

# PARISH PLANET

THE BURSTON AND SHIMPLING PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Editor: Christine Stevens

Have you any news items or stories the parish might be interested in? Please send your items by email to [c.stevens864@btinternet.com](mailto:c.stevens864@btinternet.com)

## PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As you will see in this publication, our Parish Councillors have been active over the last few months.

Keith Cowley working on the playing field, Jim Rudd organising Speedwatch, Alison Wakeham involved with the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan, organising the restoration of the Burston Village Sign and with the preparation of our budget for next year.

Christine Stevens with footpath problems and editing and publishing this excellent Parish Magazine, Lindsey Bilston helping with the Memorial Stone event, and Ann Baker, our Clerk, has been keeping us all in order.

My thanks to them and to all others who help make our villages a pleasant place to live.

Finally I wish all residents a Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.

Nigel Frankland



## MEMORIAL STONE UNVEILING EVENT

On the afternoon of Sunday 11th November the Parish Council held an event to mark the 100 year anniversary of the ending of the First World War. November 11th 1918 - Armistice Day, marked the conclusion of hostilities in mainland Europe and brought to an end four years of devastating warfare that claimed millions of lives. Many villagers from Burston and Shimpling served in that war with twenty losing their lives. The dead soldiers are honoured in the two churches of Burston and Shimpling.

As part of the community orchard, which lies at the far end of the village playing field, a memorial stone, generously provided and engraved free of charge by Bierton and Woods of Scole, was unveiled by Mr John Lockwood to honour all those local villagers who served in WW1. Mr Lockwood is the grandson of Harry Lockwood and great nephew of Robert Lockwood, brothers who both lost their lives in the conflict. It was therefore most fitting that he was able to perform the unveiling ceremony.

The unveiling was followed by the names of all those who fell being read out by members of the parish who attended the ceremony.

A minute's silence was then held to mark this moment.

Norma Ajdukiewicz read extracts from the poem 'For the Fallen' by Laurence Binyon, which evocatively described the feelings of a nation following the tumultuous events of the 1914-18 war.

Finally four children from Burston School bravely read out centenary poems followed by all the children who attended laying a wreath at the memorial stone and planting their own hand made poppies in the nearby poppy and wild flower bed.

With the ceremonial events at an end everybody was then able to enjoy tea, coffee and cakes provided by the Parish Council with the children making short measure of the large tin of sweets on hand.

Over 60 villagers of all ages attended the ceremony and it was tremendous to see so many at this event. Thanks to all those who came along, your support is greatly appreciated by the Parish Council. Thanks also to Bierton and Woods who provided the stone, to Norma for her reading and last but not least to the children of Burston School for their wonderful poems and handmade poppies.



CHRISTMAS 2018



TWO VILLAGES • ONE PARISH

## PLAYING FIELD UPDATE

The footbridge at the bottom of the field which gives access to a public footpath running from Station Road, past the pumping station and on towards Audley End has been replaced with new timber sleepers and a handrail so walkers can now access this footpath safely from the playing field.

An information board has been installed by the memorial bench which gives the background to the planting of the community orchard and lists out the trees that have been planted there. We are now hopeful that the grass in this area can be kept under better control during the summer months so this becomes an area that can be walked easily by anyone wishing to spend some quiet moments among the trees which are now beginning to establish themselves.

Unfortunately one of the swing chains broke and needs to be repaired. We are now waiting for a specialist company to come to replace and test the swing so we can get back to a full complement. Other minor maintenance works will also be carried out in the play equipment area following the annual safety inspection and report. The second set of goalposts have been re-installed following the drainage works to the BMX track carried out earlier in the year so there are now two goals for the footballers to practice all those game winning shots!

Due to the popularity of the pop-up stargazing event held earlier in the year we are hoping to hold another one sometime in the next couple of months once we have identified an interesting sky event to look at – so watch out for information on dates and times

Finally and excitedly we have been shortlisted as one of three projects by Tesco Bags of Help foundation to receive some grant funding for our scheme to install safety fencing around the children's play area. The amount of money we eventually end up receiving depends on how many votes we receive between now and the end of December. You can vote for our scheme every time you shop at Tesco's in Diss. At the checkouts they will give you tokens which you can then place in a voting bin as you leave the store – the more tokens we get the better chance we have of getting the maximum grant of £4,000. So please help our young kids by visiting Tesco's as many times as you can and vote for our scheme for the children's play area.

## BURSTON HOUSE HOSPITAL NEWS

We have had a busy few months since our last update. Patients attended the Awards Ceremony to receive certificates for their achievements over the past year. These Nationally recognised Life and Living Skills Qualifications ranged from making a model, preparing a site and planting, to working with whole numbers up to 100 and healthy living. The certificates were presented by Fungai Nhwatiwa, our Hospital Director.

Patients have been working hard making a number of bird tables and bird boxes, which are now ready to sell. We are going to use the money made from each sale to buy more resources. This will help patients build upon their skills in budgeting (including calculating profit) and organising resources, which are important life skills for the future. Here are some photos. If you are interested in buying one, or would like to see more examples please contact David Bullman at [DavidBullman@priorygroup.com](mailto:DavidBullman@priorygroup.com).



We previously mentioned our planning and preparations for Halloween. We settled on Bingo, a colouring competition and a quiz, which were all well attended. The colouring competition was so hard to judge that we ended up with a first, second, third and fourth prize.

Another thing we are very proud of is our Remembrance display in honour of the Centenary of the First World War. Patients wanted to do something to mark the occasion and all worked hard making a large number of poppies. These were then displayed with some poems and a two minutes silence was held at 11am.



Now on to our Christmas preparations. Let the festive fun begin! All of us at Burston House Hospital wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. See you in 2019.

## NEWS FROM BURSTON CROWN

By the time you read this we will be well in to Christmas at The Burston Crown with a busy series of events. First of all though, this has been a special time of the year for us all. We know that young men from Burston, Shimpling and Gissing left to fight in WW1 and some did not return. Those that did return no doubt suffered as a result. To mark this solemn occasion we commissioned Burston graphic designer, Julie Bunting Dixon to create this special memorial for us to show that we will never forget.

We are pleased to announce that we were voted Community Pub of the Year for South Norfolk, and one of four finalists in Norfolk pub of the year. We did not win, but to compensate, the Countryside Alliance has just announced that we are listed for their regional and national pub of the year awards for 2019. Looking forward, we have an exciting and busy event schedule for

December:-

2nd December - East Coast Blues Band, who wowed audiences at Gig in the Park in Diss

11th December - Our poet in residence Byron Vincent returns with his one man play 'Instagramming the Apocalypse'

12th December - Ukulele Christmas sees 'Ukaholics Anonymous' bring up to 30 ukuleles to the pub to play and sing Christmas songs and for us all to join in

14th December - WoW late night band, The Mighty Flux - starring Maui Wau'i organiser Silas Rayner

16th December - Dumboundus - Known as No1 party band in East Anglia, they will give us their unique interpretation of many classics songs for this Aladdin themed party night

20th December - 'Busker's Reunited' returns and as many as 12 of the buskers of old, come back to play for us, and remind us of the days when The Burston Crown was THE buskers pub.

23rd December - Alden, Patterson and Dashwood are currently touring the UK with 'Show of Hands' before they come to give us our last music event before Christmas

28th December - Charlie Harper returns from a year long exile in Montreal to strut his stuff at his favourite venue

31st December - Dr Shaky's Happy Funckin' New Years Eve Party until 2.30am - with bacon sandwiches at 9.30!

We will be open 12 til 2 on Christmas Day and noon til 3pm on New Years Day, with food until 2pm

Our special Christmas menu will be served from 1st December until Christmas Eve and you can find it on our website <http://www.burstoncrown.com>

To book a table or for more information please telephone 741257.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Bev, Steve, Kizzy, Erin and Tom



## COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Since the Community Speed Watch first session on 24/2/18 we have recorded 270+ vehicle registrations in 46 outings. The highest speed recorded has been 51mph, and the most speeders recorded in two sessions has been 20 vehicles per hour.

There are particular sites that generate excessive figures in terms of speed and volume of traffic, but all are located in 30mph zones.

Norfolk Constabulary have picked up on the information returned, and used their own camera in the village in the last couple of months recording 16 offenders. Therefore, the combined partnership is having the desired effect as we are noticing a drop in the number of vehicles speeding, sometimes only recording one or two per session. Overall a worthwhile exercise, and the message seems to be getting through; some of the team even being Tweeted by Norfolk Constabulary during a session.

We appreciate the support from local residents, and particularly hope those with children and elderly residents feel safer on the highway as the speed drops.

In the New Year we will be looking at a couple of additional sites in the village, and have at least one potential new volunteer to join the team. More are always welcome - contact [ruddjim@rocketmail.com](mailto:ruddjim@rocketmail.com).



## B4RN Hyperfast Fibre Broadband

It has been a bit quiet recently but the project is moving forward. The first properties in Thelverton will be connected in December. The cabling will reach the Shimpling parish boundary within the next two weeks. This project is really happening with Shimpling being the line into Burston and the Heywood. Now is the time to express an interest in this amazing community scheme. To find out more about B4RN visit the website [www.b4rn.org.uk](http://www.b4rn.org.uk) One of the team can come and explain more about the project and how you can invest in bringing the fastest rural broadband to our homes and businesses in our parishes, contact Jane Fishwick at [jane.fishwick1@btopenworld.com](mailto:jane.fishwick1@btopenworld.com) or call on 640795.

## BURSTON CHAPEL

Sunday Morning Service at 11 am  
Sunday Evening Service at 6.30 pm  
Prayer Meeting - Tuesdays 8 pm (call 741816 for details)  
Jamie's gang (school age club) Wednesdays  
5pm to 6.30 pm in term time only  
All Welcome - see the Burston Chapel Website:-  
[www.burstonchapel.co.uk](http://www.burstonchapel.co.uk)

## ST MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES

9th December 8.00am Holy Communion  
16th December 9.30am Morning Prayer & carols  
23rd December 6.00pm Carols by Candlelight - Chapel

24th December Midnight mass  
30th December 10.30am 5 parishes at Gissing  
6th January 9.30am Morning Prayer  
13th January 8.00am Holy Communion  
20st January 9.30am Morning Prayer (Home Team)  
27th January 11.00am Burston Chapel

## YOUTH CAFE

Every Thursday during term time in St Mary's Church.  
If you are High School Age the Youth Café is open from 3.45 pm to 5.15 pm and you get free pizza and milk shake.

## The Parish Council

The members of the Parish Council are:-

Nigel Frankland (Chairman) 01379 644788  
Alison Wakeham (Vice Chair) 07768 927182  
Christine Stevens 01379 740505  
Lindsey Bilston 07713 944509  
Jim Rudd 07793 041577  
Keith Cowley 01379 742766  
Ann Baker (Clerk) 01379 742937

## BURSTON SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone that left bags out for the Bags 2 School collection or dropped them in at the school We didn't manage to get round all of the village but had a large bundle to go for weighing, we are waiting to hear how much we raised.

The children all did very well on their walk from Tivetshall to Burston at the beginning of the term, bearing in mind that the reception children had only been with us for a few weeks and walked over 3 miles. It may have helped knowing that there was ice cream waiting for them at Burston supplied by the friends.

Between the schools we raised over £1,400 for cancer research, which for two small schools is a fantastic amount, well done everyone.

Christmas is always a very busy term for us, we have Class 1's Nativity, Class 2's Viking day, Christingle (at the church), Christmas Jumper day and a Christmas party to end the term with. We will also be saying goodbye to our head teacher Mrs Green who is retiring, we wish her an enjoyable retirement and thank you, we look forward to welcoming Mr Carlyle in January.

Happy Christmas from the children & teachers at Burston Primary School.  
Maria Gipson



## MOBILE LIBRARY

16.20 - 17.05 Burston Primary School  
6th December 2018, 3rd January 2019, 31st January 2019

## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH - SHIMPLING

Candle-lit Carols 13th December 7.30pm

## Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are usually held in St. Mary's Burston starting at 7.30 pm on the following dates:-  
Tuesday 15th January 2019  
Tuesday 19th March 2019  
Tuesday 16th April 2019 - Annual parish meeting

email [nigel.pc@btinternet.com](mailto:nigel.pc@btinternet.com)  
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