



ELEVEN SAYS

AUGUST /
SEPTEMBER
2025

ISSUE 314

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE BRAMERTON GROUP OF CHURCHES COVERING 11 PARISHES

Capturing God's Farming Wonders, Making Our Hearts Sing . . .

Living in Norfolk, everyone told me that it was, of course, God's own country. Who could argue? It's hard to deny that with the beautiful countryside, unspoilt beaches and wide, wide skies, Norfolk is a very special place. And I am sure I would never have doubted God's choice of residence had we not moved to Yorkshire where folk say exactly the same thing about their home county too. Yorkshire also has spectacular countryside, beautiful beaches and pretty impressive skies although the weather is admittedly much more changeable!

Just over two years ago we moved from the Thurton Benefice at the end of my curacy, to Westow near Malton in North Yorkshire when I was appointed to the post of Interim Rector in the Parish of West Buckrose. West Buckrose comes from an old Danelaw name for the area which covers about 100 square miles on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds.

West Buckrose is a united parish of 9 villages and 8 churches. The churches range from the tiny church of St John the Baptist in Acklam, which was built in 1794 as a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, to the much grander Church of All Saints in Settrington, started in the 12th Century but much added to over the years, until it has become our largest church of all.

We have churches on hills where you can see for miles, churches in the middle of the fields with dairy cattle as neighbours, and churches in the hearts of the villages. No two are the same or even similar.

It is very much the same as Norfolk but also very different, and I think it is safe to say I have had a fairly steep learning curve in making the transition!



Firstly, although it is hard to go anywhere fast in Norfolk, Yorkshire is similar but with more horses - because this is horse racing country - more cyclists - think 'Tour de Yorkshire' - and far more tractors. The tractor run is a way of raising money for charity which is wonderful until you are caught behind twenty or more David Brown or Fergie tractors, bouncing their way along the main road without a care in the world.

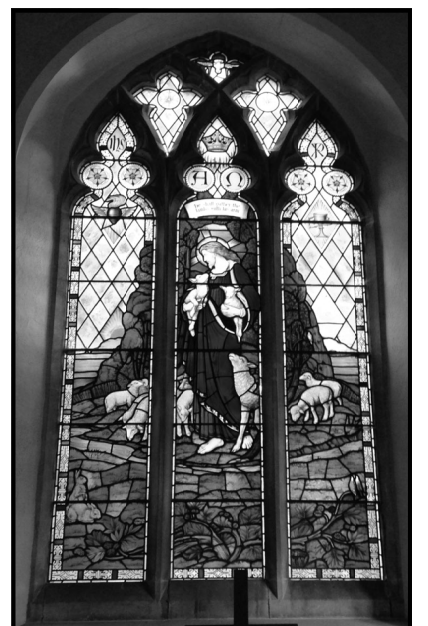
Secondly, there is the weather. When people say there has been no real snow for 15 years, they don't mean there has been no snow at all, only that it hasn't quite reached arctic proportions for a while. My Fiat 500 may have coped with the Beast from the East, but it was no match for the snow here in

January when it failed to get up any of the local hills leaving me at a loss to find a way home and having to cancel all the services.

But perhaps my greatest learning has been about agriculture. As we left Norfolk, the Limbach family gave me a copy of a book by Gervaise Phinn, a writer who had been a school inspector in North Yorkshire. They had earmarked a particular chapter for me to look at without further comment and I am so glad I read it. In the story, the hapless inspector decided that sharing a picture book about a sheep with country children would be a way to gain their trust. Instead, he created a near riot as the children argued over exactly which breed of sheep the illustrations were supposed to be. This should be required reading for all rural vicars!



So much here revolves around the farming year with major events such as weddings and baptisms being timed to avoid drilling or lambing or harvest. I have learned, thanks to Mr Phinn, that as a non-farmer, talking about farming, shepherds, harvest or sheep is a dangerous game. This is quite awkward given that Jesus is the Good Shepherd and many stories in the Bible rely on imagery from farming, but I now have a shortcut to Farmer's Weekly on my laptop which helps immeasurably!



But church is so much more than buildings and we have been lucky to find church communities as lovely here as those in Norfolk, with kind and supportive people eager to grow the church and share the Gospel. We have brought with us some of the traditions of Thurton - our Palm Sunday procession (with donkeys this year), the Good Friday Walk and the blessing of the vineyards on St Martin's Day and have added in a few from Yorkshire too - I have now blessed my first plough!

But which one is really God's own country? It is hard to say. Both are wonderful examples of his handiwork, that make our hearts sing. His presence is easy to see in both places and he is clearly at work both in the North and the East. So I am not sure it is for me to decide which it is, but one thing I am sure of and that is, if he lives in one, he definitely has his second home in the other.

Revd. Cate Turner

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The Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride event 2025 is on Saturday 13th September!



Thank you so much to everyone who took part in the 2024 **Bike Ride, Walk & Drive** . It was a glorious day and we hope you had a great day out and enjoyed visiting our wonderful churches.

Let's hope this year it will be just as successful!

Since the Bike Ride event started in 1983 The Norfolk Churches Trust has raised an incredible £4.4 million. A tremendous effort by everyone who has taken part.



How to Take Part

There are two ways to take part. You can register online and download the paperwork, or you can collect paperwork from your local place of worship where you will find information and sponsorship forms from early July.

For the first time this year, churches can register their interest too. If you would like to help us spread the word about this fantastic event you can download posters and flyers to print and distribute.

OVER 600 CHURCHES AND CHAPELS OPEN TO VISIT NEAR YOU!

Many historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are battling to survive. Roofs leak, lead roofs are stolen, ancient timbers rot and medieval stonework crumbles. **Now you can help** by joining a sponsored bike ride or walk discovering beautiful churches, which also raises money for their repair and preservation.





BIKE, WALK, DRIVE... IN THE NORFOLK COUNTRYSIDE

A fun day out for all, stopping off at as many Churches and Chapels as you can!

WIN £1,000 FOR YOUR CHURCH*

Pump up your tyres, dust off your walking boots, pack a picnic and plan a route from your own door to visit as many of the most beautiful churches in Norfolk as you can. *PLUS you can join with others in your parish to win £1,000 for your church by becoming the parish with the most improved amount of money raised. You can also enter our photo competition to win £50 for the best pictures of the day. Simply get sponsored for each building you visit or make a donation - find out more at norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride

Sponsored by 

Saturday 13th September 2025
9.00 am - 5.00 pm

If you would prefer to give a donation for the Bike Ride you can either **donate to us directly** or use the other methods that are offered.

Celtic Daily Prayer at St Mary's Church, Surlingham

This is the lovely view seen from inside Surlingham Church porch as we sit together to pray and meditate on a Bible reading and a reflection for the day.

We meet at 10 am for approx half an hour on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings of the month.

Future dates are: **September 9th and 23rd.**

Everyone from the Group is very welcome to join us. If you are unable to come but would like to receive the chosen material for the day, please email me and I will send you a copy for your own reflection time.

Revd. Mandy Ansell, 01508 538654
mandy.ansell44@gmail.com



Worship in Stillness is held at 9:30 am on Monday Mornings at Cherry House, Wheel Road, Alington.

Half an hour of praise, silence, meditation and prayer followed by tea and coffee for those wishing to stay.

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SUNDAY 5th OCTOBER

Theme: "The Harvest: Fishers of Men"

Drop in any time between 10.30 am-12 noon


Future date: 7th December

For details, or possible help with transport, please contact Nick Garrard 01508 538014 or Mandy Ansell 01508 538654

***** **Café Church - All Welcome** *****

Gentlemen, you are cordially invited to a Mid-Day Mardle

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



New members are always given a warm welcome.

Ferry House, Surlingham

Wednesday: August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st
(every month, normally 1st Wednesday)
Any time between 12 noon and 2 pm

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

✠ Rockland St Mary Benefice Update

In many ways the Church's year follows a similar pattern to the school year, and August generally reflects the summer holiday mood. Meetings and some activities cease, leaving churches and churchyards open daily for quiet reflection, prayer and exploration. We hope that parishioners and visitors alike enjoy their space and peace.

Some extra events happen, too. We're looking forward to Carleton St. Peter's Church **Flower Festival** which will be held **Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd of August from 10.30am - 4.30pm** on both days. The theme this year is 'Celebrations'. There will be refreshments, homemade cakes and snacks on offer, plus a tombola and a raffle, plus more!

In September **Celtic Prayer** makes a welcome return to Surlingham churchyard, offering an opportunity to come together in quiet reflection (**September 9th and 23rd at 10am**).

In September schools return, and the Church of England enters the Season of Creation or Creationtide. As we thank God for creating the universe and all that sustains life, pledging ourselves to the future of our planet in all its diversity. One of the traditional ways we mark this is with **Harvest Festivals**. We thank God for the hard work and commitment of the farming community, all who work in food production and the supply chain, and the opportunity to share this bounty with those whose need is greater than ours. You are warmly invited to join us and to support others by bringing long-life items for the Norwich Food Bank and homeless projects. Please see the services calendar on the back page for dates and times.



Some big thank yous

...to everyone who gave to Christian Aid Week through the benefice, raising £270.24, plus Gift Aid.

...for the creative 'Book Titles' Flower Festival at Rockland St. Mary, which raised £533.71 for St. Mary's and £176.50 for Big C.

News from the Barn. After its Summer recess, The Barn returns in September with a new season of events and activities.

Art Cafe in the Barn is meeting up on **September 10th and October 15th**. Come inside for good company and laughter, refreshments and of course some art!

Warm Welcome Mondays resume on **September 29th** offering refreshments, lunches and friendship, 11.30 am - 2.30 pm.

Still at the Barn on Sundays at 4pm provides a quiet, informal space for reflection, conversation and opportunities to respond. On **September 21st** we're going to be **Still with Matthew**. We will share stories and images from Matthew's Gospel as we explore his portrayal of Jesus. Please contact Nick and Helen for information.

On **September 17th Art Café Online** reopens. Please contact Nick for your Zoom invitation and details of our lively and varied programme.

Saturday August 16th Family Service and Baptism at Claxton Church

Revd Nick Garrard



✠ Thurton Benefice Update

The **summer months** are typically quiet months in the life of the Church, but there are several events happening around the parishes which are detailed in the village sections of this edition and my thanks to those who have organised and planned them. I do hope you will be able to support these events whilst also finding time for holidays, rest and recreation with family and friends.

Midweek Communions: these take place on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am on a rotating basis in Ashby St Mary, Bergh Apton, Framingham Pigot and Thurton, and on the first Thursday of each month at Yelverton. ***Please see the separate table with details of locations and dates.***

The service is from the Book of Common Prayer and lasts for 30 minutes. I am available after the service to meet with anyone who would welcome the opportunity to speak with me in confidence in a church setting. **Please note:** there is only one midweek communion in September (on the 10th at Bergh Apton) due to other unavoidable commitments.

VJ Day commemoration: Following on from the very successful VE Day events in Bergh Apton, there will be a short commemoration service at the War Memorial in Bergh Apton Churchyard to mark VJ Day on the 15th August at 6pm. All most welcome.

Safeguarding: The churches of the Thurton Benefice are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within our Church community. PCC members and all volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults have completed or are undertaking the appropriate safeguarding training. If you have a safeguarding concern please contact our Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Leo Smith, 01508 493695 or myself on 01508 484174. Where a child or adult is at imminent risk do not delay, call 999.

Home visits and Home Communions: I am very keen to visit anyone who is unwell or feeling isolated or lonely, either simply for a conversation or to share Holy Communion in their home. Please do contact me if you, or anyone you know, would like a visit. I am particularly keen to hear if a parishioner has been admitted to hospital; I would rather be told several times than not at all!

Revd Chris Ellis: 01508 484174

Midweek Communions in August and September

All Services at 10.30am

August

Wednesday 6th - Ashby St Mary

Thursday 7th - Yelverton

Wednesday 13th - Bergh Apton

Wednesday 20th - Framingham Pigot

Wednesday 27th - Thurton

September

Wednesday 3rd - No Service

Thursday 4th - No Service

Wednesday 10th - Bergh Apton

Wednesday 17th - No Service

Wednesday 24th - No Service

All are very welcome to these said services of Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer. Services last 30 minutes.





From the Registers

BAPTISMS

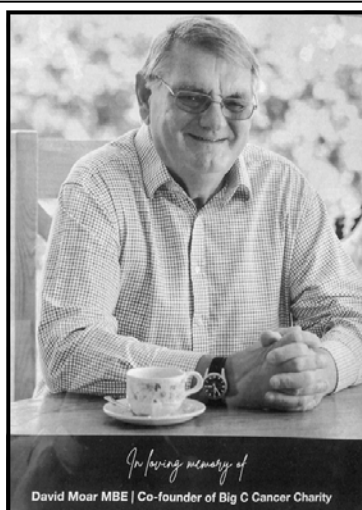
10/05/25	Orla Rose TOLLIDAY	Framingham Pigot
08/06/25	Rupert Edward Beattie BADGER	Kirby Bedon
08/06/25	Koa Eze JAMES	Surlingham

MARRIAGES

03/05/25	Benjamin ROUT and Jessie LEACH	Framingham Pigot
24/05/25	George HEWKIN and Emma PLANE	Framingham Pigot

FUNERALS, BURIALS, CREMATIONS, INTERMENT OF ASHES

10/05/25	Patrick David 'Pat' HOWES (Interment of Ashes)	Carleton St Peter
18/05/25	Lucy Jean REEVE	Surlingham
16/06/25	David Douglas MOAR	Claxton
20/06/25	Sylvia Elizabeth DAWSON (94)	Yelverton
24/06/25	Christine Susan HISCOCKS	Surlingham
24/06/25	Ralph Herbert SPILLING (92)	Framingham Pigot
25/06/25	Nicolas BROADHEAD (74)	Ashby St Mary
27/06/25	Elizabeth Mary BURRAGE (79)	Bergh Apton
01/07/25	Christine Mary EBBENS (73)	Bergh Apton
01/07/25	Michael Charles 'Mike' KING	Carleton St Peter
02/07/25	Chrystal Jane 'Chris' CRABB	Rockland St Mary
02/07/25	Christine Susan HISCOCKS (Interment of Ashes)	Surlingham
02/07/25	David James Eleazar WOOD (87)	Bergh Apton



David Moar, MBE

Sadly, David Moar MBE who lived in Claxton, passed away in May. He was the President and Co-Founder of the Big C Cancer Charity that improves the lives of those suffering with cancer and supports their families in so many ways.

The Charity was founded in 1980 and has raised £45 million in 45 years with the help of the people of Norfolk, for the people of Norfolk and North Suffolk.

David once said, "Sometimes I think we all have a purpose in this world and I wonder whether mine was to create Big C as it is today". David's legacy is not only in the buildings that bear the Big C's name but the comfort and care so many have received over the years.

David grew up in Langley, he had a farming heritage, but became a car mechanic and has enjoyed cars and speed all his life. Sadly, cancer took this career away, but after he recovered, he found his knowledge of farming enabled him to find a position in Loddon Farmers, which has evolved into Anglia Farmers and he was the Business Development Manager for many years until his retirement.

There is to be a service of Thanksgiving for David Moar at Norwich Cathedral on Thursday 4th September at 2pm.

Wednesday Fellowship

is a meeting for all people in the Bramerton Group and beyond! Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month 2 - 4 pm at Alpington and Yelverton Village Hall. We have Christian and secular speakers followed by tea / coffee, cake and fellowship. All are welcome.

August 14th - Friends Coffee meeting 10:30 -12 noon at the Wheel of Fortune. The 200 Club draw will take place.

September 10th - The way holidays used to be. Speaker Jill Mann.

October 8th - Christians Against Poverty. Speaker Ann Aves

For more information contact Pat Barter on 01508 493570.

Framingham Pigot Wedding

The church bells rang out on 24th May for George Hewkin and Emma Plane when they were married in St Andrew's Church, Framingham Pigot,



They were joined by family and friends at the service conducted by Revd Chris Ellis.



Bramerton Group Service

The Bramerton Group Service was at St John The Baptist Church Hellington on the 29th June. The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul is celebrated on this day and commemorates the martyrdom of the two apostles in Rome. It is one of the oldest and most significant feasts in the Christian calendar, symbolizing the pinnacle of Christian faith and the unity of the Church.

Saints Peter and Paul are seen as the pillars of the Church, with Peter representing authority and unity, and Paul embodying missionary fervor and evangelism. This feast serves as a reminder of their roles in the early Church and their contributions to the spread of Christianity, making it a day of reflection and celebration within the Christian community.



Revds. Chris, Nick and Helen officiated the service and Revd Mandy read the Gospel. It was very well attended by parishioners across the Group and a few of us stayed and enjoyed a picnic lunch in the churchyard. The weather was overcast but warm.

Thank you to Mr Mack, Farmer of Surlingham, who loaned his field opposite the church for parking.

Also a big thank you to all those who donned their marigolds and aprons to clean the church as it is redundant and comes under the wing of the Churches Conservation Trust, to which the morning's collection went.

Liz Bloomfield



St John The Baptist Church, Hellington

South Yare Wildlife Group

Big Butterfly Count 2025

By the time you read this article this year's Big Butterfly Count will have been underway since 18th July. However it does not close until Sunday 10th August so there will still be a week in which you can count and record butterflies and day-flying moths. The Big Butterfly Count is organised by the Butterfly Conservation Society:

<https://bigbutterflycount.butterfly-conservation.org>

Anyone can take part by visiting their website and downloading a butterfly chart and a free App. Last year's Big Butterfly Count revealed such a serious decline in butterfly numbers that the Society declared a "Butterfly Emergency". Some beautiful and once common species showed serious declines; Red Admiral numbers were 82% down, Small Tortoiseshell numbers down 72%. The society wrote to the Secretary of State for the Environment asking for an immediate ban on neonicotinoid pesticides, to prevent the real possibility of the extinction of some butterfly species. It is important, if we want to preserve our butterflies and ensure that our children and grandchildren will be able to see these most iconic of

creatures alive in our countryside, that as many people as possible take part in the Big Butterfly Count 2025, so that the society has accurate up-to-date information to present to government.



Upcoming events

Friday 22nd August • Bat Walk

Meet Rockland Staithe 7.30 pm

Please visit SYWG website for updates

www.southyarewildlifegroup.org



Loddon Flower Club

What a lovely early summer we're having, but we're never satisfied are we, we need rain!!!



Our next meeting will be our AGM so we have no demonstration but on **Tuesday September 2nd** we have Racheal Borenkova coming to demonstrate for us, the title will be 'Let's go to the Flower Shop'. Her arrangements will be raffled at the end of the evening as usual.

At our meeting on **Tuesday October 7th**, Crystal Dyball is bringing her ideas entitled 'Behind the Shed Door' and again, the arrangements will be raffled at the end.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month in St John's Church on George Lane, Loddon, when doors open 6.30pm for a 7pm start. It's a fun evening and no experience is needed, but we hope to get a few ideas that we can try ourselves. We have a short interval where we can have a chat, catch up and get advice if we need it.

Members are available to help with any family flowers you might need, just get in touch using any of the ways below:

Email: loddonflowerclub@gmail.com Facebook - Loddon Flower Club, or call Tricia on 01508 480522. We also have a website where you can see some of the things we get up to, www.loddonflowerclub.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you and your friends at any of our meetings. You will always be very welcome.

Poringland Community Cinema at Poringland Community Centre

Dates for your diary: Friday Film Nights:
12th September, 10th October, 14th November, 12th December.

Tickets are £5 on the door (includes tea or coffee).

Doors open at 6.45pm. Films start at 7.30pm

Buena Vista Social Club at Poringland Community Centre

Dates for your diary: Friday Film Nights: September 5th, October 3rd,
November 7th, December 5th

For more information please contact:

John on 01508 494358 or Carol on 01508 492630

Parishioners Walk around Wheatfen Nature Reserve

Will Fitch, the warden at Wheatfen, led a group of parishioners on a lovely guided walk around the Ted Ellis nature reserve at Wheatfen on Saturday 31st May.



Wheatfen is home to a wide range of wildlife, including rare fen flowers, dragonflies, birds and the iconic Swallowtail butterfly.

Highlights included sighting the larvae of the Galleruca Beetle, which is not found anywhere else in the UK.



Of course, no trip to Wheatfen would be complete without seeing the aforementioned Swallowtail Butterfly; although they wouldn't stay still long enough to photograph!



Many thanks to Will for his time, passion and informative commentary.

Information from Alexandra Evans



Angie Yeomans

Photo taken at Wheatfen

WEA Loddon Branch

We are looking forward to a series of exciting courses in the Autumn Term. Starting in October, Nigel Herwin will give a series of lectures on the Films of Stanley Kubrick. This will be followed by Joe Williams giving a course on English Poetry in November. Finally, Neil Storey will be looking at Norfolk during the 1st and 2nd World Wars and also the social history of the Norfolk Coast.

Each course will be of three weeks duration and takes place in the Jubilee Hall, Loddon on Monday afternoons from 2.00 - 4.00 pm. Further information on the price, WEA course numbers and enrolment details will follow. If you would like to join our mailing list for the WEA please contact Sharon, swwsmith949@gmail.com.

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Village News

Alpington & Yelverton

St Mary's Church, Yelverton
Harvest Festival Service at 4 pm
on Sunday, 28th September



Your Harvest gifts will be taken to the Salvation Army
The service will be followed by Harvest Supper in the Church
All are welcome



Friends of St. Mary's

On Sunday 25th May we held a service in St. Mary's, Yelverton to celebrate our 15th anniversary. This was attended by Bishop Ian, Bishop of Thetford, and a good congregation of Friends. In his sermon, Bishop Ian spoke of the significance of the parish church as the soul of the village, and praised the work of those who did so much to maintain it. He was impressed by the amount raised and the work done over the last 15 years to ensure the future of the church for the next millennium. We were able to socialize over refreshments after the service, and our thanks are due to those who helped to prepare for and support this event.



We want to keep the momentum of work going at the moment as in 2026 it is possible that the government scheme which at present allows us to reclaim VAT on repairs will come to an end. This will have major implications for all churches in that it will effectively add 20% to the cost of repairs and renovations.

We are also repeating our request for an additional Trustee or two and, we hope, for a Treasurer!

Our Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday, 16th August at the Wheel of Fortune, Alpington, from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Please see the poster below for details.

Coffee Morning

in the Wheel of Fortune garden, Alpington
by kind permission of Naomi and Barry

on Saturday, 16th August, 2025
from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon

after which the bar will be open if you wish to continue
socializing with food and drink

FREE ADMISSION

Coffee and cakes, raffle, and a selection of crafts, gifts and
bric-a-brac, toys and books

*Please note: payment will be by cash donation as we have no
electronic card facility*

For information or to donate items please contact
Mary Fewster, 01508 492059

Alpington Community Shop

Have you heard? Alpington is going to have a community shop at the Wheel of Fortune public house.

Barry, the landlord, has transformed a garage into a shop space and will lease this to the community. The shop will be run by volunteers and will be a Community Benefit Society (CBS) and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). We are currently receiving sponsorship mentoring from the Plunkett Foundation.

A CBS is a not - for - profit society managed by the community for the benefit of the community. Any money made over and above that is needed for trading, will be distributed to community projects, voted on by the membership.

Are you or would you like to become involved? Several people have already expressed an interest. Currently we have a steering group who have started gathering information on policies, opening bank accounts, all of which need to be put in place before we can open. This all takes time but we are keen to start looking at the shop itself and what stock it will hold and when it will be open. We will need approximately £1000 to be able to open the shop so fundraising will be an important part of the next steps.

On Wednesday 30th July an information afternoon will be held to inform villagers of our plans. Further information and events to be held will be found on the village website, posters etc. Spread the word to friends and neighbours who may want to be involved and perhaps have relevant skills that can be used. Contact us via 01508 492059.

Cottontails Pre-School in Alpington has places available from September 2025

We have sessions available for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

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who are waiting to give your child the best start
to their education!

15 and 30 hours of funding available.

Please ring: 07585 873508 or email:

alpingtonpreschool@gmail.com to arrange a visit.



The Bergh Apton & District Society

Summer days out with the Society are open to old and new visitors.

Friday 8th August - Norwich Hidden Streets Tour. Journey underground to discover the history of Norwich.

Saturday 13th September - Guided Tour of Euston Hall and Gardens.

Thursday 20th November - The Thursford Christmas Spectacular Show.

For further information about events please contact Lynton Johnson on 01508 480629.

The Society AUTUMN / WINTER SEASON begins . . .

All meetings of the Bergh Apton Society are held in Bergh Apton Village Hall, Cooke's Road, Bergh Apton, NR15 1AA.

Wednesday 10th September at 7.30 pm

Dr Andrew Hayden takes us back to the time of Silent Movies (remember Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton?). Using authentic equipment Andrew has chosen an early industrial recording of a recording depicting how Fry's chocolate was manufactured, plus a surprise showing.



Lynton will be providing a Buffet of Cheese, Pate, Wine + Soft drinks. ADMISSION £10 pp. We will have our usual Raffle.

We look forward to seeing visitors, old and new.

Village News

Bergh Apton

Bergh Apton Church, NR15 1BX
Saturday 16th August, 7pm

A Concert
by
Norwich City
Concert Band

A full symphonic wind
ensemble with a wide repertoire
ranging from marches, films & TV themes, songs from the Shows to
Last Night of the Prom favourites, and much more.

Refreshments will be served - so advance booking really helps us with catering

Tickets £10

To enquire/book in - Call: Shirley on 01508 480576

Email: bachurchwarden@outlook.com

More information on Bergh Apton website:

<https://berghapton.org.uk/bergh-apton-festival-2025/>



Bergh Apton Arts

Presents

Lutestring

Nic Zuppardi (Mandolin) and Adam Clark (Guitar)

4th and 6th September 2025 at 6.30ish

Follow a trail through the woods and solve riddling clues. With
luck see Moths. Refreshments. Tickets £15 from Eventbrite only.
Very Limited Numbers (book early)

Reception: Bergh Apton Church Car Park, NR15 1BX

Further details at www.berghaptonarts.org/lutestring-2025
and www.clarkzuppardi.com/

Claxton

St Andrew's Church, Claxton

'Our two planned fundraising activities for the church this year will
be the 'takeover' of the community café. The first one will be on
the 13th August, 10 - 1 pm (*please note change of date!).

There will be
cakes, savouries,
bacon rolls and
sandwiches, plus
plants for sale, a
raffle and
children's craft
activities. Please
join us. All
proceeds from this
months café will
be donated to St
Andrew's Church
to help with the
upkeep and maintenance of this historic building.



We are always grateful for offers to help with the running of the
café, either with baking or in any other way. Can you help?

David Moar. We were all saddened to hear of the recent
passing of David Moar, given his ongoing interest in St. Andrew's
Church and churchyard. Together with his wife, Carolyn, David
helped to maintain the churchyard and support the church for
many years. As a neighbour of the church premises, he was very
much part of the 'eyes and ears' helpfully monitoring the area to
keep it safe and secure for visitors to St. Andrew's. His presence
and contribution to the upkeep of St. Andrew's will be missed and
the PCC sends condolences to Carolyn, James and Alison.

Carleton St Peter

Church News

Please come along and join us for the **Harvest
Festival Service at 11 am on Sunday 7th
September** or join us afterwards at 12 noon to 1.30
pm for Harvest Tea and Cake.



VE Day Celebrations

Claxton celebrated the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day in style on 7th
May (the eve of the actual day). The Village Hall was decorated for the occasion
and the whole day was well attended with everyone seeming to have a good time.

Our usual, monthly, community café was given a 1940s feel with the added
attraction that everything was half price. Carrot biscuits and Condensed Milk Cake
were just two of the 1940s recipes we baked but the highlight was Judy's 'Tray
bake Union Flag'.



Later in the day everyone was invited to an
afternoon tea with a quiz, crafts and
games. Paper aeroplanes and newspaper
hats were made along-side fuzzy felt
pictures. The weather even allowed for
outside games for the children.



Everyone enjoyed an
excellent afternoon tea,
complete with everything
from sandwiches,
through scones and
cakes to jelly and
blancmange.

Although the core of the
organisation was
undertaken by the Café
team, we would like to
express our gratitude to
everyone who helped
with baking, sandwich making and serving on the day.



Village News

Framingham Pigot

GARDEN PARTY

Cottage on the Beck, Fox Road,
Framingham Pigot, NR14 7PZ

Saturday 9th August 2025 at 2pm

A variety of stalls including Plant Stall, Tombola, Cake Stall,
Children's Games and Crafts.
Light Refreshments including Bacon Butties

Proceeds in aid of EACH Charity, St Andrew's Church, Framingham
Pigot and Hallswood Animal Sanctuary

Donations for all the stalls are welcome, please leave in front porch
or contact Leeanne on 07775439055 to arrange delivery



Rockland St Mary



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 19th September

10 am -1 pm at the Parish Room

Rockland St. Mary

All welcome

Homemade Cakes, Raffle, Tombola, Craft, Books

For more information contact: Jayne 01508 538087

Rockland St Mary VE 80th Anniversary Celebration

We enjoyed a lovely afternoon in the Parish Room and Black Horse Dyke. We had a wonderful spread provided by our amazing bakers and sandwich makers, There were books and plants for sale and a decorated hat competition. Thank you to all who took the time to beautifully decorate a hat.



We were honoured to have the Yare Village Voices perform for us for their first time. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their 1940's songs and 2 from the musicals. Not only did they sound great but they dressed for the occasion in 1940's style and patriotic colours.

Thank you all very much for coming and we were pleased the children were able to join us after School. Our book sales and generous donations raised £175 for Help For Heroes. I'd like to give a huge thank you to all the volunteers who do a wonderful job without being asked. I really appreciate all you do. Thank you to the Parish Council for applying for the generous grant from SNDC towards our costs. Finally, I have been told that one person said it had been the best afternoon they had enjoyed for a while. That one comment makes it all the more worthwhile.

Jayne

Bramrocks Setting the Benchmark.

During this lovely weather the park is a very peaceful and relaxing place to be. A place where you can sit and listen to the birds, admire the flowers, people watch and generally enjoy the atmosphere.

Well, the Bramrocks latest play, "Benchmarks" by Bob Hartwell, certainly created that setting from the very beginning with a colourful creative set designed and painted by Becka Elliot, sounds by John Barton and lights by William Middleton.

The play introduced us to six characters, their stories beautifully enacted giving the audience an insight into their lives, hopes and concerns. There was humour, pathos and a little bit of mystery. Who was the man with the notebook? played by Ken Holbeck, and will it threaten the livelihood of the park-keeper, (Marne Causton), who was convincing in his worries that the park would close and he would be out of a job. Alex Triguino gave his usual energetic and enthusiastic performance as the runner, trying to start his own business. He was so convincing that you were almost out of breath and breathing for him.

A very welcome new young recruit, Evey Taylor-Harrison played the young single mother with the baby. Was she to be believed? Was it her baby, or the missing baby reported in the newspaper? Well, her performance really had us guessing. Well done Evey!

Although we have seen Linda Brand in the chorus of the pantomime, this was her first role in a play as Helen. A role she fulfilled with grace, dignity and had the perfect look for the middle-class fashionable lady whose perfect life was not what it seemed.

The at times humorous character was the old bag lady. This role was played very well indeed by Louise Vennas her character developed and her sad story was revealed.

Praise must go to the Director, Jess Adby who directed her characters most ably to give a very credible and enjoyable performance. Jess was well supported by stage manager Sally Lloyd who worked very hard behind the scenes. I know how important these unseen people work and how important they are to a production.

The Bramrocks is working hard to keep going at a time when many other groups are folding. However, they do need your support. The next show will be the Pantomime in November. Do look out for it and come along. You will not be disappointed.

Sandra Barker

Yare Village Voices for VE day!

The newly formed local singing group The Yare Village Voices, led by professional singer Ben Lake, enhanced the 1940s atmosphere at Rockland's VE Day commemoration in May. This was the group's first ever performance and it was very well received. Songs included 'We'll meet again' and the 'White Cliffs of Dover'.



The Yare Village Voices has members from most of the local villages; Rockland, Surlingham and Bramerton, and even from Brundall. We sing a variety of music, from Abba to spirituals, Oklahoma to the Carpenters but mainly good pop songs and songs from the musicals. The aim is to enjoy ourselves and be part of the local community. We meet at Rockland Parish room on Thursday afternoons and new members will be made very welcome. No singing experience is necessary, and you don't need to be able to read music. Email Louise99@me.com to find out more. The first 'taster' session is free.

Village News

Rockland St Mary & District W.I.

It's been a busy time with regular Coffee and Chats in various venues and Scrabble organised by Margaret, monthly meetings and our entry in Rockland Church's Flower Festival - theme 'Book Titles' - was 'The Secret Garden'. (see photo below).

Our Flower Pot Display is looking bright in yellow and white, (situated at the top of Surlingham Lane)

Our Summer Garden Meeting will be held on Tuesday afternoon August 12th at 2.30 pm at "Honkers", 44 The Street, Rockland St. Mary. All members welcome to come along and enjoy good company and delicious cake with refreshments.

We're back to the Margaret Mack Hall on September 9th for a talk by Cindy Brookes all about her journey to become a British Citizen.

If you would like any more details or need a lift to any of our meetings please do contact Ruth 538231 or Sandra 538100.

Rockland St Mary Flower Festival

We had a very successful Flower Festival at the end of June with 17 different book titles represented by creative and imaginative displays.

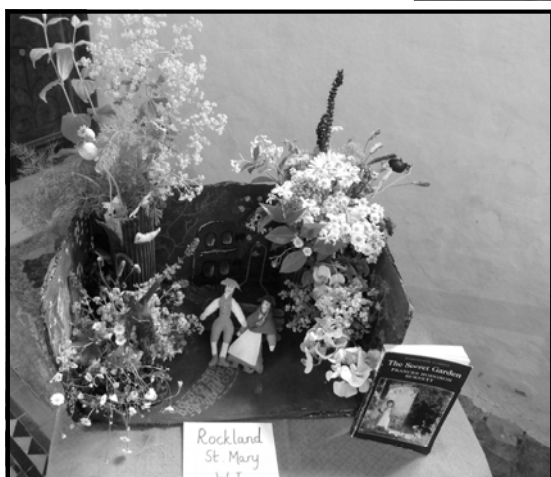
We had an interactive 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', classics such as Peter Rabbit, Flower Fairies, Wind in the Willows and Swallows and Amazons, amongst a number of other well known book titles.

We served a variety of delicious homemade cakes in the Barn and had our crafts for sale too.

I'd like to thank all the people who came to support us and for their lovely comments which makes it all worthwhile.

One person thanked us for bringing so much joy and happiness which was lovely.

A huge thank you to all the flower arrangers who spend a long time planning their displays and to all the bakers and helpers who give their time over the weekend.



We were pleased to have 3 people who hadn't done a display before and one used all flowers from her own garden.

We raised £533.71 for the Church and our craft stall raised £176.50 for Big C which was very good for both.

Jayne

Surlingham

A Wonderful Day at the FOSS Summer Fête!

On Saturday 7th June, our school field was transformed into a vibrant hub of laughter, music, and community spirit for our annual FOSS Summer Fête. And what a fantastic day it was!!!

Despite the predicted thunderstorms, the weather held out and families, friends, and neighbours came out in full force to enjoy an afternoon packed with fun and festivity. From the moment the gates opened, the field buzzed with activity. Stalls lined the perimeter offering everything from homemade cakes and local crafts to second-hand books and plants.

Children delighted in the traditional games, hook-a-duck, the coconut shy, and face painting were all big hits, plus there was the popular dog show.

The tombola and raffle were met with great enthusiasm, with some brilliant prizes generously donated by local families and businesses.



The 130 year old church hand bells were played by many.

Entertainment was in full swing throughout the day, with music, gymnastic and dance displays. The café proved a popular spot for a sit-down and a slice of homemade cake, while the BBQ and ice cream van kept everyone well fed and refreshed.



Thanks to your incredible support, the fête raised an astonishing £7,300 which will go towards enhanced educational experiences for the children. A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers, stallholders, performers, and visitors. Your time, talent, and generosity made the day such a resounding success.

(Information supplied by Sarah Rae)

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We hope you enjoy reading Eleven Says. Your feedback, any comments or ideas for improvement will be greatly appreciated. Please remember to send us your village news, future events, etc., as not all our readers look on social media, therefore, local fundraising events could be missed.

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Ashby and Thurton - Main hall with kitchen facilities and/or committee room available for private hire per hour, day or half day. Discounted rates for regular contract bookings. Ideal for meeting groups and social activities. Please contact Laura Vaissiere, telephone: 01508 480773 or email: ashbythurtonvillagehall@gmail.com.

Bergh Apton - Large main hall with stage plus smaller room, fully-fitted kitchen, heating throughout. Disabled toilet with baby-changing area. Large car park, gardens and play park. Contact Hilary Ling on 01508 480439 or email hilary.ling@btinternet.com.

Bramerton - Spacious, refurbished hall with separate fully equipped kitchen. Free Wi-Fi. Beautiful enclosed garden and large car park. Disabled facilities. £9 per hour, minimum hire 2 hours. Daily rate available and discounted rates for regular bookings. Please contact Alison, 07976264469 or Duncan, 01508 538444.

Claxton & Carleton St Peter - Spacious refurbished well-equipped hall. Fitted kitchen. Ideal for one-off functions and regular users. Disabled facilities. Large car park. Free high speed broadband. £10 per hour or by session. Bar available. Contact Judy Jackson, 01508 480128 or Sarah Carter, 01508 480555, or email: contact@claxtonvillagehall.co.uk. Website: www.claxtonvillagehall.co.uk

Rockland St Mary - Margaret Mack Hall available evenings and weekends for private parties, meetings and social activities. Rates per hour or per day. Contact after 4 pm please, Deb Sayles, 01508 537077, or email: deborah.sayles8@gmail.com.

Rockland St Mary - The Parish Room is available for hire. With excellent kitchen facilities it is ideal for social functions, parties, clubs and meetings. Hire rates are extremely reasonable. Contact Jayne Regan, 01508 538087.

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	3rd August Trinity 7 Green	10th Aug Trinity 8 Green	17th Aug Trinity 9 Green	24th Aug Bartholomew Red	31st Aug Trinity 11 Green	7th Sept Trinity 12 Green	14th Sept Holy Cross Day Red	21st Sept Matthew Red	28th Sept Trinity 15 Green	5th Oct Trinity 16 Green
Ashby St Mary		10 am Benefice HC		Join Thurton	10 am Group HC at Yelverton	11 am MP		11 am Harvest PT		11 am HC
Bergh Apton	9.30 am PT		9.30 am PT	9.30 am HC	10 am Group HC at Yelverton	9.30 am PT	10 am Benefice HC	9.30 am PT	9.30 am HC BCP	10 am Harvest service PT
Bramerton	11 am HC				10 am Group HC at Yelverton			9.30 am HC		
Carleton St Peter		11 am HC			10 am Group HC at Yelverton	11 am Harvest Festival				11 am MP
Claxton	9.30 am HC				10 am Group HC at Yelverton	9.30 am HC		9.30 am MP		9.30 am Harvest Festival
Framingham Pigot	4 pm HC		4 pm HC		10 am Group HC at Yelverton	9.30 am HC			4 pm Harvest HC	
Kirby Bedon			11 am HC		10 am Group HC at Yelverton			11 am HC		
Rockland St Mary				9.30 am HC	10 am Group HC at Yelverton		9.30 am HC	4 pm Still at The Barn	9.30 am Harvest Festival	10.30-12 Café Church in Parish Room
Surlingham				11 am HC	10 am Group HC at Yelverton		11 am HC		11 am Harvest Festival	
Thurton	11 am HC			4 pm HC	10 am Group HC at Yelverton	Join Ashby		4 pm HC		Join Ashby
Yelverton	9.30 am PT		9.30 am HC	4 pm All 4	10 am Group HC	9.30 am PT		9.30 am HC	4 pm All 4 Harvest	9.30 am PT

Midweek Communions in August and September are outlined on Page 4.

CODE: HC = Holy Communion; E Praise = Evening Praise; FC = Family Communion; FW = Family Worship; MP = Morning Prayer; EP = Evening Prayer; .PT = Parish Team; VM = Vestry Meeting

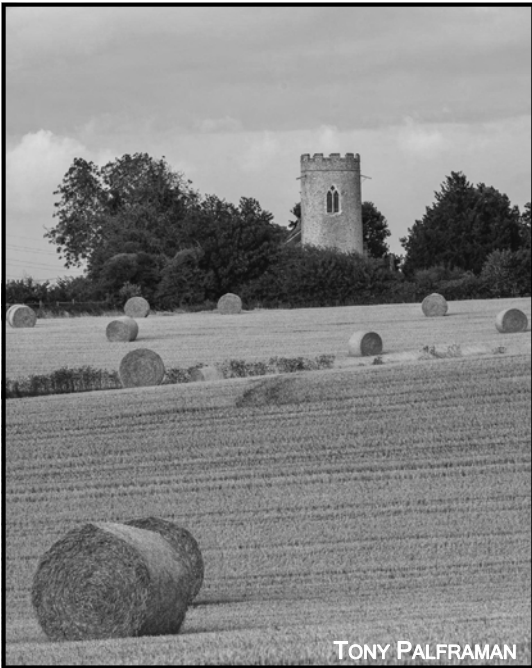
Bible Readings Sunday by Sunday: August and September 2025

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel	
3/08/25	Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23	Colossians 3.1-11	Luke 12.13-21	Trinity 7
10/08/25	Genesis 15.1-6	Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16	Luke 12.32-40	Trinity 8
17/08/25	Jeremiah 23.23-29	Hebrews 11.29 - 12.2	Luke 12.49-56	Trinity 9
24/08/25	Isaiah 43.8-13	Acts 5.12-16	Luke 22.24-30	Bartholomew, Apostle
31/08/25	Ecclesiasticus 10.12-18	Hebrews 13.1-8,15,16	Luke 14.1,7-14	Trinity 11
07/09/25	Deuteronomy 30.15-20	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14.25-33	Trinity 12
14/09/25	Numbers 21.4-9	Philippians 2.6-11	John 3.13-17	Holy Cross Day
21/09/25	Proverbs 3.13-18	2 Corinthians 4.1-6	Matthew 9.9-13	Matthew, Apostle
28/09/25	Amos 6.1a,4-7	1 Timothy 6.6-19	Luke 16.19-31	Trinity 15
05/10/25	Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4	2 Timothy 1.1-14	Luke 17.5-10	Trinity 16

Harvest Service Readings

Deuteronomy 26.1-11	Philippians 4.4-9	John 6.25-35
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Please note: At Holy Communion, where only two readings are used, the first reading will usually be the Epistle, and the second will always be the Gospel reading. At other services where two readings are used, the first will usually be the Old Testament reading, and the second can be either the Epistle or the Gospel readings.



TONY PALFRAMAN

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		<table><tr><th>Times of Masses</th><th></th></tr><tr><td>Saturday</td><td>6 pm</td></tr><tr><td>Sunday</td><td>9 am</td></tr><tr><td>Tues</td><td>6 pm</td></tr><tr><td>Wed -Saturday</td><td>10 am</td></tr></table>			Times of Masses		Saturday	6 pm	Sunday	9 am	Tues	6 pm	Wed -Saturday	10 am
		Times of Masses												
		Saturday	6 pm											
		Sunday	9 am											
Tues	6 pm													
Wed -Saturday	10 am													
Staff days off.														
Monday	Revd Chris Ellis													
Thursday	Revd Mandy Ansell													
Friday	Revd Nick Garrard Revd Helen Garrard													
NEXT ASSEMBLY: SATURDAY 27th SEPTEMBER, BERGH APTON VILLAGE HALL, COOKE'S ROAD, NR15 1AA, 9 am - 11 am (approx)														