

The

Reeve's Tale

News | Events | Local Services

Magazine

April 2026

FREE





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WELCOME

A Happy and joyful Easter to you all!

Are you looking forward to receiving an Easter Egg, eating a hot cross bun (what flavour will you choose?), going on an Easter egg hunt, meeting up with family, having a long leisurely weekend with not one but TWO Bank Holidays, maybe a trip out to an open garden to see swathes of delightful spring flowers, a trip to the coast or maybe attending an Easter service at your local Church and singing some joyful hymns? Whatever you do, enjoy and take pleasure sharing the experience with family and friends.

With spring now firmly arrived, trees unfurling their leaves, daffodils out a-plenty, lambs gambolling in the fields, the summer months ahead, go out and do take advantage of, if you are able, all that is on offer in our two villages.

With best wishes,

Anne and the Team

Next copy deadline

15thApril 2026

Please email

reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

Send your stories, letters and ideas to

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or call us on 01362 685308.

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VILLAGE HALL
registered charity number 1188278

FOXLEY

VILLAGE HALL

TO BOOK

Please Contact

Helen Mears

Tel: 01362 688251

Email : helenmears@pobroadband.co.uk

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WHAT'S ON

April Events

Event	Date	Location/Time
Foxley Coffee Morning	Weds 1 st Apr	Foxley Village Hall 10am
Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting	Thurs 2 nd Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7pm
Café Philosophique	Tues 7 th Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Knit and Natter	Thurs 9 th Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm
Book Group	Thurs 9 th Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Bawdeswell Village Cinema	Sat 11 th Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7.30pm
Foxley Litter Pick	Sat 18 th Apr	Foxley Village Hall 10am
Marcella's Minute to Midnight	Sat 18 th Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7.30pm, see page 20 for details
Knit and Natter	Thurs 23 rd Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm
Mobile Library	Tues 28 th Apr	Bawdeswell from 11.10am @ village hall onwards, see page 37 for details
Soup n Pud	Thurs 30 th Apr	Bawdeswell Village Hall 12-2pm
Foxley Coffee Morning	Weds 6 th May	Foxley Village Hall 10am
Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting	Thurs 7 th May	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7pm

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

Event	Date	Location/Time
Reepham WI Meeting	Thurs 16 th Apr	7.30pm St Michaels Church Hall, Reepham see page 11 for details
Reepham Gardening Club	Tues 21 st Apr	7.15pm Reepham Town Hall, see page 11 for details
The Momentum of Spring, talk & demo by Frankie Flood	Sat 25 th Apr	10-2.30pm Bylaugh Hall, see page 42 for details
Reepham Gardening Club Annual Plant Sale	Sat 2 nd May	8.30am Reepham Market Place, see page 11 for details



With Jo & Sam

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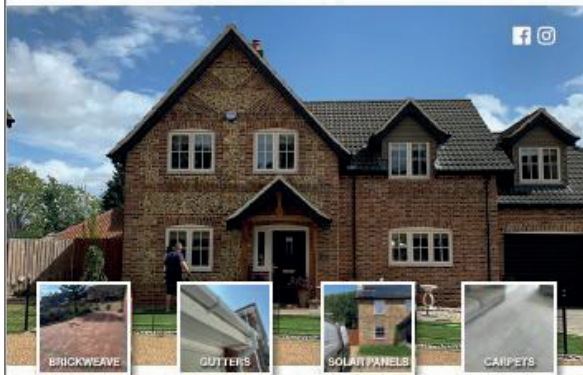
WHAT'S ON

Regular Events	Time/Date	Location
Zumba Fitness	Mon 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Short Mat Bowls	Mon 2 – 4pm	Foxley Village Hall
Hub Cafe	Tues 10 – 12pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Move it or Lose it	Wed 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Move it or Lose it	Wed 11.30 – 12.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Tai Chi	Thurs 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
FitSteps	Thurs 7 – 8pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Move it or Lose it	Fri 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Bridge Club	Fri 1.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Short Mat Bowls	Fri 2 – 4pm	Foxley Village Hall
Hatha Yoga	Sat 8.45 – 9.45am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Games Afternoon	Sat 1.30 – 4.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall

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EVENTS INFORMATION

REEPHAM GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday April 21st - AGM at 7.15 followed by:

Guy Barker Aka The Naked Gardener - 'Things for Spring'

Back by popular demand (not because he is naked, as he is not, but because he gave us an excellent talk in 2024). This talk is very apt for the time of year.

Saturday May 2nd - Annual Plant Sale

Reepham Market Place

From 8.30 until sold out.

The garden club desperately needs more committee members:- if your new year resolution was to get more involved in your local community this could be the ideal time to start. Please contact Jeff for more information.

Meetings held at Town Hall, Church St, Reepham NR10 4JW

New members and visitors always welcome.

Members: £2.00, non-members: £3.00 (inc. tea/coffee and cake).

For more information call Jeff Johnson on 01362 680066 or visit our website:

www.Reephamgardenclub.org.uk or email jeffandcaroljohnson@yahoo.co.uk.

REEPHAM WI

Thursday 16th April at 7.30 pm

Matt Willer - Papillon Project – Reepham School Allotment Project

Matt will introduce the Papillon Project and explain how the Reepham School Allotment Project is helping young people engage with gardening, food growing and the natural environment.

The talk will explore how the project supports education, wellbeing and community involvement, and how it is making a positive difference locally.

Join us for an inspiring and informative evening.

New ladies are always very welcome — come along and share our friendship, activities, and lively meetings. We are keen to make Reepham WI a thriving and fun group for ladies in the local community, and we warmly welcome visitors and new members.

For more information about us, please visit our website or alternatively contact:

Brenda Gostling Tel: 07760 458957 Email:brenda@brendagostling.co.uk

Meetings held at St Michael's Church Hall, Reepham





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**BAWDESWELL
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THE HUB LUNCH

12.00

Soup 'n' Roll 'n' Pudding



Lunches normally on last Thursday each month excluding August & December



LETTERS

New book digs into the joy of gardening and community

A new book celebrating the joy and purpose of gardening has been released by Reepham Community Press.

Up the Garden Path by Victoria Plum blends local stories, gentle humour and practical environmental insight, drawing on real experiences from the Reepham & District Gardening Club and the wider community.

The book explores everything from the hidden life beneath winter soil to the friendships formed in local groups.

The author, Tina Sutton (aka “Victoria Plum”), who lives in Cawston, highlights the importance of insects, the resilience of plants and the role everyday gardeners can play in protecting the environment.

The tone is warm, wise and rooted in lived experience, making it accessible to newcomers and seasoned growers alike.

Availability and pricing

Price in shops: £11.99

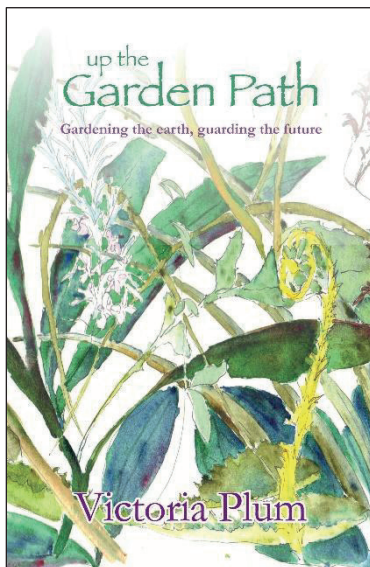
Mail order (UK only): £15.49 including postage and packaging.

Local stockists: Johnson’s of Reepham and Flower Folk, Market Place, Reepham.

Copies can also be ordered directly from Reepham Community Press by cheque or bank transfer, with overseas postage available on request.

For further information, contact: Reepham Community Press. Tel: 01603 308158. Email: info@reephamlife.co.uk

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LETTERS

Coming soon in May and June!

Last month in the Reeves Tale there was notice of a beauty and well-being raffle in aid of the restoration and upkeep of Bawdeswell Village Cemetery. The major prize will be a Beauty Hamper worth over £300 from the Jarrold Store in Norwich. ScissorHands Salon in Dereham have also generously donated a Ladies Cut and Blow Dry and a Gentleman's Haircut, and Louise Hairdressing in Bawdeswell a Ladies Cut and Blow Dry.

Do please support your local businesses!

More prizes on offer will include a wide range of items and vouchers for Beauty and Well-being products and services.

Raffle tickets will be on sale during May and June with the raffle being drawn on June 28th.

You may have already noticed work has started on the restoration which will include refurbishing the original Victorian iron railings.

Thank you for reading this.

Knit and Natter

Is there anyone out there that enjoys knitting , crochet or other crafts? Why not come to our 'Knit and natter' group. We meet at Bawdeswell Village Hall every second and fourth Thursday of the month, 2-4pm, subs are £4 a session and you get tea/coffee and cake.

Along with things we make for ourselves, we make blankets for the neonatal unit at the hospital, so if you are not a great knitter, knitted squares would be gratefully received. (and we do a lot of nattering!)

Please check us out or contact Josie on 07808 741705

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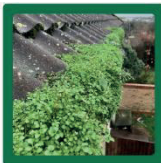
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LETTERS

DOG POO ON THE RECREATION GROUND!

PARISH COUNCIL TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION. FEEDBACK / SUGGESTIONS INVITED FROM DOG OWNERS ON SUITABLE MEASURES.

Sadly, despite the Parish Council putting up numerous notices asking dog owners to keep their dogs away from the children's play area and to clear up after their dogs, it has been noted that some dog owners are just not listening or just don't care! Dogs are continuing to be allowed in the children's play area and dog mess continues to be an issue on / around the recreation ground in general.

The Council made a final plea back in February, to the inconsiderate dog owner/s who think that it is acceptable to allow their dog/s to poop on the recreation ground and not clear it up. As previously highlighted, there is a dog bin and the Council has provided easily accessible litter bins into which bagged dog poo can be placed. Dog poo bags are usually available on site.

IT IS ILLEGAL NOT TO CLEAR UP AFTER YOUR DOG AND THERE IS NO EXCUSE NOT TO!

The Parish Council are now seeking to take further action to restrict the movement of dogs on the recreation ground but welcomes suggestions from dog owners on how this should happen in the hope of avoiding a complete ban. Whilst it is acknowledged that the majority of dog owners are responsible, the Council can no longer ignore the problem created by those who are not! The Council did not want to take stronger measures to control the issue but as the situation hasn't improved, further measures will now need to be considered / implemented to ensure that everyone can enjoy the recreation ground and that they are safe to do so.

There is a risk to health from dog mess which should not be underestimated!

Please send your comments to the Parish Council - clerk@bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

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Thursday	9:00 - 6:00
Friday	9:00 - 7:00
Saturday	9:00 - 5:00

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self-expression.
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VILLAGE VIEWS

If you espy a rather woebegone gentleman on two National Health crutches forlornly limping around Bawdeswell this could be Sid, Ermentrude's better? half. And I only say 'could' as I am aware there is a gentleman recovering from a knee replacement, another from a shoulder replacement, maybe several others who have not yet swum into my vision recovering from other key joint replacements and I do NOT wish Sid's identity wished on any other Alpha Male residing in the village. Goodness knows what would be the consequences were I to be summoned for pointing the finger at the wrong person.

Sid in his wisdom decided whilst Ermentrude was up North visiting their daughter that he would, as a surprise and to please Ermentrude on her return, undertake a few of those odd jobs he had always intended to do or for one reason or another had just put on hold as he didn't have the right tools. The spare room needed redecorating, a new curtain pole erected and the curtains, purchased in the John Lewis sale put up. He had ventured out to B&Q, chosen a lovely shade of pale green for the walls, a white wooden rail, a new roller for his paint tray, a brush for cutting in, masking tape and plastic sheets for covering the carpet, bed and furniture. He completed the ceiling one morning and delighted with his progress, decided to carry on, taking down the old curtain pole. However, he could not resist opening the paint and just trying the colour on one of the walls. Standing on the bed with screwdriver in hand to remove the pole he attempted to detach it. Unfortunately, nothing happened. WD40 he thought, it's under the kitchen sink. Taking a step backwards off the bed onto the floor, he misjudged his footing, fell awkwardly backwards catching his foot on the open tin of paint and landed heavily. A sharp pain ran up his leg and looking down, his foot appeared at a strange angle. He fainted. Waking up, he seemed to be in a different room but there was Ermentrude looking anxiously down at him AND his daughter! What was going on?

'Sid, you're in hospital, you've broken your ankle, bruised yourself badly, the spare room was covered in green paint, whatever has been going on? Thank goodness your friend came round when you didn't turn up for Bowls, let himself in with the key from the key safe, found you cold and unconscious and called an ambulance.'

'Well, it was supposed to be a surprise, my darling,' he muttered. 'Surprise!' retorted Ermentrude. 'I've had a decorator in, the spare room is now wallpapered in William Morris to match the curtains, I've ordered a new bed and furniture from Aldiss and why weren't you using a stepladder?' At which point she burst into tears, sobbing loudly. 'Oh, Sid, you could have lain there and died and then what would I do?

Thank goodness for the key safe, everyone needs one and to let a couple of trusted friends know the code. I'm going to suggest to the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council we need to advise people about gaining emergency access should there be an emergency. And, when you've recovered you're booked on a Health and Safety course!'

Maide of Bawdeswelle

Bawdeswell Village Hall Presents...



MARCELLA'S MINUTE TO MIDNIGHT

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED
BY MARY LINCOLN

*"A blend of
humour,
nostalgia and
self reflection"*

Places & Faces
Magazine

*"This is me! - I am crying!"
- Audience member*

Saturday 18th April, 7.30pm
Bawdeswell Village Hall
Reepham Rd, Bawdeswell, Norfolk NR20 4RU

**Advance tickets
£7**
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recycle me

VILLAGE NEWS

Bawdeswell Village Hall Update

A lively group of volunteers met once again for the monthly meeting on the first Monday in March on a beautiful sunny spring day. Once again there was no shortage of offers to provide for the monthly held Soup and Pud and for opening and closing the hall and where appropriate, catering, for outside groups and families wishing to use our wonderful facilities for a wide range of activities, meetings and events. So, a big thank you to everyone who volunteers, to Jo who diaries everyone in, to those of you who set up the various rooms in use, to those of you providing refreshments, to Colleen who minutes our meetings and to Chris, our Chairman and Carolyn and Ruth who take the chair on occasion. Many thanks also to the individuals who comprise the Village Hall Trustees committee using their various experience, talents, expertise and for their time in planning ahead and dealing with the bureaucracy of managing an important village asset.

Don't forget Marcella's Minute to Midnight on 18th April with the opportunity straight after the performance of a Q&A session in the bar and two further dates for your diaries, the Big Bawdeswell Quiz on the 16th May (raffle prizes gratefully accepted!), and a Summer Sizzle BBQ on Saturday 15th August from 6-9pm. On Saturday 28th February a Celebration service was held for John Mallen at All Saints Church followed by a Wake at the Village Hall. The meeting expressed their very positive views of the occasion and took time to reflect on the great contribution John had made to the village in general and more especially to our village hall ensuring it was at the centre of community life. Carolyn shared with the meeting that Roger, John's partner, has sent a generous donation in his memory to the village hall which will be used for a specific project which is yet to be decided.

If you are reading this and would like to join us as a volunteer you would be most welcome. We do recognise people have busy lives, regular commitments, work, family, etc. but if you could spare just an odd hour or two, not necessarily on a regular basis but when it would fit in with both you and us, we would love to see you. We are especially looking for men of all ages who might be able to give us a helping hand now and again. If you would like to discuss what you may be able to offer either as a one off, now and again or on a regular basis please phone either Chris, Carolyn or Jo. (telephone nos. below.)

Contacts:

Chair: Chris Leppard – 01362 688 774

Vice-Chair: Carolyn Good - 01362 688 944

Bookings: Jo Porter – 01362 688 887



FOXLEY LITTER PICK



SATURDAY 18th APRIL 2026

Meet at Foxley Village Hall at **10 am**

All equipment provided.

Refreshments for all afterwards

Please come and join us for an hour to help clear
and tidy up our village.

More information: Linda 07885745500

VILLAGE NEWS

Bawdeswell Village Hall



Your Village Hall needs you

Occasional or regular volunteers wanted

Attendance at meetings not required

Contact: *Ruthie 07766 662722 or Chris 07575 801517*

Foxley News

Foxley Coffee Morning

The date of the next coffee morning will be **Wednesday, 1st April, 10:00 – 12 noon.** and advance warning for May when the coffee morning will be on 6th May 10am - 12noon. As always all welcome to join us for coffee, cake and a chance to meet up with your neighbours.

WEEKLY CLASSES AT BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL



No partner required, learn some
of your Strictly favourites
Thursday 7pm.



Come along and shimmy, shake and
smile!

Monday at 10am

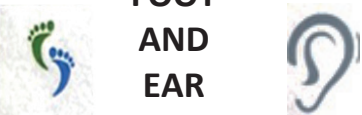
ONLY £6 per class

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VILLAGE NEWS

BAWDESWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL



Bawdeswell School Fete - a date for your diary

Join us on the school playing field - Saturday 6th June, 12-4pm for an afternoon of fun and games.

There will be inflatables, BBQ, bar, ice creams, cakes and other goodies, raffles and tombolas, craft stalls, games and sports and more. Monies raised will be used to provide resources and memorable experiences for the children while they are at the school.

If you would like to be involved, have a craft stall or donate a raffle prize, please email bawdeswellfriends@gmail.com or call the school office on 01362 688282.

See you there!

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Book Group

The Book Group meets in the Village Hall. We meet on the **second Thursday** of each month, starting at **7:30pm**. Each member pays an annual Group Subscription Fee currently £25, to cover our room hire and library charges. New members are welcome and are invited to attend for two meetings before deciding to join the group and pay their subscription.

“For Thy Great Pain Have Mercy On My Little Pain” by Victoria Mackenzie



“All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well”. This is the famous phrase from Julian of Norwich that I knew and had often quoted when things seemed a bit ‘difficult’, but I confess that I didn’t know much more. However, this book inspired me and others from our group to discover more about this remarkable woman. And like ‘buy-one-get-one free’ offer, the author introduces us to another equally remarkable woman, although she’s entirely different; Margery Kemp of Bishop’s Lynn.

This is a slim book, but it is powerful. Victoria MacKenzie, in her debut novel has created a fictional account (based on factual texts), about the lives of these two medieval women, which culminates in their meeting.

Against the backdrop of plague, religious dogma and the fear of being charged with heresy, these two women strive for their own way of dealing with their *‘shewings’*, or in modern terminology, visions. Margery is determined to tell her story to anyone who will, or even, will not listen, whilst Julian becomes an anchorite, walled into a cell adjacent to a Norwich church.

The prose is poetic and ably conveys what life was like in the fourteenth century.

We are currently reading **‘August Blue’ by Deborah Levy** for discussion at our next meeting on 9th April.

Enquiries: Carolyn 01362 688944

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bawdeswell Festival Choir

The choir is an all-female group who meet at All Saints Church for an hour on a Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. They were fully launched as a regular concert performing choir earlier last year and gave a sellout performance back in June and again in September.

The music repertoire is broadly '**Bach to Broadway**'. We strive to perform at the highest possible level. If you like the sound of what we do, have some singing experience, and can commit, we have vacancies in all departments.

Please contact the MD, **James Lilwall on 01362 688499** or pjlilwall@hotmail.com for an initial conversation - you would be most welcome!



Bawdeswell Bowls Club

Now the weather is beginning to get drier and warmer we can start to get to work on the green. First, we need to cut the green to about eight to ten mm, then apply spring fertiliser, then lightly spike to let the air in. We have already applied the moss treatment in February. My target is to open the green on Monday April 20th, depending on weather, so if you would like to try bowls call **Paul on mobile 07796 964574 home 01362 668195 email paul.digby5@hotmail.co.uk** you will be made most welcome.



Bawdeswell Knit and Natter

April dates are 9th & 23rd

2 - 4 pm at the Village Hall. Come along and join us. Refreshments will be available.

Our Numbers are dwindling and we are in danger of closing.

Use It Or Lose It.

Enquiries: **Josie Beach 01362 688869.**

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bintree Bowls Club

The new season is nearly upon us and preparations are being made. We have entered 3 Leagues, the Cawston League which is an evening league, and the Hempton and Age UK Leagues which are afternoons. We have a lovely green to play on which is behind Bawdeswell Village Hall and we have regular roll up sessions throughout the season as well as inter-club competitions.

We are always looking for new players; it does not matter if you have not played before, coaching can be given, all you need is a pair of flat shoes. Chances are that if you live in Bawdeswell or Foxley you probably know somebody who is a member so why not give it a go, have a little exercise, fresh air and sunshine (hopefully) and meet new friends.

Please contact **Nick Mears on 07947 860922** or speak to anyone you know who already plays.



Bridge Club

The JayCee Bridge Club meets in the Village Hall on Friday afternoons at 1.30pm. Whilst we aspire to play well, our range of bridge abilities means that it's really bridge for fun. No regular partners are needed. If you think you might like to start playing bridge then you are welcome to come along and watch to begin with.

Please contact Patsy for information, or to confirm a session is to take place. Contact: **Patsy Catchpole 01362 688352**



Cafe Philosophique

Finding good reasons for everyday beliefs

We meet in Bawdeswell Village Hall, every first Tuesday at 7:30. Everyone coming is asked to contribute to the cost of our room hire fee.

Next meeting: **Tuesday 7th April – How 'The Eighties' have shaped the way we are.**

Contact: **Peter: 01362 688944**

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning

The date of the next coffee morning will be **Wednesday, 1st April, 10:00 – 12 noon**. If you need transport, please contact Jo 688981 or for any other enquiries please contact **Linda 688488 or Gillian 688955**.



Games Afternoon

We meet in Bawdeswell Village Hall, every Saturday 1.30 – 4.30pm. Games played:- Uno, Mexican Train, Scrabble. Other suggestions welcome. 1st visit free, normal price £5. Contact: **Anne 01362 685308**.



Short Mat Bowls

Foxley Village Hall Every Monday and Friday **2 - 4pm**
New members welcome.

To find out more, call **Frank on 01362 688089** or **Carole on 01362 688567**.



Lakeside Pilgrims Bowls Club

We are in the final stages of getting the fixture list sorted out for the summer. Hoping for good weather. The green will be open towards the middle to the end of April. Matches start at the beginning of May. If there is anybody interested in playing bowls you can contact **Sue Purse 07765 446907 or Sue.purse@gmail.com** New players are always welcome.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



North Elmham Countrysiders Club

Meet at The Memorial Hall, Holt Road, North Elmham. Every other Monday evening 7pm - 8.30pm (term time only). Open to ages 10-16 yrs. We are part of the Norfolk Young Farmers clubs and are actively involved in all areas within the organisation. Please note - sessions usually cost £4/child, annual subscription applies. For more information, please email:

north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk Or find us on Facebook (North Elmham Countrysiders) or by calling the Norfolk County office: 01603 748931



Dereham Walkers are Welcome

Dereham Walkers are Welcome is a not-for-profit organisation.



Please come and join us for a walk in the local area.

We have two regular walks each month.

Our shortest, easiest walk of around two miles is on the second Tuesday of the month and a slightly longer one of around four miles is on the first Friday of the month. Our next longer walk is in May and begins as a bus journey.

For up-to-date information, please check our website

<http://www.derehamwaw.org.uk/>,

email Ken Hawkins: ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk or call him on 07505 426750.



Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society

Indoor meetings at Great Witchingham Village Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome but there is a small charge for non-members.

INDOOR - Thursday 16th April, – James Lowen - Pantanal Wildlife, S America's great wetland.

OUTDOOR – Sunday 26th April – SWT Lackford Lakes.

Full details on the website - WVBS.co.uk or email wvbs.publicity@gmail.com



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SERVICES



Community Car Scheme: Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Foxley

2025 has been another busy year for the Community Car Scheme, thanks to the incredible giving efforts of our volunteer drivers. We have managed to assist patients with 83 journeys to hospital, doctor's surgeries, and to dental and eye appointments, thereby avoiding costly taxi charges or tricky bus journeys.

The love and care shown by our volunteer drivers transcends merely driving a neighbour from A to B and back again, but often extends to a 'helping hand' or arm into the hospital and to the appropriate ward. The friendly engagement on the journey makes it a pleasant and enjoyable experience to what could be quite a frightening medical appointment.

We are hoping and praying that the service can continue into 2026.

Can you Help?

Can you spare an hour or two? We are looking for volunteers to keep the service going.

Are you able to drive your car to the hospital or local surgery? The scheme enables reimbursement of 45p per mile. We do not carry wheelchair users. There is a DBS check and medical form which is signed by your GP. The joining process is simple.

You will make a difference in your local community.

David Wheeler, Volunteer Coordinator
07909 901015
davidawheeler@sky.com



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SERVICES



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BAWDESWELL	PARADISE ROAD	11:40 – 11.50
BAWDESWELL	CHAUCER CLOSE	11.55 – 12.10
FOXLEY	VILLAGE HALL	12:20 – 12.35

Can't get to the Mobile Library, but have access to the internet, then why not try 'Libby'?



Current Opening Hours and Locations

Tuesday	Bawdeswell Church	9.00am - 12.00pm
Friday	Bawdeswell Church	9.00am - 12.00pm

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PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 5th MARCH 2026
AT 7.00pm

**Present: D. Shannon (Acting Chair), C. Good, M. Bailey, R. Hannent and P. Craven.
Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk) Members of the public – 6**

Breckland Local Plan

An email was received from Breckland who have published the first set of consultee comments, which includes Statutory Consultees alongside some additional consultee comments. Comments specific to Bawdeswell from local Highways were stipulating the need for 2 points of access to the 140-house site, alongside with safer pedestrian and vehicle access to the village centre, plus a car park for the school. In addition, the local education authorities are suggesting Early Years learning would be stretched by 140 houses, but that Primary and Reepham Academy could cope with transport provision and subject to some families having to send children elsewhere.

Local Government Reorganisation

Cllr Shannon gave a brief update on Breckland's Community land transfer offer. As it was acknowledged that there would be no financial support for the transfer and the Parish Council would be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the assets and responsible for the costs following completion of the transfer, it was agreed to take no further action regarding community land transfers

Play Area

Despite the Council's best efforts, dogs mess is still causing concern, especially on the recreation ground. It was acknowledged that some dog owners are just not listening, or just do not care! The Council has confirmed that unless a compromise can be found, they will have no choice but to take other measures to restrict dogs using the recreation ground. The Council welcomes input / suggestions from residents using the recreation ground with their dogs on ways to stop the dog fouling and make the whole area safe for everyone. The Council approved the quote of £1306.82 for the replacement of 3 seats for the roto bounce and air rider which had been chewed by dogs.

Other Matters – BT Phone Box

The Parish Council were advised that BT are consulting regarding the potential removal of the hand set in the phone box. (The phone box itself would not be removed). The PC has submitted their objections to Breckland Planning on the grounds that there is a poor and unreliable mobile phone service in the village and therefore vital in an emergency. Residents are invited to make their comments to Breckland Planning before 22nd April. It is worth noting that it is free to use the phone box for UK Landlines and UK mobiles!



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FROM BACH
TO BROADWAY

PARISH COUNCIL

Bawdeswell continued....

Highways

The Clerk confirmed that a subsequent email was sent to Highways and Planning chasing a response to the Council's letter regarding future consultation on matters that increases HGVs on the B1145.

The issue of detritus on pavements and roads was highlighted. Highways responded that they 'have assessed this problem and it does not meet our criteria for repair at this time. We will continue to monitor the problem as part of our routine inspections. Frustration was expressed that Highways are failing the village in terms of care and maintenance of roads and pavements. Residents are encouraged to report any issues online to Norfolk County Council Highways; <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/39652>

Finance

The balance of the Community account as at 28th February 2026 was confirmed as £26156.40, Business Money Manager (Earmarked reserves) was £38720.07.

The next Parish Council Meetings will be held on Thursday 2nd April 2026 and the Annual Meetings will be held on 7th May 2026. These meetings will be held at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend. The Council usually meet on the first Thursday of every month except for January & August. Please check the website or noticeboard for any changes.

If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Clerk Jo Boxall, White House, Pettywell, Reepham, NR10 4RN, Tel: 01603 879480, Email: clerk@bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Full draft minutes from this meeting and minutes from previous meetings, including financial / audit information and policies can be found on the Parish Council website <http://bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

The Momentum of Spring

An enlightening demonstration of Ikebana floristry capturing the unique skills and artistry of

Frankie Flood



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CHURCH NEWS

Bawdeswell Church News



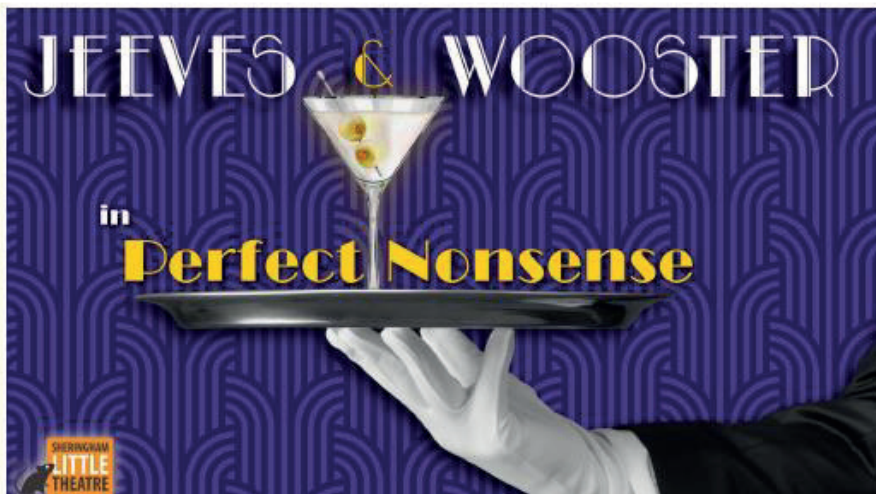
A large turnout for the celebration of John Mallen's life with a packed church and overflow in the village hall partaking via the magic of Zoom Meetings.

Work has started on the tidying up of the village cemetery. This cemetery was started up in 1890 when the churchyard, by then full, was closed by Order in Council under the Burial Act of 1853.

The new cemetery on the Norwich Road has always been in the care of the parish church. Burials are very rare today, the only income to support its upkeep. We currently have a fundraising campaign and a major tidy up in progress.

Please, if you have any family buried there, do try and donate. It will be a great help.

Robin Taylor, Churchwarden



Sheringham Little Theatre brings us *'Magical Theatre in a Magical Place'*

Sunday 26th July 2026

They will perform on the south lawns of 'magical' Bylaugh Hall.

Raising funds for the friends of All Saints' Church Bawdeswell and St. Mary's Bylaugh.

Gates open at 12pm for a 2pm performance, there will be glorious retail and food stalls, bar, and live music from the Boat House Blues Band, bringing a festival feel to the afternoon experience.

Bring your chairs and rugs, dress appropriately, sit back and enjoy, picnics welcome - no dogs.

Children under 12 FREE !

Tickets £20 in advance only.

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Following the success of 'Three Eyed Elephant' last year at Bylaugh, Sheringham Little Theatre we are delighted to present this zany adaptation of one of P.G. Wodehouse's classics, three performers take on 12 roles! Will Bertie succeed in completing Aunt Dahlia's task? Of course he won't! Will Sir Watkyn and Roderick Spode be triumphant? Will Jeeves come to the rescue? Of course he will! And what of Gussie

Fink-Nottle, Madeline Bassett, and the newts in the moonlight?

So, book yourself a big slice of outdoor-festive fun.

Guaranteed to put a smile on anyone's face – especially yours. What-ho!!

This professional production of "Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense"

CHURCH NEWS

Reverend Richard Reflects

I've been trying to get out and walk more: some of you may have seen me out and about. When your role is to look after eight churches you find that you tend to travel between them by car (so that you arrive on time, and don't arrive too hot and sweaty!). And you find that you spend a fair amount of time sat at a desk answering and writing emails, researching and writing sermons, sorting out various bits of admin, and other related tasks. So, I have had to make myself fit in the time to walk.

But once I was out there, I found that I was appreciating God's creation again. I downloaded an app for my phone which identifies birdsong and tells you which birds you are probably hearing. Of course, using the app made me slow my walking. Partly this was because the app struggles to hear the birds over my footsteps, and partly it was to allow me the chance to try and spot the birds I could hear. This all led to me sometimes taking my camera out on the walk with me to see if I could also get a photo of the birds.

It struck me how much you miss when you travel only to get from point A to point B. When the journey is the point, you notice other things because you give them time. One morning, out for my walk, I heard 35 different species of bird. On top of that I saw (but didn't hear) 5 more. I've also seen muntjac, deer, squirrels, rabbits, frogs, a barn owl and hares in the space of one week.

Creation is a gift. Too often, we waste, ignore, or spoil that gift. Why not take some time this month (and every month) to slow down and enjoy the gift of creation. Listen to the birds. Spot some wildlife. Enjoy the colours of nature. If you're the praying type, offer up a prayer of thanks to God for the diversity of life around you. Value the gift of creation.

A reminder that there is an Eco Fair being held at Elsing church on Saturday 16th May (further details to be published soon). All are welcome to come and explore the various activities and exhibitors.

Revd Richard Turk
Curate-in-Charge of the parishes of Foxley, Foulsham, Lyng, Elsing, Bawdeswell,
Bylaugh, Sparham, and Themelthorpe

Easter Week Services

- Tuesday 31st March **7pm Evening prayer/compline**
All Saints, Bawdeswell
- Good Friday 3rd April **1pm Walk of Witness** – meet at
St Thomas' Foxley Church
and walk to All Saints,
Bawdeswell.
- 2pm Hour before the Cross**
All Saints, Bawdeswell
- Easter Sunday 5th April **6:15am Sunrise service**
at St Thomas' Church Foxley
in the churchyard
- 10:30am Family Communion**
At All Saints, Bawdeswell
with Revd Jane Nursey



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BAWDESWELL CHURCH SERVICES

April 2026

Fri 3rd April	Sun 5th April	Sun 12th April	Sun 19th April	Sun 26th April
GOOD FRIDAY 2pm An Hour before the Cross	EASTER 10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Words & Praise	10.30am Family Service	10.30am Holy Communion

A reminder that you can join us on Zoom for the Bawdeswell service any Sunday – Meeting ID: 656 174 6525

Passcode: TwKH7n

Morning Prayer is said at 9am in St Margaret's Lyng on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All are welcome. A midweek communion service is held at Holy Innocents, Foulsham on Wednesdays at 10:30am.

Other information for our new group of churches can be found in our weekly News in the Pews sheets, available at each service.

The Rev'd Richard Turk, 07721 035009 Email: revdrichardrww@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook at 'The Bawdeswell Group of Churches'

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