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FEBRUARY 2023

SCULTHORPE MESSENGER



“YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU”

NEWS & VIEWS FROM CHURCH & COMMUNITY

See
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News from Sculthorpe Parish Church

Hello all, it is probably a little late in the day to wish you all a Happy New Year but I will anyway!

Hopefully life will defy the pundits and we will get through 2023 more easily than expected.

Thank you to David and Sue, and I think, their sons, for decorating the Christmas tree once again. It really cheered the Church up for the Carols and readings. John Johnson came up trumps too and the Church looked fabulous every evening illuminated by his lighting. St Mary and All Saints had help from many people throughout the past year so thank you to all of you. We couldn't do it without you.

There is a lot of consternation in the Church at the moment. Many of you will have heard in the media that the big Church (as opposed to Parish Churches such as ours) is going to use £150 million to fund projects around the world to make reparation for the part played by, presumably the Church, during the Slave Trade. Whilst most involved in the work of the Church feel this may make a positive difference to the lives of those in the targeted areas, it can be difficult to understand how this money has been found.

Over several years, the number of Parish Clergy has reduced considerably whilst the role of administrators has increased. The effect that this has had on Parishes is considerable. More Churches per vicar means less value to each Community and this is likely to get worse.

The administration costs go up and up so not only do the individual Churches have to find more money, simply to keep their Churches going, the diocese asks each

benefice for more money each year to cover the shortfall so a no win situation

Our very small PCC will continue, however, to try and raise some funds again this year to help towards our costs of running our church. I would like to assure all of you that the money you donate or help us raise goes to pay the running costs of the building including the heating, the insurance etc. Barry and Shaun are our only paid help and they do a great job of keeping the grass cut and the whole area tidy.

We do have some money in the Churchyard fund but this is a restricted account so we cannot use the funds for anything other than the churchyard. It is the only healthy account that we have.

We have a big expense this year so we need to use some more of the legacy that we were left to repair the west wall. This means that we probably have 2 or 3 years before it runs out completely. Fingers crossed that the boiler keeps going!

We do need a new treasurer, it isn't a very onerous task and I, who hate bookwork, have managed to keep on top of it for about 10years. Unfortunately the end of the year coincides with other commitments that I have and it has made it difficult for me to do what I want to. If there is anyone in the village who would take it on then please contact me and I will explain what it involves.

pamelajohnson5@btinternet.com

Re: fundraising. Last year we had a few craft events in the church but, unfortunately, the woman who ran them is unable to continue. This is a shame and I haven't been able to find anyone else to take it on.

FAKENHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

Handel's 'Samson'

Saturday 25th March

After their hugely successful Christmas concert, Fakenham Choral Society delves deep into the story of Samson, from his betrayal by Delilah to his dramatic demolition of the temple. Composed by Handel immediately after 'Messiah', 'Samson' is just as compelling and lyrical, concluding with the scintillating aria 'Let the bright seraphim'.

With orchestra and professional soloists, Rosamund Walton, Tabitha Reynolds, Dan Bartlette and Simon Crookall, this promises to be one of the choir's most memorable performances.

Led by Musical Director, Mark Jones, the concert will take place at Fakenham Parish Church on Saturday 25th March at 7pm. Tickets are £12 (under 16s free), and can be purchased either by calling 01485 544335, via the website www.fakenhamchoralsociety.org or on the door. So do come along for an unforgettable evening.

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The good news though is that the first farmers market is scheduled to be held on SAT APRIL 15th. This will be organised by Donna who runs the Fakenham Farmers Market.

Our Jazz evening was also very successful and we are hoping that Dixie Mix will entertain us again this year. We have one or two more ideas simmering at the moment so do keep your eyes open for events happening in the village.

The next service in the church will be at 5pm on Sunday 19th Feb.

Our contact details:
Carol (862185), Claire (863193),
Pam (853532)

Father Clive:
clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org
Tel: 07970 875052 - Day off: Monday

News from Sculthorpe Parish Council

Your parish needs you!!

The parish council is a small team of volunteers that meets every other month. The meetings last a couple of hours starting at 7.00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of alternate months. If you are interested in helping to improve the village in any way, you might like to consider joining us. We have a limited budget which is a part of the council tax collected by NNDC and for certain projects we can get extra funds from grants which have enabled us, over the last few years to replace the play equipment in the children's play area change the street lighting from sodium lamps to l.e.d. lighting which is less expensive and more ecologically friendly to run and gives a brighter light and to install a defibrillator on the wall of the village hall amongst other things. We are awaiting approval (and funding) to improve the pond and install picnic benches on the adjacent grassed area on Creake Rd.

Our budget includes, amongst other things, funding to maintain the grassed areas around the village



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(including the play area) and to pay for the street lighting around the village (not including the lights in Foundry Close!!). We have a close liaison with NNDC highways dept. to get pot holes in the road repaired and our objective is to make Sculthorpe a nice place to live.

If you would like to consider joining the team please will you contact me on 01328 258268 or e mail me at brian@theoldwashhouse.com or our parish clerk (Jodie) at Sculthorpepc@gmail.com to express an interest. You need to be over 18, ideally to live in the village (although strangely that isn't essential), and to want to help improve the village to the advantage of all the villagers. Formal training will be offered so that you know what is and isn't legally required of the parish councillors. None of our councillors are, currently, formally affiliated to any political party, merely having a desire to make the village a pleasant place to live.

Regards
Brian Watkin (Chairman)

Notice Board

VILLAGE HALL WEEKLY EVENTS

FEBRUARY EVENTS

GROUPS	Mon	6pm - 7pm	Fitness with Jake
			Pre-book: 07557569975 or www.plattenfitness.com
		7.30 - 8.30pm	Clubbercise with Annabel - to book contact 07896476763
	Tues	9am - 1pm	Hartbeeps (term time only) Pre-book with Kimmy, kim.glasel@hartbeeps.com
		6 - 7pm	Fitness with Jake - book as above (except for the first Tues Monthly)
	Weds	6.30 - 7.30pm	Keep Fit - Pre-book with Sue on 07774245810 - www.cardio&care.co.uk
	Thurs	6.30 - 9pm	Gateway - Fortnightly (3rd & 17th November, 1st December)
	Fri	2 - 4pm	Afternoon Social - ALL WELCOME (Last Friday monthly) 25 Nov, Dec date TBA
		6.30 - 8pm	Creakes Chamber Choir
	Sat	9am - 10am	Fitness with Jake Pre-book: 07557569975 or www.plattenfitness.com
		11am - 12.30pm	Starbright Theatre Group 4-16 year olds
		12.30 - 1.30pm	Starbright Theatre Group Pre-book: Contact Liz Dark on 07765911053 lightafterdark@hotmail.com

To book the village hall please contact Vyv Matthews (4 Creake Road)
on 01328 851985 or email: vyv_5cw@yahoo.co.uk

For updates on all events at Sculthorpe Village Hall follow our dedicated Facebook and Instagram pages.

SCULTHORPE MESSENGER

Please contact me by 20th February with any notices or features of interest for the March issue.

jonathan@js-creative.com
17 Creake Road
01328 316087

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VILLAGE HALL HIRE

To Hire the hall please contact Vyv Matthews 01328 851985 - The Hire charge from 1st January 2022 is £12.00 per hour with a refundable deposit (if the hall is left clean, tidy, and undamaged) of £150.00 for all Adult events. £50.00 for Children's parties.