

New Buckenham Parish News



CORONATION YEAR

February 2023

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New Buckenham Parish News

February 2023

Coronation Year

We are now in a Coronation year! The cover photograph from the New Buckenham Archive shows Tofts shop, later Lovells, decked out for Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in June 1953. The monochrome picture doesn't do justice to the colourful display of posters and bunting which would have been remarkable during the austerity after the war. Other village photographs show houses decorated and flags across the street.

Charles Oxley

Thank You

We are very grateful to the sponsor of this month's issue. If you would be interested in sponsoring an issue of *Parish News* or advertising in the magazine, please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or email mdowson@btinternet.com.

Parish News Committee

Cinderella

There's no better way to start any festive season than with a visit to the panto, and with their own special bit of Bibbidi-Bobbido-Boo the New Buckenham Players didn't disappoint with their fun-filled presentation of Cinderella in early December.

It was obvious from the start that much work had been undertaken to get us all into the village Christmas spirit that we had missed over the last few years. With a cast both young and old, and lots of new faces, it was great to see them all come together with such aplomb whilst obviously enjoying the opportunity to entertain. How super to see so many children getting involved!

There was lots of audience participation; bangs, boos and hisses, sing-alongs, choc treats and a few disappointed 'size 6 feet'. With so much to enjoy from the great over the top performances that make panto all the fun it should be, and along with wonderful costumes and incredible scenery, it all added up to make a great night.

Congratulations to all involved. It was truly a wonderful team effort from cast, crew and all those who give of their time so willingly to support. So glad to see the panto back in the village calendar. We look forward to next year.

Thank you, Players!

Maria Lloyd

Cinderella, too

It's behind you - oh no it isn't, oh yes it is!!!

Sadly the New Buckenham Players' production of Cinderella is now some way behind us but has definitely left its audiences with many happy memories of a thoroughly enjoyable evening. What a privilege it was to celebrate the start of December with the return of one of the highlights of New Buckenham's annual calendar after an absence of two years. And oh how we missed it! Cinderella, which had all the ingredients of a fantastic panto with something for everyone, played to four packed houses with plenty of laughter, clapping, cheering, singing and the odd bit of groaning! The professionalism of the cast and crew, on stage and behind the scenes, was matched by the creators of the wonderful scenery and costumes, the musicians and sound department, the prompt and those working front of house, on the raffle and in the bar. The youngsters in the cast certainly enhanced the production and I know that having youngsters on stage involves having chaperones and lots of rules and regulations so well done to everyone who embraced this.

May I finish with a huge thank you to everyone involved in the production? Given that the Christmas production takes place on the first weekend of December, it's just ten months until the next one! Oh yes it is!!!

Karen Hoble

William Alan Jones

Alan died on 25th November 2022 after a stay in hospital. Born on 19th June 1944, he was brought up in Treherbert, Rhondda and went to the local grammar school. The family moved away later and, with training in accountancy, Alan found work in the greater London area. He became a manager at Heathrow airport sorting out the 'duty free' to go in aeroplanes and ships, often travelling abroad. When he met Marlene they ran an off-licence together in Putney.

Alan and Marlene eventually settled in New Buckenham, running Kings Stores where Angel Cakes is now. The business didn't do well and his sight was failing so following Marlene's unexpected death in 1990 he moved into No 1 Almshouse a couple of years later.

In later life his constant companions were his guide dogs Jeeves, Katie and Andy. These enabled him, after a fashion, to walk the village and attend social events despite sometimes getting lost. Without his last dog Alan became more withdrawn but in earlier times he was usually at the Kings Head on a Saturday morning, occupying 'compost corner' with a collection of like-minded friends. He particularly enjoyed attending village funerals although regretted the absence of professional wailing mourners as he had experienced in his Welsh childhood.

Alan's abiding passion was the varying fortunes of the Welsh Rugby Union team and he placed the Welsh flag over his washing line every time they played against England. He particularly liked his (English) neighbours to be with him for the televised match. Drink was taken and each other's countries were insulted. His many visitors kept him well informed about the village but he wasn't easy company; his cantankerous, contrary nature often got the better of him while at other times he could be kind and generous.

Alan's funeral was held on 23rd December at St. Martin's Church. He had planned every detail including the draped Welsh flag, tolling bell and refreshingly short service.

Contributions from Vicky Cooper, Charles Oxley and Roger Turner

The Trustees of the William Barber Charity wish to express their sadness at the death of Alan, who was a long-term resident of the Almshouses.

Jon Frith, William Barber Trust



**Winter Warmer Wednesday
Community café
New Buckenham Village Hall 1pm to 3pm**

JOIN US FOR A
CHAT AND A
CHANCE TO FIND
OUT WHAT IS
GOING ON IN THE
VILLAGE.

Everyone welcome

News from the Pews

Christmas Services: Thank you to all who came and shared our Christmas services. We were really pleased to welcome a good number to Christingle, Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, and together with the amazing efforts of the Carols on the Green team we have sent a donation of £200 to the Children's Society. Thanks also to everyone who baked, cleaned, decorated, read, sang and played over the weeks, and to Clive for the beautiful tree.

Forthcoming Events: Coffeemates! will start up again in the spring, but the book stall is open every day from 10am–4pm. Hopefully Village&Vestry, the group that helps with fundraising to keep the building standing and maintained, will have some exciting events to tell you about soon.

Services: Just as money is always a problem in the church, so is manpower. We are blessed to have Revd Sarah with us now, but we will also be joining forces with the other churches in the group more often, so keep an eye on the notices.

We have plans to have Lilies for Easter again this year, with the quiet hour from 2pm–3pm on Good Friday to collect them and listen to some music and readings. More details next month.

Susan Hilton-Jowett (AWA, 860929)

Louise Casson (Churchwarden, 860191)

Accommodation Available

The Trustees of the William Barber Charity have a vacant Almshouse which will be available soon. The property is currently undergoing a full refurbishment and will be available in early spring to accept a new resident.

The accommodation comprises a sitting room, kitchen, bathroom and bedroom with managed communal front garden and outhouse behind. The property has central heating and double-glazing throughout.

If you wish to apply for this accommodation or find out more please contact the Clerk to the Trustees in writing at the following addresses:

Mrs. Jenny Shorter, William Barber Almshouse Trust, Owl Lodge,
38 Factory Lane, Roydon, Diss, IP22 4EG or jenshorter@icloud.com

The closing date for applications is Tuesday 28th February 2023.

Jon Frith, William Barber Charity

Good Companions

Thirty members sat down for our three-course lunch on Wednesday 7th December, and this was enjoyed by all! After lunch, we were again entertained by the excellent Alan Avery. A surprise visit from Father Christmas at the end of the afternoon rounded off a very good day. We wish all those who were unable to attend due to illness a very speedy recovery!

The first meeting of 2023 will be on Thursday 16th February at 2:30pm in the Village Hall.

Christine Wilby

New Buckenham Parish Council

Our February Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 14th February at 7:30pm in the Large Meeting Room at the Village Hall. A warm welcome is extended to all parishioners.

A reminder that the agenda relevant to each meeting will be posted on the noticeboard on the Village Green and on the website (www.newbuckenhampc.info) where you will also find further information about the Parish Council.

Meeting dates for 2023: 14th March, 11th April, 9th May, 13th June, 11th July, 12th September, 10th October, 14th November and 12th December. The Parish Council does not meet in August.

Parish Council Elections will take place in May. If you would like to find out more about how to become a Parish Councillor, there will be details on the website and the Parish Council Noticeboard with further updates in the coming months.

Councillors' details are elsewhere in this edition of Parish News - please feel free to contact one of the councillors or attend a Parish Council meeting to find out more about what the role involves.

Karen Hobley - Chair

01953 860529 / karenhobley@hotmail.com

Summary of Draft Minutes January

Present: Karen Hobley (KH) Chair, Andrew Bingham (AB), Mary Manning (MM), Andrew Nettleton (AN), Don Crossman (DC), Mary Dowson (MD), Steve Askew (SA) District/County Councillor, and Angela Thornton (AT) Clerk.

Apologies Steve Highton.

Minutes of the December approved as correct.

1. Matters Arising

- a) BOAT: cannot be applied for until 2024.
- b) Village Gateway: NCC will support but not additional road markings. AB to obtain costings with a view to Parish Partnership 50/50 split. SA agreed to support with some funding from his budget.
- c) Defibrillator: grant application complete, decision in two weeks.
- d) Project Fund: AN to forward updated paperwork to AT to update website.
- e) Speeding: awaiting article in *Parish News* to recruit volunteers for a speed survey.
- f) Community Woodland: following the interest in the article in *Parish News*, AB to arrange a meeting.
- g) Green Issues: A meeting to be arranged, an electric car charging point to be on the agenda.
- h) High Bailiff's Trust meeting to discuss the location of the restored bench and plaque.

2. Public Participation

- a) District/ County Cllr: planning meeting regarding Cuffer Lane, application deferred until after a site meeting.
- b) Parish Councillors
 - i) AB suggested a Project Fund application to extend the hours of the Village Hall Booking Clerk to promote Village Hall activities. AT to check if it meets the fund criteria.
 - ii) KH: High Bailiff's Trust have not charged the Parish Council for Christmas lights electricity.

c) Parishioners

i) Sue Britton stated that there were two more volunteers to be part of the defibrillator maintenance and monitoring group.

ii) Community Car Scheme: Gerry Walsh explained the difficulties of obtaining medicals and eye tests for the drivers. She stated her wish to stand down as coordinator in April. SA suggested a possible merger with other villages in the area.

3. Financial Matters

a) Quarter 3 budget approved.

b) December Bank Reconciliation approved.

c) Community Project Group recommendation for funds for the Junior Football Club was approved.

d) Payments for January approved.

4. Planning

a) White Horse Cottage, Rosemary Lane: No objection.

b) Council noted the decision of permission from BDC for Bakehouse Cottage, King's Steet application.

5. Amenities

a) Grounds Maintenance: awaiting return of quotes for 2023–24.

b) Closed Churchyard: wall deteriorating, to be repaired in April.

c) Allotments: rents have been collected.

d) Play area / Cricket pitch: KH and AT to meet with Cricket

Club.

e) Footpaths: thanks to Barbara Cattermole who led the 'Hair of the Dog' walk on New Year's Day.

6. Correspondence

a) An FOI request has been received. Action AT.

b) Posters for May elections circulated and will be put on Village Noticeboard and on the NBPC website.

7. Key Documents

Model Publications and Recruitment Policies reviewed and approved. AT to put updated versions on the website.

Mary Dowson for New Buckenham Parish Council

St Martin's Church Services – February 2022

Subject to change – please check church notice board

Sun 5th	10am	Group Service at Kenninghall	3 before Lent
Sun 12th	4:30pm	Sung Evensong	2 before Lent
Sun 19th	11am	Holy Communion	Next before Lent
Sun 26th	11am	Morning Worship	First Sunday of Lent

Christmas 200 Club Lucky Winners

Thank you for your continued support of the Village Hall. Here are the lucky winners for the latest draw.

£50	David Wyatt-Hupton and Julie Thorndike
£20	Babs McAlpine, Nick Maney, Deborah Sharman, Brian Grindley and Don Crossman
£10	Geoff Gildersleeve, Rosy May Trewin, Gabby Thornton, Danni Williamson and Kim Cutmore

Village Environment Meeting

There have been several suggestions and some discussion over the last few months relating to installing electric car charging points at the Village Hall and the creation of a community wood. If anyone is interested in these proposals, has any ideas or experience they would like to share, we are holding a village meeting/forum on Saturday 11th February at the Village Hall at 11am.

Andrew Bingham will chair the event and everyone is welcome. This is an opportunity for you to find out more about the proposed projects and to share any ideas you have about the village's environment.

Tea coffee and a warm welcome guarantee, so we hope to see you there.

Juliet Fulford

New Buckenham Players

Auditions will be held at the Village Hall on 21st February at 7:30pm for the New Buckenham Players' summer production, to be performed on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th June. Ryan Enever will be directing *The Foreigner*, a comedy by American playwright Larry Shue.

Please come along if you are interested in taking part!

New Buckenham Players Committee

New Buckenham Art Exhibition

Opening Night Friday 7th April 7:30 pm. Open Saturday 8th, Sunday 9th and Monday 10th, 11am–4:30 pm.

Our preparations are well underway for the New Buckenham Art exhibition. With the Easter weekend much earlier this year we have already sent out our entry forms to previous artists. However, we would be very pleased to hear from new artists who would like to exhibit, so please do get in touch with Gill Goodwin: (gill.good@btinternet.com).

You will see I have included a copy of last year's Helpers' Rota opposite – we would be grateful if all those people who helped last year contact Clive Rush to let us know whether you are able to help again this year (01953 860572 or clive.rush@btconnect.com).

If you would like to help and have not done so before please do get in contact we really need a lot of helpers for this event.

In the next *Parish News* I will go through the other areas where helpers are much needed.

I should also remind you this is a fundraising event and we hope to continue with our efforts to raise money for our Church and Village Hall.

Thank you!

Clive Rush (Art Exhibition Committee).

HELPERS' ROTA ART EXHIBITION 2022

TIME	TASK	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
11–12:30	S	Mary Dowson Charles Wolfe	Carolyn Hupton	Sandra Lester Rory Lester
	A	Gerry & Geoff Gildersleeve	Nancy Robertson Vivienne Walker	Mary Manning Mike Boswell
12:30–2:30	S	John and Karen Hobley	Hazel Rush Ed Dowling	Carolyn Hupton Audrey Dowling
	A	Pauline Dynes Alan Dynes	Ron Thompson Margaret Ward	John Frith Lou Frith
2:30–4:30	S	Richard Anderson Charles Wolfe	Claire McNamara Clive Rush	Ann Gascoyne Karen Hobley
	A	Dawn Eagling Tom Eagling	Audrey Dowling Ed Dowling	Robert & Meryl St. John Cooper
11–2	R	Stevie Hobley Gill Goodwin	Bella Chirodian Janet Ovens	Juliet Fulford Andrew Bingham
2–4:30		Gill Goodwin Sue Cattermole	Linda Bryan Kathy Steel	Alice Cattermole Andrea Halfacree

Bleak Future for the Black Poplar?

Many people will be aware that the Black Poplar tree is rare, but how rare is rare? Are there really only TWO of them in the whole of Norfolk?

A shocking article in the EDP at the beginning of January made this claim:

'The Black Poplar has the dubious honour of being the UK's most endangered native tree. ... The species has been in deep decline since the 1850s, with just 7,000 thought to be growing in Britain, of which only 600 are female trees. Conservationists have, identified trees at Hardwick and Tibenham as being the only two examples left in Norfolk.'

That's odd because we have known for years about the spectacular specimen on a field up Cuffer Lane to one side to the Tas Valley Way. Investigation was in order!

It was the Otter Trust which had done nationwide surveys and, using cuttings, is planning to plant more than 50 to ensure the survival of the species. Their campaign is about to go live. The man responsible for it is Ben Grief, the Director of Conservation and Education. He'd had scores of emails after the article. He was furious.

'The EDP got it completely wrong. The article should say that the two trees mentioned at Tibenham and Hardwick are the only two individuals of very rare clones 42 and 45.

I am well aware that there are more, as I personally visited all of them and took samples for DNA testing and cuttings for planting. There are 78 veteran BPs in Norfolk (many more if you include the ones pumped out by the county council in the 90s - although these are birth male clones 25 and 28 - the commonest). Your tree is female clone 23 - once thought to be the only female in the county - my work had actually discovered 5 more 23s across the county.

Norfolk has 6 genetically distinct trees - the vast majority being male 25 and 28, female 23, and now male 42 and 45 and a new individual that I discovered which is yet to be allocated an identification number.

The NB tree is a beautiful specimen.'

And as if this couldn't get more confusing: a dear friend who has been visiting NB from Northern Ireland for 30 years reports that he is aware of a Black Poplar near the Green in OLD Buckenham, and that there are reports of two new ones having been planted on



19th March 2018 to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Max and Pauline Bott. They had been raised by Pauline from cuttings taken from the old one on the green, which, to top it all, is said to be one of those rare and beautiful things... A FEMALE!

The lesson is: report and record all environmental issues you spot and, of course, don't blindly believe everything you read in the papers! (Except this, of course!)

Janet Trewin

Pot Luck

If you have even the smallest of gardens, or even none at all, but just windowsills indoors, it's not possible that you haven't got, lurking somewhere, an unwanted plant pot... or two. Well let's be honest, in my case, it's scores more than that. And where have you put them? In the shed? In a corner down the garden? Or maybe you just throw them in the bin? The problem is that they are almost always perfectly re-usable. They've had one flower in them and now you're chucking it away – the pot not the flower! Worse still, many of them are not recyclable. I decided to try to do my thing for the planet. I went online. I phoned garden centres. I got in the car and drove to Diss, to Attleborough, to Bressingham, to Norwich. Wherever I went they rejected them and then, perhaps by way of consolation, asked what colour were the pots? If they were black, they pointed out, they probably wouldn't be recyclable anyway. Other colours might be, but you'd have to check the codes on the side, and then you'd have to check the facilities of your particular district council. It's 2023! Surely there should be simpler solutions by now? I couldn't bear to look at the waste. And then I called in at the Thetford Garden Centre at Kilverstone, IP24 2RL. Write that postcode down. NOW! They explained how it works. You take all your pots and put them in a big container in the outdoor area. Anyone who wants to use them, takes them for free. When the container overflows a truck takes them away and grinds them down to make PLANT POTS. Hooray! I've done one small thing for the planet. And how much better my conscience feels. I hope you noted that postcode!

Janet Trewin

Exciting but dangerous

Please can you warn children that the old Second World War / Cold War observation post at the far eastern end of the common might be fun to explore, but is also potentially dangerous. It probably won't stop them climbing on it and in it, but hopefully they will never be alone when they do. Generations have used it, but as it gets older it gets more dangerous, so please have the conversation with your kids to keep them safe.

We have made Norfolk Wildlife Trust aware and hope they will take some action to make the structure safe.

Juliet Fulford

Parish News

As well as the print version, *Parish News* is also available digitally. So, if you would like to receive a electronic copy of *Parish News* by email in PDF format as well as, or even instead of, a paper copy please fill in a subscription form at <http://eepurl.com/dhB-1P>.

You can also find an online archive of past issues of *Parish News* at <http://www.newbuckenham.net>.

Older issues of *Parish News* can be found on the New Buckenham Archive website: <http://www.newbuckenhamarchive.co.uk/parish%20news.htm>

Parish News Committee

New Buckenham Parish Council

- Chair:** Karen Hobley
(01953 860529 / karenhobley@hotmail.com)
- Vice-Chair:** Andrew Bingham
(01953 861150 / andrew.bingham100@gmail.com)
- Councillors:** Don Crossman (01953 861246)
Mary Dowson (01953 860320)
Steve Highton (01953 860000)
Mary Manning (01953 861242)
Andrew Nettleton (01953 860428)
- Clerk:** Angela Thornton (01953 887830 / parishclerk@newbuckenham.net)

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month at the Village Hall. Further information can be found on our notice board on the Village Green or www.newbuckenhampc.info.

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Yvonne Ayliffe D.O.,POD,FSCCO BSSCMD MICrA

9 The Fields, Tacolneston

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Dates For Your Diary

February 2023	
Sat 11th	Village Environment Meeting, Village Hall, 11am
Tues 14th	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Thurs 16th	Good Companions, Village Hall, 2:30pm
Tues 21st	New Buckenham Players Auditions, Village Hall, 7:30pm
Save the Date	
Fri 7th – Mon	Village Art Exhibition, Village Hall, 7:30pm (Fri), 11am–

The Village Hall Bookings Administrator is Stevie Hobley

07469 715517 ~ bookings@newbuckenhamvillagehall.co.uk

Contributions for the March 2023 issue of *New Buckenham Parish News* should be submitted by 6:00pm on Monday 20th February 2023 to Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136), Katie Wyatt-Hupton, Orchard Cottage, Marsh Lane (308427) or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.

TO ADVERTISE: please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or mdowson@btinternet.com