# IN-TOUCH

## Great Hockham News Sheet

*Issue No 534*
*March 2023*

### Editorial

A lot can happen in a year.

Last year at this time plans were being formed for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. It was celebrated in Hockham by turning the stone on the green, and other events, and combining it with the annual Hornfair.

Since then we have had the death and state funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This has resulted in plans now being formulated for events to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6th May. This will include turning the stone again on Sunday 7th May, and a host of other village events. The Hornfair this year will be held on Sunday 28th May. Read later editions of In-Touch for details of celebratory events as they are decided.

Don't forget that British Summer Time begins on Sunday 26th March when clocks go forward one hour and we lose an hour's sleep.

### MP Visit

Our local MP, former Prime Minister Liz Truss, is coming to Hockham to visit the Parish Council to talk over issues the parish has. She has requested a visit with the Parish Council only, but the Parish Council would like to put forward any national or relevant local-level questions that any parishioner may have.

If anyone has any questions, please can they be forwarded to any parish councillor or to the clerk, Chris Garrod, on hockhampc@outlook.com and we will do our best to get answers.

Hockham Parish Council

### Hornfair

This year's Hornfair will be on Sunday 28th May from midday.

Stalls may be reserved at £6 each and marquees at £20 each, (though marquees are very limited) from mail@greathockham.org or 07770710307.

Any stall holders who fail to turn up or cancel within a week before the event, will still have to be charged.

For any further information please use the listed contact details.

Chris Garrod

## Worship in March 2023

**Sunday, 5th March Second Sunday in Lent**
10.30 am United Holy Communion,
Holy Cross, Caston

**Sunday, 12th March Third Sunday in Lent**
10.30am United Holy Communion,
Holy Trinity, Great Hockham

**Sunday, 19th March Fourth Sunday in Lent**
**Mothering Sunday**
10.30 am United Holy Communion,
St. Peter and St. Paul's, Griston

**Sunday, 26th March Fifth Sunday in Lent**
10.30 am United Holy Communion,
St. Botolph's, Stow Bedon

**Sunday, 2nd April Palm Sunday**
10.30 am United Holy Communion,
St. Martin's, Thompson

**Sunday, 9th April Easter Day**
10.30am United Holy Communion,
St. Margaret's, Breckles

*The Wayland Benefice is now in vacancy. All requests for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals and general queries should be addressed to the Churchwardens in the first instance. The churchwarden for Hockham is Mr. Jamieson Plummer 01953 498243*

## Churchwarden's Letter

As the Wayland benefice still has no incumbent, it has fallen to the churchwardens to write these monthly introductions to In-Touch. It seems I have drawn the short straw this month.

The Bible is the best selling book of all time, it tells of the Good News brought by Jesus Christ, of peace and good will to all men (meaning the whole of human kind) and yet, it has been the cause of untold strife throughout history and continues to be so to this day.

So why should this be? Part of the answer lies in the fact that the Bible is not just one book. It is, if you like, the "omnibus" edition of religious tracts written over many hundreds of years, from the Old Testament prophets to the Gospels of the New Testament. Because those books had so many different writers over such a long period of time, it is inevitable that the Bible, as a whole, gives a variety of differing points of view, while still carrying the same message. It is these differing points of view that have created the conflicts that have arisen over the centuries, as scholars and theologians argue over the true meanings of the scriptures and, of course, those arguments have on occasions become violent.

So, what can we make of it? Nowadays, most of us can accept that Christianity is a diverse religion and different points of view are acceptable, but there are those who find it difficult to accept that. So the question arises: "Whose side is God on?" Well, clearly, he is on everybody's side, because whatever your own point of view is, that is the view you have of who, or what, God is and so long as God is alive within you, so He will guide you. But beware, for although God may be within us, there are some who recognise His presence and accept Him, some who do not recognise His presence but are still guided by Him and those who deny His presence and are therefore vulnerable to the presence of evil.

In short, God is all things to all people, but we have to recognise His presence in order to make it work. It doesn't matter what your own interpretation of the scripture is, the message of peace and good will is what is important, and will always stay the same.

May your God be with you.

Keith Mace

Sts. Peter & Paul, Griston

## Playing Field Planting

The Parish Council have planted some hedgerow tree species, around the edge of the orchard area, to also contribute to the Queens Green Canopy. We have recently planted 10 hazel, 10 dog rose, 10 hawthorn and 10 dogwood, plus put a further 10 blackthorn along the Fuel and Furze hedgerow. We hope they prosper and form a lovely hedge to compliment the apples, pears and plum trees. It means we have planted 90 trees around the playing field in the last year, hopefully to encourage the wildlife to flourish.

## Great Hockham Townland Charity

The Trustees of Great Hockham Townland Charity would like to thank the volunteers who maintain the reading room site, in particular Tom Bennett who regularly cuts the grass; it is very much appreciated.

## Wildlife Trust
## Breckland Local Group

We kicked off the year with Tony Leech's "Norfolk's Wonderful 150" which is based on a book published by the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalist's Society to celebrate their 150 years!

Tony is always a popular and very informative speaker and we had a very successful evening' learning about some of the 150 special species found in Norfolk. Some only found in Norfolk.

We've just had our AGM and a talk from Kyle Jennings from the Brecks Reserves team. Kyle updated us on the work which NWT is undertaking to make the Reserves "Bigger, Better and Connected". This includes using cattle, ponies, sheep and goats chosen for specific areas to graze some of the land to help to preserve certain species.

On Wednesday March 8th we have got Anne Mason from Friends of Thetford Forest, talking about the Warrens of Breckland, the history and archaeology of this 600 year old industry.

This is held at The Methodist Centre, High Street, Watton, IP25 6AB at 7.30pm. Cost is £2 members, £3 non-members. Refreshments served.

## Great Hockham Gardening Club

Wednesday 8th March - 2 pm

"Growing Peonies"

Sarah Hammond, Norfolk Peonies

Membership fees are £10 per annum

Indoor meetings are held in the Edinburgh Hall, Harling Road, Great Hockham, IP24 1NT on second Wednesday of the month

Doors open 1.30 pm / Speakers start at 2 pm

Indoor meetings free to members / £3 to visitors

Outdoor visits are subsidised by the club but members may have to pay a small contribution for some visits

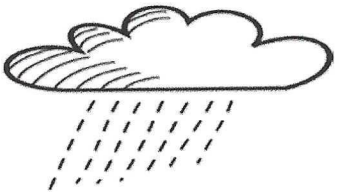
Secretary: Ed Szczepanowski 01760 751465

secretaryghgc@gmail.com

Website: greathockhamgardeningclub.org.uk

## January Rainfall

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| January 2023 | | 57.5 mm |
| January 2022 | | 22.9 mm |
| Highest Jan since 1979 | 1988 | 113.5 mm |
| Lowest Jan since 1979 | 1997 | 8.5 mm |



## School Birthdays

"Happy Birthday" to Harrison, Francesca and Edward.

## Mobile Library Service

| | |
|---|---|
| CHESTNUT SQUARE | 10:55 – 11:10 |
| SCOTGATE CLOSE | 11:15 – 11:35 |

Date of forthcoming visits:

Tuesdays: 21 March / 18 April / 16 May

## Gt. Hockham Carpet Bowls

The Carpet Bowls Club meets every Tuesday evening at 7pm - 9pm in the Village Hall either for matches in the Spring and Autumn and / or for practice games between ourselves.

We would love to see new members come along. Your first 2 meetings are FREE so come and give it a try!

For more information - Tel 498694

Jane Dalton


Exploring Drawing

**From charcoal to collage**

Join award winning artist Melodie Cook for drawing workshops

Great Hockham Village Hall, Harling Road, IP24 1NT
Tuesday Workshops March 14th & 28th
Saturday Workshop March 25th
10am -1pm
£18 per session. All materials supplied

**Call melodie on 07531 875713**
Email: melcookartist@icloud.com
Instagram @exploringdrawing
Facebook Melodie Cook Artist


## Local Plan Submissions

Breckland Council have conducted a call for sites, for an update to the local plan which is now publicly available both for Hockham and for all the other Breckland Villages and towns.

Three pieces of land have been put into the Hockham documentation at this stage and may well be disregarded in the early stages of the review, so for those with concerns, this is just the very beginning of a transparent exercise Breckland Council are going through, judged against a set of criteria. The parish council feels this information needs to be shared to all in Hockham Parish.

The documents can be found as follows:

Sites proposed for Development

https://brecklandlocalplan.commonplace.is/en-GB/proposals/development-responses/step1

Sites proposed as Local Green Space

https://brecklandlocalplan.commonplace.is/en-GB/proposals/local-green-space-responses/step1

If you don't have online access, then contact the parish clerk on 07770710307 to be able to view a copy.

For more information (if we have any) the next parish council meeting is on March 20th at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Hockham Parish Council

## Parish Precept

Following a risk assessment of the 19 streetlights the parish owns and runs and the high energy cost for running the streetlamps, the Parish Council has made a decision to raise the precept (the money received from a small part of your council tax) to cover replacement of all the lamps with LED ones. This will assist in keeping the high energy costs at a reduced level in the future and has a very fast project payback time. We do know LED lights can be harsher on the eye, so will be trying to ensure the lighting is as soft, but safe, as is possible.

Note the Parish Council does not own the streetlights in Scotgate Close so these will not be changed.

Hockham Parish Council

## Village Hall Bookings March 2023

**Regular Bookings**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Monday | Reserved for Parish Council | Evening |
| Tuesday | Carpet Bowls | Evening |
| Wednesday | Yoga | 6.00-7.30pm |
| Thursday | Taekwondo | 6.00-8.00pm |

**March 2023**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sat 4th | Gong & Sound Bath | PM |
| Wed 8th | Gardening Club | PM |
| Tues 14th | Exploring Drawing | 10am-1pm |
| Sat 18th | Coffee Cake Chat | AM |
| Mon 20th | Parish Council | Evening |
| Sat 25th | Exploring Drawing | 10am-1pm |
| Tues 28th | Exploring Drawing | 10am-1pm |

**April 2023**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sat 1st | Gong & Sound Bath | PM |

For Yoga information ring June on 01953 498343

For Taekwondo contact Dave Robb 01953 882848 or 07710 666133

For Sound Bath contact Tracey Mathison 07748 213397

For Hall bookings contact Chris Garrod 07770 710307 or e-mail chris@oaklands4.co.uk.

## Defibrillator

The defibrillator is located in the telephone box by the Village Green.

Press the button to the right of the unit to connect to the emergency services who will give the code to unlock the cabinet.

## Toby's Garden Services

Mowing, edging, weeding, digging, tidying up, rotavating, and other odd jobs.

I can bring my own basic tools / rotavator if needed.

£10 per hour (may vary when rotavating)

I am a hardworking and honest student looking to earn money to save for college.

Please text 07810 620356 anytime or call between 4-9pm with any enquiries.

## FOR SALE

3' Single Bed with storage drawer

Excellent condition – rarely used

Pristine mattress

Collect from Shropham Road

£25 ono

Tel: 01953 498868 / 07340 902402

***Please use the village bottle bank***

*The content of the articles in In-Touch is the responsibility of the named contributors, not the Newsletter Committee. Anonymous items will not be accepted.*

Microsoft certified

**Bailiwick IT**

PC or Mac running slow?

Got a virus? Need help?

Servers, laptops, PCs, Tablets, Windows and Apple Mac call

Joe Richards at

**Bailiwick IT**

01953 718421

07928 326008

help@bailiwickit.com

www.bailiwickit.com

**Eamonn Harte**

**Painter & Decorator**

Clean & reliable

Over 40 years' experience

Free quotations

07768872934

**Needing Help around the House?**

Odd jobs, painting, decorating, carpentry, general maintenance

**Please call Paul Roberts**

01953 498343

07389 811851

Please note new mobile no

S B Services

Windows and Doors

PVCU Doors, Windows and Double Glazing Repairs
New Installations and General Maintenance
Over 30 Years Experience
Friendly and Reliable
Based in Great Hockham
Call Shane on 07508 941086
Email: shanebloss@btinternet.com

**HOUGHTON HOME REPAIRS**

**HANDYMAN**

**& SMALL WORKS BUILDER**

**Professional Painting & Decorating service, Traditional Lime / modern Plastering & Plasterboarding, Bathroom & kitchen Tiling, 1st & 2nd fix Carpentry works , kitchen & bathroom fitting, Paving & patios, Small Brickwork Projects, Fencing, General home maintenance & all small jobs in between**

**Cliff Houghton**

**Fully insured**

**07594179744**

**www.houghtonhomerepairs.co.uk**

Turner Funerals

SERVING TOWN & COUNTRY

24 HOUR SERVICE

Thetford
15 Old Market Street | Thetford | IP24 2EQ
Telephone: 01842 761333
Email: thetford@turnerfunerals.co.uk

Brandon
2A Thetford Road | Brandon | IP27 0BS
Telephone: 01842 811245
Email: brandon@turnerfunerals.co.uk

An independent and family company with a long established history, founded by David Turner in 1960 and now run by his daughter, Lydia.

Providing a transparent and tailor-made service to every family at a time when it matters most.

**Need help around the house?**

**..... call the Cavalry!**

Domestic cleaning

Ironing/laundry

Dog walking/feeding (home service while at work or on holiday)

Errands – any form of shopping, collection or delivery

Our fee structure is flexible to suit your needs

**Call Sally on**

**01953 488635**

**07900 894902**

Household Cavalry Ltd

Slate Plantation Barn

Home Farm Lane,

Merton, IP25 6QS

SCUFF OFF

Smart Repairs

The Scuff Off team offer these mobile smart repair services:

Bumper scuffs
Hydrodipping
Headlight polishing (£35/ pair)
Minor dents
Panel scratches
Alloy wheel refurbishment
Texture repairs
Body machine polishing
End of lease repairs

Call Mike for a free estimate: 07807028080

Scuffoff@hotmail.com

Find us on Facebook.

We come to you!

## Howson Electrical

**Need an electrician?**

General and electrical

CCTV systems

Intruder alarms

Oil tank security

Contact Peter on

01953 498734

07780 498340

Peter-howson@live.co.uk

## Postage Stamps for Sale

Buy postage stamps at discounted rates

1st Class @ 60p

2nd Class @ 45p

Please contact Alison or Colin

01953 499968

whiteheadcwa@aol.com

## Allan Brooks

## Decorator

For all decorating needs

Quick, clean, professional

Internal & external

Wall covering specialists

Free quotations

Give us a call – we do it all!

07796 272013

Balance Therapies

Tracey Mathison

**Swedish & Deep Tissue Massage**
**Hot Stone Therapy**
**Indian/Tibetan Head Massage**
**Thai Foot Massage**
**Seated Acupressure Therapy**
**Reiki Healing**
**Hopi Ear Candling**
**Facials**
**Manicures, Pedicures, Waxing.**
**Based in Great Hockham**
**Please call to discuss any treatments**
**Tel - 07748 213 397**
**Mbr of The Federation of Holistic Therapists**

## R A Clarke

## CHIMNEY SWEEP

*Power sweeping & traditional*

*Smoke Test*

*CCTV Inspection*

*Bird Nest Removal*

*City & Guilds Accredited*

Richard.anthonyclarke1972@yahoo.com

07789 718188

## Claytons Heating & Plumbing

**GAS, OIL & LPG**
**Servicing, Repair & Installation.**
**Landlord Safety Certs.**
**All types of general plumbing.**
**Honest. Friendly. Local. Reliable.**
**Based in Great Hockham**
**GAS SAFE & OFTEC Registered.**
**Call Matt on 07890 130 079**

## BACON'S FIREWOOD

**KILN DRIED**

**LOGS**

**KINDLING**

**MOBILE : 07770 923780**
**TEL : 01953 852585**

## Phil & Co

Servicing all your needs

Housing/garden maintenance & improvements

Paddock maintenance

Digger work

**07798 564717**

p.cook0987@btinternet.com

TALBOT TYRES

Car, commercial, industrial and agricultural tyre service

We come to you .... home or work

Ring for a quote

Tel: 07825 253040

chris@talbottyres.co.uk

RWR

Rich Walpole Roofing

- New Roofs
  One Off Self builds to complete sites.
- Re-Roofing from:
  Complete strip and Re-tiling to Roof repairs
- Lead Work.
- Moss Removal.

Fully Insured

Tel: 07747784742

Tells Window Cleaning

Terry provides a local regular and friendly professional service cleaning windows, frames, sills, using pure water fed pole and traditional system.

**Do you need a regular window cleaner?**

**Call or message me for a free quote**

**07795360632**

**tellswindowcleaning@gmail.com**

**Facebook: @tellswindowcleaning**

## DIRK MEHLHORN

**GENERAL HANDYMAN**

**Bespoke:**

- Wood Stores
- Summerhouses
- Garden Sheds

and

Fencing Repairs and Garden Work

Over thirty years of experience in design, repair and construction works

07922 533 292

dmehlho@gmail.com

## *Breckland Brush*

***Chimney Sweep & Stove Installation***

HETAS REGISTERED INSTALLER

**NATIONAL ASSOC. OF CHIMNEY SWEEPS**

**Qualified Experienced Professional**

sweep@brecklandbrush.co.uk

**01953 881579**

**07966 298777**

BURDOCK

LANDSCAPE DESIGN & GARDEN SERVICES

CONTACT ON 07809136086

burdockdesign@gmail.com

Contributions to In-Touch by 15th of the month: intouchnewsletter@yahoo.com

Geoff Stuart 498653 Christine Rogers 498492 Angela Knott 498868 Ian Knott 498868