

# Burpham & Wepham News



*The Monthly Newsletter of the village of Burpham & Wepham*

*Your Village Website:* <http://Burpham.arun.gov.uk/main.cfm>

*Friends of Burpham Church:* [fbcburpham.org.uk](mailto:fbcburpham.org.uk)

*Apologies - I won't be able to compile and print a Newsletter at the end of September, so this issue will cover both September and October. Please notify Marion of any urgent matters arising, so that she can e mail everyone in the Village, and/or post it on the website. Bob Baynes*

*From the Vicarage, September & October 2015*

*Dear Friends,*

During late summer, people are very busy on the land, gathering in the harvest, then holding their festivals and celebrations to give thanks for the results of another year's work. At St Mary's this thanksgiving will take place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00 pm and will be followed by a Harvest Supper – we do hope you will be able to attend. Of course, however, on the land nothing stops. As soon as one harvest has been gathered, the work has to begin again to provide for another year.

It has long been said that the new beginnings start on Michaelmas Day, the feast day of St Michael on September 29<sup>th</sup>. In England this day has long been one of the 'Quarter Days', on which rent for a quarter of the year has to be paid. No doubt this was seen as very 'convenient' too, for most farmers always had the money for this, as a result of having gathered in the harvest.

It was a day when contracts officially ended between landlords and tenants or between masters and servants. Thus some people would be looking for new workers: others would be looking for new jobs.

There were no Employment Exchanges, as there are today, so fairs were held in many parts of the country. These were known as 'hiring' or 'mop' fairs, and they were places where many new working agreements were reached. Michaelmas fairs are still held in some towns, but today they are just for amusement and 'all the fun of the fair'. One of the most famous fairs was held at St Ives, Cambridgeshire, and is said to have lasted 40 days! Nottingham Goose Fair boasted the sale of some 20,000 geese.

Widdecombe Fair (of Tom Pearce fame) sold Dartmoor ponies and sheep; there was also the Pot Fair at Cambridge, and a Cheese Fair at Frome.

The geese element is echoed in an old saying :-

Whoso eats goose on Michaelmas Day  
Shall never lack money his debts to pay,

Within the Church, St Michael's Day is Ordination Day. Michael is regarded as the greatest of all the Archangels – who number between 4 and 7, depending on which book you read. The writer was Ordained in Southwark Cathedral on this day in 1994 – so if you hear me singing, '21 today, 21 today' round about then – just accept that I haven't been at the Prosecco!

October is a relatively quiet month in terms of Church Festivals – apart from The 27<sup>th</sup>. This is the Feast Day of no less a personage than Alfred the Great – the only English king to be called 'Great'. Perhaps we could have a real 'Parish feast day' and all bake cakes !!!

**From the Registers:** Wedding Register 15<sup>th</sup> August, Claire Louise O'Neill and Jaime Peter De Oliveira.

*Maurice Slattery*

**Harvest Festival.** This year the Service will be on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm followed by a harvest supper in the village hall. The cost of the supper will be £7.50 per adult and £3.50 for children under 12yrs.

We look forward to welcoming you to this event and hope you will be able to join us. Tickets are now available from Mike Mills 883174, William Tyler 884337, or Bob Baynes 883667. **Mike Mills**

**Church Decoration for Harvest Festival – 26<sup>th</sup> September** I have been asked to organize the flowers for Harvest Festival this year, and I will be very grateful for any help. I shall be taking some of the flowers and produce up on the Friday (late morning), but the main decorating time will be Saturday morning 26<sup>th</sup> September from 10.30am.

Please come, no experience required, and help offered if wanted. Coffee and biscuits will be provided, the more helpers the more fun! And a beautiful Church the result!

All gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables most gratefully received, and also tinned/ packaged food and non-perishable goods for local Charities.

**Jocelyne Newman 882628**

**Dinner in the Church Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September.** A medley of popular music will accompany a gourmet meal. The evening will end with some war-time classics and a selection from the last night of the Proms. *An evening not to missed!* There are still some tickets left so please get yours now to avoid disappointment! **Tickets from William Tyler 884337 or Bob Baynes 883667. Bonnie Hamilton.**

**Village Companions** Our next gathering will be at Sandra & Glen's at East Preston. **Please phone Sandra if you would like to go on 01903 411425.**

**Darts.** The next event will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October at The George for Darts. Meet at the pub at 7.30pm. Nibbles will be available. Look forward to seeing you all there. Let me know if you want to go so that I can advise the pub. **Liz White 882654, [phizzie@btinternet.com](mailto:phizzie@btinternet.com)**

**Karaoke Supper Evening Burpham Village Hall - Saturday, 24th October at 7.30pm** Bring your own food and tittle and enjoy a fun evening with friends and neighbours.

We will kick off with the supper and then follow on with your favourite songs for a sing-a-long. Join in with everyone else or show off with a solo rendition!! (words will be on the big screen). This event is brought to you by Burpham Village Social Committee and there will be no charge.

Need more information – then contact Heather Birch 882839  
We look forward to seeing you. **Heather Birch (882839)**

**Cricket Club News Junior Cricket** - See double sided insert about the Junior Cricket Match v Ferring, and the day 'Sid the Shark' came to Burpham.

**Annual Cricket Dinner and Awards Night** - This will be held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at The George. Details to be sent out soon. **Kevin Foster 882823**

**A 'thank you' from Claire and Jaime De Oliveira.** Claire and Jaime have asked me to say a huge thank you to Rosemary Tustin and Jean & Julie Tester, for the arranging and attention to detail of the beautiful church flowers and also to Maurice for the splendid service, all of which made their Big Day that more special! Thank you again! **Debbie**

**Village Tractor.** Steve & Rhona have very kindly given the Village a very fine tractor, which will replace our small lawn tractor (which has done Trojan service over the year) to maintain the Recreation Ground, Children's Play Area, Pond surroundings etc.

Unfortunately the cricket shed isn't big enough for both, and we would appreciate it if you have enough room in your outbuildings to temporarily store the small garden tractor. Alternatively, if you would like to make an offer for it, please contact **Kevin Foster on 882823.**

**Burpham & Wepham Book.** Steve Penticost, owner of Burpham Country House and former professional photographer, is designing a photo book of Burpham and Wepham charting the life of the village. The book will aim to show the landscape and

how it's managed, the incredible variety of wildlife and the history and evolution of the village.

With the last section in mind Steve is very keen to see if anyone has any old pictures of the village that he can scan and use in the book. He is particularly keen to see pictures of old houses, farming images, village people and any trades or crafts. Ideally these pictures will cover the end of the 19th Century up to the 1960's.

If you can help, please contact him at the Hotel or email. Pictures will of course be returned, and full credit will be given. If you can help please let **Steve know by contacting him on 882160 or by emailing [Stevepentocost@gmail.com](mailto:Stevepentocost@gmail.com).**

## Forthcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER

Sun 6 Sep	10.30am	<b>Family Service, Coffee &amp; Produce</b>	St Mary's
	1.00pm	<b>BWCC Unders &amp; Overs (Home)</b>	Rec Ground
Mon 7 Sep	7.30pm	<b>Village Companions @ Glen &amp; Sandra's</b>	East Burton
Fri 11 Sep	7.00pm	<b>Black Tie Dinner in the Church</b>	St Mary's
Sun 13 Sep	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
Sun 20 Sep	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
Sat 26 Sep	10.30am	<b>Church Decoration</b>	St Mary's
Sun 27 Sep	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
	6.00pm	<b>Harvest Festival Service</b>	St Mary's
		<b>Followed by Harvest Supper</b>	Village Hall

### OCTOBER

Sun 4 Oct	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
Sun 11 Oct	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
Mon 12 Oct	7.30pm	<b>Village Companions Darts</b>	The George
Tue 13 Oct	7.30pm	<b>Village Committee meeting</b>	Village Hall
Fri 16 Oct	TBC	<b>Cricket Prize Giving Dinner</b>	The George
Sun 18 Oct	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
Sat 24 Oct	7.30pm	<b>Karaoke Evening</b>	Village Hall
Sun 25 Oct	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
Tue 27 Oct	7.00pm	<b>PCC Meeting</b>	Vicarage
Sat 31 Oct	6.00pm	<b>Halloween Special</b>	The George

**Please send your articles for the November Newsletter to Bob Baynes at Court Leet Cottage, or preferably by e mail to [baynes755@btinternet.com](mailto:baynes755@btinternet.com) by the last week of October 2015. All your articles of interest to the Village are welcome.**  
**With very many thanks, Bob Baynes**