

# 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](mailto:fbc@fbcburpham.org.uk)

*From the Vicarage, May 2015*

*Dear Friends,*

As a relative ‘newcomer’ to the parish I’m not completely aware of where (precisely) the parish of St Mary the Virgin, Burpham, begins or ends. Yes, I know there are maps, but maps don’t show a boundary mark – such as a bridge or stone, or tree or some other object. Before maps, and to ensure that there were those who would always know, villagers would – once a year – set out from the church to ‘beat the bounds’. This was done, literally, with willow wands. The accepted boundary marks/objects would be beaten with the wands. Often a boy was beaten, or ‘bumped’ against the stone or tree – or even thrown into a river!! There are records that say some boys would be rolled in brambles and thus disposed always to recognise the spot and, hence, the boundary. My reference source tells me that the boy in question was, invariably, rewarded with a coin or some other gift (in case you’re feeling sorry for him!!).

This custom – like so many others – comes from old origins. Two Roman festivals are probably the source. One, Terminalia, was in honour of Terminus, god of boundary marks. Another was Ambarvalia, when country dwellers beat the ground with sticks to drive out the spirits of winter. We may or may not know where the precise bounds of our parish are but we do know where ‘our’ village is. May 23<sup>rd</sup> sees the annual Village Fete and it would be a wonderful ‘marking’ if everyone might try their very hardest to attend – however briefly – the celebrations and join in the fun. I hasten to point out at this time that I am not available to be rolled in brambles or thrown into any river but I do hope that

we shall all find the day memorable. If you think that you might be able to help on the day you will be welcomed with opened arms!

There is to be a Deanery Confirmation at Chichester Cathedral on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> June at 5.30pm. If anyone might be interested they should contact me at the Vicarage – 905837 – as I would be expected to let the organisers know names by 6<sup>th</sup> May. Amusingly the 21<sup>st</sup> June is, by coincidence, the Summer Solstice, and the longest day. At Stonehenge Druids met to see the sun break over the Hele (Sun) Stone, and then paraded in their white robes and carrying symbolic banners. You wouldn't be expected to wear such an outfit for a Confirmation Service, nor, indeed, to be thrown into a river or rolled in brambles. You would, however, be 'setting' a spiritual marker.

I look forward to seeing you on May 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Village Fete.

*Maurice Slattery*

**Reminder - Fete on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.**

**Volunteers ideas and help still needed!**

**Please see enclosed Flyer for details**

**Annual Bar-b-Q and Film Night.** Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June on the Cricket/Recreation ground and Village Hall. This year we have planned a Bollywood theme for the evening. Bring your own food and tipple for the BBQ which will be followed by a film in the village hall. More details in the June Newsletter.

**Heather Birch 882839**

**Village Companions.** We had a really interesting and informative visit to Anthony Tester's workshop at Thakeham Furniture. We saw 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> century English antique furniture being sympathetically restored to its former glory using time honoured traditional materials and tools. If anyone needs a fine piece of furniture look no further than Anthony's workshop – you simply



could not do better. Thank you Ant, we all had a really superb day with you and your team.

On Monday 11th May we are off to the **Chichester Festival Theatre** to see **'Way Upstream'** by **Alan Ayckbourn**. There are still tickets available for this at our group rate of £25 instead of £35-£39 so if you want to go then please contact me as soon as possible.

Looking ahead to warmer days we are once again visiting **Mill Road Leisure Centre Arundel for a round of putting** on Monday 29th June at 5 p.m and afterwards for some light supper at The Swan, Arundel. Usually playing Burpham against Wepham or as last year Ladies against Gentlemen. Let me know if you would like to join us.

All welcome as usual and car share available. **Liz White 882654**

**Road Works - Wepham Lodge.** Due to damaged foundations we will be replacing our block wall with a flint one. The work will take place in May and will unfortunately impinge on the road. May we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. **Ian & Liz Robson**

**Church Flowers @ Easter.** A very big thank you to everyone who helped with the church flowers at Easter. The church looked beautiful and was much appreciated by everyone. **Gill**

**A letter from Teresa.** *(There wasn't room for this in the last Newsletter, but is on the Village website)* All is well with the move to Devon. Sorry for my delay in Thanking You all for your kind gifts and my wonderful surprise party. Now being in deepest Devon getting the phone or broadband connected has been a little troublesome. The village we have moved to "Coldridge" has been very welcoming. We have been busy gardening and re-fencing, making the garden safe for the doggies. The weather has thrown everything at us rain, snow, hail, and the winds have been freezing.

The views from our home look across the fields and farms of the Taw Valley and beyond to Dartmoor. We have been walking on Exmoor and Dartmoor, following the Tarka Trail.

I have been bell ringing for the first time in an 8 bells tower in Winkleigh (our nearest town with shops and pubs). Well it's very different to ringing in Sussex. It's quick and slick and I need a decoder book to understand the local lingo!!! I was asked back to ring on Sunday morning so I can't have been too bad!!

The lanes are full of snowdrops and the primroses, so pretty. They are very narrow and full of pot holes, which make driving down here interesting. I am not in a hurry to return to work and I'm having fun. **Love Teresa (Postie)**

**Open Garden Charity Event. Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2 till 5.00pm.** Bill & Rosemary are once again opening their garden at the Granary. The entry is £5 and includes tea, cakes, etc. Profits will be shared between our local Hospices. More in next month's Newsletter.

## Forthcoming Events

Fri 1 May	8.00pm	<b>Murder Mystery Evening</b>	Jailhouse
Sun 3 May	10.30am	<b>Family Service, Coffee &amp; Produce</b>	St Mary's
	1.30pm	<b>Cricket v Slindon (Home)</b>	Rec Ground
Fri 8 May	2.00pm	<b>Fete- stall donations to Village Hall</b>	Village Hall
Sun 10 May	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
	1.30pm	<b>Cricket v Palmers (Home)</b>	Rec Ground
Mon 11 May	7.30pm	<b>Festival Theatre - Alan Ayckbourne</b>	Chichester
Sat 16 May	2.00pm	<b>Fete- stall donations to Village Hall</b>	Village Hall
Sun 17 May	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
	2.00pm	<b>Cricket v Pathfinders (Home)</b>	Rec Ground
Thu 21 May	7.00pm	<b>Fete Meeting</b>	Village Hall
Fri 22 May		<b>Village Fete - Stall Organisation</b>	Village Hall
<b>Sat 23 May</b>	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Village Fete</b>	<b>Rec Ground</b>
Sun 24 May	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
	2.00pm	<b>Cricket v Harry Baldwins (Home)</b>	Rec Ground
Sun 31 May	10.30am	<b>Family Service</b>	St Mary's
	2.00pm	<b>Cricket v Singleton (Away)</b>	Singleton
Tue 2 Jun	7.30pm	<b>Village Committee Meeting</b>	Village Hall

**Reminder - Fete on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.  
Volunteers ideas and help still needed!  
Please see enclosed Flyer for details**

Please send your articles for the June 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 May 2015. All your articles of interest to the Village are welcome.  
With very many thanks, Bob Baynes