

# **MENDLESHAM NEWSLETTER**



**Issue 413**

**January 2018**

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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 February issue is  
**6<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

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

Front Cover Photo

**Meg Clarke**

<b>Jan</b>		<b>Page</b>
<b>4th</b>	50/50 Shop re-opens	4
<b>6th</b>	Newsletter Deadline	1
<b>8th</b>	Knit & Natter	14
<b>10th</b>	Parish Council Meeting	6
<b>11th</b>	Computer Club Resumes	3
<b>12th</b>	MURCies Coffee Bar	14
<b>13th</b>	Mendlesham Walking Group	3
<b>13th</b>	Coffee Morning - Annual Parish Party	32
<b>16th</b>	Mendlesham WI Annual Birthday Meal	16
<b>17th</b>	Mendlesham History Group	14
<b>22nd</b>	Knit & Natter	14
<b>27th</b>	Mendlesham Annual Parish Party	2
<b>31st</b>	Mendlesham Over 60's Group	15

**Editorial**

Welcome to the January issue. A new year and a good marker for drawing a line under the past twelve months and journeying onwards to the next. Whether you set down resolutions or quietly contemplate future hopes, I wish you happiness in 2018

Best Wishes  
Gemma



## **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 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

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

### **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.

# **SAT-CAF & COMPUTER CLUB**

**in 2018**

**Sat-Caf resumes on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

**Computer Club resumes on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January  
at 10 a.m.**

**We wish all our friends and supporters a very Happy New Year!**

## **Christmas Draw Winners included ...**

- 1. (Christmas Cake) - Denise and Norman Foster**
- 2. (Whisky) - Pat Flounders**

## **Mendlesham Walking Group**



**Happy New Year!**

**Meet at Community Centre Car Park 10:30am**

**Walks last approximately 2 hours ending with lunch either  
within our Parish or after a short drive to a place of interest**

**Dogs on leads welcome**

**2018 Dates**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each calendar month**

**13 Jan, 10 Feb, 10 March, 14 April, 9 June, 14 July, 8 Sept, 13 Oct,  
10 Nov, 8 Dec**

**For more information call**

**Judith on 07770 746619 or email [mendleshamwalks@gmail.com](mailto:mendleshamwalks@gmail.com)**

## **MENDLESHAM 50/50 SHOP**

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

We wish to advise customers that the shop will  
re-open on **Thursday 4th January 2018**

\*\*\*

We now have a good range of Winter clothes for all,  
including school wear and shoes! Also  
plenty of books at reasonable prices.

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND SEE THE BARGAINS!**

\*\*\*

**At present we do not have much space available  
and will only be able to  
accept small quantities of ‘next to new’ items to sell**

## **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2017**

The poppy appeal spans two weeks every year culminating in Remembrance Sunday, a time not only when we raise invaluable funds for those in need who have served in our Armed Forces but also a time to reflect and remember those, past and present, who gave so much.

I would like to thank all those who helped make this year’s Poppy Appeal for the Mendlesham District another great success, our best yet as a district. The time and commitment of a wonderful band of collectors, the support of our local businesses and to all of you who gave so generously to this worthy charity. Together we have raised a fantastic amount of money for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The district as a whole raised the grand sum of £2834.65 for the Poppy appeal.

Mendlesham	£ 1327.15
Mendlesham Green	£ 111.28
Thwaite	£ 145.92
Wetheringsett	£ 290.06
Brockford	£ 44.64
Wickham Skeith	£ 561.37
Gift Aid/Wreaths/ Donations	£ 354.23

Jacquie Nash. Poppy Appeal Organiser

## MENDLESHAM COOKING CLUB

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

DATE	TIME/LOCATION	AGE GROUP	COST PER SESSION	FOODS BEING COOKED
14 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018	10-12.30PM COMMUNITY CENTRE SMALL HALL	4YRS -12YRS	£6.00	TO BE CONFIRMED
4 <sup>TH</sup> & 11 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018	10-12.30PM COMMUNITY CENTRE SMALL HALL	4YRS -12YRS	£6.00	TO BE CONFIRMED
1 <sup>ST</sup> , 8 <sup>TH</sup> & 15 <sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018	10-12.30PM COMMUNITY CENTRE SMALL HALL	4YRS -12YRS	£6.00	TO BE CONFIRMED
<p>PLEASE CONTACT SYLVIA LYONS ON 01449 768657 <a href="mailto:SYLVIALYON@AOL.COM">SYLVIALYON@AOL.COM</a> OR SANDRA EXLEY ON 01449 766246 APPLICATION/CONSENT FORMS AND COST OF EACH SESSION MUST BE COMPLETED AND PAID BEFORE THE CLASS <b>PLEASE BRING AN APRON TO WEAR AND A BOX/BAG TO TAKE THE COOKED FOOD HOME</b> 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.</p>				

### Tribute to Ken Ives

It is with great sadness that I have to tell you that Ken Ives passed away peacefully in Ipswich Hospital on 23rd November, with his family around him. Ken was your local Policeman here for 27 years and loved every minute of being your village bobby. When he retired from the Police Force we bought our Police House in Brockford.

Last year he was awarded France's highest honour by the President of France, and received the insignia of Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur for his part in the D-Day Campaign. Afterwards he was taken prisoner and his POW months were spent in Germany before being transported to Poland where he stayed until WW2 was almost over. He was on the 600-mile march back to Germany which took three months in freezing weather.

Ken was a modest man, a wonderful husband, who loved all his family with a passion. He will be missed so much.

From his wife Gwen.

## SNIPPETS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL



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

Tel 01449 766139

Email: [parishclerk@mendleshampc.org](mailto:parishclerk@mendleshampc.org)

Web site: [www.mendlesham.onesuffolk.net](http://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)
- Noel Fletcher tel 766968
- 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 10th January 2018**

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

#### **Wednesday 7th February 2018**

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

Please note the 2018 regular meeting dates for Ordinary Parish Council meetings are available on our web site and on the Parish Noticeboards outside the Old School Room, Mendlesham and the Bus Shelter, Mendlesham Green.



## MENDLESHAM DIRECTORY

Ancient Order of Foresters	Dawn Smith	766466
Bar - Community Centre/Social Club	Rachel Brown	07506 388119 01449 767168
Beaver Scouts	Peter Freeman	766676
Bowls Club	Peter Coleby	766985
Brownies	Brenda Stannard	766308
Carpet Bowls	Kenny Ager	766146
Com. Centre/Small Hall Bookings	Sharon Jones	766139
Community Council	Carolyn Triscott	766563
Computer Club/Saturday Cafe	John & Brenda Player	768101
Cub Scouts	Jonathan Freeman	766676
District Councillor	Andrew Stringer	01449 780339
Film Nights	Judith Howard-Rees Geoff Clarke	07770 746619 766447
F.O.M.S.A	C.P School	766224
Friends of Mendlesham Health Centre	Phil Tucker	01379 678400
History Group	Sue Michell	766434
Mendlesham FC	Tim Mack Angela Lockwood	07909 810681 07845 471154
Mendlesham Pre School	Annette Chilvers	766041
Mendlesham Toddler Group	Jo Pratt	767156
Mendlesham Walking Group	Judith Howard-Rees Keith Shelton	07770 746619 768744
Mendlesham Writers Group	Noel Fletcher	766968
Newsletter	Gemma Green	07733 333659
Old School Room Bookings	Daphne Lambert	766320
Over 60's	Tina Pipe	766339
Parish Council & Playing Field	Sharon Jones	766139
Rainbows	Becky Froude	01473 747772
Scouts	Martyn Bryant	01379 788998
Group Scout Leader (Explorer Scouts)	Peter Freeman	766676
School Governors	Ray Fenning	766328
St Mary's Parish Church	Father Philip Gray	766359
St Mary's Church Council	Hazel Spalding	768616
Trustees of Charities	Shirley Furze	767770
United Reformed Church	Margaret Jackson	766321
Village Recorder for Mendlesham	Geoff Clarke	766447
Woman's Institute	Shirley Furze	767770

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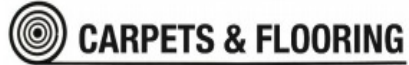
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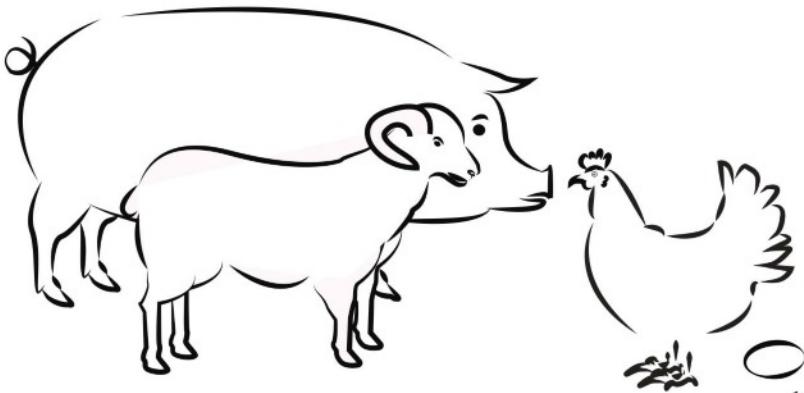
*Will be closed for winter break from 16 Dec-28 Feb. Open thurs, fri, sat 10-4pm from 1 March 2018. Now taking orders for bare root hedging and trees*

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# TOTE RESULTS

4th November		11th November	
<b>Drawn at Pre-School</b>		<b>Drawn at Mother &amp; Toddlers</b>	
Mrs Donna Brown	£20	Mr Andrew Cullum	£20
Mr Charlie Mann	£12	Mr Roy Colchester	£12
Mr Brian Gardiner	£8	Mr and Mrs M Favenger	£8
Mr Barry Blemmings	£4	Mrs E Allum	£4
<b>Drawn at 50'50 Shop</b>		<b>25th November</b>	
<b>Mrs Heather Sherlock</b>		<b>Drawn at Mason Court</b>	
Mrs Ruth Bamford	£20	Mr Stewart Clark	£20
Mr M Martyn	£12	Mr Graham Baker	£12
Mrs Irene Hart	£8	Mrs Doris Briggs	£8
Mrs Alison Williams	£4	Mr Brian Palmer	£4

## MENDLESHAM HISTORY GROUP

Wednesday 17th January  
7.30pm  
URC Chapel, Old Market Street

'St Audrey's Workhouse'  
Talk by David Phelan

Non-members £3

## United Reformed Church

### MURCies Coffee Bar

Friday - 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
10am-12pm

### Knit and Natter

Monday - 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
January 2018  
2-4pm



## MENDLESHAM CAMERA CLUB



The Camera Club will not be meeting in January, but will meet again on the first Tuesday in February. More about that meeting next month. We are a small group of mixed photography ability and new members are always welcome. Come and give us a look! Check the club out on the website: <http://www.mendleshamcameraclub.co.uk>. We wish all our members a Happy New Year, see you in February.



## MENDLESHAM OVER 60s – November 29<sup>th</sup> 2017

Forty-five members were welcomed to this meeting in spite of it being very cold. Tina Pipe gave birthday greetings to six members with birthdays this month.

P.C. Karen Merton came in to give us some tips on keeping our money safe at this busy time of year. Most things are common sense but we do tend to forget there are those who love to relieve you of your purse when you are not concentrating. We were given bells to put on our purses and chains to attach them to our bags – very handy.

Raffle tickets were on sale for the Salvation Army Hamper and draw tickets for the St Mary's Christmas draw.

Mr Jeremy Lind was our speaker and his subject – “My life in horseracing”. Jeremy was always interested in horses, having been brought up with ponies. He went to agricultural college and worked on a farm for a while. He worked for a Judge who started him in the National Hunt and Point to Point. Jockeys have many falls and break bones, so when arthritis took hold he looked for a new career and became a Clerk of the Scales. He is responsible for weighing the jockeys, making sure they have the right colours and get the designated horse. Jeremy is studying to be a priest, so he can help these young boys and girls who often have real trouble keeping their weight down and sometimes turn to drugs or get mental problems because things get so intense. He will advise on the best things to eat to keep weight low so they do not turn to unhealthy remedies. It was a very informative talk.

Winners of the competition, “a horse in any medium”:

First: Norman Foster Second: Joan Hill Third: Laurence Salisbury

**Next Meeting:** January 31<sup>st</sup> – Mr Geoff Clarke “Mendlesham 2016”  
**Competition:** A short poem on Mendlesham.

Marcel led us in the anthem to bring our meeting to a close.

**November 2017**

President Anita welcomed thirty-two members and one visitor to our Annual Meeting on Tuesday 21st November. Five birthday posies were given to members.

Our annual report detailed lots of highlights and successes in a very busy year. The committee was re-elected and Anita Scruby continues as our President. Posies were presented to the committee. As the Denman appeal target has already been reached it was decided to continue to raise money to go to Denman. A card of congratulations was sent to the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh for their Platinum Anniversary. The card was beautifully handmade by Beryl Clark and written by Enid Lambert. Buckingham Palace replied with a letter and very impressive card featuring photographs of the Queen and Prince Philip when they were married and as they are now.

Ruth Orchard and Bev Daynes attended a SEFWI meeting to hear about the progress made by the ACWW project in India that we support. The 'Countrywomen of the World' organisation supports women taking part in the 'Fish Project' in small villages in India. They learn new skills of fish processing which enables them to be economically independent.

Geoff Clarke was our speaker for the evening. As Village Recorder he filmed the major village events of 2016. We found this film informative and entertaining as it followed the highlights of the first part of that year and featured friends and neighbours in starring roles! The film began with the Parish Party where members of our community had an evening of good food and entertainment. We saw the beginnings of the new housing developments in the village at Station Yard and Ropers Barn. There followed the pancake races in Old Market Street and volunteers re-decorating the small hall in the community centre. We saw the ceremony of 'lighting the beacon' at Mendlesham Green for the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and the street party. The Annual Parish meeting and presentation of awards was next, along with the Scout hut being dismantled. To complete the first part of that year we saw a rather damp Street Fair in May and a rather wet garden party to celebrate Mendlesham WI's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. However, the weather at these events did not subdue the enthusiasm or enjoyment!

Janet Clarke won the competition with her decorated Christmas Card.

Our next meeting will be our Annual Birthday Meal on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

Together with partners and friends we will be celebrating at Alder Carr Barn, Creting St Mary.

# Thank you

1<sup>st</sup> Mendlesham Brownies would like to thank you for your support at our annual coffee morning that we held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, where we raised a fantastic £245.

We currently have spaces if your daughter is interested in joining Brownies please email [Emma\\_Munday@hotmail.com](mailto:Emma_Munday@hotmail.com) for details or register your interest on the girlguiding website.

## **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 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).**

## **Parish Council:**

### **Burial Ground at Mendlesham Green :**

The Parish Council has been advised that person(s) are allowing their dogs to foul and are not then cleaning up after the dog(s) at Mendlesham Green Burial Ground.

This is unpleasant wherever the location, but is causing distress to visitors to the Burial Ground and is completely disrespectful.

Any information about who is responsible can be reported via the Mid Suffolk Website <http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/> or to the Parish Clerk.



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## 32 Good Reasons

*When you cant be there, I can.*

### Liz's Home Care

Mendlesham Green

07766078611

Liz\_zil@hotmail.co.uk

*Weekly or fortnightly cleaning .*

*Or maybe you want to have a decorator in or a refit but don't want to take the time off work yourself to be home while it's done, or face the cleaning! I'm here to step in when you can't or prefer not to be home.*

*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.*

*While your not home I can be.*

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**Parish Council:**

**Mendlesham Post Office: consultation re change of location.**

We have been notified by the Post Office of a consultation to move the Mendlesham Post Office from the Kings Head PH to Premier Mendlesham Bakery and Convenience Store.

We have received a lot of information about the changes, which are with Paul Allen's approval and will deliver an extended service for Mendlesham. Further details of the changes can be viewed on our web site: <http://mendlesham.suffolk.cloud/>

See the news item Mendlesham Post Office, click, and then click on "change of location".

If you have any comments on this, please respond to the consultation direct but also advise the parish clerk via either email to [parishclerk@mendleshampc.org](mailto:parishclerk@mendleshampc.org) or in writing to Honeysuckle, Hockey Hill, Wetheringsett, IP14 5PL by the 8th January 2018.

**Parish Council:**

**Community Centre:**

We are delighted to report, that subject to recruitment formalities being completed, we have appointed Rachel Brown to the position of Mendlesham Community Centre Coordinator.

Thank you to all of you who expressed an interest or applied for the position.

A period of handover will now take place, but in the meanwhile, please email: [communitycentre@mendleshampc.org](mailto:communitycentre@mendleshampc.org) or telephone Sharon on 01449 766139 for any community centre matters.

**Thank you everyone who has helped in whatever way to support the Parish over the past year. You have made such a difference.**

**We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Mendlesham Community Centre – Small Hall



No Film Night in January -  
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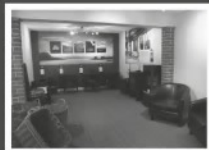


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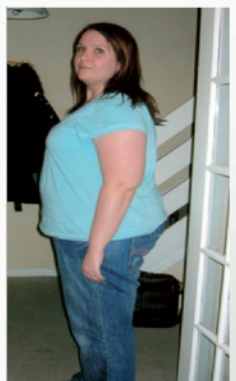
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## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Community Council had a very successful Harvest Supper in October and the November Firework display raised over £1600 for funds. We have a regular income from the 50/50 shop, The village Tote and the Film Club so have been able to make recent grants to recent repairs to the United Reform Church, Mendlesham School new lap tops, the Parish Party, the Over 60's Club outings, Mendlesham Preschool Christmas Party and pay for sound equipment for the Film Club. We also made a grant to the very successful Childrens Craft Day in December. We are due to give our annual grant to the Community Centre soon. We recently adopted an Equal opportunities policy, Safeguarding children policy and a Food policy for the Street Fayre. Mendlesham organised an Inter village Community Council quiz between Needham Market, Barking, Battsford and ourselves and Mendlesham won! well done our team. Entertainment is being booked for next years Street Fayre. NOTE: At the last Fayre we were short of 30 yellow no waiting cones. They had disappeared. This made it difficult to put out enough cones to stop visitors parking their cars on the main roads through the village. If you know where they are please let us know, otherwise we will have to spend money on buying replacements. Please continue to support the Community Council in any way you can.

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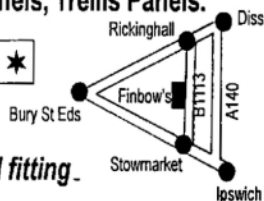
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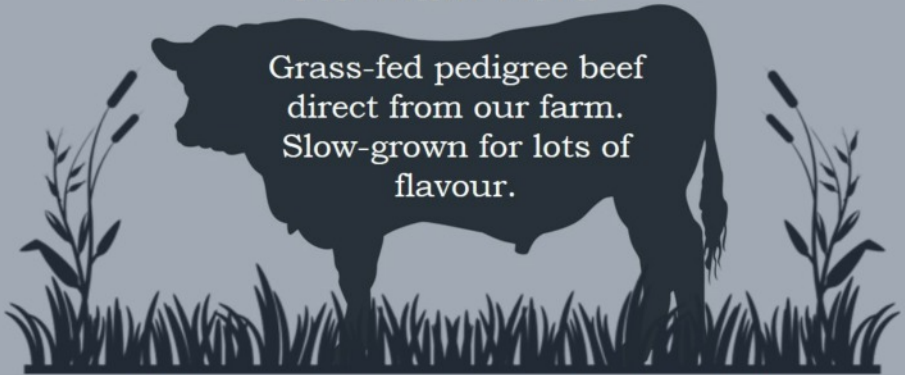
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## MENDLESHAM CHAPEL

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



### SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Morning Service at 10.45am - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Afternoon Service at 4.00pm - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

7<sup>th</sup> Rev'd Barbara Challis (4.00pm)

14<sup>th</sup> Mr Stephen Horrex

21<sup>st</sup> Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (9.30am at St Mary's)

28<sup>th</sup> Rev'd Richard Edwards

**Woman's Hour - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 2.30pm**

3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs Irene Martin      17<sup>th</sup> Fr Philip Gray

**MURCies Coffee Bar 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday 10.00-12.00 (12<sup>th</sup> Jan)**

**Mums Coffee Morning – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays from 9.00 – 11am (8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Knit & Natter - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays from 2.00 - 4.00pm (8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

*A big thank you to all woolly hat knitters! 170 hats have been delivered and gratefully received at the Seafarers Centre at Felixstowe.*

### **The Wise still Seek Him**

I have close friends who head for Northern Spain at the beginning of the New Year for a few weeks. This has nothing to do with escaping the ravages of winter in the UK, but everything to do with enjoying the company of good friends that they have known for many years. 'But why not go when the weather can be kinder in Spain?' you might rightfully ask – and the ready answer is that they have fallen in love with 'King's Day'.

Traditionally Christmas Day is celebrated quietly within the family home, but once they get to 6<sup>th</sup> January the emphasis is on the creation of huge, spectacular parades in every city, town or village of the country, no matter how big or small, where sweets and presents are given to all! It's called LOS TRES REYES MAGOS (*the Three Wise Men*). I understand that thousands of people will crowd into the main roads in order to glimpse the re-enactment of the arrival of the Three Kings into their midst, and the whole thing is described as a wonderful spectacle and experience. Although they recall the gifts that were offered to this Child, Jesus, these days the Kings are more prone to bringing candies and more practical gifts as a special blessing for mostly children.

*Continued on page 43.....*

....continued from page 42

This occasion to which the Spanish gives such prominence stems from the Gospel account where the Wise travel from the East to worship the child that was born to be King and to offer their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. (refer *Matthew 2: 1 – 12*). They had been made aware of the significance to the world through their interpretation of the stars (*which is why one tradition has it they were astrologers*). Amazingly, they set out on this journey of discovery, not knowing where it may lead them, simply driven by this fervent belief in a message that creation had offered up, and following a star until it led them to the fulfilment of their hopes and expectations.

This is a wonderful example of faith in action to encourage us as we venture into our New Year. For the Wise showed determination and courage to continue in their journey, despite the ridicule of others, the difficulties experienced on the way, the mistakes in relying on their own judgement not that of God's, the dangers faced where secular powers sought to take advantage of their knowledge and searching for their own end, and the fact that they might have doubted initially on discovering that this 'child born to be King' (*Matthew 2: 2*) was not born in a palace but in a stable. Being wise enabled them to see beyond the values of this world, and see God's presence in the unexpected. Despite their status, knowledge and wealth, they demonstrated great humility in the ability to kneel in wonder, joy and excitement at the sight of this new-born child (*whom the scriptures describe as 'Emmanuel – God with us' [refer Isaiah 7: 14 and Matthew 1: 23]*)

The period of Epiphany (*a moment of sudden and great revelation*) is a time to remind us that we too are called on a journey of discovery until we reach the fulfilment of our hopes and dreams if we have the courage to persevere in our seeking of the One who has come as a gift of love from the Heavenly Father, who guides us along our way, bringing us to the point where we too can kneel in wonder and adoration. After all, it is the wise who continue to seek after the One who has come to reveal the depths of God's love for humankind, and open up the way to Eternal Life.

May God's richest Blessings be bestowed upon you and yours as you venture into the New.

*Chris*

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

I would like to thank all the ladies who always make a great effort to keep St Mary's in bloom all year. Much appreciated.

Annette

### **OBITUARIES**

#### **Roland (Roly) Frederick Baker – 1921-2017**

Roly was born in Stowupland, attended school in Mendlesham and at the age of 14 went to work on his father's farm at Elm Farm, Wickham Skeith. He was called up in 1939 and in 1941 his regiment was sent to fight in Singapore, where he was captured. Roland's years of brutal captivity began when soldiers were transported to Thailand by train. He worked on the Thailand-Burma Railway and during the 3½ years the meagre daily rations of Roly and his companions consisted only of water and rice. They would often be beaten with pick axe handles or bamboo for making mistakes. When work on the railway had been completed the surviving prisoners were transported back to Bangkok docks where they were taken to the borders of Indo-China and put to work on constructing an airstrip. Roly's story is a tale of strength and extraordinary courage.

Roly and his wife Kathleen adopted a son, Raymond. Kathleen died aged 102 and, after a funeral service taken by Fr Philip in St Mary's Mendlesham, Roly was buried with her at Finningham.

#### **William (Willie) Edward Burney**

Willie Burney, born in the USA, was the 3rd son of Thelma and Willie Green Burney and came to England with the USAAF during the 1960's. He served as a sergeant for 11 years at Bentwaters Airbase.

After his service in the US Airforce he decided to remain in Ipswich and took up a career training people so they could meet their career goals. In his leisure time he enjoyed reading and charity work - volunteering at Oxfam and for the Samaritans. Latterly he moved to Mason Court, Mendlesham, where he died on 18<sup>th</sup> October aged 71 years. He leaves a daughter, Donna. His funeral was taken by Fr Philip in St Mary's church and he was buried in the churchyard.



#### **New USAAF 34th Bomb Group Memorial Mendlesham Flower Rota**

**Sheila Mayes  
January**

# M ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM

[www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk](http://www.stmarysmendlesham.org.uk)

You are welcome to worship at any  
of our services.

## SUNDAYS:

9.30 a.m. Parish Mass & Address

**NO JAM (Jesus & Me) in January**

## Saturdays:

**3.00 pm.** First Mass of Sunday  
*(note change of time)*

**Daily Mass:** see calendar on back  
page, but also check porch notice  
& weekly 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  
(Confessions):** Saturdays: 2.00pm  
*or contact Fr Philip.*



## Vicar:

**Fr Philip T Gray, B.A. S.S.C.**

**Mendlesham Vicarage**  
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**Ordinand: Jeremy Lind**

## Churchwardens:

**Hazel Spalding** 01449 768616

**Andrew Fleming** 01449 711065

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	<b>Motherhood of Our Lady – New Year's Day –</b> <u>10.00</u> : Mass (said)
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2.30pm: Mass & Epiphany Carols at Mason Court – all welcome.
7 <sup>th</sup> Jan 	<b>Epiphany of Our Lord/Plough Sunday</b> 9.30 Mass & Blessing of Epiphany House & Chalk & blessing of Plough. We welcome +Mike Harrison, the Bishop of Dunwich, to preside from the throne and preach and the East Suffolk Morris Men who will dance in the Mass. 11.15 (approx) Procession of Plough: Front St/Old Market St, Morris dance & prayer of blessing at village sign, concluding at The King's Head, where Paul will give his usual generous hospitality 12.00 pm: shared buffet lunch in church. <b>PLEASE COME TO THE PARISH MASS OR INTO THE STREET &amp; WELCOME THE MORRIS MEN.</b> <i>Decorations removed from Church <u>after</u> this celebration.</i>
8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Baptism of Our Lord - 9.30 Mass (said)</b> END OF CHRISTMASSTIDE: <i>Conclusion of Crib donations for Christian Aid.</i>
9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.30: Requiem: January Anniversaries
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2.30pm: Mass, Laying-on of hands & anointing for healing
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins.</b> 9.30: Parish Mass. The congregation of the URC and Christians of other denominations are invited. 12.00: PCC shared lunch & meeting
20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2.30pm: Mass at Mason Court. All welcome
2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	<b>CANDLEMASS</b> 6.30 pm Blessing of candles (in honour of Christ, the Light of the World), Procession around the church & Sung Mass: shared refreshments afterwards. The Society of Our Lady of Walsingham/Society of Mary are asked to make this our meeting.



## Fr Philip Writes...

The Epiphany is observed on 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> January as the arrival of the Wise Men (the Bible does not say there were 3, but mentions 3 gifts) to the House in Bethlehem (not the stable) where they

found Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It was some time after the birth of Jesus. As I have mentioned before, it is an ancient custom on this day to bless chalk, which

20 + C + M + B + 18

is then used to write the initials traditionally given to the wise men above or near the main door of the house, together with the year.

Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar are first mentioned in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century. Melchior is depicted as an old European man with a long white beard and bearing the gift of gold; Caspar as a younger, Asian man, carrying incense and Balthasar an African man, offering myrrh. Another explanation of the initials **CMB** are the first letters of the Latin blessing **CHRISTUS MANSIONEM BENEDICAT** (*May Christ bless this house*).



Since the 15<sup>th</sup> Century, the blessing of the Plough has been associated in England with the Feast of Epiphany. Plough Monday (the day after Plough Sunday) was the cue to start work on the land after the 12 days of Christmass



and the plough was decorated and brought into church for a blessing. It was then taken on procession through the village. The pagan origin of this was to draw evil spirits from the ground where new crops were to be sown. Like many other traditions, this was later Christianised so that it

became a day of asking for God's blessing on the land.

At Mendlesham this Plough Sunday, +Mike, Bishop of Dunwich, will bless the plough and pray that the work done on farms during the year will bring a good harvest.

For many years the East Suffolk Morris Men have kindly offered their time and talents in dancing in the Parish Mass on Plough Sunday, then afterwards in procession along Front Street and Old Market Street, stopping at the village sign. Bishop Mike will pray here this year for the unity of the parish. Please come and support this celebration; in recent years some of the Morris Men have expressed disappointment that few residents have come out of their houses to watch them during the procession. We are very fortunate that they choose to visit Mendlesham each year and of course anyone is also most welcome to come to see them at the Parish Mass, where we always pray that their dancing will bring inspiration and joy into our lives.



Finally, our Christian Aid Crib appeal will finish on 8<sup>th</sup> January. If you have not yet given, it is not too late to do so. Last year's appeal raised £1069.15 (including Gift Aid) for some of the world's poorest people. So often I hear people say that the world's problems are so great that we cannot make a difference. As Kay Florentino wrote:

***“I cannot change the world, but I can change a small part of it.”***

**I hope we, in Mendlesham, can once again rise to this challenge.**

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**Holy Burial**

**22<sup>nd</sup> November: William Edward Burney, aged 71**

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S MENDLESHAM - CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2018**

Date	Church Festival	Mass	Intention (we pray especially for....)	Parish Intention
1	MOTHERHOOD OF OUR LADY	10.00	God's Blessing on this new year	Front Street and Old Orchard
2	Ss Basil & Gregory Nazienzen	9.30	the Orthodox churches of the East	Old Market St / Braybrooke Close
3	Most Holy Name of Jesus	9.30	Mission of the church	Mill Road
4		9.30	the Crib Appeal for Christian Aid	Hobbies Lane
5		2.30 pm MC	vocations to the priesthood	Chapel Road
6		3.00 pm	all who work on the land	Church Road / St Mary's Gardens
7	<b>EPIPHANY</b>	<b>9.30</b>	<b>Parish and Congregation</b>	<b>Brockford Road</b>
8	BAPTISM OF OUR LORD	9.30	all preparing for Baptism	Glebe Way
9		9.30	the departed: January anniversaries	Freelands
10		9.30	The Guild of All Souls	Duckens Road
11		2.30 pm	the sick: Healing Ministry	Horsefair Close
12		9.30	forgiveness & reconciliation	Mason Court
13	St Hilary	3.00 pm	the future of St Joseph's Centre	Mayfield Way
14	<b>2nd Sunday of YEAR (B)</b>	<b>9.30</b>	<b>Parish and Congregation</b>	<b>Mead Way</b>
15		9.30	HM the Queen & her Government	Old Station Road / Cuttings Close / Schools Cl
16	St Fursey	9.30	the Church in East Anglia	Wash Lane / Oak Farm Lane
17	St Anthony	9.30	Spiritual renewal of our lives	Nowich Road / Bluehouse Lane
18	CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK	9.30	Christian Unity	Mendlesham Green
19		2.30 pm MC	Christian Unity	Tan Office
20	St Sebastian	3.00 pm	Christian Unity	Outlying houses
21	<b>3rd Sunday of YEAR (B)</b>	<b>9.30</b>	<b>Parish and Congregation</b>	<b>Farms in Mendlesham</b>
22	St Vincent	9.30	Christian Unity	Local industries
23		9.30	Christian Unity	Pub, Community Centre & places of recreation
24	St Francis de Sales	9.30	Christian Unity	Mendlesham School and Pre-School
25	CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	9.30	Christian Unity	SMF: Patrons of Mendlesham
26	Ss Timothy & Titus	9.30	greater love of Holy Scripture	Village Organisations
27		3.00 pm	altar servers	Fr Philip
28	<b>4th Sunday of YEAR (B)</b>	<b>9.30</b>	<b>Parish and Congregation</b>	<b>Other places of Worship</b>
29		9.30	The Society of Mary	PCC, Parish and Community Councils
30	<i>of Our Lady</i>	9.30	the Walsingham conference	Local Doctors and Nurses
31	St John Bosco	/	schools, colleges and universities	Adjoining parishes

MC = MASON COURT SB = SEE BULLETIN

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