



# Village News

Produced by The Hemphall Group of Parishes



Picture by courtesy of David Ferré

## APRIL 2024

# Contents...

<b>Local News .....</b>	<b>3</b>
April & May Walks.....	3
Coffee Morning at Woodton Village Hall.....	3
Pop-up Dog Café at Hardwick Church.....	4
Bacon Butties Again! .....	4
Hempnall WI.....	4
Borderhoppa.....	5
Help Save Lives .....	5
Woodton Parish Council Spring 2024 Newsletter.....	6
The Hempnall Trust.....	8
Quiz and Chips .....	9
A Big Thank You!.....	9
Charity Funday for Nelson’s Journey .....	10
Springfling .....	10
Grants Available for Parishioners.....	11
Bedingham Parish AGM and Meeting.....	11
Topcroft Parish Council Meeting Dates.....	12
Food Bank .....	12
Mobile Library Timetable .....	13
Seething & Mundham Community Café .....	13
Big Litter Pick! Morningthorpe & Fritton.....	14
Café morning .....	14
Lent Lunches.....	14
All-Age Praise .....	16
Spring @LifeSpring.....	16
Saxlingham (Saxon) Bowls Club Open Day.....	16
Saxlingham Players Spring Productions.....	17
<b>What’s on in April &amp; May .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Gardening in April .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Church News.....</b>	<b>19</b>
Thought for the month.....	19
Church Services in March.....	21
Happy Birthday to .....	22
From the Registers .....	22
<b>Need Help?.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Contact Us.....</b>	<b>24</b>

## **APRIL WALK**

### **Walk on Sunday 28th April 2024**

Meet at 2pm at Barsham Church which is located on the B1062 (Bungay to Beccles road). Postcode - NR34 8HA. The walk will be for 2 hours mainly on footpaths and quiet country lanes, but with a short stretch in Beccles.



Refreshments will be provided afterwards in the Church. There is plenty of parking at the Church.

For more information, please contact Josephine 01508 530453

## **MAY WALK**

### **Sunday 12th May 2024 at Old Buckenham**

Our walk will start at 2pm at Chestnuts, Mill Road, Old Buckenham, Attleborough NR17 1SG.

The walk will be along footpaths and quiet country lanes, across one of the largest village greens in the country, and through The Old Buckenham Stud, part of which links up with The Tas Valley Way. Refreshments at Chestnuts after the walk, or, if you would like to come missing the walk you would be most welcome. Please contact Liz Billett 07891 854219 or email [lizzie.billett@gmail.com](mailto:lizzie.billett@gmail.com)

## **Coffee Morning**

at

**Woodton Village Hall**

on

**Saturday 4th May**

**from 10:30am to 12:30pm**

**In aid of Woodton Church**





**Come in!**

*By popular request, it's the 2nd*

**Pop-up Dog Café**

in

**Hardwick Church**

**Saturday 20 April**

**8:00am to 11:30am**

Drop in with your dog

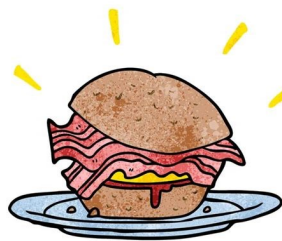
*(on lead, please)*

– or come without one –  
for canine and human  
company and refreshment...

Pupcakes...dog treats...

coffee... and more

All welcome!



**Bacon Butties Again!**

**Book the Date**

In the garden at The Chequers

Mill Road Hempnall

On Friday 10th May

9:30am to 12:00 noon

Eat in or take away

Also: cakes, produce, plants, books  
and raffle

Orders may be made in advance by  
contacting Jill Turner 01508 499344

*All proceeds in aid of St. Margaret's  
Church*

## **HEMPNALL WI.**

We had 18 members attend our meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March when Simon White of Peter Beales Nurseries in Attleborough gave a very interesting talk entitled 'Beautiful bulbs'. He explained about the recent takeover of his Company and how things may change. He brought gardening items, roses and bulbs to buy. It was a very interesting evening. Our next meeting is Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm at The Mill. Michele Eager will be our speaker with a talk entitled 'Giving wood a second chance'. She will bring items for sale. If you have any queries about our very friendly WI contact Cindy Brookes 499358.

Borderhoppa, a registered not for profit charity, provides a range of community services to more than 50 parishes in south Norfolk and north Suffolk – including those in Diss, Harleston, Long Stratton, Eye, Stradbroke and surrounding parishes.

We are looking for more volunteer drivers and trustees to support our vital community transport service. Tom Clarke, Borderhoppa manager, said “Our services really do provide a lifeline for some of the most vulnerable people in our community so anyone who can help us would be making a positive contribution to local life. If you have some spare time and would be interested in helping us we would love to hear from you”.

Volunteers would be trained to occasionally drive the groups minibuses for it’s much used outings service. We run many popular, weekly outings for members throughout the year including trips to the coast, garden centres, pub lunches, shopping trips and boat trips. Our door to door dial-a-ride service allows people of all ages without access to other forms of transport – including those with restricted mobility and the rurally isolated – to carry out everyday tasks such as shopping, attend GP appointments, visit friends and relatives or to attend a local club/community group.

If you are a member of a local not for profit community group, you can hire the minibuses for outings. Go to destinations of your choice, visit your favourite places and enjoy shopping trips.

For a copy of the 2024 outings leaflet and for any other information regarding the services we provide please call the office: 01379 854800, email: [adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com](mailto:adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com) or visit our website: [borderhoppa.org.uk](http://borderhoppa.org.uk)

## Help Save Lives

We are fortunate enough to have two emergency defibrillators in the Hempnall parish, one on the outside of Hempnall Village Hall and the other in the phone box at the junction of The Street and B1527.

These are now funded by the parish council, however a volunteer is required to carry out monthly inspections of the units. This generally takes about 5 minutes per unit, so is not onerous but is a vital service to the community.

If you would like to know more please contact the Clerk, Ian Nelson on 07752 490884 or [theclerk@hempnallpc.org](mailto:theclerk@hempnallpc.org).





# Woodton Parish Council

## Spring 2024 Newsletter



### Welcome to our Spring 2024 Newsletter.

**King's Head Pub** – Great things are happening at the King's Head! The Roti II restaurant is proving very popular and with regular Pub Quiz Nights, Musical Evenings and much more this is becoming the place to be. So please continue to support this valuable village asset as much as possible – Open every day except Tuesdays.

**Development** – There is currently little to report on the new proposed 50 house development off Church Road until plans go before the Management Committee in either April or May 2024. However, we are in regular contact with the Planning Officer discussing the concerns raised by Norfolk County Council Highways, the Lead Flood Authority, design of the houses and also those of local residents. But we are keeping a watchful eye on all matters relating to this important issue.



**Flooding & Reclaim the Rain** – You can read more detail of the Reclaim the Rain project on our website, <https://woodtonpc.wixsite.com/woodtonpc>, but with the added challenges posed by a very wet winter and conversely dry summers and the effect of climate change, this continues to be a very important issue here in Woodton. The Street has, yet again, experienced near dangerous scenarios and we are constantly raising our concerns with the local Flood Management teams.

### Community Wood

- The visit by Father Christmas, presents for all the children, with food and drinks afterwards, was attended by a huge number of people and has now become very much part of Christmas in Woodton.
- Easter to follow shortly with the Wood decorated and an Easter Egg Hunt – so keep your eyes open for more details.
- Security Cameras will shortly be installed in several location thanks to funding from our District Councillor's Member's Grant. Thank you Chris for supporting our application.
- Planting – A grant of £300.00 was awarded to the Wood as part of the Clean Up & Bloom scheme and this will greatly help boost our planting plan for the coming year.
- Bark Spreading, Growing Area & Other Tasks – Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the regular bark spreading sessions, helping with the growing area or the general upkeep of our Wood. This is an on-going task and there is always more to do!



**Footpath Clearance & Litter Picks** – The Footpath and Bridleway on the B1332 near the school and opposite The Street has now been cleared by our team of willing volunteers making it much easier for walkers to enjoy. We combined this with a Village Litter Pick and general weeding session by the school gate and car park entrance.

# Woodton Parish Council

## Spring 2024 Newsletter



**Raven's Den** – The new Zip Wire and replacement swings in the children's play area have been installed and are being well used. The shelter is due for refurbishment and we will shortly be putting the cricket net in place for the spring and summer season. Thanks go to all those involved in keeping this area and the equipment safe and in good shape.



**Village Hall** – The Village Hall are circulating their own flyer, but please do support this valuable facility. Not all villages have such an amenity – so lets use it!

**All Saints' Church, Woodton** – It was lovely to see the Christmas Carol Service happening in Woodton this year and that, together with various other services, Christmas was well celebrated in our churches. We wish Lynn Chapman all the best in her new post in Hethersett and thank her for all her support and enthusiasm over the last 12 months.



**First Aid Courses for Woodton** - We have recently heard that a local provider is keen to support First Aid Training for villages in South Norfolk, Woodton being one of them. The Saracen's Norfolk Fund, managed by the Norfolk Community Foundation, is there to help and we would like to hear from anyone who might like to take part in such a course. This project is very much at the planning stage but is an opportunity that we should not turn down. Please contact any members of the Parish Council if you are interested - it will cost you nothing!



**Please clean up after your dog**

**Dog Bins** – The dog bin at the bottom of Chapel Hill near Sunnyside is to be replaced. New notices are planned to be placed around the village requesting people to clear up after their dogs. The path opposite the Kings Head Pub running alongside the field is becoming particularly messy. So, once again, a plea to ALL Dog Owners to be responsible and think of others.

**And Finally:-**

**Parish Councillors and Who We Are** – Ian Butler stepped down from the Parish Council recently after 10 years of valuable service and Simon Gray has now joined us. We are a friendly team, who work together for the benefit of the village and its residents each with our own responsibilities and interests. We are:-

Jane Wickstead  
Fiona McCrostie  
Richard Denny  
Adam Fairhurst  
John Turner  
Steven Webb  
Simon Gray  
Yvonne Wonnacott

Chairman, General Administration & Support to Councillors  
Vice Chairman & Planning Issues  
Footpath Maintenance  
Raven's Den Area & Play Equipment  
Community Wood & Village Hall Representative  
Speed Camera Maintenance & Support  
Community Wood  
Parish Clerk, Financial Officer and Overall Administration



All comments and suggestions for future Newsletters are always welcome so please give us your ideas – details are on the Parish Council website <https://woodtonpc.wixsite.com/woodtonpc>. Meeting dates are also listed – you are all welcome to attend any of these to hear what is going on, so please come along!

# The Hempnall Trust

The Hempnall Trust is a charity that was set up to help residents who are in need, hardship or distress and to support the community of Hempnall.



We can provide financial grants to those who need them. The Trust owns the Mill & Bar both of which are used to support the local community through lunch clubs, events & room hire in a listed building.

If you would like to find out more about any area of the Hempnall Trust please look at our website [www.hempnalltrust.org.uk](http://www.hempnalltrust.org.uk) or email [hempnalltrust@gmail.com](mailto:hempnalltrust@gmail.com)

Events hosted by The Mill are updated on the Facebook page [www.facebook.com/themillbarhempnall](http://www.facebook.com/themillbarhempnall) & there is a regular What's On email.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list of events, please email [hempnallmillbar@gmail.com](mailto:hempnallmillbar@gmail.com)

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers to help run events or to help out with the Bar.

All Profits go back into the Trust to benefit Hempnall residents.

HEMPNALL TRUST AND THE MILL BAR

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

### Interested in joining us?

We are on the look out for more volunteers for our community run bar at The Mill in Hempnall. We open every Friday and for regular events such as food trucks and are looking for eager bar staff to help run our events.

This is a non-profit venture with all proceeds going to the Hempnall Trust

### WE NEED HELP WITH:

- Working behind the bar
- Collecting glasses
- No commitment do shifts as often as you like

- Or if you would like to volunteer for other non bar events such as coffee mornings at the Mill please get in contact

Email -

[hempnallmillbar@gmail.com](mailto:hempnallmillbar@gmail.com)



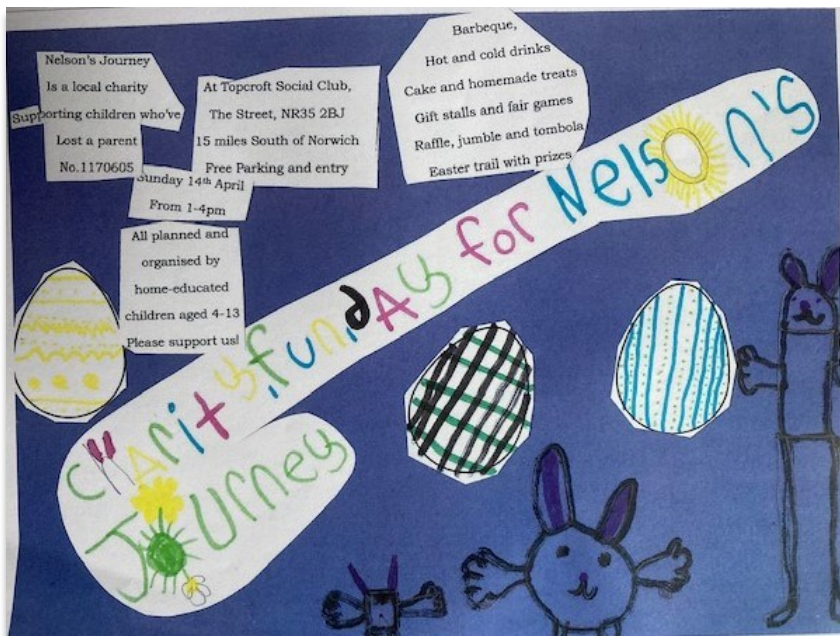


### COMPETITION TIME

We are looking for a local artist to design and install some artwork or mural on a large wall in The Mill entrance lobby. If you're interested, please contact us via email [hempnalltrust@gmail.com](mailto:hempnalltrust@gmail.com) to discuss your ideas.

### A Big Thank You!

Debbie & Mark Ashford would like to say a big thank you to the generous people of Hempnall who attended the Abba Tribute & 70's Night on 10th February at the Village Hall. I am delighted to tell you that we raised a massive £1083.00 for The Pituitary Foundation UK in honour of our son Philip. Thank you to all who attended and gave so generously. We are already looking at our next Charity event which will be an 80's Night on 23rd November in the Village Hall. Charity to be confirmed. Watch this space.



You are invited to a

# SPRINGFLING

At **HARDWICK & SHELTON VILLAGE HALL**

On **SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> MAY at 7pm**



**Cottage Pies (including vegetarian),  
delicious Desserts, Quiz, and Raffle**

**CASH  
BAR  
AVAILABLE**



**TICKETS  
£12.50  
per person**

Contact Josephine (530453), Marilyn (532393), or Susan (530379)

## **GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR PARISHIONERS**

The Foundation is keen to support all Hempnall residents (adults and children), regardless of financial circumstances, to take advantage of a wide range of educational and recreational opportunities. Consequently, if you would like to discuss any aspect of a claim you may be planning to make, including how it may be funded, we would be happy to talk with you informally. Please contact Ian (see below).

The next meeting of the Hempnall Town Estate Educational Foundation is during May 2024. Completed applications for grants by 15 May 2024 to Ian Nelson, Clerk to the Trustees, Karinya, Bungay Rd, Hempnall, NR15 2NG.

Application forms are available online at <https://hempnalltrust.org.uk/https-hempnalltrust-org-uk-town-estate-educational-foundation/> and in Hempnall Village Hall, Hempnall Church, The Mill Centre, Hempnall Surgery or by email.

Any queries or requests for forms to Ian Nelson - [hteef.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:hteef.clerk@gmail.com) Tel : 01508 498467.

PLEASE NOTE - WE ARE ABLE TO ACCEPT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS BY EMAIL. VALID RECEIPTS/PROOF OF PAYMENT MUST BE INCLUDED. INVOICES ALONE CANNOT BE CONSIDERED AS PROOF OF PAYMENT MADE.

**The Bedingham Parish AGM and Meeting  
will be held in St Andrew's Church, Bedingham  
at 7.00pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
to be followed, as usual, by some social refreshment  
All Bedingham residents are welcome**

The Agenda and Minutes will be circulated before the AGM  
If you do not receive these emails, and would like to,  
please email **bedinghamparish@gmail.com** to be added to the list

# Topcroft Parish Council

## MEETING DATES 2024

*All meetings are held in Topcroft's Sports Pavilion, Topcroft Street, NR35 2BL*

- Monday 13th May 2024                      7.30 pm  
*Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting*
- Monday 8th July 2024                      7.30 pm
- Monday 9th September 2024              7.30 pm
- Monday 11th November 2024            7.30 pm

*The agenda is displayed three days before the meeting in the village noticeboards and on TPC's website: <https://topcroftpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>. Planning meetings are arranged as and when required and extra meetings may be scheduled if necessary.*

*~ Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings ~  
For further details contact the Clerk email: [topcroftpc@gmail.com](mailto:topcroftpc@gmail.com)*

## FOOD BANK

*Items for our Food Bank are still needed; we are very grateful to all who continue to contribute during this difficult time.*

### **URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS:**

PASTA  
TINNED FISH  
TINNED VEGETABLES

### **NON URGENT ITEMS:**

INSTANT NOODLES (NOT POTS)  
TINNED POTATOES  
MICROWAVE PUDDINGS/CAKES

**Donating Food:** Items for the food bank can be left at the back of St Margaret's Church, Hempnall or in the porch at St Peter's Church, Brooke.

**Donating Money:** Regular giving is a great way to support the Food Bank  
For further details please check out this website: <https://waveney.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>





## Mobile Library Timetable

Village	Stop Name	Arrival Time	Departure Time	Postcode
Hempnall	Old Market Way (Bainard Rise)	14:10	14:30	NR15 2LZ
Hempnall Green	Three Horseshoes	14:35	14:55	MR15 2NN
Topcroft	The Old Chapel	15:00	15:15	NR35 2BL
Topcroft	Church Road	15:20	15:35	NR35 2BH
Hempnall	Road Green Farm	15:40	15:55	NR15 2NQ
Hempnall	Millfields	16:00	16:15	NR15 2NE
Hempnall	Roland Drive	16:20	16:35	NR15 2RB
Fritton	Village Green (post box and bench)	16:40	17:05	NR15 2QS

• 15 April 2024

• 13 May 2024

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis. For all enquires about this route please call 01603 222303



### SEETHING & MUNDHAM COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Wednesday 17th April 2024

2 till 4pm

Seething & Mundham Village Hall

Look forward to seeing you all.

Any offers of help or cakes would  
be welcome!

please contact JULIE 07984309452



## Morningthorpe and Fritton

### **BIG LITTER PICK!**

**13th April 2024**

Meeting at The Old

Rectory, Fritton to collect high-viz vests pickers and bags at **10:00am**



## Cafe Morning

Hardwick Village Hall  
**Thursday 4th April 2024**

10:00am-12:00pm

**Chat with old friends,  
make new ones**

**The kettle is on  
and there will be cake!**

*Bring and buy table to raise funds for  
the hall, so cakes and spare  
produce most welcome*

## **Lent Lunches at Topcroft and Hempnall in aid of Emmaus**

Thank you to everyone who supported the lunches this year by coming along, providing soup, helping in so many ways or generously donating. A very satisfactory sum of £265.00 has been given to Emmaus and over 40 people have had an enjoyable time meeting old friends and making new ones.



We hope there will be further opportunities to learn more about the work that Emmaus does later this year.

# All-Age Praise



4:00pm-4:45pm

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Hempnall Church

Community service

Songs - Story - Games

All warmly welcome!



Spring

@LifeSpring

Sundays 4-5pm

The Mill

14th & 21st April

All-age community church: Songs,  
games, message

[Facebook@LifeSpring Hempnall](#)

All warmly welcome

## SAXLINGHAM (SAXON) BOWLS CLUB

Club Open Day at 1.30pm on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April**  
on the Saxlingham Playing Field Bowls Green

If you are thinking of taking up a new sport  
*Come along and have a go at Bowls at our friendly  
Club.*

*The Club arranges league and friendly matches,  
internal competitions, practice sessions and social  
events*

*Free coaching for beginners.*

Experienced Bowlers are welcome too.

Contact: Club Captain Rachel Stevenson on  
532617 or Club Secretary Chris Lacey on 499700

# What's on in April & May...

## Wednesday 3rd April 2024

### ***Hempnall WI Meeting***

7:30pm

The Mill, Hempnall (*Page 4*)

## Thursday 4th April 2024

### ***Café Morning***

10:00am-12:00pm

Hardwick Village Hall (*Page 14*)

## Saturday 6th April 2024

### ***Quiz and Chips***

7:00pm

The Hempnall Mill Bar (*Page 9*)

## Sunday 7th April 2024

### ***All-Age Praise***

4:00pm-4:45pm

Hempnall Church (*Page 15*)

## Saturday 13th April 2024

### ***Morningthorpe & Fritton Big Litter Pick!***

10:00am

Meeting at The Old Rectory, Fritton  
(*Page 14*)

### ***Topcroft Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting***

7:30pm

Topcroft's Sports Pavilion, Topcroft Street, NR35 2BL (*Page 12*)

## Sunday 14 April 2024

### ***Charity Funday for Nelson's Journey***

1:00pm-4:00pm

Topcroft Social Club, The Street, NR35 2BJ (*Page 10*)

### ***Spring @ Life Spring***

4:00pm-5:00pm

The Mill, Hempnall (*Page15*)

## Monday 15th April 2024

### ***Mobile Library***

(Page 13)

## Tuesday 16th April 2024

### ***Bedingham Parish AGM & Meeting***

7:00pm

St Andrew's Church, Bedingham  
(*Page 11*)

## Wednesday 17th April 2024

### ***Seething & Mundham Community Café***

2:00pm-4:00pm

Seething & Mundham Village Hall  
(*Page 13*)

## Saturday 20th April 2024

### ***Pop-up Dog Café***

8:00am-11:30am

Hardwick Church (*Page 4*)

## Sunday 21st April 2024

### ***Spring @ Life Spring***

4:00pm-5:00pm

The Mill, Hempnall (*Page15*)

## Saturday 27th April 2024

### ***Saxlingham (Saxon) Bowls Club Open Day***

1:30pm

Saxlingham Field Bowls Green  
(*Page 16*)

## Sunday 28th April 2024

### ***April Walk***

2:00pm

Starting at Barsham Church  
(*Page 3*)



**Saturday 4th May 2024**

***Coffee Morning***

10:30am-12:30pm

Woodton Village Hall (*Page 3*)

**Wednesday 8th to**

**Saturday 11th May 2024**

***Saxlingham Players Spring***

***Productions***

7:30pm

Saxlingham Village Hall

(*page 17*)

**Friday 10th May 2024**

***Bacon Butties Again!***

9:30am-12:00pm

The Chequers, Mill Road, Hempsall

(*Page 4*)

**Saturday 11th May 2024**

***Springfling***

7:00pm

Hardwick & Shelton Village Hall

(*Page 10*)

**Sunday 12th May 2024**

***May Walk***

2:00pm

Starting at Chestnuts, Mill Road,

Old Buckenham, NR17 1SG

(*Page 3*)

**Monday 13th May 2024**

***Mobile Library***

(*Page 13*)



## **SAXLINGHAM PLAYERS SPRING PRODUCTION**

*Prepare for an evening of TWO great  
one-act plays:*

***GRIMSTONE HALT*** ~ A mystery  
drama by Peter Robbie - Three TV  
executives arrive at a run down hotel  
to research for a new show. Stories of  
arson and murder soon arise but all is  
not what it seems ...

***LAST TANGO IN LITTLE GRIMLEY*** ~  
An hilarious comedy by David  
Tristram - Little Grimley's Amdram  
association is in trouble and facing  
closure until Gordon the Chairman has  
a risky idea!

**WED 8TH - SAT 11TH MAY 2024**

**7:30pm**

**Saxlingham Village Hall**

Box office online at:

[www.saxlinghamplayers.org.uk](http://www.saxlinghamplayers.org.uk)

Or telephone Mark 01508 826516 (10  
am to 5pm)

# Gardening in April...

## *Sunshine and showers*

Spring is finally in evidence as daffodils and flowering trees start to bloom. Expect the inevitable April showers this month but with sunny days too, when you can turn your attention to the lawn. It's an exciting month, with indoor-sown seeds well into growth, and it's also time to start sowing outdoors. Just watch out for frosts...



## *Top gardening jobs this month*

### **1. Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seed outdoors**

Sowing seeds outdoors is an easy, inexpensive and fun way to grow new plants. It's ideal for a wide range of hardy flowers and vegetables.



### **2. Protect fruit blossom from late frosts**

Most top fruit and soft fruit are very hardy but once they start into growth in spring, flowers and buds are especially vulnerable to frost and may need protection to crop well.

### **3. Tie in climbing and rambling roses**

Rose pruning ensures that plants grow

vigorously and flower well each year. Although often considered complicated, rose pruning is not difficult if you follow this guide.



## *More jobs for this month*

1. Keep weeds under control
2. Start to feed citrus plants
3. Increase the water given to houseplants
4. Feed hungry shrubs and roses
5. Sow new lawns or repair bare patches
6. Prune fig trees
7. Divide bamboos and waterlilies

**MUD**

*Mud, mud, glorious mud*

*Nothing quite like it for cooling the blood....*



Well, there's plenty around just now. We encountered an abundance on a recent Sunday when the Group walk took us across the fields between Hempnall and Saxlingham and round the Redwings paddocks. There was one particularly difficult kissing gate where there was some very squelchy mud which had to be negotiated. There was inevitably a slowing of progress, time for those behind to catch up, to draw breath and to talk to one another.

However, as we know, mud has other uses. It is the vital constituent for mud baths and of course covers up whatever roughness is occurring under the surface. This can be hazardous sometimes or on other occasions helpful.

It is also a side product of rain which although often not welcome is an essential we need to supply water to drink and to grow our crops.

In life we often smooth over situations with a little bit of mud equivalent, or let matters surface more gently at intervals as we or others are more able to cope with them.

There may be times when we don't make enough of this use of mud as a cure.

In the month of April ahead, as the fields and our gardens dry out we will enjoy the green-ness that results from all this wet and will begin to see our seeds germinating.

*(Continued on next page)*

And it will be a pleasure not to come home with boots caked in mud!

In the meantime let's make the most of the mud, even if we don't leap in with an ear-splitting splosh as the hippopotamuses did.

And, as we do, let's celebrate again the variety, the wonder and the glory of the whole of creation. We ask for God's blessing as we head into spring:

*May the rains sweep gentle across our land,  
May the sun warm the soil,  
May every good seed bear fruit,  
And summer find us in fields of plenty...*

With all good wishes to everyone for April.

from Jill Turner and Liam Pilgrim,  
Co-Chairs of the Joint Council of the Hempnall Group of Parishes

*Image from 'Mud Walk: Hippo Enjoying Afternoon Relaxation': screenshot from YouTube video featuring Nolan Armstrong in Nambiti Game Reserve, produced by Tekwini Channel: <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=Dln3D54u8ak>> [accessed 19.3.2024].*

*Blessing adapted from a traditional Celtic prayer: <[https://www.faithandworship.com/Celtic\\_Blessings\\_and\\_Prayers.htm](https://www.faithandworship.com/Celtic_Blessings_and_Prayers.htm)> [accessed 19.3.2024].*

## **CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED!**

St Margaret's Church, Hempnall are looking for volunteer cleaners. Would you be willing to give up a little of your time a few times a year to keep St Margaret's Church looking well kept and welcoming?



If you are interested please contact Jill Turner at [jillemtturner@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jillemtturner@yahoo.co.uk)



## CHURCH SERVICES APRIL 2024...

<b>7<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter	10:30am	Holy Communion	Brooke Church
	10:30am	Morning Worship in Celtic Tradition	Fritton Church
	4:00pm	Family Praise	Hempnall Church
<b>14<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	10:30am	Morning Worship	Brooke Church
	10:30am	Morning Worship in Iona Tradition	Woodton Church
	4:00pm	Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)	Shelton Church
<b>21<sup>st</sup> April 2024</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	10:30am	Morning Worship	Brooke Church
	10:30am	Morning Worship <i>Service marking 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hempnall Group.</i>	Hempnall Church
<b>28<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	10:30am	Morning Worship	Brooke Church
	10:30am	Morning Worship in Celtic Tradition	Topcroft Church
	6:00pm	Evening Worship	Via Zoom

Further details of all our church services and events can be found at the Hempnall Group Website <https://hempnallgroup.co.uk/> or the Brooke Benefice Website <https://brooke.churchnet.co/>

## Happy Birthday to....

### Children

- \* Hector who will be 9
- \* Elliot who will be 11
- \* Harriet who will be 12
- \* Betty who will be 12

### Teenage

- \* Millie who will be 14
- \* Harry who will be 18
- \* Matthew who will be 13
- \* Eleanor who will be 18
- \* Leocadia who will be 13



## From the Registers....

### Funerals

†14th March 2024, Richard Geoffrey Deller,  
aged 69 years. Funeral & Burial, St  
Margaret's Church, Hempnall.



## **AGGREGATE SUPPLIERS**

CARRY ALL - Supplies of quality aggregates, to Trade & Public, Free delivery, No VAT - 01508 536182 or 07850 402845

## **CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**

CARPET AND UPHOLSTERY CLEANING - Local, reasonable rates - David - 01379 608529 or 07768 757308

## **CHIMNEY SWEEP**

CHIMNEY SWEEP - Guild of Master Sweeps, Clean & Friendly, Smoke Test & Certification - Dave 07835 757528

## **DOMESTIC CLEANING**

CLEANERS R US - Affordable - reliable - professional Want a pristine, clean home but don't want to spend all weekend doing it? WE CAN HELP YOU! Trusted in local homes since 2003. Same reliable, police checked, vetted and insured cleaner provided on a regular basis at affordable rates. 01508 490 808 | [norwich@cleanersrus.co.uk](mailto:norwich@cleanersrus.co.uk) | [www.cleanersrus.co.uk/domestic-home-cleaning-norwich](http://www.cleanersrus.co.uk/domestic-home-cleaning-norwich)

## **ELECTRICIANS**

ELECTRICIAN - Bob Turner - Domestic & Commercial Electrical Contractor - 07899 794813

## **FARM SHOPS**

FARM SHOP, CAFÉ & BUTCHERY, Norwich Road, Woodton for the best Raw Milk in Norfolk - 07900 814252

## **FUNERAL SERVICES**

R. B. COPPING FUNERAL SERVICES, PORINGLAND - 01508 494434

ROSEDALE FUNERAL HOME - Beccles & Bungay, a family business - 01986 892790 or 01502 714445

## **GROUNDWORK & GARDENING SERVICES**

S. W. CONTRACTORS Groundwork, Gardens, Fences, Patios & Hedge Trimming - 01508 495528

## **HAIR & NAIL SALONS**

EVIE CLARK HAIRDRESSING - Hairdresser & Barber, based in Hempnall - 01508 499934 or 07703 680443

FEET - Corns, calluses, nail cutting & more, treated in you home - Wendy - 01379 676872

## **OSTEOPATH**

OSTEOPATH-Osteopathy for all-adults to babies, includes cranial. Joints, spine, nerves, headaches, accidents - 07818 747776 | 01953 789629 | [www.norfolkost.co.uk](http://www.norfolkost.co.uk)

## **PIANO TUTION**

PIANO LESSONS - Bedingham - All ages welcome - Marian Gibb ALCM (TD) DipLCM. 01508 482 746

## PARISH COUNCILS

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL- Website  
Address [www.hempnallpc.org](http://www.hempnallpc.org)

## PEST CONTROL

SAFE & SOUND HYGIENE AND PEST  
CONTROL & GARDEN MAINTENANCE -  
01379 788865 or 07809 226109

## PLANT HIRE

PETER MATTHEWSON PLANT HIRE -  
Drainage & Groundworks - Please call for  
info. 01508 482655 or 07850 722094

## TRANSPORT

CHRIS BAKER TRANSPORT - Man & Van -  
01508 531738 or 07821 923489

## TREE SURGERY

T. MABBUTT TREE SERVICES – High  
standard of work from a professional,  
considerate and friendly local business.  
Covering all aspects of tree surgery and  
stump removal. Holding qualifications from  
the RHS, RFS, City & Guilds. Free quotes.  
Based in Ditchingham.  
07773676465 [www.treemabbutt.com](http://www.treemabbutt.com) Find us  
on Facebook.



## DEFIBRILLATOR

A defibrillator is located at  
Topcroft's Social Club  
The Street Topcroft NR35 2BL  
[what3words:///goods.students.economics](http://what3words:///goods.students.economics)

**In an Emergency call 999 for the  
Defibrillator Cabinet Code & Instructions**

*This defibrillator is owned by Topcroft Parish Council - any issues contact 07774 734411*

## Contact us....

**Frances Atherton**  
**Group Administrator**  
**The Hempnall Group of Parishes and**  
**Brooke Benefice**  
Mon-Thurs 9:00am-12:30pm  
01508 498157  
[hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com](mailto:hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com)

## Items for the next issue...

Items for the Village News should be  
Delivered, Posted or Emailed to:  
Group Office, The Rectory,  
The Street, Hempnall, NR15 2AD  
Email:

[hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com](mailto:hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com)

**BEFORE**  
**15TH APRIL 2024**

*This magazine is published by the Joint Council of the Hempnall Group of Parishes. We reserve the right to edit or decline any material submitted for publication. While reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the contents of the magazine are accurate, no responsibility can be taken for errors and omissions. The material printed does not necessarily represent the views of the Joint Council. In accepting advertisements for publication, no recommendation of products or services is implied and we cannot accept responsibility for any unsatisfactory transactions.*