

The

Reeve's Tale

News | Events | Local Services Magazine

Dec/Jan
2025/6

.....

FREE

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**BAWDESWELL
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**Norfolk
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DECEMBER/JANUARY PROGRAMME

Saturday 13th December

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Saturday 10th January

DOWNTON ABBEY: THE GRAND FINALE



Starring: Hugh Bonneville, Dominic West

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Tel: 01362 688887 or 01362 688944.

Email: jporterbv@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/BawdeswellVillageCinema/>

<https://twitter.com/BawdeswellFilm1>



WELCOME

We would like to wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and a joyous New Year.

We would like to thank you all for continuing to read the Reeves Tale and for the lovely comments you have made about it.

This month we especially extend our thanks to all of you who advertise in the magazine and we know that both local residents and others living a bit further afield continue to use and support the many services you provide.

Thank you too for all of you who every month contribute to our Village Magazine.

As this is a combined December and January issue, there will be no magazine in January so we look forward to catching up again in the February issue.

Let us hope we have a peaceful, calm and not too chilly two months ahead of us!

A very Happy Christmas and seasonal greetings to each and every one of you.

Anne and the Team

Next copy deadline

15th January 2026

Please email
reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

Send your stories, letters and ideas to
reevestale.magazine@gmail.com
or call us on 01362 685308.

Advertising in The Reeve's Tale

If you would like to advertise your business within The Reeve's Tale, please contact us via email

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*Front image:
Millie Franklin*

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FOXLEY VILLAGE HALL

TO BOOK

Please Contact

Helen Mears

Tel: 01362 688251

Email : helenmears@pobroadband.co.uk

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**NO HARD
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TACTICS**

WHAT'S ON

December and January Dates

Event	Date	Location/Time
Café Philosophique	Tues 2 nd Dec	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting	Thurs 4 th Dec	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7pm
Christmas Wreath Fair	Sat 6 th Dec	All Saints Church, Bawdeswell 10am – 1pm
Mobile Library	Tues 9 th Dec	Bawdeswell Village Hall, 6.30-9pm, see page 37 for details
Foxley Christmas Coffee Morning	Weds 10 th Dec	Foxley Village Hall 10am, see page 28 for details
Book Group	Thurs 11 th Dec	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Bawdeswell Village Cinema	Sat 13 th Dec	Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7.30pm
Foxley's Carol Service	Sun 14 th Dec	St Thomas's Church Foxley, 3pm
Bawdeswell Carol Service	Sun 21 st Dec	All Saints Church, Bawdeswell 4pm
Mobile Library	Tues 6 th Jan	Bawdeswell Village Hall, 6.30-9pm, see page 37 for details
Foxley Parish Council Meeting	Tues 6 th Jan	Foxley Village Hall 7pm
Foxley Coffee Morning	Weds 7 th Jan	Foxley Village Hall 10am
Knit and Natter	Thurs 8 th Jan	Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm
Book Group	Thurs 8 th Jan	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Bawdeswell Village Cinema	Sat 10 th Jan	Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7.30pm
Knit and Natter	Thurs 22 nd Jan	Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm
Soup n Pud	Thurs 29 th Jan	Bawdeswell Village Hall 12-2pm



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FITTER**

WHAT'S ON

Regular Events	Time/Date	Location
Zumba Fitness	Mon 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Short Mat Bowls	Mon 2 – 4pm	Foxley Village Hall
Hub Cafe	Tues 10 – 12pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Bridge Club	2 nd and 4 th Tues 7pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Move it or Lose it	Wed 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Move it or Lose it	Wed 11.30 – 12.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
FitSteps	Thurs 7 – 8pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Move it or Lose it	Fri 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Bridge Club	Fri 1.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Short Mat Bowls	Fri 2 – 4pm	Foxley Village Hall
Hatha Yoga	Sat 8.45 – 9.45am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Games Afternoon	Sat 1.30 – 4.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

Event	Date	Location/Time
Reepham Christmas Tree Festival	Wed 3 rd – Sun 7 th Dec	Reepham Church, 10am - 4.30pm, daily, see page 10 for details
Reepham Gardening Club	Tues 9 th Dec	7.15pm Reepham Town Hall, see page 11 for details
Reepham WI Meeting	Thurs 11 th Dec	7.30pm St Michaels Church Hall, Reepham see page 11 for details
Gala Christmas Concert & Reception by Bawdeswell Festival Choir	Thurs 11 th Dec	7pm Bylaugh Hall, see page 34 for details
Reepham WI Meeting	Thurs 26 th Jan	7.30pm St Michaels Church Hall, Reepham see page 11 for details



Reepham Lions Club

2025 Christmas Tree Festival

St Mary's Church, Reepham

Book the Dates!

Wednesday 3rd December

to

Sunday 7th December

Wednesday 3 December

10am to 4.30pm

Thursday 4 December

10am to 4.30pm

Friday 5 December

10am to 4.30pm

Saturday 6 December

10am to 8pm

(Christmas in Reepham in the Market Place 4pm to 8pm)

Sunday 7 December

12md to 5pm

FREE ENTRY but donations welcome and
all proceeds in aid of Reepham Lions and Reepham PCC

EVENTS INFORMATION

REEPHAM GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday 9th December – Christmas party,

This meeting is for members only

No meeting in January

Meetings held at Town Hall, Church St, Reepham NR10 4JW

New members and visitors always welcome.

Members, £2.00 non-members £3.00 (inc. tea/coffee and cake).

For more information call Jeff Johnson on 01362 680066 or visit our website:

www.Reephamgardenclub.org.uk or email jeffandcaroljohnson@yahoo.co.uk.

REEPHAM WI

Thursday 11th December, 7.30pm

Miss Dee Licious

Miss Dee Licious will take us on an entertaining journey into the vibrant world of **drag** — sharing stories, insights, on-screen **makeup transformation**. Watch how creativity, cosmetics, and a sprinkle of sparkle come together to create drag magic!

Thursday 26th January 2026, 7.30pm

The Phoenix Bird of Prey Charity, based in Lenwade.

Come and meet a **small selection of real birds of prey up close** and learn about:

Their natural habitats; their unique behaviours and the vital work the charity does in rescuing and the rehabilitation of British birds of prey.

Location: St Michael's Church Hall, Reepham.

For more details or if anyone is interested in becoming a member of the WI, please contact Christine Smith, Reepham WI Secretary, at williamsmith110@btinternet.com.



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Disney's Hercules, The Musical	6-Nov	Thu	89.00	
Bluewater Shopping Centre	8-Nov	Sat	38.00	
Bury Market Day	12-Nov	Wed	28.00	
Sandringham Xmas Fayre	14-Nov	Fri	35.00	
Birmingham Frankfurt Xmas Market	15-Nov	Sat	45.00	28.00 Child
Peterborough Cathedral Xmas Market	16-Nov	Sun	37.00	23.00 Child
Mary Poppins – Milton Keynes or MK Shopping	19-Nov	Wed	98.00	37.00 Travel
Ely Cathedral Christmas Fayre	20/21-Nov	Thu/Fri	37.00	
Chatsworth House & Xmas Market	22-Nov	Sat	78.00	
Motorcycle Live	22-Nov	Sat	65.00	Child £ 49
National Festival of Railway Modelling	22-Nov	Sat	66.00	Child £ 44
Present Galore – Newmarket R/course	29-Nov	Sat	32.00	
Westminster Abbey Choral Evensong, Lunch & Christmas Lights	30-Nov	Sun	85.00	
Springfields Spalding & Baytree Nursery	3-Dec	Wed	30.00	
Thursford Christmas Spectacular - matinee	4-Dec	Thu	78.00	
John Rutter's Xmas Celebration Ryl Alb Hall	4-Dec	Thu	85.00	
Wells & Holt Christmas Shopping	5-Dec	Fri	25.00	
Hever Castle with Christmas Lunch	6-Dec	Sat	82.00	
Starlight Express	7-Dec	Sun	88.00	
Cliff Richard - Royal Albert Hall - Travel Only	8/9-Dec	Mon/Tue	55.00	
Battersea Power Station	10-Dec	Wed	36.00	
Windsor & Kew Christmas Lights	14-Dec	Sun	70.00	45.00 Child
Thursford Christmas Spectacular - evening	17-Dec	Wed	78.00	
Cruising into Christmas! Greenwich/Thames/Christmas Lights/Supper	19-Dec	Fri	87.00	
Carols @ The Royal Albert Hall	21-Dec	Sun	105.00	
Sleeping Beauty – London Palladium	11-Jan	Sun	100.00	
Strictly Come Dancing The Live Tour - Utilita	24-Jan	Sat	110.00	
Birmingham International Tattoo	15-Feb	Sun	75.00	55.00 Child
Thriplow Daffodil w/e & Country Fair	21-Mar	Sat	37.00	
Take That - London Stadium - Travel only	26/27-Jun	Fri/Sat	55.00	

Paignton Winter Warmer 5 Day Short Break				16 Feb
Queens Hotel, Paignton	DBB	Dbl/Tw	£415 pp	Single £515.00

IC Travel— Unit 2, Fir Covert Road North, Felthorpe, Norwich, NR10 4DT

See all trips and breaks at www.ictravel.co.uk

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LETTERS

MacMillan Coffee Morning

A BIG thank you to everyone who made cakes etc and helped on the day. We raised £1,195, an amazing amount.

Thank you one and all.

Jo Porter.

Community Charity Christmas Card

Once again, this year the PCC has arranged for there to be a Community Charity Christmas Card located in the Church during December for people to sign in lieu of sending each other cards. Donations can be left in the wall safe by the door and these will be added to the collections over Christmas at the church and given to the St. Martins Housing Trust, caring for the homeless over the winter.

Thank You!

Please do still remember those who live in isolation and confinement, who would very much appreciate receiving a card at this time.

Volunteer needed.

Can you spare 1 hour per month?

Help wanted from February delivering the Reeves Tale in Foxley East (Church side).

If you can help please contact Linda on 01362 688488.

Thank you.

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VILLAGE VIEWS

Whatever can I buy Ermentrude for Christmas? pondered her husband, Sid. She doesn't need an Airfryer after my rather disastrous episode. If I buy her a frilly nightie or some rather delectable underwear she'll think I'm hiding something or having an affair and I've got a guilty conscience (if only he thought, going off for all of 2 minutes into a wild erotic fantasy). For goodness sake, man, get a grip, at your age, whoever would look at you! Well, he consoled himself, I suppose, even after all these years, my lovely Ermentrude does.

So he made a list:

- 1) A large box of chocolates (no better not he thought, she's worried about putting on weight and keeps going on a diet). It wouldn't be so bad if she kept it to herself but forcing Fruit and Fibre on me for breakfast! Ugh! What's wrong with a good old fry-up. I remember when we were courting, that lovely greasy spoon cafe down that little lane...
 - 2) A Peace Lily or another Cactus for her 'collection', honestly it's a bit much when I have to go upstairs once a month as the local Cactus Society meets in the living room and as for that Monty Don, the way she hangs on his every word. And to tell me that digging over the vegetable bed is good exercise for me and keeps me healthy. Has the woman never heard of no-dig gardening. I'm all for it and what's wrong with Charlie Dimmock anyway, I like a woman with a bit of flesh on her.
 - 3) A large bottle of bubble bath. He went off for a moment into a reminiscing reverie thinking of his adolescence and films of Jayne Mansfield or Diana Dors luxuriating in frothy foam. Maybe he could suggest the village hall put on films from the 40's and 50's ... I don't know what fragrance she even likes, he thought, and have you seen the price they want! Now what is it, Molton Brown? Jo Malone? Neal's Yard? (sounds like racing stables to me, but what do I know?). What's wrong with Yardley's Lavender? And have you seen the latest? Moisturiser for MEN! Bring back Old Spice, I say and what really is WRONG with Brylcreem?
 - 4) A selection of Crime Novels. Yes, that's it he decided. Ermentrude loves a good book. Well, there's the Elly Griffiths ones set in Norfolk and there are a couple of other local authors with a murder happening in every part of the Broads and another with murders and mayhem in random Norfolk villages and towns, then there's Richard Osman, Ann Cleeves and Agatha Christie (and she has really liked the adaptations on the box). Bingo! Sorted! he thought, a trip into town, a browse around the book shops, a wander round the market, maybe a spot of lunch. He experienced a feeling of satisfaction and a job well done. Good, Christmas sorted!
- Sid, the voice from the kitchen called, breakfast's ready, I've made us a fryup. I'm fed up with counting calories and do you fancy a trip into Norwich. I went to the Book Group yesterday evening, we were discussing an Elly Griffiths novel. I really enjoyed it, so I thought I'd go in and order the whole series, what do you think, you'd enjoy them too!

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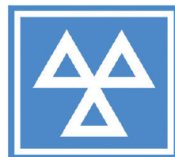
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VILLAGE NEWS

Proposed 140 dwellings – land North of Foxley Road, Bawdeswell!

Have your say!

Breckland District Council is carrying out a public consultation on the Draft Plan from Friday 31 October 2025 until 23:59 on Monday 15th December 2025. This stage of the local plan (known as Regulation 18) sets out Breckland's draft policies and growth strategy and provides an early opportunity for communities, businesses, landowners, developers, partners and stakeholders to 'have a say' and comment on the draft Local Plan before it is considered further and then finalised for the next (Regulation 19) stage. Consultation will also take place at the Regulation 19 stage.

Use this link to view the documents- <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/local-plan-2025>

Breckland are keen for local people to tell them their views, and Bawdeswell Parish Council would encourage residents to get involved and have your say on this draft version of the Plan. If you wish to comment on the Draft Plan, please use the Form that is available at the following link - <https://breckland.govocal.com/>

Please note that all representations must be received by 23:59 on December 15 2025.

All comments will be considered as part of the process of preparing the next version of the Local Plan, known as the 'Pre-Submission' or 'Regulation 19' version. This will be subject to further consultation in 2026.



WEEKLY CLASSES AT BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL



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Monday at 10am

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For more details contact Laura

01362 692021 or 07845 578689



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and surrounding areas



VILLAGE NEWS

Bawdeswell Village Hall Update

The Autumn Quiz event saw the Village Hall packed with eager participants, 65 adults, 8 children and a skeleton! 14 teams of 6 taking part and succeeding in raising the stupendous sum of £654. Thank you to Chris, our Question master, Carolyn who co-ordinated the event, Dave at the bar which made a profit of £250, Sandi for organising the raffle, Anne for the publicity and the small band of Volunteers who supported them. Two days later saw the main hall filled to capacity with an audience comprising both local villagers and many guests from outside who gathered to watch a National Theatre production of 'Mrs. Warren's Profession' put on by Creative Arts East. This is their third visit to our venue and we look forward to welcoming them again.

The weekly Tuesday Coffee morning continues to be well attended but another gentle reminder to participants to place a realistic payment in the bucket please for your cup of coffee and two slices of cake. £2 doesn't really meet the cost! Come on! The monthly Soup and Pud was again busy with a good choice of both Soups and homemade puddings, generously donated. A shout out to all of you who spend time, effort and your own money ensuring that we are all well fed, you are very much appreciated.

The AGM of the Trustees of the Village Hall was held recently with a review of how the past year has gone and preparatory work undertaken for the required submission of the report to the Charity Commission. The Trustees will be meeting again shortly for forward planning so if anyone has views of what they would like repeated or ideas for other events do please get in touch and let them know. This is YOUR village!

A special thank you to the small group of hardworking gentlemen you may have espied alongside the road leading to the Village Hall. They have been extending room for additional car parking from near the entrance to the Hall up to the current car park by moving the current fencing back and reinstating new fencing which will allow another 20 parking spaces. A quotation for over £2000 was given by a professional fencing company but luckily, Chris Leppard has contacts with a small group from the mid-Norfolk railway who are a dab hand at fencing! So grateful thanks to Roy, Chris, Dave, Graham, Peter, Guy and Nigel for all their hard work, their wielding of hammers, pickaxes, spades, forks, wire-cutters and a whole miscellany of tools to further enhance the facilities at our Village Hall. The cost: Materials: around £700, Labour: freely given on provision of bacon sarnies, cake, coffee and char provided by a group of lovely lady volunteers. What a Result!! You are all stars! Thank you.

As a mark of appreciation, the annual Volunteer lunch will be taking place in early December. Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute to ensure we maintain such a vibrant, inviting, enjoyable, varied and successful community.

Contacts:

Chair: Carolyn Good – 01362 688 944

Bookings: Jo Porter – 01362 688 887





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VILLAGE NEWS

BAWDESWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS



What a fantastic start to this school year!

Wow, what a busy start we have had. Class trips, in class visitors and in school events.

We began the school year by welcoming our new reception children in Rowan class. Within a few weeks they had settled in brilliantly and it was hard to imagine school without them. We had our 'Read with your Teddy' event which was lovely, thank you to everyone who came along. The children in Cedar class visited Foxley Wood as a wonderful end to their Enchanted Woodland Project. Mr Mike Linley came in to talk to Juniper class about Charles Darwin and Evolution. We had a visit from Shizuka and Mr Hagihara from our Japanese link school and Hazel class made origami picture frames to take back to the Japanese children.

We ended last half term dressed up for Halloween, entering a competition to name the Norfolk County Council's Gritters and sharing our learning with Open classrooms. We have since heard that one of our entries has been selected;- look out for Cedar Class's 'Gracie the Gritter' this winter!

Can you Help?

Can you spare just an hour or two? We are looking for volunteers.

Are you able to come and listen to children read? Being able to read fluently and confidently is such a valuable skill for all our children. Not only does it open up a world of adventure, it gives children the confidence to take on the challenges across the whole of the curriculum. Daily reading with an adult is crucial to building reading fluency. If you are able to offer any time at all please to come and chat to us.

Are you able to come and talk about your job? Learning about the world of work is so important, even at this young age. It helps children to understand why they are learning and it encourages them to want to achieve well. We are looking for people to come and talk to the children about different job roles to inspire them and help them to link their school learning now with their future lives.

Do you have a hobby or interest that you would like to share with the children?

Could you perhaps run an after-school club? We are always looking for ways to give the children new and exciting opportunities.



Foxley Village Hall
Welcomes you all to a
Christmas Carol
Service

With some of your favourite
carols and readings
On Sunday 14th December 2025
at 3:00 pm
Followed by refreshments.

VILLAGE NEWS

Foxley News

Foxley Coffee Mornings

There will be a warm welcome for all to our special Christmas Coffee Morning on **Wednesday 10th December** between 10:00 and 12:00. The ever-popular Fakenham Ukuleles will be joining us and there will be the usual fare of coffee, cakes and raffles plus some special Christmas additions. Please note the date, it's a week later than our normal coffee morning would be!

In January we will back to normal with our coffee morning on the first Wednesday of the month at 10am on **Wednesday 7th January 2026** and in February our coffee morning will be at 10am on Wednesday 4th February 2026.

Foxley Carol Service

This year our Carol Service will be on **Sunday 14th December at 3pm**. There will be the usual mix of carols and readings with refreshments to follow.

Carol service venue changed to the Foxley village hall.

ALL WELCOME

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

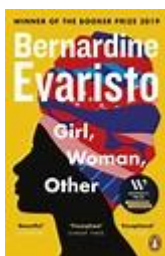


Book Group

The Book Group meets in the Village Hall. We meet on the **second Thursday** of each month, starting at **7:30pm**. Each member pays an annual Group Subscription Fee of £25 to cover our room hire and library charges.

New members are welcome and are invited to attend for two meetings before deciding to join the group and pay their subscription.

'Girl, Woman, Other' by Bernardine Evaristo



There was a lot said about this book when it co-won the Booker Prize in 2019 and it remains one which generates discussion. Our group certainly had a range of views about it. From one member refusing to read past the first page because of its lack of punctuation to others who found much to admire and ponder on.

I think it would be fair to say that the characters and lives within this book were not ones any of us had directly experienced. For some of us, this made the book even more important. It's an opportunity to consider, as in the title, those who are 'Others'.

This book interweaves the lives of 12 characters, mainly black women. Some of the life stories are modern-day, others go back over ninety plus years.

As to the lack of punctuation? It might seem daunting, but after a page or so, you forget about it because it 'reads' fluently and beautifully.

We are currently reading **"Orbital"** by **Samantha Harvey** for discussion at our next meeting on 11th December. At our meeting on 8th January we will discuss the books we exchanged for Christmas.

Enquiries: Carolyn 01362 688944

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bawdeswell Festival Choir

The choir is an all-female group who meet at All Saints Church for an hour on a Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. They were fully launched as a regular concert performing choir earlier last year and gave a sellout performance back in June and again in September.

The music repertoire is broadly 'Bach to Broadway'. We strive to perform at the highest possible level. If you like the sound of what we do, have some singing experience, and can commit, we have vacancies in all departments.

Please contact the MD, **James Lilwall** on **01362 688499** or pjlilwall@hotmail.com for an initial conversation - you would be most welcome!



Bawdeswell Bowls Club

Autumn and winter are very busy times for working on the green. We start by spraying Heptasol, a fast acting soluble iron, then scarifying two ways and ensure all debris is removed from the green. Then we sarel roll before applying an autumn feed. Then we can overseed making sure we have the correct seed. Then we can spike as often as possible and cut when needed. New players always needed:- if interested please phone Paul on mobile 07796964574 email Paul.digby5@hotmail.co.uk home 01362688615



Bridge Club

The JayCee Bridge Club meets in the Village Hall on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month at 7pm and on Friday afternoons at 1.30pm. Whilst we aspire to play well, our range of bridge abilities means that it's really bridge for fun. No regular partners are needed. If you think you might like to start playing bridge then you are welcome to come along and watch to begin with.

Please contact Roger or Patsy for information, or to confirm a session is to take place. Contact: **Roger Fryatt 01362 688627** or **Patsy Catchpole 01362 688352**



Bawdeswell Knit and Natter

No meeting in December. January dates are 8th and 22nd.

2 - 4 pm at the Village Hall. Come along and join us.

Refreshments will be available.

Enquiries: **Josie Beach 01362 688869.**



Foxley Village Hall Committee

Invites you all to a
Christmas Coffee Morning

Wednesday 10th December

10:00-12:00

(note the date!)

Fakenham Ukuleles

special raffle mince pies sausage rolls

Registered charity: 303953

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Short Mat Bowls

Foxley Village Hall Every Monday and Friday **2 - 4pm**

New members welcome.

To find out more, call **Frank** on **01362 688089** or **Carole** on **01362 688567**.



Cafe Philosophique

Finding good reasons for everyday beliefs

We meet in Bawdeswell Village Hall, every first Tuesday at 7:30. Everyone coming is asked to contribute to the cost of our room hire fee.

Next meeting: **Tuesday 2nd December**

What impact and influence do key events and happenings, over the years, have on the way we develop? Part Three – The Sixties

Our following meeting will be 3rd February 2026

Contact: **Peter: 01362 688944**



Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning

There will be a warm welcome for all to our special **Christmas Coffee Morning** on **Wednesday 10th December** between 10:00 and 12:00. The ever-popular Fakenham Ukuleles will be joining us and there will be the usual fare of coffee, cakes and raffles plus some special Christmas additions. Please note the date, it's a week later than our normal coffee morning would be!

In January we will be back to normal with our coffee morning on the first Wednesday of the month at 10am on **Wednesday 7th January 2026**. If you need transport, please contact Jo 688981 or for any other enquiries please contact **Linda 688488 or Gillian 688955**.



Games Afternoon

We meet in Bawdeswell Village Hall, every Saturday 1.30 – 4.30pm. Games played:- Uno, Mexican Train, Scrabble. Other suggestions welcome. 1st visit free, normal price £5. Contact: **Anne 01362 685308**

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Lakeside Pilgrims Bowls Club

We are in the process of getting all registrations and entering leagues for next season. We have had an AGM and it was decided that we will pull out of one of the leagues as we do not have enough members at this time. If anybody is interested in playing bowls next season please contact me. May I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and Happy New Year. **If you would like to know more, please contact Sue Purse 07765 446907 or Sue.purse@gmail.com**



North Elmham Countrysiders Club

Meet at The Memorial Hall, Holt Road, North Elmham. Every other Monday evening 7pm - 8.30pm (term time only). Open to ages 10-16 yrs. We are part of the Norfolk Young Farmers clubs and are actively involved in all areas within the organisation. Please note - sessions usually cost £4/child, annual subscription applies. For more information, please email:

north_elmham_cs@norfolkyfc.co.uk Or find us on Facebook (North Elmham Countrysiders) or by calling the Norfolk County office: 01603 748931



Dereham Walkers are Welcome

Dereham Walkers are Welcome is a not-for-profit organisation.



Please come and join us for a walk in the local area.

We have two regular walks each month.

Our shortest, easiest walk of around two miles is on the second Tuesday of the month and a slightly longer one of around four miles is on the first Friday of the month. Our next longer walk will be in January.

For up-to-date information, please check our website

<http://www.derehamwaw.org.uk/>,

email Ken Hawkins: ken-hawkins@tiscali.co.uk or call him on 07505 426750.



Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society

Indoor meetings at Great Witchingham Village Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome but there is a small charge for non-members.

INDOOR - Thursday 11th December, 7.15pm – Christmas Social.

OUTDOOR – Sunday 14th December – Sparham Hall Farm & Pools (morning walk) No details for January 2026 as yet.

Full details on the website - WVBS.co.uk or email wvbs.publicity@gmail.com

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Elmham Group of Practices Newsletter

November
Newsletter



Christmas opening times

Christmas is fast approaching, we will be closed

- Christmas Day
- Boxing Day
- New Years Day.

Message from the Partners of Elmham Surgery

Dear Patients,

As we come to the end of the year, we would like to take a moment to thank you for your support and understanding throughout the past twelve months. It has been a year of both challenges and progress, and we are grateful for the kindness, patience, and trust you show our team.

Our entire team remains committed to providing you with the best possible care, and we look forward to continuing to support your health and wellbeing in the year ahead.

We send our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones for a healthy, safe, and restful Christmas and New Year.

With best regards,

The Partners of Elmham Surgery

Anima Why are there more questions when filling out the new form?

Anima assesses the patient's needs and tries to make a clinical decision during the form.

The aim is to support the GP's initial reasoning and risk-checking automatically. That means it needs more detail to safely say things like:

- Is this urgent?
- Does this need same-day GP review?
- Could it be a red flag symptom?
- Which care pathway should this person go to?

Anima's extra questions are doing what a nurse or GP would have previously had to do based on the limited information on the old form or by calling/messaging the patient.

In short, the benefits:

- Safer triage for patients and clinicians
- Reduces any potential delay in making a clinical decision
- Clinically efficient to meet the increasing demands enabling us to deal with more requests on the same day

Anima is part of this Practice commitment to ensuring we meet the Governments vision of digitisation whilst ensuring your care is faster and more convenient, whilst helping our triage team manage demand safely and fairly.



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THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER | 7PM

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FROM BACH
TO BROADWAY

SERVICES



Christmas Opening Hours & Prescriptions

The practice will be closed on December 25th and 26th 2025, and January 1st 2026, but will be open as usual on all other days in December and January.

Prescriptions

The last day to place an order before Christmas is 17th December, with collection available on 23rd December.

The last day to place an order before New Year is 24th December, with collection available on 31st December.

How to Contact us:

Online: Website www.aylshamandreepham.nhs.uk or
SystemConnect/ NHS APP

Tel: 01263 733693 or 01603 870271 - option 1 for recorded practice information, 2 to leave a message, 3 for dispensary or 4 to speak with a member of our admin team.

In Person: Visit us at Smugglers Lane, Reepham or 60 Hungate Street, Aylsham.

Car parking available at both sites

SERVICES



Community Car Scheme: Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Foxley

I am very proud and thankful for our volunteer drivers and all who support this local scheme.

I know that without this service our passengers would really struggle to attend urgent medical appointments and this would be detrimental to their health.

But there is always a **but**.

This scheme can't continue unless we can find enough volunteer drivers to fulfil the requests.

So, this is an urgent appeal for new volunteer drivers. Please come forward and help with an occasional journey. There is no minimum or maximum, simply what you can manage to help your neighbours.

We use our own cars but we are reimbursed at 45p per mile, it is our time that we are giving, and who knows, we may need the service ourselves one day?

Please spread the word, volunteer if you can, to keep this critical local service going.

Thank you.

David Wheeler, Volunteer Coordinator

07909 901015

davidawheeler@sky.com

SERVICES



MOBILE LIBRARY

9th December & 6th January

BAWDESWELL	VILLAGE HALL	11:10 -11.35
BAWDESWELL	PARADISE ROAD	11:40 – 11.50
BAWDESWELL	CHAUCER CLOSE	11.55 – 12.10
FOXLEY	VILLAGE HALL	12:20 – 12.35

Can’t get to the Mobile Library, but have access to the internet, then why not try ‘Libby’?



Current Opening Hours and Locations

Tuesday	Bawdeswell Church	9.00am - 12.00pm
Friday	Bawdeswell Church	9.00am - 12.00pm

PARISH COUNCIL

**BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2025
AT 7pm**

Cllrs; D. Shannon (Vice Chair), C. Good, A. Hartley-Walder, M. Bailey and R. Hannent, Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk)

Breckland Local Plan

The Parish Council encourages residents to submit their views to Breckland on the proposal for 140 dwellings on land North of Foxley Road. The Parish Council's latest (and previous) submission can be viewed on the Council's website (under minutes 2025).

Vandalism of play equipment and dogs on the playing field

Following concerns raised by dog owners, the Parish Council confirmed that they are currently researching options to prevent further dog fouling / damage to play equipment, acknowledging that this includes the legal possibility of banning dogs, but were not looking to ban dogs in the first instance. It was confirmed that as fencing around the play area would need to meet safety and regulatory standards (BS1722), it was not currently a financially viable option. Along with the new signage asking dogs to be kept away from the play area, the Council were looking to dog owners to promote good practice. The Council would seek to have further discussion / consult with dog owners should the current limited action not be successful.

Planning

PL/2025/1486/HOU – single storey side / rear extension and new entrance porch at Church Lodge, The Street, Bawdeswell. The Council agreed (via email) that they had no comment or objection to the application.

Appeal Decision for 3PL/2023/1145/F - Land off Reephram Road, Bawdeswell, NR20 4RX. – Appeal dismissed

Other matters

The Parish Council declined a request for an adult football team to use the recreation ground on a regular basis due to not being able to provide the facilities required.

Finance

The balance of the Community account as at 31st October 2025 was confirmed as £34115.62, Business Money Manager (Earmarked reserves) was £38798.89. Budget Figures were circulated for consideration ahead of the December meeting where the Council will set the precept for 2026/27 (the precept is the amount of money the Parish Council requires from Council Tax payers in Bawdeswell).

PARISH COUNCIL

Bawdeswell continued....

The Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The next Parish Council Meetings will be held on the 4th December 2025 and 5th February 2026 at 7pm. These meetings will be held at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend. The Council usually meet on the first Thursday of every month except for January & August. Please check the website or noticeboard for any changes.

If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Clerk Jo Boxall, White House, Pettywell, Reepham, NR10 4RN, Tel: 01603 879480, Email: bawdeswellpc@hotmail.com

Full draft minutes from this meeting and minutes from previous meetings, including financial / audit information and policies can be found on the Parish Council website <http://bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>



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PARISH COUNCIL

THE FOXLEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS WERE HELD ON THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER 2025 AT 7pm

Present; Cllr N. Mears (Chair), Cllr G. Blyth, Cllr L. Rose, Cllr G. Blatchford and Cllr M. Watson, Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk) Members of the public – 13

District Cllr G. Bambridge & County Cllr B. Borrett were not in attendance.

Breckland Local Plan

It was confirmed that under the draft local plan, no sites for Foxley have been allocated. It was acknowledged that all parishes in Breckland which had not had sites allocated, would incorporate an increase of 5% in dwellings to 2042 (which would mean 8 additional houses in Foxley).

Residents wishing to comment on the Breckland Local Plan should use the Form that is available at the following link - <https://breckland.govocal.com/>

Planning

Planning notification (information only) – PL/2025/1223/PAH - single storey rear extension with mono-pitch roof at Foxs Den, Old Fakenham Road, Foxley, NR21 4QJ
PL/2025/1215/FMIN - Proposed residential development comprising of 4 new build dwellings and 1 barn conversion (5 new dwellings total). Proposal also to includes access, parking to highways standards and private gardens for each plot at Street Farm The Street, Foxley, NR20 4QP.

Following discussion, during which residents were invited to speak, the Council unanimously agreed to object to the application for the following reasons and strongly disagreed with points made in the design and access statement.

No safe access to/from the site and no satisfactory visual splay due to wall and hedge. The Street is a single width road, previous applications of a similar nature including back land developments have been refused, concern that the air source heat pump noise would cause a noise nuisance for neighbours and Ecology / Wildlife considerations.

Parish Partnership Funding application for pedestrian signage.

Norfolk County Council confirmed that pedestrian signage on the A1067 providing pedestrian signage on the A1067 at the junction of The Street with Norwich Road and Junction of Chapel Road with Norwich Road would cost around £2000 of which the Parish Council could apply for Parish Partnership funding of 50%.

Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to apply to Norfolk County Council for parish partnership funding in respect of the pedestrian signage. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council's 50% contribution may need to be funded via a rise in the precept.

PARISH COUNCIL

Foxley continued.....

Finance

The balance of the main account as at 30th September 2025 was £7496.75, the balance of the savings account was £2569.70. Budget figures were circulated to Council for consideration including bank statements / bank reconciliation.

The Council will consider the 2026/27 precept (A parish council precept is a tax levied by parish councils on local residents to fund their budget requirements for community services and operations.) at their January meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 6th January 2026 at 7pm. This meeting will be held at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly invited to attend. The Council usually meet four times per year. Please check the website or noticeboard for any changes.

If you have any concerns please contact the Parish Clerk Jo Boxall, White House, Pettywell, Reepham, NR10 4RN, Tel: 01603 879480, Email: clerk@foxleyparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

Full draft minutes from this meeting and minutes from previous meetings, including financial / audit information and policies can be found on the Parish Council website <https://foxleyparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

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CHURCH NEWS

Bawdeswell Church News



Thank you everybody who attended the Remembrance Day service, with a special thanks to those who had parts to play. The turnout was great and the Festival Choir was in fine form. Several people who don't attend church regularly stopped to say how much they had enjoyed the service and we appreciate that because a lot of work goes into preparing all our services.

There was only one complaint, someone found the church too hot!

Thank you for the donations to the British Legion collection. We were able to send them a cheque for £108.

When you read this, we will have had another special service, our Advent 'Carol' Service, again with the Festival Choir, on the last Sunday of November. This is another annual highlight not to be confused with our Christmas Carol Service that is on Sunday 21st December this year at 4pm.

Hope to see you there with your families. HAPPY CHRISTMAS

RT, Churchwarden

Carol Service

with
The All Saints Festival Choir

Sunday 21st December
4pm

Seasonal Refreshments

Christmas Day
10.30am

Family Holy Comunion

Seasonal Refreshments

All Saints Church , Bawdeswell

CHURCH NEWS

The Friends of Bawdeswell Church
'protecting & enhancing this unique building
for the future'



The Momentum of Spring

An enlightening demonstration of Ikebana floristry capturing the
unique skills and artistry of

Frankie Flood



Saturday
25th April 2026

10:00 – 14:30

Bylaugh Hall, Norfolk

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CHURCH NEWS

Reverend Richard Reflects

When you work in the Church, December is a particularly special time of the year. Things get busy. Of course, things get busy for lots of people in the lead up to Christmas, but if you happen to be a member of the clergy responsible for multiple churches 'busy' takes on a new level.

Normal Sunday services continue as usual, but extra services get added in. Each church will want a carol service. Some will host additional services like Christingles or a Nativity. There will be events such as concerts and Christmas fayres. Some of the parishes have schools, which usually means at least one or two more carol services or nativity performances each, and it is a delight to be able to attend or facilitate these as a member of the local clergy. Then there's the Christmas Eve services and the Christmas Day services. Just a quick glance at my diary for December shows that it is busier than almost any other time of the year.

Yet the days leading up to Christmas are supposed to be a special time of prayerful preparation. The season of Advent should lead us in a reflective way into the season of Christmas. There is an odd balance for many people in the church, attempting to prepare through Advent but engage with Christmas celebrations as well.

December becomes filled with things to do and places to be, even before you factor in personal and family celebrations.

So, despite all of the joys that this time of year brings, by the time Christmas Day arrives it is quite possible to be running on empty.

But all of this brings about another special thing at this time of year. Because as our human emotional and physical energy drops, and we find ourselves becoming exhausted, that is when we rely even more on the strength and energy of God. This time of year becomes special because we spend time reflecting on the birth of Christ, an event that meant God was with us in a new way; it also becomes special because we become even more aware that he is still with us today.

I wish you all a blessed and happy Christmas.

Revd Richard Turk
Curate-in-Charge of the parishes of Foxley, Foulsham, Lyng, Elsing, Bawdeswell,
Bylaugh, Sparham, and Themelthorpe

BAWDESWELL GROUP CHURCH SERVICES

December 2025

Date	Sun 7 th Dec	Sun 14 th Dec	Sun 21 st Dec	Thurs 25 th Dec
Season	Advent 2	Advent 3	Advent 4	Christmas
Bawdeswell	10.30am Words & Praise	10.30am HC	4pm Carol Service	10.30am Christmas HC
Foxley	Carol Service Sun 14th Dec at 3pm			

Group Service Sun 28th Dec 10.30am at Foulsham

January 2026

Date	Sun 4 th Jan	Sun 11 th Jan	Sun 18 th Jan	Sun 25 th Jan
Season	Epiphany 1	Epiphany 2	Epiphany 3	Epiphany 4
Bawdeswell	10.30am Words & Praise	10.30am HC	10.30am The 10:30	10.30am HC

A reminder that you can join us on Zoom for the Bawdeswell service any Sunday – Meeting ID: 656 174 6525 Passcode: TwKH7n

Morning Prayer is said at 9am in St Margaret's Lyng on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All are welcome. A midweek communion service is held at Holy Innocents, Foulsham on Wednesdays at 10:30am.

Other information for our new group of churches can be found in our weekly News in the Pews sheets, available at each service.

The Rev'd Richard Turk, 07721 035009 Email: revdrichardrww@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook at 'The Bawdeswell Group of Churches'

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