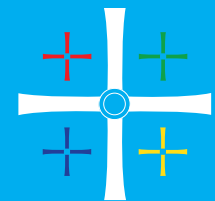


Free for All



THE MAGAZINE OF THE VENTA GROUP

JULY 2018

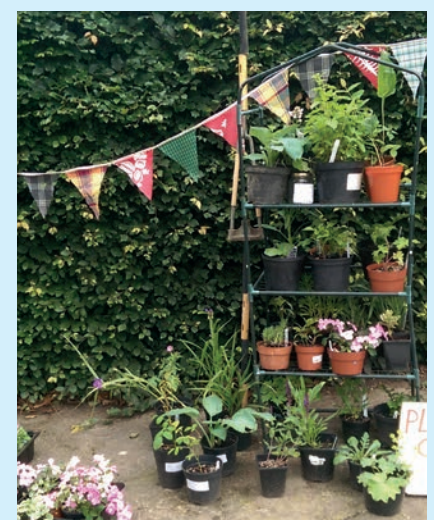


CAISTOR STREET PARTY
See page 5 for details



IMPORTANT DEFENCE ROLE OF STOKE HOLY CROSS

See page 7



PLANTS STILL AVAILABLE AT BEECH COTTAGE

See page 6



ST MARY'S CHURCH ARMINGHALL

On 27th July 2018 at 6.00pm we will be having a BBQ on the grass at the top of Church Close
Barbeque, burgers, sausages and salad.

A barrel of Woodfordes specially created 'Norfolk Day Beer' has kindly been donated so this will be free.

Maybe you had a go at naming the beer! Tombola -- donations of prizes please,

Bowling for the pig, Cash prizes, Jenga and various games

Tickets in advance from Vera 493050 or Ann 491675

£5.00 each. Children under 10 £2.50. Children 5 and under free.
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As regular as clockwork, we are once again gripped by **WORLD CUP FEVER**. If you don't believe me, just look at the BBC website, which as I write is showing a full reply of England's thrilling 2-0 victory over Tunisia in 1998.

By the time you read this the first match in the tournament between Russia and Saudi Arabia on 14th June will be a distant memory, and our national team, whose chances of winning the tournament some people are rating as high as 5% (52 years of hurt never stopped us dreaming) may well have been eliminated already. But on it nonetheless rolls, until the final on Sunday 15th July in Moscow

But there is something even more exciting happening near you this summer: Teambuilders Holiday Club!

We are getting together to celebrate the summer of sport, and the importance of teamwork, and we need lots of keen 'athletes' of all kinds to join in with us. Why not send them along?

Teambuilders will be at **Stoke Holy Cross School** on **Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st July from 10am-3pm, and Wednesday 1st August from 10am-12pm**. We will write with more details when we receive your form, but any parents or carers who want to join us for the last half hour on the Wednesday lunchtime to get an idea of what we have been up to would be really welcome.

Teambuilders is open to all children at Primary School this Summer Term 2018, and will feature loads of games, crafts, quizzes and much more, with zany presenters, lively music, Bible stories and drama – all based around the fantastic sports theme. We would love to have any older children who would like to join in as young leaders: please contact us separately on admin@venta-group.org/01508 492305.

We are sorry that we cannot include any children who are not yet at primary school, but we look forward to seeing them soon!

If you would like your child to join us as at Teambuilders please complete the application form on the website and return either to the school office or to the Vicarage **by 5th July at the latest**. We will be sending out confirmation when we receive your registration – if you have an active email address please include it so we can email letters rather than posting.

We have quite a bit of space in the school and expect to be able to include everyone, but do reply soon to avoid disappointment!

VICAR OF THE VENTA GROUP

Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston, Arminghall and Caistor St Edmund
Rob Baker, The Vicarage, Mill Road, Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8PA
rob@venta-group.org 01508 492305


CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

For any admin inquiries please email Freya Mardell admin@venta-group.org

CURATE

Lyn Marsh, 8 Mill Green, Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8PB
Lyn@venta-group.org 01508 493422

www.venta-group.org

 [@venta-group](https://twitter.com/venta-group)

CHURCHWARDENS

Stoke Holy Cross & Dunston
Viv (493438) & Roy (493595)

Arminghall

Pat (492622) & Annie (495580)

Caistor St Edmund

Jani (493572) & Graham (493430)

ST GEORGE'S HALL BOOKINGS:

Joyce Williams 492143

STOKE CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS:

Viv Carrington 493438

STOKE HOLY CROSS PAVILION BOOKINGS:

Barbara Cattermole (Parish clerk)
530739

B1332 Bungay Road Closure

Stoke Holy Cross Parish Council have asked us to advise that part of the B1332 Bungay Road between the A47 and Framingham Earl will be closed for Carriageway Resurfacing from 2nd July for 20 nights 7pm to 6am.

*We would love to feature your
village organisation*

IN A FUTURE MAGAZINE WITH AN ARTICLE OF THIS KIND

*just get in touch and
we will see what we can do!*
ventafree4all@outlook.com

NEXT EDITION

Items for the next month's magazine
please send by email to
Henry and Eostre Caswell
by email to

ventafree4all@outlook.com

By 6th of this month please.

Henry and Eostre are going to be
away from 11th July so do need all
copy earlier this time please.



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Caistor St Edmund Royal Wedding Street Party

It was an "all age" street party ranging from two to three months old, to some of us where three score years and ten have now become a distant memory and all ages in-between. Organised jointly by the Parish Council and Church Council and with much help from the residents of South Wood Drive where the party was held.

Soon after 10 o'clock on the Sunday morning garden chairs and tables began to appear, bunting was being fixed to fences and walls, gazebos being erected and the sun was shining in a clear blue sky, a perfect day for a street party.

With the BBQ's in place and Simon and George ready for action, people started to arrive at about 1 o'clock with sausages and burgers for cooking.

A huge range of cakes had been laid out next to the teas and coffee and these were all looked after by an enthusiastic group of young people, Eliza, Ruby, Ori, Uma, Grace (Woods), Grace (Baker), and Samuel, and with Jonathan looking after the cold drinks.

Various games were being played and Peter provided music to add atmosphere to the proceedings and at one point there was 80+ people all enjoying food and conversation with neighbours and friends.

Thank you to William who was busy with his camera and many photographs were taken some of which are here, more will be on display in the church.

A very big thank you to all who helped in any way and also a big thank you to those of you who supported the party and we hope everyone had a lovely afternoon in the sun.

Caistor St Edmund Church

Summer is here again and once again **CREAM TEAS** will be available at **Caistor St Edmund Church** for **ALL** the Sundays in **JULY** and **AUGUST** from **2pm to 5pm**.

Also there will be a cake and local produce stall, so if you can help please by providing cakes, (home-made cakes are always popular), produce such as vegetables, fruit, jams and plants all these would be most welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there and if you have not yet been in previous years then please come and enjoy conversation with a cream tea.

This will be the sixth year we have had cream teas at Caistor and helps to provide income for the ministry and upkeep of the church.



SERVICES FOR JULY IN THE VENTA GROUP OF CHURCHES

1st July 5th Sunday After Trinity

9.30 am Group Service of Holy Communion and Baptism
Stoke Holy Cross Church

8th July 6th Sunday After Trinity

9.00 am Traditional Holy Communion
Arminghall Church

9.30 am Praise and Worship
Caistor St Edmund Church

10.30 am Café Church
Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall

15th July 7th Sunday After Trinity

9.30 am Family Service
Caistor St Edmund Church

11.00 am Traditional Holy Communion
Stoke Holy Cross Church

6.30 pm The Gathering
Stoke Holy Cross Church

22nd July 8th Sunday After Trinity

9.00 am Traditional Holy Communion
Caistor St Edmund Church

10.30 am Sunday 4 Everyone
Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall

4.00 pm Evening Service
Arminghall Church

29th July 9th Sunday After Trinity

10.30 am Venta Group Service with
Bishop Alan

*Would you welcome a visit
from one of our church team?*

We will do our best to come and say hello to new people moving into the village where possible. We would be very happy to come and visit you. Maybe you would like us to pray God's blessing over your new home, for example. Please do get in touch with Rob, Lyn or the churchwardens if you would welcome a visit. Also members of the church are always pleased to come and bring communion to you if you would like to get in touch. All the contact numbers are on page 3.

allstars club

after school for 4-11s

Games Crafts Snacks
Bible Stories, Videos & Songs

All Foundation-Year 6 children are welcome to join us at our brand new after-school club, as well as any older helpers who would like to join in! If you'd like to come along, or to find out more, contact us on admin@venta-group.org, or 01508 492305.

We really need to know in advance if you are coming to help us plan ahead, but please do just come along if you don't manage to get in touch for any reason. All children must be signed in and out by a responsible adult.

Thursdays 3.30-4.45 in the Church Hall

Next one is on 27th September

Please see page 3 for Summer Club

The Venta group of churches



ST GEORGE'S HALL DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP AND CAFÉ

Meets every 2nd and 4th Monday
of the month.

Next meeting is on
Monday, 9 Jul, 2018, 10am - 12noon
@ St Georges Church Hall,
Upper Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8ND

Tea and coffee is available at 50p/cup,
with complimentary biscuits.

The first hour is completely informal when both sufferers and carers meet our volunteers. During the second hour, the carers who wish to, have the opportunity to discuss all the aspects associated with caring, in a separate room, whilst the volunteers sit with the sufferers. All are welcome and no booking or referral is required.

On 23rd July we look forward to having a special speaker coming to lead a reminiscing session. Parking is available on site.

**Contact Annie for more details -
01508 495580**

A legacy gift from Michael John Rich



Stoke Holy Cross and St Remigius church Dunston have been very fortunate to have recently received a welcome legacy from the estate of the late Michael John Rich. This is greatly appreciated by the churches and will provide some help towards the costs of running and looking after them this year.

Michael's daughter Caroline wrote the following: The reason for him & Mum being at Dunston, when they never lived in the parish, is because Mum did a lot of family tree research. Mum found out that ancestors from both sides of the family lived at Dunston. For such a small hamlet, this seems quite remarkable. I know one side were the 'Georges', of whom there are quite a few graves in the churchyard, including the perhaps unimaginatively named "George George" She & Dad became very attached to Dunston, regular visitors, and friendly with Mr Ranson, I think it was, who did so much to look after it? And they decided that's where they felt their roots were, which is all rather nice. It is a very special place with a wonderful 'feel' to it, I love visiting too.

So we wish to say a big thank you to Mr Rich for remembering the church in this way.



Stoke Holy Cross Plant Sale

We had a successful plant sale at Beech Cottage Norwich Road on June 9th raising almost £550 towards the church buildings fund. Lots of people enjoyed buying the excellent plants as well as the lovely cakes, tea and coffee. For those who missed out don't worry there are still many great value plants available at the gate.

Many thanks to Viv, David and others for all their hard work.

Lyn's Ordination

A reminder that our curate, Lyn Marsh, will be ordained on Saturday 30th June at Norwich Cathedral at 2.30pm. You don't need a ticket to attend - just a smile.

The next day (Sunday 1st July) everyone is also invited to a Group Service at Stoke Holy Cross church at 9.30am when Lyn will take her first Holy Communion service.



STOKE HOLY CROSS CHURCHYARD TIDY UP SUNDAY, 22 JULY AT 1PM

A reminder that Stoke Holy Cross churchyard really does need your help - please do come and join us and bring a picnic too.

@ Stoke Holy Cross Church

Everyone welcome, please help with the churchyard tidy! Please bring your gardening gloves and favourite tools, we can provide hot/ cold drinks and we have a loo!



This is a great local museum well worth a visit. (Editor's Note: Eostre and I took our two grandchildren there recently and they loved seeing the exhibitions and the demonstrations of early radar).

<http://www.radarmuseum.co.uk>

The museum, which is located on the site of the world's longest continuously operating radar site, provides a unique window into the history of radar and is a great day out in Norfolk, for all the family. The museum is located at Neatishead, close to Horning and the Broads and is a Visit England Quality Assured Visitor Attraction. The museum has twenty exhibition rooms and as part of the visit offers talks on the early development of Radar and the Cold War. To see what is in each room go to the Interactive Map. If you just want to pop in and use the Café you are welcome to free of charge - see attached menu

The museum is holding an exhibition on the First World War Women of Norfolk on active service. The exhibition is only scheduled to run until 25th July.

Stoke Holy Cross World War II Radar Station

This article dated November 2009 is from the Norfolk Heritage Explorer website. The photograph shows one of the pylon towers as it was in 1949 and an unusual pillbox.

The site of a World War Two Chain Home radar station transmitter site is visible on aerial photographs to the north of the Poringland Road (S5-6). The receiver site is located 400m to the west (NHER 32538). The four steel towers and operational buildings were defended by a series of perimeter defences, including four rare AM5 pillboxes. The central grid reference for this site has been altered from TG 258 027 to TG 2582 0284 and has been extended to the east to include additional defences. Stoke Holy Cross radar station forms part of the main chain for the national Chain Home radar network, and its construction relates to a planned expansion of the original Chain network in late 1937 to early 1938 (S6), and was in operation by 1939.

The site consists of four steel towers, three of which are arranged in a line, approximately 60m apart. It is clear from the square arrangements of concrete feet of the mast, that one of the transmitter towers has been moved from the expected position within the line to a new position 40m to the northeast (S5-6). An open-ended rectangular structure sits within the old tower site. The structure seems too high and of too even height to represent a radar platform and has the appearance of a blast wall. The transmitter block is located at TG 2582 0276 and is surrounded by a broad earthen bank. At TG 2570 0285 to the northwest of the block is another smaller earthen protected structure, this is likely to be the Stand-by-Set House, which maintained the power supply. At TG 2588 0278 is an underground operational building or shelter (S5). The roof of which

has been exposed by 1949 (S6). The site of a 'Buried Reserve', an underground transmitter block, is located at TG 2600 0293, 130m to the east in an adjacent field. There is only a limited amount of information that can be provided by the aerial photographs for this underground structure. A square arrangement of four cubes, each 2m across, is located towards the western part of the site. The function of these is not clear, they may feasibly be similar to the square concrete observational cupolas that project out from underground battle headquarters. Evidence of additional structures is visible in the area to the east of the buried reserve, but having been removed prior to the date of the earliest available aerial photographs, nothing can be recorded of them other than the location.

The perimeter of the site is defended by three AM5 pillboxes, at TG 2570 0281, TG 2577 0293 and TG 2588 0282. Two of these, the northern and eastern facing examples, have mounted gun positions on top, assumed to be Light Anti-Aircraft 20mm chimney mounts, as these were present on the pillboxes at the receiver site. Evidence of other smaller gun positions and weapons pits are visible within the boundary to the site, in particular to the north. A number of other type 22 pillboxes provided protection to the east (NHER 52472) and the south (NHER 31129 and 52471). The remainder of the site consists of operational and administrative buildings, including a number of nissen huts, and guard huts. S. Horlock (NMP), 04 November 2009.

Staff at the RAF Air Defence Radar Museum have confirmed that one of the current masts is an original Chain Home Transmitter Mast (No 4 of the 4). The platforms have been removed, but the remaining tower is the original structure.

H. Hamilton (HES), 09 October 2013.

STOKE HOLY CROSS THURSDAY CLUB

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 5th July, 2017.

Along with our usual activities we will be having a lady coming to do some gentle exercise which you can do whilst sitting down.

Please come along and join us you will be made to feel very welcome.

On Tuesday 17th July we will be having a trip to Sheringham, if you would like to join us please give Liz a call on 01508 493245 for details and to book a seat.

Our Bingo dates for July are the 4th and 18th - eyes down 1.45pm

Our Carpet Bowls dates for July are the 11th and 25th - we commence at 1.30pm and the cost for this is £2

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Adam's Gardening Tips for July

Everything goes apace in July. Harvesting, watering, planting and weeding.

Garlic, onions and shallots will now begin to be ready for harvesting. The best way is to ease them gently out of the ground with a fork, breaking the roots and then leave them, if the weather is good, for a few days to dry out before completing the lifting process. This avoids damaging the base so they keep better. If the weather is damp, take them in and leave them somewhere airy to dry.

Beans of all types will be ready to harvest. As you are growing your own take the opportunity to pick them small. Always look thoroughly under the leaves because they have a tendency, like raspberries, to hide!

If you are growing cauliflowers many recommend tying the green leaves over the white heads to prevent them from turning yellow. Vine tomato plants benefit from having the side shoots pinched out as well as the growing tip at the top of the plant when 4 or 5 trusses have formed. Any more than that and the later fruits are unlikely to

ripen. Feed your tomatoes with a liquid tomato feed as soon as the first trusses are making good progress.

If holidays are planned prepare for your absence by watering things well before you leave, mulching growing plants with any organic matter such as lawn clippings, farmyard manure or straw. Perhaps make an arrangement with a friend to harvest your produce in exchange for watering. To prevent greenhouses from becoming too hot, either hang blinds in the roof, or a more traditional method is to paint the inside with whitewash. You may like to consider thermostatically controlled vents.

A late planting of carrots now, will provide a good crop for late autumn. Chard and successional salad crops can still be sown. There is still time for leeks, kale and purple sprouting broccoli to be planted out. An early potato variety planted into buckets and kept either indoors or in a sheltered outdoor spot will yield 'new' potatoes from late autumn until well into the winter. Some people even grow them for Christmas.

Adam can be seen spraying his beans with water to encourage bean pollination and

bean set, whilst April will be starting to take softwood cuttings from her herbs and planting them in pots using a little rooting hormone powder to encourage growth. Slightly tender perennial flowers such as Penstemon can also be used for cuttings, to ensure a protected supply for next year in case of a harsh winter.

French (or Dwarf Bean) Salad

500 grams French or Dwarf Beans any colour
Onion Finely Chopped.
Salt, Pepper,
Mustard (optional)
Olive Oil
White wine vinegar

Top and tail the beans and cut each into three or four pieces. Make the vinaigrette dressing. Mix some salt and pepper with a small amount of mustard and add three tablespoons of olive oil and a single tablespoon of vinegar. Mix and add the finely chopped onion. Cook the beans for 3-4 minutes in boiling water, drain and add immediately to the dressing. Mix well and allow to cool, stirring occasionally. Delicious all summer.



ADDAX
ANTELOPE
APE
BALDLOCUST
BARNOWL

BAT
BEAR
BEHEMOTH
BUZZARD
CAMEL

CHAMELEON
COBRA
CORMORANT
COW
CRANE
CRICKET

DEER
DOG
DONKEY
DOVE
DRAGON

Creatures in the Bible

This month we have chosen to do a wordsearch based on some of the creatures found in the Bible. Some of them are pretty obvious but did you know that an addax is a light-coloured, large Saharan antelope? And we were totally stumped when the list contained a behemoth. It transpires that this is a monstrous and mighty land animal and might possibly be a reference to dinosaurs. (In case you are wondering, behemoth is mentioned in the Old Testament in the book of Job, chapter 40, verse 15).

Apparently there is no mention of a cat in the Bible. Surely there must have been cats around in biblical times. We'll never know the reason why they aren't mentioned but it's fun to wonder why not.

Can you come up with a possible reason?

Do email Henry or Eostre with your thoughts to ventafree4all@outlook.com. We could print your ideas in the next magazine.

And on that subject – if you do have any articles which you think might be appropriate for the Free For all, do contact Henry and Eostre and we will do our best to put your contribution in a future magazine. We would love to hear from you.

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