

The Village Link

Great Thurlow – Little Thurlow – Great Wrating

April
2012



DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2-4 JUNE 2012

*See centre pages for all
you need to know about
what is happening in
the Thurlows.*

*You will also find a
booking form for
tickets on page 13.*

*All events FREE to
Thurlow residents.*

Diamond Jubilee Picnic Great Wrating

Great Wrating Village will be celebrating the Diamond Jubilee on Monday 4th June, with a picnic and fancy dress theme related to Kings and Queens. We are very grateful to Mr and Mrs Simon Corbett for letting us use their paddock for our celebrations and we will start the day with a peal of bells at 2pm. This event is open to all Great Wrating villagers and their invited guests. We will be having games for the children and adults. Come and join us for a Royal Celebration!

If you haven't returned your reply slip, please do as soon as possible to Mrs Petra Stephenson, Wheel Cottage, The Street.

The Village Link

Email: TheVillageLink@TKHeat.co.uk

Editorial co-ordinator

Kevin Crowson 783654

Senior Reporters

Gt. Thurlow Margaret Ince 783117

Lt. Thurlow Iris Eley 783534

Junior Reporter Sacha Davies

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The Village Link

Welcome to the April addition of The Village Link and I can guarantee that there are no April Fools articles this year, but what an information packed issue we have for you, with the planning of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, Thurlow Fayre Committee meetings, new articles and new advertisers.

Well I have to say that it's been a busy time for me since the last issue and some sleepless nights with the birth of eight Cocker Spaniel puppies... well done Gracie!

The Cock Inn has once again offered to host a third Casino Night in aid of the Thurlow Churches and as in the past we always try and change the format to keep it fresh and entertaining. This year's theme is Egg Roulette, should be fun!

The Thurlow Gardening Club goes from strength to strength thanks to host Dawn Abbey.

I can also confirm and detailed within this issue most of the categories for this year's Thurlow Fayre – Produce & Craft Show 2012!

The Editor

Womens Institute Report

President Ann Tipper welcomed Geoffrey Kay to the March Meeting of Thurlow W.I. . He had come to tell of The History of The English Gypsy Caravan. This illustrated lecture told the story behind his research of the subject and how he has spent several years building his own van. This was finished in 2011 and he now planned to sell it, but so far he has not found a horse to pull it.

Wine and cakes were served before we got down to the business. Thank you letters had been received from the RSBC and Macmillan Nurses whom we supported at Christmas, A collection was taken for ACWW raising £12.33.

Notice was given of a session of Water Colour Painting, the Resolution Meeting at Whepstead and a Musical Evening at Bury St Edmunds.

Winners in this month's draw were Jean Lansdell, Anne Roberts and Arline Vollam.

Next month we welcome local girl Hannah Kingston to teach us pottery. 10th April Village Hall 7 30pm.

Iris Eley – Little Thurlow Reporter

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Thanks

£469 has been sent to the British Heart Foundation in memory of the late Eileen Rooks. Thank you to all who donated. Susan Dore nee Rooks

Great Wratting Book Group

The following is a potted résumé of the proceedings of the latest meeting of the Great Wratting Book Group.

'When God was a Rabbit' by Sarah Winman.

No one was really certain as to who had nominated this book. Rather it had just sort of appeared on the reading list for 2012. However its mystical appearance seemed to fit in with the ethos of the novel at any rate given that one of the central themes was a rabbit, named God, who spoke to its owner. Perhaps this godly rabbit was not the most bizarre aspect of the book and it was this that divided the group.

'Hilarious', said M. 'The bit about the nativity play with the blind innkeeper and the octopus was so funny that I could forgive all the other bits that may have let the book down'. We all, or rather most of us, agreed that the humour which ran throughout the narrative kept us going to the end even when events took many a tragic turn. The characters in the book, although somewhat sketchily portrayed, proved highly attractive and the type of people we would all like to know (although perhaps not live with). The glamorous actress aunt, the fading singer and the murderous best friend from childhood all held their own appeal for most of us.

Having kept silent throughout the initial discussion, G could keep it to herself no longer.

'I smelled a rat about half way through the book and gave up.' A rat? A rabbit perhaps but at which point did the rat make its grand entrance? G felt that an author should write about what they know about and that this novel contained titbits of everything but not enough substance to character or plot. A cynical reply to sell books perhaps?.

We all agreed that this is what appears to sell books nowadays. That and sex, of course.

Several glasses of wine later the discussion took a downward turn and culminated in the amazing discovery that of the seven members there on the night, three had spent time in an isolation ward as children. 'I'm not sure it counts as isolation,' concluded A. 'There was a parrot in there with me.'

The Great Wratting Book Group meets on the second Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in coming along or receiving a reading list for 2012, please contact Jean on 01440 783111 or molehill@tiscali.co.uk.

Editors Note

Thank you for the above article and I would like to share with our readers an extract from the email received containing this article....

'I don't know if this is the sort of thing you need for The Village Link and I am very aware it is rather different to the sort of thing that usually goes in. It might even be the first time that the word 'sex' has appeared in the publication whilst not referring to the gender of a farm animal!'

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Great Wrattling Village Fete

Plans are well underway for this year's fete which takes place at Hall Farm on Saturday, 2nd June. The Committee is extremely grateful to the team of volunteers who help to set up the evening before and who help out on the day. If anyone can spare some time to join them – many hands make light work. Please contact Linda Reading on 783376.

Thurlow Gardening Club News

Firstly, the Thurlow Gardening Club is not only open to the residents of the Thurlows but anyone with an interest in gardening in the local area. The club meets on the second Friday of the month and the location of the meetings will as the nights start to draw out change each month during the summer. This month Kevin Crowson will be hosting the meeting at 105 The Hill, Great Thurlow. 6:30pm – 8:30pm.

Also for all you keen gardeners, Great Thurlow Hall is opening its gardens for charity on Sunday 1st April (see signs around the village for more details), refreshments in the church.

1st Burrough Green Brownies meet weekly in Brinkley during the school term for girls aged seven to ten.

The Brownies go starry-eyed as they turn to the skies in search of something spectacular! The girls are currently working for their Stargazer interest badge, and recently went on a trip to Cambridge University Observatory. They were shown a fantastic slideshow, all about planets and meteorites, and some brilliant experiments, before going to see the 174 year old telescope! The Brownies enjoyed themselves thoroughly and learnt a great deal about our solar system.

The Brownies have enjoyed playing plenty of games and we have also started practising our campfire songs for the campfire at Brownie holiday and the district campfire planned for the summer term. If anyone would like more information, or would like to register a girl who is not yet 7 please contact:

Margaret Whalley 01638 716939

Thurlow Fayre Produce & Craft Show Schedule 2012

Following last month's garden club meeting and in conjunction with the show organisers, here are the categories so far for the Produce & Craft Show.

Home Produce

Jar of stoned fruit jam
Jar of soft fruit jam
Jar of lemon curd
Jar of chutney
Jar of marmalade
3 fresh eggs
Short bread biscuits – Men Only
Cherry cake – Ladies Only
Cake – Any recipe
Cottage Loaf

Vegetables and Fruit

2 Sweet corn cobs
The longest carrot
4 Tomatoes
2 Courgettes (any variety or colour)
3 Peppers or chillies (any variety or colour)
3 Onions
4 Plums
3 Dessert apples
3 Beetroots
4 Runner beans
A basket of fruit & vegetables (min 6 varieties)
The funniest fruit or vegetable

Flowers

A hand tied arrangement of herbs (min. 3 varieties)
Vase of mixed garden flowers (min. 5 varieties)
Pot Plant (any variety)
4 Roses (different varieties or colour)
Specimen Delphinium (single stem)

Home Brew

White bottle of wine
Red bottle of wine
Bottle of beer (bitter or lager)
Bottle of cider

Next month's issue will include the craft and children's categories for the Produce & Craft Show.

Thurlow Estate Farms Limited

The Thurlow herd have finally finished calving with a total of 24 new arrivals who are all doing very well. Now that calving has finished we will be looking to put the herd out to pasture in the next few weeks so you will see them in the meadows around the Thurlows.

With a bit of rain and some sunny weather over the last month we have seen noticeable improvement in the crops, which seem to have over wintered well. Both the sugar beet and bean crops have been drilled and the wheat on the lighter soils is being rolled to compact the soil in order to retain the moisture.

The farm team are also putting in new posts and way markers where necessary to make it rather clearer than it has been, where the public footpaths/bridleways go. Hopefully, this should make them a little easier to follow.

Thurlow Hunt

For all those who were at the Thurlow Hunt Point to Point in early March I think that you will agree that we couldn't have had a better day, for once it wasn't snowing at Horseheath Racecourse (I know that some people call it the coldest place in East Anglia)! The good weather meant that there was a larger than usual crowd and the filming of an episode of Made in Chelsea certainly added a bit of interest.

Further dates for the Horseheath Racecourse are as follows:

1. Saturday 31st March – Puckeridge Hunt Point to Point.
2. Saturday 28th April - Cambridge Hunt with the Enfield Chace Point to Point

The hunting season has drawn to a close, this now gives the Huntsmen a chance to carry out general maintenance of the kennels and stabling while also attending to the hounds.

They have had two bitches whelp in the last few days, Gabriel has had 4 puppies and Powder an impressive 11. Hopefully all these puppies will be future champion Thurlow Hounds after they have gone out to be walked.

Thurlow Property

We have now sent out the tenders for the larger 2012 property renovations and upon receipt of these tenders, instructions will be given to start the works, hopefully in mid April.

The annual external redecorations program will commence as soon as weather conditions allow.

Properties to let

Currently there are no residential properties to let on the Thurlow Estate, however if you are interested in being notified of properties coming up in the future please call.

For more information, please contact the Estate Office (01440 783661)

Thurlow Shoot

The control of magpies, crows and grey squirrels continues ahead of the songbird nesting season. The aforementioned are renowned for destroying localised populations of nesting birds by taking their eggs from the nests.

In addition, rabbit control has stepped up a gear now the ground is firmer and before the crops

grow too high, allowing the rabbits to happily graze out of sight.

This is also the time of year that the gamekeeper starts thinking about his pens for next year, do they stay in the same place or should they be moved. He will also assess their condition to see if there are any repairs needed.

Thurlow Woodlands

The Thurlow Woodlands team, while still finishing off the last bits of work in Balsham before the start of the bird nesting season, have also been “beating up” hedges in the Thurlows. Don't worry, they are not running attacking innocent hedgerows! “Beating up” is a term used to describe the repair and in some cases renewal of areas of hedgerow. Spring is the best season for this to be done as it gives the new whips the best chance of establishing themselves.

Please be aware that Firewood deliveries have now ceased until July. This gives us an opportunity to renew our stocks and give the chopped firewood a chance to season before we recommence deliveries in July. We do however take log orders throughout the year so you can book a load of logs now to be delivered anytime after the 1st July.

AND FINALLY.....

I have two very short and very corny jokes but I thought that I should get into the Easter spirit! They are:

Q: A man wanted an Easter pet for his daughter. He looked at a baby chick and a baby duck. They were both very cute, but he decided to buy the baby chick. Do you know why?

A: The baby chick was a little cheeper!

Q: Where do rabbits go when they need a new tail?

A: The retail store.

Little Thurlow Parish Council News

At Little Thurlow Parish Council's March meeting Councillors considered a Planning Application for removal of cracked render and repairing and making-good brickworks at Manor Farm – there were no objections. Two members had attended a Safer Neighbourhood Team Tasking Meeting where they pressed for speed enforcement through the village. A Training Session on Neighbourhood Planning had also been attended. Donations were approved for Age Concern, St. Edmundsbury Newstalk and Suffolk Accident and Rescue Service and it was agreed to give financial support to the Thurlow Fayre 2012 in the form of the hire of a marquee. It was noted that bus services were operating satisfactorily once again and that a Commemorative Oak Tree had been planted on Pound Green to mark the Diamond Jubilee. Councillors were reminded that a joint Village Litter Pick would be taking place over the weekend of 31st March/1st April. As usual, full minutes of the meeting will be displayed on the Notice Board at the Village Hall.

The date of the next meeting is 17th April 2012.

M. Hawkins, Parish Clerk

Great Value Dining

The Cock, Little Thurlow is enjoying a dining revival with a new menu and focus on traditional pub dishes. Following a fully-booked Mother's Day weekend, there is a full calendar of events planned including the return of the popular Supper Club on 19th April. Every Wednesday is steak night, where 2 people can dine for £30 including a bottle of wine. Lunches for over 60s are planned for 16th and 30th April while the lively Voodoo Child band will make a welcome return to the pub on Friday 27th April.

More details and further events on the website www.thecockthurlow.co.uk

Thurlow Fayre - Meeting Monday, 5th March 2012

Date of Thurlow Fayre is confirmed as Sunday 2nd September 2012. The format to be as in past years with Countryside theme, Car Boot but maybe sited away from bank in different location on Recreation Ground. History of the village is likely to be displayed within the marquee/refreshments area.

Conrad Hawkins has kindly offered to once again arrange for display boards to be set for history of the village.

Main Ring acts still to be confirmed but possible options include:-

David Seamark Sheepdog Display.
Red Barrows who last visited the Fayre in 2006 and perform their display to raise funds for Breakthrough Breast Cancer.
Fire & Ice Majorettes.

Confirmed Entertainment include:-

Doc Spinoff.
Reptile Experience.
Hadstock Silver Band.
Archery.
Produce Show – classes agreed by Thurlow Gardening Club members.
Bottle Stall.
Grand Draw.

Possible New Features include:-

Craft Fair in one of the tents.
Farmers Market.
Antiques Valuation.
Classic Car Display.
Soft Play Area.
Zorb Balls.
Train Rides.
Thurlow Pre-School have offered to run in Kiddies Corner push along toys, children's tattoo stall and wine or water stall.

Mr A. Loveday has so far arranged the following support for the Fayre:-

Tea Tent – Little Thurlow Parish Council has kindly agreed to pay hire cost.

Toilets – Great Thurlow Parish Council has kindly agreed to pay for hire cost.

Saffron Building Society – Loan of Mobile Communications Unit.

Advertising to be sponsored by Thurlow Garage.

Tent Hire – Gt Chesterford Scouts.

Haverhill ATC – Manning of Village Hall Field Car Park.

St Johns Ambulance.

Car Boot - Mr Tim Barling has agreed to help with manning of gate at entrance.

BBQ – Ali Yagir of Dial A Pizza has agreed to do cooking but help is required on serving.

Mr Kevin Crowson is considering organising a Barn Dance on the evening of Saturday 1st September in the marquee in aid of Great Thurlow Church.

Date of next Fayre Committee – Monday 2nd April 7.30pm at Thurlow Village Hall.

If anyone who would like to help at the Fayre but is unable to attend meetings please e.mail thevillagelink@tkheat.co.uk to register an interest or contact Allan Loveday on 01440 707416 for further details

Thurlow Fayre Committee

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Diary Dates

| | Date | Day | Time | Event | Location | Information |
|--------------|---|-------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| April | 1 st | Sun | | Joint Great & Little Thurlow Village Litter Pick Volunteers Wanted All equipment provided and will be available from Mungo Lodge, Little Thurlow. | Your Village | Contact Kevin Beal on 01440 783644 for more details |
| | 2 nd | Mon | 19:30 | Thurlow Fayre Committee Meeting All Welcome | Thurlow Village Hall | Allan Loveday 01440 707416 |
| | 10 th | Tue | 19:30 | Thurlow WI Meeting New Members Welcome | Thurlow Village Hall | Ann Tipper 01440 783090 |
| | 17 th | Tue | | Little Thurlow Parish Council Meeting | Thurlow Village Hall | Molly Hawkins 01440 783259 |
| May | 11 th | Fri | 20:00 | Casino Night Egg Roulette In aid of the Thurlow Churches | The Cock Inn | Tim & Kevin 783654 See back page |
| | 17 th | Thu | 18:45 | The Annual Great Wrattling Village Meeting | The Parish Room, St Mary's Church | Parish Clerk gtwrattlingpc@btinternet.com |
| | 17 th | Thu | After Village Meeting | Great Wrattling Parish Council Meeting | The Parish Room, St Mary's Church | Parish Clerk gtwrattlingpc@btinternet.com |
| June | 2 nd | Sat | | Great Wrattling Village Fete | Hall Farm, Great Wrattling | Linda Reading 783376 |
| | 2 nd 3 rd 4 th | Sat Sun Mon | | Thurlow Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Weekend | See Centre Pages | See Centre Pages |
| | 4 th | Mon | 14:00 | Great Wrattling Diamond Jubilee Picnic | Hall Farm, Great Wrattling | Petra Stephenson 783384 |
| Sept | 2 nd | Sun | | Thurlow Fayre & Car Boot | Great Thurlow Sports Ground | Allan Loveday 01440 707416 |

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN THE THURLOWS



SATURDAY 2ND JUNE 2012

2PM TO 4PM

FAMILY TREASURE HUNT

Starting and finishing at the Sports Field – **free entry**.

A Treasure Map and Clues will be available at the start. All entries will go into a prize draw and commemorative

Jubilee gifts will be given. All children must have adult supervision. Refreshments will be supplied.



SUNDAY 3RD JUNE 2012

11AM

**CHURCH SERVICE AT ST PETER'S
LITTLE THURLOW**

Afterwards refreshments will be served in the garden of The Old Vicarage (by kind permission of Mrs Biddy Bigland).



SUNDAY 3RD JUNE 2012

7.30PM

FIFTIES THEME DANCE

**WITH "THE UGLY DOG SKIFFLE COMBO"
AT HALL BARN, GREAT THURLOW.**

Refreshments will be included and there will be a licensed pay bar. **Admission for Thurlow residents will be**

FREE, by ticket only. Some tickets will be available for family and friends at a cost of £10 each, these will be on a first come, first served basis (see page 16 for ticket application).

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

MONDAY 4TH JUNE 2012

8PM

GRAND HOG ROAST PARTY AND FIREWORK SPECTACULAR

IN THE GARDENS OF GREAT THURLOW HALL (by kind permission of Mr & Mrs George Vestey).

Music from Tom Ogden's Disco and a licensed pay bar.

This event will be FREE to Thurlow residents, by ticket only, but some tickets will be available for family and friends at a cost of £10 for adults, £5 for age 5 years to 16 years, under 5s free (see page 16 for ticket application).

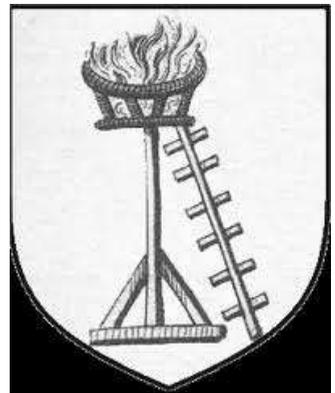


MONDAY 4TH JUNE 2012

BEACON

The Thurlows will be participating in a project whereby 2012 beacons will be lit across the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, UK Overseas Territories and the Commonwealth.

The Beacons will be lit between the hours of 10pm and 10.30pm and Her Majesty The Queen will light the National Beacon in London at 10.30pm.



The Thurlows' Beacon will be sited in the meadows to the south of Great Thurlow Hall, it will be lit in co-ordination with the firework display and be visible to all those attending the Hog Roast Party.

Monthly Church Service Rota

| Date | Day | Time/Event | Time/Event | Time/Event | Time/Event |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|---|
| 2/3/4 Apr | Mon Tue Wed | 18:00 Little Wrattling Compline | | | |
| 5 th Apr | Thu | 19:30 Kedington Maundy Thursday Holy Communion | | | |
| 6 th Apr Good Friday | Fri | 14:00-1500 Good Friday Kedington Devotional | | | |
| 8 th Apr Easter | Sun | 9:30 Barnardiston Holy Communion 9:30 Kedington Service of the Word | 10:00 Great Wrattling Service of the Word | 11:00 Great Thurlow Holy Communion | 18:00 Little Bradley Evensong |
| 15 th Apr | Sun | 10:00 Little Wrattling Holy Communion | 12:00 Great Wrattling Holy Baptism | | |
| 22 nd Apr | Sun | 8:00 Kedington Holy Communion | 9:30 Little Thurlow Holy Communion | 11:00 Great Wrattling Holy Communion | 18:00 Kedington Evensong |
| 29 th Apr | Sun | 10:00 Little Bradley Holy Communion | | | |
| 6 th May | Sun | 9:30 Kedington Holy Communion | 11:00 Great Bradley Holy Communion | 15:00 Little Thurlow Holy Baptism | |
| 13 th May | Sun | 9:30 Little Bradley Holy Communion | 9:30 Kedington Service of the Word | 10:00 Great Wrattling Service of the Word | 11:00 Great Thurlow Holy Communion |

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Lent Hunger Lunches

Thank you to everyone that attended the below Lent Hunger Lunches and for the money raised for the selected charities.

Anne Roberts - £130

Saint Nicholas Hospice

Tim Knappett - £111

Children with Neuroblastoma Cancer

DIAMOND JUBILEE TICKET APPLICATION

SUNDAY 3RD JUNE 2012 HALL BARN DANCE

Please supply tickets _____ Resident adult (free)
_____ Resident under 18 (free)
_____ Visitors @ £10

MONDAY 4TH JUNE 2012 HOG ROAST AND FIREWORK DISPLAY

Please supply tickets _____ Resident adult (free)
_____ Resident 5-16 years (free)
_____ Resident under 5s (free)
_____ Visiting adult @ £10
_____ Visiting 5-16 years @ £5
_____ Visiting under 5s (free)

NAME, ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER

PLEASE NOTE: it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the free tickets are used by THURLOW residents only.

RETURN YOUR APPLICATION BY 15TH APRIL 2012 TO THURLOW STORES OR TO THE SECRETARY AT MELTON HOUSE, GT. THURLOW, CB9 7LE. For more information telephone 01440 783259 or email mollyhawkins10@aol.com

Nature Note

There is more than one way of being close to nature. Spring is the time when we all watch for the familiar succession of flowers from aconites through to daffodils and cowslips and for the arrival of our migrant birds – chiffchaff, swallow, house martin, cuckoo (only if you're lucky nowadays) and swift, all of these a reassurance that 'the globe's still working, the Creation's still waking refreshed', as the poet Ted Hughes put it. These external changes we observe and celebrate every year.

But spring also brings out the gardeners in us, the wish to touch and feel the soil directly and perform our own little acts of creation. I've had a vegetable allotment in Thurlow for 30 years now and this has been a personal journey of discovery. Worldly anxieties seem to evaporate as you cut down winter weeds, heave at the sticky clods in March, see them gradually crumble into rich friable soil again, plan the layout of your tiny realm of farmland for the months to come and then buy all those seeds or seedlings with such evocative names as Ailsa Craig (onions), Boltardy (beetroot), Musselburgh (leeks), Batavian Broad-Leaved (endive) and Early Nantes (carrots). You wonder if this year you will experiment with something a bit more exotic like Good King Henry (not advised – it went out of fashion in his day and for good reasons), salsify ('the vegetable oyster' they say in the catalogue, hopefully) or some fancy aubergine or squash variety (forget it in this climate). And what excitement in handling the seeds themselves in all their different textures and shapes as you set them in their little channels: the flat papery wafers of the parsnip, the chunky beetroot seeds like miniature fragments of a breakfast cereal, the shiny sensuous runner beans and the impossibly tiny seeds of rocket and lettuce – how can they ever contain within them such a wild profusion of growth?

Many crops fail, of course, and you never really know why. But what pure delight in those first cuttings of asparagus and spinach, which taste so fresh if cooked just half an hour later, or from the floury, lingering flavour of the first new potatoes. And what a contrast with their tortured commercial cousins, scrubbed and stifled in their tight plastic sheaths in the supermarkets – sourced from who knows where or when.

Well it's a simple pleasure, but also a great art. When I started off working my patch it was usually under the watchful blue eyes of dear old Charlie Fountain from whom I took it over and who had the greenest fingers you could ever imagine. He and his great friend Brian Rooks would sit there on upturned boxes smoking their pipes of a summer evening, with an occasional nip from a 'winter warmer' if the breeze was fresh (it usually seemed to be); and every now and then they would offer me gentle words of advice and encouragement, probably shocked to their rural core by my clumsy ignorance. But I gradually got the hang of it, more by determination than by Charlie's instinctive feel for the land developed over his eighty summers and winters. I've just passed on my allotment to others, glad to have had my turn on it too.

Jeremy Mynott

The Rector Writes

April brings with it the welcome change from the austere solemnity of Lent to the joy of Easter, with its chorus of Alleluias as we proclaim our risen Lord. We re-live the final events of Jesus's life in Holy Week, remembering the institution of the Lord's Supper, with Jesus washing his disciples' feet, followed by the arrest, trial and crucifixion. We can try to imagine the utter devastation, despair and dereliction which the disciples felt at the death of their teacher. If we wonder at the significance of these events and find them hard to understand, we, who know the outcome of the story, how much more must the disciples have wondered, and agonized, as they tried to understand! There was more to come. Jesus had predicted his Resurrection (his coming to life again on Easter Day) together with his Passion and death which preceded it, but it would take time before the penny dropped, and the pieces of the jigsaw were seen to fit together. Only slowly would things fall into place as they remembered his words and began to make sense of them.

There are those today who, it seems, cannot accept the events of Easter as they stand, those who seem to want to call into question the great miracle of the Resurrection, and it is therefore all the more important that we proclaim the great mystery of our faith "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

No doubt the first day of April will bring its usual share of tall stories, invented to catch out the "April Fool". Some will seem very plausible, but contain not a grain of truth. Other stories may seem far-fetched and yet be true. It is very easy to dismiss things people say as stupid or foolish, only to find later that what they said was true. It was said that Columbus was crazy to set out on his voyage of discovery. The world, people thought, was flat, and he was expected to fall off the edge and disappear for ever. The famous artist Leonardo da Vinci drew plans for the most incredible machines. Everyone at the time thought that he was stupid. They saw his drawings of a helicopter and a submarine and thought "Impossible no -one could ever make something like that". But he was proved right.

In each case people didn't think it was possible. So too when Jesus said he would rise from the dead after three days, people just didn't think it was possible and they just laughed at him. When he was crucified they thought that was the end of him. But Christians believe that he came to life again. The tomb that had held him had burst open and he was gone. People began seeing him again in a new body, a body which was in some respects like his former, physical body, but in some way transformed. The truth they say, is stranger than fiction.

We believe that as death was not the end of the story for Jesus so too it will not be the end of the story for us, and that we too have the offer of new life with God in heaven. Christianity though is not just about life after death. I believe that Christianity has a lot to offer us: purpose and hope in a mixed up world; the presence and peace of God in our daily lives; and the friendship and fellowship of other Christians. Alleluia ! Christ is risen !

A very happy Easter to you all.

Rev. Derek Hollis.



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INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS. This is a brief guide, intended especially for newcomers to the villages, with information about the facilities and services available locally and some useful telephone numbers and addresses.

| Services and Societies in Thurlow | Telephone |
|--|------------------------------|
| Thurlow Village Stores and Post Office – Naomi Sharrod | 01440 783214 |
| Thurlow News – Naomi Sharrod | 01440 783923 |
| Thurlow Garage – Ray Sharrod | 01440 783248 |
| The Cock Inn – Symon Watts | 01440 783224 |
| Plumbing Services – TKHeat – Kevin Crowson | 07966 208794 01440 783654 |
| Parish Clerk – Little Thurlow – Molly Hawkins | 01440 783259 |
| Parish Clerk – Great Thurlow – Diana Allin | 01440 783560 |
| Thurlow CEVC School – Roz Bunting, Head Teacher | 01440 783281 |
| Thurlow Pre-School – Helen Frost (thurlowpreschool@hotmail.co.uk.) | 01440 783688 |
| Thurlow Mother and Toddlers – Claire Yallop and Helen Morley | 01440 783975 |
| Thurlow Fayre – Janice Klimcke and Diana Allin | 01440 783626 01440 783560 |
| Thurlow Sports Club Secretary – Allan Loveday | 01440 707416 |
| Thurlow Village Hall Committee – Janice Klimcke | 01440 783626 |
| Thurlow Village Hall Bookings – Diana Allin | 01440 783560 |
| Woodcraft Folk – Activities for ages 5-13 – Diana Allin | 01440 783560 |
| Thurlow Womens Institute – President Ann Tipper | 01440 783090 |

| Emergency | Telephone |
|---|------------------|
| Police Response – any officer, non emergency | 101 |
| Police Response – Emergency | 999 |
| Suffolk Fire Service | 01284 558888 |
| EDF (Electricity) 24 hour Emergency helpline | 0800 783883 |
| Anglian Water 24 hour Emergency Helpline (water/sewage) | 08457 145145 |
| British Telecom 24 hour fault reporting | 0800 800151 |
| Floodline 24 hour with recorded update | 0845 9881188 |
| In case of disaster or village is cut off, go to Thurlow Village Hall. Key Holder is Diana Allin – 89a Hill House, Great Thurlow | 01440 783560 |

Copy deadline, as always is the 15th of the month.

[View The Village Link online at www.littlethurlow.org](http://www.littlethurlow.org)

| Community Contacts | Telephone |
|--|------------------|
| Churches – Stourhead Benefice – Rev. Derek Hollis | 01440 763066 |
| Haverhill Social Services | 01440 764949 |
| Haverhill Citizens Advice Bureau | 01440 704012 |
| St Edmundsbury Borough Council Planning | 01284 763233 |
| District Councillor – Robert Clifton-Brown | 01440 783562 |
| St Edmundsbury Borough Council | 01284 763233 |
| St Edmundsbury Borough Council (Haverhill office) | 01440 702271 |
| County Councillor – Jane Midwood | 01440 821428 |
| Suffolk County Council General Enquiries | 08456 066067 |
| Age Concern – Mary Hilton | 01440 783649 |
| Thurlow Estate – Tim Barling, Agent | 01440 783661 |
| Thurlow Estate – Tom Duffin, Assistant to Agent | |
| Libraries – Haverhill | 01440 702638 |
| Libraries – Bury St Edmunds | 01284 352545 |
| A mobile library visits the villages on alternate Mondays stopping at Sowley Green 11.30-11.40am, 109 Bury Road, Great Thurlow 11.45-12.10pm and Little Thurlow Green, 1 Coronation Villas 12.45-1.00pm. | |
| Suffolk Radio – BBC FM 103.9 or 104.6 | 01473 250000 |
| Refuse Collection | 01284 757320 |
| Every Friday early morning – Black bin on week one, blue and brown bin week two alternating | |
| Environmental Health and Pest Control | 01284 757084 |

| Health and Wellbeing | Telephone |
|--|------------------|
| Doctors – The Christmas Maltings and Clements Practice | 08444 773543 |
| Doctors – Selby Practice | 01440 702010 |
| Doctors – Stourhead Medical Practice | 01440 761177 |
| Chemist – Boots, Haverhill | 01440 702058 |
| Chemist – Sainsburys Pharmacy | 01440 708043 |
| Chemist – The Co—operative Pharmacy | 01440 702079 |
| Hospital – West Suffolk (Bury St Edmunds) | 01284 713000 |
| Hospital – West Suffolk Accident and Emergency | 01284 713333 |
| Hospital – Addenbrookes (Cambridge) | 01223 245151 |
| Vets – Swayne and Partners (Haverhill) | 01440 702007 |
| Vets – Lida Vets (Newmarket) | 01638 560000 |
| Vets – Hawkedon Veterinary Surgery | 01284 789428 |

| Great Wrating Parish Council Contacts | Telephone |
|--|------------------|
| Chair – Gavin Acheson | 01440 783515 |
| Vice-chair – Phil Stainer | 01440 786462 |
| Councillor – Linda Reading | 01440 783376 |
| Councillor – Petra Stephenson | 01440 783384 |
| Councillor – Caroline Togher | 01440 783876 |
| Parish Clerk – Jayne Whittaker gtwrattingpc@btinternet.com | 07795007523 |
| The Parish Council currently has two vacancies. If you would like information about joining Great Wrating Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk. www.parish-council.com/greatwrattingparishcouncil | |

If you would like information about joining Great Wrating Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk. www.parish-council.com/greatwrattingparishcouncil

| St Mary's Church Great Wrating Church Wardens | Telephone |
|--|------------------|
| Simon Corbett | 01440 783698 |
| Ben Stanton | 01440 783103 |

| Services and Societies in Great Wrating | Telephone |
|--|------------------|
| Neighbourhood Watch – Linda Reading | 01440 783376 |
| Red Lion, Great Wrating – George and Linda Sykes | 01440 783237 |

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CASINO NIGHT

Friday 11th May, 8pm

the cock

**Diamond Jubilee
Commemorative Oak Tree
Pound Green, Little Thurlow**

Little Thurlow Parish Councillors planted a Commemorative Oak Tree on Saturday 17th March to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee.



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