

# News from St Nicholas Church

## Platinum Jubilee Edition

May/June 2022

Dear Friends,

Onwards through May and then to the Jubilee in early June. On 22nd May, we will be celebrating Rogation, another of the services very appropriate to our rural community and which I know will be well advertised by the PCC. The service will be at 3 p.m. and I hope that many will join in at the various stages as we beat the bounds of Bedfield. And then on to the Jubilee weekend – please see the notices of the terrific range of activities organised by the PCC and the wonderful Friends of St Nicholas Church – I look forward to seeing you!

Thank you to the folk who joined in with the Lent and Easter Service. The Benefice Seder Feast was enjoyed at the Community Hub and the food beautifully cooked and the story of why we did what we did during the evening was told throughout the meal. If you didn't make it this year, look out for the one in 2023 which will be hosted by a different parish. Then we had the special Maundy Thursday service and on Good Friday, many children came to make their Easter Gardens, sit in the sun and enjoy some refreshments with their families. The service on Easter Sunday was early and so I think we must return to a later time in future years.

As ever, I am looking for new ideas of what you might like to see at the church – are there special services that we have not yet thought of? I am hoping that the school will be using the church and church yard as an additional classroom.

Finally, huge thanks to all the folk who contributed to ensuring Lent and Easter went well and enormous thanks to the contributors of the new altar cloths expertly made by Mrs. Chrissie Pignon.

Best and blessings,  
Chrissie  
Assistant Curate  
Four Rivers Benefice

## **A Quick Round Up of What Happened in April**

\*The month began with the second Lent Lunch of soup, bread and cheese in the church.

\*We marked Palm Sunday with a special service.

\*We had a special Maundy Thursday Service which including the washing of feet.

\*The children created Easter Gardens in the churchyard  
On Good Friday.

\*A vigil was held throughout Holy Saturday.

\*On Easter Sunday we brought Spring Flowers into the church and celebrated the resurrection.

\*A Seder Feast was held - a traditional ceremonial meal marking the beginning of Passover.

\*Melissa and Ben were married in the church.

\*The Revd David Burrell lead us in his final communion service before his retirement.

\*Members of the PCC attended a special leaving service for David at Laxfield Church.

\* A service was held in the church to mark the retirement of Martine Sills.

April was a very busy month!

## **Appointing a new Rector for the Benefice.**

The process for appointing a replacement for David Burrell has begun. All of the parishes in the Benefice are working together with the Diocese to advertise the post, organise interviews and hopefully appoint a new incumbent. This will take some months to complete and we must hope there is someone out there with the skills and the will to work in our communities.

In the mean time we enter what is termed Interregnum. We will be seeing a little less of Chrissie and a little more of local Lay Readers and Lay Elders at Sunday services. The Parochial Church Council with the help of Virginia Skoyles (01986 798136) the Four Rivers Benefice Administrator will take over the administration of our church. However Chrissie is still available in our parish if you need her at any time. For anything routine you can contact Jenny Hinchey (07710 218957) or Debbie Pritchard (07827 299490).

We will keep you informed about progress.

## **The Friends of St Nicholas Update**

We have started the month of May with the newly formed 'Friends' group with a membership of 53 supporters. We are thrilled so many people will be supporting the preservation of our historic church.

There is also a group of core members who will form The Friends Committee.

This group will be chaired by Jane Sullivan. Joining Jane currently are:

Susan Leverick

Lin Ford

Andrew Pritchard

Anne Hammond

Camilla Rhodes

We thank them very much for their enthusiastic involvement and look forward to supporting them in their work. There will be regular updates on plans for fund raising activities and events in the monthly Newsletter and, of course, progress with our planned projects, big and small.

If you have been meaning to join and just not got round to it. Its not too late. Contact Jane on 07580 386015 and she will sign you up. Membership is free.

## **The St Nicholas 100 Club**

There are only a few days left now to sign up for the 100 Club. It is £10 per a number. You can have as many numbers as you like. There are 4 draws a year. If you would like to sign up or would like more details contact Jenny Hinchey.



## **Celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Programme of Events**

Come and join in the fun to mark this very special event in the history of our nation. There are lots of different things happening so something for everyone!

Some need pre-booking so don't delay, book yourself in by contacting Jenny, Debbie or Jane.

An electronic version of the programme will follow this newsletter. Members of the community not on WhatsApp or email have received their copy through their letter box.

As well as making your bookings, here is a list of the other jobs you need to do to get involved and share in the community spirit.

- Make and display your scarecrow. Start putting them out from the 21st May. We had 65 for the D Day Scarecrow Event, can we get to 70 this time?
- Make yourself a royal crown or tiara to wear at Friends First Friday or wear it for the whole weekend! A bottle of fizz is available for the winning creation!
- Bake a Jubilee Cake for Macmillan. It would be wonderful to have 70 cakes! These will then be sold or auctioned at the church on the Sunday afternoon and also on WhatsApp. As always, we are hoping to have several cakes that make the grade of 'Show Stopper'. These will make up the auction lots.
- Lubricate your brains and enter a team in the Jubilee Quiz. 70 questions about the last 70 years!
- Find your best red, white and blue Sunday best for the BIG Village Picnic.

**Yard Sale**  
**At**  
**The Rabbits**  
**School Road Bedfield**  
**On**  
**Saturday 4th June**  
From 10pm  
Donations towards Marie Curie

Household items

Bric a Brac

Toys

Furniture

## Photo Album

Do you have any interesting old photographs of local people, places in the village or village life from the last 70 years?

As part of the the Jubilee Celebrations we are setting up a display of photographs in the church and also a village 'timeline' to which members of the community can add their notable dates: when you moved in to your house, the dates of family christenings and marriages in the church, special celebrations etc. If you have photographs to go with it bring them along to the church anytime from the 21st May. **Please put information about who, what, where, when and why?** Also put your details with them so we know who to return them to.

The collated information about the last 70 years in Bedfield will then be on view in the church over the weekend of the Jubilee Celebrations.



**Coronation Celebrations in Bedfield 1953**

## Some Recent Photographs for the Village Archive



The new altar cloth at St Nicholas donated in memory of Fred Osborn.

Martine Sills at the church service to mark her retirement and give thanks for her contribution and service Bedfield Primary School and the community.



The Easter Garden in the church yard made by some of the village children on Good Friday.

Recent drone footage of the church taken by one of our young residents.



## Dates for your Diary

### May

Saturday 20th May 2pm

Scarecrow Making Class with Christine McKechnie at The Hub. Contact Barbara Lee 07443 396716 to book a place.

Wednesday 25th May circa 8pm

Bedfield Annual Parish Meeting at The Hub. Your chance to raise any issues or concerns or give positive feedback.

Saturday 21st May

Start of the Village Jubilee Scarecrow display.

Saturday 21st May

Sunflowers for Ukraine Sale Framlingham Market

Sunday 22nd May

Rogation Walk and Service starting from Daisy Cottage at 3pm and meeting at Hungers Green at 4pm for a Shortt service and refreshments. All welcome, bring your dog.

Wednesday 25th May

Festival of Suffolk Torch Relay comes through Bedfield and on to Worlingworth. A chance to wave those Union Jack flags.

Sunday 29th May

Benefice Service at Monk Soham 10.30am

### June

Wednesday 1st June

Start of the Friends of Bedfield Church Platinum Jubilee Events Programme. If you don't have a programme contact Debbie, Jenny or Jane.

### July

Saturday 9th July 2pm

Bedfield and Monk Soham Community Club Village Fete