# MENDLESHAM NEWSLETTER



**Issue 412** 

December 2017

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# Email reports, articles, photos and adverts to: gemma.green1202@gmail.com

Editor: Gemma Green 07733 333659 Advertising: Keith Shelton 01449 768744 shelton@live.co.uk

## **Paper Copies of Articles to:**

Jean Abbott, 11 Mayfield Way, Mendlesham (01449 766895) Pat Winslett 19 Glebe Way, Mendlesham (01449 767803)

# Deadline for January issue is 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017

We produce 12 issues per year which are delivered to every household in the location of Mendlesham.

Front Cover Photo

## Meg Clarke

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#### **Editorial**

Welcome to the December issue. Whatever the weather there is still plenty to see on a walk around the parish. Just pull on the woollen hat and gloves and step out. There is nothing more welcome than a warm house to return to afterwards! If this idea is a mite too extreme then a browse through the newsletter will reveal all the many social opportunities brought to you by clubs and other gatherings throughout the month.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2018. Gemma

# Mendlesham Walking Group



# Saturday 9 December 2017

Meet at Community Centre Car Park 10.30am Car-share travel to Eye, parking behind The Queen's Head Pub

A circular walk to Braiseworth returning for a Christmas Lunch at The Queen's Head – non walkers welcome to join friends/partners

#### YOU WILL NEED TO BOOK YOUR LUNCH!

call

Judith on 07770 746619 or email <u>mendleshamwalks@gmail.com</u> BEFORE 30 November

#### Dogs on leads welcome

Diary Dates for 2018 will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each calendar month

#### How to access Mid Suffolk District Council services?

You will probably be aware Mid Suffolk District Council are changing both where they are based and also how as members of the public you will be able to contact them

Whilst you are able to telephone them tel 0300 123 4000 and access services through their web site http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk we have now been advised that their "Access Point" in Stowmarket is now open for visits, no appointments required.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

All adverts are placed in good faith and the publishers cannot undertake responsibility for work carried out. Please note that the opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Mendlesham Newsletter committee or the Community Council. We cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of material submitted for publication, however we reserve the right to include, edit or amend as we think appropriate. Mendlesham Newsletter is produced in good faith but errors and omissions may occur during the process of production. Please let us know if this is the case so that these errors may be corrected in future editions.

# MENDLESHAM XMAS 'SAT-CAF'

**Saturday**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **December 10.00 – 14.00** 

Pre-Ordering or Take-Away Orders, phone the Café on 01449-767727 from 10 a.m.

Morning Coffee, Light Lunches and Afternoon Teas, including delicious homemade Quiches, Soups, Cakes, Desserts and Christmas Specials!

November Draw Winner (Italian Hamper donated by Kelly Spencer)

Alfie/Ridley



## **MENDLESHAM ANNUAL PARISH PARTY**

For the Over 66s and disabled residents and their partners

You are warmly invited to the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Party
On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 4.45pm (for 5pm)
At the Community Centre, Mendlesham

A delightful three course meal followed by Coffee will be served along with entertainment and time to chat with friends.

You may wish to bring a cushion as the chairs can feel a bit hard after some time.

For safety reasons, you are asked to sit no more than 6 to a table.

There is no need to confirm your booking once names have been taken but if an invitation was left through your door without you speaking to a committee member, please could you confirm your attendance by

### Monday 8th January 2018

If you are unable to attend the event before or on the actual day, please contact Rachel on 07881816622, many thanks.

#### SNIPPETS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL



Parish Clerk: Sharon Jones, Honeysuckle, Hockey Hill, Wetheringsett, Suffolk IP14 5PL

Tel 01449 766139

Email: parishclerk@mendleshampc.org

Web site: www. mendlesham.onesuffolk.net to 31st October then

http://mendlesham.suffolk.cloud

#### Your Councillors are:

- Andy Davey 07550011831
- Mike Exley tel 766246 (Chairperson) (Emergency Planning Co ordinator for Mendlesham)
- Denise Foster tel 768978
- Norman Foster tel 768978
- David Nunn (Emergency Planning Co ordinator for Mendlesham Green, Tan Office and outlying properties) tel 767158
- Helen Orton tel 767741
- Liz Ward tel 766562
- Madeline Watson 766910
- Sabrina Webb

#### **Meetings:**

#### Wednesday 6th December 2017

7.30pm Old School Room Mendlesham, Ordinary Parish Council meeting.

Please note 2018 meetings are in the process of being finalised. Details will be available on our new parish website <a href="http://mendlesham.suffolk.cloud">http://mendlesham.suffolk.cloud</a> and parish noticeboards ( outside Old School Room, Mendlesham, Bus shelter Mendlesham Green).

#### FIREWORK DISPLAY TO MUSIC

Thank you to everyone who supported the Community Council Fireworks to Music on November 5th. It was so great to see so many people attending and happy to pay to watch the event. It costs around £2,000 for the Fireworks, Music, Insurance, Advertising and Food and last year we lost money on this event. But this year we had perfect weather and with 1,000 attending I am pleased to report the Community Council made a profit of £1600. A huge thank you must go to everyone who helped setting up, cooking, selling tickets. Thank you to the Footballers for letting us borrow their floodlights. A magnificent amount which will go to Council funds which can help village organisations when they need it.

Friends of Mendlesham Health Centre (incorporating Bacton Surgery)



# <u>CHRISTMAS FAYRE</u> <u>FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER</u> <u>8.30 – Midday</u>



Can you help out with a donation for any of the following stalls for this year's Fayre at Mendlesham Health Centre?

Tombola Prize Draw Books Jigsaws Preserves Cakes Crafts

Contributions to any of the above would be greatly appreciated and may be left at either surgery, from 24th November (cakes on the day).

Unfortunately, bric-a-brac cannot be accepted



# New Year's Eve Party

At

# Mendlesham Community Centre 31st December 2017

Disco, cash draw and licensed bar.

Adult tickets £8.00, children £3.00.

Tickets available from Angela Lockwood 01449 767763, Madeleine Watson 01449 766910 and The Hair Studio 01449 766977.





# Mendlesham Football Club Club News & Update – December 2017

A challenging start to the season has been met by a new young management team who are focused and enthusiastic and have the will and desire to succeed. This season the squad has been depleted

with the loss of a few senior players who have either retired or are now playing with the new Mendlesham vets (over 35's) team. New players have been recruited and the teams are starting to gel and we look forward to success for the remainder of the season.

Off the field we have also been busy. We are currently running our Grand Christmas Draw which will be drawn in the Kings Head on Saturday  $9^{th}$  December @ 6pm – tickets are available from all players and committee plus the Kings Head and the Post Office - for a £1.00 ticket (£5.00 a book) you have the opportunity to win a £500  $1^{st}$  prize, £200  $2^{nd}$  prize, £100  $3^{rd}$  prize and a Seasonal Local Food Hamper as the  $4^{th}$  prize.

In October in partnership with the Kings Head we held a raffle to win a Food Hamper with all the proceeds donated to St. Elizabeths Hospice – we raised £ 145.00. The draw held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November was won by Andrew Cullum.

We were delighted to again provide our battery powered portable lighting for use at the Village Fireworks Night and to supply the sauces and ketchups for the BBQ.

Our Racenight with Chicken & Chip Supper will be held in 2018 – dates to be advised.

We hope to be be playing soon on the new pitch and are in the process of moving the dugouts – we are extremely grateful to Lovell Homes who have laid new concrete bases and are to move and refurb. our current dugouts which are showing their age – new similar dugouts cost  $\pm$  1,500 each so to have Lovell Homes do this for us is fantastic.









#### **Management Committee:**

Tim Mack – Chair \* George Yardley – Vice Chair \* Pat Blanchard – General Secretary \*Angela Lockwood – Promotions Manager \* Ashley Roshier – Treasurer \*



Mendlesham Football Club is not VAT Registered

#### MENDLESHAM COOKING CLUB

# COME AND JOIN IN HAVE SOME FUN MAKING DELICIOUS FOOD TO TAKE HOME

0		SOUND IN IN		
DATE	TIME/LOCATION	AGE GROUP	COST PER SESSION	FOODS BEING COOKED
SATURDAY 9 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER	10-1.30PM COMMUNITY CENTRE SMALL HALL	4YRS -12YRS	£6.00	CHRISTMAS TREATS
	PLEASE NOTE EXTENDED FINISH TIME		0000	

PLEASE CONTACT SYLVIA LYONS ON 01449 768657 OR SYLVIALYON@AOL.COM

OR SANDRA EXLEY ON 01449 766246

APPLICATION/CONSENT FORMS AND COST OF EACH SESSION MUST BE COMPLETED AND PAID BEFORE THE CLASS
PLEASE BRING AN APRON TO WEAR AND A BOX/BAG TO TAKE THE COOKED FOOD HOME

ALL NET PROFIT WILL GO TO THE COMMUNITY CENTRE CHARITY
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT ON ANY OF THE SESSIONS PLEASE LET SYLVIA KNOW



#### MENDLESHAM 50/50 SHOP

(Open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 2pm – 4 pm)

We wish to advise customers that the shop will be closing for the Christmas period. The last day of opening will be

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and it will reopen on

Thursday 4th January 2018

\*\*\*

We now have a good range of Autumn and Winter clothes for all, Including school wear, party wear and shoes!

PLEASE COME ALONG AND SEE THE BARGAINS!

\*\*\*

We do not have a great deal of space available now and will only be able to accept small quantities of "next to new" items to sell



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Sat 08:00 - 16:00

"Sun 10:00 - 16:00 01449 678650



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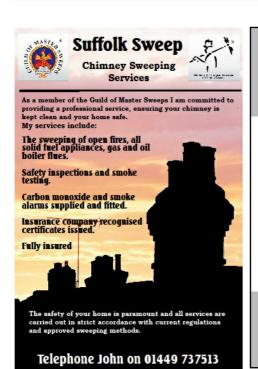
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# Blossoms

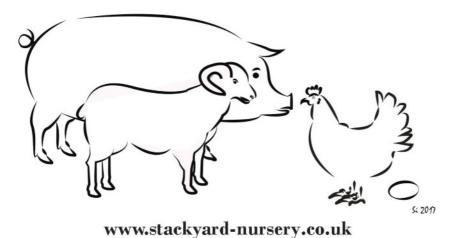
# Garden Plants

Will be closed for winter break from 16 Dec-28 Feb. Open thurs, fri, sat 10-4pm from 1 March 2018. Now taking orders for bare root hedging and trees

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# **TOTE RESULTS**

7th October		14th October Drawn at Galloways		
Drawn at 50/50 Shop				
Mr and Mrs Shave	£20	Mr Shaun Paddy	£20	
Mrs Liz Palfrey	£12	Mrs Jill Boon	£12	
Mrs Helen Orton	£8	Mr Norman Foster	£8	
Mrs Doris Briggs	£4	Mr Michael Flyn	£4	
21st October		28th October		
<b>Drawn at Mother &amp; Tod</b>	dlers	Drawn at 50/50 Shop		
Mr Barry Briggs	£20	Mrs Brenda Salisbury	£20	
Mr Roger Burrows	£12	Mrs Lois Cotton	£12	
Mr Jimmy Pipe	£8	Mrs Sylvia Lummis	£8	
Mrs Alison Williams	£4	Mr John Gilmour	£4	

#### **Parish Council:**

#### Website:

Have you had a look at our new website

http://mendlesham.suffolk.cloud

Please note that you are also now able to view Community Centre availability online. We hope that you enjoy using the new site.

#### **United Reformed Church**

#### **MURCies Coffee Bar**

Friday - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017 10am-12pm

#### **Knit and Natter**

Monday - 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017 2-4pm

## MENDLESHAM CAMERA CLUB

The Camera Club will meet again on Tuesday, December 5th at 7.30pm in the Old

School Room. Our photo challenge will be 'fireworks', which we will view on the screen and discuss, followed by a cup of coffee and a chat about something photography related. We are a small group of mixed photography ability and new members are always welcome. We pay just £1.50 at each meeting. Come and give us a look! Check the club out on the website: http://www.mendleshamcameraclub.co.uk.

#### MENDLESHAM OVER 60s – October 25th 2017

Tina Pipe welcomed 45 members to the meeting. We had several apologies from members and birthday greetings were given to 5 members with November birthdays. We now have full membership, with 5 on our waiting list. Jenny Mayes invited members to her open house on November 1<sup>st</sup> in aid of First Responders and Suffolk Accident Rescue Services. Marjorie Rosseau told us that the Masaii Warriors were a great success and raised a good amount for St. Mary's.

Mrs Linda Sexton was our speaker and her subject was "The Baron, The Policeman and The Major – an Ipswich riot". She has studied the history of Ipswich and this was just one of her talks. In 1862 the population of Ipswich had risen from 11,000 to 18,000, with lots of young people moving to the area. At the time only business men were allowed to vote. The Baron had come to Ipswich to give a lecture but the Mayor banned it. The population had always been predominantly Catholic but with the reformation this was no longer so. There were now 5 different denominations in 23 places of worship. The community did not take kindly to this meeting being banned so they rioted. There was a police force of 20 men to control the 1,000 strong crowd, so the Mayor swore in 200 specials. They had no training but were mostly ex-service men. One policeman was stabbed and lots of windows were broken. Five magistrates and a jury of voters found the offenders not guilty. The Baron who was the cause of this riot was later found to be an imposter who presumed the title and was a witness in a murder trial in 1854.

<u>The competition</u> was a glass ornament and the winners were as follows: First: Peggy Orwell Second: Ray Maye Third: George Taylor

Next Meeting: December 13<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Margaret Knights

"Christmas Decorations".

**Competition**: A Christmas table arrangement.

Marcel brought the meeting to a close leading us in the National Anthem.

#### **Parish Council:**

#### **New Parish Councillor:**

Mendlesham Parish Councillors were delighted to co opt Noel Fletcher as a Parish Councillor at our November meeting. Welcome Noel and thank you for volunteering. This means we now have ten Parish Councillors with a vacancy for another. If you are interested, please speak to any Parish Councillor or the Parish Clerk.



# **MENDLESHAM WI**

#### October 2017

President Anita welcomed thirty-four members and two visitors to our meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. Five birthday posies were given to members. A plant stall was run by Linda Cole.

Details of various events were discussed. Several members went to the Group Meeting at Eye on the 28th September. The speaker was excellent and we got first prize and a shield for our 'room in a shoe box' entry for the competition! Some members went to the Museum of East Anglian Life on the 24th October to see 'Fabric, Field and French Knots'- celebrating East Anglia in stitch, featuring work by members of the Local Embroiderers Guild in Suffolk and Essex. The Christmas Workshop is on the 25th November in the Old School Room. In the New Year the Birthday Evening Meal is on Tuesday 16th January at Alder Carr Barn. The Suffolk WI Annual Meeting is on the 6th of March at Trinity Park Ipswich. Four hundred and eighty-one pounds has now been raised for the 'Denman Appeal' out of our five hundred pound target. Congratulations to all our members for achieving this by individual and group efforts.

Our speaker for the evening Wendy Smith has been part of Wimbledon for 35 years as a line judge and umpire. She has also umpired at the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics as well as national and international tournaments. She told us lots of little known and fascinating things about her experiences at Wimbledon and brought mementoes and trophies to show us. She said that you are constantly assessed and only the most proficient people get to Wimbledon but younger people are being encouraged into umpiring. It is very intense on court and umpires do one hour on court then one hour Technology and constant scrutiny by the television makes umpiring more challenging and mistakes need to be avoided as the press invariably make a big thing of them. Hawkeve has reduced outburst by players but gamesmanship like grunting is still used. Some players are better than others at making correct challenges - Andy Murray is not as good as Roger Federer when it comes to line judgements. The uniform is designed by Ralph Lauren and provided at a cost of £3,500 each. Guidelines for wearing the uniform are very strict and you have to follow a 'style guide.' Players are tested for drugs at the end of each match but betting is becoming as problem in tennis. Wimbledon is a VERY clean and tidy place with a big staff to keep it that way. Despite being routinely hit by tennis balls Wendy is planning to achieve 40 years at Wimbledon.

Ruth Orchard won the competition with her decorated tennis ball.

Our next meeting will be on 12<sup>th</sup> December in the small hall in the Community Centre. Our speaker Robert Halliday will be telling us about 'Suffolk Ghosts and Hauntings' and the competition will be a 'ghostly rhyme'!

## Mendlesham Community Centre - Small Hall



# FILM NIGHT



# Friday 8 December 7pm

# **Christmas Special**

A variety of short, local films

Bring a cushion! Coffee/Tea/Wine and Mince Pies Raffle Prizes and a bit of fun!

Here is a list of Films we have enjoyed in 2017! Tells us what you would like to see in 2018!

Akenfield Woman in Gold Florence Foster-Jenkins The Woman in Black

A Street Cat Named Bob The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

Imitation Game Dad's Army Viceroy's House Mama Mia

Proceeds raised have gone to cover all our expenses including the purchasing of film showing equipment that can be used by other organisations associated with Mendlesham Community Council. Anything 'left over' funds has contributed to other community support activities.

Thank you to all our regulars! We

We welcome any newcomers!

Contact Judith on 01449 766327 or Geoff and Meg on 01449 766447

#### Parish Council:

#### **Future Growth of Mendlesham:**

Thank you to all of those who attended our consultation events. Over both events, 111 of you attended, providing really valuable comments which support our representations to MSDC regarding the Joint Local Plan consultation and our forthcoming amendments to our Neighbourhood Plan. We have also received 49 responses from you regarding your thoughts/priorities regarding how to spend any developer community infrastructure contribution. These are yet to be reviewed, but again will be extremely useful and will help the Parish Council to make informed decisions.



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Want to go on holiday and know that your home has been cared for ,the basics are in the fridge the heatings on and the house is clean on your return.

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FREITA

Christmas Craft gifts also now on sale

We are a new gift shop located at the Chilli Farm off the A140. There are

lots of local crafters offering hand made and personalised gifts for all occasions. Open Tues - Sat 0930 - 1630. Contact 01449 766105





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#### STONHAM THEATRE GUILD

Presents

# Aladdin

# Adventures In The East

By Susan Holder By arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts



Performances at Earl Stonham Village Hall

Friday 1st December at 7pm

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December: Matinee at 2pm Evening at 6.30pm

Adult £5.00 Under 17s £3.00 Tickets available from John Jones - Tel: 01449 711448 Or from any STG Committee Member





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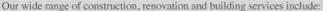
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#### **Parish Council:**

#### Mendlesham Green Telephone Box.

Another reminder that we need your thoughts regarding the future use of the Red Telephone Box at Mendlesham Green by 31st December 2017. Thank you to those of you who have already responded but responses received are very few to date and informed decisions do need to be made.

You may recall that the red box at Mendlesham Green was acquired from BT under their

"Adopt a Box scheme for £1. At the time we asked and received many ideas from yourself regarding use of the box. As many of the ideas involved paper or items that would be damaged as the box is not water tight, it was agreed that the first objective would be for a group of volunteers to research and then commence a programme to repair and repaint the box.

Thank you to all of those involved. The box has been cleaned and options investigated regarding the best way to refurbish the box. The paint is lead based, the box has a slight tilt and we believe is still connected to an electricity supply, so this work is not as simple as it may seem.

Indications are that even with volunteer support, if the existing paint is to be removed by sandblasting, ( not safe because of the lead paint for this to be done in situ or by volunteers), glass replaced and box tilt to be corrected, the cost of refurbishing the box will come to approximately £2k.

Once this is completed, there is also a proposal for the box to be used to house a Parish owned defibrillator. The acquisition costs of this are not known, but it is anticipated either grants would be available or a defibrillator may be donated free. There would be unknown ongoing maintenance costs, including the question of what happens if the defibrillator is not returned after use. Our defibrillator at Mendlesham Community Centre is owned and maintained by the NHS although we had to find the cost of the box of some £500. The NHS are unable to provide a similar arrangement for Mendlesham Green but have confirmed we have their permission to acquire one. No decisions have been made regarding use of the telephone box.

However, please can you let us know your thoughts, preferably by email to the Parish Clerk or if not by post to Honeysuckle, Hockey Hill, Wetheringsett IP14 5PL.

- 1. Do you support or not refurbishment of the Mendlesham Green telephone box, using Parish Funds at a cost of approximately £2,000
- 2. If the box was refurbished, would you support or not, use to house a defibrillator.
- 3. If the defibrillator and housing box were not free, would you support using Parish Funds to acquire one ( est cost approximately £1000-£1500).

Please provide us with your thoughts, including your address by 31st December 2017.



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# **Coffee Morning**

In aid of Mendlesham Annual Parish Party







# Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2018

10am - 12noon

# at United Reformed Chapel

Refreshments, Raffle, Tombola and Cake Stall

It would be lovely to see you all for coffee and cake to raise funds for such a special village event.

Any donations towards the stalls would be gratefully received, please contact Val on 01449 766541 or Rachel on 07881 816622

#### NEW CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - EYE

Starting 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 10:30am to 12:30pm Hartismere Place Day Centre Everyone Welcome - Please come along Big Christmas Raffle



Contact Nikki Boughen at Eye Health Centre for more details Tel: 01379 870689

## INTER COMMUNITY COUNCIL QUIZ

Tea and Cakes

For over 20 years a quiz has taken place between the Community Councils of Mendlesham, Needham Market, Barking and Battisford. Each council takes turns hosting the quiz and on November 10th it was Mendlesham's turn to hold the quiz in the United Reformed Church hall. Each council sent a team of 4. Ken Abbott was quiz master helped by Shirley and Liz. The teams arrived to drinks and snacks and had more refreshments at the interval. It was a very close run battle with each team inching in front to be overtaken in the next round of questions. But at the end the winning team to win the shield was Mendlesham! Congratulations to our team and thank you to all who made it a successful evening out. Next year it will be Barking's turn to have the quiz.

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#### **Parish Council:**

### **Housing Needs Survey:**

Apologies for repeating this from last month's newsletter and it is a little way away, but it is important we are all ready, very early in the New Year to make this a successful survey which will provide valuable up to date evidence for the Parish Council to represent you and your housing needs. This is not just about affordable houses for those wanting their first home, it will include questions about all types of housing needs, different types of size and design, including perhaps bungalows for those retiring, needing to downsize, smaller units for one person occupiers, larger properties to rent etc.

It is essential that whatever your individual circumstances, you or someone helps you complete the questionnaire you will receive during the second week of January 2018. We will need volunteers to distribute the questionnaires on a similar basis as the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires a few years ago. So can help please can you let the Parish Clerk know.



Thank you to everyone who came and supported my Macmillan Cancer Support Tea & Cake afternoon on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September. Once again a great support from the village and also surrounding villages. A big thank you to all my helpers, donations of cakes and

draw prizes, very much appreciated. I was also very lucky to receive a generous donation from DHL of Stanton. I'm always overwhelmed by the support given by you all. The amount raised this year was £940!!!! This will go to the Macmillan Unit at Ipswich Hospital. £940 will help cover a support worker for a family who are experiencing the illness for a year!!

Once again

THANK YOU!!!!!!

Look forward to seeing you all next year.

Angela Lockwood

I give heart-felt thanks to my many friends in Mendlesham who readily came forward to offer to provide transport and support during my many daily visits to Ipswich Hospital. However, I did not get any undue problems with my treatment and therefore did not need to call on them. But the fact that I had back-up if needed was invaluable to me and let me face the world with confidence.



Thank you!
Peter Wyatt





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### Computer Club/Saturday Café (Sat-Caf) Report

Following the closure of the children's Internet Café back in July 2016, the committee would like to update the village on the progress of the adult Computer Club and the Saturday Café, both held regularly in the Old School Room.

The membership of the Computer Club continues to grow, and the monthly Saturday Café is as popular as ever. Due to the continuing success of both clubs, the committee is now able to donate annually to other village organisations. Some who have benefitted this year are:

1.	Mendlesham Primary School – <b>see photo below</b>	£1000
	(towards new computers for the school)	
2.	Mendlesham Parish Party	£500
3.	Mendlesham Educational Foundation	£500
4.	Mendlesham Children's Cooking Club	£60
	Total	£2060



We would like to thank all of those who contribute either by volunteering or donating food to either of these village activities, without whose help our donations to other village organisations would not be possible.

**Computer Club** is open to all and meets every Thursday in the Old School Room, 10.00-12.00 at a cost of £5 per session. The **Sat-Caf** is held on the first Saturday every month except January, serving delicious homemade hot & cold food. **The first Sat-Caf in 2018 will be held on Saturday** 3<sup>rd</sup> **February**. For further information on both activities, contact John Player on **01449-768101**.



## Fundraising Evening at Mason Court



In aid of Mendlesham Annual Parish Party

## Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 from 6.30pm

Everyone is invited to join us for a fun evening of Entertainment, Refreshments, Raffle and Tombola

## Mendlesham Chapel Calling all Mums



Drop in for coffee & a chat on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays from 9am -11.00am Young Children Welcome

No charge

## **CHRISTMAS CAKES**

Kathleen Hallaways is again making Christmas cakes to order – any size and decoration as requested, with all profits for St Mary's Church Funds.

See notice on church door for all details, including contact phone number.



#### **MENDLESHAM CHAPEL**

Minister: The Rev'd Chris Wood Tel No: 01449 678173

#### SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

As shown below

3<sup>rd</sup> 4.00pm Mr William Glasse

6th 2.30pm Afternoon Fellowship Carol Service – Steve Fenning

10th 10.45am Mr Clive Herrod

17th 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight – Rev'd Chris Wood

24th No Service

MURCies Coffee Bar - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday 10.00 - 12.00 (8<sup>th</sup> December)

Mums Coffee Morning - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 9.00 - 11am (11<sup>th</sup> Dec, not 25<sup>th</sup>)

United

Church

Reformed

Knit & Natter - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays from 2.00 - 4.00pm (11<sup>th</sup> Dec, not 25<sup>th</sup>)

### In Your Way and in Your Time

There are many popular hymns sung in our churches by Graham Kendrick, a contemporary singer-songwriter, such as 'Beauty for Brokenness'; 'From Heaven You Came'; 'Jesus put this song into our hearts' and 'Shine Jesus Shine'. Indeed, there are 30 worship songs written by him in Hymns Old & New! Yet one of my favourites sadly doesn't often get a mention. It's entitled 'In Your Way' and the lyrics include the lines 'In Your way and in Your time, that's how it's going to be in my life' - then goes on to make the bold statement 'and though some prayers I've prayed may seem unanswered yet, You never come too quickly or too late .....' How true these sentiments are to anyone who is constant in their prayer-life – and equally to those who turn to prayer only when the need arises.

I know of its truth, but, if you're anything like me, you can't wait for the Lord's time, as I have a tendency to prefer an answer as of yesterday and in a way that I can cope. Even when we get an answer to prayer, have you ever responded by saying 'surely not that way' or 'you got to be kidding' or something to that effect? It's only in hindsight that we realise that God knows best — as the Prophet Isaiah was to discover: 'The Word of the Lord came to me: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways. Just as the heavens are high above the earth, so are My ways high above your ways and My thoughts above your thoughts". (Isaiah 55: 8-9)

This is certainly born out in the period between Isaiah announcing that 'A young woman is with child, and she will give birth to a son and call him Emmanuel' (Isaiah 7: 14) and the eventual realisation that God had finally appeared in the world in a tiny place called Bethlehem. Every year since the announcement, God's people would have been praying earnestly for this promised child to appear among them, but had to accept in the end, that 'it would be in God's way and time' – however hard they found this truth.

To add to the difficulty, when God finally did appear, it wasn't necessarily in a way that His people had expected – although there are hints in the scriptures to the reality of 'Emmanuel – God with us'.

Advent and Christmas is an opportunity to remind us of what happened when God made an appearance in the world: coming with the help of an unmarried mother; born in a borrowed barn because there was nowhere else available; adored by shepherds and foreigners but rejected by the authorities; and becoming a political refugee – and all this at the beginning of His life!

I have to smile at the knowledge that Mary would have offered a prayer that the Messiah (God's appointed One) should come to rescue His people – but wouldn't have expected for a minute that she was to be requested to be the mother of God's child, and bear both the joy as well as the pain; the fulfilment as well as shame. It all reinforces this belief that we should be careful what we pray as God may surprise us by His response 'as God's ways are not our ways .......'

As I was composing this Pastoral Letter I was fascinated by a new record that came on the radio by an artist called Sam Smith entitled 'PRAY' with the following lyrics: 'You won't find me in church (no!) reading the bible (no!) - I am still here and I'm still Your disciple. I'm down on my knees, I'm begging You please. I'm broken, alone, and afraid. I'm not a saint, I'm more of a sinner ...... That's why I am stood here today and I'm gonna pray, pray .... for a glimmer of hope ..... '

He then pleads for a 'one-to-one' with God, so they might have a conversation about freedom, knowing that 'everyone prays in the end'. I find the words quite incredible in an age which is often seen as disbelieving and secular, but one in which God seems to be inspiring an international star to promote the power and promise of prayer and the hope it contains for his life. I sincerely hope that he finds what he's looking for, but want him to heed the warning that, by seeking God in prayer, he has to be open to the possibility that God may respond in ways and at a time when he least expects – for that's at the heart of the Christmas message.

#### God Bless

Chris

(Rev'd Chris Wood – minister of Stowmarket, villages and Debenham URC's)

We are pleased to announce £1,345.45 was the amount the Maasai Warriors benefitted from at the Concert in St Mary's Church on 20 October 2017. We understand this was the highest return they have ever received from one Concert in the 16 years they have been touring the UK. The Mendlesham Educational Trust paid their fee of £200 (for which we thank them) to enable the children in our School to enjoy their visit.

Well done Mendlesham!

The Friends of St Mary's income on the evening was £974.12 after all expenses paid. We would like to thank all who supported this truly unique evening.

Friends of St Mary's Church



Further details contact
Anne Gray 01449 766359



New USAAF 34th Bomb Group Memorial Mendlesham Flower Rota

Pat Lockwood December

## **SUFFOLK SPORTS AWARDS 2017**

Our congratulations go to ADRIAN LAST who has been named Suffolk Sports Personality of the year - 2017.

ADRIAN has won six trophies out of a possible seven awards in the Disabled Shooters Group, and four gold medals out of a possible five in the Clay Pigeons Association Awards, which are open to all.

Well done, Adrian, we are very proud of you!



You are welcome to worship at any of our services.

### **SUNDAYS:**

**9.30 a.m.** Parish Mass & Address 3<sup>rd</sup> December: **JAM (Jesus & Me)** for children in the Old School – then into church at 10.00 for 2nd part of Mass

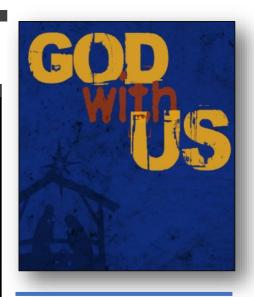
<u>SATURDAYS</u> - First Mass of Sunday: 5.00 pm except 9<sup>th</sup> Dec: no Mass

<u>Daily Mass</u>: see calendar on back page, & check porch notice & bulletin

**Daily Morning & Evening Prayer:** *see porch notice.* 

Baptism (Christening), Marriage, Anointing of the Sick & Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament: contact Fr Philip

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays at 4.00 pm except 9<sup>th</sup> Dec.
Before Christmass: 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2.30 pm; 19<sup>th</sup>
Dec 3.00 pm; 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 3.00 pm; 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec
4.00 pm or contact Fr Philip



### Vicar:

Fr Philip T Gray, B.A. S.S.C. Mendlesham Vicarage 01449 766359

Ordinand: Jeremy Lind

Churchwardens:

**Hazel Spalding** 01449 768616 **Andrew Fleming** 01449 711065

### What's on This Month - All are welcome at events listed below

	s on This Month - All are welcome at events listed below
1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	10.00 – 3.00 pm final day of Exhibition 'The Grieving Mother'
	2.30 pm: Mass in Mason Court with Advent hymns. All welcome
3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	ADVENT SUNDAY: 9.30: Parish Mass & blessing of Advent Wreath
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00: Requiem Mass – December anniversaries
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	EVE OF IMMACULAE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY: 3.00 pm Mass (said)
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	NO 1 <sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday today
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	ADVENT II
at.	9.30: Parish Mass followed by Friends of St Mary's Grand Draw
11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	2.00 pm: Silent Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
	2.30 pm: Monthly Healing Service: Mass, laying-on of hands &
45th Dara	anointing. All welcome
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<ul><li>2.30 pm: Mass in Mason Court.</li><li>6.45 pm: Carol Singing in Mendlesham. Meet at Church to sing in</li></ul>
	Front St, Old Orchard, Mill Rd, Old Market St, Braybrooke Close.
	Collecting for <i>Crisis</i> & <i>Shelter</i> for the homeless. All welcome.
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30: Mendlesham School Carol Service in St Mary's.
	6.45 pm: Carol Singing in Mendlesham Green. Meet at Mill Terrace.
	Collecting for <i>Crisis</i> & <i>Shelter</i> for the homeless. All welcome.
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	2.30 pm: Mass & Carols at Mason Court. All welcome
23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	5.00 pm: first Mass of Sunday
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### Fr Philip Writes...

### I have recently read about a priest who was so concerned about the homeless that he decided to try to experience

**living that way.** One day he put on some shabby clothing and a rucksack around his shoulders. After some days he had a stubble of a beard and nobody recognized him any more. In telling his story he said he felt hardly able to reach and get help from those who were better off. Their homes were unapproachable and he was chased away from their streets by dogs. He even went to the rectory of one of his friends and was neither recognized nor helped. The only people who helped were those who were not too well off themselves.

This was the experience of Mary and Joseph when they looked for a place to allow Mary to give birth to Jesus. The person who provided the manger and the shepherds were the only people who respected the dignity of the Holy Family. The shepherds' faith in the message given by the angel was confirmed by the sight of the young girl and her husband and



the new-born child in the manger. That sense of poverty and oppression was familiar to them in their everyday lives, so what astonished them was not the poverty but the realisation that God is present in the midst of poverty.

We tend to romanticise the birth of Jesus and make everything 'nice' about the stable. The shepherds are clean and nicely dressed, the manger pleasant, of polished wood and filled with fresh hay. The Gospel encourages us to a view different picture: Mary is poor, the stable was probably filthy and



the shepherds were definitely outcasts. Without doubt it teaches us that God's love reaches us in all circumstances – however lowly.

The child we see is God made man. We trip that off our tongue so easily, but let us stop and think about the enormity of it for a moment. He is light and love for all who believe. but leaves the

response to us. Our faith will be shown by the way we live. We all need to be like the shepherds, to allow the love of God into our hearts to make time and room for him so he will live in us. We also need to ask ourselves: "What can I do to make the light of Christ burn more brightly in today's darkness?"

St Theresa of Calcutta writes:

"Welcome Jesus at Christmasstide, not in the cold manger of a selfish heart but a heart warm with love for one another."

### **COLLECTIONS AT CHRISTMASS**

For many years we have collected for four different charities, associating the poverty into which Jesus was born with that of the most deprived people in our country and the wider world. Please continue to give generously:

- <u>Carol Singing</u>: all donations are divided between <u>'Shelter'</u> & <u>'Crisis'</u> helping the homeless.
- <u>The Carol Service</u> is the only service where we take a collection at St Mary's. After deducting expenses of the service (heating, candles) all money is donated to 'Save the Children'.
- The Crib Appeal for 'Christian Aid' begins at the end of the Carol Service and concludes on 8<sup>th</sup> January - the end of Chrismasstide.



	PARISH CHURCH OF S	T MARY'S	URCH OF ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM - CHURCH CALENDAR FOR DECMEBER 2017	ENDAR FOR DECMEBER 2017
Date	Church Festival	Mass	Intention (we pray especially for)	Parish Intention
1		2.30 pm MC		Front Street and Old Orchard
2		2.00 pm	St Joseph's Centre: its future	Old Market St / Braybrooke Close
3	ADVENT I	08'6	Parish and Congregation	Mill Road
4		00'6	the departed: December anniversaries	Hobbies Lane
2		9.30	all searching for faith	Chapel Road
9	StNicholas	8.00 am	all children	Church Road / St Mary's Gardens
7	EVE OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION BVM	9.30	The Society of Mary	Brockford Road
8	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION BVM	3.00 pm	all Communicants	Glebe Way
6		1		Freelands
10	ADVENT II	08'6	Parish and Congregation	Ducksen Road
11		2.30 pm	Ministry of Healing	Horsefair Close
12		9.30	recondiliation and forgiveness	Mason Court
13	StLucy	9.30	all in prison	Mayfield Way
14	St John of the Cross	08'6	Additional Curates Society	Mead Way
15		2.30 pm MC	carol singing around the parish	Old Station Road / Cuttings Close / Schools Cl
16		5.00 pm	'Crisis' and 'Shelter'	Wash Lane / Oak Farm Lane
17	ADVENT III	08'6	Parish and Congregation	Norwich Road / Bluehouse Lane
18		11.00	all who are homeless	Mendlesham Green
19		9.30	expectant parents	Tan Office
20		08'6	Walsingham	Outlying houses
21		9.30	divided & unhappy families	Farms in Mendlesham
22		2.30 pm MC	our Crib Appeal for 'Christian Aid'	Local industries
23		5.00 pm	our observance of Christmass	Pub, Community Centre & places of recreation
	ADVENT IV	08.6	Parish and Congregation	
54	CHRISTMASS EVE	5.45 pm	home & family life	Mendlesham School and Pre-School
22	CHRISTMASS DAY	9.30	Parish and Congregation	SMF: Patrons of Mendles ham
56	STSTEPHEN	11.30	persecuted Christians	Village Organisations
27	STJOHN	11.30	all theologians	Fr Philip
28	HOLY INNOCENTS	11.30	'Save the Children'	Other places of Worship
29	STTHOMAS BECKET	11.30	Archbishop of Canterbury	PCC, Parish and Community Councils
30	IN OCTAVE OF CHRISTMASS	5.00 pm	all families	Local Doctors and Nurses
31	HOLY FAMILY	9:30	Parish and Congregation	Adjoining parishes
		MC:	MC = MASON COURT SB = SEE BULLETIN	

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