



No 600

MARCH 2025

**BRANCASTER, BRANCASTER STAITHE, BURNHAM DEEPPDALE, TITCHWELL, CHOSELEY**

**THE RECTOR:** Interregnum

**ASSISTANT PRIEST HUNSTANTON & SAXON SHORE BENEFICE:**

**The Rev'd James Monro Tel 01485 518342**

**RETIRED CLERGY: The Rev'd Phil Unsworth Tel 01485 532436**

**The Rev'd Sandra Ellison Tel 01485 298852**

**The Rev'd Steve Wood Tel 07704 922 984**

Within the church this year March sees the reflection period of Lent. Lent is the forty days leading to Easter. At the beginning of his ministry Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness thinking and praying about the next stage of his life. How did God want Him to live His life showing the true nature of God? Jesus was tempted to turn stones into bread, to instantly take authority over the kingdoms of the world, to jump off the pinnacle of the temple, all spectacular ways to persuade people who He was and to show the power of God. However Jesus turned His back on each of these temptations as He knew that to give in to these temptations might show a powerful God who could control, but they wouldn't show the loving nature of God that Jesus had come to know. Following His time reflecting on the will of God Jesus chose to show God's true nature through the way He lived His life showing God's love, compassion and equality for each and every person.

For many Lent has become a time to 'give up' something, usually something we enjoy - maybe chocolate - in an attempt to prove that we too can resist temptation. This may make us healthier but does it really help us to reflect on how we live our lives? However perhaps a simple twist on this can get us a little closer to the impact reflecting on our lives can have. Rather than give up chocolate, one parish encouraged people to eat chocolate. The local store had agreed to stock fair trade chocolate. This encouraged people to think about where food comes from and the impact even a simple thing like buying chocolate can have on others. It is reflecting on how we carry out even the simplest of daily tasks that can bring us closer to the real reason for Lent.

The fourth Sunday of Lent - this year 30<sup>th</sup> March - is Mothering Sunday. Traditionally this Sunday, known as Laetare (rejoice) Sunday, has been a day to relax, a day of celebration within the austere period of Lent. A day of hope with Easter in sight. During the Middle Ages those who had moved away from home to find work on farms, estates or in service were allowed to visit their home parish and their mothers on Laetare Sunday. In Britain this has become Mothering Sunday. For the church Mothering Sunday embraces all those who show a mother's love, within the family of the church and the wider community. This year it is also the first day of British summer time - when clocks 'spring' forward an hour. Longer hours of daylight, warmer days to look forward to. Lent is a time to reflect on our lives and how all people can enjoy the lighter and warmer days filled with the overarching mother's love that we see in God.

With love and prayers, Sandra Ellison, priest assisting during the vacancy

## **MARCH SERVICES IN THE HUNSTANTON & SAXON SHORE BENEFICE**

CW = Common Worship. BCP = Book of Common Prayer. HC = Holy Communion.

MP = Service of Morning Prayer (no bread and wine).

Family service = Shorter service with lighting of candles (no bread and wine).

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

9.00 am	Holme-next-the-Sea
9.00 am	Ringstead
10.30 am	Titchwell
10.45 am	Brancaster
10.45 am	Old Hunstanton
10.45 am	Hunstanton

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Ringstead
6.00 pm	Titchwell

### **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>**

8.30 am	Titchwell
10.30 am	“
9.00 am	Burnham Deepdale
9.00 am	Thornham
9.00 am	Ringstead
10.45 am	Old Hunstanton
10.45 am	Hunstanton

### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Ringstead
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### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>**

9.00 am	Holme-next-the-Sea
9.00 am	Ringstead
10.15 am	Burnham Deepdale
10.30 am	Titchwell
10.45 am	Old Hunstanton
10.45 am	Hunstanton
4.00 pm	Brancaster

### **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

8.30 am	Titchwell
10.30 am	“
9.00 am	Burnham Deepdale
9.00 am	Thornham
9.00 am	Ringstead
10.45 am	Old Hunstanton
10.45 am	Hunstanton

### **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Ringstead
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### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**

10.00 am	Burnham Deepdale
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### **Sunday next before Lent**

Holy Communion	BCP
Holy Communion	CW
Morning Prayer	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Morning Prayer	CW

### **Ash Wednesday**

### **First Sunday of Lent**

Holy Communion	BCP
Holy Communion for Families	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Morning Prayer	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion	CW

### **Second Sunday of Lent**

Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion for Families	CW
Holy Communion for Families	CW
Morning Prayer	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Evening Prayer	

### **Third Sunday of Lent**

Holy Communion	BCP
Holy Communion for Families	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Morning Prayer	CW
Holy Communion	CW
Holy Communion	CW

### **Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday**

HC Benefice Family Friendly	CW
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**MAKING SPACE CAFÉ**, supported by the Norfolk Community Foundation. **Wednesdays** each week, 10 am - 12 noon, at St Edmund's Church hall, Hunstanton. An official 'Warm Space'.

For **Hot Spot lunches at Brancaster** please contact Babs Wade 01485 522273 or [hotspotlunches@gmail.com](mailto:hotspotlunches@gmail.com).

### **A FEW HOUSEKEEPING REGULATIONS DURING THE INTERREGNUM**

Whilst we are without a rector our Rural Dean, Peter Cook, takes over that responsibility. Please contact Peter in the first instance **for all enquiries with regard to weddings, funerals and baptisms.** Peter's phone number is 01485 517157.

**The Diocesan Registrar is responsible for all memorials in a churchyard - headstones and plaques.** During a vacancy all requests for these must go through the Registrar. The person/stonemason making the request should contact the Registrar directly: see website [www.norwichdiocesanregistry.co.uk](http://www.norwichdiocesanregistry.co.uk).

Church wardens and priests assisting during the interregnum cannot give permission for these.

### **ST HENRY WALPOLE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, BURNHAM MARKET**

**Mass times:** Sundays 9.30 am, Fridays 9.30 am. Holy Days of Obligation: see notice board in Church porch. Further information: [catholicparishofwalsingham.org](http://catholicparishofwalsingham.org).

### **NEWS FROM BURNHAM DEEPPDALE CHURCH**

**Lent Lunches** We are organising Lent Lunches again this year. Would you like to come and join us at a friendly gathering over a simple lunch and raise money for a good cause? Money raised will go to The Norfolk Hospice, Tapping House. There will be one sitting for each lunch for up to 14 people at 12.30 pm. All lunches be on a **Wednesday** and all will be at **Deepdale Farmhouse, Burnham Deepdale** on the following dates: **12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> April**. The menu will be home-made soup, bread and cheese, fruit, with coffee or tea afterwards. £5 minimum donation per person which will go to The Norfolk Hospice Tapping House. Because space will be limited, **we ask you please to book your place** for each lunch by phoning or emailing: Verily on 01485 210267, [verily@deepdalefarm.co.uk](mailto:verily@deepdalefarm.co.uk). Do come and enjoy a sociable lunch and support a good cause at the same time. Why not bring a friend? One more point – there is **step-free access** for those who need that.

**Mothering Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March** We are looking forward to welcoming many on Mothering Sunday at 10 am when there will be a family friendly service of Holy Communion for the whole benefice. Come and celebrate your mother, grandmother, great-grandmother or someone who has been an important mother-figure in your life by receiving a posy to give to them during or after the service.

**Plant Stall and Books in the Porch** Both the Plant Stall and Books in the Church Porch will re-open around Easter time, next month. Both stalls raise money for the Church Building Maintenance Fund. Meantime if you have any plants that you have been looking after for the stall, or any seedlings coming on, they will be very gratefully received. Likewise, do look out any 'good reads' you no longer want but please note, **no hard back books especially of the cookery and gardening kind** as they just do not sell. Thank you.

### **MUSIC IN THE BURNHAMS RETURNS TO BRANCASTER FOR ANOTHER SEASON OF CONCERTS**

We are delighted to welcome Peter Hewitt, a renowned pianist, who loves his Beethoven and will be playing 4 of his sonatas: Pathétique, Tempest, Moonlight and Appassionata at St Mary's church for the first of 6 concerts during late spring and summer. The concert is on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April** at 7.30 pm. Tickets are on sale at £20 and can be bought in advance by calling 07989 177079 or at [www.musicintheburnhams.com](http://www.musicintheburnhams.com), alternatively on the door.

We look forward to welcoming you with a glass of wine or refreshments! (See back page.)

**SHEILA MURIEL DANIEL** for many years a resident in Town Lane, Brancaster Staithe, died aged 99 on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, cremation at Mintlyn took place on 19<sup>th</sup> February.

## **TITCHWELL CHURCH**

The Church has two ancient seasons of reflection and preparation which in today's world are a welcome relief from the commercialisation we see all around us: Advent to lead us into Christmas and a meaningful celebration of Jesus' birth, and Lent to take us to Good Friday and Easter as we ponder His death and resurrection. During Advent the days are shortening but of course during Lent the hours of daylight are lengthening heralding the coming of spring. The season provides an appropriate backdrop for the first of our Deanery Lent Services which will be at Titchwell at 4 pm on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**. We will be joining with the Stillness Group for a short time of reflection on "*From Darkness into Light*".

Please consult the benefice website ([saxonshorebenefice.co.uk](http://saxonshorebenefice.co.uk)) for details of subsequent services in the churches of our deanery week by week throughout Lent.

Lent begins on **March 5<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday**, and there will be a short service of Holy Communion with ashing in St Mary's, Titchwell at 6pm.

On **Mothering Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> March**, there will be a joint benefice service when we will gather at Burnham Deepdale for 10 am to give thanks to God and remember before Him all who have been mothers to us. Bunches of spring flowers will be available to give to those who have mothered us. As is my practice, there will also be an opportunity to lay flowers on the altar in memory of departed mothers.

Details of all our Easter services will be available on the benefice website nearer the time but please remember that there will be a joint Titchwell-Brancaster service in Brancaster church on Easter Sunday at 11 am. If you would like an Easter lily placing on the altar in Titchwell Church in memory of a loved one, please contact Susan Campbell at [susanbradshaw47@gmail.com](mailto:susanbradshaw47@gmail.com). A donation of £5 would be much appreciated.

With prayers and best wishes,

James Monroe (licensed priest, Hunstanton and Saxon Shore Benefice).

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS** The Council, Councillors, Parish and Parishioners said goodbye to ex Parish Clerk Simon Bower at his funeral held at the Mintlyn Crematorium King's Lynn on the 28<sup>th</sup> January. Parish Council Chair Tom de Winton gave a eulogy.

For all residents concerned about planning and development in the Parish, the local plan for Brancaster, Brancaster Staithe and Burnham Deepdale is available for public view at: [www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1/brancasterneighbourhood\\_plan.pdf](http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1/brancasterneighbourhood_plan.pdf).

Discussions are still ongoing with the National Trust in respect of installation of the remaining bike rack at Brancaster Staithe. The Parish Council gave grants to the Brancaster Village School for the repair of play equipment £700 and a school trip £280. A positive meeting was held with Highways in respect of the flood warning signs, and a programmable format and locations were agreed. Sign design is underway and an installation date awaited.

A general meeting was held with the National Trust at which the NT in principle agreed to support the Parish Council in carrying out improvement works to the Village Green. The Parish Council will prepare a plan and costings for presentation to the NT and the Sailing Club, so their opinions can be considered in respect of any proposed works.

Following a death last year on Brancaster beach the NT are considering the concerns raised by the Coroner's report in respect of signage. The Council are considering commissioning and installing a vinyl sticker location map to the bus shelter.

Planning for VE and VJ Day celebrations have commenced and are being led by Cllr Bax.

Planning work for the extension of the car park at Brancaster Village Hall is underway with initial costs estimated to be in the region of £48,000. An application for partial funding has been submitted.

Our **March** meeting is on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>** in Brancaster Staithe & Burnham Deepdale Village Hall at 6.30 pm. Contact details for the Parish Council: [www.brancaster-pc.gov.uk](http://www.brancaster-pc.gov.uk); email [clerk@brancaster-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brancaster-pc.gov.uk).

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### **FRIENDS OF BURNHAM MARKET AREA COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME (BMACCS)**

At the first draw of 2025 the winners were: £100 - Mrs W, Ingoldisthorpe; £75 - Mr E, Brancaster; £50 - Mr & Mrs W, Brancaster. If you would like to support this worthwhile cause please contact Sarah on 07802 314524.

BMACCS has been running very successfully for over 20 years helping people to stay as independent as possible by taking them to medically related appointments. On occasion we have been unable to do this due to a lack of voluntary drivers. If you have some spare time and would like to help us continue, please contact Linda on 07301 011303. Mileage is paid by the Car Scheme and the passenger. Thanking you in anticipation.

### **WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING**

**The Wednesday Coffee Morning at Brancaster Village Hall is back!**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, 10.30 – 11.30 am. All welcome. Drinks, refreshments, a chance to socialise with friends and meet new people from our villages. All for £1.50 per person!

Each week we plan to entice you with a free raffle, pastries/cakes/biscuits, talks on different topics and a fabulous welcome.

On **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**, 10 am - 12 noon the coffee morning is hosting King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council for a Beat Your Bills roadshow. Their road shows offer help on all aspects of cost of living, including information about how to access benefits, grants, discounts, save money and more. At the event there will be staff on hand to answer questions and give information on a range of cost of living subjects, including energy bills, rent problems, general money worries, grants, benefits and advice on how to reduce costs.

This is a free event and there will be lots of refreshments available, so please come along to make this morning a great success.

### **BRANCASTER CAMERA CLUB**

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March** at 7 pm in Brancaster Staithe Village Hall.

Entrance is £5 to include refreshments. The topic for the evening will be 'Food' and we hope for as many interpretations as possible. We are a small friendly club and we welcome new members and visitors. We hope to see you soon. Contact Wendy Calow on 01553 674725 and Sue Till on 01485 210013.

### **TITCHWELL VILLAGE MEETING**

A huge thank you to Jamie Campbell for his time as Chair/Clerk of Titchwell Village Meeting. Jason Chase has taken over this position as of January 2025 and looks forward to welcoming local residents to the next meeting on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March**, 7.30 pm at Briarfields Hotel. The agenda will be posted in advance on village notice boards. For all correspondence please email: [clerk@titchwellparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@titchwellparish.gov.uk).

### **DEEPPDALE FARM**

**Introduction to Green Woodworking** 1-day course: **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March**.

**Stool making for beginners** (follow on from intro course) 2-days: **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March** and **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April**. Gift vouchers available and private groups possible.

**Conservation volunteering** Sessions run **fortnightly on Thursdays** 9.30 am -12.30 pm. We'll be working on hedges, woodland, dykes and more. No need to commit to every session. Email us if you'd like more details or to get involved [enquiries@deepdalefarm.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@deepdalefarm.co.uk).

Full details and further dates of our activities can be found on our website [www.deepdalefarm.co.uk](http://www.deepdalefarm.co.uk) or follow us on social media @deepdalefarm.

### **BRANCASTER COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

If you wish to support the petition being organised against the proposed closure please scan the QR code on the right, email [arobinson1812@gmail.com](mailto:arobinson1812@gmail.com) or use the link below:

[www.change.org/p/save-brancaster-cofe-primary-school](http://www.change.org/p/save-brancaster-cofe-primary-school)



**SCOTTISH DANCING AT BRANCASTER VILLAGE HALL** 6 - 8 pm on **Tuesdays** (one per month). Next: **18<sup>th</sup> March**. £2.50 per person per evening. Bar 71 is open in the interval. All welcome. Enquiries [lucinda.mackworth.young@gmail.com](mailto:lucinda.mackworth.young@gmail.com).

### **BRANCASTER COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB**

The 2025 AGM of Brancaster Community Sports Club will be held on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March** at 6 pm in Brancaster Village Hall. Everyone is welcome whether you are a member or just interested in supporting this great facility in our village.

If you have any ideas or comments on the management of the playing field, playground, tennis and pickleball court, table tennis or petanque piste please come and share them with us. If you have any questions but are unable to attend please send your comments to [dianawalton1@gmail.com](mailto:dianawalton1@gmail.com)

### **DEEPPDALE & DALEGATE MARKET**

**The Wood Fired Food Co Pizzas - Street Food** - **Fridays and Saturdays** in March.

The Wood Fired Food Co return to Burnham Deepdale after their winter break with their very tasty takeaway wood-fired pizzas served up outside the Deepdale Visitor Information Centre. [www.deepdalecamping.co.uk/street-food/](http://www.deepdalecamping.co.uk/street-food/)

**Pop Up Shops at Dalegate Market** - **Thursdays to Sundays**, the beach hut pop up shops will be welcoming back artisans and producers for long weekends in March. Full listings on the website: [www.dalegatemarket.co.uk/pop-up-shops/](http://www.dalegatemarket.co.uk/pop-up-shops/)

**Deepdale Barn Dance** - **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March**. The Whirligig Ceilidh Band perform in the Brick Barn, a firm favourite with Deepdale customers. An evening of dancing, fun and firepits in the Courtyard! [www.deepdalemusic.co.uk](http://www.deepdalemusic.co.uk)

### **THE WHITE HORSE**

**Scolt Head Suppers A Taste of Spring**

Join us for Scolt Head Suppers A Taste of Spring 5-course supper on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March** at 7 pm, intertwined with chat from our local suppliers Ben from Barsby Produce and Matt from Burn Valley Vineyard - £60pp, plus £25 with matched wine. Please call us to reserve your table 01485 210262.

**Guinness Six Nations 2025, watch with us**

All matches shown in the bar, culminating in **Super Saturday on 15<sup>th</sup> March**.

We will be cheering our boys and Guinness Women's Six Nations from **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** and look forward to some rugby banter across the bar. Lots of Guinness!

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March Mother's Day Roast**

Always a special day, treat Mum to a traditional roast, served from 12 noon to 9 pm, choice of meats, with all the trimmings plus a treat for Mum! Booking now 01485 210262.

**Marshside is Back! Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March**, weather permitting. Clocks go forward bringing brighter evenings, it's a perfect time to swing the proverbial doors open to the most unique food and drink spot on the north Norfolk coast. We can't wait to welcome you.

**Delicious Set Menu in the Bar** 2 courses £25, 3 courses £30, Monday to Friday 12 noon - 6 pm. As an extra treat, we are offering a set menu, a great way to meet up with friends and enjoy delicious food.

**New Menu Online** Look out for Fran's delicious new menu, including Brancaster Bay Shellfish mussels.

It's always good to see you, we like to take bookings for our bar and restaurant but please be assured that we will always accommodate locals on a walk in. We look forward to welcoming you.

Rob, Fran, Rosie, Kinga & The White Horse Team



## **THE JOLLY SAILORS**

**Guinness Six Nations 2025** Watch with us. We have 4 screens! Culminating in **Super Saturday on 15<sup>th</sup> March**. Also Guinness Women's Six Nations from **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**. We look forward to some rugby banter across the bar. Lots of Guinness. We hope to see you.

**Shanty Mondays** at 7 pm. Join in and sing-along as Nelson's Shantymen rehearse their repertoire.

**Charity Quiz Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**, 8 pm. There's a £100 ACI token in the pot for the winning team. Proceeds to Big C Norfolk Charity. With your help we raised the grand sum of £420 in 2024.

**Nick's Curry Night - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March**, 7 pm for 7.30 pm, £28, includes a beer.

Join us to enjoy traditional curry at its best. Nick knows his curry and cooks up the best authentic delicious curries, with all the trimmings. All dishes freshly prepared and cooked to the highest standard. Booking and preordering your choice is essential - telephone 01485 210314 now to book.

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March** British summer time starts and it's **Mother's Day**. Treat Mum on this special day to a traditional roast, served from 12 noon to 8 pm, choice of meats, with all the trimmings - booking now.

**Jolly Steak House Fridays, 28<sup>th</sup> February and 28<sup>th</sup> March**, 12 noon to 9 pm. Enjoy the best cuts of steak served with your choice of sides. Booking now.

**2 for 1 PIZZA Thursdays** served 12 noon to 9 pm. Eat in or Takeaway. Enjoy your favourite 'stone baked' to perfection Pizza, combo choice with the cheapest Pizza FREE.

**A Jolly Delicious Sunday Roast** with all the trimmings and the biggest 'yorkies'. Booking advisable, served from 12 noon to 6 pm on Sundays. See sample menu online. Booking now.

**Rum of the Month** try a discounted rum from our vast choice, reputedly the biggest selection along the coast.

**Thomas' Delicious Brancaster Mussels** @brancasterbayshellfish. Mussels season will be over soon, but Brancaster mussels are still very much on the menu every day this month.

**Menu – Takeaway** A reminder that all items on our menu are available as Takeaway.

See [www.jollysailorsbrancaster.co.uk/events](http://www.jollysailorsbrancaster.co.uk/events) for what's coming up.

Simon, Nick, Mollie, Matt & The Jolly Sailors Team

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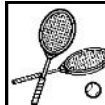
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## ANYONE FOR TENNIS? Deepdale and Brancaster Staithe Tennis Club

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For membership see our website:

[www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/DBSTennisClub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/DBSTennisClub)

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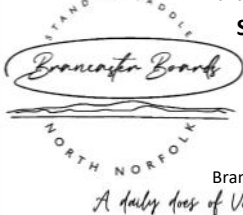
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### **DEEPDALE AND BRANCASTER STAITHE TENNIS CLUB**

Our two lovely courts in the middle of the village are available for play by both members and visitors. Have a look at our website: [www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/DBSTennisClub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/DBSTennisClub).

**Our membership year** starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. Invitations to renew will be sent out during March. New members are always welcome and we have a range of different membership categories. Please see the website for more information.

**Coaching for Adults** is available with Becky Palmer on **Monday mornings** from 9.30 – 10.30 am. These are arranged in short courses of 4 weekly sessions at £20 per course to be booked direct with Becky in advance. Please contact her by email [tennismadbex@gmail.com](mailto:tennismadbex@gmail.com) for further details.

### **Wednesday Ladies Tennis Mornings**

These continue every week when the weather allows from 9-10.30 am. We are a group of experienced players (not beginners) of a certain age and the emphasis is on fun. If you would like to join us please contact Verily Borthwick by email to [DBSTennisClub@outlook.com](mailto:DBSTennisClub@outlook.com). These sessions are for members but you are most welcome to come along and try us out for free for up to 3 occasions in the year.

### **NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL**

What a great start to the year! Princess Anne came to Brancaster to officially open our Coastwatch station, and we were there to welcome her. It was so exciting to see her helicopter land, and she was kind enough to come over and talk to us. We gave her some roses and Kya gave her a special picture. It was definitely an experience to remember.

We have started some new reading for pleasure activities – for example, Reading Buddies, where younger and older children read together. This was great fun and the older children particularly enjoyed revisiting old favourites. We then had a Reading Carousel where all the adults had chosen a book to read and we could decide which adult to join.

We took part in the Big School Birdwatch. We are really good now at identifying birds - (and no one saw a "golden eagle" this time!) We did, however, see a cat and a squirrel.

This week (as we write this) is Children's Mental Health Week. We have met an author of a book on mindfulness and learnt the ways it can help us, especially when things are tough. We have started incorporating short periods of mindfulness and meditation into our PSHE and this is one of our favourite parts of the lesson.

We would like to say a big thank you to our parents and our wonderful PFA for all the things they do for us, eg we had a Valentine's Day afternoon tea, which was great, and it is always good to show people how much we appreciate them. Finally, Samphire Class would like to say a big THANK YOU to Costa Coffee in Hunstanton for donating resources for our science investigation. And, as this goes to press, we have just heard the Parish Council have kindly donated money for a trip and to repair our play equipment. A HUGE thank you to them, too.

### **HUNSTANTON CROQUET CLUB**

Despite the Croquet Lawns and Clubhouse still being in hibernation, the committee have been working together to plan a varied itinerary for next season.

Following its success at the beginning of last season an 'Introduction to Croquet Course' for beginners will be run again in April this year. The 4-week format will cover basic rules, mallet technique, tactics, etc. The loan of all equipment is included. The course dates are **Mondays 7<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April**, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm, cost £20 and ideally you need to be available for all sessions. The course cost of £20 can be deducted from your membership should you decide to join the club following the course. To enrol please email Andrew Vickery at [abvickery@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:abvickery@hotmail.co.uk).

Annual membership forms can be downloaded at [www.hunstantoncroquetclub.co.uk](http://www.hunstantoncroquetclub.co.uk).

### **NEWS FROM BRANCASTER VILLAGE HALL (BVH)**

Following a frenetic Christmas and New Year period, it has been a quiet time for BVH, although all the regular groups continue; there is also a welcome return of Fitness Fusion classes on **Wednesday evenings**.

#### **Forthcoming events**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March** Thai Night: Authentic Thai Cuisine, 7.30 pm. Tickets £30 per person, please email [bvhsetup@gmail.com](mailto:bvhsetup@gmail.com).

**Easter Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> April:** Burgers & a Boogie, Dainty's Kitchen & Ready Steady Go. 2.30 pm onwards, Bar 71.

Bar 71 continues with a full programme which now includes Six Nations Rugby, as well as the usual quiz evenings, darts, skittles and pool. Further information about these and other activities can be found on our website at [brancastervillagehall.communitybookings.co.uk](http://brancastervillagehall.communitybookings.co.uk) or on Facebook and Instagram. For enquiries, please contact us at [bvhsetup@gmail.com](mailto:bvhsetup@gmail.com).

### **BRANCASTER STAITHE AND DEEPPDALE VILLAGE HALL**

**Do you have admin, computer and social media skills** plus a few hours a month to spare?

Would you like to contribute to village life by becoming a member of the Brancaster Staithe and Deepdale Village Hall Management Committee and help us to look after our lovely village hall? If this appeals, we would love to hear from you as we are looking for the right person to join us to handle a small amount of administration, attend and take minutes at our quarterly meetings, and to manage our social media and website. If you are interested in finding out more, please make contact in the first instance by emailing [bsbdvh.bookingagent@gmail.com](mailto:bsbdvh.bookingagent@gmail.com).

#### **Playground Equipment**

A very big thank you to all who have continued to donate towards our playground equipment. We have now secured sufficient funds towards the latest addition - a basketball hoop and bounce pad will be installed within the next few weeks. Don't forget to take your basket ball!

### **NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION (NCI) BRANCASTER**

On 14<sup>th</sup> January, NCI Brancaster was honoured to welcome HRH The Princess Royal, the Royal Patron of the National Coastwatch Institution, to open the new station building situated in the grounds of the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club.

Her Royal Highness was greeted by children from Brancaster school and local dignitaries, led by the Lord Lieutenant, when her helicopter landed in the grounds of the RWNGC, who hosted this occasion; she first visited the new station accompanied by the Chair of the NCI and the Station Manager. The Princess Royal then met all the station Watchkeepers, together with guests from the Brancaster community, RWNGC, RNLI, HM Coastguard, National Trust and other key supporters, spending time talking to all those involved and going on to unveil a plaque commemorating her visit and to sign the visitors' book.

The event was a great success in raising the morale of all the station personnel; credit should go to Station Manager John A and Richard B, Deputy Manager, for their hard work in the organisation of the visit.

NCI Brancaster looks forward to the challenge of its third summer season in keeping the beach and coast safe for all users and offers its thanks to the Brancaster community and the RWNGC for the strong support it has received.

If you would like more information on NCI Brancaster, or to find out about becoming a volunteer, please contact Richard Burrows, Deputy Station Manager and Watchkeeper on 07535 612777. You can also find us on Facebook, if you search NCI Brancaster.

**BEWARE!** Predicted High Tides on the following dates when Beach Road, Brancaster is liable to flooding and unsuitable for traffic. Pedestrian access available via the bank at all times.

26<sup>th</sup> February (pm) – 5<sup>th</sup> March; 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>; 27<sup>th</sup> (pm) – 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Full details on RWNGolf Club website (details on page 14.)

### **BRANCASTER OIL COOPERATIVE**

I will be ordering oil next on **Thursdays**: 6<sup>th</sup> March, 27<sup>th</sup> March (last guaranteed order date before Easter). Maria Spink 0778 7570 093. **Please note my mobile number, as I no longer have a BT landline.**

### **BRANCASTER STAITHE MOBILE POST OFFICE**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**: 4 - 4.30 pm; **Wednesday**: 2 - 2.30 pm, in The Drove opposite Dalegate Market.

### **MOBILE LIBRARY**

**Thursdays monthly**: Date of next visit: 6<sup>th</sup> March. Stopping at **Brancaster Village Hall** 1.55 - 2.30 pm; **Brancaster Staithe**, Old Posting House 2.40 - 3.00 pm and Dale End 3.10 - 3.25 pm; **Burnham Deepdale**, Layby 3.30 - 3.45 pm. This information may be subject to change or amendment. Enquiries: call 01603 222303.

### **BURNHAM MARKET AND NORTON VILLAGE HALL**

The community cinema at the Burnham Market village hall continues in March with one show:

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, 2.30 pm. *My Old Lady* (2014) (PG13), a comedy drama. £5 on the door or contact Diana Walker on 01328 738604. You can also view the information on [www.burnhammarketandnortonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.burnhammarketandnortonvillagehall.org.uk). The Bridge Club meets at 11am each Friday.

### **STANHOE AND BARWICK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

#### **First Thursday of each month 2 pm at Stanhoe Reading Rooms**

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** Tim Dutton - The work of The Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** Robert Smith - Wells Harbourmaster.

Have you ever wondered what goes on at a modern WI? Whether you are into crafts, cookery or even campaigning, whether you're looking for friendship, fun or fascinating speakers, we have all that and so much more, so why not come along and see for yourself - visitors always welcome. Contact [stanhoeandbarwickwi@gmail.com](mailto:stanhoeandbarwickwi@gmail.com) for more details.

### **THE ARTS SOCIETY, NORTHWEST NORFOLK**

Our next illustrated talk, presented by John Bolton on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March** at Sedgeford Village Hall at 2 pm, is entitled *An Ideal Partnership: Lutyens and Jekyll*. A house designed by Lutyens with a garden by Jekyll became an Edwardian ideal. Come and join our friendly society. Membership has many benefits besides illustrated talks. For more information visit [www.theartsocietynwnorfolk.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietynwnorfolk.org.uk) or ring Gerald Pepper on 07831 586940.

### **PHOENIX LADIES**

The next meeting of Phoenix Ladies will take place in Burnham Market and Norton Village Hall on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**, at 2 pm, when Helen, of Helen's 4 Seasons Plants, will give an illustrated talk, bringing plants to demonstrate some of the seasons. This will be an OPEN meeting so friends, neighbours, partners will be very welcome. There is a small charge for guests. There will be no raffle at this meeting but tea and cake will be served after the talk.

For more information please contact Sue on 01328 730859 or email [suisted@btinternet.com](mailto:suisted@btinternet.com).

There is also a website [burnhammarketandnortonvillagehall.org.uk](http://burnhammarketandnortonvillagehall.org.uk).

Hilda, Jenifer and Sue

### **STANHOE VILLAGE SCREEN**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March** 7.30 pm *Conclave* (12a) (Drama/Thriller).

Watch the official trailer at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JX9jasdi3ic](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JX9jasdi3ic).

**Venue**: Stanhoe Reading Room and Village Hall, Cross Lane, PE31 8PS. Tickets £5 (cash only) on the door to include a complimentary drink. Doors open 7 pm.

For further information visit the website: [Stanhoe.org](http://Stanhoe.org) (or ring 01485 518191)



## DIARY DATES 2025 – updated monthly

**BSBDVH** = Brancaster Staithe & Burnham Deepdale Village Hall

**BVH** = Brancaster Village Hall

- Weekly:**
- Monday:** Indoor Carpet Bowls, 2 - 4 pm, BSBDVH  
“ Mobile Post Office, The Drove 4 - 4.30 pm  
“ Yoga, 6.30 - 8 pm, BVH
- Tuesday:** Baby & Toddler Group, 9.30 - 11.30 am, BVH  
“ Open Session Pickleball, 10 am, sports field BVH  
“ Mobile Post Office, The Drove, Brancaster Staithe 4 - 4.30 pm
- Wednesday:** Coffee Morning, BVH 10.30 - 11.30 am  
Making Space Café, St Edmund’s Hall, Hunstanton, Coffee 10 am - 12 noon  
“ Mobile Post Office, The Drove, Brancaster Staithe 2 - 2.30 pm
- Thursday:** Beginners Pilates with Sarah, 12.30 - 1.30 pm, BVH  
“ Art Group, 2 - 4 pm, BSBDVH  
“ Mobile Post Office, The Drove, Brancaster Staithe 4 - 4.30 pm
- Monthly:**
- Tuesday:** Scottish Dancing, 6 - 8 pm, BVH (see page 8 and below)  
**Thursdays:** Mobile Library: See page 13 for details of times and stops.

**Note:** BSBDVH will be closed from 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> March

### **MARCH**

- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting, 6.30 pm, BSBDVH  
Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Brancaster Camera Club, 7 pm, BSBDVH  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Scottish Dancing, 6 - 8 pm, BVH  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Thai Night, BVH, 7.30 pm (see page 12)

### **APRIL**

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Parish Council Meeting, 6.30 pm, BVH

### **MAY**

- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> AGM of Brancaster Staithe & Burnham Deepdale Village Hall, 6.30 pm

### **EDITOR’S NOTE**

Please submit any notices/articles for the April Parish News by 4.30 pm on 19<sup>th</sup> March, either into my post-box at the gate of Marsh Head, Main Road (opposite The Jolly Sailors), Brancaster Staithe, PE31 8BJ; or by email to [ch81@btinternet.com](mailto:ch81@btinternet.com); or ring Christine on 07900 342 962. For back page attachments please contact Christine.

For advertising queries/details, please contact Alan Wright on 01485 210394 or email Alan at [bg.pn@btinternet.com](mailto:bg.pn@btinternet.com).

Kindly note that contributors are asked to restrict their entries to not more than 300 words - about half a page - (500 for the front page), space is limited and longer articles may have to be cut. Entries in the Parish News generally cover 2 months plus the first week of the 3<sup>rd</sup> month.

### **COMMUNITY WEBSITES**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <a href="http://brancastervillagehall.communitybookings.co.uk">brancastervillagehall.communitybookings.co.uk</a> (note: don't use www.) | <a href="http://www.theburnhamssurgery.co.uk">www.theburnhamssurgery.co.uk</a>                            |
| <a href="http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk">www.west-norfolk.gov.uk</a>  | <a href="http://www.wellshospital.org.uk">www.wellshospital.org.uk</a>                                    |
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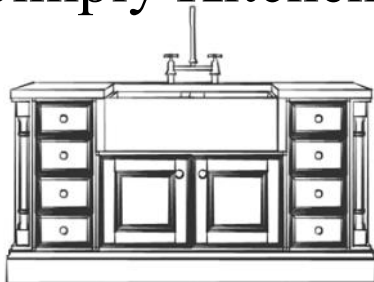
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