RINGSTEAD NEWS AND VIEWS

RINGSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL in association with RINGSTEAD WOODLAND GARDENS AND WALKS GROUP ANNOUNCE

AND WALKS GROUP
ANNOUNCE
Ringstead Community Picnic
TO CELEBRATE THE CORONATION OF H M KING CHARLES III
Bring your own food & drink



To be held on Sunday 7th May 2023

from midday

in the village chalk pit at the downs Car parking available.

SOME DISABLED PARKING IN VENUE
BBQS provided (GAS AND CHARCOAL)
NO DISPOSABLE BBQS ALLOWED



Music Marquee Games
Further details at www.ringsteadpc-norfolk.info

Further details at www.ringsteadpc-norfolk.info Toilet provided.

PHOTO ID FOR ELECTIONS Thursday 4th May

At the upcoming elections photo ID will be required for those voting in person.

Accepted forms of ID include a UK, European Economic area (EEA) or commonwealth passport; a UK or EEA drivers' licence; and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass or an Oyster 60+ card. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo. If you do not have one of the accepted forms of ID, you can apply for free ID online at

Voter-authoritycertificate.service.gov.uk or by completing a paper form. More information is available at Electoralcommission.org.uk/voter ID

RINGSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meetings have been well attended and our Borough Councillor and County Councilor and members of the public have attended on occasion.

The Council's standing orders, finance regulations and policies have been reviewed. A balanced budget has been drawn up for 2023-4, and the Parish Council's precept added to the Council Tax will be £112.36 for a Band D household.

A new 'gateway' sign has been placed on the Burnham Road entrance to the village. Issues relating to road drainage and road repairs have been reported to the County Council Highways Department and dealt with.

The lease for the Playing Field has been renewed and the regime for regular inspections has been reviewed. The contract for mowing the Playing Field and maintaining the areas around the bus shelter on Holme Road, around the village sign and from the Jubilee seat along Docking Road has been re-tendered.

The bus service route through Ringstead introduced by the West Norfolk Community Transport Trust in August 2021 was withdrawn in December 2022. There were very few passengers for Ringstead.

Six planning applications have been commented on.

Through the Saxon Shore Parish Councils' Liaison Group the Council became aware of a proposal to create a new container port in Lincolnshire linked to a barrier across the Wash, surmounted by a motorway, with an exit near Holme or Thornham linking up with a new road network on this side of the Wash. There is to be a public presentation about it on Wednesday 19 April at the Princess Theatre in Hunstanton. Keep an eye open for it and for coverage in the media. It's unclear as yet what opportunity there may be for public comment.

The Council has discussed how best to celebrate the King's Coronation and plans are in hand for activities in the Chalk Pit in the Downs on Sunday afternoon 7 May.

Sadly, Councillor Jim O'Shea died after a long illness in December 2022 and the Council was represented at his very well attended funeral at Hunstanton Roman Catholic Church.

Elections for the Parish Council take place on Thursday 4 May. Ringstead elects seven councillors. The closing date for nominations of people to stand for election is 4.00pm on Tuesday 4 April 2023. The newly elected council will meet on Monday 15 May at 7.30pm. There is information about standing as a parish councillor on the Borough Council website. This is the first election for which photographic evidence is required to vote in person.

The Annual Parish meeting will be on Monday 15 May at 6.30pm. At this meeting reports are received about the Parish Council and all organisations in the village, and questions may be asked. This year it will be good to welcome Charles le Strange Meakin, a Trustee of the le Strange Estate, who will speak about the role of the Estate as the major landowner in Ringstead, Old Hunstanton and Hunstanton.

RINGSTEAD IN BLOOM Bridget Crowfoot

The group have recently cleared the Chapel Lane emergency entrance to the playing field and cleared the playing field side of the Church wall of ivy.

The snowdrops and wild daffodils growing beneath the trees on the Docking Road are a delight to behold at this time of the year. Weather permitting we will continue to meet on Tuesday morning at 10.am until Easter. Please tel. Bridget Crowfoot (525295) if you would like to join us. Weather permitting the next project will be the church yard car park.



Many thanks to Bridget and her team for the wonderful displays around the village.

RINGSTEAD PENSIONERS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We are very grateful to Elaine and Roger Pincott for organising this event for many years and for the fund raising they have done during this period.

I have volunteered to organise the Christmas lunch with the aid of Brian.

If you are a pensioner and full-time resident in the village and would like to join in this opportunity to meet fellow pensioners at this annual event, would you please contact me so that you are added to the list that has been passed on to me.

Janet Woodward - 01485 525136 - Janet_woodford@btinternet.com

UPCOMING ART EXHIBITION

Local artist, Eddie Goodridge, will be returning to Ringstead Village Hall for his annual Oil Paintings Exhibition,

> 7-16 April 2023 Free entry Disabled access Ample parking

Any enquiries: <u>07780 980230</u> <u>Kay.goodridge@icloud.com</u> Www.eddiegoodridgeart.co.uk





RINGSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The number of planning applications received for locations in Ringstead, as well as the amount of building to be seen in Hunstanton and Heacham and surrounding villages, indicates how important it is for Ringstead to catch up with neighbouring parishes to achieve a Neighbourhood Plan. It will provide guidance for the Local Planning Authority in considering applications for new buildings, extensions, alterations, demolition of existing building to build larger houses, and construction of new entrances and 'cart lodges' as well as replacing walls and fences. Being in a Conservation Area is not necessarily protection from over-development of sites and inappropriate designs and materials.

A Neighbourhood Plan also sets out guidelines for preserving views and 'green spaces' and permits the identification of 'Non-Listed Heritage Assets', which are buildings which are landmarks and speak of the village's past and heritage (including commercial premises and former places of work), illustrating the nature of past life in Ringstead. A Plan can also indicate future needs to sustain a viable community, for example social housing of appropriate size at affordable rents, for permanent occupation to enable younger people with children to live here and be employed in the numerous low-waged service industries which support the tourist industry and the needs of generally elderly permanent residents.

The Plan will provide evidence about the present nature of the local community and recent changes and recommends policies and guidance for achieving a well-balanced community to ensure a prosperous community comfortable with itself.

Keep an eye on the Parish Council website for the most recent version of the plan and the deadline for submitting comments.

At this stage the Plan will be submitted to the Borough Council for them to review and ensure that it is consistent with the Borough's own Development Plan. This will also provide an opportunity for interested parties to make formal submissions to the Borough during a six-week consultation period. During this period there will also be a further Public Consultation in the Village Hall with a display of the draft plan and an opportunity for people to ask questions and to comment. The date of the consultation has yet to be confirmed but, after this, all comments received will be reviewed and considered as to how they should be incorporated in the Plan which will then be finalised and submitted to the Borough.

The Borough will undertake further consultation on the Plan when there will be opportunity for further formal representations to be made. Representations made at this stage will be sent directly to an Independent Examiner who will; examine the Plan, visit the village anonymously and recommend any changes that need to be made to ensure that it meets the basic requirements for a Plan. The Examiner will also review any representations received by the Borough.

After any changes have been made, the Plan will be submitted to a public referendum of residents of Ringstead qualified to vote. If 50% of those voting vote for it, it will be adopted as Ringstead's Neighbourhood Plan.

If you would like to know more or express a comment at this stage, please contact the Parish Clerk, Simon Lee at greatringsteadpc@outlook.com

COMMUNITY OIL BUYING GROUP

Did you know that Community Action Norfolk runs a group buying scheme to keep down the cost of buying oil, called <u>Thinking Fuel</u>.

The borough council has recently been quoted as saying "we understand that people signed up for Thinking Fuel are currently saving around 20p per litre on oil purchases compared to some other commercial providers.

It's free to register and there is no obligation to buy.

WHATS ON IN RINGSTEAD

There are a number of clubs and regular community events that take place at the Village Hall to which everyone is welcome along with any visitors. Perhaps you have recently moved to the village, find you have more free time or simply want to meet up with fellow villagers and friends. Perhaps you are a second homeowner keen to meet villagers, these events are ideal.

If you'd like to come along, please do get in touch.

RINGSTEAD CARPET BOWLS Mo Covel

The Carpet bowls club meets every Wednesday from 2-4pm in the village hall between September and April.

The first half of this season has been very successful with many exciting and close games.

If you would like to join us it costs £2 per week and includes a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit.

New members are welcome to come along and have a go!

For information contact Mo Covel on 07788 603957 or mo.covel@btinternet.com

BOWLS CLUB Roger Pincott

By the time you read this the Bowls Club will have held it's AGM. We are still working on the green, trying to keep the moss at bay. Over the last few weeks, we have lost a couple of players so are looking for new players. If you have never tried bowls, then please contact me and I will keep in touch and advise when we will be opening the green when we can you can have a go. You do not need anything more than and pair of flat soled shoes (no heel). We can loan you a set of bowls until you get a taste for the sport.

Come along and give it a go!

Roger Pincott. 525522 rogerpincott@btinternet.com

MAKING SPACE Peter Gyton

Ringstead Making Space meets in the Village Hall every first and third Thursday of the month from 10 am to 12 noon. It's a good opportunity for villagers and visitors to meet and have a good old chinwag whilst having tea, coffee and cake.

There is no entry fee, we just rely on small donations to help to cover the costs.

At the moment we're just "trundling along" and it would be great to see some new faces!

Everyone is welcome, so please do come alona.

RINGSTEAD ART CLUB Lois Carrick

Ringstead Art Club is a small group of friendly and enthusiastic people who enjoy art. We have a mixture of self-directed and taught sessions in different mediums at very reasonable prices and meet in the village hall on Thursday afternoons from 2-4 pm. If you are considering joining, you'd be very welcome to come along and meet us.

For more information please contact: loiscarrick21@hotmail.co.uk

QUIZ NIGHTJohn Crofts

The Quiz night was introduced in August and has become a regular feature in the diary. It takes place every first Thursday of the month at the Village Hall from 7pm to 9pm.

Up to four in a group, £1 to enter, under 18's free, with hot drinks provided.

Everyone welcome.

For further details please contact John Crofts on 01485 525142 or johnpcrofts@gmail.com

RINGSTEAD VILAGE HALL NEWS Chair, Debbie Rice

Melanie Hutchinson has joined the Committee and will be taking over the role of Secretary/Treasurer from Carol Nelson who is 'retiring' after many years of valuable service. The Committee thank her for all her time and efforts on behalf of the Village Hall.

Unfortunately, the Yoga group have found alternative premises, so the Hall is now available for hire Wednesday evenings if anyone is interested or knows of someone who is looking for a venue.

From 1st February the hourly hire charges have been raised as follows

Ringstead residents £8
Commercial £10
Half day £25
Whole day £40

The following clubs meet in the Hall and new members are always welcome.

Tuesday Table Tennis 7.30 - 9.30pm - Contact Richard Hendricks Tel 525366

WednesdayThursdayCarpet Bowls 2 - 4pmArt Club 2 - 4pm

Thursday Making Space 10 am to 12 noon

(1st & 3rd of month)

If anyone would like to hire the Village Hall, please contact our Booking Secretary, Mr Roger Pincott on 525522.

For other enquiries please contact Debbie Rice Tel 525505 mobile 07789 902575. Email debbierice55@btinternet.com

ALLDOGS MEADOW - update Spring 2023



We would like to thank everyone for their continued support at **ALLDOGS MEADOW**. We have had an amazing first 12 months! It is hard to think that this time last year we were getting ready to open.

We added a shelter just in time for the cold winter weather, and hope this offered some shelter on wet and windy days.

Being close to the chalk pit the field is quick draining, so we do not suffer from standing water and mud like a lot of the

other dog fields.

We have plans for some more enrichment activities, as we know the tyres, straw bales and tunnel were a big hit with the dogs last year.

We look forward to welcoming you during our second year at **ALLDOGS MEADOW**. If you haven't paid us a visit yet head over to our website https://www.alldogsmeadow.co.uk/

James, Laura and Jane.



GREAT RINGSTEAD HISTORY GROUP Helen Stanley

Well, it's almost a year since the Great Ringstead History Group became an official entity and we've achieved so much already.

We've photographed and recorded over 200 gravestones on the east side of the church and produced a plan and index to help anyone who is interested to find a grave.

We've had some good outings too, including a trip to King's Lynn Museum to see the beautiful beaker found on the Downs in 1972. The beaker was part of a young woman's burial that was disturbed by local farm workers during a small-scale extraction of sand and gravel. These clay drinking vessels were considered to be prized possessions and were buried with the owner. The Beaker people moved across Europe from the Steppes in a wave of migration which began around 4,500 years ago and the beaker from the Downs is dated from around that time. It is in such good condition, and of so rare a design, that it is permanently on display in the Sea Henge room of the museum

We have also spent an interesting afternoon walking the length of the village with historian Ian Hinton and it was very interesting to hear the views of an expert on the styles and approximate dates of the buildings. We also heard some of the interesting terms used for architectural features for instance 'dentils', a series of small rectangular blocks, like teeth, forming moulding a high up on outside walls. Ringstead has many examples.

After our very successful attendance at the Docking History Fair last May we've been invited to take part again this year. We also spent an extremely hot day at the SHARP dig in Sedgeford, where our display attracted a lot of interest.

On top of all of this, we've had several trips to Fakenham to see Andrew Simnor, who is building our website. This is being funded by a small grant received from the Councillor Community Grant Scheme and, fingers crossed, the site will be available to all at some point in April. Despite all the research we've done, it hadn't been written up as articles, which is what is needed for the website, so we have had some very time consuming catching up to do.

We also have lots of material to process from the very well attended Scanning day that we held in the Village Hall before lockdown, but we would love to see more photographs of the village or it's residents and if you'd like to be interviewed for our oral history archive, please do let me know.

You can contact me,

Helen Stanley, the group's Secretary, 01485 525674 knhbasketcases@gmail.com.

If there's anything in particular you would like to know about the village's history or if you'd like to share some memories, please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



SEASONAL RECIPE

EASTER CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE

Easy, keeps for more than a week and any leftovers freeze well.

Ingredients

- 350q/12oz dark chocolate (I use Tesco 70% cocoa solids), broken into small pieces.
- 225g/8oz unsalted butter
- 5 large eggs
- 300g/10oz caster sugar
- 100g/4oz shortbread biscuits, or gluten free if you want a gluten free pudding

To serve

- 284ml carton double cream or ice-cream
- 225g/8oz of blueberries

Method

Heat oven to 160C/fan 140/gas 3. Line and butter a 23cm springform tin. Put chocolate and butter in a bowl and melt in microwave. Set aside. Using an electric whisk, beat the eggs with the sugar for about 5mins until the mixture is thick, pale and doubled in volume

Pour the chocolate into the whisked egg mixture, then gently, but thoroughly, fold in. Add the broken biscuits, then gently fold again.

Pour the mixture into the prepared tin, then bake for 40-45mins until just firm.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool in the tin for about 1/2-3/4 hr. You can serve it while still warm and the centre is still gooey or you can chill it and it will be firm and fudgy enough to cut into wedges.

Serve with double cream and fresh blueberries or homemade ice cream.

Enjoy! Melanie Hutchinson

Meaning to have a clear out of your cupboards, shed, garage?

Then come along and sell your stuff at the

RINGSTEAD VILLAGE YARD SALE

on

SATURDAY 22ND APRIL 2023

and, at the same time, raise some funds for St Andrews Church

Reserve a pitch at Top End Farm, Ringstead PE36 5JT (the sale will be in the Barn and on the paddock in front – a great selling site in full view of the road)
Pitches are open to people in Ringstead village with their agreement that 25% of all takings goes to Church funds.

Please email janejarvis0@gmail.com to reserve your pitch.

NEWS FROM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH



Forthcoming Services

Following the departure of our Rector Rachael, whose final service will be on Sunday 26th March, weekly services will continue, but are subject to possible change which will be shown on our noticeboard. The expectation is as follows:

2nd April, Palm Sunday, 9.00am Holy Communion

9th April, Easter Sunday, 9.00am Holy Communion

16th April 9.00am Holy Communion

23rd April 9.00am Morning Prayer

30th April, 10am Holy Communion for all churches in the Benefice at Ringstead

From May onwards the first three services in the month will be Holy Communion at 9am, led by a priest and on the 4th Sunday the Churchwarden and others will lead Morning Prayer, still at 9am.

We are very grateful that Reverend Gill Stevens, a retired Priest will maintain Holy Communion, along with Reverend Phil Unsworth, who will take services on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month at 10am.

Please join us to say farewell to Rector Rachael at 11.45am on Sunday March 26th at St Mary's Church, Old Hunstanton.

Tea, coffee & cake will be served.

Contributions towards a presentation should be given to John Crofts (525142).

Plant Stall Can you help?

We would be very grateful if you could pass on any plants or seedlings while you are tidying the garden this spring. The plant stall is a very effective fund raiser.



RINGSTEAD OPEN GARDENS Sunday 18th June 2023

The event, now into its 5th decade, draws visitors from far and wide and next year's event on Sunday 18th June 2023 is already firmly inked in many diaries.

The choice of delicious lunches and teas, flower festival, art exhibitions, produce stalls, tombola, free minibus and guided walk at Courtyard Farm makes it a popular day out. It's the opportunity for the public to visit the fantastic variety of gardens for inspiration and enjoyment that is the essence of the event.

2022 saw a record number of gardens on show of all shapes and sizes and we are always keen to hear from any more garden hosts who might be considering opening their gates! For any further information or if you would like to be involved in next year's event, please contact Melanie Hutchinson on 525494 / 07771434616.



HELP!

If you would like to help at this year's Open Garden's Event, we'd love to hear from you. There's always plenty to do!

A Farewell Message from Reverend Rachael Dines

Dear Friends.

It is with great sadness that by the time you read this article I will have taken my final service in the Hunstanton and Saxon Shore Benefice. I will be moving to join the Dereham Team Ministry and be based in Swanton Morley. My actual final service will be a funeral service in St Mary's church Old Hunstanton and that seems rather appropriate given the time of Lent that we are currently experiencing. There is always though, for the Christian, no real finality about death because very soon we will be celebrating Easter Day. With Easter comes the hope of New Life and resurrection because of the death on the cross of Jesus for our wrongdoing. Jesus' death and resurrection gives us hope for the future on earth as well as in our heavenly home.

We can experience hope in many different ways in life. We see hope when a new life enters the world full of possibilities. Parents, grandparents, friends and relatives all want the best for a new baby. We imagine them growing up, making friends, being happy and making a difference in the world for good. We are hopeful when we plan and plant a garden, tending new seedlings and nurturing plants until the frosts have gone. We may have an allotment and aim to feed the family with good nourishing food. When we make the effort and join a new club or attend a group we've never been to before, we are hoping that we will make new friends and find common interests.

There are many ways in which we can have hope in our lives. As Christians when we celebrate Easter, we are still very aware of the pain and sadness of Good Friday, but the light of Easter reduces the hold that events of three days earlier have. We are living a new life of hope and joy for the future, often with the scars of the past still visible. That combination is a powerful one to contemplate but it is also very real. In the middle of great joy there are also echoes of past scars or pain. However, we always have hope for the future with Jesus.

For me leaving this benefice, much sooner than I expected, has caused me an amount of sadness and pain. There has also been so much to celebrate, and I am determined to look at what has been beautiful and lovely during my time here. There will be people and events that will live long in my heart and memory and for all of those I am so thankful to God for my time here.

The final thing that I would like to say is that whatever your experiences in life have been there is one who loves you beyond measure. God wants everyone to experience His love and acceptance. ALL are invited to come to God, the invitation to His house is offered in the person of Jesus. Whatever you do in life, whatever others think of you or what you think of yourself you are precious and valuable to God and your invitation to meet with him will never be cancelled and you will never be rejected. This is a hope and a certainty that we have because of the events of Good Friday and the resurrection of Jesus that we celebrate on Easter Day.

May you have a new hope in your hearts this Easter and do come to one of our services, you will be warmly welcomed.

With my prayers for a Happy Easter,

Rev Rachael Dines

During the vacancy the Rev Sandra Ellison has kindly agreed to write this article, so do look out for her thoughts in the coming months.

RINGSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

For information relating to events in the village and parish council business including agendas and minutes of meeting please visit

https://ringsteadpc-norfolk.info

The General Store, Ringstead, Norfolk

the_generalstoreringstead www.generalstoreringstead.co.uk

Opening Times:

Sun – Tues 8am-1pm Wed – Sat 8am-5pm



The last few months we have been busy putting new plans into place around the store. We have redecorated the card and gift section, receiving positive reviews. A new Fairtrade coffee machine sits inside the shop door, it produces freshly ground coffee, along with loose leaf tea and Hot Chocolate to takeaway. You will find a "what's on" and local traders' section inside the store, full of useful information located alongside the free to use customer computer.

The changes don't stop there with more coming for Easter! A new oven is going to be installed in our store kitchen, this will enable us to provide freshly baked croissants & bread, increasing our treat range to include fresh cakes to takeaway. We continue to search the area looking for new local products to stock, during these difficult times we feel that supporting local people and local businesses is more important than ever. Alongside the local produce we still continue to stock a large range of everyday value items. Now more than ever we need your support so please whenever you need an item keep us in mind before heading off to the supermarkets, it really does make all the difference!

This March we celebrate our 2-year anniversary at The General Store! We have had a whirlwind 2 years making lots of changes with some amazing feedback, comments received such as:

"Have you extended?
I can't believe how bright it is!
What a transformation! Is there anything you haven't got??
We love the local products you have!"

For everyone who has supported us with their custom we are truly grateful and if you have yet to pop in, we welcome you with open arms!

Thank you as always for your kindness, friendship and custom. Nathan, Leah, Joshua, Lottie, Dottie (The Cat) & Mabel (The Pooch).

















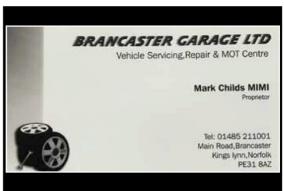
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Contact Neill 01485 572002 07856 568433











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