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APRIL '21

SCULTHORPE MESSENGER



NEWS & VIEWS FROM CHURCH & COMMUNITY

A Reflection for Good Friday

It was not a quiet afternoon. The bitter weeping of a small group of mourners was silenced only by the desolate cries of the man they loved. Slowly, painfully - unbelievably - the Lord of life was dying. It seemed a strange and terrible world. The Way had come to an end. The Truth had been overcome by false witness. The Life was, after all, susceptible to death. The Good Shepherd had himself fallen at last among the wolves.

That afternoon Jesus was nailed to a wooden cross just before the start of what could have been just another Passover Festival. The soldiers could not have suspected that their hammers were doing no less than nailing heaven and earth together. And why should they? Crucifixion was a dirty, smelly, distasteful business. Better surely to get it over with and return to quarters. Even in Palestine the evenings could be cold.

It had been a rushed trial, illegal, only broadly in line with the requirements of the Jewish law. After seizing their opportunity late on the Thursday night the enemies of Jesus were desperate to ensure that most of the rules had been fulfilled before the Festival began, at sunset on Friday. By then they hoped their victim would be dead and buried.

But Jesus was innocent. Everybody knew that. Caiaphas, the Jewish High Priest, and his friends were thinking on their feet, patching the charges together as they discussed their prisoner with Pilate, the Roman Governor. Even though their haste led them into a series of bungling errors, the outcome of the affair was never seriously in doubt. Too many vested interests were at stake.

So what was Jesus thinking? He had never disguised his apprehension when he told his friends what would happen. His face had long been set beyond Jerusalem, to that hill just outside the city wall. He was not in the habit of changing his mind. Nor was he helpless, or stupid. He chose when to die. And so in a few action-packed hours came tumbling one after another a sequence of devastating events: betrayal, arrest, trial, torture, crucifixion, death, burial. It was sudden. It was decisive. The dream was at an end. His friends became aware of a reality more horrible than they had ever imagined.

And yet we call this Good Friday! Christians will say that around the death of Christ, and its sequel about thirty-six hours later, turns the whole of human history. For on that cross God and the human race were united, as Jesus experienced in himself all the perverse willfulness of human sin and all the pain of human suffering. He now stood forth, fully God and fully human, sacrificing himself to obliterate once and for all the sins of those who put their trust in him.

Jesus gave himself, at a cost we cannot even imagine, so that we might come to God. Imagine the awesome pain - physical, mental, emotional, spiritual - he allowed himself to suffer, as he mourned for the city and the people that rejected him, as his dearest friend pretended he never knew him, and as he found himself abandoned even by the Father in whom he had trusted.

And reflect then on the beauty of his love.

*Rejoice in the strength of your salvation.
See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

Fr Clive

(Rector of North Creake, South Creake with Waterden, Syderstone with Barmer, and Sculthorpe)

MEET THE VILLAGERS

Kris Sumner

My name is Kris, I am often seen walking round the village with my beloved little dog Molly (very noisy black-and-white, although friendly dog, she barks at anything with four legs and tractors).

Moving from Manchester with my husband and family I have lived in two houses in Sculthorpe, first with my husband from 1980 until 1998 when, unfortunately, after his death I moved to Edgefield. Not settling in Edgefield, I came back to Sculthorpe in 2006.

I have been involved with the Village Hall for many years and have contributed to several events run here, the Village Hall, it seems to me, to be the centre of the village and where you can meet people and get involved with all sorts of activities. In the past there were pantomimes, the Merrymakers (A group of villagers who entertained regularly). We had craft fairs, horticultural shows and events celebrating National days.



The village once had a young football club, run by villagers and it had its own ground on the field at Grange farm.

My main hobbies are gardening, sewing, knitting and of course walking my dog. It's lovely to meet people as I go around the village. I find people friendly and the whole and really enjoy living here.

I wish you all well in these uncertain times I can only say stay safe, keep well, follow the rules and we can all get back to normal, hopefully, in the not too distant future.

We are looking for more 'Meet the Villager' articles.
Please email jonathan@js-creative.com
or drop off at 17 Creake Road.

VILLAGE QUIZ

The quiz in last month's Messenger has been successful.

It has achieved what was intended to get villager families outside doing something constructive and hopefully interesting. Several villagers have completed the quiz, just for enjoyment and not handed in entries, which is great. The ones handed in are very good and mostly correct. I will provide and deliver a few small prizes mostly for children.

The following were excellent entries:

Alfie Kettel, Bob Francis family, Gary & Mary Grist, Travis Reynolds, Pam & Phil Johnson, Ann Smith, The Southerlands, Julia Seaman, Ruth Woodhouse, The Haws family, Rosie Noon

As villagers seemed to enjoy it and comments were favourable, I will produce another quiz.

It will involve clues, anagrams, jumbles letters, possible research etc.

I hope you will try it and enjoy it. Again mostly for fun in different times but a few tasty prizes.

Brian Hinchcliffe

COVE PROJECT

Here at Norfolk and Waveney Mind we have the privilege to be able to provide a Complex Bereavement Service called the Cove Project.

This service can provide support for anyone over the age of 18 who has been bereaved during the pandemic. The bereavement does not have to be COVID-19 related.

If you feel that someone may benefit from some face to face contact please do get in touch.

We also provide 1:1 support services.

Contact **Agi Huszcza** and **Jess Haven** on:

0300 330 5488 or email:

cove.project@norfolkandwaveneymind.org.uk

News from your Sculthorpe Parish Church

We are almost there. Freedom beckons and we will be able to go out and see friends and family once again.

Some of you will have been working very hard perhaps harder than usual. I know that some of you have been hit by the virus and that must have been extremely difficult and scary. Many of us have been very fed up and have had a lot of time on our hands. The sort of time that, given good weather and the ability to roam we would have treasured. The world has and is suffering and Sculthorpe has been part of that.

Spring is here now, many of us have been vaccinated at least once and hopefully we are on the way to recovery. I thought that it would be nice to herald the upturn in our lives with a Sunflower competition.



It would be lovely if lots of you join in even better if you could grow them so that those of us on our circuit of the village on our daily walks can see them.

I am bagging up a couple of giant sunflower seeds with the inner tube of a toilet roll (you can use your own if you would rather) and some seed compost. I will put them in a tupperware, or similar, box at the end of my drive in Creak Rd. Please help yourself and put a £1 in the tin. The money will go to the Church.

When you think that the plant has got as big as its going to get or by the 1st of September, whichever comes first, measure it and put your results in the post box by my gate or email me pamelajohnson5@btinternet.com. All results should be with me by the 10th of September.

There will be a £10 garden centre prize for the tallest. Happy planting.

Pam

FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL - FLOODING

Following a very wet winter, several people in the village have suffered flooding of their property from run off from the field. As far as we are aware nobody has had flooding inside their houses. Following a meeting with an officer of Norfolk County Council we now know that, as the flooding is coming from private property (the field) and onto private property (your garden?), and not causing flooding of anybody's house there is little that they can do. To limit the problem in future would require the owners of the field to do some work digging a drainage ditch to divert the run off into the pond/watercourses. So that we can identify where the ditch would need to be dug and so that we can ask the owners to do the work we need to know which properties have been affected. Whether they will be willing to do the work is still to be seen, but so that we can make a reasoned request please let us know if you have been affected. If you have, then please send me an e mail to brian@theoldwashhouse.com or to our parish clerk at sculthorpepc@gmail.com or write to her at 52 Queens Rd., Fakenham, NR21 8DB. If we can raise awareness of the problem, hopefully we can find a way of preventing future problems.

Regards,
Brian Watkin

News from your County Councillor ... Marie Strong

Dear Readers,

It has been a privilege and pleasure to be your county councillor for the past 12 years. I am discussing with Mike (spouse) as to standing again in the forthcoming election and this time as an independent candidate.

6 May 2021 Elections: These elections are for County Councillors, the Police & Crime Commissioner and any bi-elections.

Postal Voting: North Norfolk District are taking great care as to safety precautions at polling stations but additionally for extra care of your health and that of staff at the polling stations a postal vote seems a very good idea. Apply for a postal vote at postalvotes@north-norfolk.gov.uk or 01263 513811. Deadline for postal votes 20 April, for proxy votes 27 April. If COVID illness will interfere with your ability to vote check the website or phone number shown above.

Project Gigabit: For those properties still struggling to obtain satisfactory broadband: For me this is the most exciting news regarding broadband since I campaigned with you for 'Better Broadband for Norfolk'. Norfolk is listed amongst the first counties to benefit from this new tranche of funding for gigabit fibre deployment. The project will target properties that are not expected to benefit from suppliers own commercial investment in Gigabit capable infrastructure, thought to be around 35% of Norfolk properties. Build work expected to commence in 2023. Access the following link or ask someone with sufficient broadband to run you a copy - www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-new-5bn-project-gigabit

Libraries Re-opening: Holt, Fakenham and Wells libraries are open commencing with a phased reopening starting with a click and collect style service. Each library will allow users to pick up selected books, return items and access period products through the Tricky Period scheme. Safety measures in place at each location including use of face coverings, social distancing and hand sanitiser. Returned books continue to be quarantined for at least 72 hours. Ring to check opening times before travelling. Further details visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries

Young People & Mental Health: Norfolk County Council's 'This is how... #wevegottthis' campaign for young people's mental health, promotes improving their mental health and wellbeing. For more details about the campaign go to: www.norfolk.gov.uk/feelgood

Contact me as usual at:
marie.strong@norfolk.gov.uk
07920 286 597



Advice and Support for Bereaved Families: I was undecided as to whether to offer the following information but then recalled the times I would have found it helpful so here goes:

To book a death registration appointment call Norfolk County Council Registration Offices on 0344 800 8020. Further information about this service can be found on this link: Deaths - Norfolk County Council: www.norfolk.gov.uk/births-ceremonies-and-deaths

Further information about support including links to specialist organisations can be found here: Bereavement support - Norfolk County Council: www.norfolk.gov.uk/births-ceremonies-and-deaths/deaths/bereavement-support

COVID-19 Information: Keep these websites which will enable you to check for regular and reliable updates:

Information on the government's road map out of lockdown is available at www.gov.uk/guidance/local-restriction-tiers-what-you-need-to-know

www.norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus: this site includes local services as well as the latest regulations for Norfolk and reference to many if not all of the government schemes

www.gov.uk/coronavirus: all the government schemes are to be found on this site

As always my admiration of those who are helping others, often without acknowledgement - so from me to you - thank you.

All good wishes,

Marie

Notice Board

VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall will start to re-open
beginning with:

Tue 9-1 Hartbeeps
Starting Tuesday 13th April 2021
(Term time only)

As lockdown eases, other activities will follow when allowed,
as advised in the Government Guidelines for re-opening.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

We have an Amazon Smile Charity Account for
Sculthorpe Village Hall (to go towards the Roof Fund).
You can opt in via Amazon Smile at no cost to yourself
and Sculthorpe Village Hall will get a small percentage
of the purchase price. See below.

How does AmazonSmile work?

When first visiting smile.amazon.co.uk, customers
are prompted to select a charitable organisation.
Amazon will give 0.5% of the net purchase price
(excluding VAT and other shipping fees)
of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable
organisations selected by our customers.

See sculthorpevillage.wordpress.com
or Sculthorpe Village on Facebook for details

To book the village hall please contact
Vyv Matthews (4 Creake Road) on 01328 851985
or email: vyv_5cw@yahoo.co.uk

ITEMS of INTEREST

If you have any news you would like
to share, an article you would like to
write or maybe a photograph for the
front cover, please do send them in!

SCULTHORPE MESSENGER

Please contact me by 20th April
with any notices or features of
interest for the May issue.

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Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Norfolk ... www.walkinginengland.co.uk/norfolk is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John said "There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Norfolk (part of the Walking in England suite of websites (www.walkinginengland.co.uk) - one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you."

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the website and get walking!

John Harris
www.walkinginengland.co.uk
email: john@walkinginengland.co.uk

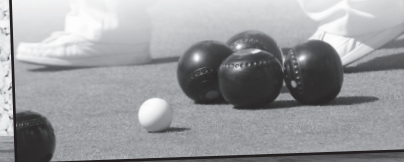
Looking for a new challenge?

Sculthorpe Bowls Club is able
to open again this year with
guidelines in place and looking for
new members to join us. All ages
welcome.

No previous experience required,
equipment available to borrow.

Non playing members and visitors
are also welcome to come and enjoy
the lovely surroundings, situated
in the Old Rectory kitchen garden
with bar facilities.

Please contact Vince or Rosie for
details on 01328 851282.



Thank you to the socially conscious person who
cleared the top of Creake Road after a not very small
amount of building rubbish had been dropped and left
at the corner of Creake Road and Kings Lynn Road.
This debris caused quite a bit of disturbance to walkers,
cyclists, cars and people pushing buggies et cetera, i.e
skids, trips, causing one walker to destroy an expensive
pair of trousers after a fall on the debris, also a loss of a
windscreen in another case. I am sure there are several
other incidents from local people trying to get across
Creake Road.

Please, residents of Sculthorpe think of your neighbours
and children trying to negotiate pavements, where there
are pavements, daily either by walking, pushing buggies,
small cycles and scooters and generally not so good on
their feet.

Gravel, building rubbish et cetera should be cleared
away from the local paving by the householder. Whilst
we all have work to do around the garden and house we
are responsible for keeping the pavements clear. Don't
forget it could be you or your family who come to grief
over falls, skids et cetera.

Thank you again to the person spending time clearing
the debris away from the Creake Road entrance to the
Kings Lynn Road.