

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, August 2015

Dear Friends,

As someone who has, quite often, stood at the ‘pointed end’ of the church, I am obliged to agree that it can often be very cold at St Mary’s on a Sunday morning. Yet..... how would you fancy a church with no heating and no seats, and a cold earthen floor. A reasonable response might well be; ‘Thank you, but no thanks!’ Before the 15th century, there were no seats and only the ‘well off’ could afford cushions. In an effort to take away some of the damp and cold, the church floors were covered with rushes. This meant that every so often the old rushes were cleared out and fresh rushes put down in their place. Usually this happened on the day of the Church’s Patronal Festival.

Nowadays, rush bearing is unnecessary (although I did wonder once or twice during the winter!!) but the old custom is still observed in colourful festivals, mainly in the north of England. A ceremony at Grasmere, in the Lake District, is held on the Saturday closest to August 5th – which is St Oswald’s Day. The Clergy procession is followed by six girls carrying the ‘rush sheet’ on which are rushes and flowers. Others carry rushes that have been plaited into shapes.

Harvest Festivals have gradually moved from the beginning of the harvest to the end. Yet it was once the custom to take to church, on August 1st, a loaf made from the first grain that was harvested. This was the Loaf Mass, when used in the Eucharist – or, in the old Saxon language, Hlaf-masse, which gradually became Lammas. Lammas Day was also important for other reasons. Many villages had land known as Lammas Land. This might reasonably be called ‘Common Land’ and reflects in the various ‘Commons’ that abounded across the country. On this ‘common’ land people were able –after the harvest – to claim rights, such as **Pasture**-grazing animals: **Piscary** - to fish: **Turbary**

- to take sod for fuel: **Marl** - to take gravel and sand: **Pannage** – to feed pigs: **Estovers** – to take wood for houses. The social impact of such a provision cannot be underestimated. This ‘right’ fell into decline with the advent of Enclosures, and is one of the factors (one of many, it has to be said) that led to the movement towards towns from the country.

It has been a privilege to drive around locally and see the burgeoning potential Harvest. We pray for a successful Harvest and trust that all will, indeed, be ‘Safely gathered in’.

From the Registers – July 25th – Wedding of Jenny Roper & Greg Ayling.

Maurice Slattery

VILLAGE EVENTS

Village Companions. Last month saw us enjoying an afternoon at New Park Cinema Chichester to watch the movie *The Choir* starring Dustin Hoffman and Eddie Izzard followed by supper in Arundel.

The next gathering of the group will be ‘out of town’ courtesy of Sandra & Glen Tomkins at East Preston. If you would like to go just call either Sandra on 01903 411425 or me. We shall of course utilise car share for this venue so again let me know if you want a lift. Never been to Village Companions? Please join us - you will be made welcome and we would love to see you! **Liz White 882654**



The Alternatives - Arundel's Rock Band. 'By popular request, The Alternatives returned to The Grain Barn above Wepham on 4th July and over 100 people gathered together to enjoy an evening of good food, drink and dancing to their great music. Many thanks to Peter Knight and the Norfolk Estate for letting us use the barn free of charge once again, and everyone whose efforts made the evening such a success. The money raised came to £1,010; half of this has been sent to The Alternatives who will donate it to their chosen charities and half to the Village Committee to spend on our own projects later this year. **Chris Hayles**



Annual Clump Bar-b-q, Saturday, 1st August - Come along and join us at the popular annual full moon bar-b-q at the Clump. Bring along your friends and family, your own tipples - we will supply the bar-b-q's, music and hopefully the sun. Join us from 6 o'clock onwards. Any queries please phone either **Heather (01903 882839) or Chris (01903) 885404**

Burpham Stoolball. Our last home game is on Wed 5th August at 6.45pm. If you would like to see Stoolball being played please come along. We have had a good season to date winning 18 matches and losing 7. We would like to thank our Patron, President and Vice Presidents for all their support over many years. It is very much appreciated. Thank you, **Julie Tester, BSC.**

Holiday Cricket Road Show. Sussex County Cricket Club is coming to Burpham for a Holiday Road Show on Monday 24th August 2015. Please see the insert relating to this, and if you have any children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces etc who would love to have a great time with Sussex Cricket Coaches, then go online to book a place. **Kevin Foster**

Dinner in the Church Friday 11th 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.**



Open Garden on 14th June. We are very pleased to confirm that you raised £2500 which we have split equally between Chestnut Tree and St Barnabas. In addition we have been able to Gift Aid the vast majority of the money which takes the total to over £3000. None of it could have happened without the tremendous effort made by all the kind helpers, especially the, 'Poor Souls', in the kitchen! We thank you all for your contributions and look forward to a similar success next year. **Bill & Rosemary.**

The Evening of Delights. WOW - A big thank you to everyone who came on Saturday night, to the "Evening of Delights". We really hoped you enjoyed it. We have seen a video of you all dancing and singing along to "Daydream Believer" - what movers you all are, "Strictly Come Dancing Burpham"

anyone? Thanks also for taking pictures for the album – some of them are hilarious and very much treasured by us. Finally a huge thank you for donating to the Cystic Fibrosis Trust – what with £800 raised on the evening and some online donations we have raised about £1000. You are all amazing and we both feel very fortunate to be living here. See you all soon. PS – if any of you have any other pictures of the evening, please send on to us. We would love to see them – it all went in a bit of a blur! **Lots of Love - Hamilton and Richard.**

Christmas 2015 - Dates for your Diary. It is a bit early, but sometimes there is some uncertainty about the dates of village Christmas events and people have made alternative arrangements. This year's dates are:

Carols Round the Village	17 th December
Children's Christmas Party	19 th December
Carol Service, Mince Pies etc	20 th December
Crib Service & Communion	24 th December

We hope you will be able to support these celebrations!

Forthcoming Events

Sat 1 Aug	6.00pm	Norfolk Clump BBQ	Home Farm
Sun 2 Aug	10.30am	Family Service, Coffee & Produce	St Mary's
	2.00pm	BWCC v Madehurst (Home)	Rec Ground
Tue 4 Aug	7.30pm	Village Committee Meeting	Village Hall
Thu 6 Aug	7.00pm	St Mary's Burpham PCC meeting	St Mary's
Sun 9 Aug	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
	2.00pm	BWCC v Westbourne (Home)	Rec Ground
Sun 16 Aug	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
	1.00pm	BWCC v Bognor Regis (Home)	Rec Ground
Sun 23 Aug	10.30am	Family Service	St Mary's
	2.00pm	BWCC v Littlehampton (Home)	Rec Ground
Mon 24 Aug	10.00am	Sussex CCC Fun day (Home)	Rec Ground
Fri 28 Aug	5.30pm	BWCC v Cuddlington Casuals (Home)	Rec Ground
Mon 7 Sep	7.30pm	Village Companions, Sandra & Glens	East Burton
Fri 11 Sep	7.00pm	Dinner & Music in the Church	St Mary's

Please send your articles for the September/October Newsletter to Bob Baynes at Court Leet Cottage, or preferably by e mail to baynes755@btinternet.com by the last week of August 2015. All your articles of interest to the Village are welcome.

With very many thanks, Bob Baynes