

# 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



In recent months I have been relying heavily on the skills and abilities of councillors in connection with many different projects and situations, and I thank them for all their assistance.

One of the most visible things that has been happening in Burston is the installation of the new sewer, with many road closures and a lot of damage being effected to verges and roads. Here I have been helped greatly by Jim Rudd, who is a civil engineer specialising in roads and drainage, and Keith Cowley, who has experience as a Chartered Surveyor. Both of these councillors 'speak the same language' as Anglian Water, and this has been a real advantage in our meetings with

representatives of the company. Anglian Water have promised that when they leave "the village will look better than when we came" - and the Parish Council will ensure that they live up to their promise. I know that at the moment the verges look terrible all round the village, but it is amazing what some top soil and grass seed can do in the spring. A lot has been going on 'behind the scenes'. Alison Wakeham has done an excellent job, as always, in providing the relevant figures to help the council finalise the budget for the next twelve months. The Parish Council has various responsibilities such as keeping the playing field tidy with grass and hedge cutting, maintaining the play equipment, and hedge cutting in various other locations round the village. We have to pay our clerk, pay hire charges when we have meetings, have liability insurance, and maintain churchyards, pay for dog bins to be emptied, and pay for our books to be audited. These items alone account for over two thirds of our £15,000 budget, but Alison has been able to help the council control our other expenses in such a way that our precept will only be going up by £1 a year for a band D house, in spite of many of our costs rising.

Alison has also been of great value as our planning 'lead', and as our representative on the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan.

We will soon have a Speedwatch team, who will be able to monitor the speeds of vehicles at different locations in the villages, and, in conjunction with Tivetshall, we hope also to have a 50% share of a SAM camera (the sort of speed camera that displays how fast you are going) to try and tackle the problem of vehicles travelling through our villages too fast. Here again Jim Rudd has provided a lot of valuable input.

Christine Stevens is a key member of the council, not only being responsible for footpaths and rights of way, chasing landowners to keep footpaths open and in a walkable condition, but also now producing The Planet through all stages, from collecting and editing the copy, to doing the layout and adding the illustrations, to producing the magazine in a ready to print format.

We continue to be grateful to ForFarmers for actually printing The Planet, and the team of deliverers who put the magazines in your letterboxes.

Tom Grieve and Lindsey Bilston are also valued members of the team. Tom organises the Don Swanton Award each year, and masterminds all the events that we organise, and also provides a younger persons' point of view in Council meetings. Lindsey is responsible for safeguarding, and liaison with the school, additionally providing knowledgeable input whenever wildlife is relevant to a point under discussion. Lindsey is also now our tree warden.

I am glad that I have the support of councillors who are always willing to 'roll up their sleeves' and get a job done.

Nigel Frankland  
Chairman  
Burston & Shimpling Parish Council



**F.O.B.C.**  
**Saturday 24th March**  
**Coffee morning**  
**Cake stall, Raffle & more**  
**St Mary's Church**  
**10.30am - 12.30pm**

## THE DON SWANTON AWARD 2018

### Help us find our parish's un-sung heroes!

The Don Swanton Award is set up to thank someone who happily gives their time for the benefit of others in our community, and we are pleased to announce that the nomination box is now open for 2018.

The award can be given to someone of any age and for any activity, whether it is for ongoing work or a single event.

So if you know of an individual or group who you think should be rewarded for their contribution to our community, please send us your nomination with:

- the name of the person that you wish to nominate for the award.
- the reason why you think they should be given it.

Email: [tomgrievepc@gmail.com](mailto:tomgrievepc@gmail.com)

or

Place Cottage, Shimpling IP21 4UB

Deadline for nominations is the beginning of April. Entries will be reviewed by the Award panel and the winner will be announced at the Annual Parish Meeting (at the end of April). We look forward to hearing from you.

Tom Grieve



## Burston Crown News

It is late in the year but we wish a Happy New Year to everyone. The Anglian Water sewerage scheme has had an impact on most residents but the end is in sight! The pub was affected by road closures but fought through to continue to provide food and entertainment to old and new customers.

Looking forward we have a number of events coming up this year:-

Music will change from Thursday night to Friday night from March 2nd and we have Headspace to start this new venture for us. Sunday evening music will continue to be at 5.45pm kick-off until around 7.30pm.

The Crown has an extensive season of free to enter plays and spoken word performances between now and June and in March and April we will have a 'poet in residence', Byron Vincent, who will work with customers, talking to them about their lives and creating a new theatre piece based on this, to have its World Premiere at the Burston Crown in May.

Easter will be our 'Easter in England' celebration with cake competitions, Easter bonnet and fancy dress competitions, a treasure hunt around the village and as usual, original live music.

Early May bank holiday sees the second Beers, Bikes and Bands day. Last year we raised more than £4,500.00 for local kids mental health charities, and hope to exceed that in 2018.

Late May bank holiday will see the inaugural Burston Classic Car Day, organised with East Anglian Practical Classic Car Club, and will celebrate their 30th anniversary. Cars will be displayed at the pub and hopefully also on the village green. The event will raise funds for Burston School.

That's enough from us for now. Hopefully we will see you soon for a drink, a chat, a meal or to see some amazing free to enter original music or creative and funny theatre.

Bev, Steve and family




## Burston House Hospital Update

We would like to begin by wishing all of the Parish Planet readers a Happy 2018, from all of us at Burston House.

In our last update we told you that we were in the process of planning Christmas activities, such as crafts, cooking, bingo, karaoke and parties. Well, we made cheese straws, mince pies and had a Christmas Yule Log decorating competition, to name but a few kitchen delights. Karaoke was, as always, a hit. The Pogues and Band Aid were definitely two of the favourites.

The New Year brought us a new timetable of activities, so patients had a chance to try something new. The most popular requests continue to be cooking and woodwork. But Tuesday 13th February brought us a change to our usual activities. We couldn't ignore PANCAKE DAY, could we?! Everyone who wanted to had the chance to make and devour the annual tasty treat. You may be surprised to hear that the ceiling remained untouched. Let's not mention the floor, though. Ooops. It must be said that all patients had a flippin' good time.

On to our preparations for  from Monday 17th to Sunday 23rd March. We are currently planning activities and small fundraising events within the hospital. So far, ideas that have been mentioned are cyclathons, an obstacle course, quiz, tombola and walks. We thought a Bake Off in aid of Sport Relief, where part of the slogan is "Get Active", contradicts the message. There's always next year!

So, it looks like the next few months are going to be busy for us. Fundraising, spring activities such as bulb planting and garden furniture restoration. Not to mention patients working towards gaining their Life and Living Skills qualifications, in time for our annual awards ceremony to recognise and celebrate their hard work and achievements.

Roll on, Spring!



### Friends of Burston Church

Burston Open Village

Sunday 3rd June 2018

GARDENERS

Is your garden picture perfect?

A bit on the wild side?

Still in the making?

Or just the way you like it?

All kinds are interesting to fellow gardeners.

Would you open your garden for the day for the Open Village?

Please contact Norma:

Tel: 740595 or

[normandew6az@btinternet.com](mailto:normandew6az@btinternet.com)

### THE FRIENDS OF BURSTON CHURCH

We extend a warm invitation for all readers to the events planned for this year:-

**Saturday 24th March** - Coffee morning & cake stall - St Mary's Church 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Saturday 21st April** - St. George's day supper

**Sunday 3rd June** - Open village with open gardens

**Saturday 21st July** - Safari Supper

**Friday 19th October** - Fish & Chip Quiz supper

Details to follow nearer the time or email [normandrew6az@btinternet.com](mailto:normandrew6az@btinternet.com)

### News from St Mary's

#### Remembrance Day Poppy Collection

Our Burston team of collectors raised a grand total of £482.07 for the Earl Haig Fund.

Thanks are due to Andy Downs, Ruth Cowley, Jenny Leeder, Christine Stevens and Hayley Leeder who collected door to door, and to the school and the Crown for displaying boxes.



## BURSTON CHAPEL

Sunday Morning Service at 11.00am  
Sunday Evening Service at 6.30pm  
Prayer Meeting - Tuesdays 8.00pm (call 741816 for details)  
Jamie's gang (school age club) Wednesdays 5.00pm to 6.30pm 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

4th March 9.30am Morning Prayer  
11th March 10.30am Mothering Sunday Service  
18th March 9.30am Morning Prayer  
25th March 11.00am at Burston Chapel  
1st April 11.00 am Holy Communion

## NEWS FROM ST MARY'S

Special service for Mothering Sunday – One thing we all have in common is a mother whether or not she is still with us. We invite you to celebrate and give thanks for her love and care at a joint service with the chapel on Sunday 11th March at 10.30am at Burston St. Mary's. We invite you to stay for refreshments and a chat after the service.

## MOBILE LIBRARY

16.20 - 17:05 Burston Primary School

01-Mar-18, 29-Mar-18, 26-Apr-18, 24-May-18.

## 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
Tom Grieve	01379 741166
Lindsey Bilston	07713 944509
Jim Rudd	07793 041577
Keith Cowley	01379 742766
Ann Baker (Clerk)	01379 742937

## BEER, BIKES & BANDS

6TH MAY 2018 12 NOON



It's only a small space but it could be yours. If you have anything you think might interest the parish contact us.

## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH - SHIMPLING

Monday 23rd April, St. George's Day

There will be a Communion Service on St George's Day, Monday 23rd April, at 10.30am in St George's Shimpling, maintaining a centuries-old tradition of having a service in the Church on it's Saint's Day. All will be welcome, but the track to the Church may be wet and slippery



### Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are usually held in St. Mary's Burston starting at 7.30 pm on the following dates:-

Tuesday 20th March 2018 - PC meeting  
Tuesday 24th April - Annual Parish Meeting  
Tuesday 22nd May - Annual Parish Council meeting  
Tuesday 19th June - PC meeting

email [nigelfrankland@btinternet.com](mailto:nigelfrankland@btinternet.com)  
email [alison@holmevale.com](mailto:alison@holmevale.com)  
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