



DECEMBER 2020

CONTACT

EAST HARLING - WEST HARLING - BRIDGHAM
ROUDHAM - LARLING - BRETtenham

VILLAGE NEWS AND EVENTS

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& ARRANGEMENTS FOR

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**East Harling Church remains open for private prayer
under Covid 19 safety conditions**

The helpline is still open for calls and will continue Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm. If you or anyone you know needs help with shopping, collecting medication, dropping of post, dog walking or just a friendly chat please do call: 07936 305 761

The electronic version of the magazine which we hope many of you can enjoy is now on the Bridgham Parish Council Website on the Roudham & Larling web site and on the Harling Council website under the News page.

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HARLING BENEFICE



Priest in charge: Benefice in vacancy

Ministry team: Rev'd Caryll Brown
Rev'd Varlie Sheldrake

01953 717451
01953 717404

Both members of our Ministry team are now officially retired and work on a voluntary and part time basis; they both hold the Bishop's Permission to Officiate at Services within this Diocese.

East with West Harling, Bridgham with Roudham, Larling and Brettenham

Arrangements for December 2020

To comply with current regulations regarding the opening and use of Church buildings, Churches in this benefice will be open as follows:

East Harling Parish Church: will be open for private individual prayer (in the Lady Chapel only)
Monday and Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm

Larling Church will open on Saturdays and Sundays 10.00am – 4.00pm weather permitting.

Bridgham and Brettenham Parish Churches for now will remain closed apart from Services.

Contact the Church Wardens for up to date details and to let them know if you intend to come to a service

East Harling 01953 717128 or 07890102392

Bridgham 01953 717686 or 01953 717980

Larling 01953 717254

SUNDAY SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT 9.45AM ON 6TH 13TH AND 20TH DECEMBER IN EAST HARLING CHURCH

BRIDGHAM SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 10.30AM HOLY COMMUNION

Special **CHRISTMAS CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** for families (held outside). See further details on page 5.

CHRISTMAS EVE 24TH DECEMBER AT BRIDGHAM 8PM

FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS AT 8PM

MIDNIGHT MASS EAST HARLING AT 11.15PM

27th December 9.45am a simple 'said' Service of Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer (no music).

All are welcome to services but numbers are limited so if you plan to come to any of these services, please let a churchwarden or a Minister know in advance so that appropriate seating can be arranged. Please also arrive in good time as you will need to register your details on arrival.

East Harling Church has a QR Code displayed in the porch and inside the building – please use it if you have the NHS App on your phone.

We have regular meetings on Zoom for:

Morning Prayer on Monday at 10.00am and

Evening Prayer on Friday at 5.00pm.

The ID numbers and passwords required to join these meetings are subject to change so if you would like to join us please call either Caryll or Varlie for the current numbers (telephone numbers see above). Everyone is welcome to join us!

Wednesdays 7.15pm Fellowship and Bible Study:

Saturdays 9.30am Prayers: All comers are welcome. .

ID numbers and Passwords for these two meetings are available from Stuart 01953 714900

It is possible to join the Zoom meetings by telephone if you do not have internet access.

Just dial 02034 815240 and use the relevant meeting ID and password when prompted.

Other Suggestions for Worship

The Norwich Diocese offers **Sunday Hope**, a weekly podcast which you can download onto your mobile phone or listen to for free by phoning 01603 537577

Daily Hope is a daily podcast from the Church of England. Phone free 0800 804 8044 Sundays:

8.10am Morning Worship BBC Radio 4

9.00am onwards Weekly Service on Facebook or YouTube (Church of England)

1.15pm Songs of Praise BBC One (check times – they occasionally are changed).

Plus lots of live-streamed services from across the country on Facebook and on YouTube.



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OCCASIONAL SERVICES:

Weddings and Baptisms: Please contact Rev'd Caryll Brown (01953 717451) with any enquiries.

Funerals: During lockdown funerals have taken place either at the graveside or in a crematorium. It is now possible to hold small funerals in church but numbers attending the service are limited, currently to a maximum of 15, and depending on the layout and size of the church. Social distancing has to be observed and no singing is currently permitted although music can be played.

METHODIST CHAPEL, WHITE HART STREET Services in December

6 th	Rev'd David Ely Holy Communion	6.30pm
13 th	Mr David Osborne	6.30pm
20 th	with C of E planned please check	
27 th	Mr David Ely	6.30pm

~ Parish Registers ~ FUNERALS

We extend our condolences to the family of:

Samuel Morton McCONNELL whose funeral was held in East Harling Parish Church on 9th November 2020 followed by private cremation.

FLOODLIGHTING

DECEMBER 2020

9th **Bill DOYLE:** Lots of love from all of us xx

Requests to sponsor the floodlighting of East Harling Church are still accepted and should be posted/delivered in writing :

To The Rev'd Varlie Sheldrake,

12 Kemps Barns, East Harling. NR16 2TS

Please make sure your requests include the date and add your name and contact number in case of any queries. Donation of minimum £5/night cash should be enclosed.

A big THANK YOU to those who have continued to sponsor the Floodlighting of East Harling Church.

Memories Christmas Tree



Rosedale Funeral Home have, very kindly, donated a Christmas Tree to enable the residents of our Benefice to remember loved ones this Christmas.

The tree will stand in the porch of St. Peter's & St. Pauls Church in East Harling. Labels will be available for you all to write messages to be tied to the tree – bring your own pen!

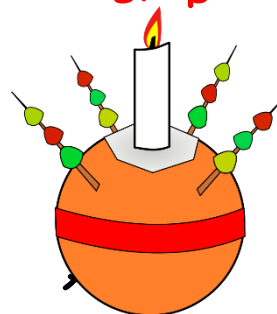
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Curate's Corner

Well, we've made it to December after a year like no other any of us has experienced.

And please, let no one else ask me, "What are we going to do about Christmas?"

The answer, as it is to many questions this year is, "We'll have to wait and see!"

One thing for certain though – **Christmas is not cancelled!**



We may not be able to celebrate with parties, big family gatherings or rousing Carol Services, but we can still contact our friends and loved ones through the internet, by post or by phone and make plans for happier days ahead; but small comfort when we've been separated for so long and I am only too aware that many of us have lost good friends and family members during the past year, not necessarily from covid, and each loss is keenly felt especially at Christmas when we would normally have been together.

Pause for a moment and think about what is that we actually celebrate at Christmas.

Is it just an excuse for over eating, drinking too much and an orgy of present giving?

Or is it about something else?

The Christian Church celebrates the birth of God's Son, Jesus, at this time of the year when at the Winter Solstice the days start to lengthen and we can look forward to brighter days – the coming of the light back into our world; just as we believe that Jesus brought light into the world when he was born as a human. The Christmas story has been around for a long time, but today it's being forgotten. I'm told that just 12 per cent of adults know the nativity story, and more than one-third of children don't know whose birthday it celebrates. Meanwhile, 51 per cent of people now say the birth of Jesus is irrelevant to their Christmas



Christmas starts with Christ and we have 4 weeks – the period of Advent – in which to prepare ourselves for that.

This year we have an opportunity to prepare in a quieter way; we can't rush about visiting and (as I write) non-essential shops are closed so we buy from home on line (well, some of us do!).

Some of us have Advent candles or Advent calendars, lighting the candle each evening or opening a new door each day of December until we come to 25th – Christmas Day – and hopefully finding a chocolate inside.

Others of us may use a book to guide us through Advent with a Bible reading and explanation for every day. A few years ago Stephen Cottrell, our new Arch Bishop of York, wrote a lovely Advent book entitled 'Christmas is coming, do nothing!' in which he encourages us to slow down and take things easier. It's been reissued this year under a new title 'Let it Lie'. I'll be having another look at it this year.



I sincerely hope that before long we shall be able to have services in church again and prepare for Christmas and light our Advent wreath to mark the days.

Meanwhile let's enjoy the marketing parade of Christmas trimmings and trappings: the food, the gifts, the smiles, the lights, the fairies, the magic & sparkle and even the dodgy jumpers.

Let's also celebrate its recognition of the importance of family and fun and friendship; But amongst it all, let's also remember that the Bible teaches us the importance of our lives being founded on and pointing to Christ.

A very Happy Christmas

and every Blessing for a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Love and prayers from Varlie and all of us in the local Churches. xx



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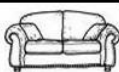
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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GOOD WISHES

The Old School Hall is closed at the moment due to the nationwide lockdown but activities will reopen as soon as the rules allow it and it is safe to do so with the COVID precautions we have taken.

We know that Christmas and New Year 2020 will be very different from what we have all known and experienced in the past. Nevertheless it is an important time to think of friends and family, even if this year we cannot have the same celebrations as usual.

There will be Christmas Lights in the Village but there will not be an "official switch on" this year. Let's cheer ourselves up by as many residents as possible having lights on their houses.

The Village Hall Committee send their regards and best wishes to all residents and hope that 2021 will gradually see a return to some sort of normality.

Keep safe and well

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www.harlingoldschoolvillagehall.uk

Christmas Trees at Manor Farm

I am advised by the governing body for Christmas tree growers that we fall under the same government guidance as garden centres. This is good news as it means we can open for Christmas tree sales through and beyond the lockdown. I will do my absolute best to make sure that there are plenty of good trees ready and would ask people visiting to follow the on-site Covid 19 guidance. As has become normal nowadays, the main points will be: To maintain a safe distance while choosing your



tree, to use the hand gel at the sanitisation stations, staff will be wearing masks and there will be masks available for customers. Let's make this Christmas as good as we can, and all stay safe. Thank you. Vince Thurkettle, Manor Farm Christmas Trees, Gt Hockham

An update from the Governors of East Harling Primary school

It has been a year like no other for the staff, pupils and parents at East Harling Primary School, and the Governing Body has played an important role in supporting the school through this period.



When the first lockdown occurred in late March, the school remained open for key worker and vulnerable children only, as per Government guidance. The Governing Body met in April to discuss how the school had been adapting to these changes and how provision for those children not in school was being managed. Items that were discussed included safeguarding, staffing, free school meals, health + safety and remote learning provision. Foremost in our thoughts was the wellbeing of staff and pupils and how the lockdown would affect learning.

We met regularly after this as key worker / vulnerable children provision increased. For the wider re-opening of school in June the Governing Body had to review and adopt risk assessments for the safe return of staff and pupils. Unfortunately, following the risk assessment guidance, due to limits on capacity and teacher numbers, not all year groups could return to school before the end of the summer term.

School life was very different, and the lack of peer to peer contact for both staff and pupils was a real challenge. However the school did a brilliant job at trying to make life as normal as possible, with Year Six modifying it's traditional leavers' assembly with a farewell procession through a 'cloud of bubbles'. The entire school returned for the new academic year in September. This brought with it increased challenge for the school and the Governing Body's focus was very much again staff and pupil wellbeing and trying to gauge the impact of the lockdown on learning. After October half term Governors were busy carrying out their statutory duties and monitoring school performance. This included assessing how Government 'catch up' grants were being used by the school to help bridge the perceived learning gap caused by the lockdown.

Throughout this difficult year the larger school community have been very supportive and have come together as one.

The situation continues to be a very testing one and all teaching and support staff remain committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for all it's pupils.

I would like to state, on behalf of the Governing Body, my sincere gratitude and thanks to all the staff at the school this year for their fortitude, determination and hard work in keeping our school open in the most difficult of circumstances.

East Harling is very lucky to have such a fantastic school.

Wishing everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas / New Year.

Lee Adams, Chair of Governors,
East Harling Primary School and Nursery.

LIFE OF A PCC

Every church has a Parochial Church Council or PCC that is responsible for the financial affairs of the church, the care & maintenance of the church fabric & all its contents & for just about everything that goes on within it. PCC is made up of clergy, churchwardens & representatives of the laity (ordinary people who are on the church electoral roll). Each PCC can also appoint a secretary & a treasurer that are both important roles within the church. Churchwardens are ex-officio members of the PCC as a result of their position and are the representatives of the Bishop within the Parish..

Laity PCC members are nominated & seconded by people on the electoral roll & must be willing to serve. The election usually happens at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in March or April. In East Harling. The PCC would usually meet every 2 months before Covid-19. However, we have had to have lots of group emails instead as we couldn't meet up regularly.

With such an old, historical building there are often ongoing problems to contend with, such as leaks in the roof. Repairs, alterations, better access & even trimming or chopping down of trees all have to have permission granted from higher authorities, after PCC members have discussed & agreed to anything that requires attention. Sometimes council permission has to be sought, prior to applying for a faculty, (permission from the Diocese for work to be carried out to consecrated buildings & land, which will usually include the Church & churchyard & fixtures & fittings).

Some of these things can take a considerable amount of time & effort, years even, whilst other things are easier to organise, make happen or put into practice. There's always plenty going on, to think about & to organise & more often than not necessary form filling!

During normal times the PCC organise monthly coffee mornings ☕🍰 which are always well supported & enjoyed by many. We are fortunate to have a team of willing bakers who produce scrupulous cakes. We organise a variety of fundraising events such as various musical evenings 🎵🎸🎹, interesting talks, flower festivals 🌻🌺, antique valuations evenings, quiz nights, art exhibitions, variety shows & many other things. Not so exciting, but equally essential, we try to organise garden gangs to help to keep the flower beds neat & tidy. We've organised shed clearing and cleaning & tidying gangs too. Our PCC work hard together as a team, acting on behalf of the church & the community in order to preserve, protect & ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy & appreciate the history & heritage of this magnificent building. It is there for everyone, celebrating in times of joy & to find solace within in times of loss &

challenge for many years to come! 🏰🏰🏰 We are also fortunate & grateful to work alongside the Friends of East Harling Church, who work tirelessly in raising funds that support the church fabric & much more.

DECEMBER GARDENING

We are entering December with the ground warm and moist – Ideal conditions for continuing to plant bare root roses and fruit trees (Boris permitting!) It is not too late to plant daffodil or tulip bulbs.

Traditionally the lawns would have had their last cut and the lawnmower cleaned and put away until the spring, however the last few winters have been mild and wet and a light trim mid-December may still be necessary. If we get a few dry days weed and re-level areas for sowing grass seed in late February or early March. Weeds (wild flowers) will inevitably colonise all areas of grass so why not incorporate a wild flower mix and make it intentional

For the rest this is a month for tidying. If you haven't already give bush and shrub roses a moderate prune to stop them rocking in the winds (hard prune in February). Perennials can be cut back to the ground, but if there are any seed heads left they can be left for the tits and finches, and cut back later. Similarly any fallen fruit you have not cleared can be left if it is not causing problems – the blackbirds and thrushes will be grateful for them in the winter frosts. Winter pruning of fruit trees (not stone fruit) can continue - you have until late February so no need to bust a gut (take it gently with coffee breaks).

It is a good time to start planning next year and ordering seeds. All of the major seed firms have online catalogues, and many of them will have special offers over the next few months. Seeds make really good Christmas presents and are not expensive to send if lockdown continues.

If you are bringing a live tree in for Christmas (even one cut off above the roots) keep it damp and it will look happier and drop less needles, and look for recycling initiatives after Christmas

Remember to just look at the garden, or even sit in it with a coffee or stronger if the weather permits. The whole point of a garden is to enjoy it!

Good gardening
Kevin



FRIENDS OF EAST HARLING CHURCH

In line with many other organisations we regret we have had to cancel the Traditional November Craft Fayre due to the Covid 19 restrictions. Instead we look forward to better times in 2021, with our usual fundraising events and return of the Craft Fayre. This Event is one of our main fund raisers and allows us to assist with the maintenance of the Fabric of our Beautiful and Historic Parish Church. We also organise concerts, antiques valuation evenings and splendid ploughman's lunches as well as interesting guided tours and visiting historians, talks on the fabric of the church and its past history.

Why not consider supporting our organisation and the Church building by giving the gift of membership for a year. We are very pleased to welcome new members of the Friends and annual donations start low as £10. A lifetime membership costs from £50 per person, this would make a splendid gift! For further details please contact the secretary at email; eastharlingchurchfriends@gmail.com or by telephone 01953 718777.

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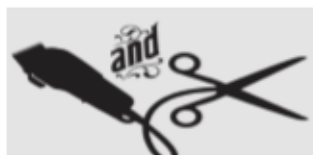
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Best wishes Keith Flood

President RBL Harling & District



EAST HARLING GARDENING CLUB

It is with great regret that our chair lady Jenny will be standing down at the end of March 2021.

Unless someone is willing to take on this role the Gardening Club will be in danger of closing.

East Harling Gardening Club commenced many years ago and it would be a very sad day indeed for East Harling if, simply due to lack of a chair person, it closes.

Please, if you could possibly find time to give this club approximately two hours per month the present standing committee including Jenny would be more than happy to help assist in any way that is needed.

For further information please call Jenny on 01953 717911

due to covid restrictions it is unlikely that the club will reopen until after march 2021 at the earliest.

A TRUE STORY OF CHRISTMAS FUN AT THE ABBEY FIVE HUNDRED YEARS AGO DAVID BAILEY

A few years ago I acquired a large and rather strange looking coin that was over 500 years old. I had never seen one like it before so was eager to discover more about it and the story that emerged is quite remarkable. It is to do with the *original* "Santa Claus", ancient Christmas celebrations in the Abbey of Bury St Edmunds and medieval Bishops disappearing for three weeks while the choirboys had lots of fun. The story revealed from this "coin" is certainly worth the telling.

Firstly, before we get to the exciting bit of this true and ancient tale, let me describe the coin. You will see from the photo it is quite large, about the size of a 50p and in remarkably good condition considering its great age. On one side is a large central cross around which are two bands of Latin inscription looking exactly like its contemporary coin, the silver "Groat" (4 pence) of the late 13th –early 16th century. So what



Above Obverse one Silver Groat of Henry VI.
(with 50 p to compare)

Below Obverse Two lead Boy Bishop tokens circa 1500

Groat (4pence) on the right a Penny on the left.

was strange about this "groat"? Firstly, the obverse side had the head of a Bishop, not the King and secondly it was made from lead, not silver. Was it therefore a fake? I soon learnt from my research that it was neither a coin, nor a fake and they are also known in the half-groat (2pence) and penny denominations.



Reverse of 2 Boy Bishop tokens.

ABOVE--size compared to a Henry VI Groat
Below. A Lead Boy Bishop Groat—
and a penny.

These fascinating historical objects are known as BOY BISHOP TOKENS and were made between c.1480 and c.1530 and again for a brief time during the mid 1550's. Most of these Boy Bishop Tokens are found in and around Bury St Edmunds and along the Norfolk/ Suffolk borders. So who were the "Boy Bishops" and what were these "tokens" used for?

The first clues emerged after a learned friend translated its Latin inscription:-

***"Saint Nicholas pray for us:
Hail king of the people:
behold –(I speak) (I declare).***

Saint Nicholas was (and still is) the patron saint of children. i.e. "Santa Claus" and this religious coin, that's obviously not a coin, suggests that someone was having some Christmas fun. I was determined to find out what it all meant ----and here is the story:-

The tradition of "Boy Bishops" was very popular throughout Europe and England from at least the mid 1400's. Each year on the feast day of St. Nicholas, December 6th, in Abbeys, Cathedrals and some large parish churches, a boy was chosen to be " Boy Bishop" for the period of Christmas until Holy Innocents day on December 28th. This tradition became especially strong in late medieval England. The chosen boy, probably one of the senior choirboys, would have been inaugurated during the St Nicholas Mass and ceremoniously dressed in a smaller version of the actual Bishop's robes and mitre. The Boy Bishop, holding the "real" Bishop's crozier, took the place of the bishop in all the Christmas-time ceremonies, leading processions around their town

A TRUE STORY OF CHRISTMAS FUN AT THE ABBEY FIVE HUNDRED YEARS AGO
DAVID BAILEY continued from page 13

and being allowed to write and deliver his own sermons. In some places this role-reversal extended to some senior clergy performing the humble tasks of the boy altar-servers and choristers. History doesn't make it clear where the real Bishop went during this time, it was probably a welcome opportunity for him to get away for a three week break. The ceremonial aspects of this tradition were generally considered to be a "lesson in humility and a recognition of the wisdom of youthful innocence".

Naturally there had to be some Christmas fun for the "Boy Bishop" during his three-week reign. He could, for example, authorise holidays or gifts for local children-- and this is exactly where our BOY BISHOP TOKEN comes into the story. Continued page 14

As mentioned before, Boy Bishop ceremonies at Christmas were widespread throughout the land, but NOT the Boy Bishop Tokens. As discussed earlier, the vast majority of these well-made lead tokens have only been found around Bury St Edmunds and it is therefore thought their role in these ceremonies was unique to the Abbey there. A small quantity have been found around the other great East Anglian religious centres of Ely and Ipswich but their style is much cruder and probably represents a short-lived attempt at copying. So what role did these tokens play in the ceremonies at Bury St Edmunds? It is thought they were given out as "largesse" to the poor children by the Boy Bishop and his entourage as they moved through the town during the Christmas processions, being exchanged later in the local shops for sweets and other Christmas treats to that value. A generous gesture and in the real spirit of Christmas. Truly a "*gift from Santa Claus*".

That is not the end of the story ----oh no. It is reported (truly or falsely) that by the mid 1530's the ceremony and all that followed had generally become disorderly and raucous. This seemingly disrespectful behaviour did not only originate from the young choir boys (which you might expect) but also came from the older clergy who, in their role as "choirboys", were also known to disrupt services! You can imagine it can't you? You can also imagine what happened next, so it will come as no surprise to learn that during the early part of the reformation King Henry VIII called a halt to the ancient custom of "The Boy Bishops". So, depending on your point of view, "*the fun*" or "*a lesson in humility*", was banned by Royal Decree.

Again--that is not the end of the story. All good things go round in circles and this ancient tradition has been recently revived, except that the chosen boys or girls are now known as "Nicholas Youth Bishops". Included among the many churches in Britain where this ancient custom is growing in popularity are at least two from Norfolk, Wymondham Abbey and St. Nicholas in North Walsham.

David Bailey. Christmas 2020.

Post script. Examples of Boy Bishop Tokens along with some of their original moulds, are displayed in The Moyses's Hall Museum in Bury St Edmunds.



Watch out for East Harling Churches' Advent Treasure Hunt!



Mainly for families... but anyone can have a go!

See if you can find 24 different pictures posted around the village. Each picture has a letter and a number on it. When you have found all 24, put the letters in numerical order to read the special message! All you need is a pen and paper, and you are good to go!

STAY SAFE... please use pavements. All pictures will be visible from the roadside.

Don't go alone; best of all take an adult with you!

When you have finished, write out the special message and post your answer to "Advent Treasure Hunt" 8 Drakes Close, OR Carrick House, 7 West Harling Road, by 22nd December 2020. There will be prizes!



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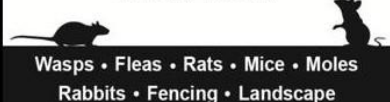
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Festive thoughts and recollections from Brettenham



At this time of year, we can recall the past festive celebrations here at St. Andrews and hope that we will all be able to congregate to celebrate in the future.

Diligence, kindness, respect & support for others will hopefully get us all through these difficult days. The Church itself is a standing monument of

Victorian architecture displaying the best of **E**nglish craftsmanship in abundance & beauty.

Nobody should overlook the quality of the magnificent stained-glass windows.

Thanks to all who have supported over the years and

all good wishes for a safe & healthy 2021, when we hope, we may all be able to be together again in fellowship and friendship.

Peter & Mary Wright

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From a Diocesan newsletter ... ☺ Safety Guidance for your Christmas Crib

The coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on the way we conduct our lives, with many new rules and restrictions governing our health and safety. One area of concern is your Christmas Crib. Although there are several weeks to go before Christmas, you will need to start planning now.



You will need to begin with a thorough risk assessment to ensure your Crib is COVID-secure. Here is some further guidance:

1. A maximum of 4 shepherds only are permitted in the Crib.
2. Shepherds must wear facemasks (unless exempt) and strictly observe social distancing (2m or 1m+ with mitigations).
3. Jesus, Mary and Joseph form a family bubble and thus may be placed together.
4. The ox and the ass need Declaration of Non-Contamination Certificates, obtainable from the Department of Agriculture.
5. The Three Wise Men, since they come from a non-Schengen Area, will be subject to a 14-day quarantine, whether or not they have tested negative for Covid.
6. The straw, moss, palm branches and other decorations must be disinfected, with hands washed for 20 seconds after handling.
7. Angels flying over the Crib are now forbidden, owing to the aerosol effect produced by the batting of wings.
8. Shepherds are permitted provided they are not more than 70 years old or suffering from underlying medical conditions or in another vulnerable category.
9. The inn, along with other businesses in the hospitality sector, is closed until further notice.

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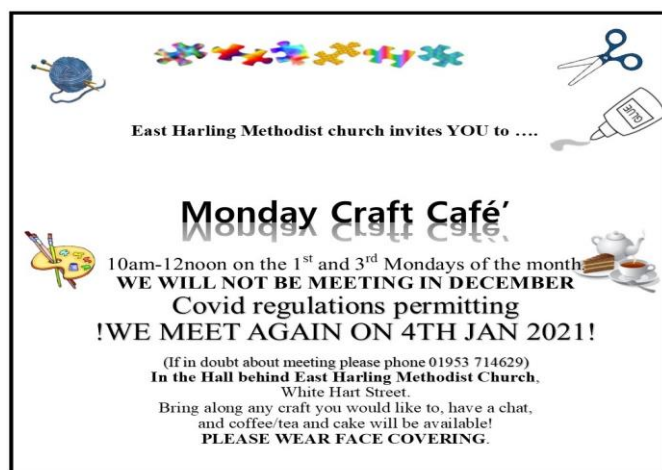
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A prayer for Advent

At the breaking of the new day,
framed in the chorus of the birds
and refreshed in the dew of the fields,
we turn to you, O Christ.

In the ebb and flow of the morning,
where time and energy are spent
in busyness of mind and body,
we turn to you, O Christ.

At our midday pause,
where food sustains us
and drink refreshes us,
we turn to you, O Christ.

At the conclusion of the afternoon
we reflect on hopes fulfilled
and those pocketed for tomorrow.
We turn to you, O Christ.

In the evening rest
we give thanks for this day
and for all you have graciously provided
We turn to you, O Christ.

Revd Frank Howard

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20th December 2020 at the ABSOLUTE LATEST.

Please ensure that the sender's name and address or telephone number is included in all communications. Don't wait until the last day as we cannot guarantee last minute items will be printed.

EDITOR: email sue.wall@uwclub.net

TRADE ADVERTISING: contact Juliet Langridge tel: 01953 714900 or email to JulietL70@outlook.com
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RESTORATION OF THE CHUCH ROOF IN EAST HARLING

Following on from our article last month on the Church roof appeal, Ann Partridge kindly sent me this clipping from the Norwich Mercury of 2nd September 1871!

**THE RESTORATION OF
EAST HARLING CHURCH.**

TO promote this very desirable object, it is proposed to hold a BAZAAR in the RECTORY GROUNDS, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER the 6th and 7th, under the patronage of

The Right Hon. the COUNTESS OF ALBEMARLE,
The Hon. LADY NUGENT,
LADY BUXTON,
The Dowager LADY BUXTON,

Mrs. THORNHILL, Mrs. MONTGOMERIE, Mrs. BIRCH,	Mrs. PARTRIDGE, Mrs. DAVY.
---	-------------------------------

A Band will be engaged, and among other attractions there will be, each afternoon, three short Amateur Concerts, and games of Croquet and Archery.

Admission: the First Day, Adults, One Shilling; Children, Sixpence. On the Second Day, Adults, Sixpence; Children, Threepence.

Conveyances to and from the Harling Road Station will meet the Trains.

The Bazaar will be opened at One o'clock p.m., and closed at Seven. (5711)

All Persons arriving by the Noon-day Trains may gain immediate admission to the Grounds on taking their Tickets at the Entrance Gate.

This was obviously a great day out and a further report on the 9th September 1871 recounts that the event was very well attended. It stated the works will consist of the restoration of the spire and roof, and entire cleaning and re-seating of the church, for which the amount estimated is about £1,500. Based on the calculation that £100 in 1871 would be worth £ 11,876 today, the total cost in 2020 would be £178,140 – not far off the amount we need to raise today!

However, I doubt whether we could collect such an illustrious company as graced the occasion back in 1871, from Lord and Lady Albermarle and Lady Augusta Keppel, Lady Louisa Chateris, the Duke of Grafton, Sir George Nugent and the Hon. Lady Nugent, Lord Charles Fitzroy, Sir Robert and Lady Baxton and the Dowager Lady Baxton etc etc! There were stalls and sales tents of all kinds, an "art exhibition", two concerts and Croquet and other games were provided, the East Harling Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr Tillott, was in attendance and the church bells rang merrily throughout the afternoon. The gross receipts on Wednesday were £220.8s.5d. of which £22.12s. was taken at the gate!