



MARCH 2021 NEWS

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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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Fynn - Lark News

FEBRUARY 2021



Flooded River by Gary Farmer

Hello! or from where I originate from, 'Croeso!'. Well, it has finally happened! The saying goes that all good things come to those who wait, (I am still patiently waiting for Ipswich Town to get promoted!!) I am now able and proud to say that as from 1st January 2021, the new benefice of Little Bealings, Playford and Kesgrave comes into being. For those who do not already know me, my name is Gary, and I will be the Local Vicar for the new benefice, along with my colleague, Reverend Robin Spittle, who will be the Rector.

Let me start by telling you a little bit about myself. I was born and grew up in the valleys of South Wales and moved to Suffolk back in the 1980's. I am married to Anita and have two grown-up children, Martyn and Abigail. I was a Lay Reader for over 20 years before deciding to go forward for Ordination in 2016 having done my training at All Saints Church,

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

Kesgrave. As you can imagine, being Welsh I am a great rugby fan, so it is quite lively in our household when Wales play England! I am also an avid Ipswich Town supporter and like to watch them as often as I can. I also enjoy walking, travelling and have a great sense of humour. I also enjoy DIY, as long as it is not anything to do with water; I do not have a very good track record with water, so you are very unlikely to see me on any Church roof mending leaks! There is a myth that all Welshmen are good singers, but there is always one. I will let you decide if I am that one! No voting required.

When I look back, did I ever wonder if I would end up in these beautiful villages? The answer would probably have been no but am so glad that I have. I have to say that I have only known the people of Little Bealings and Playford for just over a year, but all have made me feel welcome and very much part of the community in which I will serve. So, what do I hope to bring? It is my hope that we can grow the Churches and develop our role in the community by working together. We can achieve a lot for the people whom we serve. Just some of the things I have been involved in over the last year: I have attended the local council meeting at Little Bealings, the lunch club at the Angela Cobbold Hall, as well as visiting people in both villages. Over the Christmas period, restrictions were tight, due to Covid. However, we did achieve a socially distanced outdoor carol service at the beginning of December in Playford, and had in excess of 50 people, as well as joining in the 'Doorstep Carols' at Little Bealings, outside the Church when we had a good few people come to join us, as we rang Christmas in. I would like to see us, post-Covid, introduce more services at both Churches, and help to develop people's personal faith. More details of these will follow when restrictions are lifted.

I believe there is a great opportunity to develop the Church and make the Church

a place where people can come to worship, spending time with God in what sometimes feels a busy world, to spend some time in the quiet, peaceful contemplation and tranquillity of the Church in the presence of our God who made us, who knows us and who loves us, and as the Psalm says, "He knows every hair on our head."

When restrictions are lifted and I am able to visit once again, I look forward to meeting many of you at services and/or social events. If you see me out and about, please come and introduce yourself and if you require a pastoral visit, my details are on the Church noticeboard and the website.

So, as we go forward, let us take the opportunity to reconnect with one another, our community and of course, our beautiful Churches.

Take care and stay safe.

Every blessing.

Reverend Gary Jones.



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

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME - Services for those with Mobility Problems

This local Scheme is now up and running. If you need help with things like:

- lifts especially to doctors' surgeries and hospital appointments
- getting prescriptions
- minor domestic repairs, such as checking smoke alarms and changing light bulbs
- short term help with pets

phone 01473 857796 and leave a message – someone will call you back.

For those who need regular transport, the Coastal Accessible Transport Service is a charity which provides lifts. Tel 01728 830516 for details.

BEALINGS AND PLAYFORD NEWSGROUP

To be added to the growing number of residents who receive regular emails about local news, events and services send your email address to: bealingsplayfordnews@googlemail.com

BUSES

Timetables for the 70 and 70A services serving the local area are on the Little Bealings Parish Council Notice boards or at www.suffolkonboard.com

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 613997.

Report Anti-Social Behaviour to SCC call 08456 034715

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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>

Fly Tipping and Litter: Contact Suffolk Coastal Services on 01394 444000 or email scsltd@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk.

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

PLAYFORD

Services at Playford Church are usually held on the second Sunday of every month at 10am. The last one to be held in this current lockdown was on January 10th. Thereafter services will be under constant review.

Please contact Colin Hedgley on 01473 738468 the Friday before the usual Sunday Service for the latest update.

All Saints Kesgrave will be having their normal Zoom service each Sunday details of which are on their website or, again contact Colin Hedgley for more details.

If you need any pastoral care or advice, please contact Rev Gary Jones on 01473 412329.

CULPHO

These being unprecedented times, all services are currently suspended!

GREAT BEALINGS

No services are planned for February, and it looks likely that the March service will be similarly affected. It is too early to anticipate what may be possible at Easter.

Contact details for the Parish Office in Woodbridge are: 01394 388820 –

Email: parish.office@stmaryswoodbridge.org

LITTLE BEALINGS

Services are normally held on the fourth Sunday of the month but are currently suspended.

ROUND-THE-WORLD YACHTSWOMAN - UPDATE

Those who remember Rev Dr John Hare and Mary from their recent links with Great Bealings may be interested in the following news of their daughter – of interest to sailors all around the local area, since Pip learned to sail on the River Deben.

At the time of going to press Pip is currently in 18th position. Despite a number of problems, including having to change a broken rudder in the southern ocean, she is now approaching the equator having sailed 22,481 miles and with just (!) 4,284 to the finish in Les Sables d'Olonne, Brittany.

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NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST

EDITORIAL COMMENT

May we welcome you to this first issue of 2021 by expressing the wish that 2021 gets progressively better for all of us, and that with the rapid progress of the vaccination programme, we move towards a spring and summer which allows us once again to re-engage with one another, and to enjoy that wide range of community activities that we have been denied over the past year. To those who have been in some way affected by Covid, particularly by personal loss, we express our deep sympathies. Those of us who have emerged intact may well be scarred but are in some ways the stronger for having survived. Having for so long been shut away in our own little cells and bubbles, we are perhaps all the more aware of the importance of the benefits of a supporting community. We would like to think that the regular publication of this Magazine has had a minor part to play in this maintaining of those community links and thank all those who have supported us by word and deed and finance through difficult times. This includes our advertisers. The relationship between readers and local businesses is an important one. Not only is there a degree of inter-dependence, but such increased localisation does have a role to

play, contributing, as it does, to efforts to be kinder to our planet.

In that spirit we wish all our readers an ever-happier New Year.

Thanks, Culpho – good to have you still with us.

We understand that soundings have been widely taken in and around Culpho, and that residents of that village are keen to maintain their links with the other three villages, even though the church will now be contributing its church-specific news to the Carlford Group Magazine.

Happily, it seems to be the general opinion that maintaining links between other comparable local villages, with all the non-church neighbourly bonds that we have enjoyed for many years, including regular distribution of the Magazine, and use of it as an advertising medium, would be welcome.

We look forward to many further contributions to the Magazine from residents and friends of Culpho. Good news to launch the FLN New Year.

LIGHTER ITEM, WITH HISTORICAL ROOTS

Henry Chard (who is now 30 and grew up in Great Bealings) has for the last few years been the Multi-media Manager of the Ipswich Witches (speedway). He does



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our neighbours as ourselves. There may be people whose political views, whose outlook on life, whose attitude differs from others, but love shows no parameters when it comes to looking out for our fellow neighbour.

If we think of the story in the Bible of the Good Samaritan, how many people passed on the other side, and yet it was the Samaritan who cared for the man with his wounds. Not the most popular person at the time, and certainly he would have been viewed with a certain amount of scepticism, but nevertheless it goes to show that the love that our Lord taught us is one which goes beyond race, gender, colour or background. We have seen Churches up and down the land opening their doors to food banks, set up helpline services so those who are lonely, or those who need help getting prescriptions or any other provision because their family may live away, the Church has been able to respond.

The pictures on our television screens of exhausted care workers and those in the medical profession coming off the back of a 12-hour shift, show the very essence of the love that Jesus spoke about. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the generosity of individuals and companies continued long after Covid-19? We can all play our part, we may not be able to do much physically, but perhaps we can just put a tin of food into a food bank next time we go shopping. Perhaps we can pick the phone up and speak to someone who is on their own, put their wheelie bin out the day it is due. All these little acts of kindness make a difference to someone's life. The world is a much richer place when people start being kind and showing love to their fellow human-beings.

We all miss seeing our families, seeing our friends. Last Christmas was certainly much different for everyone, myself included. We have all had to make sacrifices in some shape or form but let us give thanks for all who go the extra mile in our country, as we pull together in this difficult time. And yes, seeing the many acts of kindness I, along with you, can say that Britain has got talent.

If anybody has any concerns or needs to speak to a Vicar, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Reverend Robin Spittle. We will be only too happy to help.

I will leave you with a simple prayer which we could use when we have a moment of quiet:

Generous God, we thank you for the gifts and talents that make up the world in which we live

Thank you for those who reach out to others

May we show that same love to those who we meet in our daily lives

Help us to be good stewards of your creation

To love our neighbours as ourselves. Amen.

May God's blessing be upon each and every one of you.

Reverend Gary Jones

checking on one another, volunteering for things like food banks, the generosity of people to go the extra mile for fellow human-beings. These things do not happen by accident, they happen by the providence of God.

A few days ago, when the announcement of the vaccine came, no other news mattered. Every news bulletin in every country was talking about the vaccine, that promise, that hope, that excitement. Wouldn't it be brilliant if that same excitement be echoed around the good news of the Christmas message and the hope and promise that Christ brings?

We read in the later chapters of Isaiah that God will send a Messiah to change things. The people had just returned from exile in Babylon and were glad to be free. But now the Prophet is telling them there is even better news. God will send a redeemer; it is worth bearing in mind this book was written 600-700 years before Jesus was born. God had a plan for us and brought it to fruition.

In the hymn "I the Lord of Sea and Sky, I have heard my people cry, all who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save". God says, "No matter what life throws at you, you are mine, every morning, noon and night, my love for you will never diminish". God never promises to get us over it, but through it.

One of the songs my mum used to sing all the time was "Count your Blessings One by One" and there are more blessings than stars in the sky, and if not, go back and start to count again, you have missed a few!

As the new year brings hope, and with the vaccine, the promise of life returning to some sort of normality, let our hearts be bounding with joy, with all that God has

given us through Christ. God's love in a manger to everyone, including the stranger.

God bless and a Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all.

Reverend Gary Jones

WORD FROM THE STUDY - 2

It will not be long before people sit down on a Saturday night to watch Britain's Got Talent; singers, comedians, jugglers, walking dogs and so on all trying to win a chance to appear in the Royal Variety Performance, which led me to think, do we really need a television programme to show what gifts and skills people have, or perhaps should we look a little bit nearer to home? Those who produced the Oxford Vaccine, our doctors, nurses, those who care for others, our delivery drivers, those who have gone the extra mile in making provision for others. People who use what they have to the benefit of others. It could be those who work in our food banks, picking the phone up to a neighbour, all who contribute to the welfare of others that really showcases our country at its best.

But the need will not stop when the pandemic ends. Indeed, for many people it will be just the beginning of what will be a long and arduous journey, whether that is financial as a result of illness, loss of employment, support for these people will be needed long into the future. That is why long after the television cameras and press find something else to report on, the work of these extraordinary people goes on. Caring for one another, looking out for one another, is at the very heart of the Christian message. Jesus tells us to love

their press releases. He is also a huge football fan.

Earlier last year, England football fans were informed that they were not allowed to attend England games because of Covid. England members were told that a flag had been made which would be present at all England matches to represent them.



DON BENITO - DONCASTER
NBRIDGE - EDWARE
- FLITWICK - FLORIAN
- GREAT BEALINGS - G
ETON - HASLENERE - I
DHEAD - HIRATSUKA -
FARRAN - ISLE OF MA

The red part is made up of the place names that the members are from.

Henry is a member, so you can see the section of the flag with Great Bealings on it!

For nostalgia's sake we publish a picture of Henry in goal at the 2002 Jubilee Celebration on the meadow off Kiln Lane.

He needs to explain why he is wearing a Norwich shirt.



FOOTPATH HELPERS WANTED!

Over the past year it has been good to see so many people enjoying the footpaths around the area, so John Wittgreffe and myself are pleased to have been appointed as voluntary Footpath Wardens by Little Bealings Parish Council.

We will be keeping an eye on the public footpaths around the parish, reporting any problems and occasionally carrying out minor maintenance tasks to ensure the paths can continue to be enjoyed by walkers.

It is hoped that over time we will also be able to help build relations with local landowners and neighbouring Parish Councils, with a view to encouraging use and enjoyment of the wider footpath network in the area.

As part of this, we are hoping to form a small group of local volunteer helpers who would be prepared to help out a few times a year with minor tasks on our footpaths such as pruning, clearing growth and minor surface repairs.

If you would like to help, your name would need to be recorded in the Parish Council meeting minutes, to ensure that you are covered by the Parish Council's insurance when working with us.

If you are interested in helping us occasionally, please get in touch with Carol Ramsden, Clerk to Little Bealings Parish Council by phone 01473 610088 or email littlebealingspc@btinternet.com

Francis Mutimer

Little Bealings Joint Footpath Warden

ENVIRONMENT

Lockdown has somehow made many of us even more aware of how precious and fragile the natural world around us is. We value the beauty and opportunities for enjoyment of the great outdoors in these parts and have enjoyed them during lockdown. But nature does not always look after itself, and sometimes needs a helping hand.



Tree-planting is something we are now encouraged to do on a planetary scale, but it is also something happening within our own villages, as these two pictures illustrate.



Commendable examples.

NATURE NOTES

LOCAL RAPTORS

When I was a child, a single species of raptor seemed to dominate the skies of Bealings. It was a delicate bird, no longer

than a Jay, but had an enviable ability to continuously hover in one place. It was of course the Kestrel. This bird continues to be a watching presence over our landscape, perching on telegraph poles, fences and shed roofs. Its principal prey is voles and mice on to which its "slides" down steeply, pouncing with its talons. The distinct colouring of its plumage is of a blue grey head (male only) and chestnut-banded wings and torso. Watching on early summer morning walks the parent birds teaching their young how to glide down from an electricity wire and pounce into a field was enchanting.

In less than a decade, another raptor has appeared in large numbers. Its larger presence has filled the skies and the airwaves echo to its eerie call, a high "whee -eur". This is the Buzzard which uses its large broad wings to circle over woodland. Even in the 1990s this bird was described as "very localised" in Eastern England, meaning it was rare or not present in many areas. It has spread rapidly east, along with Red Kites (which have occasionally been spotted over Bealings). Our countryside must be a good place to raise young, with the plentiful supply of rabbits as well as small mammals, worms and beetles. The family I have noticed over the summer were flying around Rosery Farm often utilising the thermal uplift from the hill behind it. Buzzards are amongst the biggest birds in our area but, despite this, they do seem plagued by rocks, crows and indeed kestrels which dive bomb them and force them to move on.

The third species which I have noticed recently on my meanders around our villages is the Sparrowhawk. I cannot comment on the relative numbers which anecdotally seem to have increased, but perhaps I am more attuned to their presence. Many times, I have been

CHURCH NEWS

NEW YEAR'S EVE VIGIL – ST MARY'S CHURCH, WOODBRIDGE

A special service was held in St Mary's, Woodbridge, on New Year's Eve, not only to herald the imminent New Year, but also to celebrate the official beginning of the United Benefice of the two St Mary's Churches, Woodbridge and Great Bealings. Fr. Nigel Prior gave the address, and we publish those excerpts relevant to the new partnership.

This evening also marks a more local story about our own parishes here in Woodbridge and Great Bealings. At my interview, Norman Porter described Great Bealings as 'the rural lung' and I like that, just as I like the fact that it is healthier to have two lungs! We also share the prayers of two Marys' – she was no ordinary Saint after all, but the Mother of God, the one who gave birth to Jesus, Our Light and Saviour. So, tomorrow's walk is a very symbolic, as well as historic one. It is a time to pray for our future together, to grow in love, faith, and mutual understanding, sharing our gifts and strengths, believing and making possible that scope for a fulfilling time, and an enjoyable partnership. There will be books at each Church tomorrow for you to write your own thoughts, hopes and prayers in your own hand. If you want, you can write them in another language – another poet and priest was right to say: "No man is an island entire of itself."

And in the Spring, we will exchange new trees (laurel is associated with Mary) and plant them. God wants them and us to grow. So, let us dedicate this night and 'spot of time' to pray with the psalmist who said:

"My soul is longing for the Lord - More than watchman for daybreak."

Amen.

WORD FROM THE STUDY - 1

One of the good things about smart phones is that every so often, they will come up with a rediscover your day from years gone by, in pictures. Mine did a few days ago, and it took me back to 2015. I wonder if I knew then how things would turn out, whether I would have done anything different. Thinking back, I was working full-time. How life has changed! I now find myself as Local Minister for the beautiful villages of Little Bealings and Playford and Kesgrave.

As with everyone else, life has had its ups

and downs. This year has been challenging and very difficult for some people. Loneliness, the loss of a loved one, unable to see family, giving the grandchildren a hug, but amongst all the difficult stuff, we find God's blessings in abundance. We may not have been able to meet and worship in our beautiful Churches as much as we would like to and see each other, but God is not confined to the walls of a Church. God is in each every one of us and how our hearts respond with that generosity of love that God gives in abundance. People have been ringing around,

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caught out by thinking there is a pigeon flying towards me only for the grey blur to turn sharply and dive into a hedge to attack a bird table. This bird has incredible speed and agility. It prospects a site from height before diving to hunt by hedgehopping almost at ground level. Sparrows, tits, blackbirds and thrushes are caught unawares in a flurry of feathers.

These three species sit towards the top of the food chain and, now their numbers have expanded, due to the outlawing of pesticides and the banning of targeted persecution, it makes it an increasingly challenging environment of our small birds and mammals. Look out for them commanding the skies.

Jonathan Keer



Raptors circling and a sparrowhawk with the feathery remains of a bluetit in a Bealings garden



HISTORY CORNER

A HISTORY OF BEALINGS

Walking through History – an update, and a question.

Firstly, to let readers know that lock-down, and the lack of other things to do, is helping progress with this walking historical guide to Bealings. The first two trails of five are now more or less complete and being designed. A warm thank you to all who have so far supported this project with contributions, pre-orders and dedications. If you are still sitting on the order form and thinking of signing up for a pre-ordered copy, please do so, sooner rather than later. There's still time for further contributions, particularly from Little Bealings. What has been particularly motivational has been the interest outside our villages, from people who grew up in them, then moved away, but who clearly have such wonderful memories to share. Good memories from the past can be an antidote to an uncomfortable present.

An enhancement: it is intended that we go "multi-media", in the sense that we hope to create an accompanying app. which you will be able to take with you on your walk-through history, and which picks out the main features for you. This will be integral to the package, when pre-ordered, at no additional cost.

Finally - a query. Does anyone have any detailed knowledge of any actual Beacon, which gave its name to Beacon Lane etc? Where exactly was it, and what kind of beacon might it have been? Part of a national chain of beacons? Something to do with the aerodrome at Martlesham? The area around the Martlesham Road, being relatively elevated, is an understandable location for any such a beacon. Any suggestions, information welcome.

Norman Porter - nhp@rillcott.co.uk

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lights (£5) they can be lit to celebrate any occasion, to remember of loved one, birthdays and anniversaries, in fact any occasion which holds special significance to you and your family. A telephone call to the Churchwarden, Richard Garnham, on 01473 738139 is all that is required.

CHURCH CLOSURE

Sadly, given the current restrictions imposed due to the pandemic, Churchwarden Richard, took the difficult decision to close Culpho Church until able to admit people safely. When controls are lifted churchgoers and residents will be informed. We sincerely hope by late spring that the situation will allow the Church to play its proper role within the community. The Churchyard remains open.

CULPHO AND THE FYNN-LARK NEWS

For many years, the residents of Culpho have been delivered copies of the Fynn-Lark News and St. Botolph's have used this publication to advertise services and functions. We have enjoyed a good relationship with the editorial team. With Culpho Church now part of the Benefice of Carlford, we shall be contributing information regarding Church matters to their Church Benefice Magazine 'The Grapevine'. We shall, however, continue to offer support to the Fynn-Lark News and contribute to events and newsworthy articles where we can. The good news is that the Fynn-Lark News will continue to be delivered to Culpho residents each month and we remain ever grateful to Mrs. Jenny Walters who, in all weathers, delivers the magazine to every household.

With these changes comes an opportunity for residents to become involved in sharing their stories through

the medium of the Fynn-Lark News and if you would like to submit an article you will find details on the back of each issue. Contributions from all four villagers are instrumental in binding communities together, and there are some wonderful articles yet to be penned. Culpho has historically been asked to submit a lead article, which is local, but of interest to others and supported by photographs in Jpeg format. Approximately 500 words would be ideal and for 2021 this falls in June and November. Thank you if you can help. The Magazine is a free publication sustained by advertising and donation and assembled and delivered by a dedicated team of volunteers.

CONTACT DETAILS.

If, for any reason, contact needs to be made with the Church please get in touch with the Churchwarden, Richard Garnham on telephone 01473 738139 who will be able to help.

*Margaret Gornall – Secretarial Support
On behalf of Churchwarden and P.C.C.
Members.*

CULPHO

PARISH COUNCILLOR

John Lapsley, 1 Abbey Farm Barn, Culpho

Ips 738008

PCC SECRETARY

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

01728 747605

ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH

BENEFICE CHANGES

On the 22nd December 2020, the Church Commissioners approved Culpho Church being admitted to the Benefice of Carlford. The Benefice of Great and Little Bealings, Playford and Culpho having been superseded. In leaving, we remain ever grateful to the three Churches, (who themselves have joined other districts) for the years we have shared the same Priest-in-Charge and friendship. Sadly, progress was inevitable, and we now look forward to our new Church community, St. Mary's, Grundisburgh and the other Churches which make up the new Benefice. Since October 2018 we have been grateful for the support given by Reverend Mark Creswell and his licensed Readers, in particular James Hall, who will continue to take services at Culpho Church.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

On the 20th December, a quite different carol service was held. It was a condensed, socially distanced service, parishioners wearing masks, no live music, or singing by members of the congregation, but the Church looked festive with windowsills bedecked in winter foliage and candles with the Churchwarden ensuring we were all safe. Despite this abnormal setting this notable service lifted the spirits and for a short while the situation felt 'normal'. Christine Pearce and members of the Ipswich Choral Society superbly sang carols on

our behalf, with the service conducted by James Hall. Additionally, we were grateful to have our Patron, Lord Cranworth in attendance.



Determination incarnate but wrapped up.

At the end of the Service the Choir and congregation stood outside and sang two traditional carols. The occasion was made even more special when we were joined by a small number of residents and their children. It is hoped that the Carol Service in December 2021 will be without restriction with residents and churchgoers alike, once again, enjoying a mince pie and mulled wine in a more welcoming setting. Determination incarnate but wrapped up.

CHURCH LIGHTS

The Church was lit on the evening of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Christ. Without doubt the Church looks lovely when lit and, despite the pandemic and Church closure, if anyone wishes to sponsor the

FIFTY YEARS ON – an anniversary worth noting

With all the restrictions and changes we were subject to in 2020, it was inevitable that many anniversaries and celebrations would be cancelled or pass virtually unnoticed. One particular anniversary of local significance occurred during 2020 and passed without fanfare, which nevertheless deserves some recognition.

A little over 50 years ago now, September 1970 saw the creation of a new and valuable facility in Bealings, namely the village playing field, now known as the John Belstead Playing field. After grass seeding was completed, play equipment was delivered in March 1971 and so the playing field probably came into use in the spring of 1971.

As an 11-year-old boy living in Bealings at the time, my friends and I were among the early beneficiaries of this exciting new addition to the village. Prior to the opening of the playing field, we had amused ourselves in a variety of locations, such as down by Boot Street bridge and the adjoining meadows, or on the unused piece of land at the end of Sandy Lane. The small green in front of the council houses in Grundisburgh Road often served as a makeshift football pitch, as did the stubble fields in late summer, and occasionally our own back gardens, sometimes to the exasperation of our parents.

So, it was with some excitement that we discovered this new venue, provided specifically for our entertainment and enjoyment. For us boys, football was of course the main form of entertainment. The layout of the field at that time provided for some interesting and challenging kickabouts. Before its remodelling in 2008, the main part of the field consisted of one continuous slope with a football goal positioned at each end, the slope running 'sideways' across

the pitch. We soon discovered that the goal standing in front of the field which borders Holly Lane was a better option than the one by the road at the other end, where a poorly directed shot on goal would often result in the ball flying over the fence and landing in the road below, often to the consternation of passing motorists and cyclists.

Our games therefore tended to be concentrated around the goal at what became known as the 'Holly Lane end' and we devised our own peculiar form of the game where two teams would play each other, both attacking the same goal, with one 'neutral' goalkeeper attempting to stop whatever came his way. A frequent feature of these games was that of the ball rolling away down the slope into the hedge and nettles at the bottom, followed by heated arguments as to whose turn it was to retrieve it, who kicked it last and why. These disputes often lasted for some time, sometimes involving sit down protests and much stubbornness being displayed by all concerned as play was held up pending the recovery of the ball.

By 1976, an interesting addition to the playing field equipment had arrived in the shape of a redundant fire engine, positioned at the top of the field, just behind the village hall. Its arrival had been facilitated by village resident John Townsend, who worked for Suffolk Fire Service. In no time at all we were soon clambering all over this ancient appliance without, as I recall, any of us coming to any real harm. We soon discovered that a football kicked against the side of the truck produced an excellent booming sound, no doubt this was very popular with local residents hoping to enjoy the benefits of a peaceful village life. Over time age, wear and tear and a certain amount of unfortunate vandalism took its



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I am Olle Nash living in Playford. For the last year the world has been focused on this terrible pandemic, however I have focused not just on the pandemic but also my cancer and its treatment, just as are many other sufferers are doing. I have created a website to share my story and open up about how it is possible to live with such a disease. I hope by doing this others will find it easier to talk about their situation.

Liferaft is my way of dealing with my cancer it helps me focus on something other than my health, there is no better way than to do something you enjoy and for me that is sailing. I am able to achieve this with the continued support I get from family, friends and the local Macmillan day centre, where I get my Chemotherapy treatment. I have experienced this amazing organisation during my own cancer treatment and tragically when my daughter needed help in 2017 and I cannot thank them enough. Please follow my sailing challenge and Join in the fun wherever you can.

My website is: www.sailingwithcancer.co.uk

Here you can read my story and follow progress about my health and my circumnavigation under the blog page.

should have this box of food. "Might be ok for the chickens" said old Jack." Bring it in then"

"You're not Estonian are you" questioned Jack running his hand up and down the barrels. "Oh no" said Binky. "I'm Roman Catholic" and he chuckled to himself.

Binky definitely saw the flash first, and then heard a loud bang. Then he heard

"Get off of my land" "I'll give you ten seconds" Another flash and a loud bang. What order they came in he was not sure.

But what was true is that Binky drove home at forty miles an hour in first gear all the way praying for Covid to end and for Indigo to run out of boxes.

to get rid of for years' ' she said as she carefully masked the sell by dates with a magic marker. But Binky was dubious about the whole exercise, reminding him of the great 'picnic to forget' five years ago when a day out at Aldeburgh ended up on the beach with hampers and plastic boxes spread out ready for everyone to tuck into Indigo's special feast. At that point half a dozen seagulls swooped down and stole the lot. Indigo ordered Binky in no uncertain manner to retrieve the lot from the airborne thieves from the sky. Binky's memories of running along the beach, jumping up in the air forlornly, cap blowing away and two of the seagulls swooping on him and accurately releasing their bombs will live with him forever. Binky wondered why some people thought it good luck for a bird to poo on a human. It was good luck for the bird sure enough but not for him. Retracing his steps and retrieving his hat, in which there was fifty-two pence deposited by a very well-spoken man who was heard to say that he was unaware that the local council put on beach dramas of such high quality. Yet again Binky had been totally humiliated.

But Binky had to take the blame for everything and he was eventually forced to go to the chippy near the car park and order eight cod and chips. First class they were too.

Anyway, Indigo continued with her box packing and Binky knew full well that this latest venture was fraught with danger. Indigo had written the name and address of each recipient on the top of each box and ordered Binky to load them all into his car and start delivering them. With a heavy heart he set off. The first recipient was Sarah Ringworm wife of Lord Ringworm of Rancid St Mary. Binky could not fathom out why

they should get a food box as they were filthy rich and lived at Leabings Castle, the biggest house this side of the B1079, which is saying something. Binky arrived and as instructed left the box on the doorstep, rang the bell and moved smartly away towards his idling car. He was never quite sure what hit him first, the mandarin oranges or the evaporated milk. Either way details are unimportant, it was very painful. He turned to see Lord Ringworm kicking the box off his porch and shouting something about reporting fly tippers to the appropriate authorities. Binky wasn't sure how he would relay all this to his beloved. In the end he considered a downright lie would be the simplest way out.

His next delivery was to old Jack Prembleberry on his farm down Pigsty Lane. Old Jack was renowned for his fiery temper and accuracy with a twelve bore. In fact, he was not long out of prison for shooting a very nice Estonian Amazon delivery man who had addressed old Jack as Mr Pickleberry, an easy mistake to make. Jack was indicted for "shooting a person less intelligent than oneself" an old Suffolk law that had resulted in no one shooting anyone at all for over fifty years. Strangely enough.

So, Binky was quite nervous of this delivery. On ringing the bell, the front door opened immediately, and two barrels pressed against Binky's stomach. "Yes?" said old Jack through yellow and black teeth with just a hint of garlic and half an unlit cigarette in the corner of his mouth. Binky explained that he had brought a Covid parcel for him. "But I don't want any Covid" retorted Jack. "I never sent for any". Thus, started a very long and convoluted explanation as to why he

toll and when various bits started falling off it was decided that, even by the standards of those times, it was unsafe and so it was removed a few years later.

Towards the end of the 70s, in our late teens, we would occasionally camp out on the field on warm summer nights. A group of around seven or eight of us would pitch a couple of small tents on the only level part of the field, that narrow strip of land where the zip wire now runs. As darkness fell and we eventually settled down, there would be all the usual silliness, animal noises, and various other sound effects which only a group of teenage boys can truly appreciate. I particularly remember one such night, when I was sharing a small three-man tent with a couple of friends, Darryl Hicks and Tony Suskins, while the rest of our group occupied a larger tent nearby.

Darryl had spent his early childhood in the USA and still sometimes spoke with a distinctive American 'twang' despite having lived in Bealings for several years. As we finally settled down for the night, Tony decided, quite sensibly, that trousers would not be necessary inside a sleeping bag on a warm summer night and proceeded to remove them. Darryl thought this worthy of comment and so informed everyone loudly that "Tony's just taken his pants off!" This caused considerable uproar and hilarity in the adjoining tent, until I pointed out the linguistic differences at work here, assuring the others that no underwear had been removed.

As time moved on, we all grew up and left the village one by one, leaving the playing field to be enjoyed by subsequent generations of children and families over the following years. Happily, I am still in

contact with several of my friends from those carefree days of our youth and we still remember fondly the many hours we spent there some 50 years ago.

Finally, on behalf of the 'class of 1970' and all the following generations who have enjoyed using the playing field – a big thank you to all those dedicated villagers who first helped set up the playing field back in 1970, to those who have continued to raise funds and keep it running over subsequent years, and indeed to those who continue to do so today.

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LEAH HINKS' POTTERY CLASSES AT THE GRANARY

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

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

Phone Leah for updates on 01473 735880

We are hoping no one was sick enough to have done this on purpose and that it was just an accident. Cats love the taste of antifreeze as it tastes really sweet and it only needs a teaspoon full to lead to kidney failure then death within hours of digesting it.

I just wanted to draw attention to this so another family doesn't have to go through the heartache we have had to go through.

Cleaning up spills and storing bottles away correctly, may save someone else from losing a beloved pet because according to the vets it happens a lot this time of year.

*Jo Burrows
Sevenoaks
Playford*

ST MARY'S

It has been decided to close Playford Church for the foreseeable future until the Government restrictions are relaxed.

When we open up again it will be on the Second Sunday of the month with a service starting at 10am. Until then anyone

can join in the All Saints, Kesgrave, Zoom service held every Sunday at 10am for one hour.

All details of how to join the Zoom Church can be found on the All Saints Church Kesgrave website.

Alternatively contact Playford Church warden.

*Colin Hedgley
Churchwarden*

CHURCH LIGHTS

CHRISTMAS FLOODLIGHTS

There was a wonderful response to the appeal for sponsorship to have the Church lights on over the Christmas period and very many grateful thanks go to **Wendy Wilson and Brian Buckles, Brian and Anne Seward, the Baker Family, Sue Kennedy, Victoria Bunbury, Jonathan Fieldsend** who sponsored the nights of 20th and 21st and

Joan and Eric Metcalfe. Joan, as you know, has been the Chair of Playford Parish Council for very many years now and deserves a very well earned thank you from us all for the work that she has done and continues to do for the village. She and Eric sponsored Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with the message: "to bring a ray of light and a little bit of Christmas cheer to the village and all the residents".

10th December – sponsored by me on what would have been Charles and my 43rd wedding anniversary.

14th December – sponsored by Chris Cocksedge in honour of Rosemary's 82nd birthday with love from Chris, Nicky and Sue.

14th January 2021 – for Hilary Legard - sponsored by her friends for a significant birthday.

Requests to sponsor lights to: Veronica Bunbury, Church Corner Cottage, Church Lane, Playford Telephone 01473 623366 or email: vronxbunbury@gmail.com

PLAYFORD W.I.

It is with great regret that our WI has recently suffered the loss one of its members.

Bridget Lapsley was a committee member and a very active member of our little group. In addition she was an avid reader and member of our book group.

She will be sadly missed by us all.

BINKY AND CO

Binky was fed up. Again. At the beginning of lockdown his wonderful wife Indigo had volunteered to be the "main man" in the production and distribution of food boxes to the housebound and elderly of her area.

She went at it like a woman possessed, filling old cardboard boxes with tins of mandarin oranges, evaporated milk bread, butter and jam. "It's just like the war!" she exclaimed excitedly. "Good wholesome stuff that I've been wanting

FINANCE

Payments were authorised to Keith Carson for paint and repairs to the fence around the playing field, to Sam Webber for replacement marker posts and materials for the drain cover, and a contribution towards heating costs during the PC meeting in Playford Church in November. The clerk's salary for November & December was sanctioned, payment to HMRC for tax due, and to Norse for annual grass and hedge trimming costs. The budget for 2020-21 was agreed to be on track and after discussion it was resolved to raise the Precept by £1500 for 2021-22, to allow for the following year's expenditure and to increase reserve funds to a sensible level. The total Precept requested will be £9500. Application for funding a replacement oak tree on the playing field, to commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1 (the previous one died last year) was made to ES Community Partnership team.

HIGHWAYS ISSUES

Norse has been engaged to dig out the length of the ditch between the playing field and Butts Road in front of the Village Hall, to facilitate the water flow into the drain under the car park ramp - a quote for this work has been accepted. It is hoped that we can progress with purchasing the poles which Highways will supply and install for the SIDS equipment now that funding and locations have been agreed.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

No further news as Planning Direct cannot be contacted at the moment.

PLANNING ISSUES

The site of the stables at Archway Piggeries is causing some concern as work does not appear to have been carried out as detailed in planning applications DC/19/4843/FUL & DC/20/0560/FUL. Also, smoke and noxious smells from a permanent bonfire are affecting nearby properties - this situation has been reported to the environment dept at ESC. Clerk to write

to site-owner to request clarification of these issues.

OTHER MATTERS

Use of the 5-a-side football pitch for children's training sessions on a Saturday morning has been requested but due to current restrictions and the fact that no facilities at the village hall can be made available, this will need to be an informal arrangement for the time being.

Fly tipping is on the increase, fortunately Norse has been active in removing it effectively.

It has been noted that a tree behind the memorial bench in Hill Farm Road could be in danger of falling down - this will be dealt with when Covid restrictions allow.

Number of people visiting Playford for exercise during the current lockdown period continues to cause concern but it appears no laws have been broken.

One more councillor is still required to serve on the parish council - please contact the clerk or any councillor for details if you are interested.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Weds 3rd March 2021 via Zoom at 7.00 p.m. Please advise the clerk 24 hours in advance if you wish to attend.

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

LOSS OF TWO CATS TO ANTIFREEZE POISONING.

I got up on the 27th of December knowing it was going to be a hard day anyway, with it being the one-year anniversary of my mum's passing, but didn't realise how hard it would turn out to be.

I made a cup of tea and fed my cats as usual, 20 minutes later I found one having a seizure and the other dead by the back door. We then had to have the other one put down the following day, they were nearly 14 & 15 and we had had them both since kittens, the vet diagnosed antifreeze poisoning in both.

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

Most will understand that the church is now fully locked-down. The second wave of the virus has impacted more heavily than the first, and the only way to minimise possible infection is to close down totally, not only services, but also possibilities for private prayer. The same does not apply to the churchyard, and it is heartening to notice how many people include it in permissible walks, or who visit to tend graves, or to place flowers in memory of loved ones. A churchyard becomes a particular focal point of memories at Christmas.

Fr. Nigel fully understands the frustrations, but he is even more determined than the church authorities themselves that the high level of risk should be fully understood and heeded. The only safe way of respecting the current high level of risk is to lock down entirely. Both churches have followed this line of thinking.

St Mary's, Woodbridge is much better placed to organise "zoom" and streamed events, and we are fortunate to have access to the wonderful resources of our partner church. Do contact the Parish Office with any query that you may have about pastoral concerns, or church activities. The Woodbridge Parish Office is now effectively OUR parish office, complete with part-time Secretary.

Looking Back

Despite restrictions, we can look back with a sort of defiant satisfaction at what we did manage to achieve over the Christmas period. Christmas was certainly not cancelled at St Mary's, Great Bealings.

CAROL SERVICE. SUNDAY DECEMBER 20TH

Well, with actual singing banned this was never going to be a conventional Carol Service. Nor did we have conventional Christmas readings. What we did put together was a celebration in words and music, a series of readings from writers as diverse as Thomas Hardy, John Julius Norwich - a humorous take on the Twelve Days of Christmas - GK Chesterton, and assorted prose pieces relating to, for example, Christmas as it was in Suffolk in 1863, and the inviting of German prisoners of war to a family Christmas in the aftermath of WW2. All of this was interspersed with musical items: violin pieces played by Farran Douse, organ music by Jane Hartley, and our faithful CD player. We are so grateful to the many people who participated in this service and who made it a proper - if unique - community celebration of Christmas. Our thanks to Fr Nigel for his help in putting this all together and for his determination to see it through, and to all who participated and contributed to the success of the occasion.

CRIB SERVICE - 24TH DECEMBER

We really wanted to ensure that we had something specially for the young families in the village. In previous years we have joined with other villages and this Christmas Eve event has been one of the highlights. A stand-alone service was a bit more of a challenge, but we were rewarded with a heartening turn-out of a couple of dozen people, again determined to make the best of challenging circumstances.

NEW BENEFICE WALK - NEW YEAR'S DAY

Please see under "Church News" below for an account of the special New Year's Eve Vigil which took place in Woodbridge, in anticipation not only of the New Year,



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PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

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

PCC SECRETARY

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

PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

These are condensed notes of the proceedings of the Playford Parish Council meeting held 13th January 2021 via Zoom. A full version of the minutes appears on the website: www.playford.org.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No County Council report, acting Co Cllr Mary Evans had 4 other meetings to attend and could not fit Playford into her schedule but asked to be updated of any problems.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Colin Hedgley's District Council report included details of East Suffolk's new Environmental Guidance Note which has been approved, the dismissal of the appeal against planning permission being granted for new homes on the former council premises site on Melton Hill as new homes are badly needed, and Suffolk Police & Crime Commissioner's proposals for the policing element of the council tax precept. ESC welcomes progress on the new Windfarm proposals and is engaging with applicants addressing concerns within the Relevant Representation and Local Impact report. Active Suffolk, a series of online activities is being promoted. Latest information relating to Covid-19 is available on the ESC website, ESC is awaiting an update on Business Grants, and residents are being invited to "Have their Say" on the Council's budget priorities. The Home but Not Alone phone line continues to be active, the Environmental Services are currently working with Food & Safety team and Suffolk Public Health to ensure workplace settings etc are Covid-secure. Refuse collections and other Norse services are operating as normal.

Customer Services are operating as usual but public access remains closed.

Colin has offered to fund from his Enabling Budget, two sets of clamps for Playford's SIDS device which will be used for highlighting speeding issues in the parish.

A copy of the full report is appended to the full minutes on the website.

ACTION POINT REVIEW

Playford is now 23rd on the list for an application to have the unregistered FP between C330 and C3311 reinstated - an appeal to the Sec of State will be submitted to try to advance this position.

Other FP issues are on hold at the moment as conditions are too wet.

New drain cover over the entrance to the pipe under the ramp to the village hall car park seems to be working effectively.

Blue algae on the long pond alongside FP20 has disappeared but situation will be reviewed when warmer weather returns.

Road drains on the C324 are still blocking up after heavy rainfall - this is being monitored.

Smashed Bridleway sign at junction of FP1 and Byway19 has been reported.

Fallen willow tree near river bridge in Butts Road has been reported to Environment Agency.

Blocked drain at top of Church Lane has been reported and will be dealt with.

Mud, debris etc washed down Church Lane by heavy rainfall has been inspected by Highways but not thought to warrant immediate attention.

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



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but also of the official start of our new Benefice.

This new beginning was then commemorated, on the ground, so as to speak, by a loosely organised walk between the two churches, with some routes, quite appropriately, taking in Seckford Hall and the surrounding area. Dogs joined in, bells were rung in both churches at midday, commemorative books were signed, and many photographs were taken. Because of Covid restrictions, neither church was properly open, but the books for signing were available in the porches.



This picture of the Seckford porch at Great Bealings is particularly relevant, symbolising as it does, the Seckford link between the two parishes – together with



the welcoming lights of the Christmas tree.

The other picture shows our new Rector, his wife, Liz and black Labrador, Poppy, all suitably equipped for a muddy cross-country walk.

LOOKING AHEAD

Not much on offer yet. Too much uncertainty as to when lock-down measures will be eased. In due course we will revert to the normal routine of a service on the first Sunday of each month. In the meantime, keep an eye on streaming, zooming possibilities from Woodbridge and from the Cathedral.

CHURCHYARD

It was heartening to see so many flowers being placed on family graves over the Christmas period. Paradoxically it makes the churchyard a living place, and one which continues to be of huge emotional significance to many people who have loved ones at rest and peace in that special area.

Norman Porter. Churchwarden (nhp@rillcott.co.uk)

PARISH COUNCIL

Summarised notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18TH November 2020

Finger Post, Holly Lane – Colin Hedgley reported that SCC Highways will not be replacing this. Cllrs agreed his suggestion that the PC funds a replacement and also undertakes some landscaping, which can be financed from the Parish Planters fund. He will investigate.

Water Meadow – Rob Munn advised that the Environment Agency are still investigating the dumping of green waste by the meadow owner without a licence, but under the current circumstances, this will not have a high priority.

REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR COLIN HEDGLEY (CH)

A report had been circulated to Cllrs and

a full copy is attached to the minutes. CH verbally reported on the second lockdown arrangements, the funding boost for small businesses, an environmental grant scheme and the Green Flag that has been awarded to Felixstowe Seafront Gardens for the fifth time.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DC/20/4032/PN3 - Barn A, Land adjacent former Wood Barn Cottages, Seckford Hall Road – Conversion of an agricultural building to a dwelling house

The Council resolved to object to this application, and will submit a list of concerns to ESC

DC/20/4136/LBC – Seckford Hall – Internal alterations to the East Wing Ground Floor to provide five bedrooms each with an en-suite bathroom

Martin Cripps raised some issues on Disability Access, which were not clear in the plans. He will consult with the agents for further details. A final decision was deferred until this matter is resolved.

Decision Update -DC/20/2575/FUL – The Boot, Boot Street – permitted by ESC

SCLP NEW LOCAL PLAN POLICY 5.4

Charles Barrington (CPB) queried whether this is sufficient to trigger a review of the Neighbourhood Plan. CH advised that, although there is no immediate need, this should be considered in the New Year, with possibly a Working Party set up to look at this. CPB will liaise with the appropriate officer at ESC.

SUFFOLK DIVISION BOUNDARY CHANGES

CH stated that it is his opinion that Great Bealings should stay a rural area and be linked with the Grundisburgh and Wickham Market ward, rather than be included with Woodbridge. It was agreed that a formal objection would be submitted. The additional joint response proposed by Lt Bealings PC was agreed.

CODE OF CONDUCT (CoC)

Establishment of Working Party (WP)

Charles Barrington and Rob Munn volunteered for this, and Anthony Sheppard and Sue Prentice were both co-opted to assist.

Draft Revisions

A draft revised national Code had been circulated for comment, and is now under consideration by NALC, with no date given for conclusion. The aim of the WP will be to consider the draft in the light of recent concerns and, if thought fit, to add or amend some clauses in the existing CoC, and to incorporate these into an approved version of the new national Code for approval by GtBPC at the next Annual PC meeting.

HIGHWAYS

Boot Street Bridge - Extension to Speed limit

SCC are progressing with the legal aspects of this scheme. The Clerk reported that two grants of £500 have been awarded to the PC in respect of this scheme, one from District Cllr Tony Fryatt's Enabling Communities Fund, which has already been received, and the other from the ESC Community Partnership Group. Some residents have offered to contribute if there is a shortfall, and CH stated that if the request for payment for the scheme runs over into the next financial year, he will be able to make a contribution from his Fund.

SAVID/SID – CPB confessed that he had not charged the batteries recently, therefore Phil Holmes (PH) had been unable to collect any data. He will do this shortly and advise PH.

Quiet Lanes – A bid from the Quiet Lanes Group for some funding from SCC has been successful. Martin Cripps has volunteered to be the Lead Officer for Great Bealings and has registered our individual lane nominations

Other Highways – John Carter-Jonas had asked SCC for permission to create some wildflower verges, but they had refused, without giving a reason. He will take this up with them.

vice is held via Zoom. For more information, please go to <https://www.askesgrave.org/welcome.htm>. We are also delighted to let you know that every weekday morning at 8:30am Bishop Martin and his wife, Rev. Jutta Brueck, lead a short service on Facebook. To access the daily service, go to <https://www.facebook.com/BishopsCofEsuffolk>.

KAGERA LENT APPEAL 2021

Our Diocese has had a relationship for many years with the Diocese of Kagera in Tanzania. Every year, we celebrate and enrich our link with the key workers whom we support in order to lead their people to live "Life in its fullness". This year, we invite you to participate in Bishop Martin and Bishop Mike's Kagera Lent Challenge 2020/1. More information can be found at <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/exploring-faith/our-bishops/bishops-lent-appeal/>.

Previous donations have helped in so many important ways, including:

- providing over 350,000 trees across the region, encouraging local churches to establish their own tree nurseries

- providing materials for training for building water tanks

- building a new dormitory and dining hall at Ngara Anglican Primary School (NAPS), enabling the school to take boarders and attract more pupils

- buying a motorbike for a priest

We know that this is a challenging time for us all, but if you can open your hearts to give generously to the people of Kagera, we would be most grateful.

We look forward to seeing you all when we can safely re-open our beloved church for private prayer and for services. In the meantime, please stay safe, support your neighbours, and keep hope in your hearts.

With every blessing,

*Corinne and Tony Fear
Churchwardens*

LITTLE BEALINGS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - 1 MARCH 2021

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 1 March.

The meeting will be held by Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85162925588>

pwd=ZWDJV280eU0xb3ZRWittdDVSWXhTZz09

Meeting ID: 851 6292 5588

Passcode: 042833

Local community groups are invited to give reports on their activities over the last year - please contact the Clerk if you would like to do so.

All parishioners of Little Bealings are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, meet Councillors and give their ideas for the village – and raise any concerns.

The meeting will be followed by a presentation by The Friends of The Admiral's Head.

*Carol Ramsden - Clerk
01473 610088*

*Email: littlebealingspc@btinternet.com
Website: www.littlebealings.onesuffolk.net*

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FINANCE AND ADMIN

Six cheques were authorised for office expenses, November and December salary and PAYE and village sign insurance.

Draft Budget 2021/22 – The Clerk had circulated a draft budget for the next financial year, which showed that proposed expenditure showed a significant increase, largely due to the need to provide for training expenses for two new Cllrs.

Provisional Precept Discussion - ESC had advised that a precept of £4754 would need to be requested to reflect a 0% increase on the PC element of Council Tax. However, this was a reduction on the current year and was insufficient to meet the PC's expected expenditure next year. The Clerk had circulated information about the recommended levels of reserves that PCs should hold, and it was clear that Great B's is below this level, which needs consideration when setting the precept.

Banking Arrangements – The PC now only has three signatories for the bank account. It was agreed to leave the selection of a fourth signatory until the Annual Meeting in May 2021. The Clerk will investigate the possibility of then moving to online-banking, possibly with a new provider in order to preserve the two-signatory rule.

DATA PROTECTION – RETENTION POLICY – a draft policy document had been circulated by the Clerk. It was agreed that approved minutes on the website need only be displayed for two full years. The policy was adopted, proposed by CPB and seconded by MC.

Other Finance and Admin matters – The second precept instalment has been received, and the Bank Reconciliation was approved for signature.

CORRESPONDENCE

Future of Fynn Lark News – a paper had been circulated by the editor with several recommendations for the future of the magazine. These were agreed by

Cllrs and it was confirmed that the PC's annual donation of £200 would continue. CH agreed to be the PC's representative on the magazine's committee

Community Partnership-Talking Benches Proposal – Andy Jolliffe from ESC has offered local parishes the opportunity to be supplied with a bench to be located in a public space to encourage people to start conversations. The PC would have to fund installation and future maintenance. There was general approval for this scheme and Sally Johnson said she would look into this, and that she had a location in mind.

Claimed Public Footpath – Some correspondence between a resident and SCC had been circulated regarding FP11 which was first raised as an issue two years ago. SCC have stated that this is on their list of medium priority cases, to be determined within 2-5 years. It was noted that the PC is unable to take any action to progress this matter. JCJ reported that there is a dangerous area of barbed wire by the stile and MC agreed to investigate this.

Summarised notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th December 2020

To receive written applications for the office of Parish Councillor and to co-opt candidates to fill the existing vacancies

Presentation/Interviews

The three candidates in turn addressed the Cllrs who then asked them some questions. The three candidates then left the meeting. A short discussion was held by the five participating Cllrs then the candidates re-joined the meeting.

Votes

Voting took place for the first vacancy, and an absolute majority was declared for Steve Condon. The remaining two candidates were the subject of the voting for the second vacancy, and an absolute majority was declared for Regan Scott

Co-options



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Budget for 2021/22

It was noted that the Council would receive £85 Council Tax Support Grant from ESC and resolved that a precept of £12,000 be requested from ESC.

Risk Assessment for 2020/21

This was reviewed and approved.

Income and Expenditure

Income of £5.16 had been received from Great Bealings Parish Council as part payment of the insurance premium for the shared wooden village sign. The following expenditure was agreed: Clerk's salary and expenses for January, and salary for February and PAYE for January and February.

Internal Control Report

The Internal Control Report and bank statement/cheque book reconciliation for the third quarter would be completed by Mr Hunter.

Website sense review

Mr Hunter and Ms Saagi had carried out the review and the revisions to be made would be discussed with the webmaster via Zoom.

DATES OF MEETINGS UNTIL MARCH 2022

It was agreed that the Council will meet on

- 1 March (after the Annual Parish Meeting),
- 10 May (the Annual Parish Council Meeting),
- 5 July,
- 7 September
- 1 November 2021

10 January and 7 March (after the Annual Parish Meeting in 2022).

If additional meetings were required these would take place on

- 1 February 12 April 7 June
- 2 August 4 October 6 December
- 7 February 2022

All meetings will use Zoom until further notice.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This will take place at 7pm on Monday 1 March using Zoom. All parishioners of Little Bealings are invited to attend and meet Councillors and give their ideas for the village – and raise any concerns. Local community groups are also invited to give reports on their activities over the last year - please contact the Clerk if you would like to do so. The meeting will be followed by a presentation by FoTAH, giving an Update on the Purchase of The Admiral's Head. The Agenda, including the Zoom invite will be published here: <https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/pc-agenda-list/>

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is Monday 1 March, after the Annual Parish Meeting and will use Zoom. Joining details will be included on the Agenda, published here a few days before the meeting:

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

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

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

Carol Ramsden - Clerk
01473 610088

Email: littlebealingspc@btinternet.com
Website: <https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/>

ALL SAINTS

We hope that you have had a safe and happy holiday time and that we will all look forward to a new year that brings widespread vaccine distribution, lots of plants to be sold at the Annual Bealings Spring Plant Sale, and, of course, the eventual re-opening of our Church for services and myriad activities. But while we can't meet in person, there are many ways you can take part in services online. Every Sunday at 10am the Benefice ser-

Complaints Procedure.

PLANNING - policy consultations

ESC Planning Policy Documents Consultation: Statement of Community Involvement, Recreational Disturbance Avoidance, Cycling and Walking Strategy and Affordable Housing

It was resolved to advise ESC that Playford and Martlesham Road were used regularly by cyclists, including cycling clubs at weekends, and by walkers passing between public footpaths. Calming to reduce the speed and volume of vehicular traffic, such as a width restriction or the installation of a barrier across a part of the road, would make the road safer for cyclists and walkers.

ESC Consultation on Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

It was resolved to support this proposed Supplementary Planning Policy Document.

SCC Consultation on Suffolk Design

It was noted that this consultation related to the design of new streets for non-motorised traffic.

HIGHWAYS - installation of poles for speed indicator devices

SCC had confirmed that it would fund the installation of the poles, and one set of brackets to attach the SAVID speed indicator device would be funded SAVID. District Councillor Hedgley was thanked for funding the second set from his Locality Funding. Mr Garnham would represent the Council at the next SAVID meeting. It was hoped the poles would be in place within 14 weeks.

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS

A policy was adopted and can be found on the Council's website: <https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/protocols/>

PRODUCTION OF A BEALINGS HISTORY

It was resolved that the Council supported the project.

APPOINTMENT OF FOOTPATH WARDEN

The Council approved a new role for a

volunteer Footpath Warden, and was pleased to appoint John Wittgreffe and Francis Mutimer Joint Footpath Wardens.

THE ADMIRAL'S HEAD

The Chairman of FoTAH presented funding and options for the Council to take legal advice on pursuing a Compulsory Purchase of the pub. It was resolved that FoTAH obtain the advice, and present it with updated financial and business plan information to enable the Council to consider the Public Works Board Loan consultation with residents.

LITTLE BEALINGS WAR MEMORIAL

It had been established that the Council had agreed to take responsibility for the maintenance of the War Memorial in All Saints Churchyard in 1989, but no work had been carried out since 1990. It was resolved to apply to the War Memorial Trust for a grant to carry out maintenance work, but also to include the cost in the budget for 2021/22 in case the application was unsuccessful or the Council wished to proceed sooner.

FYNN LARK NEWS STANDING COMMITTEE

It was resolved that the Council supported the creation of a Standing Committee and resolved that the Clerk would represent the Council on it.

WOODBIDGE AND DISTRICT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR MEETING

Dr Hopkins had attended the last meeting on behalf of the Council. There had been a crime report of a resident's notice being defaced, but incidents of anti-social behaviour had decreased, due to Covid restrictions. Dr Hopkins would attend the meeting on 14 January and would request data from the Police speed checks carried out on Playford Road.

ASSET REGISTER UPDATE

This was agreed, with the addition of the Council's strimmer/brush cutter. The Chairman would inspect the old notice board post at the Hall Road crossroads to see if it should be removed.

FINANCE

It was **RESOLVED** that Steve Condon and Regan Scott be co-opted to serve as a Parish Councillor for Great Bealings PC. CPB summarised the meeting and welcomed the two new Cllrs. He expressed his hope that the third candidate would retain their interest in the event of any future vacancies.

Summarised notes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th January 2021

WELCOME TO NEW COUNCILLORS

CPB welcomed Steve Condon (SC) and Regan Scott (RS) to their first meeting as Parish Councillors. Their Declarations of Acceptance were signed on camera, witnessed by the Clerk.

FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERIM VICE-CHAIRMAN

CPB nominated that Rob Munn (RM) be appointed as interim Vice-Chairman until the Annual Appointment of Officers in May. This was seconded by Sally Johnson (SJ). There were no other nominations so RM was duly appointed.

TREES, PLANTING ETC – a report had been circulated by Martin Cripps (MC). Planting and maintenance of trees along footpaths has had to be suspended until autumn due to Covid restrictions, although planting of some black poplars may take place. Parish Planters (PP) work at the Grundisburgh Rd junction has recommenced, and once cleared then ground cover plants and shrubs will be planted in the Spring. If anyone would like to volunteer to assist (restrictions permitting), please contact MC. The PC expressed its gratitude to PP for their work. MC confirmed that the tree on the triangle by Rosery Lane will be dealt with when circumstances permit and he will communicate with the householder accordingly.

LOCAL PLAN (LP) AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (NP) – Charles Barrington (CPB) reported that ESC have agreed to look at the Neighbourhood Plan and advise

whether it needs to be reviewed, and if there is any form of conflict with the Local Plan. After their response is received, a working party will need to be set up.

BARBED WIRE ON PUBLIC FOOTPATH – it is considered that there is no action for the PC to take until SCC have dealt with the claimed footpath issue. Following a query by RS, MC confirmed that all footpaths will have to be registered within the next 5 years. RS has some information and will liaise with MC to determine the exact process that will be needed.

WILD FLOWER VERGES – John Carter-Jonas (JCJ) has been unable to get a response from SCC on this. The hedgerows along Rosery Lane have now been cut.

TALKING BENCH – Sally Johnson confirmed that she had sent in our application, and will enquire as to progress

WATER MEADOW – RM reported that the caravan at Croft Cottage will be removed ahead of schedule and the soil will then be removed from the water meadow

REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR COLIN HEDGLEY (CH)

A report had been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to the minutes. CH verbally reported that ESC has given food and money to vulnerable residents. CPB mentioned the Good Neighbour Scheme set up under the first lockdown, and CH offered to speak to the previous organiser about resurrecting this. CPB commented that the ESC Environmental Guidance Note was excellent and would need to be considered at the time of the NP review.

CODE OF CONDUCT (CoC)

Anthony Sheppard (AS) summarised actions to date and referred to the Working Party's proposed addition to the Suffolk CoC, which had been circulated. It was intended that this would be a stop-gap solution pending publication of the new national Code. Several proposed amendments were proposed and

discussed. AS will submit a revised draft to the March meeting.

CH had circulated suggested wording on Declarations of Interest and Declarations of Lobbying that should be included on all future PC agendas, as is now done at ESC. This wording was supported by all Cllrs and the Clerk will action this for all future meetings.

EMERGENCY PLAN

Steve Condon volunteered to take this over.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Decision Updates:

DC/20/3754 – Regency House – this is still awaiting decision by ESC

DC/20/4032 – Wood Barn Cottages – refused by ESC. CPB commented that he had written to the case officer at ESC to congratulate her on an excellent report.

DC/20/4136 – Seckford Hall – permitted by ESC. CPB thanked MC for all his investigative work on disabled access in relation to this application. MC has raised with ESC the difference between an FUL and an LBC application. It is Building Control who ensures that the Equalities Act is complied with. CH explained some of the rules regarding inspection of an LBC application

THE SIZEWELL C PROJECT – CPB said that the PC has registered an interest and needs to continue to be involved due to traffic issues. RS explained the reasoning behind the request to complete a questionnaire, and will liaise with the Clerk regarding its completion

HIGHWAYS

Boot Street Bridge - Extension to Speed limit

A grant of £1,000 has been received from CH's Enabling Communities Budget, the total now received in grants is £2,000. CPB reported that the scheme has gone through all the legal processes and is waiting to be programmed by SCC. MC raised the question of signage, in relation to the Quiet Lanes project which is underway. CPB will ask for some detailed

plans.

SAVID/SID – JCJ offered to take over recharging the batteries for the SID.

Quiet Lanes – an update report had been circulated by MC. This project has really taken off and is moving at pace. MC will make more enquiries about signage required. The residents in the proposed roads will need to be consulted. MC will report to the March meeting.

FINANCE AND ADMIN

Five cheques were authorised for office expenses and January/February salary and PAYE

Budget and Precept 2021/22 – The Clerk had circulated a revised budget for the next financial year, together with information from ESC regarding the tax base, a spreadsheet showing various precept calculations and a note of a recommendation by NALC on the level of reserves that small PCs should keep. These should be as close as possible to the annual net expenditure, which in our case is approx. £4,900, whereas our reserves are approx. £1800. CPB proposed that the PC moves to get to the required level over a period of 5 years, thus increasing the precept by £600 each year to meet this target. He therefore proposed a precept of £5,900 which would cover the budget and allow a transfer to reserves. The Clerk advised that this equated to an increase of approx. 22% which would be an increase of 15p per week for a Band D property (£8 per year). CH then stated that he considered that the Clerk was underpaid in comparison to similar PCs and he was therefore asked to investigate and report back to the PC. This could mean that the final precept may need to be increased accordingly. It was **RESOLVED** to implement a minimum precept of £5,900 which may be increased before notification is due on 31 January as a result of the salary review. *(PMN: Since the meeting, it has been agreed to proceed with the agreed precept of £5,900 because it will not be possible to establish a full review of the salary before 31 January and therefore any agreed salary*

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is continuing to hold remote meetings using Zoom and met on 11 January. The public are able to attend remotely and participate as usual during the Public Participation Session of each meeting. The joining invitation is included on the Agenda, which can be found here a few days before each meeting:

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

The issues considered on 11 January, and at the previous meeting on 26 November, were:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

DC/20/4746/FUL: Siting of 3 no. Holiday Lodges - Little Meadow, The Street

DC/20/4866/FUL: Alterations to existing vehicular access to create new driveway and blocking existing entrance - Beacon House, Playford Road

The applicants for these developments each presented them to the Council.

DC/20/4969/CLE: Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) C3 Dwelling house – see submissions as to why there is no material change of use of the land edged blue (with the parking area edged red within the blue land) – The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road

A resident who lived next door to the property advised that he was unaware of any noise or disruption being caused by the current use.

PUBLIC SEWER FOR THE STREET

The Environment Agency had advised that it was now determining the Council's appeal, but would still accept any relevant information. Residents should contact: Will Tipper, Advisor, Surface Water Quality Protection and Performance, Environment Agency, Manley House, Kestrel Way, Exeter EX2 7LQ email: will.tipper@environment-agency.gov.uk Telephone: 020 302 52546 or Mobile: 07787 151647

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

The reports can be found on the Council's website:

<https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/district-and-county-councillor-reports/>

PLANNING – applications and updates

DC/20/4457/FUL: Construction of one two-storey dwelling - Homeleigh Cottage The Street Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LT

There was no objection to this application.

Sizewell C Further Consultation

Revisions to the transport strategy were noted and it was resolved that there was no objection to the proposed increase in the number of train movements so long as these did not take place at night and there was mitigation against any increase in noise.

DC/20/4746/FUL: Siting of 3 no. Holiday Lodges - Little Meadow, The Street

There was no objection to this application subject to the provision of an access to the standard required by SCC.

DC/20/4866/FUL: Alterations to existing vehicular access to create new driveway and blocking existing entrance - Beacon House, Playford Road

There was no objection to this application.

DC/20/4969/CLE: Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) C3 Dwelling house – see submissions as to why there is no material change of use of the land edged blue (with the parking area edged red within the blue land) – The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road

It was resolved to object to the application as use of the property for car sales could lead to road signing and an increase in traffic on Martlesham Road, especially after Covid restrictions were lifted.

ENF/2019/0303/USE: Enforcement Action at The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road

It was resolved at the meeting on 26 November to make formal complaint to ESC about the delay in taking enforcement action, and request that enforcement action be carried out until the planning application was determined. At the meeting on 11 January it was considered that ESC's response to the Council's complaint was poor and ESC would be advised that the Council wished to escalate the complaint to the next stage in ESC's

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increase will have to come out of the additional reserve figure. The position will thus need to be regularised when setting the precept in 2022)

Other Finance and Admin – the Bank Reconciliation was approved for signature

CORRESPONDENCE

Census 2021 – The proposed date for this is 21st March although doubts were expressed that it would go ahead in the present Covid circumstances.

Fynn Lark News – RS volunteered to write the lead article for the March edition.

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

Dee Knights – Clerk 01473 624240

Email: greatbealingspc@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.greatbealings.co.uk

FRIENDS OF GREAT BEALINGS CHURCH

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2020 RIDE AND STRIDE RESULTS

The Trustees of SHCT are full of praise and admiration for over-all efforts. Despite the exceptional challenges this year, the figures are "astonishing." The whole of Suffolk raised £155,300 compared to £128,223 in 2019; a £27,077 increase. When Gift Aid is included the total is about £170,000. This is the best result for 10 years! Woodbridge area results are also impressive, with a total of £7,042 compared to £5,779 in 2019; up £1,263 over 2019. The Treasurer expects some more funds to arrive over the next weeks. Great Bealings was in the top half-dozen of contributors. Warmest thanks to all who supported us.

OPEN GARDENS 2021

We see no reasons, as yet, for pulling back from our plans to open gardens sometime in the early summer of 2021.

An outdoor event is less likely to be affected by Covid regulations anyway. Charles and Ann Barrington have once again kindly offered The Lodge garden as a venue for a final gathering. June 5th is pencilled in as the date. Please get in touch if you would be prepared to be included in the organisation of this year's event. It is not just for grand gardens. Ordinary cottage gardens offering a warm welcome are equally part of our village scene.

PLANT SALE 2021 – an update

As and when we move towards the end of lockdown, gardens will once again have an important role to play.

Our Plant Sale is currently planned somewhere, somehow for the weekend of 16th/17th April. Indications are that we should be out of lock-down by then, but not necessarily able to meet up indoors. There is still plenty we can organise out-of-doors. We think that it might be wise to have a reserve date a fortnight later, the weekend of 1st/2nd May just in case things remain challenging for longer than hoped for.

What it certain is that those planning to produce plants and seedlings will have to have a timetable to work to, so we hope that the above will give sufficient indication not only of intent, but also of timeframes. We may be able to publish firmer details in the March Magazine.

But spring WILL come, and plants WILL be needed, so, on that basis, please continue to prepare plants as usual.

As before: Please direct your reactions, support, queries, worries to Norman Porter: nhp@rillcott.co.uk



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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

CHRISTMAS KINDNESS

Back in November a message circulated on the Bealings and Playford email network and in the Fynn Lark News asking for ideas to bring some light into the dark winter days by sharing some Christmas kindness. One of the first suggestions was support for the Families In Need (FIND) foodbank. A number of villagers offered to host drop off points. The ACH porch was particularly popular with parents and children from Bealings school who left their donations beneath the beautiful Christmas tree. In the end four car loads of food and gifts were taken to FIND. A dozen goodie bags were made up for some of those in the village living by themselves.



Two-year-old Otto delivered some of the bags that contained homemade fudge, Christmas cake and biscuits as well as a selection of small gifts. I think the recipients were as delighted to see Otto as they were with the goodie bag. Residents were also asked to

put up a few extra Christmas lights in their gardens and windows. The village did indeed look spectacular. Bells of all types rang out on Christmas Eve in recognition of the key workers who are doing so much to keep us safe, well and fed during the pandemic. Thank you to Toni, Peter and Vicki for coming up with such a wonderful idea. It was truly uplifting to be part of such a wonderful initiative especially in these difficult, uncertain times.

Frances Hopkins

THANK YOU

I am writing to ask for a favour as I'm sure a well-known gentleman in red * reads the Fynn Lark News.

I would like to thank my "Secret Santa" for the wonderful gift I received at Christmas. Such a surprise, heart-warming, it "made" my Christmas! The fudge and homemade biscuits were delicious – how kind to fit cooking in his busy schedule!

Joan Moon

* Only the editor knows the subscription details!