

Fynn - Lark News

MARCH 2021



L Moss

A Matter of Amenity - A personal view

Like so many others, we have had lots of time to reflect since lockdown in March last year, and are grateful to be comfortable, compared to so many other people and families doing their best to get through these extraordinary times. That experience has prompted reflections about community. They come after ten years' apprenticeship in retirement in Great Bealings. Those reflections include the pleasure of learning about the progress on getting a full 30 mph limit on our main roads and then the linking to new quiet lanes. Together these should calm traffic and keep rat-running in check. A real gain for "community amenity", the term now being used by environmentalists, and even in the odd court case. The term describes something which benefits a whole community, and is quite different to "nimbyism", a divisive and hopefully out-dated tag. I am grateful to be invited to write this piece as a new Parish Council member.

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

Standing up for “community amenity” served us well against SCC’s flagship Ipswich North Ring Road proposal, which is now revealed for what it really was – a piece of public infrastructure for large-scale private housing development, not a solution to Ipswich’s traffic problems. It might quite possibly have made them worse. It was another of many examples of housing over-development being pressed on a Suffolk unsuitable for disproportionate population expansion, and, to boot, not enough of the right kind of housing for people who need it. There was precious little mention of solar panels and the like.

The traffic burden in Suffolk is already structurally serious. The Orwell Bridge is at capacity, regardless of days lost for high winds. More and more new housing estates are dependent on 2 and 3 cars apiece. The A12 is notorious and is now to be dressed up with traffic lights on all of the roundabouts from Seven Hills to the Melton turnoff. On top of that we have Felixstowe, in the new enterprise zone, attracting huge HGV-heavy logistics parks.

It does not have to be so. A happier note was struck by the sensible management of the 5-year cable-laying project that we experienced while they joined up the first of the East Anglian offshore wind farms. But it was a narrow escape: the original proposal was for overhead pylons marching across Great Bealings like the Sizewell soldiers to the north of Grundisburgh. That was a silent and welcome victory.

What other challenges do we face? There are several local developments without such amenity. But there is an elephant in the room – a really big development, long-lasting, irreversible, likely to be obsolete when complete, and one of the biggest construction projects in Europe as a whole. It is a project deeply unsuitable for

Suffolk. It is Sizewell C, either the jewel in the crown of our Energy Coast or the big white elephant. Forgive the mixed metaphor, and disrespect to elephants. But with the planning examination about to start, we all need to move beyond box-ticking the pros and cons, buck-passing, and kicking the proverbial into the long grass. The serious, generation-long, structural impacts are now well understood. Minsmere’s future cannot be secured. Tourism as a core industry would have to be restarted, against the odds, in a very competitive world. Traffic on the crossroads to the A12 would have to be put up with HGVs and some materials diverted to sea and rail does not alter the fact that as many as 12,000 extra vehicles could be on our underfunded main and minor roads for 10 to 15 years.

Our parish is in the outer impact zone and has sensibly registered an interest in the planning examination. Forty-five Suffolk parishes have invited Government Minister, Kwasi Kwarteng, to come and have a look for himself: most Government Ministers make these visits without needing to take a view one way or another about nuclear versus renewable power and wider energy policies. Our parent local government bodies, East Suffolk and Suffolk County, both see serious impacts, “negatives” outweighing “positives”, and lots of “unknowns”. In the setting of the Energy Coast, overwhelmingly a concentration of offshore renewables with good options for joining European networks even after Brexit, Sizewell C is not amenable to redesign or damage limitation in comparison to other Energy Coast technologies. There are many other considerations, but community amenity looks like a relevant test.

Regan Scott

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NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST

EDITORIAL COMMENT

ADVERTISING:

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LINKS WITH PARISH COUNCILS:

Readers will be aware that the FLN is an independent Magazine, run by a team of volunteers. The continued existence of that team is dependent on the readiness of volunteers to take on various tasks. We are the main means of communication for our Parish Councils, who support us financially, but also have a vested interest in our on-going viability. We are pleased to say that those Parish Councils now each has an FLN representative, so we have a safety-net, drawn from those Parish Councils, of people prepared to

get together to help see us through any difficult period.

NEWS ITEMS

ST ELIZABETH FUND-RAISING

We do not normally include items from outside our immediate geographical area, but knowing, as we do, that many local people have a particular soft spot for the St Elizabeth Hospice, and also how such places have been struggling for funds during lock-down, we thought it appropriate to give wider coverage to the story below.

I have a story which some of your readers may be interested in and tells of a local family who out of tragedy have found hope. In August 2017 my late husband, Mike Ginn died at the age of 29 from Leukaemia after a year-long battle with the disease. He left myself and our daughter, Hope, without a husband and Father. Hope was just 15 months old when he died. Throughout Mike's illness he wrote a daily blog which was read by over 10,000 people across the world. He asked me, whilst he was in St Elizabeth Hospice receiving end of life care, that he wanted his blog published into a physical book so that our daughter can read his story.

I am still working at St Elizabeth Hospice as a fundraiser and absolutely love my job as I have both the understanding and empathy of how families are feeling as the hospice cares for their loved ones. It really is an incredible place. The blog has



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now been published and is available on Amazon to purchase as a physical book or an online E-book. The link to the Amazon page is: *Diary of a 20 something cancer fighter: My journey through cancer* eBook: Ginn, Mike, Ginn, Fiona: Amazon.co.uk: Kindle Store. The book is called “Diary of a 20 something cancer fighter.” It can either be ordered as a paperback copy or as an e-book. There is also an article link from Ipswich Star who did an article on our story in September 2017. “New dad from Ipswich died within a year of having the baby he and his wife had longed for.” Ipswich Star.

Fiona Ginn. (07341 830515)

If you have any reason for supporting the Hospice, or can empathise with this story, please respond as you think fit.

BEALINGS SCHOOL: Constantly building a community of creators



For Duncan Bathgate and Kelly McLoughlin--co-leads of our local primary school a statement by Richard Feynman *Nobel Prize Winner 1965, Theoretical Physics is central: 'I do not understand what I do not create'*. Everyone at Bealings spends their days as eager detectives, questioning, cooperating in forming their understanding, attitudes and values, and learning empathetically.

While it may be a well-worn cliché that “children are our future”, when it comes to urgent global issues --from climate change, poverty, and inequality to wars, corruption, and discrimination—the action is being taken now and the children are vitally interested in contributing.

At Bealings School, everyone believes that children are excellent learners even before they attend school and the entire Bealings team are eager to build on that natural curiosity and not to stifle it. At Bealings School that means relying on the experts – the children themselves – not only to guide the process but to lead in terms of questions and curiosity. As Duncan points out: “In our weekly all-school meetings, every child--whether they are 4 or 11—has something to offer and the children run the

meetings.” Many major decisions are taken at the democratic whole-school meeting which occurs every Monday – including building a round house, adding new play equipment, adopting chickens and to call the teachers by their first names and the co-leads now encourage consensus to shape all aspects of the school.

According to standard metrics like Ofsted reviews over the past 20 years, the school has been rated Outstanding in 5 out of 5 evaluations and every year the school is hugely oversubscribed. For the whole Bealings team though, it is not about awards or recognition or popularity, all of which they shy away from; it is about encouraging kind and caring people who will be helpful members of their communities. In this endeavour, their success is unrivalled and has garnered national and international attention in spite of themselves! Over 5,000 educationists from throughout the world have visited our village school in recent years.

The School naturally reinvents itself each year as new faces join, but some key aspects remain constant: each member of the community is valued, all are encouraged to contribute, and everyone learns from each other. When Duncan was first appointed in 1996 the concept of “democratic learning” was introduced and by 2001 a school of the 21st century was being created! By the time Kelly joined Bealings School in 2004 many of its most successful methods were beginning to take effect, such as the School’s horizontal model which allows the flexibility to lead (or co-lead!) and to teach in a way that helps develop curious, creative, resilient and happy children who have a positive and confident self-image.

While governments will unendingly continue to seek metrics to define success for both teachers and pupils, it is increasingly clear that schools that can also use collaborative, innovative methods to allow children to retain the magic of childhood will produce the

positive, happy and useful citizens of tomorrow.

Indeed, ex-pupils often return to let their teachers know how they still use the life skills gained at the School in their adult lives. They can clearly remember details of investigations they worked on and they carry forward the joy of learning that they naturally experience in the magical environment that is Bealings School.

As the whole team believes, Bealings School is in a constant state of “becoming”. I can’t help feeling we are very lucky to have Duncan and Kelly and the entire Bealings School team in our little patch of Suffolk!

Reported by Helen Clarkson-Fieldsend

In the next article from Bealings School: More about the “Mantle of the Expert”: Where it came from, how it began, why it works and what it means today.

HENRY CHARD

– AN EXPLANATION



Henry Chard has responded vigorously to taunts about his wearing a Norwich shirt in a photograph featured in last month’s issue. He assures us that his wearing of that shirt was entirely altruistic. He had

been persuaded by then local resident and Norwich supporter, Chris Lowe, to wear the yellow shirt, in an effort to spur penalty kick takers to blast the ball at him as hard as possible – a sort of red rag to potential bulls, but in this case a yellow shirt to inspire Ipswich supporters to great things.

By way of atonement, we publish another picture of him, this time in his capacity of Sky media representative with the Ipswich witches – not football, but certainly Ipswich. Henry hopes that this will set the record straight about his true allegiance

NATURE NOTES - HIBERNATION

The word originated from the Latin “hibernare” – to spend the winter. Everyone knows that it is a sort of temporary animal lockdown. Those species which do hibernate: bears, bats, often hedgehogs, dormice etc are lucky enough to have the ability to snuggle down somewhere which is presumably warm to them, and not have to get out



and forage food every day during the winter, particularly in times when food is difficult to find. It is nature's way of helping them to deal with the challenges of surviving winter. These animals do not actually fall asleep. Physiological changes mean that their metabolic rate drops to around 5% of the normal, the body temperature drops and that enables them to conserve energy, not to need food, and to survive adverse weather conditions

without having to get out and get it. They live in a state of extended torpor.



It was watching the panic-hunting for food outside our window which made me aware how lucky are those species which are metabolically programmed to snooze away the winter months. Birds do not hibernate they have to keep up their body heat and strength even in the harshest of wintry conditions. Hence the panic feeding. Hence the need for us to help them by putting out bird food in accessible places.



This pheasant, having been lucky enough, so far, to have avoided death by gunshot, still had to survive the arctic weather, and boldly came within a metre of the house in his desperate search for food. Other species, bolder than usual, helped to quickly demolish the food on offer: robins, chaffinches, dunnocks, blackbirds, blue-tits, great-tits, goldfinches, and the inevitable pigeons, looking as sleek as ever.

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That led me to wonder about our own species. We certainly do not hibernate, but we do like to snuggle down indoors, sealing ourselves in away from the cold outside, and reduce our activity levels. That has not been difficult this year, of all years. May we all soon emerge from our wintry torpor, spread our wings, and start getting out and about again.

Norman Porter

ENVIRONMENT

We lurch between various extremes of weather, some of them truly challenging, but there is also sometimes a beauty about them that needs to be recorded. This wonderful picture of roadside icicles, taken by the Chapmans from Culpho, is a case in point.



HISTORY CORNER - BRIDGES

We tend to take bridges for granted, passing over them, mostly cocooned in cars, as if they were part of the natural landscape. But just imagine if those bridges were not there. There was indeed a time when they were not! Even our small local rivers would present serious obstacles to free movement between our communities. Even those little rivers of ours are straddled by several picturesque bridges – picturesque, but vital and functional. Imagine getting around beyond this locality without them. Or thinking further afield, without the Orwell Bridge (Opened 1982), the Wilford Bridge (the first across the Deben along the first

eight miles of its length), or, even further away, the Forth and Tay bridges, the Tyne Bridge, all those bridges across the Thames, the Avon suspension bridge and so many others. Bridges represent some of the greatest of engineering exploits, locally and nationally. They provide links between communities. But yes, we do still come to take them for granted.



Bridges – Great Bealings, Little Bealings, Playford

Bridges have had to be strengthened to take account of ever heavier traffic. Locally we have various small bridges which, in their time, must have enjoyed novelty status. Children, particularly, in the days when they could roam free around the countryside, obviously loved playing in our shallow rivers and around the bridges. The pictures illustrate the way in which they were built, how they were viewed as suitable background for action pictures, for posing in best clothes, or as part of a beautiful landscape. These pictures were taken many years ago - one in 1915, and the bridges were then obviously seen as special, something suitable as a setting for photographs. The new Fynn bridge - to judge by the gleaming white - bars seems to have been something of a novelty. The humped-back bridge over the Lark is a local landmark. We are grateful to Brian Seward for letting us see a choice of wonderful pictures of the Playford bridge over the Fynn, including some of its construction late in the nineteenth century, when the building or reconstruction of a bridge was a major event.

There are other bridges, more abstract ones. Bridges between individuals, between communities, between countries. How much more creative to be a bridge-builder than a constructor of walls. In normal times, when those bridges are in place, we tend to take them too for granted, bridges both physical and human. In recent times we have had to work hard to keep the human bridges open - and have valued them all the more for that.

THE DAY I NEARLY BECAME FAMOUS.....FOR THE WRONG REASONS by *Mike Bettell*

In the last edition of Fynn Lark News the editor asked for contributions so I thought you might be interested in the following tale.

I used to fly in the Royal Air Force, mostly small aeroplanes like Lightnings and Phantoms. My favourite was the Lightning which was a brutal beast with phenomenal performance which few could match then or now. For many years it was the nation's front-line fighter and the envy of many of our NATO colleagues. In 1965, at the age of 21, I was posted to Wattisham where I spent the next 5 glorious years flying the aircraft, 2 or 3 times on most days. As one would expect, I had a few interesting episodes where things went wrong but none was as interesting as my final sortie before being posted to fly Phantoms in Scotland.

As it was my last flight, I was authorised to perform aerobatics, low flying over the sea and a practice diversion. As I taxied out, I looked forward enormously to the trip, which I always did, but my joy was tinged with sadness as it would be my last in this magnificent piece of British engineering. Little did I know that it was very nearly my last trip in anything at all.

The weather was perfect with the wind blowing gently down the easterly runway. I ran up the engines to full power, checked all was well and released the brakes as I had done a thousand times before. The aircraft accelerated rapidly and, just as I lifted off the ground, there was a loud clanging noise through my headphones; it was a red warning on the critical warning panel. I looked down briefly to see "FIRE 1" which indicated that there was a fire in the lower engine (the Lightning had 2 engines in the

fuselage, one mounted above the other). I immediately carried out the fire drill which involved shutting down the engine, switching off the fuel, pressing the fire extinguisher button and jettisoning the ventral fuel tank. The firm advice from the Pilot's Notes was that it was essential to jettison the ventral tank as soon as possible because it was scabbed on to the fuselage immediately below the bottom engine. There was an obvious risk of a conflagration if it caught fire.

Except by this point I was right overhead Stowmarket. The thought of dropping a one-ton fuel tank full of aviation spirit on the middle of the town filled me with horror so I hung on to the tank and turned away to the south. The fire light remained on, so it was not a false alarm as sometimes happened. I descended to ultra-low level and found a large field which was empty of people and animals and dropped the tank which, of course, burst on impact. I hoped that the fire light would go out, but it did not. The next instruction from the Pilot's Notes in this case was to eject from the aircraft and parachute to safety. However, I did not fancy that as most of my fellow pilots who had ejected suffered back pain or worse for the rest of their lives. Anyway, Wattisham was just over there so I thought it worth the risk to sneak back and land before anything disastrous happened. Fortunately, I got away with it and landed safely, chased by a posse of fire trucks and an ambulance. I closed down the other engine at the end of the runway, climbed out and, as there seemed to be no flames, I had a sneak peek down the back end of the engine. Sure enough, it was unusually black and there was an ugly black streak down the underside of the aircraft where the fuel tank had been. I later learned to my relief that no people or animals had been injured in any way by the dropped tank.

The cause of the fire was a fractured fuel line due to metal fatigue as the aircraft aged. These pipes were replaced with stainless steel ones over time; in the interim we sadly lost a number of Lightnings but, as far as I know, there were no fatalities even though on some occasions the fire burnt through the control runs to the tailplane making the aircraft uncontrollable.

Afterwards, I looked back on the exciting times I had had at Wattisham and the joy and privilege of flying that wonderful aircraft. The only blot was that it very nearly made me the only pilot since WW2 to drop a bomb on Stowmarket: - fame – for the wrong reasons.



The ventral tank is the lozenge-shaped bulge with 2 thin black stripes and a fin on the bottom of the fuselage between the wings. The second picture is of Mike strapping in before a flight on detachment in Cyprus, hence the shorts.



We are indebted to Wendy Wilson for these photographs which are a reminder that our birds need help not just in winter but throughout the year.

There are different mixes for feeders, for bird tables and for ground feeding. The better mixtures contain plenty of flaked maize, sunflower seeds and peanut granules.



Small seeds, such as millet, attract mostly house sparrows, dunnocks, finches, reed buntings and collared doves, while flaked maize is taken readily by blackbirds.



Tits and greenfinches favour peanuts and sunflower seeds. Mixes that contain chunks or whole nuts are suitable for winter feeding only. Pinhead oatmeal is excellent for many birds.



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

The church remains closed, with no date yet known as to when it will be possible to re-open. The churchyard, of course remains open. Regrettably, there is very little to look back on, apart from a period of frustration, where the only communications have been virtual. Those on our Church Electoral Role have been receiving the weekly emailed news Sheet from St Mary's, Woodbridge. If you would like to be added to the list of recipients, please let me know. The News Sheet gives details of occasional Zoomed services, both from Woodbridge and from the Cathedral.

Looking Back

Nothing to look back on, apart from a period of frustration, inactivity, deep snow, chilling temperatures – but the church continues to stand proud amid it all. Thanks Gary, as ever, for your ever-alert camera.

LOOKING AHEAD



The speed with which we emerge from lock-down is still a major matter of discussion. 15 million people have been vaccinated, but that leaves around 45 million who have not been. We do not yet know what the national church, or even the Diocese will decide or advise, but it is likely that we will be on the side of caution, particularly as the “outdoor” season is almost upon us. The same applies to non-religious gatherings, and the kind of events which Friends of the church like to organise for the village and beyond.

We have imminent PCC meetings, both of Woodbridge and of our own PCC, and there will be significant discussion about future strategy, and how we will act as a united Benefice. The partnership of a major town church with a nearby village church is one which has the potential for significant development, but the essential character of each individual church and community is unlikely to be changed by that process. As a small village we need to know that not only are there services for regular churchgoers, but also that the future of the central venue for so many typical and traditional village functions: weddings, funerals, national commemorations and major festivals is secure for the foreseeable future.

CHURCHYARD

Nothing to report. It has been variously soggy, cloaked in a covering of snow, occasionally windswept, even less occasionally sunlit. The trees and bushes

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LEAH HINKS' POTTERY CLASSES AT THE GRANARY

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

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

Phone Leah for updates on 01473 735880

are bare and barren, but the snowdrops are making their annual and spectacular appearance. It is worth a visit at any time of year.

Norman Porter. Churchwarden
nhp@rillcott.co.uk

FRIENDS OF GREAT BEALINGS CHURCH (in partnership with Friends of St Mary's Church, Woodbridge)

Open Gardens 2021

June seems a long way ahead, and lots of people will have been vaccinated by then. Gardens should be in their prime. All will be out-of-doors, so let us hope this event will still be possible during the afternoon of Saturday June 5th.

Floodlights



Just a reminder that Roger Roseboom still collects £5 from anyone who would like to celebrate or commemorate any sort of event or person by illuminating the church for an evening. The picture (Thanks to Gary Farmer) shows how wonderful it all looks – a moment of joy to all who pass by.

PLANT SALE 2021 – AN UPDATE

We have no further news as to what will be possible, but we can still know for sure that plants will be needed next year, flowers and vegetables, all the usual ones, so gardeners will be thinking of planning for the future, getting out the plant trays, seed boxes, compost, seed packets, virus or no virus. Plants are not affected, and do not know the difference between lock-down and otherwise! Let us keep hoping that we can find the right opportunity to share and sell what we have produced, somewhere, somehow.

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



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GREAT BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING ON TUESDAY 9th MARCH AT 7.00 P.M.
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE FOR
A DISCUSSION ON QUIET LANES

Suffolk County Council (SCC) has allocated funding for a wider roll out of the Quiet Lanes initiative. To see details of the scheme, what it means for users of the roads nominated, and which parishes are registered, go to quietlanessuffolk.co.uk

Previously the scheme had been trialled within the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB, but funding is now being made available with the support of East Suffolk Council (ESC) across much of East Suffolk. You may recall that the Parish Council consulted on the following roads at the time the Neighbourhood Plan was being finalised, but at that stage no funding was available:

Hasketon Road (Bealings Lane)
to the parish boundary
Grundisburgh Road
Rosery Lane
Lower Street
Seckford Hall Road (as far as the golf course)

in each case – both Hasketon and Grundisburgh are proposing to enter the scheme and will nominate their section of these two roads

All residents were written to at that time and no objections were received. We hope to register the same roads now as part of Wave 2 of the revamped scheme. In order to qualify, we have submitted a detailed list of the above roads together with proposed siting of the necessary signage. The costs of this should be met by SCC and ESC. It is fortuitous that 4 of the 5 proposed roads adjoin Boot Street and Hall Farm Road, both of which will be included in the newly extended 30mph scheme which the Parish Council has long advocated and which SCC has now agreed to. Funding for this extended speed limit has also been agreed with SCC and our District Councillors' Enabling Communities fund, for which we are most grateful. Taken together these two initiatives should materially improve road safety for all road users in the parish.

The Parish Council will, as required, hold a public meeting on 9th March at the start of our scheduled Parish Council meeting and residents are encouraged to register with the Clerk if they wish to be sent a link to enable them to attend and ask questions. We will also write individually to all residents affected by the proposals. If you live on one of these routes, your access to, and use of the road concerned, will not be affected. The point is to encourage shared use of the road space so that motorists recognise that walkers, cyclists, and others should be expected, and appropriate allowances made.

If you have any immediate questions, please contact the Clerk or the Chairman.

The public may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes on any other 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
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LITTLE BEALINGS

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Ips 610088

PCC SECRETARY

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

07889907615

CHURCHWARDENS' UPDATE

Well, we are still very much looking to the future for the re-opening of our church and hope that the government will include us in the upcoming announcements on the phases of exiting lockdown. By the time you read this, perhaps we will have good news as we all look forward to a more normal life in the Village with the distribution of vaccines and the arrival of Spring!

In this season of reflection that leads to Easter, our most important Christian festival, we hope that even when life is challenging and at times seems dark, that you can also remember all the light that also surrounds us – neighbours helping others, essential workers tirelessly working on behalf of all of us, communities pulling together to look after the vulnerable and infirm, and so many in the Village going out of their way to be considerate, to think of what they can do to help.

SERVICES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE ONLINE

We encourage you to join the Benefice service held via Zoom every Sunday at 10am and the other services and activities you can find on their website. For more information, please go to <https://www.askesgrave.org/welcome.htm>. And don't forget 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

We continue to encourage you to participate in Bishop Martin and Bishop Mike's Kagera Lent Challenge 2021. More information can be found at <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/exploring-faith/our-bishops/bishops-lent-appeal/>.

BEALINGS PLANT SALE

The planning team is in place and hoping to have some form of the annual sale since it is such a great community event and fundraiser for both Bealings churches. We are getting our flower and vegetable seeds going and hope you will do the same. More details will be announced soon!

With every blessing,

*Corinne and Tony Fear
Churchwardens*

VIRTUAL 'MEET YOUR MP' EVENT ON 18 MARCH 2021

Dan Poulter MP has arranged a virtual "Meet Your MP" event for the residents of Little Bealings, Great Bealings and Playford. This will take place on 18 March, starting at 7.00 p.m., and will last 60-90 minutes.

Two Little Bealings residents are able to join this online meeting, to discuss any matters of concern. The meeting will also be attended by a representative of each Parish Council and our District Councillor, Colin Hedgley.

If you would like to attend the meeting



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please let the Parish Council know as soon as possible: by email to littlebealingspc@btinternet.com or call 01473 610088. Please state the matter(s) you will want to raise.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is continuing to hold remote meetings using Zoom. The public are able to attend remotely and participate as usual during the Public Participation Session of each meeting.

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is on 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/](https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/)*

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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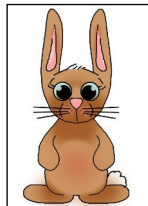
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PLAYFORD

PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

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

PCC SECRETARY

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

ST. MARY'S

Unfortunately Playford Church remains shut until the lockdown rules are eased.

We had hoped that we may be able to open for Easter but that is still a remote possibility. However as soon as we are able we will open. Meanwhile I recommend the Zoom Sunday services run by our Rector, Robin Spittle.

Just log on to All Saints Kesgrave on Google and the details are all there. There are a number of services you can choose from.

You can join 50-60 people of all ages for hymns, songs and prayer. Plus there is always something for the children.

Scroll down to the service that best suits you.

*Colin Hedgley
Churchwarden*

PLAYFORD CHURCH LIGHTS

2nd and 4th February – sponsored by Barbara Dunnett for her daughter, Jacqui, on her Birthday. Happy Birthday Jacqui. Also her niece, Lisa, on her Birthday and remembering my Mum on her birthday, 5th February.

13th February 2021 – in memory of Charles Bunbury on what would have been his 80th Birthday. Sponsored by his Family.

Requests to sponsor lights to: Veronica Bunbury, Church Corner Cottage, Church

Lane, Playford

Telephone 01473 623366 or email:
vronxbunbury@gmail.com

JOEY & TEDDY

Jo Burrow's sad story in last month's magazine about losing her cats as a result of them having licked antifreeze reminded me of how my parents lost 2 dogs.

It was in the 1960s and I was working and living in London; my parents were living in Accra, Ghana where my Father had a job. I would pick up my Mother's letters to me (those blue airmail ones that the Army calls "blueys") in the hall on my way to work and they would keep me entertained during my short 2 stop tube ride to work. Usually, they were amusing tales and I would attract many odd looks as I giggled, sometimes nearly crying with laughter, while reading them. One day, however, my tears were of sadness. My Mother had bought a tiny puppy from a basket of puppies she saw in the market. She named her Joey after her Uncle Jo who, for a number of years, had been a District Commissioner in the Colonial Office in the hills behind Accra. Joey grew and flourished. A short while later a small, white, fluffy little dog appeared on their doorstep. He stayed and was called Teddy because he looked like a white teddy bear.

My Mother's letters were full of the antics of these two little dogs. One day, the gardener, finding a pot of green paint in

the shed, decided and without consultation, to paint everything in the garden that was not actually a plant.

That evening my parents were having a dinner party. Shortly before the guests were due to arrive, both dogs had seizures, frothing and foaming at the mouth, dying quickly. My parents were heartbroken, and my Father said he found it one of the hardest things he had ever had to do to proceed with the party. There had to be a post-mortem on the dogs as it was possible that they had died from rabies. It was lead poisoning of course, from the green paint. Now, happily, lead paint is outlawed.

I never got to meet Joey and Teddy, but another puppy was acquired from the market. He was named Bert and I met him on my two trips to stay with my parents in Ghana. Bert definitely had 'attitude'. He was a magnificent looking animal, tall, slender and sleek with a long nose down which he looked at the rest of the world. He was, however, as gentle as a lamb. His greatest pleasure in life was sitting on the front seat of my Father's car on the white linen covered seats looking down his nose at everyone we passed while my Mother and I were relegated to the back!

One day, at the beach, where we used to go every Sunday for a barbeque lunch and when, of course, Bert accompanied us, my parents met some friends with their pet lion! Bert was so scared that he ran and hid behind my Mother! The lion was on a lead and had not ever attacked anyone. In case you are wondering, Ghana (which used to be known as the Gold Coast) has no big game animals. This lion had come over with his humans from East Africa.

My parents also acquired an African Grey parrot and there are many stories about him (or her, as she turned out to be) but those are for another day

Veronica Bunbury

Ps to the children: if you have read my little story why not write one yourself for the magazine about your favourite pets and the antics they get up to.

BINKY AND CO

Binky decided he did like the snow. He remembered his boyhood days at school playing snowballs and building snowmen. What fun he had. On deeper reflection it wasn't much fun at all. The rest of the boys in his class used to gang up on him and pelt him with snowballs until he was a quivering wreck in the bike shed until a master came along and rescued him and took him back to the classroom soaking wet. Also his snowman in the playground was always the first to be destroyed.

No, it was no fun then but it was now. The phone rang. Binky picked it up. It was the local council asking if he had any experience driving a snow plough as his name was on a list of emergency volunteers and as most of the usual drivers were off sick he, Binky, was next on the list. Binky assured the council officer that yes he was highly experienced and could start right away. In fact the nearest old Binks had been to a snowplough was his own sit-on motor mower and



Peanuts

Crushed or grated nuts attract robins, dunnocks and even wrens. Nuthatches and coal tits may hoard peanuts.

Warning: Don't use salted or dry roasted peanuts. Remember, peanuts can be high in a natural toxin, which can kill birds, so always buy from a reputable dealer, such as our online shop, to guarantee freedom from aflatoxin.

Black sunflower seeds

These are an excellent year-round food, and in many areas are even more popular than peanuts. The oil content is higher in black than striped ones, and so they are much better. Sunflower hearts (the husked kernels) are a popular no-mess food.



Nyjer seeds

These are small and black, rich in fat and with a high oil content. They do need a special type of seed feeder however. They're a particular favourites with goldfinches and siskins and are popular with tits, greenfinches, housesparrows, nuthatches and great spotted woodpeckers too.



Information is taken from RSPB website.

Further information

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/feeding-birds/safe-food-for-birds/>

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even then he had crashed it twice into next door neighbours' fence and been arrested once for driving it on the highway.

No matter. Binky reported for duty at the council yard after an extremely hazardous car journey from his house. A journey only interrupted when he skilfully drove an articulated lorry off the road and into some residents' gardens.

However once in the yard the council roads manager gave Binky a quick run through, stressing that he knew Binky was well qualified so would not go into too much detail. Which was a pity. Binky did think to himself that this was a brute of a machine. Nevertheless he climbed into the cab and started the engine. He had in his hand a list of the roads he had to clear. He had heard of none of them but reckoned the satnav would come to the rescue so off he went. It was most fortunate that the first vehicle he could help was the articulated lorry he had forced off the road earlier and so immediately set about clearing a path for the driver who had forgotten his driver's window had been wound down and so the resultant wall of snow that Binks was pushing along filled the vacuum that nature abhors, namely the vehicle's cab. The driver who was sitting inside was never seen again. Binky drove on taking all instructions from his satnav. Of course Binky realised quite early that snowploughing Farmer Godstone's

cow field was probably not the best use of his time but that was where satnav told him to be. So he walked home.

The next bitterly cold winter morning he and his wife woke up and were listening to the radio during breakfast. They heard the announcer say, "We are going to have 8 to 10 inches of snow today. The council has brought in a rule that says you must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through." So, Binky went out and moved his car.

A few days later they were listening to the radio and the announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snow ploughs can get through." So Binky went out and moved his car to the opposite side of the street.

Two days later the radio announcer says, "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today". But nothing further was said. Binky panicked. What should he do? Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow ploughs can get through? He thought.

I know he said to his half-awake wife. Today I will leave the cars in the garage. But Binky was like that..... Quick.



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CULPHO

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John Lapsley, 1 Abbey Farm Barn, Culpho

Ips 738008

PCC SECRETARY

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

01728 747605

CULPHO CHURCH and COMMUNITY NEWS

ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH

Sadly, the Church remains closed until it is safe to welcome visitors. The Churchwarden will update us when the Government restrictions indicate it is prudent to do so. In the meantime, if you have a need to contact the Church please telephone Churchwarden Richard Garnham on 01473 738139 who will be able to help.

SPONSORED LIGHTS

On Tuesday 2nd February, the Church lights were sponsored by Members of Playford Women's Institute in memory of their dear friend and committee member, Bridget Lapsley. Bridget, a resident of Culpho, was an active member of the W.I and book group. Her loss will be felt by so many.

On Sunday 7th February, the Church was lit by Paul Dixon to celebrate and wish a Happy Birthday to his wife Frankie. Sent with love from all the family.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW INCUMBENT – CARLFORD BENEFICE

We have recently been informed that The Lord Chancellor has approved the appointment of the Reverend Katrina Mary Dykes as the Rector of Carlford, on a date yet to be notified. We wish her all good wishes in her new appointment and look forward to welcoming her to St. Botolph's, Culpho.

Margaret Gornall

P.C.C. Secretarial Support

CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

PLAYFORD

Services at Playford Church are usually held on the second Sunday of every month at 10.00 a.m. 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.

Colin Hedgley, Churchwarden

CULPHO

All services are currently suspended!

GREAT BEALINGS

No services are planned for March and it is still too early to anticipate what may be possible at Easter. In the meantime occasional services can be accessed by Zoom: details in the Newsletter – if you are not currently on the mailing list, please contact the Churchwarden, Norman Porter nhp@rillcott.co.uk

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. We hope to have more news on when we can restart in person services in the next few weeks. As soon as we have more information, we will send out alerts via Bealings and Playford News and the local Facebook groups. In the meantime, we invite you to join the Benefice services which are held every Sunday at 10.00 a.m. For more information, please see <https://www.askesgrave.org/whatson.htm>.

Corinne Jarvis-Fear, Churchwarden

ROUND-THE-WORLD YACHTSWOMAN

Congratulations to Pip Hare who finished the race in 19th place. She took 95 days, 11 hours, 37 mins and 30 seconds, covered the 24,365 miles of the theoretical course at an average speed of 10.63 knots and the actual distance that she travelled on the water was 27,976.87 miles at 12.21 knots.

WORD FROM THE STUDY

Pancakes these days come in a variety of flavours and ingredients, ranging from chocolate to syrup and I have even seen fruit pancakes. Over the years, people have used imaginative and creative ways to create new varieties to suit all taste buds. Just the thought makes your mouth water. Just do not tell the waistline!

Of course, this is not how the pancakes originally started their life. The original idea was that people used all the ingredients in the household to prepare for the period of Lent. Lent comes from the word *Lenten* which means springtime, lengthening of the days.

In the early Church, Christians used this as an opportunity to prepare candidates for confirmation at Easter for their first communion. As Christians we use this time as a time of reflection on our own lives, not those just preparing for confirmation. The forty days of Lent reflect that period of time which Jesus spent in the wilderness. But the good news is, we do not have to spend forty days in the wilderness, although I know that some would argue that it has felt very much like that during lock-down.

A lot of people will tell you that throughout lock-down they have learned to appreciate what is valuable and purposeful in their lives. And, if we think about it, that mirrors the period of Lent and we will often give up things to remind us of what is valuable in our lives. I would like to take a slightly different view. Instead of giving up, how about taking on? To spend a few moments each day, being grateful for what we have and reminding us of those who have very little. It is difficult at this time to physically do things for others, but perhaps we could call a neighbour, write to a relative, read some Scripture. Psalm 39 is a good place to start, it reminds us that not only are we created in God's image, but he knows everything about us.

If a car is broken, we take it to a garage to somebody who knows about our car, yet in the busyness of our lives and our brokenness, do we draw closer to the one who knows us best? By drawing closer to the one who created us, we can draw closer to the one who can restore us.

The main thing that I have discovered throughout this time and people have found frustrating, is that there does not seem to be an end in sight. When the Government publishes the blueprint for the way out, suddenly people's lives will feel a lot brighter. The Christian hope gives us that blueprint because God gave His only son, that all who believe in Him should never perish but have everlasting life. That is real hope, it is not pie in the sky, it is a hope that is underwritten throughout all scriptures. When we have a moment or two, perhaps we can just reflect and ask ourselves what does that mean for me today?

One thing is for certain, God wants us to enjoy this life, to care for each other, to treat others as we would like to be treated and to recognise Him as our Lord and Saviour. That does not sound like a God who has a big stick, this sounds like a God who wants to wrap his arms around us and enfold us in His love. Come as you are, no airs, no graces.

The story of the prodigal son, a father with arms outstretched ready to welcome the son home is a mirror image of a God who loves and cares tenderly for His children.

Reverend Gary Jones

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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

NEED TO REPORT A PROBLEM?

Road repairs and Maintenance – potholes, overhanging vegetation, signs, flooding, verge cutting etc – contact the County Council on their customer service number: 0345 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 scs ltd@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk.



APRIL 2021 NEWS

Contributions for the April 2021 News to be submitted by:

5.00 pm Tuesday, 23rd March.

The news will be ready for distribution by **Saturday, 3rd April.**

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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