

THE *Mardler*

BROCKDISH & THORPE ABBOTTS



**A big thank you to all the NHS and Frontline workers
for all your efforts over the past few months.**

Edition No. 227 June - July 2020

**THE MARDLER is FREE and delivered to all
houses in Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots**

Also available on-line at www.the mardler.org.uk

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The views expressed in The Mardler are not necessarily those of the Editorial team. The Editor reserves the right to amend or alter any copy received.

BROCKDISH VILLAGE HALL

Monday - Aerobics 6:45 - 7:45pm
Tuesday - Line Dancing 7.15pm
Wednesday - Ballroom & Latin Dance
Classes 7pm – 11pm *
Thursday - Tea Dance 2pm
- Carpet Bowls 7:30pm
Friday - Hall available for hire
Saturday - Quizzes, Ballroom Dancing*
Sunday - Tea Dance*

* See notice board for more information.

ADVERTISING IN THE MARDLER

If you are interested in advertising, the current rates are £25 for ¼ page and £50 for ½ page, which covers the 6 issues from 1st April annually. The cost for less than 6 issues is £5 per issue for ¼ page and £10 per issue for ½ page. For further information please contact Judith Chambers, see above.

Useful Contacts

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Harleston and Diss 101

NHS Direct

111

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South Norfolk Council

01508 533633

Borderhoppa

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Brockdish Village Hall

Bookings Jill Edwards 01379 669057

Thorpe Abbots Village Hall

Bookings Kelvin Halifax 01379 668705

Waveney Heritage Centre

01379 668285

Carpet Bowls Club

Glyn Catchpole 01379 668698

Line Dancing

Tracey Hood 07854 943490

Aerobics

Clare Peed 01379 668715

Sunday Tea Dance/Ballroom

Latin Dance Classes

Niall O'Brien 07526 883776

South Norfolk District Councillor

Clayton Hudson 01379 676259

Parish Clerk

Teresa Hines 01379 308617

Libraries

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Editorial

For the first time in nearly 38 years, we didn't go to print with The Mardler for what would have been our April/May edition. With the outbreak of Covid 19, and after careful consideration at the time and conscious of our voluntary distributors, we thought the correct way was not to publish one.

However, times move on. The lockdown has been somewhat relaxed so here we are again. I am pleased to say our resident artist Derek Clark has been busy with his brushes and has compiled a selection of windows in Brockdish for all you walkers to observe (page 34).

Finally, please remember stay safe as we are not out of the woods yet.

Robert Buck
Editor



REMEMBER

Closing date for entries in the
August / September 2020 issue
Is Friday 10th July 2020

**Articles received after this date may
not be included in the next issue.**

A black and white photograph of a man and a woman standing next to a stone wall. The man is wearing a dark puffer jacket and the woman is wearing a light-colored sweater. They are both looking at the camera. The background shows a body of water and some trees.

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Village Information

Brockdish Common

Norfolk Wildlife Trust undertook a survey of Brockdish Common last summer. The number of recorded types of bats is quite amazing. I had no idea there were so many.

The Common is now much better cared for and the improved access to the river is most welcome, especially for those of us with dogs! Many thanks to our local volunteers as well as the Wildlife Trust and the Parish Council who have worked hard on this and continue to do so.

For further information please contact Norfolk Wildlife Trust to view the full survey.

Brockdish Village Hall

The Hall has had a major “freshen up “during February, we were fortunate to obtain the services of the Norfolk and Suffolk Community Payback Scheme to paint the whole of the interior of the Hall. It was the first time since the opening in 2000 that it had been completely redecorated and it really does look great.

Thanks to those who helped to get the hall ready for painting, and especially to Pete Siddell who gave up his Friday morning to help re-hang the stage curtains.

Jan Croxson

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Village Information

Thorpe Abbots - Good litter pickers were out on 1st March it's amazing in 2020 that people think they can just empty out their cars as they pass through our lovely village. The Village Hall has a full set of bags and pickers if anyone else wants to use them.



Village Information

THORPE ABBOTTS (FORMER) TELEPHONE BOX NOW 'THE EXCHANGE'

At a time where we need to stay in what better way than to pool our resources. The phone box now has some poorly constructed shelves in it (sources materials was not the easiest) and is a place where we can swap books, plants, jigsaws or anything else that may have lost its use for you but may bring joy to someone else's day.

Remember it is not a charity shop, we don't want it to overflow but hopefully it will become an Aladdin's cave for the village
..... enjoy all.

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Village Information

Waveney Heritage Has a Life-line!

Today I returned from checking on the Old School building and grounds, feeling very sad that the garden was already getting overgrown, work needed doing on the window frames upstairs, inside needed regular cleaning, the windows were increasingly dirty, the playground was a mess and I had no idea how we were going to keep going or even pay the rent and the rest of the bills.

BUT! I went home, turned on my computer whilst I had a cup of tea to cheer me up and there was a message telling me that we had been awarded a large grant! It was such a relief! I phoned Jill to tell her and thank her for all her support, not least by giving me a shoulder to lean on but also of course for her input during the months we have spent finding speakers, looking for grants and thinking of ways to make use of such a large building. Jill knows so many people (and is frequently distantly related to them!) and has been highly instrumental in attracting the string of knowledgeable and interesting speakers we have enjoyed over the last year, many of whom waived their fees.

We had already organised all our summer and Autumn talks and were well advanced with our preparations for the VE day celebrations in May and of course our Christmas event, but that won't go to waste because everyone involved has offered to simply wait until we get back to normal. Even the VE day celebration events can be saved up for a great weekend when we can finally open again.

In the meantime, we can now start talking to those people who can deal with all the outstanding jobs, secure in the knowledge that we can pay them. We intend to make use of local

Village Information

businesses, situated as close to the Waveney Valley as possible and I hope to start a photographic record of it all to put in our archive, starting with pictures of the garden and woodwork as it is at the moment and, if I can find time, writing an account of the entire Covid crisis, how we were affected and coped and what life was like as we returned to a more normal life.

In the meantime, as always, thank you all for your support, keep well and we look forward to meeting you again soon!

Very best wishes,

Mary Thompson

Jill Edwards

Margaret Griffiths and Robin Twigge

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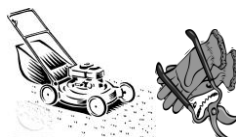
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Parish Council

BROCKDISH PARISH COUNCIL (including Thorpe Abbots)

CHAIRMAN – Christine Mackenzie Tel: 01379 668818

CLERK – Teresa Hines Tel: 01379 308617

e-mail: **brockdishthorpeabbottspc@gmail.com**

We still have 2 vacancies to fill, if you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor then please contact the Chairman (01379 668818) or email brockdishthorpeabbottspc@gmail.com for further details.

Planning Applications:

www.south-norfolk.gov.uk

2020/0477 Rosemary House, Grove Road, Brockdish, New tiled roof, insulation and works to brick parapets.

2020/0665 Mill Pightle, School Lane, Thorpe Abbots, Extension to form two storey dwelling, conversion of existing garage to form annexe, replacement outbuilding for use of garage/storage and gym / games room.

2020/0585 24 The Street, Thorpe Abbots, Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and roof conversion.

Dates of next scheduled meetings: -

(members of the public are welcome to attend).

Agenda posted on both village notice boards prior to meeting.

Thursday 25th June 7pm Thorpe Abbots Village Hall

Tuesday 28th July 7pm WHC, Brockdish

No scheduled meeting is held during August

Brockdish Community Litter Pick

A very big thank you to all Brockdish Residents and those volunteering from outside the village for joining this year's Community Litter Pick on Saturday 14th March.



A total of 14 bags of rubbish was collected by the team. A number of large items of fly tipped rubbish, next to the lay-by at the top of Brockdish and down the bank side on Grove Road were also recovered. I propose we meet again on **Saturday 13th March 2021** for our next year's Community Litter Pick.

Christine Mackenzie



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Parish Council

Brockdish Common

Conservation Volunteers had arranged a working session on the Common to start implementing the management plan but unfortunately this fell through due to lock-down so we will have to be patient. We have been told however that because of lock-down the period of the grant will be extended to compensate so that in the longer term we will not have lost out. The good news is that the Common has proved to be a great asset during these difficult times and many residents have taken advantage of the good weather and used their 'leisure time' to walk down to the River, enjoy the open space and sit a while on one of the seats.

Neighbourly Consideration

During this warm weather we are currently enjoying, please have some consideration for your neighbours. Whilst you may not consider yourself a nuisance, please bear in mind how sound can travel especially when the weather is still. The Noise Abatement Society are still very active but we would rather our villages not be on their radar.

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Call the Midwife David Seddon

In the last edition (226) of *The Mardler*, Elaine Murphy wrote about community nursing 'before the NHS', and mentioned that the two qualified Queen's Nurses employed by Harleston and District Nursing Association not only nursed the sick but also provided a home midwifery service to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots as 'specialist community midwives did not really take off until the 1930s, although district nurses had some specific midwifery training from 1902'. Her piece focused on the first half of the 20th century and on qualified nurses who also practiced as midwives.

But there were also women among the local community who practiced as mid-wives on an informal basis, usually while carrying out other activities, just as there had been in the villages and small towns of East Anglia for centuries. One such, who must have been practicing at the same time as the two Queen's Nurses referred to by Elaine, was Anna Sharman, who lived in Brockdish between the 1860s and the 1920s.

The Midwife of Brockdish

In the 1861 census, Charles Coleman, a substantial farmer in Brockdish, lived with his wife Mary, two young men in their early 20s identified as 'nephews', a person named Israel Sharman, recorded as Coleman's 'bailiff', and a servant girl, identified as Mary Cutting, at the Sheriff's Court on the corner of The Street and Common Lane. Israel Sharman had been born and brought up in Wortham but had come to work for Coleman in Brockdish; Mary Cutting had come from Weybread.

Ten years later, Charles Coleman and his wife were still living at the Sheriff's Court, as were Israel Sharman and Anna Cutting, described as a domestic servant from Weybread - who was quite probably the younger sister of Mary who had

Local History

Call the Midwife

lived there previously. On 27 February 1878, Israel Sharman married Anna, and in the same year made an indenture (agreement) with Henry Fearman - presumably a loan of some kind - to enable them to take on the property. In 1891, the address was given specifically as Shingle House, the Street, next to Common Lane, and Israel and Anna now had two children: Annie and Israel jr. Israel sr died shortly thereafter (his gravestone at the church suggests he was buried there in 1894).

In 1901, Israel Sharman's widow, Anna, was head of the household and running a boarding house at Shingle House with her daughter Annie (a dress maker), with two boarders, one of whom was the church organist, Percy Cracknell who later married Annie, and the other Edith Smith from Pulham. Anna was also apparently practicing as a midwife. There is no sign of the son, young Israel Sharman. However, in the same year, he was living in London, working as a servant for a family in Hanover Square.

The 1911 census records Anna Sharman - now aged 52 and still practicing as a midwife - as living with Percy William Cracknell, aged 35, Annie Victoria Cracknell, aged 29, and two sons, Percy A. Victor and Bertram Cracknell, aged 4 and 3 respectively. Percy William was employed as organist at the church in Brockdish and as a teacher of music. Presumably Anna Sharman knew Ida Campbell and C. Grommer, the two Queen's Nurses mentioned by Elaine Murphy, who were providing care for the sick and a home midwifery service to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots in 1909.

The Cracknells were still there ten years later in 1921, but Anna Sharman died sometime between July and September 1927 aged 74. We have (as yet) no details of her activities as a midwife, but from what we know of early community midwives she was fairly typical - a mature woman formerly in a

Local History

Call the Midwife

long term stable married relationship with her own children, now widowed, respectable and of some means (she ran a boarding house at Shingle House, her daughter was a dress-maker and her son-in-law was the church organist).

Early Community Midwives: a profile

Jean Donnison suggests that early midwives were usually widows who needed to work for a living. With the exception of two midwives, for whom there was no evidence to determine marital status, all the women in a study of 16th and 17th century community midwives in rural East Anglia by Julia Allison were married and a few were widows at the point in their lives at which they were identified. On average, their marriages lasted from seventeen to nineteen years before the death of one or another partner.

It has been suggested that early midwives tended to be relatives of artisans and traders who lived in small houses attached to their work premises. Midwives in Allison's study, however, whose homes were identified, lived in variety of circumstances, but were generally comfortably off. Elenor Nightingale of Newport lived in a mansion house with her husband. Midwife Porter of Alresford and her husband lived in a farmhouse called 'Knops'. Margaret Pullen and her husband lived in a house at White Colne called 'Sixpence'. Mistress Fiske of Binham and her husband, lived in a house described as having a hall with a saffron kiln, parlour, chamber and upstairs chambers.

Although it is not clear where midwife Joan Gen, a widow of Bury St Edmunds, lived, she instructs in her will that her 'two tenements with appurtenances in 'Longe [unreadable]' be sold to provide for generous bequests made in her will. Midwife Agnes Cache probably lived in a house named Le Tyehouse, which was acquired by her husband before their marriage.

Local History

Call the Midwife

Finally in the case of midwife Margaret Leffingwell, a document records her exact address as 'Poters on Stowe Road in Stowe Maries, Essex'.

As to the occupations of their spouses, midwives Grace Bridge, Dorothy Odwinns and Elenor Nightingale were married to yeomen; Dennys Parkar and Goodwife Porter to husbandmen; Mistress Fiske to a farmer and saffron producer; Margaret Pullen married a wealthy landowner, Winifred Smyth a weaver, and Ann Cook was a vicar's wife. In addition, some midwives had husbands, brothers, fathers, sons, grandsons or in-laws who held positions in the local or wider community including justice of the peace, juror, constable and priest. It is striking how often members of midwives' families occur in jury lists, witnesses and church appointments.

Duration of practice was difficult to establish since a midwife may have practiced for years before her name appeared in the written record. But for those for whom there was evidence, eight midwives practiced for an average of thirty-three years. Margaret Burwood, who lived until her ninety-fifth year when she was still described as a midwife; assuming that her practice did not begin until her family was complete, she nevertheless practiced for some fifty years.

Midwives whose ages are known or could reasonably be estimated lived to a good age, with the exception of midwife Porter who died when her children were young. Several midwives were widows for whom there was insufficient evidence to make a reasoned estimation of their age at death. Average age at death, of those whose age could be assessed was seventy-three years. It is clear that, in a time when life expectancy was generally much less than that, these women lived beyond the average life span.

The social and economic profiles, including marital and social

Local History

Call the Midwife

status and children, of these rural, sixteenth-century midwives were similar in many ways to those of the seventeenth-century London midwives in Doreen Evenden's study. There are even resemblances to the midwife so beautifully described in Laurence Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*.

From what little we know of Anna Sharman of Brockdish, although living a good deal later than many of the early midwives mentioned above, she had the typical profile of a local community midwife. But we would like to know more about her life, and particularly her activities as a midwife in and around Brockdish, and would welcome any information or insight that might assist us.

Bibliography

James Hobson Aveling, *English Midwives: their history and prospects*, The Lancet, London, 1872

Julia Allison, 'Midwives of Sixteenth Century Rural East Anglia', Cambridge University Press online, 3 March 2016

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Jane Sharp, *The Midwives Book*, London, 1671

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Sarah Stone, *A Complete Practice of Midwifery*, London 1737

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Coffee Break

Jokes

Patient - 'Doctor, doctor, I get heartburn every time I eat birthday cake.'

Doctor - 'Next time take the candles off!'

Judge - 'Why did you steal all those 5p, 10p, 20p and 50p pieces?'

Defendant - 'I wasn't feeling well and I thought the change would do me good!'

Q. How do we know that all dentists are sad?

Ans. Because they always look down-in-the-mouth.

Lateral thinking - What do you throw out when you use it and bring in when you don't need it?

Putting a Name to a Dish

A few people have a food, drink or recipe named after them. From each description work out who this was in each case.

- a) An English biscuit named after a nineteenth century Italian patriot
.....
- b) A type of tea with a distinctive bergamot tang named after a British prime minister of the 1830's
- c) A classic pizza named in honour of the wife of Umberto I of Italy in 1889
- d) A mix of fruit and ice cream created in recognition of an Australian operatic soprano
- e) A meringue dessert inspired by a Russian ballerina
.....
- f) A popular bread-based snack named after John Montagu, an eighteenth-century English aristocrat
- g) A versatile vegetable dish popularized in Britain during a period of wartime rationing and named after the then Minister of Food

Answers on Page 29

Mowers

‘I’ll cut the grass today I think’
The lady’s heard to say
‘It’s growing long and lush and green
And it’s such a lovely day’.

Eagerly she fetched the mower
From the potting shed,
Went up the lawn and down again,
It suddenly went dead.

She thumped the thing a time or two
And banged it with her hands,
‘Oh lord I’ll have to borrow
That flying thing of Ann’s’.

Off along the lawn she went
Quite happy with the flyer
It stopped! ‘Oh no it can’t be true
I’ve cut the bloody wire’.

I’ll borrow one from George she thinks
This lawn must be completed
The lady is determined
‘I will not be defeated’.

George’s mower’s very old
Strong treatment it won’t stand
She cried ‘I didn’t do it,
It came off in my hand’.

The handle’s in two pieces!
Three mowers in one day!
Oh, lady what a record
Whatever can you say.



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Local History

The Village Wheelwright

© Elaine Murphy

On a recent visit to Costa Rica, we visited an old oxcart workshop where they were still using old technology (a waterwheel for power) and utilizing ancient skills to make wheels the traditional centuries-old way. It reminded me that in Victorian times almost every village had its own wheelwright, a highly skilled trade often passed down from father to son. In Brockdish the men of the Strange family at Crow Hall were skilled wheelwrights from the early 19th century and in Thorpe Abbots the Chenery family carried on traditional wheelwrighting from the late 18th century right up until the Second World War, first from premises in the Street, then in Mill Road.

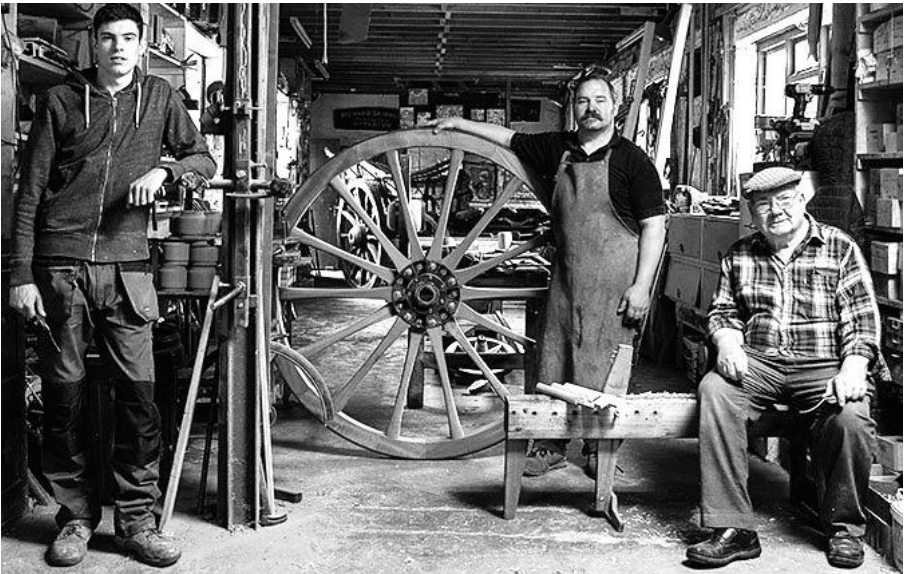


Traditional wheelwright's workshop, Costa Rica 2020

Local History

The Village Wheelwright.

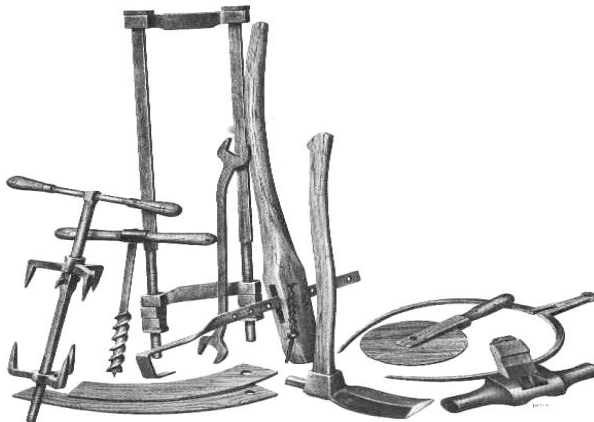
A wheel was of course essential to the movement of goods by cart. Even after the coming of the railways, goods had to be delivered to the goods yards. It was the advent of motorised transport and metal wheels with the coming of buses and cars mainly after the Second World War that eventually killed the need for the craft. Wheelwrights simply disappeared in Britain as vehicles were mass-produced. Still, most antique vehicles that are being preserved today need maintaining by skilled wheelwrights. The Rowland family firm in Devon that looks after the Queen's carriages can trace their skills back to a family member in the 14th century. The trade is supported by the Worshipful Company of Wheelwrights, a London livery company



The Rowland Family of wheelwrights, Colyton, Devon. (photo from Country Life, 'Living National treasures')

The Village Wheelwright.

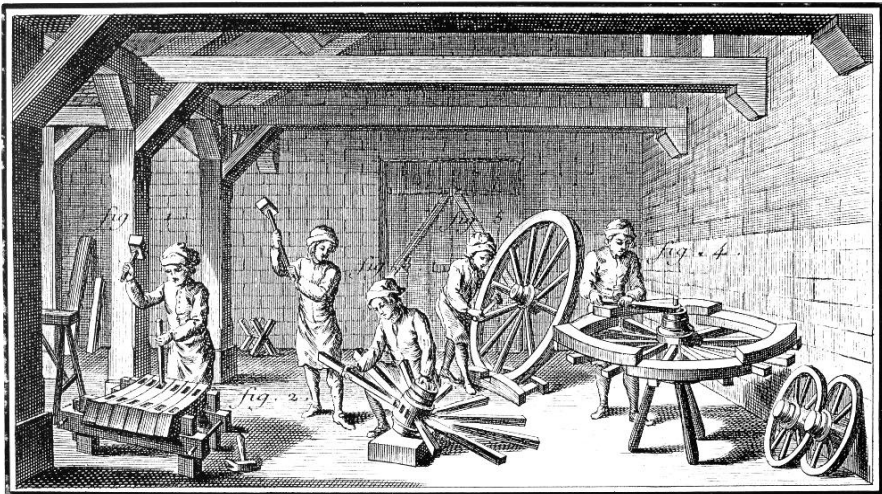
A **wheelwright** is a craftsman who builds or repairs wooden wheels. These tradesmen made cartwheels, wheels for wains (wagons), pony traps and coaches and belt drives for steam-powered machinery. First constructing the hub (called the nave), the spokes and the rim/felloe segments (pronounced fillies; any wheelwright will tell you the spokes are just to keep the nave from the fillies) and assembling them all into a unit working from the centre of the wheel outwards. Most wheels were made from wood, but other materials have been used, such as bone and horn, for decorative or other purposes. Some earlier construction for wheels such as those used in early chariots were bound by hide that would be applied wet and would then shrink whilst drying, compressing and binding the woodwork together. After many centuries' wheels evolved to be 'straked' with iron, a method of nailing iron plates onto the felloes to protect against wear on the ground and to help bind the wheel together.



Wheelwright's tools

The Village Wheelwright.

During the industrial age, iron strakes were replaced by a solid iron tyre custom made by a blacksmith after the wheelwright had measured each wheel to ensure a proper fit. Iron tyres were always made smaller than the wheel in circumference, expanded by heating in a fire then hammered and pulled by a devil's claw, a levered hook, on the wheel, then it was released into a ducking pond of cold water. This shrank the iron onto the wood and closed the wooden joints. During the second half of the 19th century, the use of pre-manufactured iron hubs and other factory-made wood, iron and rubber wheel parts became increasingly common. Over millennia the overall appearance of the wheel barely changed but subtle changes to the design such as dishing and staggered spokes helped keep up with the demands of a changing world. These small changes in design made a massive improvement to the strength of the wheel whilst reducing its weight. Vehicles then became more efficient to build and use.



Assembling wheels in a workshop.
Copper engraving 18th century

Local History

The Village Wheelwright.

The Strange Family, Brockdish

Samuel Strange, wheelwright, was born in Shelton in 1815, died in Brockdish and was buried here in 1892. His father Isaac was also a wheelwright as was his brother John. He first married Eliza Prime and had two daughters Eliza born 1843 and Emma born 1849 both at Brockdish. His wife Eliza died in 1860 and Sam then married widow Hannah Welton from Westenden, Suffolk in 1861. Neither Sam nor Hannah could write so instead made their mark, a simple cross, to witness their marriage at Brockdish church. They had no children but Sam's daughter Eliza gave birth to an illegitimate child in 1861 and as so often the case, Samuel and Hannah brought up Eliza's baby son as their own. The baby Frederick Arthur Strange grew up to become a wheelwright too. When he was baptized, when he was 8 years old, his parents were declared to be Sam and Hannah. Fred grew up to employ several men in his wheelwright and carpentry business. He married Alice from Tivetshall St Mary and had at least eight children. The Strange family were tenants at Crow Hall, the property being owned by the Thorpe Abbots Place estate. They used their acres for agriculture and also grazed two cattle on the common.

The Chenery Family, Thorpe Abbots.

The Chenery family have been resident in Thorpe Abbots since the late 17th century at least. John Chenery was born here in 1710. We know that his son, also John was a 'journeyman wheelwright' and that John's son William became a wheelwright. William eventually settled in the Saints and carried out the trade there but eventually returned to his home village. The wheelwright Chenery's continued in Thorpe Abbots and brothers William and Albert Chenery shared the

Local History

The Village Wheelwright.

business there in 1911. Harry Chenery was still practising the trade in the 1939 wartime register.

There is a good comprehensive display of the wheelwright's trade and his tools in the Museum of East Anglian Life, in Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1DL and a display of tools in the Bridewell Museum of Norwich Trades & Industries, Bridewell Alley NR2 1AQ.

Local Information

Plots available now at Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Allotments

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Allotments Association (BATAAA) is run by a small committee of volunteers for members of the local community. The allotments are situated at the end of Church Road in Brockdish, just before the bypass. We have full (250m²) and half (125m²) plots available and there is water on site.

To find out more about the allotments, to look round the site or to check plot availability please e-mail Rebecca Abrahall, BATAAA Secretary, at bataaa@hotmail.co.uk or contact David Young, Treasurer, on 01379 668556. Now is an ideal time to take on an allotment, so why not get in touch.

As part of the development of the allotment site BATAAA is looking for donations of paving slabs, so if anyone has any slabs going spare, please contact Rebecca or David using the contact details above.

Coffee Break Answers

Answers from page 20

Lateral thinking - An anchor

Putting a name to the dish-

- a) Giuseppe Garibaldi (Garibaldi biscuit)
- b) Charles Grey, Viscount Howick (Earl Grey tea)
- c) Margherita of Savoy (margherita)
- d) Dame Nellie Melba (peach melba)
- e) Anna Pavlova (pavlova)
- f) John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich (sandwich)
- g) Frederick Marquis, Earl of Woolton (Woolton pie)



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RICHARD STACEY

JANUARY 1947 - FEBRUARY 2020

Richard passed away in February 2020. His passing was sudden, but as he would have wished, he was at home with Janice his wife in Thorpe Abbotts.

Richard and Janice have lived in Thorpe Abbotts for over 25 years and, when they first arrived were told that you have to have lived here for at least that period of time to be accepted in the village, so he only just made it!

Richard will probably be better known by the villagers as the “man with the camera”. He was very rarely seen without it around his shoulder and many of the Mardler front covers were his work.

Richard was brought up in Harleston and he had several shops in the town probably the best remembered being W.H. Stacey. His love of photography, fishing and Harleston Magpies knew no bounds. On retirement and he and Janice loved to travel especially to Scotland and in particular the Outer Hebrides. He spent many an hour watching hockey or trying to catch that elusive carp.

He became quite ill in the last few years, but, his optimism, cheerfulness, knowledge of wild life and positive outlook are just some of the many aspects of his life that many will remember him for.

He is sadly missed by all family and friends.

LINDA HALIFAX

MAY 1947 - FEBRUARY 2020

Linda Halifax sadly died in February of this year. She will be greatly missed by her family and her many friends including all the lives she touched in Thorpe Abbots where she lived for over 35 years.

Since her retirement from BT some 20 years ago she launched herself into village life on a full-time basis. She was an active member of Parochial Church Council for All Saints Church and Thorpe Abbots Social Club, along with being the honorary treasurer of Thorpe Abbots Village Hall and the head of any catering sub committees where she was always there to help and encourage, if Linda was working with you, everything would go like clockwork.

She was an extremely knowledgeable gardener, any spare time she had was directed into ensuring her own gardens were kept to perfection which tied in well with her being the treasurer of the Harleston Flower Club for many years.

Linda had been unwell for several years, but this didn't deter her from leading a very active life. She was indeed a remarkable lady and we were very lucky to have shared in some of her life.

£1,000 was raised for the Neuroendocrine Cancer UK charity in memory of Linda.

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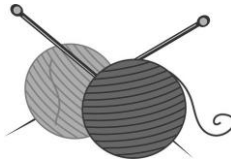
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KNITTING REQUEST



Please can I say a massive thank you to all the wonderful ladies that have been so kind and responded to this request. So far, we have managed to send the following:

90 Gowns

134 Hats

56 Triangles

Plus, some more knitted by two kind ladies from Harleston (not sure how many).

These were very kindly taken to the maternity unit by a very super nurse who works there. As these are something that will always be needed, please feel free to carry on knitting if you would like to.

I have already received 36 Gowns and 95 Hats ready for the next delivery, which the kind nurse has said she will take if lockdown is not over and I cannot go myself.

If anyone has any double knitting wool in neutral colours they would like to donate, I am always willing to knit for this cause.

Thank you all so much.

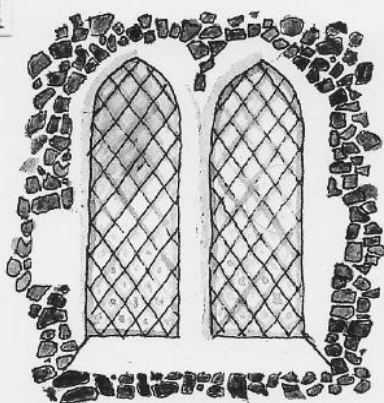
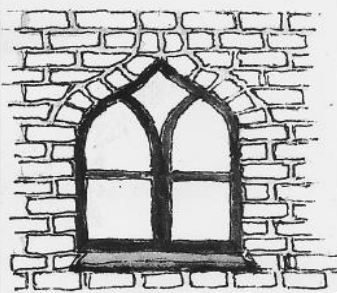
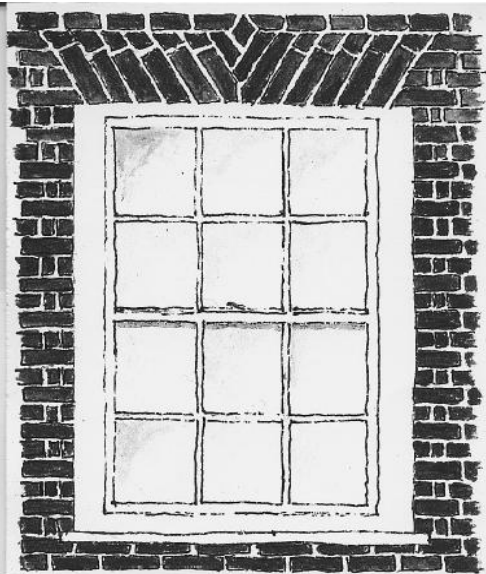
Correction to pattern for triangles printed in last Mardler.

I omitted to write that the first 3 rows should be knit rows, then carry on as pattern please. Any you have already knitted are just fine and will be gratefully received.

Many thanks

Cheryl Mounser

Tel. 741435



D.S.C. iv/20

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Recipe

Cheat's Lemon Cheesecake Slice – makes 20 slices



INGREDIENTS

300g store-bought plain shortbread biscuits
100g unsalted butter, melted
75g shredded coconut
500g cream cheese, softened
180g white chocolate, melted
480g store-bought lemon curd

METHOD

1. Line a 20cm x 30cm slice tin with non-stick baking paper. Place the biscuits, butter and coconut in a food processor and process until fine. Using the back of a spoon, firmly press the mixture into the base of the tin. Refrigerate for 10 minutes or until firm.
2. Place the cream cheese, chocolate and 320g of the lemon curd in the cleaned food processor and process until smooth. Spread on to the shortbread base. Gently spoon the remaining 160g lemon curd over the slice to create a swirled effect. Refrigerate for 2 hours or until set. Remove from the tin and cut into bars to serve.

All Saints Church News

Well what a wet, wet, wet yet more wet month we have had in February but glad we have now settled to normal Spring weather which means we get most things most weeks. Thank you all of you who came to a very fun Quiz at the end of January, delighted that both the winner's prize and wooden spoon stayed in the Village, the first time this has happened for a while.

February's Church Service was a little different. Just as we started the electricity stopped!! which also I seem to remember effected the whole village. Well what to do as the manual pump on the organ has not worked for years? We came up with a solution.... something a little different with David our organist humming the first few lines to give us start. All went very well all be it a little cold as of course the heating was off too.

Churchyard

As I write the churchyard has been ablaze with Aconites and Snowdrops particularly around the north side. Daffodils have made their appearance before our Meadow Saxifrage making their annual appearance in May/June. June is a very good time to have a wander around the churchyard which you will know is managed for its wildflower population. Every year I am surprised by the appearance or even nonappearance of various flower species there. Please do feel free to pop up there, many of our wildflower species are in decline and Church yards often havens of which All Saints is a very good example. Some peeps think that just because the Church gates are closed means that you cannot go in, nothing could be further from the truth, these gates whilst physically together are never closed to those who wish to enter, a gentle push is all it needs.

Church Lights

A big thank you for all those who have had the lights on celebrating or remembering over the recent months. It is so

All Saints Church News

lovely to see the Church alight. It costs just £5 a night and the money goes straight into our Maintenance Fund from which we draw frequently in the upkeep of this Grade 1 listed 900 year old Church. If you would like the lights on please contact **Sue Williams** on **07855414941**. Payment will be needed before the night if you could please.

Simon

Brockdish Church News

It is appreciated that dog walkers are picking up after their animals but it is not appreciated that some bags of dog waste are being thrown over the wall into the churchyard. Please take the bag and contents home.

Thank you

Jan Croxson - Church Warden

Great appreciation to Robin Middleton who even during this difficult time has kept the flag flying over Brockdish Church to celebrate the church festivals and also important days for the country.

Your care has given a boost to many people's spirits, thank you Robin on behalf of Brockdish.

Church Contacts

Minister in Charge
<http://www.7churches.org.uk>

Benefice Administrator
admin@7churches.org.uk

Brockdish
Church Wardens
Thorpe Abbots
Contact

Revd Nigel Tuffnell
rector@7churches.org.uk

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Ann Cork - 01379 668635
Jan Croxson - 01379 668630
Christine McDonald
01379 669116

Church News

Tim is Leaving Us

I am delighted to announce that The Revd. Tim Rogers is to be the next Rector of Yoxmere (Yoxford and surrounding villages) in Suffolk, and will be leaving Harleston on June 2nd. Tim, Sarah and their family have become very much a part of our benefice and they will be greatly missed. At the same time this appointment marks an exciting new chapter in their lives, and service to God. I wish them every blessing.

Nigel

Announcement from The Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich

The Right Revd Martin Seeley, the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, is delighted to announce that the next Rector of Yoxmere will be The Revd Tim Rogers. Tim is presently Assistant Curate in the benefice of Redenhall and Scole in the Norwich Diocese.

Please pray for Tim, his wife Sarah and their children as they prepare for their move.

A Message from Tim

Sarah and the children and I are enormously grateful for the love and friendship we have received from across the benefice over the last three and a half years and more, and for the chance to serve such lovely people in such a lovely part of the world. We're not gone quite yet, of course, but we will leave with great memories, and hopes to sneak back every now and then! Most of all, I am grateful for Nigel's guidance, patience, leadership, example and prayer throughout my curacy.

All blessings

Tim

Tim Rogers

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