

The Badwell Broadsheet

The newsletter of Badwell Ash Civic Parish, covering Badwell Ash, Long Thurlow & Badwell Green Issue #81 April 2021

Easter at St Mary's



Although many of our churches are still closed during the present pandemic, St Mary's Church here in Badwell Ash has remained open, hosting services usually on a fortnightly basis.

The services tend to alternate between 8.00am and 9.30am; sadly there can be no singing for the foreseeable future, and so there are Said Services only. This is because singing can spread COVID much more easily than speaking – singing spreads 20 times the weight of water droplets in the air than speaking does.

Service times are always displayed upon the churchyard notice board.

Restrictions on numbers for Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings are currently in place, but should be lifted entirely during June.

On Easter Sunday, 4th April, there will be an 8.00am Said Communion Service, with all warmly welcome. Services for Easter across the 6 churches within the Benefice are advertised on the noticeboard/church porch.

As has been the case with all charities during the Coronavirus Pandemic, finances have obviously been adversely affected. However, thanks to the Parochial Church Council, the church is surviving and has been proactive in ensuring vital maintenance work has continued to be carried out. Contributions towards the upkeep of our fine Medieval Church will always be most welcome.

There will also be a **Said Communion at 9.30am on 25th April** at St Mary's Badwell Ash.

*Philip
Parish Priest*

Badwell Ash Parish Council: FROM THE CHAIR

In the last issue of the Broadsheet I mentioned the light at the end of the tunnel, let's hope that it is now that bit nearer and growing.

The lighter evenings, some sunny weather and the spring flowers are all surely generating an air of expectancy amongst us all. We must not let our guard down yet, we still must be patient.

The Council recently held another video meeting in order to carry out the relevant duties in relation to the Parish. Both our County Councillor Jane Storey and our District Councillor Rick Meyer were present and most welcome, as was their valued input.

The Council resolved to continue with its intent and endeavour to reduce speeding within the Parish. Actions are being taken.

It was also confirmed that the replacement and updating of street lighting in both Long Thurlow and Badwell Ash will continue to take place during the summer months. In doing so this will not only provide better illumination but also make savings in electricity costs.

Further improvements in and around the playing field, as well as to the new playground will also take place.

As you can see the Parish Council is still proactive despite Covid and the restraints it has placed upon us all.

Keep well, stay safe and continue to follow the Covid regulations for one and all.

*Clive Hawkins
Chairman, Badwell Ash Parish Council*

Hexagon Magazine Online

The April/May edition of the Hexagon Magazine is available online on the Badwell Ash website's Church page.

<http://badwellash.onesuffolk.net/st-mary-s-church/>

Suffolk County Council and Police Commissioner Elections



Elections for Suffolk County Council Councillors will be held on **May 6th**.

The County Council is responsible for services across the whole county, including; education, streets and roads, planning, fire and public safety, social care, libraries, waste management and trading standards.

The full list of candidates for our ward, Thedwastre North, has not yet been published, as the closing date for nominating candidates has not been passed.

The post is currently held by Jane Storey, now an Independent, having held the position as a Conservative for many years. She spoke out against Conservative policies on school bussing and planning and was deselected by that party.

Elections for the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner will be held on the same day. Again, the closing dates for candidates is not over. The role is currently held by Tim Passmore. Read about the post at suffolk-pcc.gov.uk/election-2021 Your Polling Station will be the Village Hall.

Village Hall Report

The new kitchen is ready, just needing those finishing touches to be put in place, but due to Covid it still cannot be used.

In the last Broadsheet we mentioned our 8 sponsors. We can now confirm that we have another, our ninth, and thanks to them. The names of all sponsors will be made known once we are able to reopen the hall and kitchen. In the meantime if you wish to help us please let us know. We have been given a provisional opening date of 17th May, but this will be depend on Covid rules and regulations in place at the time. Before this the hall will be opened on 6th May for polling and be fully cleansed beforehand. This time for the local election of County Councillors and the Police Commissioner.

It is hoped that before this more remedial work will have been carried out to further enhance the appearance of the premises.

Future bookings can be made via our Booking Official on 01359 258291 but will be subject to revision in association with Covid rules.

We look forward to a brighter future for our hall and its new facilities.

Badwell Ash Village Hall Committee

Five a Day

Five a day; fruit and vegetables. We all know that these are good for our health, wellbeing and cost relatively little.

But how about another Five a Day or even Five a Week? For Free. Interested? Of course you are, good.



Then will you help us please by all picking up just five pieces of litter a day, or a week? Not a lot to ask, or to do, but it will be good for your wellbeing and the environment.

Go on give it a go and help keep the Parish of Badwell Ash free from unsightly litter.

Thank you.

LITTER: WE DON'T NEED IT.

Badwell Ash Parish Council

Scams, Safe Accounts & Number Spoofing

Your email and social media accounts contain a wealth of personal information about you, which makes them a lucrative target for cyber criminals. Between February 2020 and February 2021, Action Fraud received 15,214 reports about email and social media account hacking.

Another recent **scam** is an email supposedly sent by "Royal Mail". It tells you that there is a parcel addressed to you but you need to pay an excess by BACS to a given account before it can be delivered. If you pay the very small amount of money for this fake parcel, you are actually paying the criminals, but more importantly you're giving them your bank details. You will then get seemingly unrelated calls from what appears to be you bank, urging you to send money to a **safe account**. This safe account will appear to have been created by your bank for your use, and if you look into it, it will have your name attached to it. However all of this is just trickery and if you put money into this account it will be emptied by the scammers.

These cons are now so technically savvy that the call can show on your phone as coming from the number shown on your bank's card or website – giving you a false sense of security that the call is really bona fide. This is known as **number spoofing**. Sadly you cannot rely on your phone's number recognition anymore.



A crushed car demonstrates what penalties police can impose on hare coursers

Hare Coursing: Increased Police Powers

Hare coursing is a blood-sport where dogs are used to chase, catch and kill hares. Suffolk Constabulary warns that strong action against those involved in hare coursing will be taken, with one potential outcome being that any vehicles used could be seized and crushed. Anyone convicted of this criminal activity can also be fined up to £5,000.

Hare coursing occurs in the winter as large tracts of land are left without standing crops. Offenders are known to travel to Suffolk from around the country. Suffolk is vulnerable to hare-coursers due to our open spaces and population of brown hares. Reports of hare coursing have been increasing in recent years, although in Suffolk from 1 September 2019 to 31 March 2020 there were 139 incidents reported, while so far this winter since the start of September last year there have been 80.

Those involved are often hardened criminals who will not think twice about threatening and intimidating anyone who attempts to stop them. Some have links to organised crime. Significant sums of money can change hands in the form of illegal betting.

Crops are damaged and fences, gates and hedges vandalised as hare coursers gain access to fields. The animal welfare concerns are also extremely worrying.

Members of the public who witness hare coursing are advised not to approach the participants but to phone police immediately on 999.

Suffolk Constabulary has a team of dedicated rural and wildlife officers that focuses on crimes such as livestock rustling, metal and oil thefts and wildlife crime and takes strong action against those involved in hare coursing.

Two types of COVID testing near us

You can help stop the spread of COVID-19, by getting tested to see if you have the virus.

There are two types of test

1/ Community testing if you do not have any symptoms you can get a lateral flow, or rapid, test in sites around Suffolk, including in Elmswell.

Around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 are not aware that they have it, as they have no symptoms. Community testing is aimed at people who cannot stay home during lockdown, due to work commitments. It's important for these people to be tested regularly so that they don't unknowingly spread the virus to other people.

2/ Standard Test.

If you **have** symptoms book a free test by visiting gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call the NHS on 119. There are four ways you can currently get tested in Suffolk. Book an appointment at:

*the Regional Testing Site at Copdock, near Ipswich

*a Local Testing Site (central Ipswich or Lowestoft)

* a Mobile Testing Unit - there are a number of sites across Suffolk A unit regularly visits Bury St Edmunds.

*Or ask for a Home Testing Kit, sent to your home.

Great Ashfield & Badwell Ash WI Report



Thankfully the figures for covid are receding and we all hope that by the summer we can get back to some sort of normality.

In February we had our second Zoom meeting which was well attended and enjoyed a very interesting talk about Bees given by the husband of one of our members. This was a truly fascinating insight of the life of the Bees in the Hive.

Our Zoom meeting in March proved to be just as fascinating – a talk on The Palace of Westminster. We enjoyed a tour of various parts of the Palace and learned much about its history.

We will be having another Zoom meeting on 8th April and all details will follow in the Newsletter. We are moving our May meeting to 20th May in the hope that we will be able to meet up outside – distancing of course and weather permitting, but all will be subject to any Government covid regulations.

Hopefully we will be able to have our June and July meetings outside and to get back to normal for our August meeting in the Lord Thurlow Hall in Great Ashfield on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

We would welcome any new members to join us. We are not a huge group but a very friendly one and we invite you come and see what we are all about. Please feel free to ring me for any further information on 01359 259399.

Meanwhile stay safe and well and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

My best wishes to you all.

Midge Hawkins – President

The Badwell Broadsheet is funded by Badwell Ash Parish Council. We will distribute as many copies as possible, otherwise please pick up a copy at the shop, pub or fish shop. Articles, information about local events, notices and feedback are welcomed. Adverts for events happening in Badwell Ash Parish are printed for free. For any of the above, please contact the editor Sarah Brown on 259625 or email badwellash@hotmail.co.uk. Next Deadline: May 16TH 2021

We can't print what we don't know about.

Thank you to all those who volunteered to distribute the Badwell Broadsheet after the appeal in the last issue. We will be getting in touch with you shortly.

House Martins need you

Emergency

If you have a House Martin emergency please contact us or your local wildlife rescue centre.

From March–May House Martins will begin to arrive in the UK after their long journey back from Africa, to spend the summer here raising their chicks. You may have noticed their mud nests on your home from previous years.

How you can help

You can attract House Martins to nest on your house by putting up **artificial nest cups** to give them a permanent home year after year. Encourage others to do this too by helping your community understand the problems that House Martins face.

If you have to remove nests to do renovation work please make sure it is outside of the nesting season (it is illegal to remove or disturb an active nest of any bird in the UK). Replacing the removed nests with artificial ones will encourage returning birds to stay and continue to breed.

If you don't have any suitable eaves you could fix a weatherproof wooden board at least 200mm deep to create an overhang for nests.

House Martins leave droppings which can be an issue for some households but they are easily removed with a hosepipe or brush. Flower pots can be placed on the ground beneath the nests or a board can be fixed to the wall a few feet below to catch them.

Ponds attract lots of insects for house martins to feed on and a muddy edge can provide nest building material too.

Decline

- Adverse weather can impact migration and the availability of mud for nesting.
- Insect decline.
- Habitat degradation.
- Suitable nest sites are in decline due to new buildings using unsuitable materials.

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Gable ends & eaves make the perfect site for House Martin nest cups!

Get in touch: housemartinconservation@gmail.com House Martin Conservation UK & Ireland @ukhousemartins