

# BLOFIELD NEWS

The parish magazine for St. Andrew & St. Peter, Blofield;  
All Saints, Hemblington and St. Andrew, North Burlingham

March 2023

50p



## WELCOME

Blofield News is the monthly parish magazine for St. Andrew & St. Peter Blofield, All Saints Hemblington and St. Andrew, North Burlingham. It is sold in these churches and in local shops. If you live in one of our parishes and purchase a year's subscription we can probably deliver it to your home free of charge. If you live outside the parishes you can have copies sent to your home either by post or by email. A large print version is available to anyone who is having difficulty reading our standard publication.

For more information, please contact the editor, Gill, whose contact details are on the back page. The last date for submissions is the **15th of the previous month.**

## MINISTRY TEAM

Rector: Revd. Kevin Billson Tel: 01603 712299

Retired Priest: Revd. Canon Judith Wilson Tel: 01603 211509

Retired Priest: Revd. Canon Pat Atkinson Tel: 01603 714720

Non-stipendiary Curate: Revd. Sue Shillam Tel: 01603 211629

### St. Andrew & St. Peter, Blofield

Churchwardens: Mrs. Y. Mack Tel: 01603 715213 & Mr. S. Wales Tel: 01603 211931. Website: [www.blofieldchurch.org.uk](http://www.blofieldchurch.org.uk)

### All Saints, Hemblington

Churchwardens: Mr. S. Mutton Tel: 01603 715701 & Mrs. C. Howe Tel: 01603 270360. Website: [www.hemblingtonchurch.org.uk](http://www.hemblingtonchurch.org.uk)

### St. Andrew & St. Peter, North Burlingham

Contact: Revd. Kevin Billson Tel: 01603 712299

Website: [www.northburlinghamchurch.org.uk](http://www.northburlinghamchurch.org.uk)

### ALL THREE CHURCHES ARE OPEN DAILY FROM 9.30AM - DUSK

Hand sanitiser is provided.

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Holy Baptism

22<sup>nd</sup> January, Charlotte Angela May Evans at Blofield Church

### Funerals

16<sup>th</sup> January, Lilian Barnes aged 103 at St Faith's Crematorium

31<sup>st</sup> January, Geoffrey Hardy aged 89 at Blofield Church

### Interment of Ashes

28<sup>th</sup> January, Roger Rope in Blofield Churchyard



Dear friends,  
Thank you so much for your messages, cards and flowers on the sad death of my husband Paul.  
I am completely uplifted by the absolute power of your prayers.

*"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me."*

*Revd Sue*

## LETTER FROM OUR RECTOR

On our recent trip to Wengen, I had a moment of embarrassment due to my habit of daydreaming from time to time. I was returning to the ICS flat after locking up St Bernard's church. As I reached the first floor, I tried my key in the lock, but it didn't work. I assumed Helene, who was out visiting her family, had already returned. I turned the handle and walked inside while shouting 'Hello Helene' - Whoops! - the flat hallway looked different – this was not our flat! A bemused German guy stood looking at me while I tried to explain in English what had happened.

'I don't understand English', came the reply. Red-faced, I tried, in my best German, to explain what an idiot I had been due to my absent mindedness – our flat was on the second floor! Entering through the right door was so important if I was to arrive at our Wengen home!

In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches us that he is the door by which we must enter if we are to arrive at our eternal home. "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved." There is no other way into God's house.

As we enter March, we are in the season of spring lambs. Many will be born at this time. Lambs need a shepherd to care for them and look after them. In the same teaching in John's Gospel, Jesus explains that he is also the 'Good Shepherd' who cares for his sheep and the way that he saves them is by laying down his life for them. In a way that only God can do, the shepherd becomes a lamb himself and dies upon the cross to save us.

I often think at this time of year of the piece I used to sing as a choir boy:

All in the April evening  
April airs were abroad;  
The sheep with their little lambs  
Passed me by on the road.  
The sheep with their little lambs  
Passed me by on the road;  
All in the April evening  
I thought on the Lamb of God.  
But for the Lamb of God,  
Upon the hill-top green,  
Only a cross of shame  
Two stark crosses between.  
All in the April evening,  
April airs were abroad;  
I saw the sheep with their lambs,  
And thought on the Lamb of God.



**REVD. KEVIN BILLSON**

## Lent Prayers and Reflections

### Set free from fear.

**Read:** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet will I be confident. (Psalm 27.3)

**Ask:** Are you running away from your fears? Are you ready instead to face them, in God's strength?

**Pray:** Loving God, I thank you that in the turmoil of life, you are always with me – your love reaching out, your hand supporting me and your grace giving me strength. Help me to receive the freedom you offer, which comes from knowing you hold all things in your hands and that nothing can finally separate me from your love.

### Faith in action

**Read:** Some may argue, 'you have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works. (James 2: 18)

**Ask:** What does your life say to others? Is it an expression or a denial of your faith.

**Pray:** Lord Jesus, teach me through the care I offer, the love I share and the service I give to express my commitment to you.

### A pause for thought.

**Read:** Martha was preoccupied with her many tasks; so, she came to him and asked, Lord, doesn't it matter to you that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to lend a hand. But the Lord answered her, Martha, Martha, you are fretting and distracted by many things; only one thing is really important. Mary has chosen that more important thing, and it will not be taken away from her. (Luke 10.40-42)

**Ask:** Do you succeed in making time for quiet reflection, or are such moments crowded out by the demands and concerns of daily life?

**Pray:** Loving God, draw near to me now in these few moments of quietness. Teach me to be still and to know your presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### The gift of hope

**Read:** My soul waits quietly for God; my confidence comes from him. He, and he alone, is my rock, my deliverance, and my stronghold; nothing will shake me. (Psalm 62: 5-6)

**Ask:** Does the thought of the future fill you with dread? Do you feel able to leave your ultimate destiny in the hands of God, confident that, whatever you may face, he will finally make all things work together for good?

**Pray:** Lord, you have promised that nothing in heaven or on earth will finally overcome your purpose. Speak to me now through the faith and vision of those who have gone before. Send me back into the world renewed in hope and restored in faith, to live and work for you.

### The call to conserve

**Read:** The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all those who live in it. In his hand are the innermost parts of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands shaped the dry land. (Psalm 24:1; 95:4)

*Continued...*

### **The call to conserve *continued*.....**

**Ask:** Have you altered your lifestyle to cut out unnecessary waste and pollution? Should you be adding your voice to calls for international action on issues as global warming.

**Pray:** Sovereign God, teach me to live wisely and responsibly, in harmony with you and all you have made, through Jesus Christ my Lord.

*Rev. Sue*

## **THREE CHURCHES TOGETHER BLOFIELD, HEMBLINGTON AND NORTH BURLINGHAM SERVICES FOR MARCH 2023**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Blofield 11.00am</b>	<b>Hemblington 9.30am</b>	<b>North Burlingham</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Joint at Hemblington
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Joint at Hemblington
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Morning Worship	Morning Worship	Joint at Hemblington
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Joint at Hemblington

### **Benefice Morning Prayers:**

**Tuesdays at 9.00am** using Zoom with Rev. Kevin (link sent out each week).

On **Thursday, 9th March**, morning prayer will recommence at Hemblington Church at 9.00am.

For the arrangement of home communion, in cases of illness or where a person is unable to leave their home, please contact a member of the ministry team (telephone numbers on page 2).

### **What about collections and giving to our churches?**

We are grateful that many people have continued with their planned giving and regular donations, though, I'm sure you are aware that there is a considerable strain on each church's finances at the present time. If at all possible, please consider giving by online donations, by BACS or by standing order. Bank Account Details for offerings and gifts directly to Church

<b>BLOFIELD PARISH CHURCH</b>	<b>ALL SAINTS CHURCH HEMBLINGTON</b>	<b>ST ANDREWS CHURCH NORTH BURLINGHAM (North Burlingham PCC)</b>
Sort Code: 09 01 55 Account No. 31794180	Sort Code: 30 96 17 Account No. 00040822	Sort Code: 30 99 97 Account No. 30101668

## **BLOFIELD CHURCH**

### **THE CHURCHES OF THE BLOFIELD BENEFICE**

#### **Caring for our church family**

Looking after our church family and the wider community is very important to us and, particularly during these dark and cold winter months. Our churches are open every day for you to visit.

If you or someone you know needs support, would like a phone call, or who has something special to celebrate please let Rev. Kevin, Rev. Sue or the churchwardens know, so that we can make contact.

Contact details are on page 2 of this magazine.

### **FOODBANK AT BLOFIELD CHURCH**



Thank you so much to everyone who has supported the Foodbank during the past year. We had an amazing response in December and hope this continues over the next year. The basket is in the porch at Blofield Church and is delivered to the warehouse in Norwich weekly, where it is distributed to families, churches and Foodbank Centres.

Please contact Yvonne on 07720942955 for more information.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING BENEFICE SERVICE AT BLOFIELD CHURCH**



The Wednesday morning services are at 9.30am and follow a pattern of Holy Communion and Morning Worship:

- 1<sup>st</sup> March - Holy Communion**
- 8<sup>th</sup> March - Morning Worship**
- 15<sup>th</sup> March - Holy Communion**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Morning Worship**
- 29<sup>th</sup> March - Holy Communion**

The service is followed by coffee and chat in the West End - All welcome.

### **PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND TO GIVE THANKS MONDAY MORNING 9.00AM – 9.45AM**

Blofield church is open every day for people to visit or to be still and pray for the work of the church, our families, our own community and the wider world. On Monday mornings, we come together, to help carry the burden through prayer and faith, for those in need of healing in our church family and known to us as individuals. All are welcome to join for this quiet time of prayer.

# Blofield Church



Why not take a break from the cold and join us at Blofield Church where you will find a warm environment, a friendly welcome and some hot refreshments.

*Blofield Church is open as a local Community Hot-Spot supported by Norfolk Community Foundation through the Surviving Winter Fund.*

*THANK YOU!*



**Up to and including Thursday, the 23rd March 2023,**

**we are offering the following:**

- **Wednesdays:- 10:15am - 12.00:** Tea/coffee/cake & chat
- **Wednesdays:- 1:00pm - 3.00pm:** Baby & Toddler Group for mums, dads, carers & grandparents
- **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays:- 12.00 – 2.00pm:** "Open Doors" - time to share a light lunch in the company of others with an optional craft time.
- **Thursdays:- 2.00pm – 6.00pm:**
  - ◇ a warm, heated building with free Wi-Fi access for work or homework
  - ◇ a place to escape from the cold and connect with others in the community
  - ◇ a children's play area
  - ◇ refreshments include: soup & roll, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, biscuits

**Everyone is welcome — it is open to all.**

Contact: Yvonne Mack (01603 715213), Stephen Wales (01603 211931) or Revd. Kevin Billson (01603 712299)



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

## Play Church Baby and Toddler Group



**WEDNESDAYS FROM 1 – 3 PM DURING TERM TIME**

**SPRING TERM DATES: 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**SUMMER TERM DATES: 19<sup>th</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> May**

**MAY HALF TERM**

**7<sup>th</sup> June – 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Come and join us for an afternoon of fun and friendship and a chance for babies and toddlers to learn and play in a safe, welcoming & well resourced setting.

The group is run by experienced early years volunteers and healthy snacks are provided for children with tea and cake for adults.

The session is offered free but a donation bowl is available if you wish to contribute.

‘Play Church’ leaflets are available from the back of Blofield and Hemblington Churches

Please contact Yvonne on 715213/07720942955 or Barbara on 714519 for further information or you can go to the Blofield Church Website at [www.blofieldchurch.org.uk](http://www.blofieldchurch.org.uk)

**Blofield Church**

**OPEN DOORS**

Everyone is welcome for a little bit of chat/conversation, friendship, laughter and crafting. **For further information contact Jenny 01603 712968**

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – midday to 2 pm with light lunch

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March – midday to 2 pm with light lunch



## Our Lent Course this year



Lectio divina is an ancient spiritual practice – a prayerful way of reading the Bible that allows for God to speak to us through scripture in powerful ways.

The Lectio Course is a 5-part series where Pete Greig, from 24-7 Prayer, will help us to explore lectio divina and use it as a tool in our life of prayer.

Each session is a 15-minute video, which we'll watch together, and then we'll engage with the material using the course discussion guides. Each session episode is led by Pete Greig and features an interview with a special guest.

The dates for our course:

There will be two opportunities during the weeks of lent to take part in this course.

- ◆ **Tuesday afternoons at 2.30 PM at Blofield Church:**  
28<sup>th</sup> February, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 28<sup>th</sup> March.
- ◆ **Wednesday evenings at 7.00 PM at Blofield Church:**  
1<sup>st</sup> March, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> March, 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 29<sup>th</sup> March.

### A Date for your Diary

#### Lenten Lunch at Blofield Church

Do join us on **Sunday, April 2nd at 12.15**  
(after the morning service).

There will be homemade soup and bread  
plus delicious puddings.

Donations will support the work of  
'Hand in Hand' in Zimbabwe.

To help us with numbers for catering please sign up  
at the back of church or phone 01603 715213 or 714519.



# Come and Support **BIG Breakfast 2** at Blofield Church



Donations received will be shared between Blofield Church, and DEC which brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds at times of crisis overseas.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 08.30 am – 12.30 pm**



A series of devastating earthquakes have hit Turkey and Syria killing over 35,000 people and injuring many more. Your support will help provide displaced families with food, water, emergency shelter, health assistance and trauma care.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine continues to exact a terrible toll on the people of Ukraine. More than eight million Ukrainians have been forced to flee Ukraine since the war broke out, the UN refugee agency says, this is the largest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II. Your support is desperately needed.



## FOOD and DRINKS

*Archer's sausages & fried onions,  
pancakes with various toppings,  
bacon rolls.*

*Cheese scones, selection of cakes  
Drinks: Selection of various teas,  
filter coffee, squash & fruit juice*

**There will also be a cake stall with delicious homemade cakes for sale.**



Donations can be made by cash, card or online. Scan the QR code with your mobile phone to make a donation via our website. 75% of the amount collected will go to the DEC and 25% to Blofield Church.

# EASTER FUN DAY

BLOFIELD CHURCH

for children aged 5-11years

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April from 10am to 2pm



Come with your friends and join us for a fun filled activity day, finding out about Easter through games, baking, stories, drama, modelling, creative art activities and songs.

Bring a packed lunch – and plenty of energy!



Contact: Yvonne  
01603 715213 07720942955  
yvonnemack60@gmail.com

or Barbara on  
01603 714519  
to book or for further  
information.



Leaders are all DBS checked

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL:** Please book by phone or email by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
£5 per child (reduction for more than 1 child per family)

Pay on the day (NUMBERS LIMITED)

Please let us know of any medical or nutritional needs we should know about (e.g. dairy free, vegan, allergies)

## MOTHERING SUNDAY BLOFIELD CHURCH



POSIES WILL BE HANDED OUT TO ALL THE LADIES



JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AND SIMNEL  
CAKE AFTER THE SERVICE

SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH 11.00am FAMILY SERVICE



## HEMBLINGTON CHURCH

Friends of All Saints Church, Hemblington  
[www.hemblingtonchurch.org.uk](http://www.hemblingtonchurch.org.uk)

Thank you to all those who came along for the Big Churchyard Birdwatch at the end of January. We saw 20 species of bird in the first hour, and 18 in the second. Also, we had quite a few visitors enjoying Steve's delicious soup, and the cakes and hot drinks kindly provided by the Group. The results have been sent to the RSPB. All help illustrate which birds are doing okay and which are in decline – we did not see a greenfinch, for instance.

The churchyard is starting to look rather spring-like with snowdrops out and wild daffodils starting to bud. There may be a work party to prepare for some new trees being planted along the boundary. If you would like to help with any of the churchyard conservation work, you would be made most welcome. Please contact The Friends secretary for more information: 01603 715804.

### Dates for your diary:

**Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2:30 pm:** "Churches in Broadland" - free illustrated talk in the church by Dr Ian Hinton of the Norfolk Historic Buildings Group, followed by refreshments, and the Friends AGM for those who wish to stay for it.

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May:** "Art in a Country Church" – a large exhibition of oil paintings by the well-respected Gorleston artist, John S. Applegate. Free entry to this exciting exhibition in the church. Paintings will be available to buy and refreshments.

## World Day of Prayer

Service at 2pm Friday, 3rd March at  
St. Lawrence Church Brundall

Morning of Fellowship at All Saints Hemblington 10.30am  
followed by lunch at 12.30pm



Formerly known as "The Women's World Day of Prayer." This year, the service is the work of the Christian women of Taiwan. The theme is "I have heard about your Faith." It is not intended to be an event exclusively for women, but to be a gift from those women to Christians the world over.

To complement the service, we will be holding a morning of prayer, reflection and fellowship, with a chance to learn a little about this fascinating country, at Hemblington Church. This will be followed by a simple lunch and end about 1pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for all or part of the morning.

For more information contact Jennifer on 01603-716970  
Or [jennifer@prospero3.co.uk](mailto:jennifer@prospero3.co.uk)

## NATURE NOTES FROM HEMBLINGTON CHURCH FEBRUARY 2023

In last month's introductory article, I mentioned that, as part of our commitment to care for and protect our world, Hemblington Church had registered to become an Eco-Church and was currently working towards bronze, then hopefully, silver accreditation. Well, I can share the good news that we have now achieved our bronze accreditation! Particular thanks are due to Stuart Moore, who led on our application, and Sue Rowe and the Friends of Hemblington Church (FOHC) who have provided so much support.

The Eco-Church initiative is a nationwide scheme supported by, amongst others, The Church of England and Christian Aid. It works by Churches completing an online Eco Survey on how we are caring for the earth within 5 key areas of Church life:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community and global engagement
- Lifestyle

Points are awarded for actions in each category which eventually lead to the bronze, silver and gold awards.

Actions are not limited to activities around nature and wildlife, they include things we can all do; for instance, changing to a green energy supplier or buying Fairtrade tea and coffee.

If you are interested in what we are doing and want to know more, please let us know. One thing we would love to come out of this is that it encourages everyone to think about what changes – large or small - they can make to help save our wonderful planet.

I also mentioned in last month's article about the annual Big Churchyard Birdwatch at Hemblington on 28<sup>th</sup> January. Organised by the FOHC and Sue Rowe reported the following:

*Between 11am – 12noon, 20 varieties of birds were spotted in, over and around the churchyard; between 12noon and 1pm, 18 varieties were recorded. As important were the 21 visitors supporting the birdwatching and enjoying the refreshments offered by our 7 volunteers. Visitors appreciated the welcoming atmosphere, commenting on the lovely situation of the church, agreeing the birdwatch was a good community initiative, and certainly enjoying the excellent soups, scones and cakes too!*

We will be planting some replacement trees at Hemblington Church later this month. (More on that in the next Nature Notes).

**Simon Mutten**

## NOTICE BOARD

### **Blafelda (Blofield) Probus Club**

The club provides an enjoyable social meeting point for men who are retired or about to retire. We meet for lunch on the third Wednesday of every month at THE RAM, 108 The Street, Brundall NR13 5LP at 12 noon for lunch at 12.30pm. If you are new to the area it is a good way to get to know people. Lunch is followed by a talk, often on a subject of particularly local interest. We have vacancies for members so if you are interested contact Alex Mason ([alexwmason@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alexwmason@yahoo.co.uk)/Tel. 01603 716735) or Mike Cole ([mikecole@uwclub.net](mailto:mikecole@uwclub.net)/Tel. 01603 713839).

### **Blofield Court House Village Screen - Friday 10th March THE RAILWAY CHILDREN RETURN (PG)**

A heart-warming sequel to the much-loved classic 1970 film. Set in 1944, three city children evacuated to rural Yorkshire discover an injured American soldier hiding out at the local station and embark on a dangerous quest to help their new friend. Stars Jenny Agutter (reprising her role as Bobbie from the original film) and Sheridan Smith.

Matinee: 2.30pm (Tea, cakes, ice creams); Evening: 7.30pm (Bar, soft drinks, ice creams). Tickets £5 from S & S Mitchell Newsagents, The Street, Blofield. Enquiries to 01603 712306.

**Jazz at the Court House - Friday 28th April** at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start.

### **MATT HODGES TRIO**

This evening will feature an all-acoustic band - no digital piano for a change as Matt will be bringing the real thing to the Court House especially for the gig! The Trio will be serving up a hand-picked selection of choice standards including fresh interpretations of some classic British pop songs often left out of the jazz menu. Tickets £10 on sale from 1st March by phone reservation only - please call Ann on 01603 715349

or email [jazz@blofieldcourthouse.org.uk](mailto:jazz@blofieldcourthouse.org.uk) and provide a contact number.

### **Blofield and District Gardening Club**

You are warmly invited to all meetings of the Gardening Club which meets at the Margaret Harker Hall, Yarmouth Road, Blofield at 7:30pm on the second Wednesdays of most months. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday evening, 8th March**, when the year's programme of talks will be outlined and the schedule for the July summer show discussed. A light buffet will follow – all free – so do come along to find out what the Club has to offer you. The meeting on 12th April will be led by the Bishop of Norwich's Head Gardener, who will discuss "Environmental Gardening at the Bishop's House Garden". Club website: [www.blofieldgardeningclub.org.uk](http://www.blofieldgardeningclub.org.uk).

Queries to (01603) 715804.

### **Aid for Animals**

We have some lovely, young rescue dogs looking for good homes. If you are interested and can give a good, loving home then please ring Margaret at Aid for Animals on 01603 716883.

## NOTICE BOARD

### **BADCOG ~ Blofield and District Conservation Group**

BADCOG manages and maintains 15 sites ranging from fen meadow, dry meadow, ponds and woodland (old and new) to churchyard conservation areas and other sites, some of which are designated Local Nature Reserves. All are a rich and diverse habitat for flora and fauna.

We meet on alternate Saturday mornings starting at 10.30am and finishing no later than 1pm. Anyone can come and join in for as little or as long as they like or just to see what we do. The next working parties will be:

**4th March - Howes Meadow; 18th March - Holly Lane Pond; 1st April - Jary's Meadow.**

**Our evening meeting will be on Friday, 10th March** at 7.30pm in Strumpshaw Community Hall, Mill Road, Strumpshaw. Details will follow on our website. Visitors are welcome.

*Any changes to plans will be on the website [www.badcog.co.uk](http://www.badcog.co.uk).*

### **Blofield Preschool Playgroup, Margaret Harker Hall**

A friendly, committee-run playgroup for children aged from 2½ years old. Free 'Early Education' funding for 3 and 4 year olds and full access to the 'Early Years Foundation Stage'. Open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday during term time. Sessions available 9.10am – 12.10pm, 12.10pm – 3.10pm, or 9.10am – 3.10pm. Call us on 01603 712498 for more information or to arrange a visit. For further details follow us on Twitter: @BlofieldPreSch or visit our Facebook page at:

<http://www.facebook.com/BlofieldPreSchoolPlaygroup>.

If you would like your child to be added to our Waiting List, please email us on [blofieldpreschool@outlook.com](mailto:blofieldpreschool@outlook.com).

### **Blofield Parish Council**

Meetings take place on a **Monday at 7:30pm in Blofield Courthouse Main Hall** unless otherwise notified. This month's Parish Council & Planning Meeting is on the **13th March**. The Annual Parish Meeting is on the **23rd March at Heathlands Community Centre**. In addition to being published on the council website, the Agendas and the venue of meetings are always posted on the 3 village notice boards located by Blofield Village Shop, Blofield Library and Blofield Heath Village Shop. Website: <https://www.blofieldpc.info>.

### **Keep Blofield Special**

We are a small group of volunteers who like to keep our villages looking attractive and reasonably free of litter. We meet monthly for about an hour's litter-picking and anyone is welcome to join us. There is never a shortage of litter unfortunately! March litter-picks take place on:

**Monday, 6th March**, meet at Heathlands, Blofield Heath at 9.30am.

**Monday, 13th March**, meet at the Old Court House, Blofield at 9.30am.

As usual, a big thank-you to residents, dog-walkers and others who also collect litter around the villages.

## NOTICE BOARD

### **Blofield Tennis Club - EXCITING DEVELOPMENT!**

**A second hard court has just been built, increasing our offer of year-round play.** Now is a great time to start, or get back into tennis at this supportive, very friendly local club, welcoming players of all standards.

We offer:

- 4 high quality courts, 2 grass, 2 hard
- Daytime social play
- Adult tournaments
- Coaching with LTA licensed coaches
- League Team play
- Family, Adult and Junior membership packages

Benefit now from our winter rates and **free** taster coaching offer. Call Diana Gilder 07799 506809 to discuss membership or try a **free** club session before joining. Email: [blofieldtennisclub@btinternet.com](mailto:blofieldtennisclub@btinternet.com).

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

Margaret Harker Hall, Yarmouth Road, Blofield, NR13 4LE

### **Brundall Local History Group**

The next talk is on **Saturday, 4th March 2023** at 2.30pm in Brundall Memorial Hall, Links Avenue, Brundall. Mary Fewster will be talking about 'Norwich Pleasure Gardens' which, in their heyday sought to rival London equivalents, Norwich being described sometimes as 'the city in a garden'. Tickets will be available on the door – free to members and £3.00 to visitors. Membership is by annual subscription of £15.

The website is [www.brundallvillagehistory.org.uk](http://www.brundallvillagehistory.org.uk)

### **Extend** (Movement to Music for Older People & Disabled Adults)

MONDAYS: registration at 13.45, so that we start at 14.00 and finish at 15.00. Class is held weekly barring Bank Holidays. Cost: £4.00 per class. For more information please contact Jenny Hall on 01508 494443 or [xxfap57@qfqq.plus.com](mailto:xxfap57@qfqq.plus.com). (Brundall Memorial Hall, Links Avenue, Brundall).

### **Brundall & Blofield Good Neighbour Scheme**

Blofield Parish Council is working in partnership with the Brundall and Blofield Good Neighbour Scheme to support the community through the current pandemic we are experiencing. If you need assistance at this current time with collecting shopping or medication, or would just like more information then call free on **0800 688 9677** and we can make sure that someone can help you.

### **Blofield Heath W.I.**

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at Heathlands Community Centre at 2pm. The next meeting is **14th March** (see page 19). Blofield Heath WI is thriving, with about 40 members. New members are still welcome, and people can attend as a guest for 3 meetings before having to join. Subscriptions are due next month.



## NOTICE BOARD

### Heathlands

The next HMC is on **7th March** at 7.30pm. The AGM of the Social Club is **20th March** at 7.00pm and the AGM for Heathlands is **21st March** at 7.30pm. More events are planned (see page 20). Opening hours are Tuesday to Thursday at 7.30pm; Friday at 4.30pm; Saturday at 5.30pm; Sunday is usually 2pm - 6pm, unless there is a major sporting event. Do not forget we have SKY TV in the club, and we show most of the sports. We also have a Heathlands Facebook Page which updates each week.

### Blofield Heath Monday Club

Our Club at Heathlands Community Centre, Blofield Heath, (known locally as 'The Monday Club') is run by volunteers to welcome lonely, housebound, isolated, elderly or disabled people living in Blofield, Blofield Heath, Pedham and Hemblington on the second Monday of the month. This month's meeting will be on **13th March**. Morning coffee, hot lunch and afternoon refreshments are available as well as activities, entertainment, outings and, most important of all, companionship. If you, or someone you know would benefit from a day each month in a caring atmosphere, please telephone Sarah Russen on 01603 714800 for a friendly chat.

### Hemblington Parish Council

Parish Council meetings take place every two months normally on the last Monday of the month. They start at 7.30pm and held at the Heathlands Community Centre, Woodbastwick Road, Blofield Heath, NR13 4PH. This month's meeting is on **27th March**. Information is available on our noticeboards and our website: <http://hemblingtonparish.org.uk>.

### Hemblington Pre-School

Hemblington Pre-School operates from Heathlands. A maximum of 26 children may attend at any one time. It is open during term times on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.30am until 12.30pm and on Wednesday from noon until 3 pm. All children share access to a secure enclosed outdoor play area. Ofsted Rated - Good. If you require further information (particularly during these uncertain times) then please call 01603 712616 (office hours) or contact: Fiona Trimble on 07716869506 and visit our website: [www.hemblingtonpreschool.com](http://www.hemblingtonpreschool.com).

### Lingwood & Burlingham Parish Council

All meetings are held at the Lingwood Village Hall, Parish Council Meeting Room, Station Road, Lingwood, generally on the 1st TUESDAY of the month starting at 7.30pm. This month's meeting is on **7th March**. Planning consultation meetings are sometimes held between meeting dates when planning proposals have to be considered within 23 days. 15 minutes is allocated at the start of all meetings for public participation. Parishioners and the press are welcome to attend any Council meeting. For information, the website is: <https://lingwood-burlinghamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>.

## NOTICE BOARD

### WEA Blofield Branch

There was a good attendance for Charles Lewis' "Mosques and Minarets – the architecture of Islam" course held in February. Zoom courses can work very well, but there is nothing like being in the room with the speaker and being able to ask questions or have a discussion within the group.

The next WEA course will be "**Philosophy as a Way of Life**" with WEA tutor, Jack Manzi. This will be a 6-week course, held at The Court House, Yarmouth Road, Blofield. It will start on **Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April** (10am – 12noon). Enrolment will be online at [www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk) or by 'phone: 0300 303 3464. Further details will be available soon. Any queries, please contact the local branch: [Blofield.branch@wea.ac.uk](mailto:blofield.branch@wea.ac.uk) or 'phone (01603) 537029.

### Monday Munch at St. Lawrence's, South Walsham

On the first Monday of each month (apart from January and May) (this month on the **6th March**) the churches of Fishley, South Walsham & Upton organize a get-together in St. Lawrence's Church between 12.30 and 4.00pm. We provide light lunches, tea, coffee and cakes, and lots of chat! There is no charge, but donations are always welcome. From time to time, as funds allow, we donate to various charities and often have raffles in aid of specific causes, for example, Macmillan, Breast Cancer and Great Yarmouth foodbank. A warm welcome is extended to people in our new Benefice, we would love to see you. Just come along any month.

### ANNA CHAPLAINS AND ANNA FRIENDS



In a society obsessed by youth it can be hard to view the onset of grey hairs and wrinkles with hope, but the Bible says that grey is a crown of splendour. Embracing Age, Anna Chaplains and Anna Friends are working towards a world where older people are valued, connected & full of hope, believe there is hope, joy and fulfilment in ageing: that life in all its fullness extends into our later years.

This photo is from a commissioning service with Bishop Jane.

If you would like to join Revd Sue and the Anna Friends visiting Manor House then just let her know. It's a lovely nourishing ministry.

**Revd Sue**

## BLOFIELD HEATH WI

A belated Happy New Year to all our members and readers! Lots has happened since we last had an article published, and, given that many of our meetings take place after the submission date, the articles have been (and will continue to be) a combination of past and future information.

We had our brains exercised on 8th November with a quiz set and run by David Cooke. It was a lovely afternoon of chatter, and it was nice to confirm we know plenty of random facts between us!

Our Christmas lunch at the Old Rectory was another lovely occasion. A number of people were unable to make the event, but we still had an excellent meal and were treated to beautifully wrapped jars of Jackie's homemade jams and chutneys. We'd like to thank Jill for making all the arrangements, and to Jackie for the treats.

On 10th January, Phyllida Scrivens spoke to us on "Surviving Hitler". This was excellent, and members have already asked when she can come back.

Our AGM was held on Tuesday 14th February, opening with a hearty rendition of 'Jerusalem'. We were delighted to welcome our advisor, Gail Armstrong, who guided us through the tricky formalities. The Committee all agreed to stand again and there were no new nominations. We celebrated in style, given it was Valentine's Day, and the Committee treated us all to a magnificent tea with heart-shaped cakes, biscuits and chocolates, even a heart-shaped platter of fruit kebabs and a selection of savories. The tables were prettily decorated with red napkins and flowers (and more chocolates), and our members had made a big effort to wear something red.

Looking ahead, we will be welcoming the Rev David Wakefield who will be talking to us about Oberammagau on **14th March**. At our Birthday gathering on 11th April, we hope to have Eunice Robertson and her Handbells to entertain us.

Blofield Heath WI is thriving, with about 40 members. New members are still welcome, and people can attend as a guest for 3 meetings before having to join. Subscriptions are due next month.

### **'Make & Mardle' in March**

This will be held on **Thursday, 23rd March** from 10am to 12noon at Gables Farmhouse, Hemblington Hall Road, Hemblington.

Coffee, cake, chat & craft (optional).

All welcome.

For more information please call 01603 270360

## HEATHLANDS SOCIAL CENTRE

Heathlands Management Committee Meeting is on

**7th March 2023 at 7.30pm**

Annual General Meeting of Social Club is 20th March at 7.00pm

Annual General Meeting for Heathlands is 21st March at 7.30pm

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:**

**BINGO:** Fridays - **3rd, 17th and 31st March.**

Eyes down at 7.30pm and doors are open from 6.30pm. Lovely cash prizes and lots of raffle prizes. Bar is open for you to enjoy a drink whilst playing. It's a fun event so come and join us. Recently we have had several new members and we would like to have more, come and have a go.

### **TEA and CHAT**

Tuesday, **21st March** - we are back from 2pm-4pm. It will be a lovely afternoon, full of chat with friends. There will be cake, sausage rolls, tea, coffee and more, and also a raffle. Come and join us, bring a friend or two with you. Profit from this afternoon goes into Heathlands.

### **HEATHLANDS QUIZ AND CHIPS**

Saturday, **25th March** - Quiz in the hall with Nippy Chippy providing your supper of fish and chips etc. Get your team together of 6 people, £8.50 per person which includes your supper.

Either call into the Social Club or ring 714164 and book your place.

We are limited to 12 teams. The bar, as always, will be open for you to have a drink while you quiz. We will start at 7.15pm with a break in the middle for chips etc.

### **CORONATION - May**

Heathlands are going to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III on Sunday 7th May. Plans are still ongoing. So far, there will be a BBQ, plus Simon singing for us. Games for the Children - rounders etc. and hopefully more. There will be cakes for sale and tea and a well-stocked bar.

(More update in next month)

***ON 6th MAY: The bar will be open from 11.00am if anybody wants to watch the Coronation at the club and raise a glass to our new King.***

### **Blofield Library Opening times:**

- Monday: 1pm to 7pm (8am to 1pm Open Library access only)
- Tuesday: 8am to 7pm (Open Library access only)
- Wednesday: 10.30am to 7pm (8am to 10.30am Open Library access only)
- Thursday: 8am to 7pm (Open Library access only)
- Friday: 4pm to 7pm (8am to 4pm Open Library access only)
- Saturday: 12 noon to 4pm (10am to 12noon Open Library access only)
- Sunday: 10am to 4pm (Open Library access only)



**Lego Club:** 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th March. at 3.30pm

**Bounce & Rhyme:** 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th March. at 2pm

***Libraries are free, warm, and welcoming spaces in the community.***

## SUDOKU FOR THIS MONTH

					3		5	
				1	6			
4							8	9
9	3		1			5		8
5								1
6		8			7		2	3
7	9							2
			6	5				
	2		3					

## SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY SUDOKU

1	8	9	3	6	5	7	2	4
6	2	7	1	4	9	8	3	5
4	3	5	2	7	8	6	1	9
2	6	8	5	6	7	3	4	1
5	9	4	6	3	1	2	7	8
7	1	3	4	8	2	9	5	6
3	7	1	8	5	6	4	9	2
9	5	6	7	2	4	1	8	3
8	4	2	9	1	3	5	6	7

*The solution will be in next month's  
(April) Blofield News.  
Good luck!*

### 'BLOFIELD NEWS' ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

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# MARCH Diary



02 Thursday	Open Doors	Blofield Church
03 Friday	World Day of Prayer	St. Lawrence's Brundall
04 Saturday	Brundall Local History Group	Memorial Hall, Brundall
04 Saturday	BADCOG	Howes Meadow
06 Monday	Keep Blofield Special	Heathlands
06 Monday	Monday Munch	St. Lawrence's, South Walsham
07 Tuesday	HMC Meeting	Heathlands
07 Tuesday	Lingwood & Burlingham PC Meeting	Lingwood Village Hall
08 Wednesday	District Gardening Club	Margaret Harker Hall
10 Friday	Village Screen	Blofield Court House
10 Friday	BADCOG Evening Meeting	Strumpshaw Community Hall
13 Monday	Blofield PC & Planning Meeting	Blofield Court House
13 Monday	Keep Blofield Special	Blofield Court House
13 Monday	Blofield Heath Monday Club	Heathlands
14 Tuesday	Blofield Heath WI Meeting	Heathlands
16 Thursday	Open Doors	Blofield Church
18 Saturday	BADCOG	Holly Lane Pond
19 Sunday	Mothering Sunday Family Service	Blofield Church
20 Monday	AGM for Social Club	Heathlands
21 Tuesday	AGM for Heathlands	Heathlands
21 Tuesday	Tea and Chat	Heathlands
23 Thursday	Make & Mardle	Gables Farmhouse Hemblington
23 Thursday	Blofield Annual Parish Meeting	Heathlands
25 Saturday	Quiz and Chips	Heathlands
25 Saturday	Big Breakfast	Blofield Church
27 Monday	Hemblington PC Meeting	Heathlands

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