## Free for All + +









THE MAGAZINE OF THE VENTA GROUP

**NOVEMBER 2021** 

Getting together in the Park on Holy Cross community day in September











Dementia Cafe folks have fun in the hall and at Gorleston







Stoke Youth

THURSDAY 7.30PM



Record a hit for Christmas! Drop in – no charge!

Every other Thursday
look out for these
boards at the church hall.
Free to all year 5 -11
young people with games
and snacks available too

Stoke Youth

THURSDAY 7.30PM

Mobile recording studio Record a hit for Christmas! Drop in – it's free!



ARMINGHALL, CAISTOR ST EDMUND, STOKE HOLY CROSS with DUNSTON

## R.B. COPPING FUNERAL SERVICE

Independent Family Funerals Directors Since 1935

For Personal Attention with Dignity and Respect

Private Chapels of Rest

Memorials & floral tributes supplied

Pre-paid funeral plans available



www.coppingfunerals.co.uk







125 The Street, Poringland, Norwich NR14 7RP 01508 494434

56 Langley Road, Chedgrave, nr Loddon NR14 6HE

01508 521159

## YOUR WILL £79

**PROPERTY PROTECTION** TRUSTS FOR HOMEOWNERS **INC. SEVERANCE OF TENANCY** 

**LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY** 

ASP WILLS

from

Safe to do business with Code Compliant

### Other services we offer

- Asset Preservation Trusts
- Funeral Plans
- Probate and Executor Services
- Deputyship

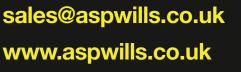
A TRUSTED MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF WILL WRITERS

For Office and Home visits call

01508 494315

www.aspwills.co.uk

ASP Wills has Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) which covers each will to 2.5 million



**ASP Wills** Pentland, Marlbottom, Tasburgh, Norwich, NR15 1NP



## Thanksgiving

s a teenager I sang in a church choir. I loved singing and my best friend at the time, was a member of this choir and suggested I joined. At the time there was quite a group of us teenagers. One of my favourite times of the year was harvest. The church would be decorated with beautiful flowers and lots of fresh produce. And one year it was decided to have harvest supper in the tithe barn next to the church. That was fantastic, food, fun and friends enjoying each other's company. I'm sure a lot of effort went into the planning but as a teenager, I didn't appreciate that. Harvest festival just happened. Many years later I realised that what I knew as harvest festival was actually now known as

harvest thanksgiving by the Church of England. This year we celebrated harvest thanksgiving in Arminghall at the end of September. Giving thanks to God for all that he had given us.

Our American neighbours will be celebrating thanksgiving in November. This national day was first celebrated when the first settlers from Plymouth, England had gathered in their first harvest the year after they had landed in America. However, it wasn't until 1863, in the middle of the Civil War, that it was declared a national holiday by Abraham Lincoln. It was to be held on the last Thursday in November. Lincoln encouraged the people to ask God to "commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife" and to "heal the wounds of the nation." The history of how thanksgiving came into being may be disputed. What is certain is the Americans now celebrate thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday in November, a time to gather friends around a table for food and I wonder whether this year they, like us, should all be encouraged to ask God to care for the widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers affected by this worldwide pandemic which began nearly two years ago and ask him to heal the wounds of our nation.

Thanksgiving is not just celebrated in the United States but also Canada, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Liberia (not on the same day), Brazil and Norfolk Island which is Australian territory. Other countries and different faiths have a day/days of thanksgiving. Being thankful is good for our health. Let's give thanks to God for what we do have, for what he has given us and the lives of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in conflicts so we may live. The American church will be using this prayer on Thanksgiving Day, 25 November 2021.

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labours of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Next month Rob will be back from sabbatical and will re-take writing an article on this page. So I wish to end with a thank you from me. Thank you for reading the articles I've written. Thank you to those who have responded to articles, particularly the donations received following last month's magazine and thank you to Henry our editor, Kellie from Anglia Print, to Jani and all our volunteer distributors, who every month ensure you get a copy of the Free for All.

## lyn

#### 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

#### **CURATE**

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

#### **CHURCHWARDENS**

**Stoke Holy Cross & Dunston** Viv (493438) & Andy (07485 151051)

Arminghall Annie (495580)

**Caistor St Edmund** Jani (493572) & Lia (494137)

## ST GEORGE'S HALL BOOKINGS:

Joyce Williams 492143

## STOKE CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS:

Viv Carrington 493438

## STOKE HOLY CROSS PAVILION BOOKINGS:

Anita Rose (Parish clerk) 01362 858356

We would love to feature your village organisation

#### **IN A FUTURE MAGAZINE**

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

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.

## FOR ALL COPY PLEASE

send by email to Henry and Eostre Caswell to ventafree4all@outlook.com By 10th of this month please.

The 10th of the month will be the deadline for all copy for the next magazine for the time being.

## G(0)(0)PER

**Double Glazing Repairs** Replacement Sealed Units Window Hinges, Handles Door locks • Cat flaps www cooper home services.co.uk 01508 480551 07982 711499



- Domestic homes only
- Materials supplied on site
- Car not essential
- Permanent work / same home weekly
- Hours / days to suit candidate
- Police check and references required

01502 377028



www.cleanersrus.co.uk karen@cleanersrus.co.uk

#### Easton Countryside Services



Tree Surgery / Maintenance Tree felling / Stump Removal Hedgelaying / Planting Woodland Management

Fully insured and NPTC qualified Free estimates and advice

Chris Shelton and Jamie Matthews

01953 558907 01603 615106 07748572079 07854782286

ecs.trees@gmail.com

#### ANCHORAGE SWIMMING POOL, FITNESS CENTRE AND TENNIS COURT

Indoor Swimming Pool, Fitness Centre and Tennis Court In Upper Stoke Holy Cross For your health, fitness and leisure

The indoor pool is lovely and warm at a constant 31 degrees With fully private half hour slots Available everyday from 6am until 10pm

Our resident Personal Trainer invites you to our private gym to get fit and healthy and to improve your quality of life. Contact Malcolm Guymer on 07986 325282

> Call 01508 494032 or 07519 507435 For Details and to book Pool and Tennis Court Email: info@anchoragepool.co.uk

> > www.anchoragepool.co.uk

### S&C Window Repairs taking the pane out of damaged windows

Repairs to double glazed windows, doors & conservatories Local independent business Free estimates, No call out charge

Steamed up windows, broken handles, hinges, replacement gasket, plus cat flaps, door panels and more

01603 520136 or 0800 1601932



sandcwindows@gmail.com www.sandcwindows.co.uk 🔝 🙃





## CARAVA

#### Servicing on your door step

MOBILE SERVICING AND REPAIRS FOR **CARAVANS MOTORHOMES TRAILERS HORSE BOXES** 











E-mail caravanandtrailerservices@hotmail.co.uk

www.caravanandtrailerservicesnorfolk.co.uk

*07949855380* 

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THIS SPACE FOR JUST

£4 A MONTH!!

CONTACT KELLIE ON 01603 629291

## Professional Website Design

Plus PC Support, Help and Advice Services 01508 491622 pslweb.co.uk



PC ASSIST @ HOME QUALITY COMPUTER REPAIR SERVICE www.pcassistonline.co.uk 01508 471459

## St. George's Dementia Support Group

n the 2nd and 4th Monday each month this is a great place to relax for those with dementia and for their carers. Come along and join us for fun activities and refreshments. There is always room for people living with dementia and their partners or carers to join us, whether on our subsidised outings or at our regular café sessions from 10am till 12 noon in St George's Hall, Upper Stoke.

Our trip to Gorleston last month was a great success. We had a lovely lunch at The Pier hotel and the weather was superb so everyone enjoyed a stroll along the Prom followed by excellent ice-cream. A welcome break for the carers and those living with dementia. Our driver from Sanders coaches was as always helpful and caring making sure the disabled were able to access the coach safely. Thanks again to our great volunteers who supported our friends throughout. There a few photos below.



And on the 27th we were entertained by the Squee Gees Duo which was very much enjoyed by all some were even dancing. Dates for November are: 11th and 25th when we shall be having a reminiscence session. For more information ring 01508 493661, 01508 8495580 or 01508 849238. Our website is - www.st.george's-dementia-support-group.org

## New Stoke Youth Club featuring 'Tracks'

n Thursday evening, 23rd September, Stoke Church Hall opened its doors to welcome young people in the village to a new Youth Club.

Norwich Youth for Christ's mobile recording studio 'Tracks' was available for free recording sessions.

A small handful of local young people attended. As well as checking out the computer and recording equipment on the Tracks Van, they also enjoyed a game or two of pool as well as the free drinks and snacks.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to the next club night.

Stoke Youth (temporary name) will be meeting fortnightly on Thursdays in the Church Hall. The Tracks Van will continue to be available for the time being, as we discover the talents of the youth in our village. We also plan to set up table tennis and table football in the hall, as well as the pool table for those that are interested.

All young people (years 5-11) are welcome to attend fortnightly from 7.30-9 pm. A signboard will be placed outside the hall as a reminder.

Look out for the posters outside the hall every fortnight.

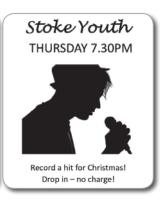
If you have any questions or need more information, contact me on: gwatson@norwichyfc.co.uk

Look forward to seeing you there.









#### CORRECTION to last month's article below.

## Our ancient church building at Stoke Holy Cross needs serious repairs - Can you help at all?



I hope readers will forgive my error in this article published last month –

I had somehow put a very strange number in as the church's account number.

This has been corrected below for anyone who feels they can help towards the repairs to the parish Church.

Henry

Given the serious nature of the repairs needed and the cost involved we are repeating the article as a whole.

toke Holy Cross church is very much a building for everyone, sometimes at the highest or lowest points in their lives. It is used for weddings, christenings, thanksgiving services, funerals and so much more. It is open to all to join in with services at any time (of course some Covid restrictions still apply to protect people and keep everybody safe).

As many of you will remember from a previous article in the Free for All, heavy continuous rain flooded the boiler house at the end of last year, seriously damaging the boiler. In the course of rectifying this, further problems were revealed as drainage pipes were full of tree roots. Our small, generous group of church members managed to cover the cost of these repairs, which amounted to over £4,000. We are, however, faced with much more extensive, costly work to our lovely ancient church. Water is coming into the building in several areas, causing the plaster to degrade, as well as causing other interior problems. In due course the whole interior will need re-decorating. In addition, and by far the most expensive issue, will be the re-rendering of the south side of the church. This is coming lose in areas and beginning to fall away. This obviously needs rectifying as soon as finances become available.

Contrary to popular belief, there is little or no central funding available from the Church of England to maintain and repair church buildings. All funding has to be organised and sourced by the church itself and we clearly need a lot of financial help to avoid further decay of the building.

We therefore desperately need your assistance to help cover the cost of the work which we must tackle in the months ahead. We are also in the process of applying for grants, but these will only provide a small part of the total required, which is in the region of £30,000.

On top of this we have now found some of the trees at Stoke and Dunston church yards need removal or serious cutting back by professionals.

If you feel able to help financially, or in any other way, please contact either one of the wardens or the curate whose details are shown on page 3 or you can make a donation simply by bank transfer to the church account at Barclays – STOKE HOLY CROSS PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL Account Number 00865680 Sort Code 20-62-53. Please put SHX APPEAL as a reference.

Or you can pop a cheque to Lyn at 8 Mill Green.

If you feel unable to give a lump sum at the moment you might perhaps feel you could commit to paying something each month for a period which will enable us to crack on with the work. For how to do that speak to me, Henry, on 01603 781239 or email me at caswellhb@hotmail.com.

As a church we really don't like asking for money but the church is here for the benefit of the whole village and it sadly needs a lot of help at this time. All gifts, whether big or small, will help to make a difference. And, if you are a tax payer, could you please consider gift-aiding your donation so that the church could claim the extra 25p in the £1 back from the tax man.

Thank you.

#### STOKE HOLY CROSS FUEL ALLOTMENT TRUST

The Trustees of the above charity invite anyone living in the Parish of Stoke Holy Cross who is suffering from "need, hardship, or distress" to apply to the charity for a fuel grant or other assistance.

Application forms are available in 'Lower Stoke' from either the Post Office, Stoke Church Hall (opening hours Monday 0900-1300) or Mrs Margaret Nudds, 77 Norwich Road, NR14 8NX, and in 'Upper Stoke' from Julian Foster, 20 Chandler Road, Upper Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8RG.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Applications must be received by Tuesday 30th November 2021

## Reflections on Remembrance Day

he Royal British Legion celebrates its 100th anniversary this year.
The Legion was set up to ensure that the sacrifice of servicemen who gave their lives in World War 1 would never be forgotten and that no serviceman should suffer from having served others.

This translates into taking care of not only members of the armed services but also their families, looking after their physical, mental, spiritual and emotional health and giving help and advice and financial support.

This was and is funded by the annual national Poppy Appeal. The Legion's care extends to all who have served since then particularly in war zones including World War II and more recently Afghanistan.

As Remembrance Day approaches, we think, not only of the service men and women who have died in the many conflicts since the "war to end all wars", but also civilian casualties. The statistics are staggering, in World War 1 1 million 750 thousand service personnel

suffered some disability of which a half were permanently disabled, and there were 40 million civilian casualties in World War II.

As the leaves fall people's thoughts turn to their own families. My grandfather Harry served in Salonika and India in WW1 with the Royal Warwick's, and my Uncle Frank in the Coldstream Guards in the trenches, both survived.

In WW2 my father, also a Harry, served in the RHA and was evacuated from Dunkirk, Greece and Crete then served in North Africa, including Tobruk and Benghazi finally ending up in Cairo. He survived.

My wife Vivian's father Fred, a native of Rutland, served with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in France, Belgium, and Germany. Out of his platoon of 30 men only 3 survived including himself. Her Uncle Jim lost a leg and an eye when his vehicle ran over a landmine. My two cousins Alan and Jack Whitehead my Uncle Fred and Aunt Florrie's only children were lost serving with the RAF over Germany.

I served as a National Service man in the Royal Army Medical Corps in the Canal Zone of Egypt and in Cyprus. I guess many of you will have similar memories of your families. Why not spend some time in November recalling their stories and giving thanks for their lives Our thoughts extend however, beyond this country to all victims of war and conflict and of man's inhumanity to man. We have just passed the 20th anniversary of the horrors of 9/11 in America which typifies where hatred and intolerance can lead.

A British legion chaplains prayer remembers and thanks those "who have fought in all ages against injustice and cruelty, not counting the cost, and who by their sacrifice have preserved for us the precious heritage of freedom "

The Venta Group of Churches is holding a service of Remembrance in Caistor St Edmunds church starting at 10.45 am on Sunday 14 November and moving outdoors for the Act of Remembrance and 2 minute's silence at 11am.

#### Please do join us if you are able

David Carrington

## Raise your voice, raise your spirits!



As the autumn nights close in, we invite you to join us for several evenings of singing and socialising as we prepare to perform both classic and contemporary carols at Christmas celebrations in and around the local villages. Enthusiasm is more important than singing prowess – as long as you can sing in tune we would love to have you with us! Both male and female voices are welcome.....why not come as a couple even.

Practices will be held in the Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall in the centre of the village on Friday evenings from 12th November, starting at 7.30pm with vocal exercises, before rehearsing the songs and ending with tea/coffee and cake, finishing around 9pm.

We are still finalising the performance details, but currently plan a morning Carol Service for families at Stoke church on Sunday 12th December (morning) and Carols by Candlelight at Caistor Church on Sunday 19th December (early evening) - this will be live streamed on YouTube so that local villagers can join in on their doorstep.

If you have any questions or would be interested in joining the live band that will accompany us, please contact Andy Harding on andy@thehardings.uk.

If you want to sing, just turn up on Friday evenings from 12th November.

You'll be most welcome.

Please note - in the interests of everyone's safety, we continue to take precautions against Covid-19. These will be advised nearer the time depending on the latest applicable government guidance and medical advice.

#### **CAISTOR ST EDMUND FUEL ALLOTMENT CHARITY**

Registered Charity No 209105

The purpose of this Charitable Trust is to make grants for financial assistance to families or individuals who have been living in the parishes of Caistor St Edmund or Markshall for at least a year, who are in need or distress. Grants are made annually and the Trustees welcome applications from anyone who thinks they might qualify for help.

Application forms may be obtained from the Clerk to the Trustees (call 07963 44875 or email jeanetteutting@aol.com)

These should be completed and returned to the Clerk before 8th November 2021.

## Some Key Biblical Characters Wordsearch

Н	E	S	N	D	E	L	I	J	Α	Н	В	R	E
Н	I	Т	Α	Α	N	0	S	M	Α	S	0	U	Н
I	L	E	N	N	J	A	0	Н	E	S	С	N	Α
S	M	Р	J	I	0	Α	Α	G	Α	Т	Α	E	I
S	R	Н	J	E	N	I	Α	J	I	N	J	Н	M
P	M	E	Н	L	Α	S	L	S	0	D	E	Α	E
T	0	N	J	S	Н	Е	S	J	E	S	E	R	Н
N	S	0	I	Α	M	E	N	E	٧	M	E	0	E
0	E	R	S	Н	0	Α	Α	S	D	Н	Α	P	N
Α	S	G	I	Р	Α	U	L	U	T	Α	Α	R	Н
Н	Α	В	R	Α	Н	Α	M	S	Α	Α	٧	N	Y
I	E	J	0	Н	N	E	E	E	Н	R	J	I	J
U	S	N	T	Н	0	M	Α	S	Н	L	N	R	D
Α	Т	I	В	Н	R	E	Т	E	Р	Α	Н	Н	Н

MARY ESTHER

DAVID ABRAHAM

MOSES THOMAS

DANIEL ELIJAH

PAUL JOSEPH

GIDEON NOAH

PETER JESUS

ISAIAH STEPHEN

SAMSON JACOB

NEHEMIAH JOHN



ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS IN THIS
SPACE FOR JUST

£10
PER MONTH

FREE
Advert Design





#### Cresta Lodge

Bungay Road, Poringland Norwich, Norfolk NR14 7NA 01508 492775

info@cygnet.care www.swanandcygnet.care Our other care homes are in Beccles, Earsham and Blofield.

## A Positive Approach to Residential and Dementia Care

Applying over 50 years of family experience in care home management, Cresta Lodge provides long and short-term residential, and respite care for elderly people - some with dementia.

Our devoted staff take pride in making Cresta Lodge a happy, safe and homely place, our residents living in small groups with easy access to traditional and sensory gardens.

If you wish to register your interest or to book a visit, please phone or email.



### Surlingham Timeshare Swimming Pool

**NR14 7AL** 

Are you interested in having an indoor heated swimming pool exclusively for yourself, family and friends?

If so please contact

Tim Mack (01508) 538206

info@surlinghamtimesharepool.co.uk or go to

www.surling ham times har epool. co.uk

3, 6 or 12 monthly bookings for weekly slots available, "also one offs"

Open seven days a week 6.30am-10.00pm

We are 6 miles SE of Norwich between Surlingham and Rockland St. Mary





## NOVEMBER

WORSHIP, PRAYER AND COMMUNITY
IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

### **Caistor Services**

7<sup>th</sup> November | 9.30am | Praise and Worship

14th November | 10.45am | Service for Remembrance Sunday

21st November | 9.00am | Traditional Holy Communion

Scan me for regular updates!

### **Stoke Holy Cross Services**

7<sup>th</sup> November | 10.30am | Informal Service of Holy Communion

21st November | 10.30am | Informal Service of Holy Communion

28th November | 10.30am | Informal Worship



## **Arminghall Services**

28th November | 4.00pm | Advent Sunday

www.venta-group.org | Facebook / YouTube "Venta Group of Churches" admin@venta-group.org | 01508 492305

## Norfolk Dialects

orfolk is a wonderful place to live with wide skies, beautiful countryside, amazing wildlife .....the list goes on and on. And one of the wonders which continues to fascinate me is the local dialect – the language used by families for generations and sometimes very specific to local areas.

It isn't so obvious now but, at one stage, there was a very distinct Norwich dialect and another for the rest of Norfolk.

One of my favourite Norfolk words is 'bishy-barney-bee', which always seems a much better word to use for a ladybird. And the phrase 'on the huh', used for something which is crooked or slanting, is one which I have adopted, although an incomer to Norfolk, as it is just so useful and seems to convey its meaning so well and succinctly.

I am not an expert on dialect but do love how language is used by locals. My hope is that the very unique Norfolk dialects don't get lost in the passage of time, as they are so very special. I am also hoping that readers of this Free for All magazine will send in some of their favourite Norfolk words or sayings that we can put in future magazines.

We are looking forward to hearing your contributions!



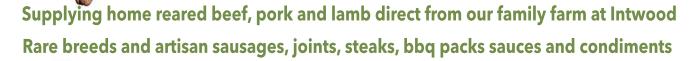
Free delivery every Tuesday and Friday



Free delivery every Tuesday and Friday



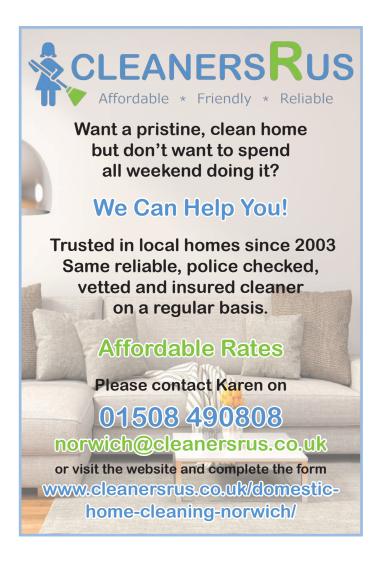
PREMIUM NORFOLK MEAT



CERTIFIED

Special orders welcome - sales@intwoodfarm.co.uk

# www.intwoodfarm.co.uk Or call 01603 987037 Rare Breeds Survival Trust





· Property Maintenance

- · Plumbing & Electrical
- Tiling & Laminate Flooring
- Painting & Decorating
- Blind Fitting & Maintenance
- · Kitchens & Bathrooms
- · Carpentry and Joinery
- Garden Maintenance
- And lots more!

vernment guidelines with regard to COVID-19

provided

will adhere to

'find us on social media'



07946 774775

MKLSERVICES@ICLOUD.COM

We are open and your safety is our priority

## Rediscover your hearing

With our lives beginning to return to normal, don't allow hearing loss to prolong your isolation. Expert help combined with the latest hearing technology are available locally at:

Rowan House Centre, HETHERSETT
 Also in Attleborough, Beccles & Bungay



Access to 300+ h/aid models



Award winning aftercare



30 day h/aid trial available

To book your appointment Freephone 0800 096 2637 or visit hearingcarecentre.co.uk

■ Award winning ■ Independent ■ 27 Local centres ■ COVID secure





Bespoke Blinds and Curtains for your home.

norwich sunblinds

norwichsunblinds.co.uk
01603 334062

11 - 14 Haverscroft Ind Est, New Road, Attleborough

