



The
Reeve's Tale
News | Events | Local Services Magazine

December/
January
2014

Bawdeswell & Foxley

www.thereevestale.co.uk

At Reepham Town

Due to the rebuilding of our own Village Hall we have moved temporarily to Reepham Town Hall. We will be back in the NEW Bawdeswell Village Hall in spring 2015. In the meantime, come and join us in Reepham where you will find just as friendly a welcome.

Saturday 13th December - 7pm for 7.30 start

The Grand Budapest Hotel 

Wes Anderson is a talented US director who makes 'off the wall' rather odd films but of great skill, interest and visual beauty. This extravaganza is a sort of 'Ruritanian Hitchcock' set in the 1930s in a big central European hotel and revolving around the mysterious murder of a rich old widow, the theft of a priceless painting, a killer private eye, and the hotel bell boy and Head Waiter who are the victims of a chase all over the landscape. Visually the film is astounding and the cast is a showcase of great acting: Ralph Fiennes, Tom Wilkinson, Tilda Swinton, Bill Murray etc etc. It is a mesmerising film – certainly not conventional – and one best viewed several times to appreciate the incredible richness crammed into every frame.

Interval - mulled wine & mince pies for all in December

Saturday 10th January - 7pm for 7.30 start

What We Did On Our Holiday 

Saturday 14th February - 7pm for 7.30 start

The Hundred Foot Journey 

Saturday 14th March - 7pm for 7.30 start

The Imitation Game 

Saturday 11th April - 7pm for 7.30 start

Mr Turner 

Films all subject to availability

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Welcome

Here's to 2015!

This edition of The Reeve's Tale straddles the festive season and the New Year celebrations, so we wanted to take this opportunity to wish everyone health and happiness as we wave goodbye to one year and see in the next.

We're beginning to settle into the routine of getting The Reeve's Tale put together, printed and distributed on time. But there's still plenty we'd like to do. We'd really love to be able to have a full colour magazine so we can feature more photos of what's going on in our villages. We'd also like to include more 'general interest' articles about our local people and places – any suggestions more than welcome.

However, these changes rely on the continued support of our valued advertisers and contributors. So a huge thank you goes to all who've supported The Reeve's Tale throughout 2014. We're looking forward to meeting more of you in 2015!

Emma and Gavin Raines

Next copy deadline

15th January

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Letters

Alan Collier

“As I’m sure everyone knows, my dear Alan died on 15th October. So many of his friends and relatives attended his memorial on the 30th, I was absolutely overwhelmed. Alan would have been so proud and pleased. You know how much he cared for all the people he knew in the Benefice (and beyond!). I want to thank you all for the caring, the kindnesses, the help and so much else given since Alan’s illness, to him and to me. Your generosity at his memorial was really amazing and, to date, more than £1,400 has gone to The Big C. Thank you all so much. I want you to know that he loved you all and his greatest pleasure was passing the time of day with all his dear friends whether from his scooter, his wheelchair or his bed; in the pub, the village hall(s), the Church, people’s houses, or in hospital.”

THANK YOU.

Marilyn Collier

Rural Open Sure Signal Scheme

“In the latest issue I noted the Parish Council decided not to apply for the Vodafone Rural Open Sure Signal. My partner and I are bewildered as we both have to stand at the bottom of our garden to get a signal (two bars if we are lucky!). At the front of our property we don’t get any signal until we’ve left Hall Road. We’re not running ‘out of date’ phones either so I’m sure it can’t be put down to that.

We just wondered what phones or indeed service provider the Parish Council use (or the people that decided we don’t need to apply for it and that we have an “adequate” signal) as we can’t get a signal let alone 3G which is what Sure Signal is offering!”

Lorna and Matt

“...Who decided that we have adequate coverage? And where do they live? Because most of the villagers I spoke to and myself couldn’t believe what had been written.

The coverage is, at best, me leaning out of a bedroom window and hoping I get a signal, at worst no coverage at all. I live on Hall Road, so not down a dark and isolated area. Please can they re-think the application and at the very least send a survey out to the residents to actually find out the real stats of the case and not an assumption?”

Mrs D Stevens

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Letters

“I was a little taken aback that you dismissed the Vodafone Sure Signal. I’m sure I’m not alone in having a poor signal in Bawdeswell. Is this going to cost us anything? And how many others feel, like me, that it should be reconsidered?”

Peter Seaman

“We have terrible Vodafone signal up at Paradise Road and I wanted to inform the council. The coverage has got worse over last two years.”

A. Saunders

Having received these letters, we contacted Bawdeswell Parish Council for a response:

The rationale of the Parish Council was that as the application process involved obtaining a survey of the village, finding a team to drive the project forward, the selection and approval of 5 – 10 suitable sites with a minimum 4mbps broadband speed that had the approval of the landowners concerned, coupled with the financial implications and limited timescale involved made the project difficult, particularly in the light of the super-fast broadband initiative coming to the village shortly. The fact that commercial sensitivities dictated that any improvements would not solve all the mobile phone signal problems in the village (in particular O2 which is virtually non-existent in the village) only helped to convince Councillors against the approach.

Residents who are experiencing problems with their mobile signal may wish to make enquiries from their provider about the possibility of obtaining/purchasing a signal booster for their own homes.

Bawdeswell Parish Council

For more information on Vodafone’s Rural Open Sure Signal programme, visit www.vodafone.co.uk/our-network-and-coverage/what-affects-your-coverage/rural-open-sure-signal/

Angry Village Litter Picker

“I live in Bawdeswell and like to think I take care and have a pride in the village. I tidy up after our dog while taking him for a walk and fill bags with other people’s rubbish along the way. Adam’s Pit is a prime meeting spot most days where cars and mopeds gather and use the lane to the pond as a race track, then leave a carpet of rubbish behind, including a television the other day. It seems over recent years there’s a desire to vandalise our area to impress young, watching mates. What fun, eh? Not. I’m starting to sound like a nutter myself, but it drives me bonkers these things that mess up our surroundings. What can be done?”

P J Mitchell

What's on?

December/January Events

Event	Date	Location(s)
Bawdeswell Parish Council meeting	Mon 1st Dec	Bawdeswell Church; 7.30pm
Fun with Flowers	Tues 2nd Dec	Foxley Village Hall; 2pm – 4pm
Book Club	Thurs 4th Dec	The Old Workhouse; 8pm
Children's Society Coffee Morning	Wed 3rd Dec	Foxley Lodge; 10am
FAB Christmas Buffet Lunch	Wed 3rd Dec	Foxley Village Hall; 12pm – 2pm
Wreath Making Day	Thurs 11th Dec	Foxley Village Hall; 10am
Christmas Wreath Sale and Fair	Sat 13th Dec	Bawdeswell Church; 10am – 2pm
Bawdeswell Village Cinema: The Grand Budapest Hotel	Sat 13th Dec	Reepham Town Hall; 7pm for 7.30pm
Iceni Choir: Sing Nowell	Sun 14th Dec	Hunters Hall, Swanton Morley; 3pm
Foxley St. Thomas' Carol Service	Sun 14th Dec	Foxley Church; 4.30pm
Beck W.I. Christmas dinner	Mon 15th Dec	Lenwade House; 7pm for 7.30pm
Mobile Library	Wed 17th Dec	Bawdeswell; 10am – 11.40am Foxley; 11.45am – 12pm
Foxley Parish Council meeting	Thurs 18th Dec	Foxley Village Hall; 7.30pm
Bawdeswell School Christmas Service	Fri 19th Dec	Bawdeswell Church; 1.30pm
Carol Service	Sun 21st Dec	Bawdeswell Church; 4pm
First Communion	Wed 24th Dec	Bawdeswell Church; 9pm
Midnight Communion	Wed 24th Dec	Foxley Church; 11.15pm
GiG family service	Thurs 25th Dec	Bawdeswell Church; 10.30am
Ladies' Craft Club	Thurs 8th Jan	Please call Marietta on 01362 688400 to check venue
Village Hall opening event planning meeting	Sat 10th Jan	Church View; 10am
Bawdeswell Village Cinema: What We Did On Our Holiday	Sat 10th Jan	Reepham Town Hall; 7pm for 7.30pm
Beck W.I.	Mon 12th Jan	Old School Room, Sparham; 7.30pm

What's on?

Regular Events

Event	Time/Date	Location
Short Mat bowls	Every Monday & Friday 2.30pm	Foxley Village Hall
Bridge	Tuesday 7.15pm, Friday 2.15pm	Tues: Foxley Village Hall, Friday: call for details
Table Tennis	Wednesday evening	Foxley Village Hall
Table Tennis	Monday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Lyng Village Hall
Seekers	First Sat of the month 10am	Bawdeswell Church
Little Monkeys	Every Fri (term time) 9.30am - 12pm	Foxley Village Hall
Youth Club	Thursday 7pm – 9pm	Foxley Village Hall
Pilates	Fridays 7pm	Bircham Centre, Reepham

If you would like your event listed in The Reeve's Tale email
hello@therevestale.co.uk

Elsing Village Hall Events

Event	Time/Date	Description
Christmas Craft Market	Saturday 13th December, 10.00am – 12.00pm	A great opportunity to buy that special handmade gift whilst enjoying a delicious breakfast in great company. Locally crafted Paintings, Ceramics, Needlecraft, Jams, Cakes and more. We really look forward to welcoming you!

Also on therevestale.co.uk website: find out about forthcoming events at Dereham Memorial Hall.

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Village News

Poppy Appeal, Bawdeswell and Foxley

A joint total in excess of £600 was raised. Many thanks to all who contributed and collected.

Remembrance Bells at Foxley

On Tuesday 11 November, the Foxley bells were rung 'half-muffled' after the 2 minute silence for 11 minutes. Quite a number of Foxley and Bawdeswell residents listened and watched the ringing. We felt this was a suitable tribute we could make as part of the Act of Remembrance. Ringing the bells at half-muffled gives a mournful tone to the striking. The effect is achieved by strapping a leather pad to the bell clanger, so one strike sounds normal, the other strike, as the clapper hits the bell face opposite, sounds completely different. Overall the effect is more sombre, as if the bell was ringing under water.

Tony Rushbrook

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The new hall is going up fast but we still need more funds, especially to fit it out. You can help **AT NO COST TO YOURSELF** when you purchase anything on the internet from participating retailers.

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Village News

Bawdeswell Village Hall



Work is continuing on the new building and the internal walls are growing daily which is exciting as the internal layout is beginning to take shape. We have had a few wet days that delay progress a bit. We have now made our second application for funds to the lottery and are getting our heads around the paperwork. We hope to be able to support old and new activities to meet the social outcomes outlined in our Lottery application but until the building is up and running we can't be sure of the expenses. It will be quite a challenge to run the new building, especially in the first few months and there are bound to be a few teething problems.

At our last meeting we spent a lot of time discussing the future branding and marketing of the village hall. We are also planning for a new website that will make it easy for potential hirers to check an on-line calendar in order to see when it is available for bookings as well as giving information on all events.

We are also looking at new furniture and equipment for the building. The kitchen will be fully furnished with cupboards, sinks and counter tops but white goods have to be purchased and installed separately and as the budget/priorities demand.

We want to have a pretty special opening too and it is planned to hold a meeting on Saturday 10th January at 10.00 am at Church View to start planning the 25/26 July weekend launch event. Anyone interested in being involved in this important milestone for the village please come along.

Contacts:

Treasurer	William Mason	01362 688 338
Chairman	James Lilwall	01362 688 499
Secretary	Marietta Menzies	01362 688 400



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Clubs and Societies



Book Club

Our last meeting covered two books as there had been insufficient copies for us to read the same one. This meant that we had to introduce the stories and describe how we'd felt about the plot and characters as well as talking about our general reading experience. You might know the stories, even if you haven't read the books, as they have both been adapted into other mediums.

The Turn of the Screw by Henry James

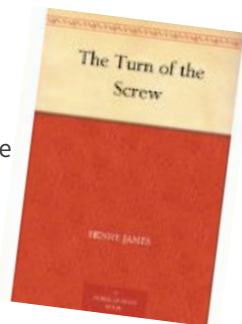


This is usually described as a gothic ghost story and was first published in 1898. But it is still a little too atmospheric for some especially for those, whose reading hour is nearer to midnight.

The story is a simple one. A governess is engaged by a disinterested guardian of two young, innocent and delightful children. However, and there is always a however in gothic novels isn't there? Supernatural and sinister events are on the horizon and she begins to witness ghostly apparitions of a previous valet and governess. Neither, she believes, are up to any good. She thinks they want to attract, and thereby destroy the children.

Her job, she believes, even at personal risk, is to save the children. But there is another possibility. Could it be that she, the governess, is the one who is the threat to the children's wellbeing?

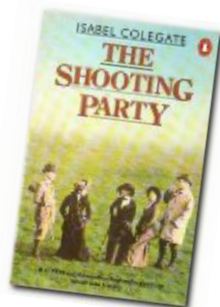
The book is quite a quick read, but its cleverness is in leaving the reader with more questions than answers. I'd suggest you try it...but perhaps leave the light on.



The Shooting Party by Isabel Colegate



The story follows a country house shooting party over the course of a weekend. It is set in 1913 and describes the rituals of the estate as well as the intricate relationships of the hosts and guests. The era is Edwardian and pre-war. Class rules. Life for the guests is indulgent. All whims are catered for by the 'lower orders'.



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Clubs and Societies

But things are a-changing. Some are beginning to question the order of things. Weekend events will precipitate life-changes.

I was surprised that the book was first published in 1980, as it felt to me that the author had personally lived through the era. This is early 'Downton'. Was it the inspiration for Julian Fellowes? Interestingly, in my copy, he provides the introduction to the book. I'd suggest it's one to read for the TV fans.

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 currently reading Saturday by Ian McEwan for discussion at our meeting on 4th December. We will also decide on books for next year and vote on our favourite 2014 read. We won't be meeting in January so our next meeting will be on the 5th February when we will read Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. We read her previous novel Half of a Yellow Sun some time ago. New members are always welcome.

Enquiries: Marietta Menzies 01362 688400.



Bawdeswell Ladies' Craft Club

For our meeting at the end of October we went and joined a group of knitters at



Lincoln House and were entertained with a wonderful strawberry tea. It was nice to meet the people there and we all enjoyed the afternoon. We hope to go again in the New Year.

We continue making items for sale and jumpers and blankets for charity and are still meeting in members' homes. We are looking forward to moving into the Activities Room in the new hall later in the new year. It is the medium sized room of the new hall and will have a large window looking over the field giving us plenty of natural light. Our fund-raising is all for the new hall and, as one of our members said, "we will have about paid for that room by the time we get into it!"

Our charge is only £2 and new members are welcome. Our future meeting date in 2014 is 27th November; we will not meet in December. January dates will be the 8th and 22nd.

Clubs and Societies



Bridge Club

The JayCee Bridge Club holds weekly sessions. We meet every Tuesday evening at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start at Foxley Village Hall, and every Friday afternoon at 2.15pm for a 2.30pm start. Please contact Roger or Patsy to determine the venue for Friday afternoons, for information, or to confirm a session is to take place. **Roger Fryatt: 01362 688627 or Patsy Catchpole: 01362 688352.**



Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning

17th December 10.30am

A warm welcome to all. On the third Wednesday of each month. Come along and join us for a coffee and a mardle.



Fun with Flowers

Tuesday 2nd December: Foxley Village Hall; 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Flower arranging class, £6 including tea and cake

Thursday 11th December: Foxley Village Hall; 10.00am
Wreath Making Day; £12

This includes all you want to make a wreath for yourself, lunch and afternoon tea. After that we hope you are willing to make some to be sold for the church at the wreath day sale on Saturday 13th December. If anyone has extra foliage, it is always welcome.

Crystall our teacher (01603 897272) will give us some ideas. If anyone wants to know anything, contact Sue Lilwall (01362 688240).



Football

Want to play team football?

We're still working on setting up a new Football Club in Bawdeswell. If you're interested, please contact Alex: bawdeswellfootball@gmail.com

Clubs and Societies



Short Mat Bowls

Foxley Village Hall
Every Monday and Friday, 2.30pm

Our short mat bowls is not the game you may have watched on TV 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 afternoon (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 members. And who knows? You may even be a natural!

To find out more, call **Dennis** on **01362 688099** or **Carole** on **688567**.



Bawdeswell Table Tennis Club

Lyng Village Hall
Every Monday 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Come and join us for a couple of hours. We have three tables so, depending on the number of people attending each week, there's the chance to play a singles game as well as doubles. Players at all levels of experience are welcome.

Adults: £2.50. Under 16 years: £1.50. Please note: children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, contact **Janet Cockburn** on **01362 688749**.



Iceni Choir

Join us for our Christmas Concert: Sing Nowell
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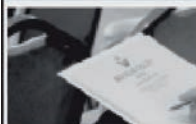
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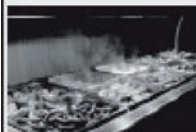
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Clubs and Societies



Beck W.I.

Although not having ‘Sugarcraft for Christmas’ to look forward to on 10th November, we all had a lovely friendly evening by ourselves. We agreed that our first priority was a cup of tea/coffee. Aleathia then told us of forthcoming events and Christine read the AGM Minutes for the year just ended. Copies of the Financial Statement were circulated (most favourable result) and Jennifer read last month’s Minutes. The new committee was announced – as before with the welcome addition of Jennie Hulvert and Suzy Wells.



The very varied ‘interesting things’ were examined and admired by all and a lovely glass of mulled wine went down very well with the appetising nibbles brought in by members. An extremely enjoyable evening.

We all meet at Lenwade House (sorry about last month’s error!) for our Christmas Dinner on 15th December, 7 for 7.30pm. Looking ahead to January 2015, ERNIE RICHARDS comes to our meeting on the 12th to talk about the SONG – ‘JERUSALEM’. Do hope to see you all at The Old School Room at 7.30pm.

Mary Humphrey



Fifty and Beyond (FAB)

If you’re over 50 and live in or near Bawdeswell or Foxley then come along and join us at FAB. Enjoy tea/coffee and homemade cakes together with good company and entertainment. Membership and admission is free.

FAB Club meets on the first Wednesday of every other month at Foxley Village Hall, starting in February and ending in December.

Tickets for the FAB Christmas Buffet at Foxley Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd December have gone really well and are nearly sold out.

Anyone who wants tickets, or for any other FAB enquiries, please contact Bill and Jackie on 688956.

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Services



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For those who are new to the village, and have no other means to get to the local doctors, dentists and hospitals, the following information may be useful.

The car scheme is run for the benefit of the three villages, and the charge to the passenger is 20p per mile for a return journey. The remainder of the costs to the driver is provided by Breckland and the Parish Councils of Bawdeswell and Foxley.

To book a community car, please ring Sylvia McColville on 01362 688189. If you leave a message, please leave your name, address and telephone number clearly so that your call may be returned at the earliest opportunity. Please also give as much notice of appointments as possible, as it is difficult to commit a driver to a same day appointment – but we do our best to accommodate at short notice.

If you would like to join the scheme as a driver, for further details ring Angela Shannon on 01362 688111. I would like to apologise again for the inconvenience caused by the cutting of Sylvia's phone line, so that she was unable to receive or make calls. For future reference, if you experience problems in contacting Sylvia, please ring me (as above) and I will try to help you.



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Opening hours and locations

Weekday	Location	Opening Times
Monday	Lenwade, Bridge Inn	8.30am - 10.00am
Monday	Attlebridge Church	10.45am - 12.45pm
Tuesday	Bawdeswell Church	9.00am - 12.00pm
Tuesday	Foulsham, New Frost Hall	12.30pm - 3.30pm
Wednesday	Bintree Church	8.30am - 10.30am
Thursday	Foulsham, New Frost Hall	8.30am - 11.30am
Thursday	Lenwade, Bridge Inn	12.00pm - 2.00pm
Friday	Bawdeswell Church	9.00am - 12.00pm
Friday	Bintree Church	12.30pm - 2.30pm

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Parish Councils

Bawdeswell Parish Council

Breckland District Council are consulting on their Issues and Options stage of the Local Plan which sets out the context for the new Local Plan and offers an opportunity for the District Council to seek input and views from a wide range of statutory consultees, interest groups, and residents on the issues and priorities that should be considered when identifying and assessing potential planning options for the new Local Plan.

Key issues include:

- How much housing (market and affordable) will be needed in the future and where it should be built
- How much land Breckland needs to develop to support new jobs, including jobs in the rural economy
- Town centre and retail strategies
- Approach to market towns and villages
- How to protect and enhance our special habitats, natural and historic landscapes
- How to achieve development that contributes towards a high quality life for all.

The consultation documents will be made available on Breckland District Council's website from early November 2014. A hard copy has been received by the Parish Council in advance of the consultation. The consultation will run from the 17th November and 4.00pm on the 9th January 2015.

Breckland will be holding a number of drop-in sessions, where officers will be available to answer any questions you may have on the Local Plan. The dates of the drop-in session are as follows

- Attleborough Town Council – 4th December 2014, 2.00- 6.00pm
- Dereham Memorial Hall – 20th November 2014, 2.00 – 7.00pm
- Swaffham Assemble Rooms – 24th November 2014, 2.00 – 6.30pm
- Thetford Guildhall – 9th December 2014, 2.00 – 7.00pm
- Watton Queens Hall – 27th November 2014, 2.00 – 7.00pm

The Parish Council will be discussing the consultation document and considering Bawdeswell's position with regards to the plan and settlement boundaries at their next meeting on Monday 1st December at 7.30pm in the church. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend.

Parish Councils

Foxley Parish Council

Digest of the minutes of the meeting held on 30th October in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors Harvey JH (Chairman), Mears NM (Vice-Chairman), Barrett DB, Hatch NH, Mrs E Buck (Clerk) Mr G Bambridge (District Councillor) and 6 parishioners.

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on the 17th July were agreed and signed.

Minutes of Extraordinary meeting

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on the 9th October were agreed and signed.

Declarations of Interest

None.

Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere on Agenda

Highways

The Clerk is to contact Highways again on the following matters:

- 1) The ditch outside the new properties on Chapel Road West (Jubilee Court), where the pipe remains blocked downstream, and is also to include Mr Bill Borrett in the email. This is an ongoing problem that needs to be resolved and he had promised to look into the matter as we were making no progress.
- 2) The white railings on Chapel Road East again need repairing.
- 3) The Gullies down The Street are also still blocked.

Correspondence

Extraordinary Meeting

The consultations at Breckland will now start on the 17th November and run to 9th January 2015. All Councillors have been invited to go there on the 17th November for the drop in event. Planning policy officers will be able to advise on how you can respond to the consultation and advise of the issues and options that the new local plan is seeking to cover. Mr John Harvey, Mr Dennis Barrett and the Parish Clerk will be attending at some time during the day.

Parish Councils

Finance

Summary of Accounts The financial report for the period 18th July to 29th October were agreed and signed.

Approved Payments

The following payment was agreed.

Cheque no: 100390 £250.00 Donation to Foxley PCC Part 2, towards churchyard maintenance costs.

Cheque no: 100391 £250.00 Donation to Foxley Village Hall Committee Part 2.

Cheque no: 100392 £32.45 Clerks Expenses.

Precept 2014-2015

The budget for the forthcoming year was discussed and it has been decided that the Precept will be unchanged for this financial year. So the Precept will stay at £4,300 with the extra grant also being supplied by Breckland again this year. Mr Harvey thanked Mr Hatch for his efforts in drafting the forthcoming year's budget.

Village Matters

Two unpleasant matters were brought to the Councils attention:

- 1) The malicious scattering of numerous tacks and nails in a Mill Rd. driveway, which could cause a serious motor accident. Police involved.
- 2) A dog attack, which killed a neighbour's cat in Laurence Place.

Planning

3PL/2014/0913/F Mr and Mrs G Hoptrough Long Acre Chapel Road Permission with 7 Conditions.

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting:

Thursday 18th December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Contact Details for the Parish Clerk Emma Buck:

Tel: 01362688299/07771654277

Email:emma.buck1973@btinternet.com

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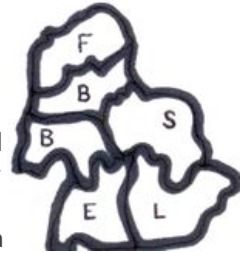
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Church news

Benefice News and Events

A big thank you to all the gentlemen who attended the men's breakfast on 8th November at Elsing village hall. Thanks to their generosity and to that of the ladies who provided the food we were able to send a donation to the Big C appeal in memory of Alan Collier for £221.20. £189 was gift aided which will bring the total £257.20. Alan never missed a breakfast and he leaves a big gap in our invitation list.



Christmas is looming – my grandchildren can tell me to the minute how far away it is! There are Carol Services in all our churches, a Christingle on Christmas Eve and two late night services that evening. Do see the list of what, when and where on the church page. We look forward to seeing you at some of them. If anyone needs a lift do please get in touch with your BMG representative.

Event	Time/Date	Information
Children's Society Coffee Morning at Foxley Lodge	Wednesday 3rd December	10.00am. Please bring your collection boxes
Friends of Bawdeswell Church Christmas – wreath sale	Saturday 13th December	10.00am -2.00pm in the church
Lyng School Christmas service	Tuesday 16th December	Lyng Church at 10.00am
Lyng School Christmas service	Wednesday 17th December	Lyng Church at 2.00pm
Bawdeswell School Christmas service in (end of term)	Friday 19th December	Bawdeswell Church at 1.30pm
Wedding Blessing of David and Sally Green	Monday 29th December	12 noon in Elsing Church

Lyn, the churchwardens and the Benefice Ministry Group all wish you a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Church news

The Friends of Bawdeswell Church

James Lilwall – Chairman
Susan Ward – Secretary
David Shannon – Treasurer
Peter Jervis – 100 Club Secretary
Committee Members – Robin Taylor, Sandi Taylor,
Angela Shannon, Nicholas Ward and Susan Lilwall.



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Some dates for our 2015 events:

Event	Time/Date	Location
100 Club Members 'Thank You' Reception and 100 Club Draw	24th Jan 7.00pm	Church View
Quiz Night with Supper	14th March	Foxley Village Hall
Festival Players	June/July date tbc	Church
Harvest Supper & Ceilidh	26th Sept	Bawdeswell VH
Cookery Demonstration	Nov date tbc	Bawdeswell VH
Christmas Wreath and Fair	12th Dec	Bawdeswell VH/Church

Letter from Lyn

The Christmas season is upon us and by the time you read this, it will be in full swing with the first of the carol services in Advent. Strictly speaking, Advent is the time when we spend time anticipating the birth of Jesus. The church year starts at the beginning of Advent at the end of November. So this time of year could be thought of as the church's New Year.

The church uses colours to signify which time of the year it is. In Advent, we use purple, which is also worn at funerals and in Lent. It is only at the Christmas midnight service that we change to white.

Today the season of Advent is interspersed with many Carol Services and, of course, the Christmas tree and decorations in church. So even in church we begin to celebrate Christmas well before Christmas day - but not as early as the shops, who seem to bring their Christmas stock in months beforehand!



With all the extra activity associated with the build up towards Christmas, it can be difficult to spend some time in Advent to anticipate and reflect on the birth of Jesus. A time of reflection helps us to gain a deeper understanding of the effect of Jesus in our lives. In my view this is time well spent. By spending a few minutes in quiet reflection each day in Advent, and perhaps also by lighting an advent candle, we can fully celebrate Jesus' birthday when it comes.

I pray that you will all have a blessed and peaceful Christmas time.

Lyn Page

All Saints' Church, Bawdeswell

During October we had a packed church for the funerals of Denis Hagan and Alan Collier, breaking all records for the number of people turning out to pay their respects to these two well-known and popular men in our village. They made their mark on our lives and community and will be greatly missed.

Christmas is a happier season and we must look forward to that:

- The Seekers Club for children is meeting on Saturday 6th December, 10am
- Annual Christmas Wreath Sale and Fair in the church on Saturday 13th December 10.00am - 2pm
- Bawdeswell School Christmas Service on Friday 19 December 1.30pm, end of term!
- Our flower arrangers will be decorating the church on Saturday 20th December and the Church Friends are buying us a Christmas tree, for which we are grateful
- Carol Service on Sunday 21st December 4pm followed by seasonal refreshments
- First Communion of Christmas 24th December at 9pm. If you prefer a traditional midnight service, it will be at Foxley church this year at 11.15pm
- On Christmas morning join the happy crowd at the ever popular family service we call the GiG at 10.30am. Music Group, carols and refreshments. It's usually a very happy occasion.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Robin Taylor, Churchwarden.

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Church news

Foxley St. Thomas'

Despite the rather strange summer in our gardens, there were some lovely flowers in St. Thomas' for Harvest Festival on 21st September including a spectacular pedestal in the Chancel by Annabel Johnson, and other attractive arrangements in the windows and elsewhere. An impressive collection of fruit and vegetables, plus tins and packets were displayed around the Font. These were again taken into Norwich for the St. Martin's Housing Trust which rescues and supports around 1,000 homeless people per year. They rely on donations and are well worth our support (www.stmartinshousing.org.uk). The Service was led by the Rev. Canon Robin Hewetson and was well attended, with much chatter afterwards over coffee. A month later on 25th October, we got together again for a joint Harvest Supper in the Village Hall. There was another impressive array of food, but for us to enjoy this time; an abundance of casseroles, puddings and drinks and a lovely friendly atmosphere. Many thanks to the Village Hall Committee for the arrangements and for sharing the proceeds with the Church.

The Rev. Lyn Page was welcomed by Churchwarden John Harvey to her first Service at St. Thomas' on the 12th October, a "One More Step" Service for the whole Benefice. The Rev. Lyn then had an opportunity to meet everyone over the usual coffee and biscuits afterwards.

Our Carol Service will be at 4.30pm on 14th December. As this is far too early for the Christmas tree and colourful decorations (and in any case we don't have flowers in church during Advent), we will limit ourselves to candles and maybe some greenery and the Crib. Flower arrangers, please wait to be advised!

Our ever popular Midnight Communion will begin at 11.15pm on Christmas Eve, led by the Rev. Lyn Page.

St. Mary's Church, Sparham: Soup and Afters

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Church news

Church Services

Date	07/12	14/12	21/12	24/12	25/12	28/12
Season	The Second Sunday of Advent	The Third Sunday of Advent	The Fourth Sunday of Advent	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Holy Innocents
Colour	P	P	P	W	W	R
Foxley	09.00 HC PB RH2	16.30 Carols LP	09.00 HC 1 LP	23.15 HC Order 1 LP		
Lyng	09.00 HC 2 LP		18.30 Carols LP	16.00 Christingle LP	09.15 HC 1 LP	10.30 United HC 1 RH2
Elsing	10.30 HC 1 RH2		18.00 Carols CW		10.30 HC Order 1 LP	
Bawdeswell	10.30 HC 1 LP	10.30 OMS LP	16.00 Carols LP	21.00 HC 1 LP	10.30 GiG Team	
Bylaugh		09.00 HC PB LP	14.30 Carols LP			
Sparham	10.30 OASIS Team		10.30 Carols LP		10.30 HC JA	

Key:

LP: The Reverend Lyn Page

RH2: The Reverend Canon Robin Hewetson

JA: The Venerable John Ashe

HC 1: Holy Communion Order 1

HC 2: Holy communion Order 2

PB: Prayer Book

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