



Worlington Pump

February 2020

Bird Talk

We have been having more than occasional visits this winter from groups of about twenty delightful long tailed tits. My first sighting, in early December, was spectacular – I counted thirteen of them on the peanut feeder at the same time with others fluttering around waiting for a space. The movement was constant and I couldn't see the feeder at all. They always look so cheerful and full of energy that they never fail to add an extra degree of pleasure to whatever else is happening on the other feeders.



Fat balls are popular with most of our small garden birds and I have always put them out from early November but last year, for the first time, I had a problem. Two jackdaws and a jay became frequent and eventually daily visitors and were devouring the four balls in the feeder by mid day leaving nothing for the smaller birds. Jackdaws keep nesting in the owl box in the church yard but other than that I have nothing particularly against corvids and the jays are attractive. But they are big enough to look after themselves and seem to do pretty well without help from me so I tried various ruses to deter them, none of which were successful. By mid January I had had enough and stopped putting fat balls in the garden.



I know long tailed tits like fat balls so this year I have put them out again with good results and hope that the change of location will continue to fool the jackdaws. Crows, rooks and jackdaws are numerous and common so I tend to give them little thought.

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Happy Valentines Day

February is the month of love. Card shops are already full of Valentine cards. Florists are all set to make a killing in red roses and all of us will have the opportunity of telling that special person in our lives that we love them. Everyone has heard of Valentine and of his association with lovers but who actually was he and what is it all really about?

Valentine was a widely recognized 3rd-century Roman saint, commemorated in Christianity on February 14th. He was martyred at Rome under the Emperor Claudius on February 14th 269 AD. The truth of how his association with lovers began is shrouded in mystery but several stories and legends have grown up giving possible reasons. One says that just before he was martyred, he left a farewell note for the gaoler's daughter, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine."

Another legend says it originated from the medieval belief that 14th February is the traditional day when birds mated. The most likely explanation, however, is that it originated from a link with the pagan Lupercalia festival in Rome. The early Christian Church in Rome endeavoured to do away with the pagan element in these feasts by substituting the names of saints for those of maidens. As the Lupercalia began about the middle of February, Valentine appears to have chosen for the celebration of this new feast, which became Saint Valentine's Day. So, it seems that the custom of young men choosing maidens for valentines arose in this way.

For Christians, the day marks an acknowledgement of an all-loving God who blesses those who love one another, as Jesus implored all his disciples to do. It is with this association in mind that many churches now use this date to hold services in which marriage vows can be renewed and couples can seek afresh God's blessing on their marriages.

Rev Gordon

There are two different Saints' Lives for a St Valentine on February 14th, but they are probably the same man. Saint Valentine was a clergyman – either a priest or a bishop – in the Roman Empire who ministered to persecuted Christians. [2] He was martyred and his body buried at a Christian cemetery on the Via Flaminia close to the Ponte Milvio to the north of Rome, on February 14, which has been observed as the Feast of Saint Valentine (Saint Valentine's Day) since 496 AD.

All Saints Church Services

February 2020

Sunday 2 nd	11:00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 9 th		No Service
Sunday 16 th	8:00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd	11:00 am	Family Communion
Wednesday 26 th	10:30 am	Ash Wednesday Service (<i>St. Peter's, West Row</i>)

March 2020

Sunday 1 st	11:00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 8 th		No Service
Sunday 15 th	8:00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 22 nd	11:00 am	Family Communion
Sunday 29 th	10:00 am	Holy Communion (<i>St. Mary's, Barton Mills</i>)

Priest in Charge	Rev. Sandie Barton	01638 720770
Elder	Heath Rosselli	01638 717337
Churchwarden	Mrs Shirley Reeder	01638 716096
Treasurer	Elizabeth Klingaman	01638 711642

Flowers

February	<i>Silk Flowers</i>
March	No flowers - Lent

Changes to the Pump

To try and keep up-to-date, the pump will be moving to full-colour bimonthly editions, so the next edition will be April 2020.

Advertising Rates

£60 per ½ page per annum
£30 per ¼ page per annum

Contacts for the Pump

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I mentioned in November that I watched a couple of hundred eating harvest droppings on a Church Farm field and wondered, with the current rate of wildlife depletion, how long they would remain common.

By chance I heard an edition of Living World on BBC Radio Four recently the subject of which was rooks and jackdaws. It came from a rookery at Madingley Hall near Cambridge which I have visited many times.

In the winter months this rookery/roost has 2,000 to 3,000 birds being a mixture of rooks and jackdaws. Many rookeries are hundreds of years old and this site is mentioned in the Doomsday Book so it is at least 933 years old which astounded me. The expert said that there are lots and lots of rookeries in East Anglia some as large as 10,000 birds which again amazed me. Irritatingly neither the expert nor the presenter mentioned where these really large concentrations were so I looked up the website of SOG -Suffolk Ornithologists' Group. They did a survey in 1975 and identified 929 rookeries in Suffolk and, on 1st January 2019 they started a more comprehensive two year on line survey.

If you are interested go to www.sogonline.org.uk which will, confusingly, take you to the Suffolk Bird Group, but it is the same outfit. Click on Projects then Surveys & then on Rooks and you will get the details. It doesn't look particularly complex or onerous so it could be a great way of getting a young person, or an older one, who has an interest in wildlife involved in something useful. There are plenty of rooks in and around Worlington so there is no need to get in a car.

Rooks and jackdaws may be common but they are far from being ordinary. You have probably seen film of them or crows using sticks as tools or working out how to get food out of a box which is not good news for me trying to keep them off my fat balls but makes them interesting birds to study.

Rooks and crows are bigger than jackdaws so it is quite easy to tell them apart and also jackdaws have that grey area around their necks and white eyes. But crows and rooks can be



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tricky. The adult rook has no feathers between its bill and its eyes and to me, at a distance, this makes it look as if it has a bigger bill which is black at the tip and grey near the head. This is how I separate them.

Also, rooks are more social than crows so they nest in colonies whilst crows nest in pairs on their own. There is an old rule of thumb a version of which is – if there are more than a couple of crows they are probably rooks; if there is a single rook it is probably a crow. I hope this helps but it is not 100% reliable. I will come back to corvids later in the year.

Happy New Year

Don MacBean



Date for copy for the next edition by: **Sunday 22nd March**. Please send articles to pump@worlington.org.uk or ellen.clowes@btinternet.com. Thanks.

Church Open

All Saints' Church is now open every day.



Please feel able to stop at our lovely medieval church, taking in its history or spend some quiet time for reflection.

Churchyard Wild Flowers - An invitation

We are going to turn half of the south side of the church grass into a large wild flower patch.

During February the grass will be strimmed and rotovated to get rid of the thick thatch that has hampered the success of previous attempts to encourage wild flowers; the soil will then be prepared for sewing.

Joan Mortlock (01638 713751) has kindly volunteered to be our technical advisor and has also generously offered to provide the "ingredients".

We would like this to be a community project and invite as many of you as are interested to take part. Joan will have plug plant trays, compost and the most suitable mix of wild flower seeds available at her house in Lark Close. All you need to do is to phone Joan and fix a time to visit her and pick up your kit. If, like me, you are not entirely sure of how to grow plug plants, Joan will show you. If you already know all about it then even better.

Depending on the weather we will plant the plug plants plus loose seed in late February or early March. There will be no Pump in March so we ask that you leave your phone number with Joan so that we can let you know about the arrangements for planting which Joan will supervise.

We think that this will be a great way of involving the village in making the church yard even more attractive for visitors and locals alike. A special invitation is extended to regular walkers and dog walkers who will benefit tremendously.

For any general queries please contact me (01638 713710) but for technical gardening queries it is Joan – 01638 713751).

Don MacBean

Fly Tipping in the Churchyard

During the early part of December several heaps of garden waster were dumped in the churchyard extension. They consisted of pruning's of holly, laurel, bramble, berberis and other foliage; there was also some gravel among the leaves. One grave had been desecrated by a pile of garden rubbish emptied upon it.

We find this to be appalling behaviour. The piles have now been removed.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact:

*Shirley Reeder, Church Warden
Grove Farm - 01638 716096.*

Worlington Parish Council

Members of the Parish Council 2020-21

Cllr. Nick Foster (Chair)	el_fozzo69@hotmail.com
Cllr. Ken Lucas (Vice-chair)	kenl4lucas@gmail.com
Cllr. Steve Foster	fozbuck51@hotmail.com
Cllr. Peter Merrick	peter.merrick123@btinternet.com
Cllr. Alan Marshall	alanwmarshall@googlemail.com
Cllr. Lesley Osborne	lesleyosborne37@gmail.com

Parish Clerk

Mrs Vicky Bright Tel: 07712 232920

3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 7LT

Email: worlingtonparishcouncil@live.com

Parish Council Website: www.worlington.onesuffolk.net

Next Parish Council Meeting Dates

Thursday 6th February 2020 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall. This meeting is to solely discuss the Neighbourhood Plan proposal. The agenda will be available on www.worlington.onesuffolk.net 5 days before the meeting.

Thursday 19th March 2020 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall. Contact the Clerk to add items to the agenda. Agenda available on www.worlington.onesuffolk.net 5 days before the meeting.

Council Tax Precept 2020/2

For Residents information following an annual review of our budget for 2020-2021, we have calculated that our precept request this year will be £13,321.00 (£61.76 for a Band D property). This would equate to an increase of £2 per household over the year, or 16p per month (3.35%). The justification for this much needed increase is that we need to build up our diminished reserves for future Community Projects. This increase will show on your 2020/21 Council Tax Bill. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the council on worlingtonparishcouncil@live.com or Tel: 07712 232920.

What's on in Freckenham <http://freckenham.suffolk.cloud/>

Weekly Meet Up, Monday 2.30 - 4.30pm, at The Golden Boar, it's all about meeting up for a social chat. Free cuppa and biscuits.

Friday Film Nights are back!

Friday 7th February, 7 for 7:30pm, Film Night - Yesterday. Jack Malik (Himesh Patel, BBC's EastEnders) is a struggling singer-songwriter in a tiny English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie. Then, after a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed... and he finds himself with a very complicated problem, indeed. 112 minutes. PG13 No need to book just turn up £5 a person. Doors & Bar open 7pm film starts 7:30 pm. Popcorn, ice-cream and treats available. The Golden Boar for a pre-film supper best to pre-book & advise you are going to the film 01638 723000.

Friday 28th February – Join us for the Macmillan Mammoth Quiz Night. You can come as a team - maximum of 6, or come to join others to make a team. Essential to book contact Jacqui on 07770 477 688. No entry fee but a donation to Macmillan Cancer Support is requested. Doors & Bar open 7pm for 7.30pm prompt start. Alcohol, soft drinks, hot drinks & snacks available. Raffle.

Saturday 29th February, 10 - 12 noon, Farmers & Crafts Market. Stalls to be confirmed but likely to include fruit & veg, meat, pies, cheese, olives, bread, honey, eggs, WI preserves & pickles, candles & diffusers, cards plus variety of crafts including knitting & jute products. Free entry. Cuppa, cakes & bacon rolls available.

Friday 6th March , 7 for 7:30pm, Film Night - The Good Liar stars Ian McKellen & Helen Mirren. No need to book just turn up £5 a person. Doors & Bar open 7pm film starts 7.30pm Running time 109 mins R.

Saturday 28th March, 10 - 12 noon, Farmers & Crafts Market. Stalls to be confirmed. Free entry. Cuppa, cakes & bacon rolls available.

Saturday 28th March, 7 for 7:30pm, Cash Bingo. Doors and bar open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Hope you are all still trying to “get active”, we have something for all from seated exercise to Zumba, table tennis to karate, dancing, Pilates, even body tone to yoga! Check the village website www.freckenham.suffolk.cloud for updates and details of weekly activities. Contact the tutor if you are new or attending after a break.

For further details connect with us on Facebook or Twitter @FreckenhamVH or see our village website: <http://freckenham.suffolk.cloud/freckenham-village-hall>.

All Saints' Church
Tuesday Coffee Morning

Tuesday 25th February & 31st March

10:30 - 12:00

Join us for coffee and homemade biscuits.

Everyone Welcome.

All Saints' Church
Fish & Chip Quiz Night

Worlington Village Hall

Friday 27th March

7.30pm

Last chance before the Autumn!!

Good Fun Promised



A prize for the winning team to share.

£11 per person, includes supper and tea or coffee.

Raffle.

Please bring your own drinks.

*Contact Linda 01638 515068 or Val 01638 714336
before Tuesday 24th February please, so that we have time
to order food or with any queries.*

See you there!

'CRAFTY NATTER'

Come along and join us at the next Crafty Natter.

Any craft or project welcome!

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Friday 7th February
6.30 – 9.30pm £5.00

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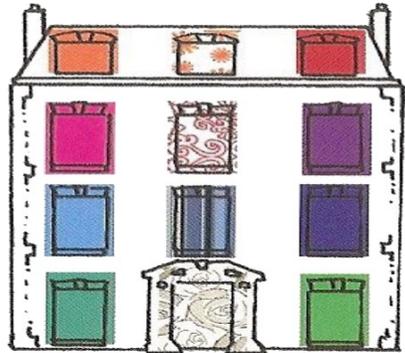
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