

**Bacton  
Witton  
Ridlington  
Edingthorpe**

# Village News

An Independent Community Newsletter

<http://villagenews.btck.co.uk/>

**Issue 262**

**August/September 2017**

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Crowdfunding for Coastal Protection  
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### **Urgent Message from Witton & Ridlington Parish Council**

The W&R Parish Councillors want to hear your views on the strong possibility of Vattenfall siting the double cable relay station at Ridlington. The site will be the size of two football pitches and eight metres high. Despite Vattenfall saying their landscaping will hide it, the light and noise pollution will be totally unacceptable in our beautiful, rural landscape. The effect on house prices and our seaside tourist industry are also something they seem to be ignoring. When asked how they would decide between us and East Ruston for the siting, they admitted that whoever made the most fuss would have a huge influence - so we need to act now! Have your voice heard and find out more about what our community can do by attending the next Parish Council Meeting on 8th August at 7pm.

### **Bacton & Edingthorpe Parish Council Meeting 10 July 2017**

Members attended a meeting at the Poacher's Pocket with Vattenfall representatives about the planned Vanguard and Boreas windfarms. It was a relief to find out that neither Bacton or Edingthorpe had been highlighted as areas for the relay stations. However, two relay stations will be needed and Vattenfall has identified a potential site on land at Ridlington, along the Happisburgh Road going out of the village on the right-hand side, just past the Church. This is of great concern to Witton & Ridlington Parish Council and their members will be discussing this at their next meeting. It is imperative that every person who can fights for DC cabling not AC. AC means we get the two massive relay stations on our landscape - DC means that we do not. At present, Vattenfall are saying that the technology is not up to speed for DC however, it may be available in the years to come.

There will be disruption to everyone within the area due to the vast cabling corridors which will need to be made and it is vital that, if you write to Vattenfall directly, you ensure that they are clearly made aware of your thoughts.

To view website information [www.norfolkvanguard.vattenfall.co.uk](http://www.norfolkvanguard.vattenfall.co.uk)

Multisports is still running well and we keep the community informed of cancellations on the Facebook page. The more that attend the better and we are hoping to add on a couple of sessions which have been missed due to weather.

**IMPORTANT** - we have had reports of youths jumping and climbing on the container units onto the Pavilion roof. If you have young children and they play down at the field please alert them as to the dangers - what seems fun now doesn't when you have a broken leg or worse!!! The MOD Police will be carrying out more patrols. We have also had minor damage down at the area and it is being monitored.

We received no ideas from the public for the use of the ex-Bowls Club and this was disappointing as anything put forward would be considered.

The next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be held on 11th September 2017 - 7pm in Bacton

Village Hall Annexe. All are welcome to attend.

If you have any ideas/projects or any comments regarding the management/running of your Council, please let the Clerk know.

We are ALWAYS seeking volunteers for various functions within the community - please call us to find out how you can help. Contact by phone, email or post. This information will be forwarded to the Council for their consideration.

**Elaine Pugh, Clerk  
402998**

[elainepugh15@hotmail.com](mailto:elainepugh15@hotmail.com)  
**Raynham House, 10  
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Walsham, Norfolk, NR28  
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[www.bactonandedingthorpe.co.uk](http://www.bactonandedingthorpe.co.uk)**

Contributions for the **Village News** (max 250 words) must arrive by the 15th of each month to [bactonvillagenews@hotmail.com](mailto:bactonvillagenews@hotmail.com)

### **Joint Editors:**

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### **Advertising to Editors**

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## Witton and Ridlington Village Hall

We are having a break for August so the next quiz will be on 7pm Friday 22nd September. Usual chilli, jackets, sides and salads all for £7. Our recent quizzes have been very popular and we wish to apologise to all those quizzers we have had to disappoint because our numbers have had to be restricted. In trying to be fair to all we have decided that, from September, all quizzes will be by booking only, that booking will be open from the 1st of the month of the quiz and that a reserve list will be kept if we go over numbers. Bookings to be made by phone on 650265 or email [lyric@clara.net](mailto:lyric@clara.net).

Our Village Show will be held on 2nd September. All parishioners will have received a schedule and newsletter with guidance - please just have a go. As usual the show will be open to all from 2pm onwards for cream teas and refreshments and a viewing of the skills of Witton and Ridlington residents. Prizes will be given at 3.30pm. The Hall will be hosting a meeting called by Norman Lamb MP concerning the proposals from Vattenfall Vanguard project and its implications for the

residents of Ridlington and surrounding area. It will be held at 7pm on 24th August. Vattenfall representatives will be attending. Please note that there will be no drawing group, Pilates classes or Stretch and Tone classes during the summer. Last classes are 19th/20th July. Classes restart 6th/7th September.

**Lynne Hosking 650265**  
[lyric@clara.net](mailto:lyric@clara.net)

## Coastal Protection Scheme

The Bacton to Walcott Coastal Management Scheme is an opportunity to enhance the protection of the coast at Bacton and Walcott from coastal erosion. The proposed scheme will use "Landscaping", a UK first based on a Dutch approach, to protect the villages of Bacton and Walcott and a nationally important gas terminal. The project involves the placement of a large volume of sand on the beaches in front of the Bacton Gas Terminal and down the coast to include Bacton and Walcott. The Terminal will fund their own protection and are willing to consider contributing to protecting the villages. The villages' part of the project will be funded by North Norfolk District Council, Regional

Flood and Coast and Committee, DEFRA and the Environment Agency. Other funding sources are also being explored, but, the more local support that can be shown the better the case for funding from other places. NNDC has launched a Crowd Funding Scheme to raise £25,000 to enable this project to go ahead. To contribute, see <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bactontowalcottsandscaping>. Every penny will buy more sand! The scheme still needs to have all the funding confirmed and the project still needs to gain all the necessary consents and licences. For further information please see <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/tasks/coastal-management/bacton-to-walcott-coastal-management/>

## Bacton Yard Sales

We are pleased to confirm that at least 10 Yard Sales will be happening in Priory Road and Priory Close, Bacton, on Sunday 6th August between 10am and 2pm. Spokesman, Mike Booth said, "It is a fantastic response considering there are under 40 properties in the area" For those who are not sure, Priory Road is at

the Walcott end of the village, on the right just passed Gooch's garage coming from the village centre.

Please support this event in the village and nab yourself a bargain. Please also tell your neighbours and friends.

**Mike Booth**

Abbey Street, Bacton will be also holding a Yard Sale on Sunday 6th August from 9.30am - 2.00pm.

Big, Big Bank Holiday Yard sale will be taking place in aid of Sandcastles Pre-School on Sun 27th August from 10 o'clock onwards at Northfield, North Walsham Road, Bacton (opposite Norton House new flats). Come and grab a bargain, lots and lots of goodies, cheap cheap prices, supporting your local Pre-School. Anyone who would like to hold a sale should contact Tracey. Maps also available from Tracey at Northfield immediately prior to or on the day.

Any donations or queries please contact:

**Tracey, 07979 541848**

## Bat Night

Friday 4th August at 7.30pm, at St Margaret's Church, Witton, led by Phil Parker from the Norfolk Bats in Churches Project. Light

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# Diary Dates for August & September 2017

August

September

4th - Bat Night at St Margaret's Church	2nd - W&R Village Show
6th - Abbey St & Priory Rd Yard Sales	8th - 10th E'thorpe Heritage Weekend
8th - W&R PC Meeting	9th - Norfolk Churches Bike Ride
12th - 13th Open Churches Weekend	- Concert with Emma Nuule
14th - Theatre Gp Coffee Morning	11th - B&E PC Meeting
20th - History Gp Exhibition	12th - W&R WI Coffee Morning
24th - Book Group Bacton VH	15th - Gardening Club
- Vattenfall Meeting W&R VH	22nd - Quiz & Supper W&R VH
27th - Yard Sale in aid of Sandcastles	25th - Theatre Gp Coffee Morning

Refreshments, children's activities.  
£5 Adults, children free.

## Heritage Open Days Events

September 8th to 10th 2017 at All Saints Church, Edingthorpe NR28 9TJ - The Little Church on the Hill. Each day there will be a display of Quilts, with a Quilting Exhibition by Sew Spiritual, a group of Christian women from various traditions, who have joined together to explore their faith through the mediums of textile and creating quilts on the theme of Journeys. The craftsmanship is outstanding and well worth a look. On Friday morning, 10 am to noon, you are invited to a Village Coffee Morning. On Saturday Evening a Concert by Emma Nuelle, Emma has sung for

us before and we are lucky to have been able to book her again, a great evening of entertainment and supper, do come, tickets are £7.50.

On Sunday, we are holding our very own All Creatures Great and Small with a Pet Service at noon, any pet, any size, any owner very welcome. Church Tours and musical entertainment in the afternoon.

Throughout the event there will be refreshments on sale, cakes, plants, crafts and a Table Top Sale. Can you help? Do you have unwanted items that you could run your own Table Top Sale with?

For further information, book tickets or a Table Top or to offer to help at the event please contact any committee member or me -  
**Jan Withers**  
**07535125448**

## The Little Flower Shop

Bacton now has its own little flower shop selling flowers, plants, gifts, and even delicious Norfolk-made chocolates. Based in the old Café Bacton/Burger Shack on Walcott Road, it's run by Tricia, who is a local Witton resident. Some of you may remember her working at the flower shop in Mundesley. Tricia can make up a beautiful bouquet for friends or family, and will happily do wedding flowers and funeral tributes. She also has different houseplants and garden plants each week. Delivery in Bacton is free and only £1 to Mundesley or North Walsham.

The Little Flower Shop is open every day except Sunday, with early closing (1pm) on Wednesday and Saturdays.

A Message From the Dog Wardens!



**Pick it up  
Take it home**

DOG WALKERS RULES

1. Take Dog
  2. Take lead
  3. Take doggy bags
  4. Pick up poo
  5. Deposit in a bin
- DO NOT LEAVE  
DO NOT DUMP BAG  
FINE £1000

## Lunch at the Lighthouse

If you are over 60 and would like a 2-course meal with nice company, why not come to The Lighthouse Inn, Walcott, every Tuesday, 12 for 12.30. We look forward to seeing you.

**June Fuller, 650277**

## Sugarcraft & Cake Decorating

Cake decorating and Sugarcraft lessons at Bacton Village Hall every first Monday of the month, 7.00-9.00pm. All equipment provided, £10.00 for two hours with a very friendly group. Please ring

**Janette 650557**

## Book Group

Last month's book, 'The Gustav Sonata' by Rose Tremain, was definitely a

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favourite with the group. Everyone enjoyed it and we had lots to discuss about style, character and plot. It opened with Gustav growing up with an impoverished widowed mother who found it difficult to show her son affection and who tried to restrict his friendship with Anton and his well-off Jewish parents. Slowly we learned how the families had arrived at this point in their lives in Switzerland and how Gustav's father, as a local policeman, had signed papers allowing Jews to settle there after fleeing from the Nazis. Despite difficulties the boys' friendship flourished partly because the generous-hearted Gustav could sympathise with the precociously talented Anton who developed a crisis of nerves when expected to perform competitive piano recitals. It is also slowly revealed how Gustav's mother as a flirtatious teenager trapped the dashing policeman into marriage and how their comfortable life came to an end when it was discovered that he had kind-heartedly continued to sign immigration documents after the Swiss authorities withdrew their support due to fear of reprisals. The second half of the book shows the ups and downs of each character but deals

mainly with the endearing Gustav's success as a hotelier and the annoying Anton's chaotic lifestyle. In July, we will have discussed 'Any Human Heart' by William Boyd and distributed 'Regeneration' by Pat Barker and 'Elizabeth is Missing' by Emma Healey. If you would like either of these books please get in touch with me. Our August meeting will be on Thursday 24th at 2:30 in Bacton Village Hall with the September meeting being on the 28th.

**Sally Hogden 651085/  
[sallymh@btinternet.com](mailto:sallymh@btinternet.com)**

#### **Bacton-on-Sea Gardening Club**

The weather was kind for our visit to Beth Chatto's garden last month. What a truly inspirational garden with a definite theme on 'Right Plant, Right Place' - an aspect of gardening we all need a refresher course on now and again! It was a really relaxing day and we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Our next meeting is on September 15th which will include a produce swap and quiz. We are a very friendly club and new members are always welcome - new gardening wisdom never goes amiss!

The Village Planters (organised by Bacton-on-Sea Gardening Club and

Bacton and Edingthorpe Parish Council) are looking at their best thanks to the continual care and watering by members of the Gardening Club. If you are a villager living near a planter feel free to pop a few spare bedding plants in and a watering can of water. The planters belong to Bacton so feel free to contribute.

Everyone enjoy the summer and, most importantly, enjoy your gardens after all the hard work throughout the year.

Contact us at [bactonosgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:bactonosgardenclub@gmail.com)

**Gina Kennell (Committee Sue Shaw (Chairperson) 651623**

**Barbara Stratfull (Treasurer) 651236**

#### **Bacton History Group**

On August 20th, from 11 am - 3 pm, we will be holding another exhibition of archives, postcards and photos, this time in the main hall at Bacton Village Hall, with cakes and refreshments provided.

**Jo Arnold 652205  
[joanna.arnold@btinternet.com](mailto:joanna.arnold@btinternet.com)**

#### **Theatre Visits Group**

We have recently enjoyed three very funny productions, the sort where the whole audience erupts

into laughter, not just the few members that often chuckle at clever witticisms. The first of these was 'The Play That Goes Wrong' at The Theatre Royal. Imagine Faulty Towers meets Michael Frayn's 'Noises Off' and add a collapsible set and you get a fast-paced farce. This professional company from the West End portray an amateur drama group staging a 1920's murder mystery in a remote country house. Every prop and piece of scenery is dangerously faulty and the energy, athleticism and focus of the cast must be maintained to ensure that no one is seriously injured. The second comedy, 'The Weekend' by Michael Palin, was staged at the delightful Sheringham Little Theatre by the local group. This time it was the witty script and the 'Victor Meldrew grumpy old man' character that provoked audience laughter. His long-suffering wife tolerates his sarcasm which increases when his daughter, her dreary husband, precocious daughter and incontinent dog arrive for the weekend. Three other characters are included in a dinner party providing some intrigue and more targets for sarcasm. As with many comedies there is an undercurrent of pathos and this one ends on a sombre and thought-provoking note.

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We returned to Sheringham for a delightful evening of Joyce Grenfell monologues, ably presented by Loraine Metcalfe. With the aid of a hat and coat-stand bearing an array of attire, and clever links between a host of characters, Grenfell's brilliantly observed, funny, bittersweet sketches and songs were brought to life. The packed audience responded with gales of laughter.

Only four members went to see 'Funny Girl' at the Theatre Royal and one was surprised to see her evening performance was poorly attended. I think audience numbers were down because these West End musicals are becoming ridiculously expensive even when transferred to the provinces. However, they did enjoy it.

Two new events have been added to the programme: 'Showstoppers' at Mundesley and 'Crazy For You' at The Theatre Royal, starring two Strictly Come Dancing winners and Gershwin music. If you are interested please contact me.

Our next coffee morning will be on Monday 14th August from 10:00 in the Annexe and the September date is Monday 25th. Please join us to plan future visits.

**Sally Hogden 651085/  
[sallymh@btinternet.com](mailto:sallymh@btinternet.com)**

## Witton & Ridlington WI

Emily Norton from Norton's Dairies at Frettenham was our speaker in June. She had helped on the farm as a little girl but having read Law and worked away from home, she missed Norfolk so returned. She went on a cheese-making course and the business started from there, making a soft cheese. She brought some cheeses for us to try and also to buy. They were all delicious, especially the lavender and chilli flavours. She was a category winner at the British Cheese Award in 2017 for the Best British flavour-added cheese for the apricot one. The dairy also makes yogurt which was lovely and creamy.

In July, we enjoyed a Strawberry tea at Witton but sadly we couldn't sit out in Sally's beautiful garden as it was raining. However, we had a good afternoon and nobody went home hungry!

On Tuesday, 12th September we are holding a Coffee Morning in the Witton & Ridlington Village Hall from 10.00 - 12.00. A cup of coffee and a scone or a piece of cake: £2.00. There will be a bric-a-brac and produce stall and a tombola. All welcome.

**Gail, 650563**

## Dog News!

NNDC have produced a useful leaflet, detailing which beaches have restrictions on dog-walking, normally between 1st May and 30th September. It can be viewed via a link on the Village News website and copies should be available from NNDC offices and Tourist Information points. At Bacton, this zone extends along the beach from the chalet park to the Cable Gap slipway. However, on the Promenade (concrete apron section) dogs are allowed from May to September as long as they are on leads.

Outside of these zones, and outside the May to September period, dogs are allowed anywhere, and it is at the owner's discretion whether they are kept on a lead or not, although they must be kept under control. The Environmental Protection team at NNDC have also clarified that the restrictions apply only the beach and promenade, not including the path above, adjacent to the sea wall.

## Showtime at the Coronation Hall, Mundesley

As the final curtain came down on the last ever performance of the Mundesley Festival in 2016, there was a great sense of

loss. After 30 years of seaside entertainment, village feeling was that a show must go on in Mundesley. So was born the new summer musical extravaganza "Show-time at the Coronation Hall"

Working in partnership with Red Loft Theatre Company, this project aims to help keep live music and theatre at the heart of Mundesley this August and sees local professionals and rising stars treading the boards. Director Tracey Loftus, known for her work at Sheringham Little Theatre, is delighted to be working with the dedicated team at the Coronation Hall.

The 6-night programme comprises three different unmissable shows including supper. Whether you prefer to watch a series of Musical Showstoppers with songs from famous West End productions, travel back in time and sing your heart out with the 40s Show, or kick back and enjoy The Easy Showcase with a live band and singers, you'll have an unforgettable evening!

Amongst the performers is celebrated soprano Zaira Palumbo, who is also supporting the Royal Philharmonic at Taverham Hall this Summer, and Thursford Spectacular regular, Eddie Bushell. Not everything will be new though as no cabaret line up is complete without

## Bacton Beach-side Accommodation.

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Mundesley's very own Pat Nearney, who will be performing his hilarious "Cheeky Chappie" tribute to Max Miller in the 40s Show. The catering team, led by Gill Mayhew, have been working hard to come up with interesting menus to suit the style of each event and are keen to get to work in the recently installed brand-new kitchen. To add to audience enjoyment, there will be a licensed bar available so you can relax with a cool drink and appreciate the show before being served your freshly prepared supper in the interval.

The shows run from 5th - 12th August with tickets costing £15 including supper. Musical showstoppers: Sat 5th, Fri 11th and Sat 12th, The 40s Show: Tues 8th, Wed 9th and Easy Showcase: Thurs 10th.

For more information or to book see the website [www.redlofttheatre.com](http://www.redlofttheatre.com) Telephone booking via Ticketsource on 0333 666 3366 (charged at £1.50 per booking)

### Mundesley Cinema

Coronation Hall, 26 Cromer Rd, Mundesley. Doors open at 7pm when we serve refreshments and the film starts at 7.30pm. Tickets (on the door) £5.00, under-15s £2.50.

Tuesday, Aug 15th (Note: 3rd Tuesday in August)

### Chalet To Let

2-bedroom chalet on Rainbow's End Park available from January 2018

For further details please contact Karen on 07979 595398

[www.driftwood-chalet.co.uk](http://www.driftwood-chalet.co.uk)

Going in Style (12A). A comedy caper with Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman. 3 lifelong pals embark on a daring bid to knock off the bank that absconded with their money.

Tuesday Sept 12th The Light Between Oceans (12A). A lighthouse keeper and his wife living off the coast of Western Australia raise a baby they rescued from a drifting rowing boat. And then they meet the mother...

Schedule is subject to the film distributors making the films available.

For more information see [www.mundesley.org/film](http://www.mundesley.org/film), follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MundesleyVillageCinema](https://www.facebook.com/MundesleyVillageCinema)) or Twitter (@MundesleyCinema) or call 07710 046869

### Dog Show and Family Fun Day

Join us for a fabulous, fun-filled day for all the family - two and four-legged - at Creake Abbey from 10am to 4pm on Sunday 20th August 2017, to raise valuable funds for Wells Community Hospital Trust.

Gates open & registration from 10am, with classes from 11am - 4pm. Entry £4 per person, free car parking & children under 12 go free! Lots of fun classes for your dog to enter together with a huge array children's activities as well various craft stalls and trade stands, plus all the other fabulous facilities at Creake Abbey - shops, Food Hall and Café. Wells Community Hospital Trust is a local charity that provides a wide range of flexible and integrated health & wellbeing services for the community we serve. We support people locally to keep independent longer by the provision of high quality preventative clinical services and non-clinical therapeutic support

within a safe environment. We are a really important community resource, addressing a wide range of social, emotional and practical needs holistically, thus enabling people to take greater control of their own health.

We receive no core funding from the NHS, therefore rely on fundraising events throughout the year to ensure our sustainability, with one of our larger events now being our annual Dog Show & Family Fun Day.

Do join us for what promises to be a fun day with agility demonstrations, 'Have A Go' sessions, live music in the afternoon, children's entertainer and bouncy castles, plus much, much more...

For more information please contact Wells Community Hospital Trust on 01328 711996 or [admin@wellshospital.co.uk](mailto:admin@wellshospital.co.uk)

## You Write .....

### Alma Rump (1921 - 2017)

Born in Jaffa, which became Tel Aviv, in Israel, Alma came from a family of Orthodox Christians who subsequently relocated to Lebanon. Well-educated and speaking five languages, she had an excellent grasp of world situations and politics. As a nurse in Jerusalem, she met the love of her life, Sgt George Rump, who had been severely injured in an incident involving high explosives and a tank. Alma looked after George for two years in the hospital until he fully recovered and then they got married. After Alma gave birth to Pat, George convinced Alma to come to Bacton where he had a farm. Those who knew and loved George will admit that, at times, he could exaggerate a bit - his

'farm' turned out to be a railway carriage and George returned to work as a diligent farm worker. Eventually George and Alma moved to a house on Priory Road and, after their second daughter, Christine, came along, Alma worked at Bacton Primary School, Norton House and as many other tough casual jobs that she could manage. She loved meeting people, she adored children and she would help anyone along the way if she could. Kind, generous to a fault and always a smile to cheer you. At George's suggestion, she started helping our family in 1983 and became our combined Mary Poppins, Florence Nightingale and Mother Teresa. She guided and advised us through all difficulties and she made our whole house gleam in a way that we have never been able to reproduce. Alma, we all loved you and you will never be replaced. She was the nearest thing to a saint that I have ever experienced.

**Vincent McCartney, Editors' Note:** *This is a very condensed version of a heartfelt tribute, which can be read in its entirety on our website as it was too long for the paper edition. Hopefully, it will bring back memories of a couple well-known to many.*

### Time for an Independent Edingthorpe?

Did you know that these villages that are smaller than Edingthorpe?

Alby, Attlebridge, Blickling, Booton, Brandiston, Brumstead, Burnham Norton, Crostwick, East Beckham, Fring, Great Melton, Heydon, Horsey, Ingworth, Itteringham, Little Barningham, Little Massingham, Little Witchingham, Morston, Plumstead, Ryston, Salle,



Salthouse, Shernbourne, the causes and effects of dampness. This work started in April and finished at the end of June. The PCC apologise for any inconvenience caused during this work when the both the church and churchyard were in a considerable state of upheaval. If you haven't already done so then please revisit the church and see if you can spot the work that has been done! The church is open every day (and every 1st Sunday of the month for services) and you could enjoy a cup of something and a biscuit on your visit. I would like to congratulate every one of the St Peter's PCC for their commitment and hard work since the builders left at the end of June in turning the church around in time for the 2nd July service and then a wedding. I don't underestimate the blood, sweat and tears that was involved in achieving this result through the voluntary actions of our PCC. Superb - well done. At the wedding on 8th July seeing the beauty of our simple country church in full sunshine, jam-packed to the pulpit, and in such a fine state, was an emotional high for Lesley, Ray and I. Thank you so much! In regard to the wedding, very special thanks to Tina and Peter Soldan who decimated their own, and other gardens, in providing magnificent floral displays both in and out of the church. Similarly, many thanks to Becky and Roger Fitches who very kindly prepared and donated their land for car parking, which saved traffic jams of M25 proportions along the Happisburgh Road. I really appreciated Julian Coward's support in helping identify the organ fault and his support of Richard Bower, whilst he patched it

Salthouse, Shernbourne, Sidestrand, Stradsett, Suffield, Themelthorpe, Thurning, Titchwell, Westwick, Wickmere, Wiveton, Wramplingham. Each has fewer than Edingthorpe's 126 registered electors living there (June 2017); but also, each is an independent civil parish in its own right, with its own parish council or meeting. A desktop study of just four of the districts in Norfolk this June revealed FIFTY-NINE independent parishes each with 150 electors or fewer. Edingthorpe lost its independence in 1935 and has since, in law, been an indistinguishable part of one 'greater' Bacton parish. Numerous other villages share a parish with a similar sized neighbour (Bradfield and Swafeld, Witton and Ridlington etc.) but, at 837 electors, Bacton is nearly SEVEN TIMES bigger than its partner. With Bacton set for more housing development in coming years, that size disparity can only grow. Parish government affects everybody, and is supposed to be local government at its most local. It is vital that the parish unit is up-to-date in accurately reflecting the identities of the communities within it. Is this 82-year-old model out of date? Edingthorpe electors will soon be given the chance to petition the district council for a Community Governance Review. Meantime, if you want to know more, do get in touch!

**I M Witham, 650530**

### **St Peter's Church. Ridlington: A Personal Tribute**

Last year St Peter's Church, Ridlington PCC received a hard-won grant from the Listed Place of Worship Roof Repair Fund to rectify structural issues related to



St Peter's Church, Ridlington. Our thanks to Mike Booth for the picture

up in time for its use at the wedding.

I also have great admiration for Elwyn Bowler for his patience and skill in nursing along our 1850s organ in such fine style and tunefulness. ....and of course Rodney "Ace" Mason, Happisburgh church warden extraordinaire, who helped with all kinds of things. Thanks also to his wife Mary for letting him do so much! Last, but not least, thanks to our esteemed Rector Catherine, without whom all this would not have been possible.

Finally, as you can see from the above this was a real team effort that from my point of view went from a standing start of long grass everywhere, general mess, massive chaos, broken kit, countless unknowns to a serene wedding that I think the participants were very happy with. Long may it all continue and indeed our very best wishes to the happy couple, Mr & Mrs Parkinson, who were the first to be married in the church since June 2010.

**Roger Budden, Church  
Warden, St Peter's**

## Church News

### **Beacon Centre, Bacton**

The end of the school holidays remains a cut-off point for many of us in terms of starting a new season. It may be that school days are LONG behind us. But most will remember the excitement and nerves associated with moving up a year. What about our lives now? Are we still 'moving up' or have we reached a plateau that slowly and almost imperceptibly turns into a gradual decline? The Bible talks about our latter days being greater than our former days. Marrying our greater life experience to the wisdom that comes from God allows us to buck the trend when it comes to the future. I, for one, want my best days to still be ahead. What about you?

Check out our evening with Paul Kerensa, writer for BBC's Miranda, Not Going Out and Top Gear, on Wednesday 6 September, 6.30pm at the Poacher's Pocket. Meal and live music included. Admission Free.

**Jonathan Squirrell,  
580018**

## All Saints' Church, Edingthorpe

A quiet time in Edingthorpe in August with the Harvest getting underway. September sees a celebration of our beautiful village with the Heritage Open Days Event which will be held in Our Little Church on the Hill from Friday September 8th to Sunday September 10th, each day from 10 am to 5 pm. Please see the entry on page 3 of this edition for more details. Church Services will not follow their normal pattern in September. The second Sunday, Sunday 10th will be the Pet Service at noon and the fourth Sunday, the 24th September at 6.30 pm, is our Harvest Festival. Please support the Heritage Open Days Event in September, celebrating our lovely Village.

**Geoff Thomas 405263**

## St Margaret's' Church, Witton

At St Margaret's we are looking ahead to the next few months getting projects finished. The roof will be replaced when English Heritage and the relevant authorities have decided on the materials. It is a sobering thought that something that has stood the test of time could go in a flash, with all the ramifications that causes. As this is a double issue there are quite a few dates to enter on your calendars, so pens at the ready.

4th August: Information evening on the resident bats in our building. We have several rare breeds and we are looking forward to finding out more from Phil Parker, an expert. Join us at 7.30pm and after for light refreshments. There is an entrance charge of £5 which will benefit both the Bat Society and St Margaret's.

13th August: Service 10.30am

27th August: Service at Witton 10.30am

9th September: Sponsored Cycle Ride in aid of your church and the Norfolk Churches Trust. Cycle, walk or drive and visit the many churches in Norfolk - or just sit and be a Steward. Contact Gillian Owles for more details.

8th October: Harvest Thanksgiving at Witton. Please note the change of time to 11.30am. Contributions to the church decoration will be gratefully received.

It just remains for me to wish you all a good Summer holiday, I am sure that the children are champing at the bit to get out and have fun. Be safe and don't forget the sun cream and the hat!

**Beryl Lodge 650546**

## St Andrew's Church, Bacton

We are busy preparing for Open Churches weekend on Saturday the 12th between 10 am and 5 pm and Sunday the 13th August from 12 pm to 4-30 pm. There will be flower displays of Pilgrims, a book stall and tea, coffee and homemade biscuits on both days. No charge but donations welcome. Be like Pilgrims and walk the Paston walk to St Andrew's Church.

**Joan Etherington, 536186**

## St Peter's Church, Ridlington

On the 8th July, St Peter's hosted the first wedding since 2010. We hope David and Eunice will have lots of happy times together with their spotty pigs, Tic and Tom and their other animals. In June, the PCC met up with Emily from the Norfolk Wildlife trust to map out our conservation areas.

With our contractors finally finished and the portacabin gone there has been little time to admire their work before further storm clouds are gathering on the horizon. This in the form of Vattenfall's possible plans for relay stations on the Happisburgh Road, just 400m east of St Peter's. So, we must unite! There are two services in August - A service to celebrate the church building on the 6th at 3pm and then one for the traditionalists, an old-fashioned Evensong with spoken responses. This will be on the 20th at 3pm. In September, we have the of gathering of the pooches (and, hopefully, other species) for the Animal Service which is on the 3rd at 3pm.

**Ray Allcoat, 651609**

## Sunday Services at a Glance:

### Coastal Parishes

Church of England Rev Catherine Dobson 650359  
Email: [revcdobson@live.com](mailto:revcdobson@live.com)

Rev Eiler Mellerup 651393  
August

Sun 6th	10.30	Church Family Service	Bacton
	3.00 pm	Summer Praise	Ridlington
Sun 13th	10.30	All Age Worship	Bacton
	10.30	Holy Communion	Witton
Sun 20th	10.30	Songs of Praise	Bacton
	3.00 pm	Evening Prayer BCP	Ridlington
Sun 27th	10.30	Holy Communion	Bacton
	10.30	Morning Prayer	Witton

### September (subject to confirmation)

Sun 3rd	10.30	Church Family Service	Bacton
	3.00 pm	Animal Service	Ridlington
Sun 10th	10.30	All Age Worship	Bacton
Sun 17th	10.30	Songs of Praise	Bacton
Sun 24th	10.30	Holy Communion	Bacton
	10.30	Holy Communion	Witton

### All Saints', Edingthorpe

Church of England Vicar: Rev Paul Cubitt 406380  
Email: [revpcubitt@btinternet.com](mailto:revpcubitt@btinternet.com)

### August

Sun 6th	No Service
Sun 13th	09.30 Morning Prayer
Sun 20th	No Service
Sun 27th	09.30 Holy Communion

### September

Sun 3rd	No Service
Sun 10th	12.00 Pet Service
Sun 17th	No Service
Sun 24th	6.30 pm Harvest Festival

The Beacon Centre  
Jonathan Squirrel - 580018

Sundays 10.30 am All Welcome  
[www.beaconcommunitychurch.com](http://www.beaconcommunitychurch.com)