

Dear Reader,

Every time I start doing the newsletter I think to myself that there's not much for this month, but I'm pleased to say that I'm usually proved wrong (not particularly unusual to be honest)! Lots of info here this month covering upcoming events, resident's stories a children's competition and lots of other bits and pieces.



In terms of a nature update from our garden, sadly none of the ducklings I mentioned in the last newsletter survived the following days of frost and snow - but we were delighted a few days ago to spot another brood which you can see in the rather nice photo above, taken by Ann. I especially like the one beneath mum, sitting on her feet! Today we've been watching a dozen or so swallows swooping across the garden putting on an amazing aerobatic display; it was spectacular standing out there while they flew past at enormous speed, sometimes only just missing me! Even better is that, amongst them, appear to be our resident pairs who were straight back to their previous nest site in our garage.



No Mow May

As you may gather I'm keen to help wildlife where we can, so I'm promoting [No Mow May](#) which is organised by [Plantlife](#), an excellent British conservation charity working to save threatened wild flowers, plants and fungi. Personally the no mow concept appeals to me enormously - it saves work, fuel, cuts pollution and benefits nature especially in areas like this with larger gardens - what's not to like? Who wants a closely mown area of nothing but grass anyway!?! Well, ok, it is nice sometimes, but nevertheless I've heroically taken a head start - with a no mow April too; I've just cut a couple of paths and left the rest. The wild flowers are already flourishing, the cuckoo flower shown here being just one lovely example that I've not noticed here previously; overall the result is already pretty impressive with things like

buttercups, field speedwell, cowslips and all manner of others popping up all over the place.

Brundish & Wilby 2022 Platinum Jubilee Events

You may notice that this edition only has limited information about our Platinum Jubilee weekend events - that's because a special printed edition has kindly been produced by Sandra App specifically to cover the happenings in Brundish and Wilby. It will be distributed via our normal newsletter channels and should be with you (if you get the paper version) in the next day or two, but **you may also read it online by clicking [here](#)** or on the button below.

Movers & Shakers...

As many of you will know David Burrell, our rector, has just retired and has moved to Somerset. We all wish him and his wife Sue a long and happy retirement in their new home. Also mentioned later in this newsletter is **Jack Austin** from The Street in Brundish - he's off, with his family in support role, to take part in the Scottish Six Days Trial; best wishes to Jack in that daunting sounding motorbike event.

Neil

E: brunbynewsletter@gmail.com T: 07710 154255

Newsletter Contributions

All contributions are much appreciated - please keep sending in your news, pictures, comments notices etc - make it your newsletter! A special thanks to all those of you planning the events you'll read about further down.

Wanted! - Jubilee Event Photographer

We are looking for one or more people to help make a photographic record of the Jubilee Weekend's events. If you like taking photos of people enjoying themselves, and would like to help, please contact either **Amanda**

Austin 01379388884 or **Alison Taylor** 01379 388112

[Click for the Brundish & Wilby Jubilee Events](#)



Platinum Jubilee Corgi... Where's Winnie?

Ladies from Wilby WI have knitted a few Royal 'Winnie' Corgi Dogs which have been hidden in/around Wilby... for children to find.

Attached to each Winnie is a 'Found Tag' with instructions of how to 'Log your find +

a photo onto an interactive map', which will go Live on the WI National Website from
1st May.

Good Luck Hunting...Finding!

Wilby WI Update

Last February we all enjoyed the visit from Richard & Jill Bussin – together with
Stamp & Vinney, '**Guide Dogs for the Blind**'.

An informative talk about training an 8-week Puppy through to being accepted as a
Guide Dog, to assist a partially sighted person.

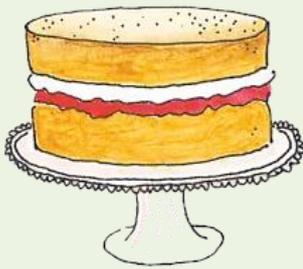
In March we enjoyed hearing from our Speaker: Jennifer Gibbs telling tales of her
visit – and staying! – to Turkey and the many Turkish Remedies she knew and
advised us on. A fun, enjoyable evening with many Turkish handmade crafts to
admire and purchase.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Wilby Village Hall from 7pm.

We are a friendly bunch and have a wide range of activities taking place outside of
our monthly meetings. If you would like to come and see what it is all about, give our
Secretary a call, you will be very Welcome!

Mrs Alison King, Secretary, Wilby WI 07711 281584

Or contact Alison on alisonemking@gmail.com for details of membership and
receiving our latest WI Newsletter.



Brundish Baristas!



**10:00am on Thursday, 5th
May.**

Join us on this lovely social occasion to catch up with neighbours and friends

As ever we will be serving Lane Farm's excellent bacon in baps along with home made cakes, coffees and teas all available at bargain prices!

Everyone is made very welcome, do come along - it's a great opportunity to meet others from Brundish and beyond.

We can now take card payments, including contactless, so now it's even easier to buy that essential slice of cake!

Brundish Pub

Friday, 13th May

The Second Friday of Every Month!

Our pub nights have proved to be very popular and have been incredibly well received. We serve draught Victoria Ale, a range of

bottled local beers and cider alongside good quality wines. It really is a great night out, and it's right on your door step. Don't miss it!



For food this month we are offering a **steak and ale pie, mushroom and asparagus pie or Lane Farm's sausages** all at £7.50 with peas, mash and gravy. All our food and drink is offered at a fraction of the price you'll find in any pub! We have a dart board and a range of table games for you to enjoy, although most people seem to prefer chatting.

If you plan to order food it would be a great help if you would let us know what you would like in advance, ideally no later than Thursday, 12th May. You can do this either by mailing brundishvillagehall@outlook.com or by calling or texting 07710 154255. It's not essential - but it is the best way to ensure you get your preferred selection.

Don't miss it!

Brundish Village Hall Committee

#NoMowMay®

We're mowing i



Plantlife

Did you know...

- On a **single day in summer**, one acre of wildflower meadow can contain **3 million flowers** and produce **1 kg of nectar sugar** for pollinators.
- But since the 1930s, we have **lost nearly 7.5 million acres** of **flower-rich meadows** and pastures. **Just 1% of our countryside** now provides this floral feast for pollinators.
- Against this loss, habitats such as lawns have become increasingly important. With **15 million gardens** in Britain, our lawns have the potential to become **major sources of nectar**.

*Join legions of gardeners and say “no” to the
mow this May to help our bees, butterflies,
wildlife and us!*

Plantlife’s annual #No Mow May campaign launches this year on 29 April 2022. So lock up your lawnmower on 1st May and let the wild flowers in your lawn bloom, providing a feast of nectar for our hungry pollinators. [Click](#) here or the picture above for more information!

Let it grow... let it groooow...

Why not join in with our nationwide Every Flower Counts survey at the end of May, which helps us to learn more about the health of the nations’ wild flowers? In return, we’ll tell you your lawn’s personal nectar score.

People embracing the value of wilder lawns are delivering some thrilling botanical results. We can’t wait to find out what might pop up this May!

Brundish Parish Council

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on **Thursday, 26th May at 7.30pm, Brundish Village Hall**. This meeting is to elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year and effectively reconstitutes the Council for the coming year.

Note: Cllr Anthony Bryant will be stepping down from his role as Chairman and as a Parish Councillor.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is open to all residents of the parish and provides an opportunity to hear reports from St Lawrence Church, Brundish Village Hall & Coffee Mornings; the local WI and the Parish Council on their various activities and plans for the future. It also gives residents an opportunity to raise any issues of concern or to make suggestions for the benefit of the community for consideration by those present.

All residents of Brundish are welcome to attend and participate in the Annual Parish Meeting.

* At the closure of the meeting, light refreshments will be available *

If you are interested and wish to find out more re possible near future Parish Councillor vacancies, an ideal opportunity to do so would be to attend the Annual Meeting, or contact Amanda Austin – Clerk, E-mail: brundishparishclerk@gmail.com.

Brundish Jubilee Book

The Platinum Jubilee year of Queen Elizabeth Jubilee is a great time to record the activities of our village and 'life and times' of its residents of the village (past and present!) and I would like to put it together as a book that could be available for everyone as a memento.



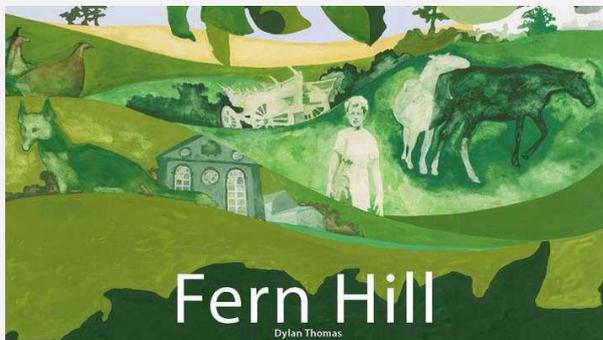
I need help from everyone in the village! I would really like people to send me photos of events throughout the year (including the ones that have already happened). It would be great to record who is living in the village at this time, so perhaps even photos of you all by your house or garden.

Please label photos indicating the event (including date) and names of persons (and any pets!) in them. I'd also like to record your stories of living in Brundish to bring this historical document alive. I am aware that we have residents who have lived in the village many years and it would be interesting to include any stories in the book of events past (however historical). Stories and memories could also include myth and legend that may be of interest. If there is something that you feel should be included, please let me know!

This will be a big project, but I have had kind offers of help... as a village we can make an interesting record. So, please get in touch! My email is baconcatherine@hotmail.com If you don't have an email, just give me a ring (01379 388808 or 07810 301899) and I can come a collect some written thoughts and I could scan any photos you are willing to allow us to use.

Catherine Bacon

Poet's Corner



Now as I was young and easy under the
apple boughs
About the lilting house and happy as the
grass was green,
 honoured among wagons I was prince
of the apple towns
And once below a time I lordly had the
trees and leaves
 Trail with daisies and barley

And then to awake, and the farm,
like a wanderer white
With the dew, come back, the cock ^{is}
on his shoulder: it was all
Shining, it was Adam and maiden, ^a
The sky gathered again
And the sun grew round that very
day.

So it must have been after the birth
of the simple light
In the first, spinning place, the
spellbound horses walking warm
Out of the whinnying green stable
On to the fields of praise.

And honoured among foxes and
pheasants by the gay house
Under the new made clouds and
happy as the heart was long, ⁱ
In the sun born over and over,
I ran my heedless ways,
My wishes raced through the house
high hay
And nothing I cared, at my sky blue ^j
trades, that time allows
In all his tuneful turning so few and ^{rg}
such morning songs
Before the children green and
golden
Follow him out of grace,

Nothing I cared, in the lamb white
days, that time would take me
Up to the swallow thronged loft by
the shadow of my hand,

In the moon that is always rising,
Nor that riding to sleep
I should hear him fly with the high
fields
And wake to the farm forever fled
from the childless land.
Oh as I was young and easy in the
mercy of his means,
Time held me green and dying
Though I sang in my chains like
the sea.

Dylan Thomas

*Note: Fernhill is a Grade II listed
building in Carmarthenshire where
Dylan Thomas spent several
childhood holidays.*

Brundish's Jack Austin competing in the Scottish Six Days Trial

**2022 SSDT - Rider No. 11 – Jack Austin (of Brundish) - Club: Ilford & Light Car
Motorcycle Club**



Our very best wishes go out to Brundish resident Jack Austin, 24, who will be a rider in *the exciting, long and extremely tough challenge of the* The Scottish Six Days

Trial. This prestigious and world renowned event runs from **Monday 2nd May to Saturday 7th May**.

The Scottish Six Days Trial is a Motorcycle Trial with a difference - it has the additional test of reliability over long distances with riders completing up to 100 miles each day over six consecutive days. Each day they take on a combination of rough moorland, rocky tracks and public roads in the best - and worst - weather the Highlands of Scotland can throw at them! Each daily route is designed to challenge the ability, experience, strength and stamina of the riders. To ride 100 miles and negotiate 30 sections each day for six consecutive days requires strength, expertise and exceptional reliability from both rider and machine.

Just qualifying for this event, in which Jack has competed in before, is a remarkable achievement in itself given the fierce competition for the limited places available.

The sport of **Observed Motorcycle Trials** is best described as a test of riding skill over observed sections. Unlike other motorcycle disciplines, Trials is not about

speed. It is about balance and concentration. When competitors ride the observed sections their feet must remain on the footrests of the motorcycle and they must remain between the laid out flags or markers. They must negotiate steep gullies, slippery rock steps, rocky streams or boulder-strewn gorges. Sections vary in length and severity, and riders are penalised if they put their feet down to help them ride the section, and more so if they fail to negotiate the section in its entirety. For more information visit the SSDT Website: www.SSDT.org

History

The early history of the **Scottish Six Days Trial** runs alongside the history of the motorcycle in general. In the early 1900s early bikes such as Triumph, Matchless, Ariel and Douglas were primitive, and the original event was mainly a test of reliability. Ever since those early days, the SSDT has attracted factory involvement from the major manufacturers as the sales benefits of winning the SSDT were, and still are, a major selling point for their machines.

In the early years the trial started and finished in Edinburgh, but rather than being a series of daily routes returning to the starting point each day, the trial took in the whole of Scotland. It was a six-day journey from Edinburgh to John O'Groats and back, with designated stopping points for overnight stays throughout the week. In 1914 the rules changed somewhat, introducing time penalties and deductions for machine faults and in the 1920s light cars were permitted to take part in the event for a short while.

1932 saw the introduction of individual award winners, and the first individual winner of the SSDT was Scotsman Bob MacGregor. In 1938 Fort William was chosen as a new central point for the trial, although the start and finish of the week were still in Edinburgh. This didn't take effect immediately as the trial was halted during the Second World War, but in 1947 the event resumed and grew from strength to strength.



Wilby & Brundish Celebrate...



Sunday, 5th June 2022: "The BIG Lunch" 12.00 Midday

BYO: 'Picnic'... on the #Brundish Village Green

folding garden Chair / Picnic Blanket

Face Painting / Village Green Games

The Platinum Jubilee 'Home Grown/Produce' Competition

'Submit your Entries' from Mid-day to 1.00pm (no entry fee)

* Judging from 1pm - Including: 'Best In Show' Award *

For Children – 16-Yrs/under (please state age on exhibit)

C1 – a sculptured vegetable

C2 – a miniature garden (on a plate/similar)

C3 – a handmade book mark

C4 – a handmade crown

C5 – x4 decorated cupcakes

* *Rosettes will be awarded for best entries* *

'Children's Fancy Dress' Competition: "Best of British"

** Prizes to be awarded **

(# If bad weather, event will transfer to Brundish Village Hall)

Further details: brunbynewsletter@gmail.com

News from Wilby Coronation Hall (WCH)

Remember that all are welcome to attend our **Foodie Nights** and takeaways are an option for some of the menus.

Please spread the word and support these events as they will only continue if the numbers are sufficient to make them viable!

May 6th - Foodie Pub night

The Marrakech

Friday 6th May 2022 (6pm)

Beef Kofte

Spiced Beef, Toasted Bun, Tahini

Chicken, Chickpea and Pesto

Jewelled Cous Cous, Mint

Braised Smoky Aubergine &

Jewelled Cous Cous, Mint

Cardamom and Rose

Main Courses £10.00 / Child Portions

All orders to be placed by 5pm

Our next Pizza Pub Night is on 20th May.

On the third Friday of each month the Suffolk Wild Flour Pizza Bar serve pizzas from their beautifully restored vintage horse box in the hall car park. These can either be eaten in the hall whilst enjoying a drink or taken away.

The menu is below and **orders can be made in advance by telephoning 07921 512052** for collection between 6.30 and 8pm or you can walk up to order and collect between 8 and 8.30pm.



The Main Event

MARGHERITA (V)

ITALIAN TOMATO SAUCE, MOZZARELLA, BASIL

AMERICANA

ITALIAN TOMATO SAUCE, MOZZARELLA, PEPPERONI

QUATTRO FORMAGGIO

ITALIAN TOMATO SAUCE, MOZZARELLA, GORGONZOLA,
ITALIAN HARD CHEESE

CAPRINI (V)

ITALIAN TOMATO SAUCE, FRESH GARLIC, RED ONION

PICANTE (HOT)

ITALIAN TOMATO SAUCE, MOZZARELLA, PEPPERONI,

MARINARA (HOT) (VG)

THE ORIGINAL PIZZA OF NAPLES!!

ITALIAN TOMATO SAUCE, OREGANO, FRESH GARLIC,
BASIL (NO CHEESE)

A Little Extra on Top

RED ONION, OLIVES, CHILLI, FRESH GARLIC, MOZZARELLA,
MUSHROOMS, PEPPERONI,
VEGAN CHEESE, GOAT'S CHEESE, GORGONZOLA

Bit on the Side

GARLIC PIZZA BREAD (V)

GARLIC & MOZZARELLA PIZZA BREAD (V)

Hiring**the****Hall**

Our hall is an ideal venue to hold family celebrations, being attractive, well-maintained and competitively priced. There is a large ballroom, separate lounge area, a well-equipped kitchen and a bar that is well-stocked at club prices. For availability, prices and full details of facilities please visit:

<https://www.hallshire.com/halls/view/2038/wilby-village-coronation-hall>

And**finally...**

...Don't forget to take advantage of the recycling facilities at the hall (glass and clothing) as well as our new electric car charging point. Look out for new facilities coming soon – a paper bank and possibly aluminium too! All monies received go towards maintaining our car park.

Wilby Village Hall Report for the APM, May 18th 2022

The hall was re-opened following the Covid pandemic in September 2021. Regular bookings have picked up including the Yoga classes and LK's School of Dance. We have introduced Foodie Pub Nights on the first Friday of the month and Pizza Pub Nights on the third Friday of the month in collaboration with 'The Coconut Monkey' and 'The Suffolk Wild Flour Pizza Bar'. Several private bookings have been made celebrating birthdays, weddings, baby shower and craft fairs.

Wilby village hall has also hosted other Pool Teams from the local league who lost their tables during the pandemic. The pool league continues to attract local people to the hall from surrounding villages, and we have hosted a singles and doubles tournament this season. We have planned

two 'summer' tournaments, one in May and the second in September. The pool nights have been again a success and will restart in October.

The Six Nations screenings proved to be very popular along with the Grand National screening, and it is hoped that the hall will screen England World Cup matches later in the year.

The hall is undergoing a Fire Safety upgrade in response to the visit and inspection from the Suffolk Fire Service. This will involve a risk assessment and most likely a refit of equipment, as the hall was deemed unfit as use as a designated emergency centre by Suffolk Fire Service.

The hall has been fitted with Electric Vehicle chargers via a PC initiative, however, this is currently under review.

The hall has been blighted with additional costs caused by the treatment plant failures(2), solar battery failures and other electrical issues. The treatment plant issues have now been resolved but the solar battery issues are ongoing.

The hall daily running costs have now increased due to the soaring cost of energy, and a tariff review was carried out and implemented from January 2022.

We continue to update the facilities available in the hall, two new ovens have been purchased, along with a new kitchen water heater and two plate/food warmers.

We have secured a Locality Grant to assist in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and have been pleased to collaborate with Brundish village hall and the WI in organising events.

We are always grateful to our local residents who support the committee in maintaining the hall facilities, special thanks go to Robin Cross for assisting with the AV cabinet upgrade, Richard Woolgrove for resolving the electrical issues and offering help and advice on the treatment plant issues, Tony Shearman for his assistance with maintenance tasks.

Thanks also go to our committee for their continued support and help in ensuring that we provide a comfortable, safe and appealing venue for many social gatherings.

Alison Taylor - Wilby Village Hall Chair.

With best wishes and thanks for your continued support from all the committee.

Church Services & News

THE FOUR RIVERS BENEFICE

The Four Rivers Benefice comprises the parishes of Bedfield, Brundish, Cratfield, Laxfield, Monk Soham, Tannington, Wilby and Worlingworth with Southolt. As many of you will know, our Rector has recently retired and there is now a vacancy (interregnum). Until another priest is employed, the rectory will be closed.

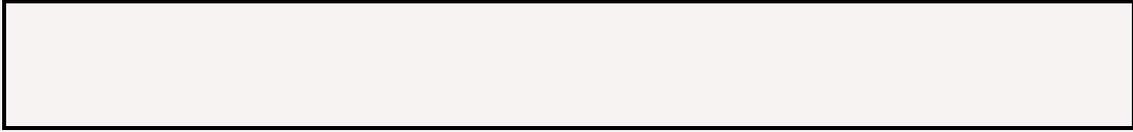
Should you wish to talk to a priest, please call **Revd Chrissie Smart, Assistant Curate, on 07341 480966**. To contact the Benefice Administrator, Virginia Skoyles, please phone 07900 350117 or email fourriversbenefice@gmail.com

Benefice Assistant Clergy

- Reverend Chrissie Smart, rev.chrissiesmart@gmail.com
- Reverend David Mulrenan, djmulrenan@gmail.com
- Reverend Rebecca Artiss, r.artiss@btinternet.com

Should you prefer, the Rural Dean, Revd Canon Susan Loxton, can be contacted on 01379 388493, revloxtton@gmail.com

We are here to serve you – please don't hesitate to call if we can help.



May 2022	1st Easter 3	8th Easter 4	E
	Acts 9:1-6 (7-20) Rev 5: 11-end John 21:1-19	Acts 9:36-end Rev 7 :9-end John 10:22-30	Acts 1 Rev 2 John
St Nicholas Bedfield	10.30am Holy Communion CS	10.30am Family Service SP	
St Lawrence Brundish	9am BCP Holy Communion DM	10am Village Worship SA	
St Mary Cratfield		6pm Evensong DM	9am Village CM
All Saints Laxfield	10.30am Celtic Morning Service LE	10.30am Holy Communion CS	10.30 Holy C DM
St Peter Monk Soham	11am Family Service RA	11am Morning Prayer RA	11am Holy C RA
St Ethelbert Tannington			
St Mary Wilby	10.30am Village Worship SP	10.30am Holy Communion DM	10.30 Village SP
St Mary Worlingworth	11am BCP Holy Communion DM	11am Morning Prayer LE	11am Holy C CS
Online Zoom	Also Celtic Prayer - To join us, email rev.chris@icm.org		

Letter From the Clergy

Dear Friends,

I sincerely hope that you enjoyed the most important feast of the church's year – Easter! Whilst we were celebrating and enjoying a time with family and friends that has been missing these past two years owing to the pandemic, I could not help but feel great sadness for the people of Ukraine and other war torn nations. How blessed we are to live in the UK.

So here we are. David our Rector and Sue his wife has left us and gone to Somerset to enjoy what I pray will be a long and happy retirement. In his last letter David spoke of the 'trying time



ahead' that we will experience and the importance of keeping together, supporting one another and caring for each other. He asked us to remember that we, "...are a people of God and the best way to reflect this is to live in communion with one another," and in John's Gospel (13 vs 34 – 35) we are reminded that Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

It was lovely to give them both a good send off at the service in All Saints

Laxfield on 24th April. There were lots of tears but there was also a great deal of laughter and many memories for all us all to treasure. I know I am not alone when I say I will miss them.

So, as David said last month, "You will always be in our prayers," to which I add, and they will always be in ours.

Chrissie

Revd Chrissie Smart, Assistant Curate

Brundish Church News

HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Songs of Praise. 6 p.m. on Sunday, 5th June.

To finish off the village's celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee, St Lawrence's Church, Brundish is hosting a Songs of Praise service where you can decide what is sung.

All you have to do is contact either John Graham or myself to tell us which hymn you would like to hear and perhaps, why and we will sing it at the service, which we hope you will attend. You can, if you wish, explain the reason of your choice, yourself at the service. It's up to you. The church will be decorated with all the wonderful creations of the flower festival so it should be a happy and colourful occasion. Cheese and wine will be served afterwards to round off this big event in our national life.

Please contact John Graham on 01379 384444 or me on 07881

481745 or 01728 628063. You can also email

using djmulrenan@gmail.com

Looking forward to hearing from you.

David Mulrenan.

Wilby Church News

There will be a special service in St Mary's Church , Wilby on Sunday June 5th at 10.30m. We will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - everybody welcome. We hope to see you all there!

Mary Pipe

News from Wilby Parish Council

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place at **7 pm on 4 May 2022** in Wilby Primary School. This meeting will elect the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the coming year and effectively reconstitutes the Council for the coming year.

There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in joining then please contact Julie Collett, our Clerk, by email wilbyclerk@outlook.com or telephone 01986 899719 to find out more.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at **7 pm on 18 May 2022**. The meeting is open to all residents of the parish and provides an opportunity to hear reports from the Church, School, Village Hall, WI and Parish Council on their various activities and plans for the future. It also gives residents a platform to raise any issues of concern or to make suggestions for the benefit of the community for consideration by those present. All residents are therefore most welcome to attend and to participate. The meeting will conclude with cheese and wine.

Parish Clerk

Our Parish Clerk, Julie Collett, who joined the Council on 1 October 2014, has given notice that she will resign from the post following the Annual Parish Meeting. Julie served for many years as Chairman of her own Parish Council following which she took on the duties of Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer for a number of Parish Councils. In Wilby we are most grateful for the excellent service she has provided in preparing for and writing up our meetings and taking follow up action and in particular for the careful and courteous manner in which she has guided us with advice on procedural and financial issues. She has maintained a close interest in Wilby and has responded promptly to submissions and queries from residents. It is therefore with much regret that the Council has acknowledged her wish to retire and we wish her every good fortune in the future.

We have set in hand the process for securing a replacement Clerk and RFO. Anyone interested in the part-time post, which is paid and includes expenses covering motor mileage, working from home etc. is invited to contact the Chairman, Steve Lee, at steve.lee@wilbypcsuffolk.org.uk or to call **07879 482941**.

Anne Marie

I am a mobile Hairdresser & Barber and trained in London's West End.
I specialise in Cut & Blow-dry, Foils, Perms, Hair up for Brides & Proms and cater for anyone from Children to OAPs!

I also do Mani & Pedicures

Please call me on 07949 653606 to discuss your requirements or to book an appointment in your home



The Covid pandemic has disrupted international supply lines for many of the goods and services that we previously took for granted, the consequence being an increase in inflation, which drives up the cost of living. This challenge is now further compounded by war in the Ukraine and whilst our thoughts are quite rightly with the people of Ukraine, we must also recognise the need for the UK to become more self-sufficient in the future, and less reliant on imported goods - particularly food and energy.

Ukraine was the biggest international producer of fertiliser and the biggest exporter of wheat. As a result of the war, there has been considerable disruption to supplies, leading to increases in the cost of many food stuffs in our shops, such as bread and breakfast cereals.

Looking ahead, we simply must produce more of our own food. By protecting and supporting our farmers and food producers, we also protect consumers by keeping food prices in the shops lower in the long run.

Here in Suffolk, our farmers stand ready to rise to the challenge of producing more locally-grown food, but we must also look to support them better. We've heard from our farming leaders that they are concerned about "crippling" labour shortages, and I'd like to see the Government look at improving current immigration policies, as well as at the Skilled Workers Visa scheme, to try and help tackle this issue.

We also need to step down our reliance on an overseas workforce to plug our

seasonal workforce gap. To achieve this, we need to develop homegrown talent – make the sector appealing to work in, develop a greater vocational offer and bring forward and support our next generation of farmers and food producers. Where appropriate, I would also like to see greater support become available, allowing our farmers to diversify and support the appropriate roll-out of solar energy, whilst simultaneously recognising the need to protect our precious farmland from inappropriate housing development.

I am disappointed that Ipswich Borough Council chose to prioritise the development of green fields of the northern fringe, rather than prioritise brownfield development in the town centre. Brownfield town centre redevelopment would also have helped to regenerate a part of the town that most needed it. I have no doubt that the shop keepers in the town centre would also have liked to have the additional footfall that this regeneration would potentially have delivered. Approaches such as these have worked well elsewhere, and it is time that all of our local councils put into action a brownfield first policy.

But more than this, we need to start protecting and supporting our own food producers. We need to start listening more to our farmers and, where is practicably reasonable, better protect farming land for food production.

The war in the Ukraine has brought much into perspective - the importance of protecting freedom of speech, the importance of improving our energy security, and the importance of increasing our food security. If we want to keep food prices in the shops down in the long run, perhaps it is time we thought not just in terms of fair-trade shopping, but of supporting local. It is only through supporting our local farmers and food producers that we will help to keep prices down for consumers and hard-pressed families.



Mid Suffolk

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk are looking for volunteers to provide vital support in the community – can you help?

The charity supports people all over Mid Suffolk from their office in Stowmarket, providing free, confidential, independent and impartial advice. Demand for the charity's services has continued to increase, and the wonderful team of volunteers are paramount to the help Citizens Advice provide.

The team are seeking volunteers from all kinds of backgrounds to support local people with their problems. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided.

Citizens Advice volunteers come from all walks of life and choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. Volunteers are often looking for ways to make use of their skills or to gain valuable experience and make use of the fantastic training. They also enjoy the opportunity to meet different people and be part of a friendly, welcoming team of existing volunteers. They find it rewarding to support local people and make a difference to their lives.

Current volunteers at Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk said:

“I wanted to help in some meaningful way in the local community. Volunteering at Citizens Advice has made me feel that I am doing something useful. After three years of retirement, it is nice to have a form of regular commitment and I enjoy interacting with the others in the office.”

“When my youngest started school I had some extra time, so decided to volunteer, and haven't looked back! The team are great here, so the atmosphere is consistently very welcoming.”

“I believe what we do is important to the community as evidenced by the increasing demand. I like to volunteer as it keep my brain active and the camaraderie and social interaction is enjoyable as well as important.”

Interested in volunteering? Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk would love to hear from you! Go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk/volunteer or call 01449 676060 for an informal chat.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on any issue, including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. For more information and our opening hours go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk.
