



PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In the past three months there has been a lot going on in the Parish Council, but not much to show for it in the outside world! Piers Bilston resigned from the Council and was thanked for his service, and Keith Cowley has been co-opted as a new member so that we maintain our full strength of seven councillors. We are fortunate in this as many nearby parishes are under strength.

We have been exploring all sorts of possibilities. I mentioned last time the drainage of the BMX track and that project is proceeding and we have been taking steps to institute a 'speedwatch' in the village and the installation of illuminating speed signs to tackle the problem of speeding that is frequently brought to our attention. We have been liaising with Anglian Water, with mixed degrees of success, regarding the sewerage works and the road closures. (If you have particular problems with the sewerage works please let me know...)

The play equipment has had its annual safety inspection (in addition to the checks that are carried out each week by the village caretaker). We are taking steps to bring the Parish Emergency Preparedness Plan up to date with a new co-ordinator. Behind the scenes a lot has been happening!

Clare Cowan has resigned as Tree Warden and we thank her for her work.

Is this something that might interest you? Not a very onerous job, but an important one. If you are interested please let me know.



Can I close by wishing you and your families a Happy Christmas and New Year.
Nigel Frankland

NEWS FROM BURSTON CROWN

Burston Crown has been voted Waveney valley Pub of the year again in 2018, so thank you to everyone who voted for us this year.

It has been a busy time at the pub. We have had four plays, original live music every Thursday and Sunday and of course Steve has been creating new delights in the kitchen. Our focus now is preparing for Christmas and New Year. You can see our special Christmas menu online or you can pick up a brochure next time that you pop in.

Highlights of the Christmas period are 'Busker's Hall of Fame' on the 21st December featuring all of the favourites from Busker's Nights across the years. The night will be hosted by Baz Bizarre and sound engineer is Billy Fleming.

On Christmas Eve we have the truly talented Yve Mary B, lead singer for Morganway, playing a solo set which I am sure will have a seasonal feel to it.

On the 28th December, Charlie Harper and his Blues band play featuring ex-Jeff Beck and Kate Bush pianist, Max Middleton. New Years Eve has DJ Dr Shakey and The Thinking Men providing an unrivalled and raucous end of year and start to 2018. We are looking for a new Commis Chef so if you want to join us please contact us.

Steve and I, our children Kizzy, Erin and Tom and our staff wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year.



NEW CAT VENTURE AT THE LIMES



Like many farmers Darren and Hayley decided to diversify when they found pig production on their farm at the Limes was no longer a viable enterprise. It was their love of cats that prompted their decision to open a cattery and now they have a purpose built unit at

the bottom of their garden designed and built by RSPCA approved craftsmen. Hayley and Darren, together with their family, also had a large involvement in construction with office space and fencing completing the layout of the well-designed unit. The picture shows Hayley and Darren with daughter Michelle on their open-day for the Lime Tree Cattery when they welcomed many interested potential customers to have a look around. Hayley can be contacted by tel. 01379 741933 or 07792 578338 or by email Hayley@limetreecattery.co.uk or see the website www.limetreecattery.co.uk.



THE DON SWANTON AWARD

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

or

Place Cottage, Shimpling IP21 4UB

Deadline for nominations is the beginning of April next year. 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.



ANGLIAN WATER UPDATE



We are over halfway through our £4.5million investment scheme to provide a mains

sewerage system, which will help to reduce environmental problems in Burston. We have laid 4.5km of new sewer pipes and have 3.5km left to install. We are also making good progress with the construction of a Pumping Station at Audley End where we have built a 9m deep wet well in the ground. We are on track to complete this scheme by April 2018.

We know that this work can be disruptive and we are very sorry for this. We are working closely with local residents, businesses, Highways and elected officials to minimise disruption wherever possible.

We will be suspending our works between 22 December 2017 and 02 January 2018, for Christmas. The road closure and diversion will officially remain in place, however we will ensure that access is fully open to the village during this period.

We will continue to update you as we progress and invite you to visit our website anglianwater.co.uk/yourarea where you can sign up to receive alerts about any work taking place in your area.

Finally we want to thank the community of Burston for your continued patience and co-operation whilst we carry out this important work in your village. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to approach our team on site or you can call our customer service lead, Natasha Tuke on 07967 795 923 or email her:- ntuke@anglianwater.co.uk



COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

The traditional Carols by Candlelight will be in St George's Shimpling at 7 pm on Thursday 14th December. The track to the church is not lit, and can be muddy in places so consider bringing a torch and wearing boots. The Church will be lit with hundreds of candles. There will be a collection for The Churches Conservation Trust who maintain this Grade 1 building.

Nigel Frankland

B4RN ULTRA HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND INITIATIVE

The B4RN ultra high-speed broadband project is an initiative to bring ultra-high speed fibre optic broadband service to rural areas. It is run by the community, for the community, with future profits promised to go back into the community and with a stated aim to provide broadband speeds of 1000Mbps by bringing a fibre optic cable into your house. There is a proposed £150 connection fee plus £30 per month.

Why did the B4RN initiative come about? Well if you use the internet on a regular basis for your children's school work or you run a business or work from home, or you need to do online shopping then you will require an internet service that is readily available, reliable, speedy and affordable - something the current broadband service struggles to achieve. In future such things as making doctors, dentists and hospital appointments and dealing with banks and utility companies will increasingly be done online, something the existing services will struggle to accommodate. B4RN aims to remedy this by introducing ultra high-speed broadband services. Go to www.b4rn.org.uk for more details.

At a recent meeting held in Gissing, a B4RN spokesperson reported that a distribution or breakout point is planned at Billingford on the A143, tapping into the main fibre optic network linking Great Yarmouth and London. B4RN then plan to connect villages in the immediate vicinity who have enough households interested in their service. Currently Thelveton and Tivetshall St Mary are about to have their networks planned, designed and costed. Ideally Burston and Shimpling would need to be in this group to benefit from this planned expansion. A threshold of 50% of households in the community need to express an interest to initiate the first stage of having a dedicated network designed and costed. A number of households in our parish have already signed up to the initiative and anybody wishing to join them can go to <https://b4rn.org.uk/b4rn-service/register-an-interest> to express their interest.



The Parish Council supports the concept of better broadband services to the villages either by upgrading the existing network or by new service providers. For further information on the B4RN project contact Jane Fishwick who is the local champion for the B4RN initiative at jane.fishwick1@btopenworld.com and head the email B4RN.

BURSTON HOUSE HOSPITAL

In our last article we mentioned that we were in the process of developing a bird watching course and practical skills course. Well, I am pleased to say that the practical skills course is currently being run with a patient leading the weekly session. They will practice different skills along the way and know how to plan, prepare and construct a specific item. Our bird watching course has come to an end. It lasted for six weeks, during which time patients learned about ten common British garden birds, such as the blackbird, robin, blue tit and house martin, before going out to spot them. There were good comments all round.

In August we had our traditional summer barbecue as planned; burgers, hotdogs and ice creams galore. Thankfully the weather was on our side, it was a bright and warm day. You may have even been able to smell the aroma of our cooking. We held our annual awards ceremony on the 18th August. We recognised the achievements of sixteen patients, between them they received twenty three certificates. Afterwards, we had a small selection of sandwiches, cakes and drinks to celebrate.

In September, we held an application form workshop and interview workshop for those patients that had applied for the kitchen cleaner Real Work Opportunity at Burston House. We then went on to offer four interviews, from which two patients were offered the two vacant positions. They were very happy.

A few weeks ago there were spooky goings on at the hospital, which funnily coincided with Halloween. We had scary faces carved in to pumpkins, disastrous ghost meringues (partly because we were given hard boiled eggs by mistake), quiztacular questions and even Dracula. Patients and staff particularly enjoyed the quiz, with one team really getting in to the spirit of Halloween and naming themselves "Boney M". The results were very close, the top three teams received 46, 44 and 43 points respectively.

Looking forward.....We now have Christmas crafts, cooking, bingo, karaoke and parties to plan. See you in the next edition of Parish Planet, where I'm sure we'll tell you all about it.

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 5 pm to 6.30 pm in term time only
All Welcome - see the Burston Chapel Website:-
www.burstonchapel.co.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH

7th December -Thursday 7.30pm - Christmas Concert
10th December 8.00am Holy Communion
15th December- Friday 2.30pm - Christingle service with children from Burston Primary school
17th December 10.30am - Carol Service
24th December 11.00am - Combined Church and Chapel service at the Chapel
Christmas Day 11.00 am - Holy Communion
31st Dec 10.30am - Holy Communion
7th January 9.30am - Morning Prayer
14th January 8.00am Holy Communion
21st January - Home team
28th January 11.00am Chapel
4th February 9.30am Morning Prayer
11th February 8.00am Holy Communion
25th February 11.00am Chapel
4th March 9.30am Morning Prayer

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH

Carols by Candlelight 7.00pm - Thursday 14th December

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	email nigelfrankland@btinternet.com
Alison Wakeham (Vice Chair)	01379 741500	email alison@holmevale.com
Christine Stevens	01379 740505	email c.stevens864@btinternet.com
Tom Grieve	01379 741166	email tomgrievepc@gmail.com
Lindsey Bilston	07713 944509	email lindseybilston@gmail.com
Jim Rudd	07793041577	email ruddjim@rocketmail.com
Keith Cowley	01379 742766	email keith.pc@btinternet.com
Ann Baker (Clerk)	01379 742937	email burstonshimplingpc@gmail.com

DOG BIN LOCATION



The Parish Council have received a request for additional dog bins in the centre of Burston. Currently our parish has one bin in Shimpling next to the telephone kiosk, one in

Burston next to the entrance from Audley Close onto the playing field and one next to the school car park on the playing field (see above). A dog bin costs £100.00 to buy and we pay the District Council a fee of £100.00 per year to have it emptied on a weekly basis. So before we invest in further bins we would like your help:-

Do you use the current dog bins?

Are they suitably located or could they be moved?

Do you think that further bins are required?

If so where would you like to see a bin located?

Contact any parish councillor with your views.

THE FRIENDS OF BURSTON CHURCH

Thursday 7th December 7.30pm - Christmas Concert with Gissing Singers

MOBILE LIBRARY

16.20 - 17.05 Burston Primary School

7th Dec -17, 4th Jan -18, 1st Feb -18,
1st Mar -18, 29th Mar -18, 26th Apr -18



Parish Council Meetings

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

Tuesday 16th January 2018

Tuesday 20th March 2018