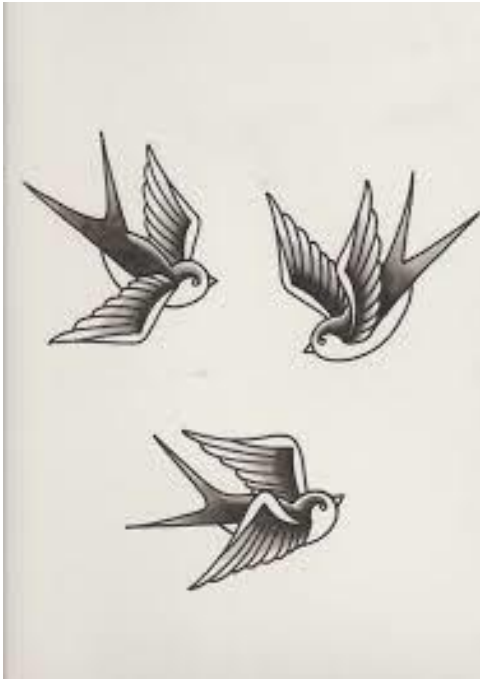


TIDINGS

Parish News



Ellingham
Geldeston
Gillingham
Kirby Cane
Stockton

May 2021

<https://tidings-norfolk.org>

NEXT ISSUE

All material for the **June 2021** issue of *Tidings* must reach The Editor, Catherine, by **Friday, 14th May 2021 please.**

Note: Illustrations must be line drawings or simple logos.

TO ADVERTISE IN *TIDINGS*

The print edition of *Tidings* appears ten times a year and is delivered to over nine hundred households and businesses across our five parishes. In addition, the magazine appears online: <https://tidings-norfolk.org>

Advert page size*	Six months	One year
Quarter	£50.00	£95.00
Third page	£65.00	£120.00
Half page	£90.00	£170.00

*RATES to Dec 2021. Classified entries @ £6 for 2 lines/issue

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Note

Tidings Magazine is published by the Waveney Benefice.

Disclaimer: Advertisements in Tidings do not imply endorsement of the services offered.

Any views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Waveney Benefice.

Dates for your diary in our villages: May 2021

2 May Sun: 10.00am Morning Prayer Kirby Cane

4th May Tus: 6pm Geldeston Ann. Parish Meeting & c.7.30pm Ann. Meeting

5th May Wed: 10.30am Stockton Church Ann. meet of Parishioners & APCM

6pm Gillingham Ann. Parish Meet & c.7.30pm Ann. Meet

6th May Thurs: Voting for South Norfolk Local elections

8th May Sat. 10.30am Kirby Cane Church Ann. meet of Parishioners & APCM

9th May Sun : 9.30am Holy Communion Ellingham

12th May Wed: 10.30 am Ellingham church Ann. meet of Parishioners & APCM

13th May Thurs: 7.30 pm Ascension Day, Holy Communion, Geldeston

14th May Fri: *Deadline for material for Tidings Mag*

16th May Sun: 10.00am Coffee morning Gillingham Village hall

11.30am Holy Communion, Stockton

3.00pm Geldeston Church Ann. meet of Parishioners & APCM

17th May Mon: 10 am Sit & Be Fit KC Memorial Hall. 518148

19th May Wed: 10am Coffee morning & pilates Geldeston Village Hall

23rd May Sun: 9.30am Morning Prayer, Geldeston

6.00pm Evening Prayer, Stockton

30th May Sun: 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion, Kirby Cane

*All Parish Council meetings during Covid restrictions, via Zoom. Residents are very welcome. Each agenda is posted on the appropriate village website, and noticeboard.

From the Editor

Both Parish and Church annual meetings take place in our villages in May- so do attend. It's great that community events are beginning to resume in our village halls.

All is a buzz in Geldeston with its new hotel, and we have a solution to the riddle of the bridge at Ellingham p.11.

Please consider giving a little time to become a telephone befriender for Age Concern p.8 -a well worth while cause.



Geldeston Village Hall: Coffee mornings

Geldeston village hall are excited with the restarting of their "Coffee Mornings" on Wednesday 19th May and then every Wednesday thereafter.

The "Coffee mornings" have been run by volunteers in the hall for many years and we have missed the gathering. We will be open 10am-12noon and until the end of June it will be held under "The Government Rule of six"- only 6 at a table or two families social distanced. Masks to be worn on entry till seated, no mingling and masks on again on exit. Our volunteer team will be all Covid tested the day before and the hall will have been "Fogged" cleaned helping to keep our visitors safe as possible.

We have been making some yummy cakes etc. Tea/Coffee plus cake will be £2.00. Please bring along the correct change. We do realise it will be slightly different but to be able to enjoy meeting other parts of the community again will be fantastic and all welcome!

*subject to Covid regs (and short notice cancellations) at the time.

www.geldestonvillagehall.co.uk

Gillingham Village Hall: Activities re starting!

We cannot wait to be able to reopen the Village Hall and welcome you all back. It's been a tough year for many and we are pleased to say that we will be reopening our coffee mornings on Sunday 30th May 10am - 12 and we hope you have missed coming to see us as much as we have missed being part of the community. Numbers will be restricted and no more than 6 people to a table for now.

We are able to hire the hall with restrictions on events and hope to be fully functioning for hire from 21 June-call Lesley on 07395 958210

Here is a list of current activities:

Sunday Coffee Morning 10am-12 from 30th May

Gillingham Early Years adjacent to Village Hall: contact Tonia 01502 471861 Mon-Fri

Champion Martial Arts: Wednesday & Saturday call 07879638559

Flower of Grace Yoga: Monday & Thursday from 17 May call 07896547612

Fiona Abbott Fitness: Monday 9.30am-10.30am from 17 May call 07917644644

AGM Tuesday 6 July at 7pm followed by our general monthly meeting. If you would like to be put forward for the committee of roles of Treasurer, Secretary or Chair email secretary@gillinghamvillagehall.co.uk to register your interest or for more details of what is involved in being a trustee.

We look forward to seeing you soon Lesley Porter, Chair of Gillingham Village Hall Committee

FISHER THEATRE, BUNGAY



Fisher Theatre Stage productions live streaming, cinema, music, talks.

Box office Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm, & on show nights.

Events update:

As many of you will be aware, the last months of 2020 brought further disruption to our planned programme. The theatre is closed once again and the Board and our staff have been working extensively to adapt to every situation.

Do you have any Wrens in your family?

I'm not referring to the tiny, feathered variety in the garden but the indomitable ladies who joined the Women's Royal Naval Service. Specifically, ladies who joined up between 1946 and 1981 and did their basic training at Training Depot Burghfield/HMTE Burghfield/HMTE Dauntless/HMS Dauntless/Reading.

Dauntless Divisional Photos is a nationwide project, in collaboration with the Association of Wrens, to gather divisional photographs and memories from those training days but also to reunite ladies with old friends, share anecdotes and relive exciting moments.

So if you, your mum, granny, aunt, godmother or a neighbour donned a blue suit and aimed for a life on the ocean wave, please get in touch on either ddpwrens@gmail.com or 07765 435295/0771 990 9844. Mandy Powell & Janette Crisp Project Coordinator.



Royal British Legion Loddon & District with Haddiscoe Sub-Branch update

Covid rules still apply, so no branch meetings just yet.

Look out for our display in the window of Young's in Bridge Street, Loddon during May to mark the setting up in 1921 of the Royal British Legion nationally (then just called the British Legion), includes pictures from the branch archives.

Contact: Secretary Christine Hartley 01508 521136.

Gillingham Parish Council April

CIL Money – Ideas still being sought for the anticipated CIL money.

Clerk to report broken manhole cover at the corner of The Street.

The school/speed sign near the new development has been removed and still not replaced – clerk to contact planning for advice.

Cllr Ward reported that after some repairs at The Boundaries the tarmac had not been replaced in places.

Litter and noise issues continue on Church Road. Clerk to contact Highways again regarding sign resiting.

Letters re the Marsh Lane footpath have been sent to affected parties and responses are awaited before finalising the Right of Way.

Planning Matters- NCC Traffic order regarding McDonald's roundabout & others speed signage approved. 2021/0530 application for single storey extension on Welwyn, Loddon Road – approved subject to no objections from neighbours.

Next Meeting: Wed. 5th May: Annual Parish Council meeting, preceded by Annual Parish meeting at 7.30pm. Please check the parish council website or notice board.

Kirby Cane & Ellingham Parish Council report

The sad death of HRH Prince Philip on Friday, 9th April reminded a nation of all those we have lost during this difficult period in the country's history. It also highlighted a life of exemplary national service and dedication which was lived out in the international spotlight. Many people also conduct public service in a much less obvious - but no less important - way, and unfortunately in the past year Kirby Cane and Ellingham has heard of the sad deaths of several of those who have worked quietly, and usually unpaid, for the good of the community.

Joyce Harms was a long serving, dedicated chairperson of Ellingham Parish Council and was in office in 2007 when the merger with Kirby Cane Parish Council took place in 2007.

Lawrence Cannard an ex-policeman and a keen Rotarian died peacefully aged 80 years. Also a past chairman of the parish council, Lawrie was a key player in the establishment of the Newgate Allotments.

Former parish councillor Michael Ingram was a retired paramedic and former Royal Marine, Michael was president of the Bungay Rotary Club and a classic car enthusiast.

Former Ellingham resident Tony Tompkinson was a district and county councillor who was of great help to the local community, attending local parish council meetings and representing the views of the village at district and county level where possible.

Deanna Saunders (Dee): A passionate bowls player and president of the Suffolk Women's Bowls Association, Dee was active on the parish council and Kirby Cane Memorial Hall Committee and an avid knitter who used her skill to support charities such as the Lifeboat Association, and also knitted clothing for a premature baby charity.

Former district councillor Pauline Allen led the parish council between 2013 and 2015, having been appointed as chairman of the interim council by South Norfolk District Council. A dedicated district councillor and skilled chairperson, she was instrumental in ensuring the continuity and stability of the parish council to enable it to move towards the local election in 2015.

For each one of these local public servants there are families and friends with huge voids in their lives, to whom all the parish councillors, and I, send our sincerest condolences and our thanks for their contributions to the villages, which are so vital to our everyday lives.

For details of May parish council meeting– please consult the parish council website <https://kceparishcouncil.wixsite.com/kcepc> or the village noticeboards for an update.

There are currently three vacancies on the parish council. If you have any questions about any aspect of the parish council's business, do please let me know, or approach any of your parish councillors. Jane Love *Clerk to Council* 01508 518375 kceclerk@gmail.com
<https://kceparishcouncil.wixsite.com/kcepc>

The Locks Inn Community Pub: Progress update 18th April 2021

We are nearly ready to open our doors and welcome you all back as follows !
Monday 10th May -12 May – Open for shareholders only, via booking only, with details to follow

Thursday 13th May onwards – Open to public!

A lot has been happening at the pub to make it safe and welcoming. This is a long term project for us and we decided not to rush into a premature opening. Work will continue long after we open but we will make sure it does not impact on the enjoyment of your visit. Follow us on social media: @thelocksinn for more regular updates. Graham Elliott Chair, The Locks Inn Community Pub 01502 714661

We are in need of more telephone befrienders than ever at the moment.

Telephone befriending

"It's lovely when somebody says thank you for ringing me. I enjoy chatting to people; they have some great stories to tell." *Telephone befriender*

Telephone befrienders make a friendly weekly call to an older person in Norfolk who may be lonely or isolated. For some older people this will be the only person they speak to all week. Even if you have only half an hour a week you could support an older person by enjoying a joke, sharing an experience or completing the quiz we provide together. One older person said about their befriender "We get on so well even though I'm 91 and she is in her 20's. I make her laugh and she makes me laugh too. We talk about all sorts of things; houses, TV, gardens. I think she's lovely and I do look forward to our chats." Telephone befriending enables us to support older people across the whole of Norfolk. We have found telephone befriending an effective way of building a relationship with an older person and so relieving loneliness and isolation. For the befriender it is flexible, can be carried out from home and at a time that suits befriender and older person. The cost of the call can be reclaimed. Volunteers will need email and access to a computer/tablet as the induction and a follow up a month later is carried out by Teams (similar to Zoom), this is free, straightforward and full instructions are provided. The telephone interview and induction take place during office hours. Most of our telephone befrienders are women and we need more of them. We would like to have more men too. volunteering@ageuknorfolk.org.uk, Megan Wilby Volunteer Coordinator Age UK Norfolk Mon to Thurs 9 am - 2 pm 01603 785210 megan.wilby@ageuknorfolk.org.uk, www.ageuknorfolk.org.uk

Notes from Dunburgh

I have often wondered if the lack of pollution (due to the pandemic) has resulted in so many vibrant spring flowers. I cannot remember the colours being so intense. However, I am reliably informed by a horticultural husband that if you have good growing conditions in the previous Summer/Autumn then flowers are being made by plants and trees. We planted over 500 bulbs around our reservoir in Dunburgh but due to the floods at Christmas we thought we'd lost the lot! Absolutely not! Every single one came up and all are flourishing. Nature is truly wonderful at recovery. I've also discovered that putting out crushed digestive biscuits on a plate is a robin's equivalent of a Michelin starred restaurant! It's so nice to see the birds feeding and nesting in our gardens. With the lifting of restrictions and warmer weather on the horizon we can all look forward to socializing and eating out – especially as over the last year I have provided over a thousand meals for my family. Can't wait to put away the apron!

Fizzy Moreton



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From a question of a bridge to the riddle of Ellingham Island

Sometimes a simple inquiry can start you on a fascinating journey, and discoveries one really didn't expect. In this case I was asked: "*When was the first bridge at Ellingham?*" I really didn't know, but it got me thinking, and raised many questions.

Where to start? The story of this land goes back millions of years, but I'll focus on the sliver of time that is the past two millennia. The ice sheets had long retreated and the land bridge to Europe had submerged. This period is important. Nature shaped our ways of life and we strived to use the land for our purposes.

0AD: this valley we call The Waveney looked significantly different. It is likely the water level was higher than today, although it is really difficult to say because there were no maps or written records back then. Large swathes of land were under water or marshes. Man settled in small communities on the edge of these wetlands and on islands, utilising them for wildfowl, fish and reeds. Peat was extracted from the drier lands for fuel.

Sea levels started to rise. *Then came the Romans and what did they do for us?* Well, with their arrival came records, and thanks to these records we know they built two castles in the third century, either side of a Great Estuary: one near Caister-on-Sea and the other at Burgh Castle. Apart from keeping marauding pirates at bay, the castles enabled them to keep an eye on the locals – very important, having had a bit of a bust-up with Boudicca previously. The Romans left in 476AD.

But what did the valley look like? The Anglo Saxon History site



(saxonhistory.co.uk) suggests the sea levels were almost 5m higher those

times than they are currently today. We know the river was navigable far up the Waveney because Earsham was raided by the Vikings in 869AD. The river was much wider than now and the valley bottom was largely underwater or marshlands.

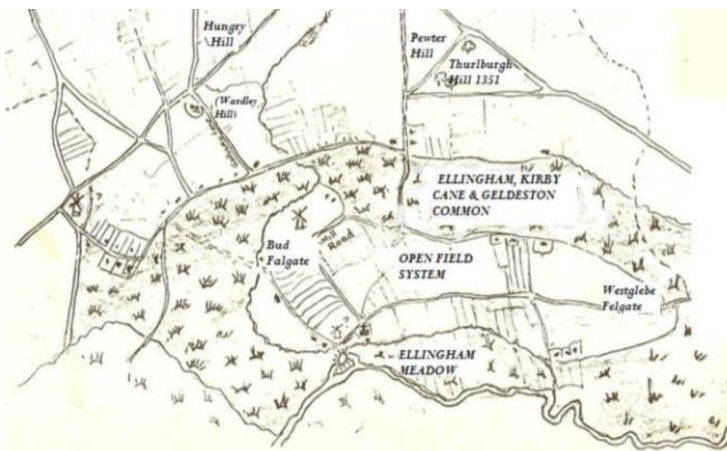
Are there any maps? A map drawn in the 16th century by Samuel Woodward (Norfolk Record Office) claims to show this area in 1000AD. Part of it has been redrawn). Strangely, there appeared to be a large island in the estuary between Gillingham and Bungay. I did have my doubts about this map: *how could someone in the 16th century know what the land was like 500 years earlier?*

I sought more maps. The “island” cropped up again in the Ordnance Survey map, 1st edition, of 1838. It showed an area of land named “Ellingham Island”. Ellingham Island extended northwards, from what is now the old railway station, to the school and eastwards to the grain store.

Sea levels continued to rise until the mid 14th century, so the island shown in Samuel’s map could have been around for a long time, centuries even. It’s existence is confirmed in a very useful, modern publication by The Broads Authority, (Evolution of the Broads https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0027/244395/LCA_Part-1.pdf.) about the evolution of the Broads. It contains a map depicting the scene in 250BC to 400AD and it too shows a large island in the Waveney.

Certainly the river at Ellingham was too wide for there to be a bridge across... or was it? The Iceni had been busy long before the Romans came, and recent discoveries were made (in 2006 to 2011) of a causeway running 500m across wetlands in Geldeston, and a similar one on the other side of the river at Barsham. Given the effort involved in their creation, it’s doubtful there would have been another lengthy river crossing at Ellingham too.

Rising sea levels caused water to break across into the ancient peat diggings (1348) and the waterways of the Broads came into being. From near that time, sea levels began to fall and marshes were drained for farming. Jo Gooderham’s *A chronology of Ellingham and Kirby Cane* (ISBN 978-1-5272-7471-6). Refers to Ellingham Island as being a place of early settlement



located between Dockney and the Beck. It noted the sale of a watermill at Ellingham in 1197. Early medieval landscape reproduced with permission of Jo

Gooderham. The book contains a map of Ellingham Mill, drawn in 1612 - no sign of a bridge (indeed, none of the 16th century maps I looked at indicated a bridge at Ellingham), but there is reference to a ferry in Ellingham in 1614. With falling sea levels, the Waveney slowly became silted and blocked. Boats could no longer reach Bungay, therefore, in 1670 an Act was passed to improve navigation between Beccles and Bungay and locks were constructed. It is likely that the bridge at Ellingham was built then. Maps from 1750 onwards do show a bridge at Ellingham.

In answer to the question "When was the first bridge at Ellingham?" The first bridge at Ellingham was built in the 1670s. Until the mid 14th century the Waveney valley between Beccles and Bungay had been largely marshes and wetlands, with an 'island' at Ellingham. In pre-Roman times, there might have been some form of river crossing at Geldeston. There may well have been a small ferry at Ellingham. As water levels lowered, both naturally and by drainage systems, the Waveney silted and the first bridge was probably built when the lock was constructed in the 1670's.

Iain Wright

Notes: We've long been used to having bridges to the west of Ellingham. The A143 crosses several dykes and the old Yarmouth Road has Longford Bridge, but the latter was built in 1910 – until then it had been a ford! There is a very useful site where you can not only see ancient maps, but you can overlay them too, see <http://britishlibrary.georeferencer.com/> . Try comparing Samuel Woodward's map with those on the Gov.uk Flood Warning Service.

All of a buzz!

The wildflowers in Geldeston church yard have been a joy-sheets of primroses in April, with the display of other wildflowers set to continue- look out for patches of the white flowered meadow saxifrage, a little plant associated with old hay meadows.

The churchyard now hosts a new hotel with residents able to enjoy the locally available 'cuisine' of pollen and nectar-the bees knees no less! The resident populations of lizard and slow worm are amongst others welcome the new arrivals.

The hotel, kindly donated by Anthony Bickmore, is fully booked by the occupants- in this case mason bees! These solitary bees are excellent pollinators with the pupae emerging when the weather warms up. Different from many other species of bee, the adults collect pollen on hairs of their body (known as a pollen brush) rather than on their legs. They nest in holes or cavities including in brickwork and in bee hotels, favouring those in sunny south facing positions. The females collect mud to seal up their nest cells over winter.

We are dependent on the work of pollinators such as bees in the food we eat and flowers we enjoy both in town and country. To raise awareness of the importance of, but, decline in pollinators an ancient livery company, the Worshipful Company of Wax Chandlers, is working in partnership with The Gardeners and Information Technologist livery companies on a campaign 'PollinatingLondonTogether', check out their website at www.PollinatingLondonTogether.com and see videos about pollinators!

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News from Gillingham St Michael's Primary Academy's

Vacancy for a Trust Governor. No special qualifications are required, just time to contribute, a willingness to learn and an interest in education. If you feel you can contribute, we would love to hear from you! For more information or a nomination form, contact the school office: office@gillingham.norfolk.sch.uk or 01502 713425.



Gillingham Early Years meet every weekday in term-time, in the back room at Gillingham Village Hall on Monday to Thursday (8.30 am to 4 pm); & on Fridays (9 am to 3 pm). We offer 2-5 year olds inclusive indoor / outdoor education and play, in a happy, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Ofsted registered

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Every Sunday and Major Feast Day Divine Liturgy is celebrated, from 10 to 11.30 am.

Each Friday, we hold Evening Service, starting at 7.00 pm.

All are welcome to worship with us. (Services are conducted partly in English).

HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh 1921-2021

So much has been written of the 99 year life of Prince Phillip it is difficult to know where to start! At the age of one he was packed into an orange crate with his family fleeing in exile from Greece. He received most of his education in the UK. His time at Gordonstoun school was particularly influential with his later establishment in 1956 of the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme that has given opportunities and encouragement to thousands of young people world wide in the countryside and through volunteering. School was followed by a career in the Royal Navy including in combat during the War. He married the then Princess Elizabeth in 1947 -who as Queen at their Golden Wedding Anniversary described her husband as someone who has been .. ' my strength and stay all these years, and I, and my whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim or we shall ever know'.

He lead life to the full, with service before self and very much a 'get on with it approach'. He was a most energetic member of the Royal family involved in national life and the Commonwealth including as patron to numerous organisations - the Royal Norfolk Show to mention just one within Norfolk. He was always keen to put those he meet at ease including through humour. Very much a countryman, he showed a keen interest and understanding in conservation, and the great outdoors. His speeches were well based on an impressive knowledge of the subject and he was known for his attention to detail.

His funeral at Windsor provided a wonderful tribute embracing pageantry, Christianity and family, and an opportunity for all to reflect on the life of one who will be greatly missed.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

Over time, attendance numbers will be subject to gradual relaxation and it may be helpful for you to have a note here of the maximum numbers of people who may attend such occasions and when:

From 12 April Funerals (30); baptisms, wakes and weddings (15)

No earlier than 17 May: 30 for all such events

No earlier than 21 June: No limits for such events

Note: that these are maximum numbers set by the Government; social-distanced capacity in some of our churches may mean that it is not possible to seat 30 safely and so careful liaison will be required with me, our churchwardens and where necessary, with funeral directors. We wish to ensure all appropriate safeguarding for your sense of peace, comfort and wellbeing. Contact: Rev. David Smith if you have any queries.

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Writing from the Rectory....

It is quite understandable that the coronavirus pandemic has rather dominated our thinking, conversation, living and, perhaps, writing, in this last year or so – restrictions have been necessary, proportionate but hard, and we've all felt the profound effects in some way or other as those restrictions on our freedoms and relationships have cut really deeply. Furthermore, for some, the virus has left families mourning the loss of loved ones, left people without jobs, family livelihoods and wellbeing precariously balanced and no shortage of key-workers and people generally feeling wrung out and mentally and physically exhausted by the pressures and demands placed upon them.

In these last couple of months, in particular, I've been struck by how much our journey through the seasons of the Church have mirrored our common experience, and how much those seasons, actually, have been gifts to us for reflecting on where we find ourselves. Christmastide provided us with refreshment in the knowledge that our God is with us, our God comes to us; he is not a God who is aloof and distant. Jesus comes to be near us, alongside us; he comes to walk amongst us to show us unconditional love and limitless tenderness and compassion. Lent offered us the chance to journey resolutely and courageously with Jesus to his cross. As we entered into a new lockdown, we figuratively entered the gathering darkness which Jesus shared as the shadow of the cross fell upon his (and our) path. As we approach that cross, however, we are renewed and comforted in the knowledge that Jesus – Emmanuel; 'God with us' – chooses not to dodge pain and suffering for our sake. In our crucified Lord, we see a God who stretches out his arms to embrace the world and to assume its sin and brokenness – through Jesus, God redeems all that is lost, all that is dark and painful, all that could otherwise bring us to despair. In the depths of our disorientation, fear and anxiety that this pandemic has brought us, we can know that God has all things under his control and that all shall be well – somehow.

We now find ourselves in Eastertide, as the Church rejoices in Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Jesus conquers evil and death and rises triumphantly from the grave. All the very worst that the world could throw at our Lord could not overwhelm him. God shows his supreme authority over all things. Jesus' risen life – today, here and now! – assures us that there is no power that can hold us in darkness. Jesus is the Light of Life, which the darkness cannot overcome. Easter, of course, is, in many ways, about re-emergence – as the number of coronavirus cases decreases through lockdown and as vaccine continues to be rolled out successfully around our country, we can look forward to our re-emergence into the world once again – a new life that Easter, in all its joy, beckons. Pub gardens open once more, alongside our shops and hairdressers, gyms and sports facilities. We can

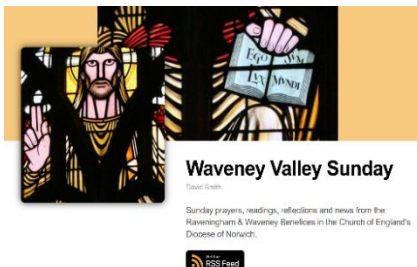
meet our family members as two households outside in our gardens – new life springing forth, just as our daffodils, tulips and fresh green leaves emerge from the barrenness of winter.

This year, the month of May in the life of the Church brings Ascension Day and the Day of Pentecost – Jesus ascends to heaven; Father and Son send the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' disciples and upon the world. God dwells with us in his power forever more. Prior to his ascension, the risen Jesus instructs his disciples to wait for power to come to them from on high – he asks them to wait patiently, prayerfully; his comforting presence will soon be with them again, albeit in a different way. They will be enabled and empowered by the presence of the Holy Spirit to live out their lives in all the fullness that God intended for them, but without his presence they could do nothing. These disciples were to be those by whom the good news of sins forgiven and life eternal through the death and resurrection of Jesus would come to the world. They were learning to trust completely in Jesus – all he had said had come true – but they would still need to learn higher levels of obedience and patience. They chose to do as they were asked, and their obedience and patience in prayerful waiting was rewarded. The Holy Spirit came to them, and God's Church exploded into life as thousands (and then millions, and billions) of people came to believe in the testimony of the disciples and to experience the power and presence of the risen Christ.

Today, we are those who have journeyed through the darkness of lockdown, and we live in the hope of a promise that some day soon we will be able to live in a fullness of life which perhaps we used to take for granted but now awaits in an ever-nearing future. We share in the joy of gradual Easter re-emergence as all that we used to enjoy slowly begins once again to bloom and flourish alongside the colours of Spring. Our next step, however, is to wait patiently and obediently to receive all that awaits us – and just as the promises of Jesus to the disciples at his ascension, there is a risk that it could elude us if we don't.

David Smith

Waveney Valley Sunday



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Church services in May 2021

Sunday 2 May	9.30am Holy Communion (CW)	Haddiscoe
<i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00am Morning Prayer (BCP)	Kirby Cane
	10.00am Holy Communion	Norton Chapel
	11.30am Holy Communion (CW)	Toft Monks
Sunday 9 May	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	Ellingham
<i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	11.30am Holy Communion (CW)	Aldeby
	4.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	Haddiscoe
Thursday 13 May	7.30pm Holy Communion (CW)	Geldeston
<i>Ascension Day</i>		
Sunday 16 May	9.30am Holy Communion (CW)	Norton Subcourse
<i>Sunday after Ascension</i>	11.30am Holy Communion (CW)	Stockton
Sunday 23 May	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	Raveningham
<i>Day of Pentecost</i>	9.30am Morning Prayer (CW)	Geldeston
	10.00am Morning Prayer (BCP)	Ellingham
	11.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	Burgh St Peter
	6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)	Stockton
Sunday 30 May	10.30am Benefice Holy Communion	Kirby Cane
<i>Trinity Sunday</i>		

Annual Meetings of Parishioners and 2021 Annual Parochial Church Meetings

A majority of the Anglican churches in our Benefices will be holding their annual meetings in May for the year ahead. In all cases, the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP) will immediately precede the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). The AMP may be attended by anyone who lives within the curtilage of the respective parish and it is at this meeting that the parish (not the church) elects its churchwardens. At the APCM, those who are members of the church's Electoral Roll make a number of elections, including to laity membership of the PCC and representatives to Deanery Synod. It is also, importantly, a time when church accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 are presented and where the church reports on its previous year and activities. It is a time, therefore, where people are able to listen and discuss but also to make enquiry of and rejoice in (hopefully!) the life of their local church, its ministry, mission and management.

The following meetings have been agreed, all held in their churches:

Stockton: Wed. 5 May 10.30am
 Kirby Cane: Sat. 8 May 10.30am
 Ellingham: Wed. 12 May 10.30am
 Geldeston: Sun. 16 May 3.00pm



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Tracey's home dog boarding service: tel: 0782580063

traceyreeve43@gmail.com

Tom Purling: Sweep and vac chimney cleaning,

mob. 07816-462542, tel. 01508-528522

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Kirby Cane	10.08	11.03	12.33	14.33	15.33
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Revd. David Smith, Priest-in-Charge Waveney Benefice
revdavidsmith@gmail.com (01502 711645)

The Rectory, 60 The Street, Geldeston, NR34 0LN

John Lowrey, Lay Reader
81 Yarmouth Rd, Ellingham (01508-518377).

Churchwardens & Parochial Church Councils (PCC)

For general enquiries, contact:

Ellingham PCC – Mrs Maureen Webbe (01508-518820);

Kirby Cane Churchwardens – Michael Preston (01508-518223) and James Napier (01508-518019);

Geldeston PCC – Mrs Vickie White (01508-518735);

Stockton Churchwardens – Clare Seppings (01508-518197) and Bill Marven (01508-548580).

LOCAL COUNCILS

Geldeston: Ian Ansell, Chairman (01508-518208);

Clerk, Mrs Tina Page (07858-518636),

geldestonclerk@hotmail.co.uk

Gillingham: Rae Massingham, Chairman (01502-715803);

Clerk – Mrs Julia Punt (01502-575518), juliapuntgpc@btinternet.com

Kirby Cane & Ellingham: John Cook, Chairman;

Clerk – Jane Love (01508-518375) kceclerk@gmail.com

Stockton: Ailsa Pringle, Chairwoman (01508-518202);

Secretary, Paula Jeffries (01508-548602).

South Norfolk Councillors:

Geldeston, Kirby Cane and Ellingham: Brendon Bernard,
(01986-893240), bbernard@s-norfolk.gov.uk

Gillingham: James Knight (07860-599015)

jknight@s-norfolk.gov.uk

Stockton: Kay Billig, 07545-905410, kbillig@s-norfolk.gov.uk