

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham

Rural Dean: Rev'd David Messer **01359 250239**
(contact in case of emergency)

Deanery Reader: Freddie Montgomery 01359 240271

Benefice Reader: Ian Jackson 01449 781392

Benefice Elders: Janet Kerridge 01359 259563
Jill Scarfe 01359 258849
Andrew Strickland 01449 781487

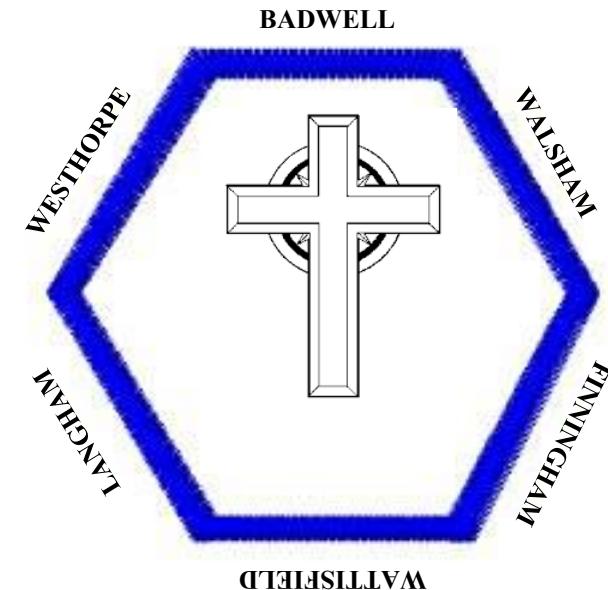
Please send your articles, jokes, fundraising event reports, puzzles, recipes and Church announcements for inclusion in this magazine (or anything else you fancy) to Rowena @ rowenagavars@gmail.com or ring 01359 259385

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**Last date for items for inclusion in the next issue is
Wednesday March 8th, 2017.**

The Benefice of Badwell & Walsham



Hexagon
February – March 2017

Message from Liz Thornton

I am collecting stamps [any country, any value] for the Royal National Institute for the Blind [R.N.I.B] and Action on Hearing Loss [formerly R.N.I.D].

Please leave [1cm] around the stamps if possible and put them through my letter box at:

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5.45pm - 7.15pm: Adult Ballet (Improver's)	11.15am - 12.00pm: Adult Tap (Improver's)
	12.00pm - 1.30pm: Advanced 2 Ballet

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HALF PAGE	single issue £20	3 issues £40	6 issues £80
QUARTER PAGE	single issue £15	3 issues £30	6 issues £50

Non-profit-making organisation or fundraising event adverts are free.

Contact Judith on 01359 258251 or judith@gharlow.plus.com

HEXAGON COPY DEADLINE

The deadline for the next issue is **Wednesday 8th March 2017**.
Please send items for inclusion to the Editor: Rowena Gavars
(rowenagavars@gmail.com / 01359 259385)

The Reverend Phillip Merry

Badwell and Walsham Benefice is delighted to know that the Reverend Phillip Merry has been appointed Priest in Charge and will take up his full time duties soon. At present Philip is Assistant Curate at Playford, Little and Great Bealings with Culpho so is familiar with rural communities in Suffolk.

During a career not typical of Anglican clergy he has been Domestic Services Manager at a large psychiatric hospital; Lincoln College Services Manager where he had some seventy staff for whom he was responsible; a milkman and a school caretaker.

His Christian commitment prior to ordination has been expressed through his work as a Christian Aid Organiser and for over thirty years as Petitioner for Amnesty International. He has also served as a Churchwarden. Philip and his wife Denise, a Church Elder, have always been fully involved in their local church and communities and must be amongst the few parents who have a son who was ordained before his father. Their other son is a teacher.

Outside the church Philip is a keen follower of football and cricket, a reader of detective novels and knowledgeable about butterflies.

We look forward to warmly welcoming Phillip and Denise to our village communities



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Casino Night

17th March

7.30pm



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HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!



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What's on:



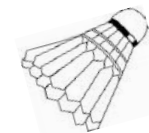
Monday: Dog training 6-8pm

Tuesday: Coffee Morning 10am-12

Tuesday: Badminton 6-10pm

Wednesday: Yoga 10.30-11.30am and 6-8pm

Thursday: Carpet bowls 7.30-9.30pm



Anyone wishing to hire the hall or for further information please visit
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Wattisfield Village Fete Sunday 16th July 2017 – We are looking for stall
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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR....

Happy New Year. I hope you are all well and have had a lovely festive time.

With a New Year often comes change and we have great news in the Benefice... a Priest in Charge has been appointed and we await details of when he and his family will arrive..

Also new is a change in the arrangement of this magazine all the articles will now appear on the facing right-hand pages so that they will be distributed throughout the magazine rather than just in the middle section. I hope that you will like this change and find the bits you want to read more easily. The services list will stay in the middle though so you can still pull it out and stick it on the fridge as I know some of you do!

Best wishes,

Rowena



Lenton Lunches 2015

By kind invitation from the following:

Thursday 9th March, 12:30-1:30	Margaret Miller & Rob Hall Finningham
Thursday 16th March	Mrs A More Old School House, Badwell Ash
Thursday 23rd March	Mrs J Harlow The Rookery, Walsham-Le-Willows
Thursday 30th March	Celia Simms Grouville, Langham
Thursday 6th April	Westhorpe Village Hall
Please contact Margaret Miller for more details (01449-781920)	

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WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL NOTICE OF VACANCY

Notice is hereby given that there is a vacancy on Wattisfield Parish Council. The vacancy has previously been advertised, and no election has been requested. The Council is now able to fill the vacancy by co-option.

APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL, AND DELIVERED OR POSTED TO:
CHRISTOPHER GARMAN, PARISH CLERK, SPRINGERS, THE STREET, CO-NEY WESTON, BURY ST EDMUNDS, IP31 1HG.

Applicants are asked to give brief reasons for offering their services to the Parish Council. Any elector interested in applying is welcome to contact the Clerk for further details. The successful applicant will be chosen following consideration by the Parish Council.

Applicants should note that Councillors are expected to attend regular monthly meetings on the third Monday of each month and any additional meetings as may be arranged, and to represent the electors of Wattisfield in raising and discussing those issues of interest and concern on which the Parish Council is empowered to act. Applicants should also note that membership of the Council is open to electors who are citizens of any state in the European Union or of the Commonwealth and

Whose residence is in Wattisfield or within 3 miles of Wattisfield, or
Whose principal place of work is in Wattisfield, and
Who is not disqualified (because of a criminal record, bankruptcy or involvement in corrupt practices).

For further information, please contact the Clerk to the Council.

Christopher Garman
01359 221600, wattisfieldpc@outlook.com
28 December 2016

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARRIAGES

Congratulations to Jimmy Downie and Penny Harrison who were married in St Bartholomew's, Finningham on 31st December 2016.

If you would like to include an announcement in the next issue, please contact the Editor: Rowena Gavars (rowenagavars@gmail.com) / 01359259385

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Village News

BADWELL ASH

Friday 17th March, **Casino Night**, 7.30pm, to raise funds for village hall and playing fields. ***

Saturday 25th March, **£1 SALE** in St Mary's Church. 10:30-4pm. All items £1. ***

Friday 14th April, **Easter Egg Hunt**, from Badwell Ash to Langham Church. 10am. Free Easter Egg for all children. Dog walkers also welcome.

WATTISFIELD

Saturday 18th February, 10-12, **Car boot/ table top sale**

Saturday 18th March, 10-12, **Car boot/ table top sale**

Saturday 25th March, 7.30pm 'til late. **80s Night** with Bertie Basset's Disco. Licensed Bar, £5 entry ***

Saturday 15th April, **Jumble Sale**, donations welcome, please leave in Community Centre porch.

Saturday 22nd April, 10-12, **Car boot/ table top sale**

***See event posters for further details.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NOTICES

Please note that number plates and headlights need to be clean and in working order before moving off. Poorly working headlights can lead to accidents—other drivers may mistake you for a bike rather than a car.

Also, be aware that your home and outbuildings must be locked as break-ins are more likely after the Christmas period.

A continuing dog mess problem has been reported on Wattisfield recreation ground and dog walkers are reminded that offenders will be fined if they are caught on CCTV.



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Great War Battlefields Tour

After the success of the Barnham Tour in 2014 another visit to the Battlefields in Belgium is being organised. We shall leave Barnham on Friday 21 April returning on Sunday 23 April. We will visit familiar places such as the Menin Gate, Hill 60 and Hooze Cemetery as well as Essex Farm, Talbot House and much more !

The excellent guides we used before will be with us and will give an overview of key aspects of the War and explore personal stories such as Tubby Clayton and Neville Talbot

The cost is dependent on numbers but is expected not be more than £195. This will include accommodation for the two nights, breakfasts and lunches.

I can strongly recommend this trip. We had a wonderful yet poignant time two years ago and it would be marvellous to have friends from other villages with us. We took people aged 14-82 and everyone seemed to cope very well. If you would like to know more please contact Sue Nutt on 01842 890409/07818670124 and hopefully I will be able to answer your queries !!

St Mary's Church Badwell Ash

Badwell Ash PCC is looking to welcome a further member to the team. To help run this small parish no knowledge of church administration is necessary, only enthusiasm.

We are currently meeting about 6 times per year.

Any person interested, please contact PCC Secretary, Pat Monk
patmonk@gmail.com or call 01359 258538



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New Year
'Ring out the false, ring in
the true.' (Tennyson)

Our Benefice has five medieval bell-towers studding the landscape. There is also Langham's bell-cote, 1876, contemporary with Tennyson, which gives an imaginary idea of how campaniles looked in the early days of christianity. Our other Benefice churches all have square towers and these reflect a relatively more prosperous age, perhaps around the 13th century. Masons needed to obtain workable stone to build the corners. The main local stone in East Anglia is flint, almost impossible to use when making a satisfactory right angle. The limestone corners of our Benefice towers were imported, mostly from Northamptonshire. The high square towers were built primarily to house bells which rang out over the countryside to summon people to prayer.

A possible 13th century tower foundation is not of course, the end of the story. All churches had to be maintained, and some parish records give the date of the repairs. 'Putlog' holes in the walls show where scaffold poles were inserted, both during building and later improvements. These 'improvements' were often for prestige as villages vied with one another to have height and grandeur in their towers. Walsham has four carved stone finials, one at the top of each corner. Recent research shows that they represent the four heraldic beasts of King Edward IV, winched into position in 1475. There is a bull and a griffin to the east, and two white lions to the west. Windsor has similar royal beasts, 20th century replacements. Walsham's are original.

Badwell has an inscription high up on the decorative tower battlements. The north side is blank because few people passed that way, but the other three sides show :

'pray for ... jon finchom and margit hys wyfe'.

John and Margaret Fincham died in the 1490s, and the tower reminds us of them today.

Brian Turner



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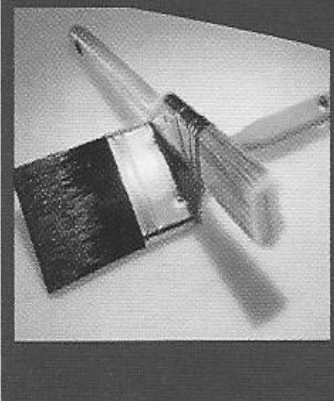
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A 'P.C.C' Wedding at Finningham

Two members of our parochial church council, Jimmy Downie and Penny Harrison 'tied the knot' at our little village church on the last day of 2016 in a very moving service conducted by the Rev Barbara Bileston, assisted by the Rev Sally Fogdon. How appropriate that the New Year of 2017 should begin their new life together!



Our organist John Allen surprised us all with his rendition of Morecambe and Wise's theme tune 'Give me Sunshine' as the happy couple paraded down the aisle after the ceremony, whilst his daughter Ruth graced the service with beautiful renditions of 'Ave Maria' and 'O Holy Night' as the marriage register was being signed.

Truly the occasion will live long in our memories and we all join together to wish Jimmy and Penny a long and happy future together.

David Bell (Treasurer, Finningham St Bartholomews)



*Westhorpe Gardening Club invite you to a talk by **Bob Flowerdew***

Bob is an organic gardener, and television and radio presenter. He is a regular panel member of BBC Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time. He will be talking about "**Starting Right**" - 90% of successful gardening is good husbandry: sowing, potting, transplanting, watering and harvesting — Important Basics!

When: Friday 21st April 2017, 7.30pm

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Walsham-Le-Willows & District WI

A whole host of sparkling angels and animated chatter filled a crowded Priory Room for the Walsham WI November meeting. Guided by Sue Perkin-Ball from nearby Great Ashfield and Badwell Ash WI, members enjoyed a creative craft evening and a sense of achievement.

A delicious pot-luck supper followed the usual information of all that is on offer through membership of the WI, events as various as a jigsaw competition, carol celebrations, trips to the West End and choice of resolution debate.

Much missed ex-Walsham WI member Jenny Hill, now resident in France, was warmly welcomed back for one night only, evidence of the firm friendships that develop within WIs.

DEANERY NEWS

Deanery Lent Course

“Risen” (DVD and discussion)

Wednesdays 8th March—5th April, 7.30pm-9pm

The Martin Room, Pakenham

Special Synod

Bishop Martin

Tuesday 21st March, 7pm

The Martin Room, Pakenham

Deanery Ascension Day Service

Thursday 25th May, 7pm

St Mary's Pakenham

ALL WELCOME

BADWELL ASH SILVER ASH CLUB

We would like to convey our thanks to Belle Evans's family for the most welcome donation.

Thanks also to all member who helped with the Jumble Sale which raised £660.



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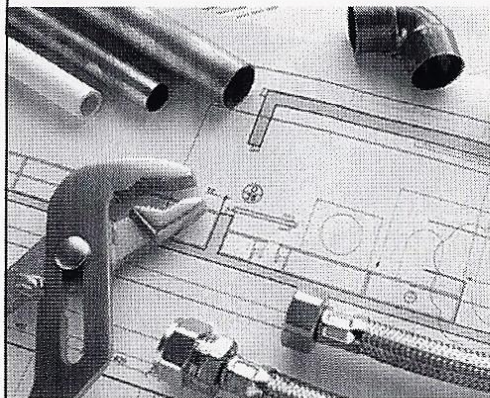
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THE CHURCH – WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU ?

The Church is the church of a living faith – not a mausoleum of the past..

This means that we need to remember that we live in a modern society: where life and ideas change but our faith is built on the strong foundations set out by the apostles and the saints. [for as an Anglican catholic (that's catholic with a small 'c') tradition is the heart of what we do as well how and when it is done].

But if we fall prey to the temptation to look inwards then the church will die.....slowly and quite painfully then we shall only have ourselves to blame. But alternatively if we look outwardly then we can plainly see what we can and need to achieve....

Our Lord calls us to look beyond ourselves to move outside our comfort zone – calls us not to come to church out of habit -but out of a burning desire to worship God and to challenge the world and society. He does not want us to just sit there and think we are too old, too tired, or too wrapped up in ourselves to stand-by and this happen.

The apostles left their nets – everything - to follow Christ. Because 'mission' is at the heart of the Gospels we all need to become involved – not just our Priest [when he is sent], or you PCC, but every one of us.

The message for us today is that we are all needed – for the Holy Spirit works in both individuals and communities – we are all called – to move from the passive to the active – for that is what makes a community grow both in size and more importantly in depth. So our churches must not be slightly damp tombs - they must be symbols of witness and you are those witnesses.

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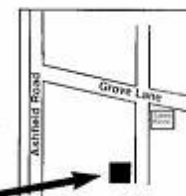
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The Benefice Service at Walsham, 8.1.17

Our flagship church of Walsham-le-Willows hosted a lovely Benefice communion when the Epiphany Singers paid their annual visit to the parish. More than a hundred worshippers, with contingents from all the churches of the Benefice, packed the old church to enjoy some wonderful choral singing from the famous ensemble.

The whole service, conducted by the Rev Sally Fogdon and assisted by the Rev Pamela Robson and our well-beloved Reader, Ian Jackson, was tremendously uplifting, reminding us all of happier times, when the Church of England enjoyed much greater support from the public. How wonderful it could be if our Benefice services could draw us together and be as well attended on a regular basis as this 'special' service was! Many thanks to Janet for all her hard work in arranging this and all the other services throughout the year. It cannot be easy in these times when we are lacking a Priest of our own to guide us.

David Bell (Treasurer, Finningham St Bartholomews)



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COMEDY CORNER

What do squirrels give for
 Valentine's Day


Forget-me-nuts!



XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What is a vampire's
 sweetheart called?

His ghoul-friend.



XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What do farmers give
 their wives on
 Valentine's Day?



Hogs and Kisses!

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What do you call a very
 small valentine?



A valentiny!

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What did the stamp say
 to the envelope on
 Valentine's Day?



I'm stuck on you!

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What did the boy cat
 say to the girl cat on
 Valentine's Day?



You're purrr-fect for me!

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What did the boy owl say
 to the girl owl on
 Valentine's Day?



Owl be yours!

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

What kind of flowers do
 you never give on
 Valentine's Day?



Cauliflowers!

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO

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The Archbishop of Canterbury has endorsed and promotes Credit Unions nationwide. We had visits from the Ipswich and Suffolk Credit Union during the year 2014. As a result we now have two Walsham-le-Willows Parish members as Credit Union Representatives for anyone in the Benefice with any interests.

They are as follows:

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A Poem for the overcommitted...

O give me your pity,
I'm on a committee,
Which means that from morning to night
We attend and amend,
Contend and defend,
Without a decision in sight.



We confer and concur,
We defer and demur,
And reiterate all of our thoughts.
We revise our agenda
With frequent addenda
And consider a load of reports.

We propose and compose,
We suppose and oppose,
And points of procedure are fun:
But though various notions
Are brought up as motions,
There's terribly little gets done!

We resolve and absolve,
But never dissolve,
Since it's out of the question for us
What bring our committee
To end like this ditty.
Where else could we make such a fuss!
(adapted from a verse by Leslie Lipson)

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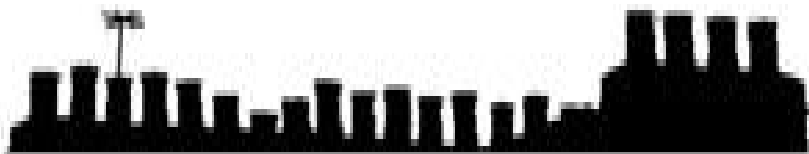
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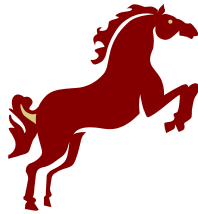
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08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:30	Parish Communion	Walsham
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

12th February 3rd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
11:00	Morning Service	Wattisfield URC
11:00	Mattins	Walsham

19th February 2nd SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:30	Songs of Praise	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Finningham
11:00	Morning Service	Wattisfield URC

26th February SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Benefice Communion	Badwell Ash

5th March 1st SUNDAY OF LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
09:30	Mattins	Finningham
10:00	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
10:30	Parish Communion	Walsham
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

Benefice Services Feb – March 2017

12th March 2nd SUNDAY OF LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
11:00	Morning Service	Wattisfield URC
11:00	Mattins	Walsham

19th March 3^r SUNDAY OF LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:30	Songs of Praise	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Badwell
10:00	Holy Communion	Finningham
11:00	Morning Service	Wattisfield URC

26th March 4th SUNDAY OF LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Mothering Sunday	Westhorpe
10:30	Mothering Sunday	Walsham
10:30	Mothering Sunday	Finningham
11:00	Mothering Sunday	Wattisfield URC

2nd April 5th SUNDAY OF LENT

08:00	Holy Communion BCP	Walsham
10:00	Holy Communion	Westhorpe
11:00	Mattins	Walsham
11:00	Holy Communion	Wattisfield URC

**Wednesday Morning Eucharist In the Priory Room at 09:30
followed by Refreshments and Fellowship**

**February 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd
March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th**