



**TUESDAY & FRIDAY  
MORNINGS**

**9am – Noon in**

**BAWDESWELL CHURCH**

*Open as normal over the Christmas and  
New Year period*

**Martin McColls**

6am – 10pm  
Sun 7am -10pm

**J. Baker Butcher**

7.30am – 5pm Mon Tu Thu Fri  
7.30am – 1pm Wed. & Sat.

**Garden Centre**

*Winter times:*  
9am – 5pm  
Sun 10.30am - 4.30pm

**Bluebell Square Shops**

As above but closed Mondays

**Cover:**

*Foxley Church © Stewart Cormie*

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**LETTERS**

My sincere thanks to all who sent 'Get Well' cards, and to the many friends and family who visited me during the past six weeks in hospital. This helped so much in keeping my spirit alive.

*Eddie Potter, Platinum Farm, Foxley*

**Foxley Harvest Supper – a big Thank You!**

The Village Hall was completely full for the Harvest Supper. A two course meal had been prepared by a dedicated group of volunteers. Everyone enjoyed it and I heard nothing but praise for the quality of the meal. Certainly it was obvious they appreciated all the hard work of the volunteers. In all £250 was raised for the Village Hall and another £250 for St Thomas' Church. Our thanks also go to the after dinner speaker, Nicky Mears, who held a light-hearted quiz about Foxley that kept most of us guessing. On behalf of all those that enjoyed the meal, I 'say' a big Thank you to the volunteers that made the event a success.

**St Thomas' Foxley –The bells.**

Our bells have been in for a while now with a lot of local and national interest shown in them. We have stuck rigidly to the practice times on Wednesday evenings, finishing at 8.30pm sharp. We have also rung for every mid-morning and evening service. For Remembrance Sunday we fitted half muffles to the bells for a more solemn tone.

We have had visitors coming to ring from as far away as Exeter Cathedral, as well as many other places. However, we have set a policy of a maximum of one visit a month from visiting ringers to manage the demand, and they ring for 35 minutes. One nice story: we had a visiting ringer from Shipdham who was in his eighties who had rung at all church towers in Norfolk in his time. Foxley had been the only exception as the bells had been unsafe to ring back in 1950 when he first wanted to come. He joined us on one Wednesday practice night saying "I've waited 63 years to ring here and now I have rung them all".

In January the Bishop of Norwich will rededicate the bells, which is quite an honour for Foxley. Hopefully the Faculty for a raised floor in the church tower will have been approved and the floor installed by then. Most of the money for this floor was raised by Chris Bell's talk on 'Storm Chasing' back in July. Things do move frustratingly slowly with the Church, but in the end you get there.

*Tony Rushbrook*

If there is sufficient interest in maintaining the Bawdeswell Allotment and Leisure Gardeners' Association (BALGA) a meeting will be held to elect new officers and renew contact with the National Association. If you are prepared to be actively involved please contact 01362 688388. If too few people make contact to justify a meeting, BALGA will be dissolved.

*Jayne Bown*

## Dec 2013 – Jan 2014 Diary

Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	FAB Club Christmas Party 2.30pm, Bawdeswell Village Hall
Thu 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Foxley Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Book Club 8pm at The Old Workhouse Bar, Bawdeswell
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Flower Arranging Class at Bawdeswell Village Hall 2pm, Wreaths Craft Club 2pm
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Wreath sale in the church 10am – 2pm Cinema 6.30pm Bawdeswell Village Hall, Scrooge
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Concert, Bawdeswell Church, 4.30pm ICENI + Semitones Youth Choir
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mobile Library 10am – 12pm Bawdeswell Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning 10.30am
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Bawdeswell Carol Service 10.30am Foxley Carol Service 4.30pm Bylaugh Candlelit Carol Service 3pm
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Craft Club 2pm at Bawdeswell Village Hall
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Cinema 7pm Bawdeswell Village Hall, Promised Land
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	WI meeting Sparham Old Schoolroom 7.30pm
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Mobile Library 10am – 12pm Bawdeswell Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning 10.30am
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Craft Club 2pm at Bawdeswell Village Hall

### Foxley Village Hall – regular events

Short Mat Bowls  
Bridge  
Table Tennis

Every Monday & Friday Evening  
Tuesday evening 7.15pm  
Wednesday evening.

### Bawdeswell Village Hall - regular events

\*Parish Council  
\*Village Hall Committee  
\*Table Tennis  
Countrysiders  
WeightWatchers  
Running Club  
Little Monkeys (Parent & Toddler Group)  
JayCee Bridge Club  
Pilates

Normally 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of Month (not Jan or Aug)  
Normally last Saturday of Month  
Every Monday  
Every other Wednesday in term time  
Thursdays 6.15pm  
Thursdays 8pm  
Fridays 9.15am  
Fridays 2.15pm  
Fridays 7pm

### Bawdeswell Church

ICENI choir practice

Wednesdays 7.30pm

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**FIFTY AND BEYOND**

**Wednesday 4th December**  
2.30pm - 4.30pm  
Bawdeswell Village Hall

**WE ARE NOW NEARLY SOLD OUT!  
THERE ARE JUST A FEW REMAINING  
TICKETS - RING BILL & JACKIE FOR  
AVAILABILITY AND ANY OTHER  
ENQUIRIES.**

**01362 688956**

*Thanks to all who have already bought tickets -  
we look forward to seeing you!*



## **FAB DATES** **for 2014**

<b>Wednesday 5th February</b>	<b>10.30am - 12.00noon</b>
<b>Wednesday 2nd April</b>	<b>10.30am - 12.00noon</b>
<b>Wednesday 4th June</b>	<b>10.30am - 12.00noon</b>
<b>Wednesday 6th August</b>	<b>10.30am - 12.00noon</b>
<b>Wednesday 1st October</b>	<b>10.30am - 12.00noon</b>
<b>Wednesday 3rd December</b>	<b>10.30am - 12.00noon</b>

**We want everyone to enjoy our FAB meetings -  
please let us know if you have any  
suggestions or ideas.**

**If you need transport please ring  
Janet on 688749**

**Any other enquiries to: Bill & Jackie 688956  
or Janet 688749**

~ oOo ~



Registered Charity 800970

Our main focus is still on our Lottery application and the team continues to meet every Thursday morning. We are up to about our 70<sup>th</sup> meeting now! The good news is the Stage 3 application is almost ready to be sent off, which is a wonderful relief!

Because the Norfolk Construction Fund has still not re-opened for applications we have had to spend more time looking around for other possible means of securing the funds needed on top of the £500,000 of the lottery bid and have sent off four applications to possible largish funders and written to 10 small Trusts. Unfortunately, we won't receive responses for 3 months or so.

We have also launched a Gift and Pledge scheme; pledges mean that individuals can help with the cash flow and be repaid at the end of the project. The Buy a Brick scheme is still running. There are still calendars of Bawdeswell for 2014 for sale at £6 each - it all goes into the Fund now as we have covered the cost of them. Every little amount anyone can spare will help to make this dream a reality.

If we are successful with the lottery and our other fund raising, construction of the new hall should begin in the summer of 2014!! If we are unsuccessful the situation will have to be re-addressed and a plan B worked out. However, we must be optimistic so our 2014 plans will include organising a village function to farewell the current hall!

Other good news is that an oak tree with a remarkable history has been donated to replace the tree planted in memory of Phil Hague which was destroyed. A plaque in memory of Phil has been made to identify the tree. The interesting history of the tree itself is as follows:

*This oak tree was grown from an acorn from a tree planted at Howe Hill, Ludham, Norfolk. The original Ludham tree was one of several saplings that Hitler presented to Olympic Gold Medalists at the 1936 Berlin Games. Only four came to this country and the Ludham one was presented to Christopher Boardman, helmsman of the British yacht "Lalage"; he brought it back and planted it at his home.*



Replanting the uprooted tree



Peter Good and  
John Menzies



In Memory of  
Phil Hague

Bawdeswell is fortunate to have been given such an interesting gift. Long may it prosper and produce acorns that continue to flourish and keep the story alive. The current hall is being well used still and its day to day running and maintenance is checked at our monthly Saturday morning meetings to which all are welcome. Our next meeting will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 10.00 am in the Village Hall.

Enquires:  
Calendars Marietta Menzies 01362 688 400 or from the Post Office  
Bookings John Mallen 01362 688 627. [villagehall@bawdeswell.net](mailto:villagehall@bawdeswell.net) or  
[jm67y@mallenj.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:jm67y@mallenj.fsnet.co.uk)  
Caretaker Les Beach 01362 688 869

## Community Car Scheme - Bawdeswell Bylaugh and Foxley

Due to other commitments, it is with regret that Bill Cunliffe is unable to continue driving for the scheme. We are very grateful for the service he gave – and I hope that when life settles down a bit for him, we will perhaps be able to entice him back. Thank you, Bill. Sylvia McColville has kindly offered to help with co-ordinating the scheme, and will have a trial period starting **January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014**. Her number is: **01362 688 189**, but until January, please continue to use my number. As this magazine is for December and January, I like to give you the information in good time. Thank you, Sylvia, for your help. Meanwhile, we would still like to recruit another two drivers, especially with the winter coming on. We find it difficult to arrange urgent/same day appointments at present, but will do our best to accommodate you, and thank you for your understanding.

Angela Shannon Co-ordinator Tel: 01362 688111



## BAWDESWELL LADIES' CRAFT GROUP

The wonderful knitters of Foxley and Bawdeswell are continuing to make the Fish and Chip Baby Vests and there is another pile ready to be sent off. We are wondering if we can find a way of sending some to the Philippines as a help after the terrible tragedy that country has had to face. We are also continuing to make items for our sales table at the Wreath Sale in the church on 14<sup>th</sup> December. Our next meeting is on 28<sup>th</sup> November but it cannot be held at the Hall so will be held at someone's home. We will be back at the hall for our meetings on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014. New members are always welcome. Enquiries Marietta Menzies, 01362 688 400.



## FOXLEY VILLAGE HALL

### COFFEE MORNINGS

Wednesdays 18<sup>th</sup> December & 15<sup>th</sup> January

All at 10.30 am

*All welcome*





## Book Club Review

Our November book was Little Dorrit by Charles Dickens. It is a typically very long Dickens novel and the *little* of the title only relates to the character not the book! Its length rather than the novel itself received mixed reactions from our members. At approximately just under 900 pages it deterred about half the membership but the other half seemed determined to finish it. Only one member was sorry to reach the end as she'd enjoyed it so much!

Most of us have read a least one Dickens novel in our lifetime and mostly they all have a common thread: A wonderful selfless, supportive female heroine (actually a bit "wet" by today's standards), one or two garrulous characters, in this case Mr. Meagles and Flora. Flora's speeches are a marvel of writing, the sentences need re-reading several times to make sense as she wanders off into so many asides. Dickens must have heard the voices in his head first to have got them so right. This makes his novels a dramatic read and adds to the enjoyment.

The novels always have a moral message with the triumphing of good over evil and Little Dorrit is no different and, with a plot based on the consequences of debt, financial mismanagement and machinations, it resonates today. There are lots of interconnected characters who run into each other constantly, whether in London or the Swiss Alps, which is fairly unbelievable and belies the gritty realism of the main plot. The characters aren't very three dimensional but as well as their voices are given mannerisms that typify their behaviour and define them.

I think most of us would have preferred to have read it in the way it was originally published: 35 pages at a time in a monthly magazine over 18 months. That would have been a much slower and absorbing way to have savoured the pleasure of the words, characters and the various interconnected stories instead of the belt through it to have it finish by our meeting date. However, although it was a relief to get to the end, those that did, enjoyed it and felt it was worth the effort.

*The Book Club meets in the Workhouse Bar on the first Thursday of every month at 8pm. We mostly obtain books from the Library so there is not the expense of buying new books each month. We are reading "The Reeve's Tale" from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales for discussion at our December meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December. We are also starting to read Middlemarch by George Eliot for discussion at our January meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> January. At the next meeting we will also be considering titles for next year so please come along with suggestions. New members are always welcome. Enquiries: Marietta Menzies 01362 688 400.*

All Saints Church, Bawdeswell

# Christmas Concert

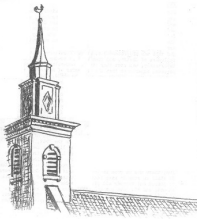
with

**Iceni  
&  
Semi Tone Youth Choir**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
4pm**

**Tickets £5 – Children Free**

**Seasonal Refreshments  
Tickets 01362 688499**



## The Friends of Bawdeswell Church

The Autumn Quarterly 100 Club Draw took place at the **Quiz Night** on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September and here are the results...

£100 William Sommerville  
 £25 Bob & Debbie Maybee (twice), Nicholas Ward, Margaret Roy  
 £10 Larry Condon, Pat Downing, Zachary Long, David Shannon, Sylvia McColville

Our next fund raiser will be the **Wreath Sale and Fair** in the church on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December** followed by the **Christmas Concert on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>**.

## CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE & FAIR

### Bawdeswell Church

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

Pre-order Wreaths from Sue Lilwall 01362 688240

#### Diary dates for 2014

Quiz Night - February  
 Flower Demonstration – May  
 Race Night- Oct 4<sup>th</sup> in Foxley Village hall  
 Christmas Wreath Sale and Concert in December

Enquiries about the Friends of Bawdeswell Church can be made by phoning 688499 or 688268.

The website is [www.bawdeswell.net/friendsofthechurch](http://www.bawdeswell.net/friendsofthechurch)

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## Bawdeswell Table Tennis Club

### Table Tennis – EVERY MONDAY EVENING\*

Now the holidays are over, it is time to get in shape ready for the Christmas festive season. Do come along on Monday evenings to play table tennis, singles and doubles 7.30 – 9.30 pm.

Entrance fee is **£2 adult and £1 under 16** to cover the cost of hiring the hall. Anyone under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

\*We don't normally play on Bank Holidays but if there is enough interest we can arrange to, if the hall is available.

For more information please contact Janet on (01362) 688749.



## SHORT MAT BOWLS Foxley Village Hall

Every Monday and Friday evening between 7pm and 9pm, (during the Winter months starting 28<sup>th</sup> October in the afternoons between 2pm and 4pm) short mat bowls is played. This is not the game you may have watched on T.V. where the game is played in absolute silence: a single cough incurring instant glares of castigation. No, this is a game where chatter and a considerable amount of laughter (and a cup of tea and biscuit at half time) are an intrinsic part of the evening. The atmosphere is distinctly friendly and sociable.

Now, if you feel that this seems just the way you would like to spend a Monday or Friday evening (or both) then why not come along to the hall just to see how you would fare at a practice session. There will be bowls for you to try, and plenty of help and encouragement from the members—and who knows? You may even be a natural!

To find out more, call Simon on 01362 688389 or Carole on 567



**BRIDGE CLUB** The JayCee Bridge Club holds weekly sessions at both Foxley and Bawdeswell Village Halls. We meet at Foxley Village Hall every Tuesday evening at 7.15pm. for a 7.30pm start and at Bawdeswell Village Hall every Friday afternoon at 2.15pm for a 2.30pm start. For information (or to confirm a session is to take place) contact Roger Fryatt on 01362 688627 or Patsy Catchpole on 01362 688352.

## All Welcome... Wensum Valley Hotel

### Forthcoming Events

#### Christmas 2013 At Wensum Valley Hotel

Now taking bookings for:-

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## THE ICENI CHOIR

With the festive season fast approaching we hope you will be able to join Iceni with it's new Musical Director for their collection of seasonal music, mistletoe, holly and seasonal fayre with all the trimmings.

Iceni are performing at Lyng Church, At Hunters Hall, on the Dereham Christmas Express and at Bawdeswell Church for a family Christmas Concert with the Semitone Youth Singers.

**Sunday 8th December**  
Hunter's Hall Swanton Morley  
3.00p.m.

**Saturday 14th December**  
"A Christmas Express"  
on the Mid Norfolk Railway  
Dereham Station to Wymondham

**Sunday 15th December**  
Christmas Family Concert at  
All Saints Church Bawdeswell  
With The Semitone Singers Youth Choir  
4.00p.m.

Contact Jim Stebbings 01362 693277  
[jimstebbing@btinternet.com](mailto:jimstebbing@btinternet.com)  
Beverley Cooper 01362 858185 / 07710 722149  
[coop501954@yahoo.com](mailto:coop501954@yahoo.com)

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Despite the very last minute change of film for November we had a fair turnout for **"Arbitrage"**. Thanks to all of those who attended.

Richard Gere [as Robert Miller] and Susan Sarandon [as his wife Ellen] were excellent as usual and were well supported by Brit Marling who played their daughter [Brooke]. I won't spoil it for anyone who wants to borrow the film but it is a high finance fraud and family issues movie with a slightly surprising end. Quite gripping all the way through.



For **December** [14<sup>th</sup>] we are showing the best ever adaption of 'A Christmas Carol' with Alastair Sim as **"SCROOGE"** (U). No need to tell you the plot. We are opening the doors at 6.30pm, 30 minutes earlier than usual, and will have mulled wine and mince pies available to get you into the Christmas SPIRIT [Ha Ha] before the film starts. Please feel free to come in period dress for the occasion.

Our January [11<sup>th</sup>] film will [fingers crossed] be **"Promised Land"** (15) which is in a similar vein to 'Erin Brockovich' but with 'fracking' instead of pollution. We have Matt Damon and Francis McDormand here trying to make the most financial gain from a declining town and the town fighting back. Be prepared to hear some quite disturbing but **mainly untrue** horror stories about 'fracking'.

We now have a list of films available for February, March & April and will be sending it out to those on our mailing list so that they can vote for their favourites. Details of the films chosen will be in the February Magazine. If you are not yet on our emailing list contact us at [BawdeswellVillageCinema@gmail.com](mailto:BawdeswellVillageCinema@gmail.com) and we will add your address.

So come and join us for some great evenings and a chance to get away from the telly.

**Missed any of our films?** For a £5 returnable deposit, if we have them in our library (we don't have them all) you can borrow them and see them at home. We have also been gifted a few more DVD's which are also available to borrow. For further information contact us at [BawdeswellVillageCinema@gmail.com](mailto:BawdeswellVillageCinema@gmail.com) or call David on 01362 688749.

 <p><b>Norfolk Stairlifts</b> www.norfolkstairlifts.co.uk</p>   <p>Straight &amp; Curved Stairlifts Largest Working <b>DEMONSTRATION DISPLAY</b> In Norfolk Stairlift broken down? Call Now <b>Tel: 01953 850004</b> FREE NO OBLIGATION SURVEY Unit 10, Ironside Way, Hingham, Norwich.</p>	<p> <b>The Hairdressing Council</b> Louise Ledbury Welcomes you to The Hair Room 2 Saxon Meadows, Bawdeswell Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am – 5pm Fully qualified in all aspects of hairdressing 23 years experience To book an appointment call: 01362 688666 20% off your first appointment</p>
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## Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society

For our September field trip our first port of call was the Norfolk Ornithological Association (NOA) site at Holme next the Sea. The sun and warmth brought out many Small

White butterflies which covered the yellow-flowered buddleias. Birds sighted on the bright orange berried Sea Buckthorn were female Blackcap and Dunnock. A Sparrowhawk was hassled by Meadow Pipits. Gary, the assistant warden, had just completed his rounds of the mist nets and invited some of the group to join him in the Ringing Room. There they enjoyed watching as a Cetti's Warbler and a Reed Bunting were ringed, measured and recorded. The rest of us were making our way to the sea when we were halted by the sight of an abundance of dragonflies and damselflies up in the air. Reaching the sea wall we were greeted by Sandwich Terns fishing and Gannets flying by. A group of Scoters flew past and landed. Great Crested Grebes were sitting quietly on the sea and an Arctic Skua was flying around. But now it was really hot so we retreated to the centre to examine the moths which had been trapped during the night. We were really well looked after by the NOA.

After lunch at Titchwell our leader for the day, Colin Fenn, led us down the path towards the sea. Gadwall and Little Grebe were on the pool on the left-hand side, and in the lagoons on the right were Spoonbills, Little Egret, Black-tailed Godwits as well as many Ruff in the water and on the edges, Golden Plover on an island and a lone Common Sandpiper. But then, a sight we were privileged to see: 10 minutes of Raptor Bliss! 3 Red Kites high in the sky, Marsh Harrier, Buzzard and then a Hobby veered away and over the path. And then, where did that Peregrine come from, so close you could see its facial markings? Then to cap it all, the Spoonbills took off and flew past in strict formation. We were entranced. Suddenly it was all quiet again and the waders and others settle back down on the water and on the islands. Now on to the sea which was a long way out. Bar-tailed Godwit, Turnstone, some Knot on the rocks and a Red Breasted Merganser on the sea. Finally, a trip to the Parrinder hide, spotting a migrant Wheatear on the way, a juvenile Little Ringed Plover and lots of Curlews, which refused to become Whimbrel! A Curlew Sandpiper was seen standing amongst a group of Teal and a Little Stint doing its own thing along the water's edge. A Greenshank was just visible in the far corner of the water. A really good day was rounded off by the sighting of 3 Snipe as we wandered back for a well-earned cup of tea.

Coming up:

Thursday 12th December – 'An Evening with Mark Cocker' – ticket only

Thursday 16th January 2014 - Talk by Richard Porter

Field trips :- Sunday 5th January 2014 – Winter bird count (teams)

Sunday 26th January – venue to be confirmed

For more details and information contact Sue Gale – [wvbs.publicity@gmail.com](mailto:wvbs.publicity@gmail.com)

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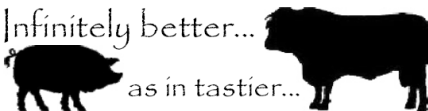


## The BECK WI

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November we had a very enjoyable and delicious 'hands-on' meeting, a chocolates workshop with Margaret Furness. Margaret first demonstrated how to make Bailey's truffles and they were then passed around for us all to try – the delicious part. We were then given three different truffle pastes: basic chocolate, coffee wafers and ginger chocolate. With these we formed our own truffles and rolled them in a variety of ingredients. Margaret also showed us how to make the pretty boxes she packs her chocolates in. So all of us went home carrying our own box of hand-made truffles, having had an enjoyable evening. We all have the recipes now, so expect boxes of truffles to appear at Christmas in WI members' homes.

**In December we shall be having our Christmas meal together. Our next meeting in the Old School room will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January. Do come along and join us.**

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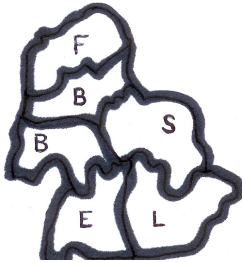
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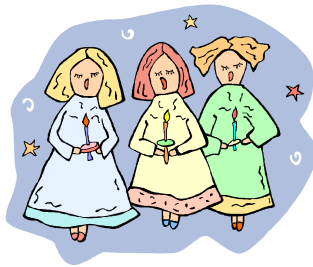
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## Benefice News and Events



### Events for December

- Dec 14<sup>th</sup> Bawdeswell Wreath and craft sale 10-2  
in the church
- Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Bawdeswell Christmas Concert with  
Iceni choir 4pm. Tickets £5 from  
James Lilwall 01362 688499



### **BENEFICE ADVENT CAROL SERVICE** Let us make a joyful start to the Christmas season

Please come and join us at Bawdeswell for the

**Benefice Advent Carol Service**  
**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 6pm.**

There will be traditional hymns, readings and a choir.  
And refreshments after the service.

As we have done in previous years we are not sending out Christmas cards but donating the cost of them to WaterAid instead. However, the Rector, churchwardens and BMG wish you all a very **Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.**

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## St Thomas Church, Foxley - Remembrance Sunday



The FLEBBS Benefice Remembrance Sunday service on 10th November was held in Foxley Church. The names of those from the six parishes in the group who fell in either the First or Second World Wars were read out in remembrance. About 90 people attended the service. The nave was crammed full, and those who could not find seats had to climb up into the gallery. A collection was taken for the Royal British Legion, which realised £329. This was grossed up by £82 or the Government's Gift Aid supplement, and a cheque for £411 has been sent to the charity's head office.

A house-to-house collection was also made in the village, and this realised a further £136, the same as last year.

Thank you for your support, *Nigel Hatch*

### I need your help - **Friends of Foxley Church** - would it fly?

I hope to start a Friends of Foxley Church in the village if we can. The Church costs £45 per week just to run. That's cutting the grass, insurance, heating etc. to keep the place looking as it should for the village. However, we have just had a 5 yearly inspection by the Church Architect who indicates we need to raise about £105,000 for other repairs soon. These are repairing the Chancel roof, restoring the porch, where the writing is in danger of being lost for ever, and improving the drainage around the tower. There are of course many more jobs than this, and although we have been working through a programme to make the place more active and welcoming, we cannot do it all without extra help. Some of the projects will be grant aided and in the past the village has always rallied round when faced with restoration challenges.

What I am proposing is to run a short session in the Church at 7.00pm on Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup>, where I can take you through these costs and the work programme on items that have to be done. All who are interested are welcome. I will also show people some of the more interesting parts of the Church if they are interested. I will also test the water to see if the residents think a Friends of Foxley scheme is a good idea and are willing to contribute to the running costs in this way even in a very small way. None of the money raised by a potential Friends group will pay for the Rector or go to the Diocese. This is done by the congregation to the Diocese through their own giving. We have about 8 people who contribute to something called Parish Share, as we want a Rector. This is about three times as much as the running costs at the moment but will be rising significantly because of increases in Diocesan fees. However, if some of the burden of the running costs could be lifted it would help keep the costs of property maintenance under control. Come if you can-it would be appreciated.

*Tony Rushbrook*

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## ALL SAINTS CHURCH, BAWDESWELL

December brings the start of a new church year with Advent and Christmas. The Christmas season runs on right through January so we have plenty of time to remember the wonderful events which happened more than 2,000 years ago. And we have services at Bawdeswell to mark the season:

On Advent Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December, as well as our usual Holy Communion service in the morning, there will be an Advent Carol service in the evening. We tend to think of carols for Christmas but there are many written for Advent, looking forward to what is to come. We will have quite a large choir and the service will make you think – not as boisterous as a Christmas carol service but well worth coming out for.

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December we will have a GiG for Advent. Our GiGs are for people of all ages, from children to grandparents – all are welcome. In the afternoon, the Friends of the church have their Christmas concert – see their page for details. Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December sees our Christmas carol service when we will sing carols old and new and hear again the story of the first Christmas. At Christmas-time we remember all who do not have a home and we will be sending our collection to support St Martin's Housing Trust which works with homeless people in Norwich.

Christmas Eve means Midnight Mass. In Bawdeswell, we take a slight liberty with the timing and our service is at 9 o'clock but it is still our Christmas Eucharist with carols. Then on Christmas Day we have our Christmas GiG. This has become established as the place to be on Christmas morning and we look forward to seeing everyone again this year. Again, our collection will be sent to St Martin's for their work with the homeless.

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, the coming of the wise men to Bethlehem, with our usual monthly Holy Communion service.

From the registers: On 27<sup>th</sup> October we welcomed Robert Steed into the church at his baptism.

*William Mason*

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## From the Rector

Dear Everybody, hello again.

Many of you will already have heard that in the new year I am going to take up the post of Rector of the Quintet Benefice (Aylmerton, Beeston Regis, Gresham and East and West Runton). I shall be instituted there on March 9<sup>th</sup>, and my last Sunday here will be February 9<sup>th</sup>.

I have very much enjoyed my time here, but I feel it is now time for me to go, and I do feel called to the benefice where I am going. There are challenges and difficulties awaiting me that I have not faced here. This has been a very friendly, enjoyable and comfortable place to be; and I trust that you will soon have the right person to be your Rector here.

\*

Christmas and the New Year are traditionally times when we look forward to what is to come. We think about the birth of a baby, and a time of new beginnings and new resolutions. It is a time of change, but also a time of hope. It is a time of year that you don't have to be a Christian to understand and enjoy – the days have already started to get lighter, people get together or communicate with one another.

But Christmas traditions change quite swiftly with the years. Songs that are only ten years old, but which caught the mood of the time, are already Christmas classics. Internet Christmas cards (all-singing, all-dancing) have become acceptable. And who, many years ago, would have photocopied a round-robin letter to send with cards, or a bit longer ago still, would have talked about the TV schedules? How long has Ben Hur been a Christmas tradition?

The age-old meaning of Christmas that must not be lost is what is at the heart of present-giving: "What does this other person want or need?" Sometimes the response we get is precisely: "Thank you so much, it's just what I wanted but I didn't know." Such understanding by others is wonderful. For Christians, Christ at his birth is the person they hadn't known they wanted. May you all find joy this Christmas in how someone shows they understand you in what they do for you.

God bless you this Christmas David Head

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### Church Services January 2014

Date	05/01	12/01	19/01	26/01
Season	Epiphany	Baptism of Christ	2 <sup>nd</sup> of Epiphany	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany
Foxley	09.00 RH		10.30 HC DH	17.30 EP DH
Lyng	9.00 HC DH		15.30 EP DH	10.30 W&P CW
Elsing	10.30 HC RH	10.30 OMS DH	10.30 W&P CW	09.00 HC DH
Bawdeswell	10.30 HC DH		10.30 GiG	10.30 WP CW
Bylaugh		9.00 HC PB DH		9.00 MP CW
Sparham	10.30 OASIS		09.00 HC DH	10.30 HC DH

**RH** Richard Hanmer **DH** David Head **CW** Churchwarden

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### CHURCH SERVICES DECEMBER 2013

Date	01/12	08/12	15/12	22/12	24/12	25/12	29/12
Season	1st Sunday of Advent	2nd Sunday of Advent	3rd Sunday of Advent	4th Sunday of Advent	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	The First Sunday of Christmas
Foxley	09.00 HC DH		10.30 HC DH	16.30 Carols DH	23.15 HC DH		
Lyng	9.00 HC OF	10.30 OMS Carols DH	18.30 Carols DH	10.30 W&P CW	16.00 Christingle DH	09.15 HC DH	
Elsing	10.30 Family Service DH		10.30 Word and Praise	18.30 Carols DH		10.30 HC DH	10.30 United Benefice HC DH
Bawdeswell	10.30 HC OF 18.00 Advent Carols DH		10.30 GiG	10.30 Carols CW	21.00 HC DH	10.30 GiG	
Bylaugh		9.00 HC DH		15.00 Carols DH			
Sparham	10.30 OASIS		9.00 HC DH	10.30 Carols DH		10.30 HC + John Salt	