

The Reeve's Tale

News | Events | Local Services

Magazine

Aug/Sept
2026

FREE



Bawdeswell & Foxley



**BAWDESWELL
VILLAGE CINEMA**
part of registered charity 1188278



NOrfolk
COmmunity
FOundation

**THERE WILL BE NO CINEMA
IN AUGUST, but don't forget
our 'Summer Sizzle' on 15th
6.30-9pm**

**SEPTEMBER 12th 'Last Night
of the Proms'**

**SEPTEMBER CINEMA DATE
CHANGE TO 19th Sept
FILM TBA**

WELCOME

We do hope you have all been coping with the very hot weather and if there is more to come in the next two months, please do take care and look after yourselves, keeping an eye out for vulnerable neighbours and friends.

Don't forget the village hall is open 2-4 afternoons, Monday - Friday during the school holidays for drinks, ice-creams and light refreshments. Thank you to our wonderful band of Volunteers for enabling this to happen!

Also maybe see you at the Summer Sizzle on 15th August?

Remember no Reeves Tale in September as we are having a well-earned break!

Take care and enjoy the next two months.

Anne and the Team

Next copy deadline

15th September 2026

Please email

reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

Send your stories, letters and ideas to

reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

or call us on 01362 685308.

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Front image:

Foxley Church

Alison Harvey

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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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TACTICS**

WHAT'S ON

August/September Events

Event	Date	Location/Time
Café Philosophique	Tues 4 th Aug	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Foxley Coffee Morning	Weds 5 th Aug	Foxley Village Hall 10am
Book Group	Thurs 13 th Aug	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Summer Sizzle	Sat 15 th Aug	Bawdeswell Village Hall, 6.30-9pm, see page 20 for details
Mobile Library	Tues 18 th Aug	Bawdeswell from 11.10am @ village hall onwards, see page 37 for details
Café Philosophique	Tues 1 st Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Foxley Coffee Morning	Weds 2 nd Sept	Foxley Village Hall 10am
Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting	Thurs 3 rd Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7pm
'All Creatures Great and Small' a pet service	Sun 6 th Sept	St Thomas's Church, Foxley see page 46 for details
Last Night of the Proms	Sat 12 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7pm, see page 26 for details
Mobile Library	Tues 15 th Sept	Bawdeswell from 11.10am @ village hall onwards, see page 37 for details
Bawdeswell Village Cinema	Sat 19 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 6.30 for 7.30pm
Knit and Natter	Thurs 10 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm
Book Group	Thurs 10 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7.30pm
Ploughman's Lunch & Summer Puds	Thurs 24 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 12-2pm
Knit and Natter	Thurs 24 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 2-4pm
Bawdeswell's Macmillan Coffee Morning	Fri 25 th Sept	Bawdeswell Village Hall 10am-12pm
Bawdeswell Parish Council Meeting	Thurs 1 st Oct	Bawdeswell Village Hall 7pm
Foxley Harvest Festival	Sun 4 th Oct	St Thomas's Church, Foxley 3pm
Foxley Macmillan Coffee Morning	Weds 7 th Oct	Foxley Village Hall 10am

Keep Active

with Jo & Sam



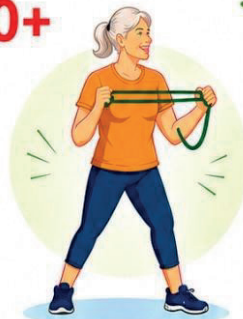
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WEDNESDAYS

Bawdeswell V.H.

🕒 10am or 11.30am

✉ Jo@keep-active.co.uk



FRIDAYS

Bawdeswell V.H.

🕒 10am

✉ sam@keep-active.co.uk

☎ 07941086603

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
Keep Active	Wed 10 – 11am	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Keep Active	Wed 11.30 – 12.30pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
FitSteps	Thurs 7 – 8pm	Bawdeswell Village Hall
Keep Active	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, except for August	Bawdeswell Village Hall

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

Event	Date	Location/Time
Reepham Gardening Club	Tues 18 th Aug	7.15pm Reepham Town Hall, see page 11 for details
Reepham WI Meeting	Thurs 20 th Aug	2-4pm, Bircham Gardens, see page 13 for details
Reepham Lions Bingo Night	Weds 26 th Aug	7.45pm Stimpson's Piece Hall, Reepham, see page 11 for details
Reepham Gardening Club	Tues 15 th Sept	7.15pm Reepham Town Hall, see page 11 for details
Reepham WI Meeting	Thurs 17 th Sept	7.30pm St Michaels Church Hall, Reepham see page 13 for details
Gala Concert with The Festival Choir, Bawdeswell	Sat 19 th Sept	7pm All Saints Church, Swanton Morley, see page 44 for details
Reepham Lions Bingo Night	Weds 23 rd Sept	7.45pm Stimpson's Piece Hall, Reepham, see page 11 for details

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EVENTS INFORMATION

REEPHAM GARDENING CLUB

Tuesday 18th August at 7.30pm

The Reepham & District Summer Show & Social Evening

A light-hearted, slightly competitive evening with something for everyone, including a quiz.

Tuesday 15th September at 7.30pm

‘The Diversity of the British Garden’ – Kathy Gray, Programme Organiser for Norfolk Plant Heritage

Kathy will talk about 4 very different gardens, highlighting what a diverse number of plants we can grow.

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).

The garden club desperately needs more committee members: if your new year resolution was to get more involved in your local community, this could be the ideal time to start. **Please contact Jeff Johnson for more information on 01362 680066 or visit our website:**

www.Reephamgardenclub.org.uk or email

jeffandcaroljohnson@yahoo.co.uk.

Reepham Lions Bingo Night

Wednesday 26th August and 23rd September, 7.45pm at Stimpson’s Piece Hall, Reepham.

Cash prizes based on the money raised on the night for the winners of lines and cards, including the special ‘flyer’ round. We’ll be giving cash prizes for our raffle too, awarding half the amount raised on the raffle to the lucky winners.

You are welcome to bring your own refreshments to enjoy at your table, including alcohol if you wish. We will have teas and coffees on sale for those who would like a hot drink.

All the proceeds of the evening will be used by Reepham Lions to support good causes, mostly in the local area.

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EVENTS INFORMATION

REEPHAM WI

Annual Summer Garden Plate Party

Thursday 20th August, 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm

This year we are fundraising for Leeway, Norfolk's largest specialist provider of support for people affected by domestic abuse. Weather permitting, the event will be held in the Bircham Centre Garden, Reepham. If the weather is unsuitable, we will meet instead at St Michael's Church.

We look forward to welcoming our members for a lovely afternoon of delicious homemade cakes, good company, and the opportunity to support a very worthwhile local charity. Please note: To help ensure everyone's safety, members are kindly asked to bring only the food they wish to eat. If you have any food allergies or intolerances, please contact a member of the committee before the event.

Thursday 17th September, 7.30pm

Candis Chutneys

A true Reepham success story. Founded right here in Reepham, Candis Chutneys has grown through passion, creativity and a love of great flavours. Come and hear about the journey of building a successful local business and the experiences of life as a woman entrepreneur.

During the evening, Reepham WI will also be making a presentation of donated gardening hand tools to the **Papillon Project**. Following a recent meeting where we learned about the incredible work the charity does with young adults, many of our members, having downsized their homes and gardens, were delighted to donate tools they no longer needed. This initiative perfectly reflects the WI ethos of reuse, recycling and supporting our local community, and we're proud to help such a worthwhile cause.

New lady members are always warmly welcomed.

Did you know that, alongside our monthly meetings, Reepham WI also has a book club and a walking group for our members to enjoy? These are wonderful opportunities to meet new people, make friends and take part in activities with fellow WI members.

If you'd like to become part of our friendly community, we would love to welcome you to Reepham WI. Find out more by visiting our website or Facebook page.

For more information about us, please visit our website or alternatively contact:

Brenda Gostling Tel: 07760 458957 Email:reephamwi@gmail.com

Meetings held at St Michael's Church Hall, Reepham

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LETTERS

Beauty and Wellbeing Raffle.

The very successful raffle during May and June to raise money for the refurbishment of Bawdeswell Village Cemetery raised £662. So many thanks to everyone who purchased tickets and to the many businesses and people who donated prizes. The Winner, pictured below, has only recently moved into the village so she says she feels 'very welcomed'!

Prizes were donated by Jarrolds of Norwich, ScissorHands of Dereham, Louise Ledbury Hairdresser, Stylistic Hairdressing, Dragonfly Beauty, KeepActive/Move it or Lose It and Tai Chi so thank you to all of them and do please continue to support them. There were 20 other smaller prizes and all prize winners have been contacted.



Wanted

Do you like photography? Have you any photos/images that we could use for the front cover of the Reeves Tale?

If so, could you send them via email to reevestale.magazine@gmail.com

Thanks

Anne and team

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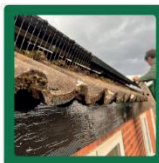
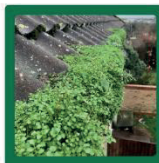
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LETTERS

Thank you

We wish to send our heartfelt thanks to the people who helped us celebrate our 80th birthdays in Bawdeswell village hall. We asked for no presents but if you wished a donation would be greatly accepted. We raised £300 and we are going to split it between Bawdeswell village hall and the East Anglian Air Ambulance charity.

Thanks

Glyn and Jan

Dear Editor,

I write in response to the letter about late night disturbances (July issue). We back onto the garden of one of the houses playing music into the early hours. The young man came around a week before to apologise in advance of noise whilst celebrating his 18th, conscious that we have young children. For a one-off event, giving notice to surrounding neighbours is considerate and respectful, and we thank him for it.
Name and address supplied

Wreath Sale - Saturday 5th December

All donations of homemade jams, jellies, conserves, pickles and preserves would be gratefully received for our produce stall.

Christmas cakes 6" square and iced can be made to order. The cost will be £15. Please order by November 10th.

Angela Shannon TEL: 01362 688111

Fakenham Choral Society

Fakenham Choral Society is taking a break for the summer and we'll be starting rehearsals on 8th September for our Christmas concert. If you enjoy singing and would like to join us do get in touch at <https://www.fakenhamchoralsociety.org/join-us> particularly if you're a tenor or bass.

WEEKLY CLASSES AT BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL



No partner required, learn some
of your Strictly favourites
Thursday 7pm.



Come along and shimmy, shake and
smile!

Monday at 10am

ONLY £6.50 per class

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VILLAGE VIEWS

Ermentrude and Sid

Like many couples our pair have their own customs, quirks and individual idiosyncrasies, firmly kept behind closed doors and not spilling out into the local community embarrassing friends, neighbours, one another or the man or woman in the street.

However, Sid usually - the most loving, understanding and tolerant of husbands had one day reached the end of his tether. Coming across him muttering, dishevelled, glassy-eyed and very much on edge outside my house, I invited him in for a cup of coffee, an ice-lolly (or something stronger if you prefer), I think the temperature reaching 35°C didn't help either!

Sinking shakily into my largest armchair and grasping onto the dog for comfort, he gasped, it's Ermentrude, I don't know what to do about her. Please help, you're a woman of the world, you must have a solution. When we go out, she always has to have a clean white hanky, cotton or linen, or a packet of tissues. Inherited it from her maternal grandmother, cleanliness is next to godliness or some such guff!

It's alright 3 seasons of the year as she has a handbag, a coat or jacket with pockets but it's the summer months, hot weather, bloody climate change, I can't bear it.'

'Why?' I gently prompted. 'No pockets', he wailed, 'unless she wears trousers, shorts or a dress with pockets nowhere to place her hanky. She only takes a purse. So either it's stuffed in her bra which makes her look three breasted or up her knicker leg.'

'Must have learned that trick at school', I helpfully intervened only to wither under the look sent in my direction. Best to keep quiet, I admonished myself.

'So, exactly what is the problem, Sid?' 'Well, when we go out and she needs a hanky, she blithely hoiks up her skirt, displaying her thighs and a lace edged knicker, it's embarrassing, I don't know where to look. I've tried everything, remonstrating, pleading, gentle threats, anger, bribing, I've even offered to buy a man bag and carry her hanky for her. She just laughs and says no one notices but I do', he wails beside himself. 'It's been going on for years, I can't stand it'.

'Has there ever been a positive outcome to this er foible of Ermentrude's?' I venture.

'Well', he said, sitting up and taking a revivifying sip of my Yorkshire Gold blend tea (courtesy of Waitrose), 'now you mention it, yes. My old Boss witnessed this little peccadillo she has, clearly interpreted it as some sort of 'come on', asked us round for the evening and we were invited to throw our keys in the pot. We hastily made our excuses and left. The next day, HR got in touch, I was told there was a factory reorganisation and was made redundant. The very generous payout enabled us to move to Norfolk, set up our own business and the rest is history! Never looked back'. Sid departed with assurances that Ermentrude was a wonderful wife and mother, an asset to the Village (as was he!) and that he should be very pleased. He was a lucky man that Ermentrude wasn't given to wearing Sloggi pants or Bridget Jones's Big Knickers.

Maide of Bawdeswelle



SATURDAY
15TH AUGUST
6.30 - 9PM

BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL

SUMMER SIZZLE AND YARD SALE



FOOD FROM 7.15PM



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HOT DOGS

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LIVE MUSIC FROM
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VILLAGE NEWS

Bawdeswell Village Hall Update

A large group of volunteers met up on a rather sultry July morning to catch up with the latest news around events at the village hall and to plan for the two months ahead. Don't forget there will be no Reeves Tale in September as our wonderful Editor, Anne, needs a well-earned break! Not only does she collate all the information, plan the lay-out of the magazine, arrange for printing, chase up contributors but then has to ensure it makes the printing deadline. In addition, she is the go-to person for all the advertising, leaflets, bill-boarding which keeps us all abreast of what is happening, so a great big thank you for all her expertise, time and hard work! Thank you too to the volunteers who are involved in distribution and posting of events, and to Stewart who proof-reads prior to publication.

Carolyn informed the meeting that monies raised have been used to purchase a new microwave, fan and fridge-freezer for the kitchen and thank you to Glyn and Jan for their contribution. (We all had a wonderful time at the recent 80th birthday party celebration!).

On arriving at the village hall, one cannot help but notice the colourful and ever-changing seasonal planting in the containers outside. This is down to Ruth, Lin and Chris with the essential watering undertaken by Jean and Paul. Thank you to all of them for their endeavours!

A discussion was held around the possibility of having screenings on ballet, opera or theatre through the auspices of Creative Arts and further consultation will take place.

Carolyn had helpfully drawn up a schedule around what will be needed for the forthcoming Summer Sizzle on 15th August so we are all looking forward to that annual event. Hopefully see you all there!

Don't forget the Hall is open in the afternoons, Monday- Friday during the school holidays for drinks, ice-creams and snacks.

Thank you once again to all the volunteers and to the village hall committee for all their time, expertise and dedication!

Why not think about becoming a volunteer, you would be most welcome!
Have a lovely Summer!

Contacts:

Chair: Chris Leppard – 01362 688 774

Vice-Chair: Carolyn Good - 01362 688 944

Bookings: Jo Porter – 01362 688 887





SUMMER AFTERNOON CAFÉ

Bawdeswell Village Hall
will be open 2 – 4pm weekdays
20th July – 28th August
(weather permitting)

Children's DVD's for sale

For a small donation

VILLAGE NEWS



Friends of Bawdeswell School

Thank you to all who were able to brave the weather and come along to our summer fete in early June. Despite the rain, we raised an amazing £1742 for the children of Bawdeswell Primary!

We've had a busy year raising money through lots of events including discos, treat stalls, a Christmas fayre and of course the summer fete. Thank you to all the volunteers and teaching staff who have helped at our events throughout the year and all the parents and members of our community who have supported these events. It has enabled us to fund classroom resources, playground games, school trips, Christmas resources: crackers for the school Christmas meal, nativity play script and licence and craft afternoon materials, year 6 leavers gifts and trip, art competition prizes, disco lights, tablecloths for school lunchtimes and welcome gifts for new reception class parents.

Thank you to everyone who's helped make it a great year.

FOXLEY NEWS

Foxley Coffee Morning

The date of the next coffee morning will be **Wednesday 5th August, 10:00 – 12 noon**. In September the Coffee Morning will be on **Wednesday 2nd September from 10:00am to 12 noon**. This will be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Foxley Village Hall Committee. This is your chance to have a say about how the hall is run and what new activities you would like to see at the hall. It is also an opportunity for anyone to join the Committee or volunteer to help to run the hall. The meeting is open to anyone who lives or works in Foxley or uses the hall.

Advance notice: Foxley's Macmillan Coffee morning will be held at Foxley Village Hall on **Wednesday 7th October**.

Advanced notice Harvest Festival

Foxley's Harvest Festival will be held on **Sunday 4th October at 3 pm**. Weather permitting it will be an outdoor service with Revd Richard Turk. In the event of rain or high winds the service will be held inside the church. All food donated will be taken to the Dereham Food Bank.

Ploughman's Lunch and Summer Puds

24th September

12 – 2pm



BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL

THE HUB LUNCH

Returning in October

Soup 'n' Roll 'n' Pudding

Lunches normally on last Thursday each month excluding August & December

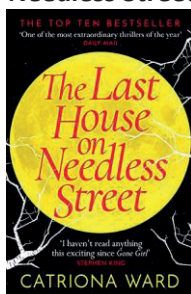
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



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 currently £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.

'The Last House on Needless Street' by Catriona Ward



This was definitely a 'marmite book'.

Some of our group thought it 'horrific' whilst others considered it 'compelling and a page-turner'. However they didn't feel able to describe it as 'enjoyable'.

Because of the book's complexity, I find it impossible to write about it in any detail without including 'spoilers'. This is a story about a child whose life was stolen, of Ted, the man who may or may not have done it, and of Dee, the sister out for revenge. That might make *The Last House on Needless Street* sound straightforward – it's not. Reviewers have described it as 'the most gloriously complex, shifting story, deeply disturbing yet also, somehow, heartwarming.'

We are currently reading **"Raising Hare" by Chloe Dalton** for discussion at our next meeting on 13th August.

Enquiries: Carolyn 01362 688944



Come join us for an evening of the

LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

**FREE Big Screen showing at
Bawdeswell Village Hall**

**Saturday 12th September
Doors and bar open from 6.30
Televised programme starts 7pm**



CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bawdeswell Bowls Club

The very hot weather is becoming a very big problem not just for Bawdeswell some greens are getting a bit bumpy. We are a bit luckier as ours is still playing well.

Here are Bawdeswell latest results:

Kings Lynn	Away	won	7 / 2	Whinburgh	Home	won	8 / 0
Bintree	Away	won	6 / 4	Swanton A	Home	won	8 / 2
Horsford	Away	won	8 / 2	Cawston	Away	won	9 / 1
Shouldham	Away	lost	0 / 9	Lyng	Home	won	10 / 0
Gaywood	Away	lost	4 / 5	Gressenhall	Home	won	6 / 2

There is still time for new players to have a try. Contact: **Paul on mobile 07796 964574 home 01362 668195 email paul.digby5@hotmail.co.uk** you will be made most welcome.



Bawdeswell Knit and Natter

There is no meeting in August.

September dates are 10th & 24th.

2 - 4 pm at the Village Hall. Come along and join us. Refreshments will be available.

Enquiries: **Josie Beach 01362 688869.**



Bintree Bowls Club

We have entered 3 Leagues, the Cawston League which is an evening league, and the Hempton and Age UK Leagues which are afternoons. We have a lovely green to play on which is behind Bawdeswell Village Hall and we have regular roll up sessions throughout the season as well as inter-club competitions.

We are always looking for new players; it does not matter if you have not played before, coaching can be given, all you need is a pair of flat shoes. Chances are that if you live in Bawdeswell or Foxley you probably know somebody who is a member so why not give it a go, have a little exercise, fresh air and sunshine (hopefully) and meet new friends.

Please contact **Nick Mears on 07947 860922** or speak to anyone you know who already plays.

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Bridge Club

The JayCee Bridge Club meets in the Village Hall 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 Patsy for information, or to confirm a session is to take place.

Contact: **Patsy Catchpole 01362 688352**



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 4th August – 'Continuing what you may not know about Elizabeth Fry'**

Tuesday 1st September – 'The Game, returns'

Contact: **Peter: 01362 688944**



Festival Choir Bawdeswell

The Festival Choir, based in Bawdeswell, has established itself as a vibrant high standard female concert choir. The hourlong programmes from 'Bach to Broadway' delight audiences with the repertoire that spans from classical to modern, and everything else in between, ensuring something for everyone.

The choir is committed to delivering music of the highest calibre and welcomes enthusiastic singers with some experience. If you are interested in joining, there are vacancies across all voice sections. We rehearse for an hour on a Saturday morning from 10am and Wednesday evening from 7pm at All Saints Church, allowing greater flexibility with attendance.

To find out more or arrange an informal chat, please **contact Musical Director James Lilwall at 01362 688499 or pjlilwall@hotmail.com**.

You can also visit the choir's Facebook page for updates. New members are warmly encouraged!

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES



Foxley Village Hall Coffee Morning

The date of the next coffee morning will be **Wednesday 5th August, 10:00 – 12 noon**. In September the Coffee Morning will be on **Wednesday 2nd September from 10:00am to 12 noon**. This will be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Foxley Village Hall Committee. This is your chance to have a say about how the hall is run and what new activities you would like to see at the hall, it is also an opportunity for anyone to join the Committee or volunteer to help to run the hall. The meeting is open to anyone who lives or works in Foxley or uses the hall. All welcome to join us for coffee, cake and a chance to meet up with your neighbours. 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, there will be **no meetings in August**. Games played:- Uno, Mexican Train, Scrabble. Other suggestions welcome. 1st visit free, normal price £5. Contact: **Anne 01362 685308**.



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**.



Lakeside Pilgrims Bowls Club

We are getting to the final stages of the season and things are going well. The weather has been great a little too hot at times. Here are the results for June/July:

15.06.26	Aldiss Park	away	loss	3 - 7
29.06.26	St Nicks	away	loss	2 - 8
07.07.26	Hempton	home	won	6 - 4

We do have a couple of games to catch up with because they were postponed and these are going to be played in August.

There is still time to come and see us. Contact Sue at sue.purse@gmail.com

When I put in the next message in the summer and bowls season will be over so have a great summer.

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SERVICES



Community Car Scheme: Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Foxley

Someone once said “ask a busy person if you need something doing”. Whilst this is often a true sentiment, it really is the case that “many hands make light work”.

This would certainly be the case for our Community Car Scheme, but it is getting the “many hands” that is the difficulty!

With volunteering numbers down to record lows after the pandemic, the voluntary sector is finding it more difficult than ever. I seem to be assailed on all fronts to become a Scout Leader again, join the Rotary Club or even help out with the turtles on Cape Verde, all of which I would love to do if I had the time!

My dream for the Community Car Scheme is everyone doing a very little bit and making this “light work” in helping our neighbours, many of whom have “done their bit” in times gone by.

Can you Help?

Can you spare an hour or two a month? We are looking for volunteers to keep the service going.

Are you able to drive your car to the hospital or local surgery? The scheme enables reimbursement of 55p per mile. We do not carry wheelchair users. There is a DBS check and medical form which is signed by your GP. The joining process is simple.

You will make a difference in your local community.

David Wheeler, Volunteer Coordinator
07909 901015
davidawheeler@sky.com

SERVICES

Elmham Surgery Newsletter August 2026

Update on 'Andi' our virtual care Receptionist

Since introducing Andi in January 2026, we have found it to be a valuable addition to the practice, helping us improve both efficiency and the patient experience. Patient feedback has been extremely positive:

"The phone was answered quickly, and Andi spoke clearly, explaining the questions and answers well."

"Simple process, good questions, easy to complete."

"Surprisingly good. Initially worried about speaking to a machine, but it was absolutely fine and I was happy."

"A little unnerving speaking to a machine at first, but quite easy once the request went through."

Andi helps ensure that every patient contact is handled consistently by:

- Identifying the type of request being made
- Collecting all the relevant information needed
- Automatically creating a structured request in Anima
- Reducing the need for manual re-keying of information
- Minimising the risk of missing important details
- Andi is multilingual and can understand up to 55 different languages

This has resulted in:

- Faster and more efficient workflows
- Reduced administrative burden for our team
- An improved experience for patients

What makes Andi particularly valuable is its ability to do more than simply record information. Andi is designed to understand how patients are feeling and respond with empathy, warmth and reassurance, especially when patients may be anxious, worried or distressed.

Patient safety remains a priority. Andi is built with safety in mind, detecting urgent concerns and escalating them appropriately when necessary. We are delighted with the positive impact Andi has had so far and look forward to continuing to use this innovative technology to support our patients and staff.

SERVICES

Elmham Surgery Newsletter August 2026, continued...

Patient behaviour expectations

Due to ongoing inappropriate behaviour from some patients, we would like to remind you at our practice we are committed to providing a safe, welcoming and respectful environment for all patients, visitors and staff. We kindly ask everyone to treat our team and fellow patients with courtesy and respect at all times. As per our zero tolerance policy aggressive, abusive, threatening or discriminatory behaviour will not be tolerated. By working together with kindness and understanding, we can ensure that everyone receives the care and support they need in a positive environment.

Patient Participation Group

Did you know that our Patient Participation Group (PPG) helps represent the views of patients and works closely with the practice to support improvements to the services we provide? The PPG are currently in the planning stages of future events and initiatives aimed at supporting the health and wellbeing of our patients. Further details and event dates will be shared soon.

If you would like to contact the PPG, you can do so either by emailing elmhamsurgeryppg@gmail.com or by leaving a message in one of the PPG post boxes located at both Elmham Surgery and Swanton Morley Surgery or filling out the form on our website.

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SERVICES



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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

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PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd JULY 2026 AT 7.00pm

**Present: D. Shannon (Chair), M. Bailey, C. Good, R. Hannent and A. Hartley-Walder.
Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk) Members of the public – 1**

Breckland Local Plan

It was understood that the Local Plan was coming back to Breckland's Cabinet Meeting on 13th July for the progress so far to be agreed and to start the following stage (Regulation 19). The papers for the meeting were published on the Breckland Website on the 2nd July for cabinet approval with public consultation from 31st July to 16th September.

It was understood from the papers that Breckland are still advocating at least 120 houses on the Foxley Road. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Breckland and reiterate the Parish Council's concerns, making a point that it would appear from the document that no consideration has been taken of the concerns raised by the Parish Council and that instead, Breckland have argued for houses which are unsustainable in this community. It was agreed to request a review of this decision prior to the cabinet meeting.

Highways

A response was received from Norfolk County Council Highways confirming that the road surface at the junction of The Street/Reepham Road did not meet the criteria for repair but they would monitor it as part of routine inspections. It is understood that despite this, a request has been made by the Highways Engineer to add this to the list of junctions for resurfacing. It was noted that the white lining had been replaced including the area previously highlighted by the PC for repair but was still missing from outside the Jubilee Garden. Clerk to contact Highways to highlight the missing white lining and request an early consideration of the junction – The Street/Reepham Road. It was noted that the area resurfaced is superior to most of other roads in the village.

Planning

It was acknowledged that although the proposed Albanwise synergy cable route does not affect Bawdeswell and the PC would have no objections, there was concern about the route for HGV traffic accessing the Pettywell Solar Farm site, especially given the large volume of HGV traffic through the village from the windfarm cable route. Clerk to submit response to Albanwise Synergy regarding these concerns. It was also note that the area of land adjoining A1067 close to the junction with Swanton Morley Road near Adams Pit has had some work going on with large metal containers in situ, excavation work and the installation of brick pillars and double gates. Clerk to contact Planning to raise concerns as it was acknowledged that there were safety concerns about access on that site.

It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.

BAWDESWELL

VILLAGE HALL

Friday 25th September

10am – 12pm



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PARISH COUNCIL

Other matters

A quote was received in respect of the play area, accessible play equipment, refurbished multi use basketball area and metal fencing (separating the children's play area). As this had only just been received, it was agreed that Councillors would consider the ideas over the summer recess and discuss in September. It was recognised that this was a starting point for consideration and that section 106 funding would be available with proposed development. Other proposals / quotes have been sought.

New dog bag dispensers have been ordered in the hope that owners will continue to clear up after their dogs. Thank you to those who do!

It was agreed to create two additional disabled parking spaces at the Village Hall.

Finance

The balance of the Community account as at 30th June 2026 was confirmed as £27496.74, Business Money Manager (Earmarked reserves) was £44037.40.

The next Parish Council Meetings will be held on Thursday 3rd September 2026 and 1st October 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: clerk@bawdeswell.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 <http://bawdeswell.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>



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CHURCH NEWS

Bawdeswell Church News



Complaints are still coming in. We have mentioned many times before that responsibility for the upkeep of Bawdeswell Cemetery rests with the Parochial *Church* Council and not the *Parish* Council. So please do not vent your wrath on them.

A major tidy up has been carried out by contractors and volunteers recently and we would like to thank all of you who have taken part and those who have made donations large and small to the eventual cost which ran into thousands of pounds.

The upkeep of individual graves remains the responsibility of families and always has been. This is not a municipal cemetery but an extension of the local churchyard.

On a happier note. The new Benefice named *“The Bawdeswell Group of Churches”* has now been approved by the Church Commissioners. The group comprises Foxley, Lyng, Elsing, Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Sparham, Themelthorpe and Foulsham. The curate in charge, Revd Richard Turk who lives in Lyng Rectory, is now renamed Rector of the group.

We continue to welcome several people to our Sunday service relayed on Zoom. If you would like to try that out, download the Zoom app and on the Home page select “Join a Meeting”. You will be asked to fill in the Meeting ID which is 656 174 6525 and the Passcode: TwKH7n

Robin Taylor, Churchwarden



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CHURCH NEWS

Reverend Richard Reflects

We've made it! On the 3rd July (at midnight that morning, in fact) the scheme to reorganise the Heart of Norfolk benefice and Reepham and Wensum Valley benefice into three new, smaller benefices took effect. We now have those two benefices and the Bawdeswell Group benefice. And, when the changes to the benefices took place, I automatically became rector instead of curate-in-charge.

I've been asked several times since then whether I feel any different. I have to admit, in most ways, I don't feel any different at all. In all the practical ways, things carried on in July just as they had done in June. But it did get me thinking about changes.

When we journey with Christ, life is full of changes. At baptism, whether that is as a child or an adult, there is a change. You start a new life with Christ. When you are confirmed, that sees another change: you make a firm commitment to following Christ. If you marry in church, you undergo a change in your life in the sight of God. Those who are ordained or licensed as ministers see a change in their lives as they serve Christ in a new way. But those who serve in churches in other capacities also see a change in their lives. Following Christ brings about all sorts of changes in us. Some are expected, others are unlooked for.

During August I will be volunteering on a Beach Mission. We hope, over the course of the fortnight, that people will experience a change in their lives, as they find, renew, or deepen their relationship with Christ.

Perhaps the recent changes in our benefices are an opportunity to encourage more people to think about the changes they have experienced in their lives, and to share their stories. Perhaps it is an opportunity to encourage people to explore their faith in greater depth.

Whatever else, it is a new start for the people of our three benefices. And it will be exciting to see where this new start takes us.

Richard Turk

Rector of the Bawdeswell Group of Churches
comprising the parishes of

Foxley, Foulsham, Lyng, Elsing, Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Sparham, and Themelthorpe.

St Thomas's Church, Foxley

'All Creatures Great and Small'

- a pet service



All Pets welcome – but please bring your owner with
you

Sunday 6th September 2026 at 3 pm

With Revd Richard Turk

Please – dogs on a lead, cats in a basket, hamsters in a box,
birds in a cage etc.

BAWDESWELL GROUP CHURCH SERVICES

August and September 2026

August Services				
Date	Sunday 2 nd August	Sunday 9 th August	Sunday 16 th August	Sunday 23 rd August
Bawdeswell	10.30am Words & Praise	10.30am HC	10.30am Family Service	10.30am HC
Foxley	-	-	-	-
Group Service Sunday 30th August, 10.30am St Andrew's, Themelethorpe				
September Services				
Date	Sunday 6 th September	Sunday 13 th September	Sunday 20 th September	Sunday 27 th September
Bawdeswell	10.30am Words & Praise	10.30am HC	10.30am Family Service	10.30am HC
Foxley	3pm 'All Ceatures Great and Small' – a pet service	-	-	-

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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