

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:

fbc@fbcburpham.org.uk

From the Vicarage, March 2015

Dear Friends,

We continue our journey through Lent. By now we have passed the Second Sunday of 6. It can be a bit confusing trying to work out how the 40 days of Lent take us 46 days to complete – well, it's simple. We actually qualify for a discount!! Sundays cannot be Fast Days – for in Church philosophy, when 'Mothering Sunday' began, everyone going to church and taking Communion received the Body and Blood of Jesus. This was the result of a process formally known as 'transubstantiation'. Which meant the Church couldn't really say that for these Sundays the bread and the wine weren't turned into the body and blood already described. It was the very act of transubstantiation that was one of the challenges made to the Roman Catholic Church by a group of protesters across Europe. The protesters disputed a number of issues and then broke away, to form their own churches – and, in essence, their nickname of protesters was elevated into the form that it has maintained to this day – Protestants.

March 15th this year will see us celebrate what has become known as 'Mothers' Day'. This is also a 'transformation' for the focus with the early church was that it was called 'Mothering Sunday' – a time when everyone – including those who worked in service returned to their 'Mother' church, wherever that may be, to attend worship in their home church. Tradition has it, that as they walked home to their respective villages, they picked flowers from the hedgerows for their mothers.

Another tradition was that a Simnel Cake was made and taken home. These rich cakes were well baked, and intended to last until Easter. Some references say that Simnel is derived from the names Simon and Nellie – showing that boys as well as girls were involved. However, as the Latin word 'simila' translates as 'fine

flower', someone might be guilty of being creative! The boys, who were also allowed to return to their 'Mother' village, apparently returned with gifts that seem unspecified. Perhaps the boys provided the 12 marzipan balls that decorated our Simnel Cake – these were thought to represent the 11 Apostles (Judas Iscariot definitely being on the naughty step) and one for Jesus.

What Mothers' Day does is to remind us that families are important and that it is sad when members of a family lose touch with each other. I suspect there are very few who resent the focus of this day being Mothers. The Chinese Festival Ch'ing Ming used small sacrifices in the hope the 'spirit' of the offering would reach the ancestral home.

As we remember our families, O Lord, we say thank you for those with whom we live, and we remember those far away. Grant your Blessing to us all.

Maurice Slattery

Village Companions. Following on from our last meeting these are the next trips we are planning:

Arundel Priory Playhouse Monday 23rd March. This multi award winning play premiered at The National Theatre is entitled 'HUMBLE BOY' It is a comedy about broken vows and failed hopes and the joys of bee keeping!

Tickets are £12 and it starts at 7.45pm

Thakeham Furniture in Petworth Monday March 30th. Wepham villager Anthony Tester has kindly invited us to visit his workshop. Anthony is a highly skilled furniture restorer and has worked at Thakeham Furniture for 30 years and has been restoring furniture for over 40 years. Thakeham Furniture is a small family business established in 1987 and there will be a chance to see Anthony's workshop and some of the lovely items that are or have been restored. We plan to arrive at 11.00am and following the visit go on for an informal lunch somewhere in Petworth for those interested in doing so. There will be limited places available for this trip so please let me know asap if you are interested.

As always car share is available for both the above trips.

The next Village Companions meeting will be on Monday April 20th at 7.30pm at Bob and Gill Baynes, Court Leet Cottage, Wepham – 883667. Please let me or Gill know if you are planning to come along. . **Liz White 882654.**

Junior Cricket - Winter Nets up at the Castle. Welcome to a new and no doubt very exciting year of cricket!

Indoor cricket practice has been arranged for 4 Sundays in March, starting March 8th, 3pm - 4pm. It's up at the Indoor School at Arundel Castle. If

you know of any children, boys or girls, aged 6 - 14 (or their friends), who would like to participate, please contact Kevin Foster on the number/e mail address below, the cost will be a very reasonable at £15 for the four sessions and we are setting the upper age limit to 14.

We would like to use this opportunity to introduce other children from the surrounding areas to the Colt's in the hope of swelling the numbers for the forthcoming season. This will hopefully allow us to form 2 teams, one for the younger members and the other for the older ones to hopefully enable us to enter them into a more challenging league this season. It will also enable us to focus on the younger members in preparation for playing hard ball. Therefore if you know of any other children (girls or boys) that you think might be interested please ask their parent's or guardian's to get in touch with Roger Anscombe. via email or phone. Please let him know as soon as possible as we need to confirm the bookings. With your support we are sure that the new season could be our most successful yet!

Race Night - We have arranged a "Race Night" for Saturday 7th March. Last year's was a really fun evening. Children welcome. Please let Kevin know if you would like to come.

Roger Anscombe 07768 864756 rogeranscombe@me.com Junior Coordinator
Kevin Foster 882823 kevin.foster60@sky.com Chief Coach

Burpham Stoolball Club will be holding their annual Jumble Sale on Saturday 11th April at 2.00pm. If you have any Jumble or Bric a Brac you would like to donate to us it will be very much appreciated. We can collect, please contact Julie 883053 or Vanessa 885895. Thank you for your support,
Julie Tester B.S.C.

Farewell to Theresa. Thank you to all those who made donations towards the leaving gift for Theresa. You'll be pleased to know that we raised the grand sum of £150, and this was loaded onto a John Lewis gift card so that she can buy something nice for her new home to remember us by.

Many villagers gathered at the triangle by Warningcamp House at 11.00am on 30th January to wish Theresa well as she made her last collection from the post box there. Fortunately the weather was sunny and bright and after Warningcamp made a presentation (including a splendid cake made by Libby), Bob Baynes said a few well-chosen words and we gave our gift to Theresa along with a card with the printed words "*Saying farewell is always a sad time but the good times will be*



remembered with a smile. Best wishes for the future." Also written in the card on behalf of us all was:

"The residents of Burpham and Wepham are sad to be losing such a lovely post lady. We will miss your sunny personality and cheery smile, but most of all we'll miss the friendship we've shared over so many years. This gift comes with our love and best wishes for good health, good luck and much happiness as you move from West Sussex to the West Country. Remember us sometimes!"

Theresa made a short speech in her usual happy style, thanking us for our gifts, saying how much she'll miss us and promising to send us photos and keep in touch. All in all it was a really nice occasion, marking the end of many years of devoted service to our villages. She'll be much missed but it's good to know that she'll keep in contact. **Val Belton**

Thank you Paul. On behalf of the residents of Wepham may I express our warmest thanks to Paul Challen for his work on our behalf. The ground at the foot our post-box had become uneven and dangerous when posting a letter; within 24 hours of this being reported to him he had dug out and levelled the area, making it safe in all weathers. Paul also arranged for the making and installation of a smart new notice board, the old one having become extremely hazardous to use. So many thanks to you Paul - your efforts have made all the difference. **Val Belton**

Forthcoming Events

Sun 1 Mar	10.30am	Family Service, Coffee & Produce	St Mary's
Sat 7 Mar	7.00pm	Junior Cricket 'Race Night'	Village Hall
Sun 8 Mar	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
Sun 15 Feb	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service	St Mary's
Sun 22 Mar	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
Mon 23 Mar	7.45pm	Village Companions -Humble Boy	Arundel Playhouse
Sun 29 Mar	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service	St Mary's
Mon 30 Mar	11.00am	Thakeham Furniture Visit	Petworth
	7.00pm	Fete Planning Meeting	Village Hall
Sun 5 Apr	10.30am	Easter Service, Coffee & Produce	St Mary's

Please send your articles for the April Newsletter to

Bob Baynes at Court Leet Cottage, or preferably by e mail to baynes755@btinternet.com by the last week of March 2015. All your articles of interest to the Village are welcome.

With very many thanks, Bob Baynes