

THE
Mardler
BROCKDISH & THORPE ABBOTTS



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

EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ARE CURRENTLY SUSPENDED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE.

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.

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Editorial

A very warm welcome to our first edition of 2021. Christmas was very different for us all in many ways, not only due to the government restrictions which prevented celebrations going ahead as usual, but also because of the devastating flooding which affected our villages. Our thoughts are very much with those who suffered damage to their possessions and properties, and I would like to express thanks to everyone in our communities for providing support to those in need. Our front cover was chosen to remind us that Spring is not far away, and with that comes hope of better weather, seeing our families and friends again, and of course, a vaccine! We hope that the next edition will be packed full of village events as we welcome a summer of hopeful hedonism!

Rob Buck, Editor



REMEMBER

Closing date for entries in the
April / May 2021 issue is 5th March 2021.
**Articles received after this date may not be
included in the next issue.**



Village Information

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Allotments

Plots and half plots available now at Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Allotments.

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Allotments Association (BATAAA) is run by a small committee of volunteers from 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. Having an allotment is an excellent way of getting your daily exercise whilst growing healthy food for the table, so why not give it a go!

To find out more about the allotments or to check plot availability please e-mail Rebecca Abrahall, BATAAA Secretary, at bataaa@hotmail.co.uk, contact David Young, Treasurer, on 01379 668556 or find us on Facebook.

Village Defibrillators

Brockdish Defibrillator is located on the outside wall of Brockdish Village Hall. At the Village Hall there is a clothes bank, all proceeds from this go towards the running costs of the Defibrillator.

Thorpe Abbots Defibrillator is located outside the Village Hall.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION WITHIN 2 MILES OF BROCKDISH

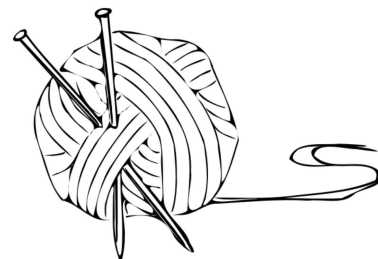
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Knitting Appeal Update

The Midwives at Norfolk & Norwich hospital would like to thank everyone for their kind donations of hats, gowns and triangles.

They now have a new baby safety initiative using different traffic light colours. Therefore they have requested that future hats are knitted in either, **purely red, orange or green, or white with a red, orange or green band, all in a size medium.**



All hats that have been already knitted (in other colours) are most welcome and will be used, so they will definitely not be wasted!

Please get in touch if you would like to start knitting and need a pattern, or if you would like to donate wool.

Many thanks to you all.

Cheryl Mounser (tel. 741435)



Bin collections and calendars

Paper bin calendars will no longer be provided to individual residents. This is because collection dates have not changed so calendars are not needed, to save printing and delivery costs, and an online calendar means that any changes can instantly be amended.

To ensure that residents are kept informed of waste collection dates, they can use the customer account functionality on the South Norfolk Council website. Once a resident is registered or logs in to their respective property, their next waste collection dates are displayed for rubbish, recycling and garden waste (if they subscribe) but they also have the option to print their individual bin calendar directly from the webpage.

If an individual resident does not have access to the internet, they can call the Depot's customer care team on 01508 533830 to confirm their collection dates or have a printed calendar sent to their property.

***In loving memory of Anthony Robin Clark
14th September 1940 - 22nd December 2020***

Robin passed away on 22nd December at The Depperhaugh where he had lived for the last five years. Robin and Chris moved to Thorpe Abbots from Brome in 2008 and quickly settled into village life. Robin spent many happy hours tending his new garden and allotment and discovering new walks around the village.

Sadly, Parkinson's steadily impacted on Robin's activities and, following a spell in hospital, he was admitted to the Depperhaugh in the summer of 2015. His last years were difficult in many ways, especially after COVID robbed him of all his family and friends. But he rarely complained and kept his sense of humour to the end.



Donations in memory of Robin are to be shared between Parkinsons UK and Cats Protection, and are to be sent to Rosedale Funeral Home, Diss. Alternatively, you can donate via the online memorial site at www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk.

THANK YOU!

You may remember in the last edition, Brockdish Carol Singing was unable to go ahead due to government restrictions. Despite this, many gave donations for Macmillan Cancer Support. A huge thank you to all who donated, as together we were able to send £100 to the charity. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Ann Cork

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Thought for the day: Why worry?

There are only two things to worry about, either you are well or you are sick.

If you are well, there is nothing to worry about, if you are sick, there are only two things to worry about, either you will get better or you will die.

If you get well there is nothing to worry about, if you die there are only two things to worry about, either you will go to heaven or to hell.

If you go to heaven, there is nothing to worry about, but if you go to hell, you will be so busy shaking hands with friends you won't have time to worry.

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Village Information

Virtual Book Sale

Starston Jubilee Hall is holding a Virtual Book Sale. You can see the available titles by visiting the Starston Village web site - www.starstonvillage.co.uk - and clicking on the box in the right-hand column headed "Virtual Book Sale". This will take you to the list of books on offer together with instructions on how to buy them. You can browse the whole list or choose a category to select a smaller group. Fans of classic science fiction may be interested in the out-of-print titles by authors such as Philip K Dick, Isaac Asimov and Arthur C. Clarke.

All proceeds from the sale are going towards repairs to the Jubilee Hall and Glebe Meadow which were badly damaged in the Christmas Eve floods.

Dee Palmer: dee@dee-palmer.co.uk (01379 852318)



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Waveney Heritage at the Old School Brockdish

We're still here! The good news is that we are now at long last a charity. The bad news is, of course, that we can't get on with organising talks and exhibitions, dealing with our archive, moving towards museum status for all the stuff like radios, antique snow ploughs and so-on which are classed as artefacts, to say nothing of providing space for groups to meet. Everybody is in same boat of course and we send our commiserations to all of you are suffering in the same way.

In the meantime, we are still looking after the building and garden, talking to our members, paying the bills, and making plans! We now have a new website "waveney heritage.com" and have taken the opportunity to update all the information on it. Do have a look and let me know what you think.

Anthony Scott-Robinson, who is supremo radio collector, has been spending many hours rationalising and arranging displays of the collection left to us by Stewart Orr. It covers the history of radio more-or-less from its beginning and contains several rare and valuable pieces. He and Graham Moore intend to have some of it up and running ready for an open day when things return to normal. To celebrate the New Year he has also set up "Object of the Month" with pictures of items in the collection. This will be available to members of Waveney Heritage, along with our newsletter, all for a membership fee of £10 per year for individuals and £15 for couples at the same address, AND you get a reduced admission fee to our talks;- what a bargain! Just contact myself or Jill if you would like to join us.

In the meantime, we wish you all the very best for this year and all those that follow. Look after yourselves, stay well and see you soon!

Mary Thompson: marygthompson@aol.com (01379 668279)

Jill Edwards (01379 669057)

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The Waveney & The Riverfly Partnership

It was the last Brockdish Common Working Party before Christmas and we were treated to a Kick Sampling demonstration by Katie, our Conservation Volunteers (TCV) organiser. Kick sampling is a standard and widely used method for sampling the invertebrates living on the bed of a stream or river. It involves placing a net in the direction of flow, with open net mouth facing upstream. Gareth and Katie braved the River, by the end of The Common, and collected samples of the River bottom in their nets. The samples were then transferred to trays set out on the picnic table and we could all see a surprising number of riverfly larvae swimming about so that we could identify and count our catch. As well as a small stone loach fish there were fresh water shrimp, stonefly larvae, ramshorn water snails, leeches, demoiselle fly larvae and the larvae of olive flies, and caddish fly among others.

The purpose of the survey was to monitor the presence of pollution sensitive invertebrates which give an indication of the health of the River. The results are fed into a National database which over 100 organisations throughout



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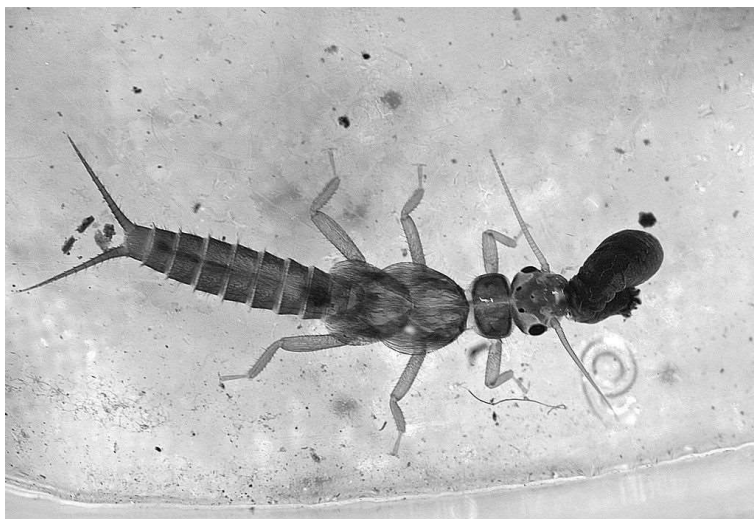


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The Waveney & The Riverfly Partnership

the Country also contribute to - that's the Riverfly Partnership (www.riverflies.org). Overall this gives an important measure of the health of our rivers and informs the relevant agencies where action is necessary to deal with pollution or other problems.

The results for our day gave a score of 7 which is a fairly typical outcome for the Waveney. Excitingly we did find a species of Stonefly which is usually absent in this area, unable as it is to tolerate silt deposits that often accumulate from farmland run-off. Next time you visit this section of the river take note if its clean, gravelly bottom.



Current trends on the river suggest that a score below 3 certainly indicate problems compared to the average of around 6 or 7. However, due to shifting baselines, we know our current 'normal' is quite small compared with past decades. For example demoiselle flies were few and far between in 2020 compared with just 5 years ago.

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The Waveney & The Riverfly Partnership

This was the first trial session and it was concluded that the site is ideal for establishing a permanent monthly Riverfly Monitoring point so that seasonal and river flow changes can be monitored. The River Waveney Trust will be organising a training programme for anyone interested and it would be good to think that we could provide some of those monitors from the Village. It seems to me that this would be an ideal activity for some of our younger people who are interested in environmental issues.

As always, if you would like to become involved in this or any other work of the Brockdish Common Working Party then please contact either:

Derek Clark (01379 669201) Vice Chairman, Brockdish Parish Council

OR

Katie Utting (07966 510605) The Conservation Volunteers.

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Jokes

What's the difference between a well-dressed man and a tired dog?
One wears a suit and the other just pants!

How do you send a baby astronaut to sleep? *Rocket!*

..... and especially for the younger ones -

What do you call a slug with a crash hat on? *A Snail!*

Why is the letter 'T' so important to a stick insect?
Because without it, it would be a sick insect!



Quiz

1. Give another name for a 'Grandfather' clock.
2. What would you use a 'Chiffonier' for?
3. Where is the assay office which uses the anchor as their mark?
4. What style of English furniture was made between 1603 and 1625?
5. Which former potter was instrumental in the cutting of the Trent and Mersey canal?
6. What name is given to the flat canopy over a four-poster bed?
7. What is meant by the term 'barley-sugar' when used in relation to furniture?
8. Why is a pen-knife so called?
9. What is 'biscuit-ware'?
10. What is meant by 'marquetry'?

Answers on page 31



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Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915)

By David Seddon

The Rodwells and the Drewmilks

Mary Rodwell was born and baptised in Brockdish in 1874. Her brother George was born a couple of years later in 1876, her sister Kate Alice in 1878, and her other sister, Laura, in 1880. Their parents were John and Anne Rodwell who lived in Hall Road, Brockdish. John Rodwell was a labourer. It seems that the Rodwell family in Brockdish had an earlier connection with the village, from a while back, as we know that a Sarah Rodwell married William Drewmilk there in the early 1770s and that they had nine children, one of whom was also named William.

A William Drewmilk is mentioned in Elaine Murphy's book on *The Moated Grange* in Brockdish, where she refers to him as 'a village youth' whom John Cotton 'had the time-consuming task of persuading ... that he must go and marry a girl, presumably pregnant, in Yarmouth'. She remarks that Drewmilk was reluctant, but describes how John Cotton spent a good deal of time and effort 'in negotiations and bringing this affair to a successful conclusion' (Murphy 2015: 182).

But Elaine Murphy also reports that 'William Drewmilk's name appears in later poor relief books in the 1820s as 'Old Drewmilk'; he had a large family and apparently still required regular help from the parish'. So, it seems likely that this was William Drewmilk senior, and it may well be that Sarah was 'the girl from Yarmouth'.

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Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

Certainly there were Rodwells in Great Yarmouth at the time - including a William Richard Rodwell, who was born 1863 in Yarmouth, got married there in 1889 and died there in 1927. His father, William Catchpole Rodwell, was born in Yarmouth in 1836, married in Lowestoft in 1861, had Mary Ann, William Richard and Robert Miles, but was lost at sea around ten years later; and his grandfather, also William Rodwell, was born (in 1802), married (in 1832) and died there (in 1867). By 1881, however, the Brockdish Rodwells had moved across the River Waveney into Suffolk, to Oakley or Hoxne. Ten years later, in 1891, she left East Anglia for London where she lived with her aunt and uncle in



Upper Norwood in south London. Her uncle, Robert Eagle, was an enthusiastic supporter of the newly formed (10 September 1905) professional Crystal Palace Football Club, coincidentally known to their fans as 'the Eagles' (after the Portuguese club Benfica, founded in February 1904, which has an eagle as its emblem) or 'the Glaziers'.



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Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

Mary Rodwell: nurse and suffragist

She trained as a nurse at the Central London Sick Asylum (also known as Hendon Infirmary Hospital) from 1901 to 1904. She worked at the Samaritan Free Hospital, Marylebone Road, as well as private nursing homes before the war. It was during this time that Mary became a suffragist and joined the Crystal Palace and Anerley branch of the Women's Freedom League (WFL). The WFL, which was founded in 1907, was a breakaway group from the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) which was the leading militant organisation campaigning for women's suffrage in the United Kingdom from 1903 to 1918. Known from 1906 as 'suffragettes', its membership and policies were tightly controlled by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters Christabel and Sylvia (although Sylvia was eventually expelled). The WFL objected to the dominance of the Pankhursts and was more oriented towards working-class women, something Mary Rodwell found appealing, given her own family background.

At the outbreak of war she applied to both the Red Cross and the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (QAIMNS) for foreign service. She was accepted by the Red Cross but they were not sending nurses to France at the time and so Mary joined the QAIMNS instead on 3 February 1915. She worked as a staff nurse on hospital trains before moving in May to the hospital ship 'Anglia'.

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Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

The King's Secret Channel Crossing

Hospital ships usually had no escort but on one trip the 'Anglia' did have an escort. In a letter to a friend, dated 7 November 1915, she wrote:

'Did you see we brought the King over on our boat? Was it not an honour? Such excitement and great preparation, as we were told if rough weather came we might have him and his suite on board for three or four days, just as we have the Tommies if it is very rough. However, we came over the same day. We started in fair weather, but it was a terrible crossing afterwards. We had an escort of four destroyers across the Channel. Usually we have none at all. The King's suite, including the doctors and two nurses were all ill, and the nurses had to go to bed. Of course, in a way, we were not sorry, as we got a look in, and looked after his Majesty, as we have all got our sea-legs. He was very nice, and shook hands and thanked us for what we did for him'.

It was reported in the national press that the 'Anglia' was ferrying the King back home from France after he was injured on 28 October 1915 when thrown



King George V Reviewing the Troops 28 October 1915

Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

by his horse at 'a troop review' in the field. Why he was allowed to put himself at risk in this way is not clear. It seems likely that he was visiting President Poincaré. It was later stated in dispatches that the king and President Poincaré had narrowly escaped death when a German shell exploded near where they were inspecting artillery emplacements.

On 1 November, he resumed his official duties and there is a painting by a war artist showing him awarding a Victoria Cross to Lance-Sergeant Oliver Brooks of the Coldstream Guards while lying in his bed.



The Sinking of the 'Anglia'

Only ten days later after Nurse Rodwell wrote her letter, on 17 November 1915, the 'Anglia' was returning from Calais to Dover with 385 injured soldiers, 56 crew members and a complement of doctors, orderlies and nurses (four women, a matron and three nursing sisters, of whom Nurse Rodwell was one) when shortly after 12 pm, one mile east of Folkestone Gate, the ship hit a mine laid by a German U-boat. Water rushed into the lowest wards and the orderlies who went to investigate reported that it was already up over their heads.

Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

In the other wards, every man who could do so scrambled up to the deck. The able-bodied, including the nurses, helped those who were less able to escape from the rising waters along slanting corridors and up the narrow steep stairs, set up the lifeboats and broke out the life belts. Because of the angle the ship was listing, the crew could not use any of the starboard side lifeboats but did manage to launch just one of the port side lifeboats, so saving about 50 people, before the angle of the ship made launching the others impossible.

There was no panic on board, just calm determination to help get the wounded to safety. Many of the survivors later praised the nursing staff for the help they gave the wounded, getting them into life belts and up on deck, without thought of their own safety. The Matron and Sister, who were up on deck were encouraged to get into a lifeboat, but they refused, saying 'we have the right to be last this time'. One man reported that he had offered to one nurse: 'you come with me and I'll get you to safety, I am a very strong swimmer. You will be safe with me. She shook her head and said she could not leave her men. So, she was with them to the last'.



A collier called the SS Lusitania was nearby just to the west of the 'Anglia'. The Lusitania put about and was quickly able to reach the stricken 'Anglia' and launch two rescue boats. The 'Anglia' was now at an angle with its bow submerged and its fore funnel and boat decks already at the waterline, but some 40 men were able to jump to safety when one of the rescue boats bravely passed under the 'Anglia's stern with its spinning propellers.

Local History

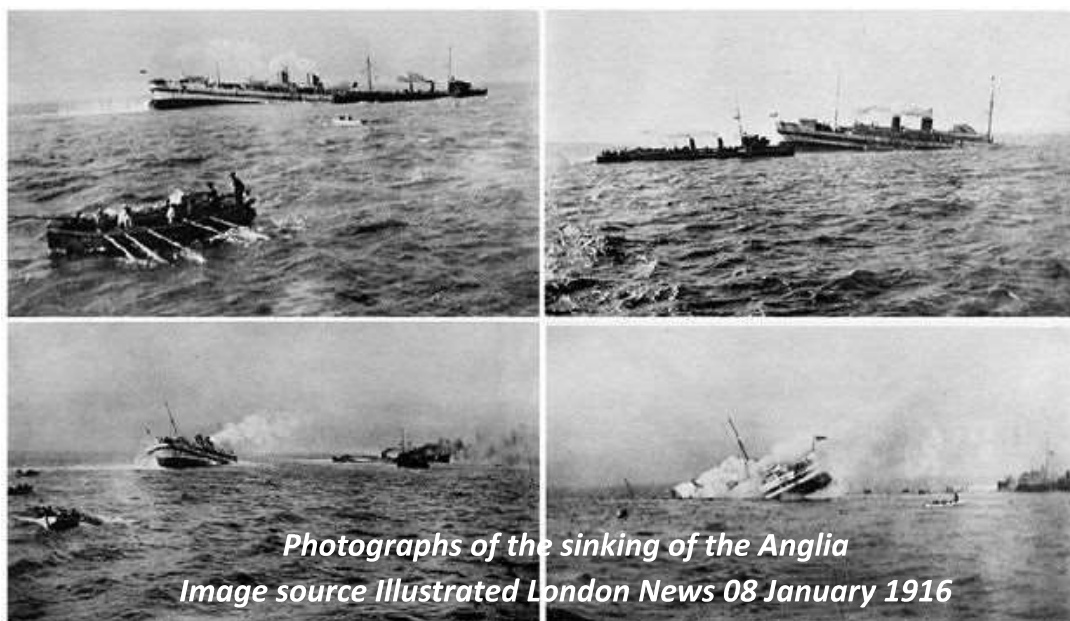
Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

The 'Anglia' sank within a quarter of an hour, claiming the lives of some 164 individuals, including four army officers, 125 other ranks, 25 crew, nine medical personnel and Nurse Rodwell. Reports from some survivors say that Nurse Rodwell had been injured in the initial explosion; in any case, she never got into any of the lifeboats. At first, she was officially listed as missing, and a death certificate was not issued. But later the War Office declared that she had been on the 'Anglia' but was not on the list of survivors, so her death could be certified as 17 November 1915.

Tributes

On the morning following the arrival of the survivors of the Anglia, the King sent a message of sympathy to all the survivors and relatives of those who were lost. The Army Council also put on record its appreciation of the presence of mind and devotion to duty shown by the Royal Army Medical Corps personnel on the occasion of the sinking of the hospital ship 'Anglia' which struck a mine on November 17th 1915. Through the courage and presence of mind of the Matron, Mrs Mitchell, and devotion of the nursing sisters, most of the cot cases were evacuated from the ship'.

The Army Council did not mention Mary Rodwell by name. But it seems that King George's private secretary wrote to her father shortly afterwards: "the private secretary is commanded to convey to Mr J. Rodwell the true sympathy



Local History

Nurse Rodwell (1874-1915) By David Seddon

of the King and Queen with him in the grievous sorry which has befallen him by the loss of his daughter in the sinking of the 'Anglia'".

The British Journal of Nursing published a lengthy tribute to her in December 1915. "The last the Matron saw of her was shortly before the explosion, when she came up to fetch some warm woollies for her patients. She was in charge of 200 cot cases, and her last moments were spent in caring for them, as when the explosion came she was ministering to the wounded. She died the death she would have wished for her King and country, doing her duty to the last moment".

The Norwood News reported in December 1915: "So far as we know she is the first member of the Women's Freedom League to sacrifice her life on active service . . . her name will be held in honour and reverence by the whole league."

Mary's death is commemorated at the Hollybrook Memorial in Southampton which names almost 1,900 servicemen and women whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters. Mary's name is also listed (as Nurse M. A. Rodwell) on the war memorial at Ditchingham – where her family moved after the war - as well as in the Diocese of Norwich, Great War 1914-1918 Book of Remembrance and on the Women's National Memorial Screen in York Minster.

This article is by way of a further memorial, 145 years after her birth and 105 years after her death.

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Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Parish Council

We have all faced change and uncertainty over the past year, during the Coronavirus outbreak and more recently following the flooding in Brockdish. I am hoping all residents whose properties and lives have been affected by flooding have received help and support from their Insurance companies, family and friends in these challenging times.

The Parish Council, with support from the District and County Council are in contact with the Flood and Management Team who will investigate the cause and notify any Risk Management Authority of their responsibilities. Property owners affected who have reported flooding to Norfolk County Council, should be informed of the outcome of this report. We would encourage anyone who has been affected by flooding but have not yet reported it, to do so via the <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/floods> website.

Property owners who have had internal flooding which is verified by Norfolk County Council are able to apply for a grant of up to £5000 for flood protection and resilience measures. More information can be found on our website: [Flood protection grants - Norfolk County Council](#). Information on typical measures can be found here: [Property protection - Norfolk County Council](#), although we would recommend and only fund measures that are passive or automatic i.e. not needing to be put up every time it rains/floods, such as waterproof doors instead of barriers.

In the meantime, I am seeking advice on how affected residents whose land borders the Brook can jointly access help and advice on how best to repair and maintain their individual sections of this water course, under Riparian Responsibility and how such responsibilities are enforced.

Litter Pickers

There are a number of litter pickers available at Thorpe Abbots Village Hall, courtesy of South Norfolk Council. If you would like to help keep our community clean whilst out on a walk please get in touch with Paul Slater (tel. 668585) who will gladly provide you with one!

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Parish Council

In respect to the coronavirus we are all experiencing restrictions, regulations and frequently changing situations. We must all do our best to follow the guidelines, make a difference by protecting ourselves and in doing so, protecting others.


Our next Parish Council Meeting will be on Thursday 25th February at 7.00pm via a Zoom link. If you wish to join the meeting please contact Teresa Hines, Parish Clerk.



We are also keen for representation on the Parish Council from Thorpe Abbots, so if you would like to join us, please contact our Parish Clerk or myself for further information or an informal chat.

Christine Mackenzie
Chairman Brockdish Parish Council
Chris.mackenzie2@btinternet.com
01379 668818

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Bare root perennials

Buying these plants is a cost effective way to add colour to your garden. They also have less packaging and are cheaper too.



Handy Hints

Do:

- Keep the bare root plants cool and plant as soon as possible.
- If planting straight away is not possible place them in a tray of damp compost.
- Dahlias and Delphiniums can be kept like this for up to 2 – 3 months, as long as they are watered once a month.
- When planting leave space, as even though they can look small they will quickly spread out into full sized plants.
- Even if rain is forecast water plants in well.

Don't:

- Don't plant bare root perennials if the ground is frozen or water – logged.
- Don't buy the plants from garden centres before November or after March, as it is possible they will be in poor condition.
- Avoid buying plants that are dry, brittle spongy or mushy.
- Don't neglect aftercare, keep plants watered in the first year even if they are drought tolerant.
- Watch out for slugs, snails or other pests especially around Hostas.
- Buying bare – root plants has the advantage of having the soil re-moved lessening the transfer of soil – borne pests.



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The Crafty Bombers

@ Thorpe Abbots Village Hall

The Crafty Bombers is a craft club for busy kids who like to do busy things!

Unfortunately, due to current Government restrictions we are unable to hold our usual Saturday morning sessions. In the meanwhile, why not have a go at this easy craft to brighten up your homes?

Colour diffusing

Colour diffusing is a form of chromatography that is very easy to do. You will need:

- *Coffee filter papers*
- *Felt tip pens*
- *A Pencil and scissors*
- *Water*

1. Draw a shape on your filter paper with pencil. If you are stuck for good ideas why not draw around leaves?
2. Carefully cut out your shape.
3. Draw patterns on your shape using felt tip pens.
4. Briefly dip your shape in water (or spray with a spray bottle). Look what happens to the colours!
5. Leave to dry. When dry, you can always add embellishments and details. Why not make lots and create a garland?

*For any enquiries please contact Jo Slater
tel. 668585 / jogslater@hotmail.com*



The Mardler Recipe

Microwave Steamed Syrup Pudding

Serves 4-5. Cooking time 4 ½ mins. For a 1 ½ pint basin.

Microwave timings:

500 watt: 5 min, turn twice.

650 watt: 4 min, turn twice.

Ingredients:

4 oz -100g Self raising flour

2oz – 50g suet

1oz – 25g Caster sugar

1oz – 25g Dark soft brown sugar

1 egg

3 fluid oz – 90ml milk

1 teaspoon vanilla essence.

3 tablespoons (45ml) Syrup



Method:

1. Grease the basin and put the syrup in the base.
2. Sift the flour into a bowl and add the suet, sugars and baking powder. Mix with a fork.
3. Add milk, egg and vanilla essence and mix again. Stir all ingredients together well.
4. Spoon the mixture into the basin, cover loosely with cling film and cook for the required time.
5. Remove cling film and turn out onto a plate.

Coffee Break Answers: 1. A longcase clock 2. As a sideboard. 3. Birmingham 4. Jacobean 5. Josiah Wedgwood. 6. A tester 7. A form of twist-turning dating back to the 17th Century 8. They were introduced to trim large feathers, usually from a goose, to make a quill-pen. 9. Pottery which has been fired without ceramic glaze. 10. Inlays of different coloured woods or materials arranged to make a pattern.

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All Saints Church Thorpe Abbots

It does of course go without saying that we all wish you a Happy New Year.

One of the impacts of Tier 4 status has been the decision to cancel Services for the time being. Whilst the current legislation allows services to take place it does rather go against the rest of the regulations when it concerns meeting up. We were also mindful of the need to heed the “Stay at Home” message. Be assured that we will be back once the dust has settled a little.

Whilst we were not permitted to have a Carol Service, we did manage a Festive Service of Evensong. So, although we had to jump through a few hoops, which included reducing capacity by some very considerable way, we had a lovely service and were almost full to capacity.

Some time ago, when the team arrived in the Church to clean, they found two large flints and other debris on the floor at the back of the Church. Clearly they had come off the western end of the Nave. Close inspection with binoculars failed to spot their origin. Whilst we always welcome visitors and worshipers, we felt that we should not add the prospect of personal injury by the appearance of any further debris. We needed to find out what was going on. On investigation, it was discovered that the falling items had come from the top of the Nave wall.



All Saints Church Thorpe Abbots

The Nave roof was replaced in 1880 (I have the cost somewhere) but the tops of the wall were left as loose rubble rather than being cleaned off and secured with mortar.

Happily, we found someone locally who could not only get up there and investigate but, most importantly could affect the necessary repairs. I can now assure all visitors that there is no risk of injury from flying flints etc when visiting All Saints.

The Churchyard very sensibly is in sleep mode. We were delighted to spot the early daffodils at the front which always precede our snowdrops and aconites.

Our very best wishes to you all. Our thoughts are very much with those of you who have suffered as a result of the weather before Christmas.

Simon Beet



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Church News

Brockdish Church

Regrettably, due to new Covid restrictions, Brockdish Church will be closed for services until further notice. Online services are available on the following website: <https://nigeltuffnellwordpress.com/category/worship>.

The foodbank is struggling at the moment and would appreciate donations but not including, pasta, soup, cereals and beans. Donations can be left at the Rectory, Swan Lane, Harleston or 15 The Street, Brockdish.

With thanks.

Jan Croxson - Churchwarden

Church Contacts

Minister in Charge
www.7churches.org.uk

Revd Nigel Tuffnell
rector@7churches.org.uk

Benefice Administrator
admin@7churches.org.uk

Mon to Fri 9.15am to 1pm
01379 851148
[Facebook.com/7churches.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/7churches.org.uk)

Brockdish Church Wardens

Ann Cork - 01379 668635
Jan Croxson - 01379 668630

Thorpe Abbotts Contact

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