone in the Bramerton Group (or beyond!). There is a variety of interesting speakers, fellowship, tea and cake.

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

February 14th - "With lots of Love" Paul Binney

March 14th - "My visit to the Holy Land" - Revd Chris Ellis

April 11th - "What we did at the "Chelsea Flower Show" - Diane Blythe

Enduring love

This is a true story. Back in the late 1890s a Presbyterian minister called John Chapman was travelling by train through rural Kansas. There was only one other passenger in the carriage, a young man. As the train chugged along, Chapman noticed that the young man was very agitated. Finally Chapman asked if he could help.

Slowly, the young man shared that some years before he had run away from home and done some wild things. Finally, he had written to his parents, telling them that he wanted to come home. But he was afraid they wouldn't want him back.

The young man had remembered that, at a certain point, the railway track passed very close to his parents' home. In a letter he had told his parents that if they could not forgive him, he would understand. But if they could possibly still want him, then they could tie a yellow ribbon on their old apple tree that grew right beside the railway line.

The train would soon pass his home. "But I'm too afraid to look out for the tree." And with that he began to sob.

John Chapman laid a hand on his shoulder. "I'll look out for you." And so as the young man buried his face in his hands the minister kept watch, peering anxiously out of the dusty train window, seeking an apple tree with hopefully a yellow ribbon around it.

A few minutes passed, and then Chapman declared, "Son, there is a yellow ribbon on an apple tree. In fact, every branch is hanging with yellow ribbons, scores of them."

Well, of course the young man got off at the next stop. John Chapman continued his journey, deeply moved by this sign of parental forgiveness. He told the story often in his preaching, until it became widely known in Kansas, and finally ended up in the pop song 'Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree'.

The story points to one of the greatest doctrines taught in the Bible: the love of God for his people. It was that love that moved the Father to send his Son into the world. In Ephesians Paul writes glowingly of "that great love with which he loved us". John emphasises the same great truth in a magnificent creed of just three words: 'God is love'. Paul put it this way in Galatians: 'He loved me and gave himself for me'.

Ladies' organisations

Ashby & Thurton WI

First Thursday each month at 7.30pm

Alpington, Bergh Apton & Yelverton TWIG

First Wednesday each month at 7.30pm

Rockland St Mary WI

Second Tuesday each month at 7.30pm

Surlingham WI

First Thursday each month at 7.30pm

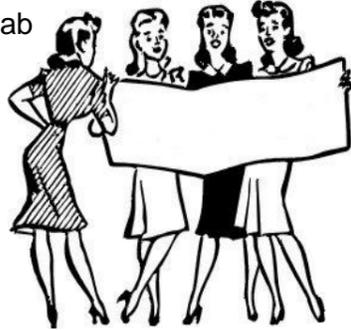
Alpington, Bergh Apton & Yelverton TWIG

February 7th - A talk on 'My Trip to the Holy Land' by Rev. Chris Ellis

March 7th - A Talk about 'Easton Coaches' by Mr. Robert Easton.

April 4th - Pewter Ware - (a hands-on session)

April 28th - We will be holding our Annual Crab Supper in Alpington V.H.



Rockland St Mary & District WI

In 2018 there are lots of varied speakers and activities for our members and guests.

13th February - "Fun & Fitness for all" - simple exercises for all ages with Ann Francis

13th March - "The History of Village Signs" an illustrated tour of Norfolk with Mike Weatherstone

10th April - "Theatre Humour - Treading the Boards" with Ann Newmeir

We have Craft sessions, Scrabble afternoons, visits to other local WIs and outings. We meet in the Margaret Mack Room on the second Tuesday each month at 7.30pm. Come and try any of our meetings where you are assured of a warm and friendly welcome. Contact Daphne Howlett - 01508 538553 for further information.

Thurton, Ashby St Mary & District WI

Much fun was had at our December and January meetings

Cowboys flocked to Thurton village hall on the 7th December to celebrate Thurton, Ashby and District WI's birthday with a "Wild West" themed party. 'Cowboys' sat down to a meal of "bangers and mash" followed by delicious desserts and accompanied by wine and soft drinks.



The entertainment committee presented an hilarious globe trotting cabaret followed by community singing. Their efforts were rewarded by laughter and loud applause from the members.

At our January meeting Rachel Tomlinson gave us a fascinating insight into her work as a massage therapist, explaining the benefits of her therapy for relaxation, the relief of pain and keeping the body supple. Using her Mum as a patient, she gave us a demonstration of upper back, neck and head massage.

We have numerous interesting talks and outings lined up for 2018 so why not come and join us, ladies? We meet on the first Thursday in each month at Thurton village hall. New members will receive a warm welcome.

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Mother's Day

The origins of Mother's Day date back as early as the ancient Greek times. The ancient Greeks dedicated an annual spring festival to maternal goddesses, and ancient Romans also celebrated a spring festival called Hilaria, which was for a mother goddess called Cybele. More recent origins of Mother's Day date back to the 1600s in England when it was held on the fourth Sunday of Lent. It was originally a day for Christians to return to their 'mother church' and for servant girls, living away from home, to have a day off to visit their mothers.

The occasion is celebrated on different dates throughout the world but here in the UK Mother's Day is always the fourth Sunday of Lent. It marks the maternal bond that exists between a mother and child, as well as other maternal figures such as grandmothers, mothers-in-law and step-mothers. Traditionally gifts such as flowers and chocolates are given as special thanks for all they do.

I Owe My Mother

My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE
"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."

My mother taught me RELIGION
"You better pray that will come out of the carpet .. "

My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL
"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"

My mother taught me LOGIC
"Because I said so, that's why."

My mother taught me FORESIGHT
"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you have an accident."

My mother taught me IRONY
"Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."

My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM
"Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"

My mother taught me about STAMINA
"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."

My mother taught me about WEATHER
"This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."

My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY
"If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"

My mother taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION
"Stop acting like your father!"

My mother taught me about ENVY
"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."

My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION
"Just wait until we get home."

My mother taught me about RECEIVING
"You are going to get it when you get home!"

My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE
"If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."

My mother taught me HUMOR
"When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

My mother taught me HOW (not) TO BECOME AN ADULT
"If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

My mother taught me GENETICS
"You're just like your father."

My mother taught me about my ROOTS
"Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

My mother taught me WISDOM
"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."





From the Registers

BAPTISMS

MARRIAGES

FUNERALS, BURIALS, CREMATATIONS, INTERMENT OF ASHES

07/12/17	Albert REYNOLDS (76) (Interment of ashes)	Thurton
08/12/17	David BULLEN (62)	Bergh Apton
09/12/17	Donal Patrick MacGARRY (73) (Interment of ashes)	Kirby Bedon
20/12/17	Pamela Rosemary GOODSON (81)	Rockland St Mary
21/12/17	David HAZELL (57) (Interment of ashes)	Framingham Pigot
25/12/17	Daphne FFISKE (91)	Bramerton
02/01/18	Rosalind SIMS (67)	Ashby St Mary
08/01/18	Ellen Elizabeth Mary YALLOP (93)	Rockland St Mary
10/01/18	Alexander John (Sandy) PATERSON (73) (Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sandy)	Rockland St Mary

Christingle at St. Ethelbert's, Thurton

The Christingle went well with some 85 adults and 51 children attending. We raised £129:15 (+ 2 foreign coins) gross, £103.55 net (after candles and oranges) which is to be donated to The Childrens Society.



Special thanks to Ros, Angie, Chris and Tony for all their hard work.

Thank You!

Melanie and I would like to say a very big thank you for all the cards, gifts and Christmas Messages we received this year. There was barely a day went by in the run up to Christmas when we did not come home to a parcel or two on the doorstep!

Revd Chris.

Word search for February - February opens with Candlemas, the naming of Jesus in the temple.

February also celebrates the love that couples have for each other: Valentine cards and weddings fayres abound.

naming
Christ
Candlemas
Simeon
Anna
temple
love
Valentine
romance
Matthias
Fairtrade
Fortnight
coffee
bananas
chocolate
justice poverty nest box
marriage wedding Holocaust
leprosy education sunday



Coffee Stop & Drop-In - We meet every first Tuesday of the month in Rockland's Parish Room from 10am – 12 noon. All ages welcome to come along for free refreshments/periodicals etc. and a chance to meet old and new friends from surrounding villages. We run a Home Produce stall to cover our expenses/rent etc. If you require transport or would like more details please telephone Mandy Ansell on 538654 or Jean Carr on 538260.

Holy Week Services in the Thurton Benefice

Monday 26 th March at 7.30pm	Compline	St Mary's, Yelverton
Tuesday 27 th March at 7.30pm	Compline	St Ethelbert's, Thurton
Wednesday 28 th March at 7.30pm	Compline	SS Peter & Paul, Bergh Apton
Thursday 29 th March at 7.30pm	Holy Comm.	St Andrew's, Framingham Pigot
Friday 30 th March at 09.30	Pilgrimage	St Andrew's, Framingham Pigot
" " at 11.00	Pilgrimage	St Mary's, Yelverton
" " at 12.30	Pilgrimage	SS Peter & Paul, Bergh Apton
" " at 13.30	Pilgrimage	St Ethelbert's, Thurton
" " at 14.30	Pilgrimage	St Mary's, Ashby

(Join us for all or part of the Good Friday Pilgrimage)

Revd Chris.



Confirmation

Easter Eve is a traditional time for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you or anyone in your family is interested in discussing what is involved in terms of preparation for Confirmation, please speak to one of the Group clergy in the first instance.

The Bramerton Group of Churches

Lent Course 2018

The evening will begin with a simple Lenten Supper of soup, cheese and fruit followed by

'The Mystery Course'!

All welcome!

Date	Venue	Time
22nd February	Claxton Village Hall,	7.30 pm
1st March	Thurton Village Hall	7.30 pm
8th March	Claxton Village Hall	7.30 pm
15th March	Thurton Village Hall	7.30 pm

For further information please contact **Revd John Shaw on (01508) 538619**



Prayer meet - every weekday - during lent
February 15th – March 30th
8.00 – 8.15 am
at **St Mary's Church, Rockland St Mary**
All welcome

Claxton Church
29th March at 6pm
Join us for a Celebration of



MAUNDY Thursday



Meditation Service
Friday 30th March
3pm at St Mary's Church, Rockland St Mary.

Join us for a gentle time of quiet and reflection

South Yare Wildlife Group

B-Line to the Wild Patch!

Buglife now has Norfolk in its sights. Should we be worried? No! Quite the opposite. **Buglife** is a charity dedicated to the conservation of invertebrates generally. However, it is the pollinators, especially the different groups of bees (honey, bumble and solitary) that are its main focus. Recently the charity has been working on developing pollinator-friendly 'B-Lines' along rivers and the coast in northern and southern England. Now it's Norfolk's turn to benefit from its ideas and know-how.

'B-Lines' are an imaginative solution to the problem of the loss of flowers and pollinators. They are a series of 'insect pathways' running through our countryside and towns, along which Buglife is restoring and creating a series of wildflower-rich habitat stepping stones. They link existing wildlife areas together, creating a network, like a railway, that will weave across the British landscape. This will provide large areas of brand new habitat benefiting bees and butterflies— but also a host of other wildlife.

The South Yare Wildlife Group's **Wild Patch** initiative serves a very similar purpose, as most wild patches are in people's gardens or are small areas of grassland and herb-rich plant communities on farms and community land. Wild patches along the Yare and its tributaries, such as the Chet, can be part of a B-line and help it become a reality. There's never been a better time to create a Wild Patch!

Visit southyarewildpatch.org or www.buglife.org.uk to see how you can get involved.

RODNEY ALDIS



DIARY DATES

Thu 22 Feb, 19.30
Ben Lewis, warden at RSPB Strumpshaw will give a talk entitled **Iconic Wildlife of the South Yare Valley**. Poringland Community Centre (NR14 7WB). Non-members £5, members £2, under 16s free.

Thu 22 March, 19.30.
'Hares': a talk by Sue Alderman of the Hare Preservation Trust. Bergh Apton Village Hall (NR15 1AA). Non-members £5, members £2, under 16s free.



SOUTH YARE WILDLIFE GROUP



SOUTH YARE WILDLIFE GROUP LOTTERY FINANCED

www.southyarewildlifegroup.org



Poringland Community Centre,
Overton's Way, NR14 7WB

Community Cinema

Friday 9th February - VICTORIA AND ABDUL (PG)
Biography/Drama/History. Stars: Judi Dench, Ali Fazal
Tickets £5 (includes tea or coffee) from Poringland Budgens, the library or on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm, film starts 7.30pm

Friday 9th March - GOODBYE CHRISTOPHER ROBIN (PG)
Biography/Drama. Tickets £5 (includes tea or coffee) from Poringland Budgens, the library or on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm, film starts 7.30pm

Friday 13th April - MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS (PG13)
Crime/Drama/Mystery. Stars: Judi Dench, Derek Jacobi, Jonny Depp and many more. Tickets £5 (includes tea or coffee) from Poringland Budgens, the library or on the door. Doors open at 6.45pm, film starts 7.30pm

Buena Vista Social Club

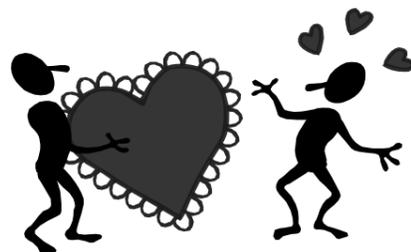
Friday 2nd February - FILM NIGHT. Members Free. Non-members tickets £5. Doors open 7 pm. For more information phone Maureen on 01508 494358 or Carol on 01508492630

Friday 2nd March - QUIZ AND SUPPER NIGHT. Book your table NOW, £8 per person. Up to 6 people in a team. Doors open 6.45 pm starts 7.30 pm. For more information phone Maureen on 01508 494358 or Carol on 01508492630

Valentine Proposal

I wish that I could find the words
To tell you how I feel
Instead I'll have to write it down
Then I won't have to kneel

I love you more than words can say
And know I always will
That's why I want to be with you
To love, 'till it overspill



I've made my choice, it's from the heart
So I'm writing out this plea
Please my love, just make my day
And say you'll marry me!

Written by
Boy Frank
The Rhyming Bank

From Frank Harper's
book '**Loads of Odes**'



south norfolk players present

Murder Mystery Evening

with chilli supper



BROOKE VILLAGE HALL
Saturday 10th February

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You can also purchase directly from Brooke Post Office



! Songline for Doggerland
■ No more tickets available.

Extend

Today's sedentary lifestyles can lead to a risk of developing illnesses such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease and cancer. Inactivity is a downward spiral and experts agree that exercise has a powerful effect on both the treatment and prevention of chronic disease and obesity with the added benefit of reducing the risk of falls, lifting the mood and creating a feeling of wellbeing.

It's easier to become more active than you think, and **EXTEND** is a great example of how easy it can be. **EXTEND** is a national health promotion charity (No. 802498) which has its roots in exercise, health, movement and dance. Participants are encouraged to increase their mobility and independence by working on strength, stamina, flexibility, co-ordination and balance. The exercise routines are designed to be fun and encourage social interaction. Classes always contain at least twenty minutes of seated exercise and use various pieces of equipment, e.g stretch bands, dumb-bells, balls and plates (unbreakable!). Your local class is **Tuesdays 2.15 pm – 3.15 pm**, followed by refreshments, in **Surlingham Parish Hall**.

For more details please contact Phyllis Gladwell on 01508 538385.

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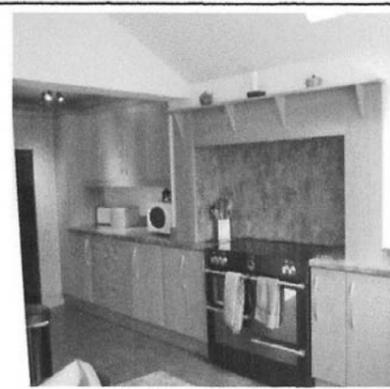
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Village News

Alpington & Yelverton

Bramerton Group Quiz

Please put this date in your diary now - **Friday 8th June** - for the Bramerton Group Quiz 2018!

It will be held in **Alpington & Yelverton village hall**. Further details will be included in the next issue of Eleven Says.

We look forward to welcoming at least one team from every parish!

Club Cascade for the over 50s

Unfortunately it has been decided that due to lack of Club Membership and after the following dates there will **no longer** be regular monthly club meetings. Hopefully occasional outings will be arranged during 2018.

Tuesday 20th February - The wonderful world of stinging nettles
Fay Jones

Tuesday 20th March - Patagonia, Ray Warnes

Tuesday 17th April - AGM (final monthly meeting)

All meetings 2.00 - 4.00 pm in Alpington & Yelverton Village Hall, Church Road, Alpington, NR14 7NU. Raffle and Refreshments. £2.00. **Contacts:** Pat Barter, 01508 493570 or Mary Fewster 01508 492059.

Alpington & Yelverton History Society

13 March - Frolic, Fervour and Fornication is about the unexpected items that crop up in our parish registers, which once resided in the parish chests, revealing a great deal about the lives of our ancestors. Speaker is Pip Wright from Suffolk.

All meetings 7.30 - 9.30 pm in Alpington & Yelverton Village Hall, Church Road, Alpington NR14 7NU. Refreshments available. Members - Free. Guests - £3. **Contact: Chairman Mary Fewster 01508 492059.**

Bramerton

Daphne Ffiske, 1926 - 2017



One of the most colourful characters to have lived in Bramerton passed away peacefully on Christmas Day 2017 aged 91.

Daphne Ffiske, fondly known as 'Daffers' to all the villagers, had lived at 'Rosemary Cottage' for many years before moving into a nursing home early last year.

Daffers was a superb gardener and was well-known as 'The Herb Lady'. Thyme, Dill, Marjoram and Camomile, to name but a few, were all cultivated in her truly English cottage garden among Foxgloves, Lavender, Violets and Canterbury Bells. Daffers was also keen on cricket, tennis, bird watching and horse racing, once owning twenty horses in a syndicate. Woe-betide anyone who disturbed her in Ascot Week when she was 'glued' to her television! People passing by her cottage may well have heard her shouting and urging her horse past the winning post!

Angie Yeomans

News from Sunbeams Pre-School

Sunbeams Pre-School had a very busy start to the academic year. We held our first big fundraising event at Coldham Hall Friday 24th November 2017. The event was a Black Tie Dinner and Auction. The evening was a huge success and great fun was had by all. We managed to raise a staggering £2068 for the development of our much loved pre-school. We would like to thank everyone who attended the event and bid on our auction lots. We would also like to thank all those companies and individuals who donated items to be auctioned and a huge thank you to Coldham Hall for hosting the event.



Alpington & Yelverton Village Hall

Quiz Night

Pizza and Puzzles

On Saturday, 24th March

in the Village Hall 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Teams of 4-6; £7.50 per person to include pizza

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

To book a table or for further information please contact Pat Barter (493570) or Mary Fewster (492059)

Easter Lilies in Saint Mary's Church, Yelverton

There is the opportunity to purchase Easter Lilies in Remembrance or Thanksgiving, or even to help towards the cost of flower arrangements for Easter. Names will be displayed in the church.

The cost cannot be stated as it depends on the weather and the demand. They are usually around £2 - £2.50.

Please contact Liz Bloomfield on 493958 or see the list at the back of the church.



At the end of term Sunbeams presented their first nativity 'It's all about a Baby' where the children performed in the nativity and sang songs which they had rehearsed throughout the term. All the children enjoyed performing and the parents, families and friends who attended all enjoyed watching them.

After their Christmas party Father Christmas took time out of his busy schedule to stop by the Village Hall to hand out presents to all the children. A total of £90 was raised from ticket sales, raffle and guess the name of the Bunny.



We were subject to an OFSTED inspection at the end of November and we are pleased to report that Sunbeams was awarded a rating of GOOD. A big thank you to all the staff at Sunbeams who make a huge effort to ensure all the Children enjoy, develop and grow in a wonderful setting. We do have a few places available. If you would like any further information please email sunbeamseast@tiscali.co.uk or telephone Karen Orme at **01508 538438**.

We have an open morning on **Saturday 21st April** from **10 am - 12 noon** in Bramerton village hall. Please do come along and meet us.

Louise Linford, Chair of Sunbeams Committee

Village News

Bramerton

Christmas Coffee Morning

Thank you to all who came and supported our coffee morning and to those who baked the cakes, scones, mince pies and donated raffle prizes. Special thanks to the ladies who made and served the teas and coffees.

£271 was raised for St Peter's Church Restoration Fund.



Carleton St Peter

The PCC would like to thank everybody who came and supported the cookery demonstration by Lynton Johnson on November 22nd at Carleton St Peter and Claxton village hall.

It was a very interesting and very enjoyable evening. Lynton was cooking and demonstrating at the same time and we all tasted lots of his dishes. We had a record raffle! Many thanks to those who donated prizes. We made £175.

Carol Service

Sunday 10th December was a very wet morning. We had a very interesting and different service taken by Jill Stevens. The PCC would like to thank the flower arrangers, the church looked stunning. Thank you Maureen for making the super mince pies and for helping Linda with the sherry after the service.

Many, many thanks to Ursula for playing the organ, not only at this service, but for also playing throughout 2017.

Christingle Service

This was held on 17th December and was very well supported by family and children.

Thank you very much Linda for making those super Christingle Oranges and the box of crackers. We had a lovely service taken by Revd John Shaw. Special thanks to the organist.



Claxton

News from the Village Hall

The Claxton and Carleton St Peter Village Hall Committee are looking forward to 2018 and opportunities for activities and events at the Hall. All households in Claxton and Carleton St Peter will be receiving a questionnaire soon, asking what they would like to see happening at the Hall.

We are particularly interested to hear from individuals or groups who would like to use the hall for their activities, whether this is for children's groups, clubs, sales, charities, education, entertainment or celebrations. So look out for the questionnaire and return it to us so that we know what **YOU** want from **YOUR** Village Hall and hopefully can enable you to achieve it.

One very successful enterprise is, of course, the **Community Café** which in January celebrated its second birthday. We were delighted to offer a free drink and a free raffle to all who came, to say thank you for supporting the Café over the past two years.

The Café continues to be very busy and attracts people from neighbouring villages as well as Claxton and Carleton St Peter. Everyone is very welcome – so don't forget to make a note in your diaries for **10am -12noon every second Tuesday of every month**. We look forward to seeing you!

Kirby Bedon

Kirby Kids Reunion - Update

It is with great sadness that we announce the death on 8th January 2018 of the last remaining crew member of the "Broad & High". Frank Bales was co-pilot of the Liberator that crashed in the woods at Kirby Bedon on 18th August 1944.

Our deepest condolences have been sent on behalf of the Kirby Kids Group to Frank's wife Pauline and all his family in Good Hope, Georgia, USA.



Frank and Pauline cutting the celebration cake when they joined us at our reunion evening in September 2015

Janet Rush

Rockland St Mary

Christmas Afternoon Tea – 9th December

Daphne and the members of Rockland St Mary PCC say **Thank you** to all those who came and helped and supported our Christmas Afternoon Tea in December. It was a busy afternoon with lots of lovely food to eat, washed down with plenty of tea.

£306 was raised for our Church funds and we received an extra £50 from Debbie Frosdick's "100 Lucky Square" board.



Carols and Nativity in Rockland

We began with our Christmas Carol Service on 17th December followed by Carol Singing around the village on 19th. The children's Nativity service was at 6 pm on 24th and then the Midnight Service to celebrate the Christmas Morn. The collections and donations from all these events raised £573.20 which was sent to the charities as follows:

£286.60 to the EACH "Nook Appeal", the new Children's Hospice being built at Framingham Pigot, and £143.30 was sent to the St Martins Housing Trust in Norwich who offer help to those sleeping rough on our streets. A further £143.30 was sent to the Matthew Project, also in Norwich, who help and work with those suffering from drug addiction and alcoholism.

For many years The Church in Rockland has always given the money donated at Christmas to local Charities and we thank everyone for their generosity. We have letters of thanks and appreciation from the charities which we will display in the church.

Frosty day at Rockland Staithe

This photo was taken at Rockland Staithe by Brian Ellis .

Part of one of the hulls of a sunken wherry is depicted in the foreground.



Village News

Rockland St Mary

Rockland St Mary with Hellington Parish Council

News from the clerk

Website - Please have a look at the Parish Council's new website www.rocklandstmary.org.uk. You can sign up for email alerts which give you immediate up to date information. The website can only be as good as the information received. If you belong to any group or organisation do please contact me with any news/events you may be having in order that I can publish details on the site.

Parish Precept - The parish precept is the total amount the Parish Council receives from South Norfolk Council. At the Parish Council meeting in January Councillors agreed to retain the parish precept at its present level with the total funding received from South Norfolk of £9,500. However, as the tax base for Rockland St Mary with Hellington has been reduced to 336 householders and the grant received from South Norfolk £113 compared to £230 the previous year, there will be an increase showing on the council tax bill you receive. Band D householders this year will be paying £27.94 towards the parish precept. If you would like a further explanation of how the precept is set and spent by Councillors please contact me – email rocklandparishclerk@gmail.com

Notice Boards - You will have noticed the two new notice boards at Hellington Hill and at the Post Office Rockland St Mary. The Council notice boards will remain locked but the Parish Council are very happy for organisations to advertise their events in the other notice boards. **These are to be used solely for the purpose of publicising events and any commercial posters will be removed,**

An Update On Green Lane Playing Field - Over the past year the Parish Council has consulted parishioners in Rockland about the future of the Green Lane Playing Field. It was evident from responses that most parishioners regard the playing field as an asset for the village and one well worth preserving.

Working with South Norfolk Council, the Parish Council contacted two suppliers of play equipment and asked the companies to draw up detailed plans setting out how the playing field could be developed. Based on the experiences of other villages where new equipment has been installed, it seemed to the Parish Council that for such projects to be successful there needs to be a high level of community "buy in" to the project. For example, last year in Seething, a working party was formed to oversee applications for funding and planning of a new playing field.

The Parish Council had hoped that there would be a similar level of community engagement in Rockland. Consequently, Councillors wanted to give parents and others the opportunity of viewing the provisional plans drawn up by the two companies and to offer their views and suggestions. Last November the Parish Council put up some posters throughout the village and emailed (via Rockland School) the parents of children who attended Rockland and Surlingham Schools. Disappointingly, only one person turned up to view the plans.

In the circumstances, the Parish Council has concluded that there is not sufficient interest in Rockland to justify a major make-over of the Playing Field at this point in time. The Parish Council will continue to maintain the site as a safe and secure place for children to visit. If the opportunity presents itself, and subject to funding becoming available, the Parish Council will reconsider an enhancement of the facilities.

Monica Armstrong

Allotments are available in Rockland St Mary

The allotments are next to the staithe car park. Full plots can be rented for £16 per year, half plots for £10 per year.

Please contact Janet 01508 538800 for details.



Rockland St Mary and District Gardening Club



Welcome to the New Year!! I am sure we are all looking forward to the Spring when we will be able to get our wellies on and get into the garden. The Club has a full programme arranged for the coming year. Meetings take place on the fourth Thursday of each month. Speakers are planned until May and then we commence the delight of looking at other peoples' gardens.

In **February** our speaker will be Simon Partridge talking on the Natural History of the Broads. In **March** the topic will be carnivorous plants with Pauline Steward as the speaker. With summer in mind our **April** speaker will be Rosie Ward giving advice on container plants.

If you would like any further information or wish to consider becoming a member do please contact me on 01508 537025 or email mdarmstrong@hotmail.co.uk

Monica Armstrong, Club Secretary.

Rockland St Mary and Surlingham Community Action Group

This spring we are offering more activities. We are pleased to repeat the Fabric Sculpture Workshop on **Sunday 4th March** led by Janine Coull. The event is from **10 am to 3 pm** in the Parish Room, Rockland St Mary. The cost is £30. There are limited places so please book soon.



Sunday 18th March there will be a **Rook Ramble**.

On **Sunday 22nd April** we offer the second Bosseln of the year. The cost of these events is £9. 50. Please contact Jane Paterson for further details and booking 01508 538415 or apatersonvt029@gmail.com.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES!

will be served 12-2pm February 13th at
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Times are changing!



From Monday 8th January 2018, our opening hours are changing

Monday	8.30am to 12 noon	2.30pm to 5.30pm
Wednesday	8.30am to 12 noon	2.30pm to 5.30pm
Friday	8.30am to 12 noon	2.30pm to 5.30pm

Outside of these times, medical services can be accessed via our main Practice site in Poringland on 01508 494343, via 111 or from a local Pharmacy



NHS



This change has been made in full consultation with our patient reference group and sees the availability of additional clinical sessions

Village News

Surlingham

Christmas morning at St Mary's Church, with Barney and Henry

The Rev John Shaw led a very witty, entertaining and thoughtful Christmas Service at St Mary's Church. Many thanks to everyone who helped to set up, distributed orders of service and carol sheets, selected the carols, lit the candles, led the singing, collected donations, and a VERY SPECIAL mention to Barney and Henry Harrison.



They selected Granny to light the Christmas candle and then assumed responsibility for placing baby Jesus in his crib.

Led by Laura Morgan, the Surlingham

Broadnotes entertained a packed Ferry House pub on Wednesday 20th December. The



atmosphere was truly festive and the congregation, regulars and others joined in with the community singing. It has to be said that some tables were better than others while some were perhaps not so good, but very vocal!!

Rev John Shaw

Thurton

Friends of Thurton Church

A successful bingo evening, held in December, made a profit of over £350.

We have our second **Snowdrop Walk on Sunday February 18th** at St Ethelbert's Church between 2 and 4pm. There will be tea and cakes, a quiz, plant and bookstall. Make a note in your diary to join us.

We are in the process of planning a Flower Festival at the church, date to be announced. Also planned is for work to begin in the spring to update the electrics, provide better heating and redo some of the outside rendering, so your continued support is vital to enable us to continue looking after our lovely church.

Thurton Tea afternoon

The next **Thurton Tea Afternoon** is on **Monday 15th January**, 2 - 4.30pm at Ashby and Thurton Village Hall. If you are thinking of coming for the first time...do give us a try! Our tea afternoon is a really good mixed social event every six weeks or so and some even travel from Cringleford and Dereham to enjoy catching up with friends and neighbours. Ros, Angie and Tony will have the kettle on, and there are lovely homemade cakes to choose from. We look forward to seeing you!



Younger families join us after school and there are drawing and craft activities for the children. There is no charge, but donations go towards covering our costs and any surplus is given to Thurton Church. Contacts for more information (or to receive offers of cakes) are Angie 01508 492221 and Rosalind 01508 480440.

Loddon Flower Club

6th February - Simon White - *Gardens of East Anglia*

6th March - Christine Hewson - *Wicker World*

3rd April - Jacque Aldous - *That's Entertainment, Act 3*

1st Tuesday of every month. **7.15pm start** at Hobart High School, Kitten's Lane, Loddon, NR14 6JU. Visitors £6. Everyone is welcome.



Ashby & Thurton

Ashby and Thurton Playground Project Update

As the new year rolls in we are extremely thrilled to report such a fantastic couple of months of fundraising. It has been very exciting receiving such great support within the community and we send our sincerest thanks and gratitude to all who donated, supported, inspired, and joined in.

Our first fundraiser was a Tropic Skincare evening, held at the George and Dragon. We were joined by 30 local ladies for a wonderful night of skincare and makeup demonstrations, advice, fun and games. We are delighted to report we raised £316.24.

The following day, mums and dads were joined by their children and other fantastic volunteers in Tesco's at Harford Bridge to bag pack. With a luxury 'Finest' hamper kindly donated by Mr and Mrs Yallop on offer as our raffle prize and big smiles from our children we raised a huge £382.15.

Thank you to 'The Gingerbread Cottage Haircutters' in Harleston who held a 2 day cake sale in November and raised £120 which they kindly donated to our playground project.

At the end of November, our wonderful toddlers took part in the "Little Fish Big Toddle," a sponsored Noah's Ark themed walk around the playing field. We were joined by the Little Fish, members of Thurton and Ashby Preschool, the Tiffin Preschool and parents and grandparents from the village. We raised a huge £640.31. Then in December Thurton School kindly invited us to their Christmas Fayre where we ran a stall and raised a further £53.03.



Once Christmas rolled in with its crisp temperatures and twinkling lights, you may have heard a group of us carol singing through the village. The children did amazingly and we went as far as their little legs could take them that evening. Thank you for opening your doors to us and for your generosity. We raised £123.56

So, all in all, last year was a blockbuster start to the Ashby and Thurton Playground Project. We are well on our way to building, what we believe, will be an amazing playground. Thank you to everyone! We couldn't have done this without your fabulously kind support!

Please continue to follow us on Facebook and watch out for more local fundraisers happening. Our My Donate Page is now live. If you wish to donate to the project please visit: mydonate.bt.com/charities/thurtonplaygroundproject.

Happy New Year and here's to a successful 2018!!

Sorrel Kelly



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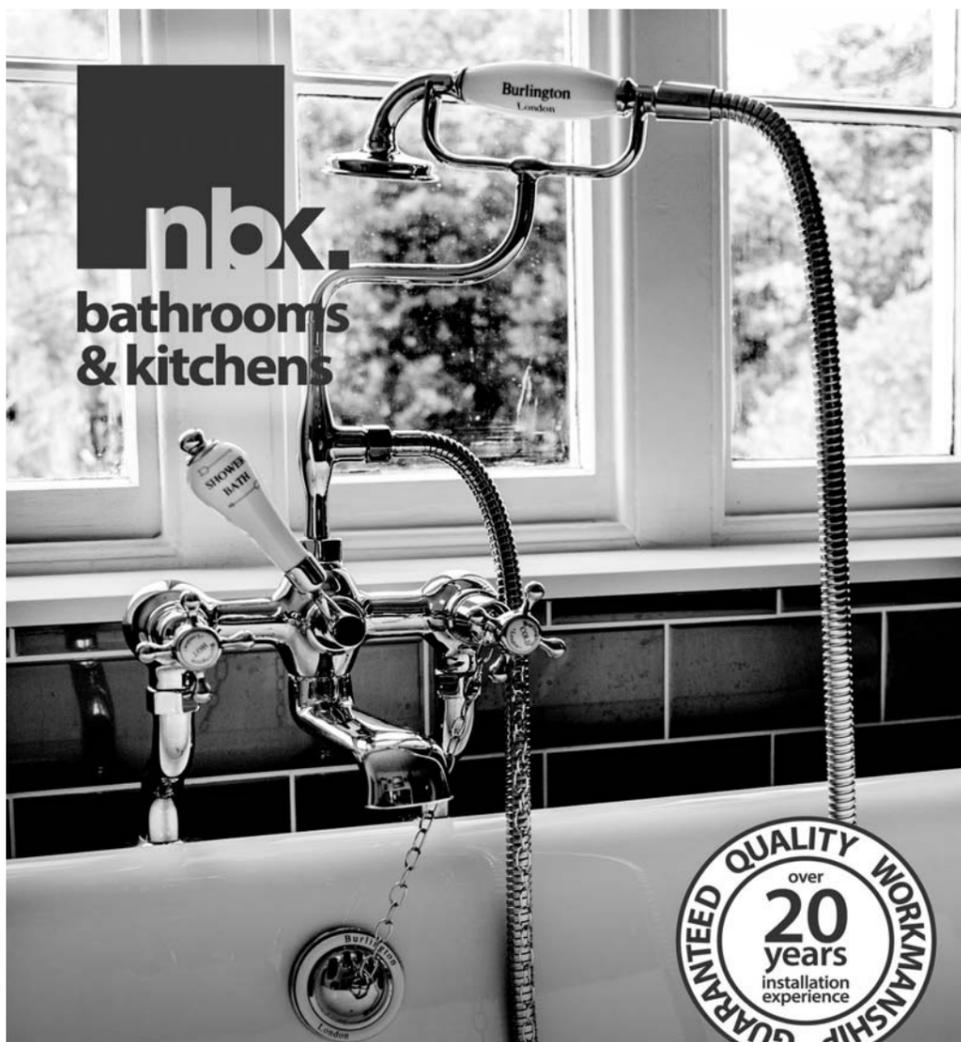


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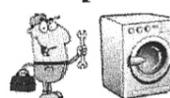
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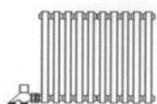
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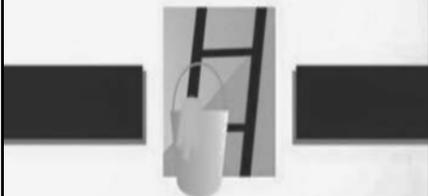
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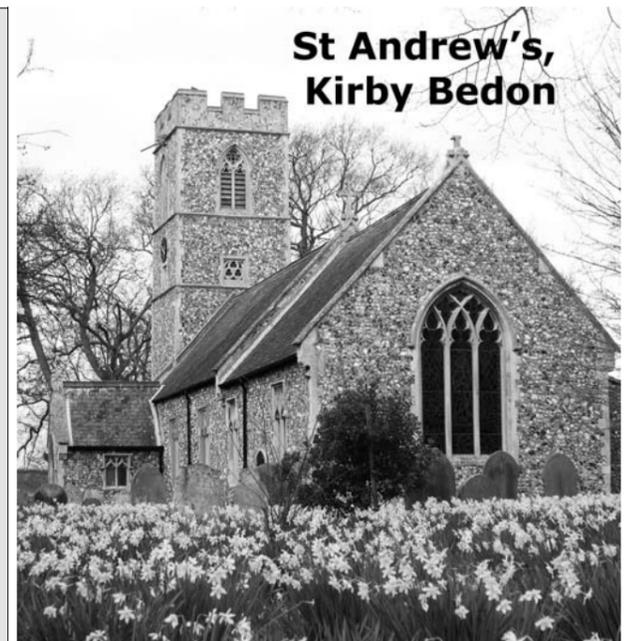
	4 th Feb. 2 nd Before Lent Green	11 th Feb. Sunday Before Lent Green	14 th Feb. Ash Wednesday Purple	18 th Feb. Lent 1 Purple	25 th Feb. Lent 2 Purple	4 th March Lent 3 Purple	11 th March Mothering Sunday Purple	18 th March Passion Sunday Purple	25 th March Palm Sunday Red	1 st April Easter Day White/Gold
Ashby	11.00 MP	10.00 Benefice HC	Join Thurton	11.00 PT	08.15 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 PT	11.00 HC	Join Yelverton	11.00 HC
Bergh Apton	09.30 HC	Join Ashby	Join Thurton	09.30 PT	09.30 HC(BCP)	09.30 HC	09.30 HC(BCP)	09.30 PT	Join Yelverton	09.30 HC
Bramerton	9.30 MP	11.00 HC		11.00 Benefice HC	11.00 MP	Join Carleton	11.00 Mothering Sunday Service	Join Kirby Bedon	9.30 HC	9.30 Easter Service
Carleton St. Peter	11.00 Morning Worship			Join Bramerton		11.00 Benefice HC	*			11.00 Easter Service
Claxton		9.30 HC		Join Bramerton	9.30 HC	Join Carleton	9.30 Mothering Sunday Service		Join Rockland	9.30 Easter Service
Fram. Pigot	08.15 HC (BCP)	Join Ashby	Join Thurton	Join Yelverton	11.00 HC	08.15 HC(BCP)	11.00 HC	08.15 HC(BCP)	Join Yelverton	11.00 HC
Kirby Bedon	11.00 MP*	11.00 HC*		Join Bramerton	11.00 HC*	Join Carleton	11.00 Mothering Sunday Service	11.00 MP	11.00 HC*	11.00 Easter Service
Rockland St. Mary	CAFÉ CHURCH 10.30 -12.00 Parish Room	9.30 HC		Join Bramerton*	Join Bramerton	Join Carleton Benefice Service*	9.30 Mothering Sunday Service	9.30 HC	9.30 Morning Worship	9.30 Easter Service
Surlingham	8.30am HC*	11.00 Morning Worship		Join Bramerton	Join Bramerton	Join Carleton	11.00 Mothering Sunday Service	11.00 HC	11.00 MP*	8.30am HC* Easter Service
Thurton	11.00 HC	Join Ashby	19.30 HC with Imposition of Ashes	11.00 Village Hall Service	11.00 MP	11.00 HC	11.00 MP	11.00 Village Hall Service	Join Yelverton	11.00 HC
Yelverton	09.30 PT	Join Ashby	Join Thurton	09.30 HC	16.00 All 4 Sunday	09.30 PT	16.00 All 4 Sunday	09.30 HC	10.00 Benefice HC with Chloe the Donkey!	09.30 HC

CODE: HC = Holy Communion; E. Praise = Evening Praise; FC = Family Communion; FW = Family Worship; MP = Morning Prayer; EP = Evening Prayer; PT = Parish Team; VM = Vestry Meeting .
First Thursday of each month: Holy Communion at St Mary's, Yelverton, 10.30am.

Bible Readings Sunday by Sunday: February and March 2018

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel	
04/02/18	Proverbs 8.1,22-31	Colossians 1.15-20	John 1.1-14	2nd before Lent
11/02/18	2 Kings 2.1-12	2 Corinthians 4.3-6	Mark 9.2-9	Next before Lent
14/02/18	Joel 2.1-2,12-17	2 Corinthians 5.20b – 6.10	Matthew 6.1-6,16-21	Ash Wednesday
or	Isaiah 58.1-12		John 8.1-11	
18/02/18	Genesis 9.8-17	1 Peter 3.18-22	Mark 1.9-15	1st Sunday of Lent
25/02/18	Genesis 17.1-7,15,16	Romans 4.13-25	Mark 8.31-38	2nd Sunday of Lent
04/03/18	Exodus 20.1-17	1 Corinthians 1.18-25	John 2.13-22	3rd Sunday of Lent
11/03/18	Exodus 2.1-10	2 Corinthians 1.3-7	Luke 2.33-35	Mothering Sunday
or	1 Samuel 1.20-28	Colossians 3.12-17	John 19.25-27	
18/03/18	Jeremiah 31.31-34	Hebrews 5.5-10	John 12.20-33	Passiontide begins
25/03/18	Psalms 118.1-2,19-24		Mark 11.1-11	Palm Sunday
or			John 12.12-16	
or	Isaiah 50.4-9a	Philippians 2.5-11	Mark 14.1 – 15.47	
or			Mark 15.1-39[40-47]	
26/03/18	Isaiah 42.1-9	Hebrews 9.11-15	John 12.1-11	Fig Monday
27/03/18	Isaiah 49.1-7	1 Corinthians 1.18-31	John 12.20-36	Temple Tuesday
28/03/18	Isaiah 50.4-9a	Hebrews 12.1-3	John 13.21-32	Spy Wednesday
29/03/18	Exodus 12.1-4[5-10] 11-14	1 Corinthians 11.23-26	John 13.1-17,31b-35	Maundy Thursday
30/03/18	Isaiah 52.13 – 53.12	Hebrews 10.16-25	John 18.1 – 19.42	Good Friday
or		Hebrews 4.14-16; 5.7-9		
01/04/18	Acts 10.34-43	1 Corinthians 15.1-11	John 20.1-18	Easter Day
or	Isaiah 25.6-9	Acts 10.34-43	Mark 16.1-8	

Please note: At Holy Communion, where only two readings are used, the first reading will usually be the Epistle, and the second will always be the Gospel reading. At other services where two readings are used, the first will usually be the Old Testament reading, and the second can be either the Epistle or the Gospel readings.



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