

# Clenchwarton Your Village News

January 2023



**ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH**



# Clenchwarton Church.

**Rector; Reverend Barbara Burton**

Church Wardens;

**Richard Brown** – 01553 775200

**Debra McGowan** – 01553 773467

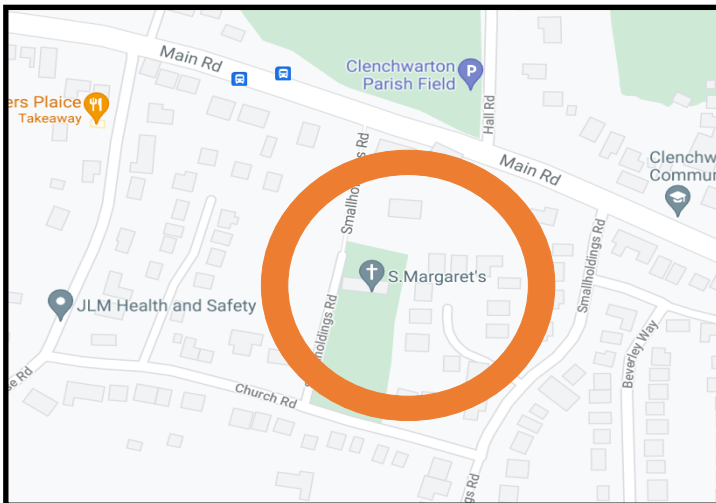
warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk

Please contact Debra McGowan for Baptisms, Marriages, etc

**Our church address is :**

**St Margaret's Parish Church, Church Road,  
Clenchwarton, Kings Lynn, PE34 4EA**

**Website <https://clenchwarton-church.org.uk>**



## ***Welcome to your Magazine***

This is a monthly magazine and contains adverts from local businesses near you, village and church news and “what’s on in the village” as well as articles from our parishioners and the church community.

We hope it is a valuable resource for newcomers to the village as well as our long-standing residents.

## St Margaret's Church Services

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January** New Year's Day Communion

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January** Morning Prayer at 10.00am

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January** Communion at 10.00am

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** There is no service at St Margaret's instead there is a joint service at Clenchwarton Methodist Chapel at 10.30am

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January** There is no service at St Margaret's instead there will be a joint service at Walpole St Peter at 10.00am



Everyone is welcome to our services, no matter what their age.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

## Methodist Chapel Services

Happy New Year.

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January** Covenant Service Rev Gail Kerry 10.30am

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January** Morning Service Lesley Best 10.30am

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January** United Worship at Terrington St Clement Methodist Church 10.30am

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** United Worship with Anglican Church at Clenchwarton Methodist Chapel 10.30am

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January** Fellowship Service 10.30am

All are welcome at any of our services.  
Any queries please ring 07792 677891



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## Village Diary

To all those organising events in the village, please let us know the date place and time so we may publish it in the Village Diary. Thank you.



Save  
the  
Date

**Parish Council** meetings 1st Thursday of every month.

**Coffee Mornings** St Margaret's Every Thursday 10-12 noon.

Santa Run Saturday 24 December

Walking Group Saturday 14 January 10.30am

**Thank you.**



*I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helps deliver the magazine, having to go out in all sorts of weather. There are so many people who support the church and magazine in so many different ways. Whether it is baking cakes for our coffee mornings or any other event that we hold, or your kind donation of items for us to sell, or your time that you give so freely.*

*Once again the church was donated a beautiful Christmas tree, Christmas lights, as well as mulled wine and mince pies for the Christingle.*

*For all of you who give your time to help the village, whether you are a councillor, the Santa run, Christmas tree party or memorial gardens.*

*Or those of you that I know just pick up litter as you go on your daily walks, or contribute in so many other ways. Thank you, I feel privileged to know you all, and to live in such a welcoming and caring community.*

*I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.*

*Love Debra x*

# News From St Margaret's Church, Clenchwarton



December has been a busy month for us with a very successful Christmas Greenery table arrangement demonstration and a Christmas themed Thursday Coffee Morning.



The table arrangement demonstration was led by Vera Osborne who explained how to get the right shapes with our greenery, and most importantly how to start!

The eight ladies who took part really enjoyed this event and were very proud of their end results as can be seen in the collage photo.

# News From St Margaret's Church, Clenchwarton



On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September the weekly coffee morning was buzzing, with about thirty people enjoying tea, coffee, and other Christmassy drinks, and so much food (including a lovely Christmas cake), which had been provided by everyone who had attended. With Christmas music playing in the background, it really felt as if Christmas had arrived.



# News From St Margaret's Church, Clenchwarton

## **A Clenchwarton Christmas Show**

This was an idea conceived in September as a joint venture between the Methodist Chapel and St Margaret's Church. 13 of us (including our pianist) had great fun rehearsing some very well-known Christmas songs and poems, including two poems by local resident Audrey Winter.

The result was very well received by our full audience on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, with many people joining in with the carols and songs. There was a lot of laughter at some of the poems, and all of the music was very much enjoyed by everyone there. We also had a visit from a very special Christmas person !

**This event raised an incredible amount of over £300 which will be divided between the King's Lynn Food Bank, the Chapel and the Church.**

Thank you to everyone who supported this concert

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**The coffee mornings are every Thursday from 10 to 12,  
and don't forget:**

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN AND HEATED EVERY DAY BETWEEN 10AM AND 4PM**, with tea, coffee and biscuits available. In this very cold weather please don't hesitate to make use of this facility and please tell your friends and neighbours, in particularly the elderly, those living alone, and young families. There is a children's corner with toys and books. There is also a good selection of books for grown ups too.







**Coffee Mornings  
at St Margaret's Church  
These are on Thursdays  
between 10-12 noon**

Do come along for a drink and a friendly chat.

The coffee mornings are going really well, with a wonderful group of Ladies and Gentlemen joining us every Thursday.

Please contact Debra if you require transport to get to any coffee morning. We look forward to seeing you.

(Debra McGowan)

**Bible Study Group**

Wednesdays meetings at 2pm have paused for a few weeks.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Penny Snape on 01553 773142.



# Walking Group

# WALKING

The next walk will take place on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30am** from the village school weather permitting.



There is no cost and new walkers welcome.

Walking is free and there is always a lot of conversation.



## Mobile Library Service Timetable for 2023

The Mobile Library normally visits every 4 weeks on a Friday. It will be on the following dates in 2023. Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10, May 05, June 02, 30, July 28, Aug 25, Sept 22, Oct 20, Nov 17, Dec 15  
It will not visit in April because of a Bank Holiday.

### At the following places and times Clenchwarton:

Coronation Road	9.40 to 9.55
Margaretta Close	10.00 to 10.15
Rookery Close	10.20 to 10.35
Rectory Drive	10.40 to 10.50
St Annes Crescent	10.55 to 11.10
Linford Estate	11.15 to 11.30
Hall Road (Junction Robin Kerkham Way)	11.35 to 11.50
Blackhorse Road	1.00 to 1.20
Wildfields Close	1.25 to 1.35
36 Station Road	1.40 to 2.05



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**In Memoriam, ( Ring out, wild bells)  
Alfred, Lord Tennyson-1809-1892.**

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The Flying cloud, the frosty light:  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sun,  
The faithless coldness of the times;  
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes  
But ring in the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that has to be.

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## *Your Letters*

A thank you to Mr and Mrs Ken Ford who live at Margareta House for buying a Christmas tree for the village this year.

It has been much appreciated by the people of  
Clenchwarton.

(Ray Thornalley on behalf of  
Clenchwarton Parish Council

## Pastoral Letter

***Reverend Barbara Burton writes.....***



Most Europeans now have a lengthy life expectancy, but it seems that an increase in the number of older people has been accompanied by an increase in age discrimination. I wonder why this is? Our culture admires beauty, speed, strength and the ability to stand on one's own two feet. Each of these values decline for people as they age, incrementally at first, but faster beyond a certain point. We tell people they look good for their age and admire older people who can still do lots of things and act younger than they are. But what of the converse? Do we admire people because they look the age they are, or can only do the things you would expect an older person to do?

Those who lived through the Second World War are dying out and in a matter of a very few years the last person alive to fight in that war will be gone. Having contributed to winning a war, that generation went about establishing peace in Europe and prosperity through hard work and good planning. The generation that followed them, the so-called baby-boomers, are also, fairly or not, in the firing line of younger generations because all the things they took for granted, like free higher education, life-long jobs with good pensions and affordable housing, which are denied to young people today. There is growing resentment, to which can be added deep concerns about climate change. Young people feel let down by older generations. This may be unfair, but life is about perceptions, and those of us who are older need to be aware of perceptions among young people.

Political thinkers speak about the break in the generational covenant. This covenant essentially is about each generation working hard to ensure their children are better off than they were, in as many ways as possible. But younger generations now are going to be less well-off, on the whole, and resent it, so ageism is a problem already. The church is one of only a few truly inter-generational bodies in British life. When we meet, the age range can be anything from one month to a hundred. But inter-generational issues aside, the mark of our faith is how much we value those who are weak and vulnerable among us – this includes the young and the old. Let us pray that that attitude pervades all society, and not just the church.

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## From the Little Yellow Smart Car



New Year, new start, new resolutions, new things to look forward to, new ideas, new plans, new adventures; or, same old same old, nothing ever changes, it's just another day, the future is as bleak as the past, stuck in a rut, caught in a trap, helpless and hopeless – How has 2023 begun for you?

The calendar is flipped around, or a new one put up. The numbers on phones roll round as they have done every other day, but on January the 1<sup>st</sup>, we invest a lot of energy in the moment when one day, one month, one year passes to the next.

There is a story about a passenger steamer, the SS Warrimoo, built in Newcastle Upon Tyne, in 1892, by Swann & Hunter. It was destroyed in World War 1, off the coast of Tunisia, after a collision with a French warship. The story suggests that, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1899, the ship was travelling from Vancouver to Australia, when the First Mate realised they were very close to the point where the Equator is crossed by the International Date Line. Captain John Phillips got the navigators to change course slightly and adjust the ship's speed, so that midnight the SS Warrimoo hit that mark exactly and sat across the different zones.

“The consequences of this bizarre position were many: The forward part (bow) of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere and in the middle of summer. The rear (stern) was in the Northern Hemisphere in the middle of winter. The date in the aft part of the ship was 31<sup>st</sup> December 1899. Forward it was 1<sup>st</sup> January 1900. This ship was therefore not only in two different days, two different months, two different years, two different seasons, but in two different centuries – all at the same time”.

Whether this story is true or apocryphal, it shows something about the importance that we place on these things and, at the same time, the nonsense of it all. In the middle of the ocean is a point which we use for all kinds of measuring, calculating and referencing. At one and the same time, it is very important and it is also nothing more than a point in the ocean which the ship is trying to cross safely.

This year, the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church is inviting everyone to a year of prayer – Pray23. As part of this, we are encouraged to spend one minute a day, every day, to set aside a sacred minute. It might mean simply standing still and breathing – knowing that the breath we breathe is a gift we are given and yet so often taken for granted. It might mean holding in our thoughts one person, or one situation, every day for a year and asking that God bless that person, or transform that situation. It might mean saying “I’m here God” and waiting, listening, being. Maybe there is a question that you want to take to God. Whatever your prayer is, to commit yourself to one minute a day for 365 days may seem nothing more than another minute spent or wasted. It may also turn out to be the most important minute of the year.

If you want more information, please check out [www.Pray23.org](http://www.Pray23.org) or get in touch. I pray that you will be blessed this year, through your minutes, days, weeks and months.

**Every blessing.** Rev'd Jackie Goddard Tel 07881 952098.  
Email: [j.goddard@methodist.org.uk](mailto:j.goddard@methodist.org.uk)

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# Clenchwarton Parish Council

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**1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 -7pm in the Memorial Hall**

**Reports** – Cllr Pell mentioned the Parish Poll and that the Borough Council had provided legal guidance that required the questions to be modified to the following:

- 1) Do you think a new multi-use community facility should be built to replace the existing Pavilion?
- 2) Should the Memorial Hall be sold by the Parish Council to contribute towards the cost of a multi-use community facility?
- 3) If there is a funding shortfall are you willing to contribute towards a new multi-use community facility through an increase in the Parish Council precept?

After a small discussion, everyone voted to accept the changes.

The locum Clerk reported that should a village gate be desired at Station Road then they would need to go through the grant application process again as things had lapsed. It was also reported that the RFO had resigned and that the locum Clerk was now waiting to receive her laptop and files in order to take on the finances himself while a new person was appointed.

Cllr Kemp's Norfolk report is elsewhere in this issue. Cllr Whitby reported that the budget for the Borough Council has been set for the coming year, 250 people had applied for the solar scheme and the fires down the marsh have been reported to the Environment Agency again. The Southgates master plan was going out for consultation shortly.

**Open Forum** – Cllr Lucas requested that the Parish take on the noticeboard outside the school. A member of the public expressed concern that someone had attempted to put a preservation order onto the tree next to the pavilion despite it causing structural damage to the building. Cllr Pell said that the PC had previously agreed to leave it alone, although he disagreed with the decision. Cllr R Moore said that the damage had already been done. Cllr Whitby suggested that the PC write to the Borough to ask the Tree Officer to come out and do an inspection. (It will come as no surprise that a previous report was submitted as part of the lapsed planning application for the new build which recommended the removal of the tree and it is now alleged that the TPO was only applied for in order to allow the tree to cause damage in the meantime!).

Finally, a member of the public made her frustration very clear concerning the removal of the new road sign for May Leake way opposite The Partridge. It appears that this is probably due to a bureaucratic mix-up at the Borough Council, rather than anyone objecting to it, plus the PC had previously agreed to adopt the name too.

Finances came in at £3259.07 and there were no planning applications to discuss.

The work on the Neighbourhood Plan was deferred until February.

**Health and Safety** – Cllr Lucas said that there were piles of tree cuttings on the field and in the churchyard that needed removing. Cllr Thornalley offered to help transport everything up to the tip over the weekend. The Pavilion roof needs fixing as water ingress is tripping the electrics. The work on the dyke on the playing field is still outstanding and it was noted that some vegetation needed cutting back too. The reeds down Clapper Lane were also mentioned and Freebridge would be notified.

**Financial Matters** – Cllr Moate reported that work had begun on formulating the precept for 2023/2024 and it would be likely to be around the same figure as this current year.

A discussion then took place around access to the CCTV system and it was decided to get another key cut.

Finally, Councillors decided not to have a PC meeting in January so the next scheduled date will be 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023.

As we go to press I have heard that the locum Clerk may have also resigned. If true, this places the Parish Council in a difficult position as the precept needs finalising urgently and the roles of Clerk and RFO are both key in making sure this happens smoothly.

As a village, we currently face uncertain times and we need good governance now more than ever.

**Parish Council meetings are usually the first Thursday of every month.**

The Agenda's are published on the Parish Council website go to <https://clenchwartonparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

## ?? Puzzle Page ??



How well can you remember the last year in Clenchwarton Parish Magazine. Here is a question from each edition from the last twelve months.

- 1 January – How many piers are there at Lowestoft?
- 2 February – Which Roman Emperor had Valentine beheaded?
- 3 March – How many times was Philip Case Mayor of King's Lynn?
- 4 April – Where is the Magpie Centre?
- 5 May – In which year was the first Bank Holiday? How close can you get?
- 6 June – How many books can you borrow from the Mobile Library at any one time? You can of course borrow a lot less than this number.
- 7 July – How many hours is Alberta in Canada behind British time?
- 8 August – How much is St Margaret's Church planning to raise to obtain a toilet and kitchen facilities?
- 9 September – In which season are you most likely to encounter a Bat?
- 10 October- How many books are there in the Bible? Which part of the Bible – the Old Testament or the New Testament has the most books?
- 11 November – Agia is a Greek word. What can it be translated as?
- 12 December – Which Pope sent Saint Augustine to England?

**Good Luck!** The answers follow on a different page of the magazine.

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## County Councillor Report

County Councillor Alexandra Kemp, Clenchwarton and King's Lynn  
South 01553 630329 or 07920 286636.

Here is a letter I sent to Steven Barclay MP as the announcement of the rebuild of the QEH, expected on the 6<sup>th</sup> December and then on the 13<sup>th</sup> did not come. I simply cannot understand why the Government does not understand West Norfolk's need for a new hospital and for certainty about it. What the Government has just done instead, is to offer the County Council a "County Deal" - £600 million a year over 30 years for infrastructure across the whole of Norfolk. But we need £862 million now for the QEH rebuild. So even the County Deal would not deliver the infrastructure we really need. The public will soon be consulted on the County Deal which would entail the public electing an Elected County Council Leader. Other devolution deals have had Metro Mayors and you may remember Norfolk said it did not want an Elected Mayor in the 2016 consultation about a new proposed combined Authority. So here is the letter:

From County Councillor Alexandra Kemp  
For the Attention of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care:  
Norfolk County Council Motion asks Government to rebuild the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn.

Dear Secretary of State,  
I am writing to let you know that Norfolk County Council passed a motion on Tuesday, asking Government to provide funding to rebuild the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn. The County Council also passed a motion in May 2021 asking for the rebuild.

The motion on Tuesday was a cross-party motion, proposed by me as the non-aligned independent member and seconded on the day by Cllr Brian Long, (Conservative and former council Leader). Other councillors making it known they wished to second the motion included Cllr Alison Thomas (Conservative) Cllr Rob Colwell (Lib Dem) Cllr Brenda Jones (Labour) and Cllr David Sayers (newly elected Lib Democrat).

Norfolk has one of the oldest populations in the country, and patients are frequently elderly and frail, with more than one long-term illness.

West Norfolk has 104 villages and hamlets and some older residents struggle, or are unable, to travel to other hospitals even for earlier elective surgery.

The QEH is vital to West Norfolk's demography, economy and geography and serves three counties.



## County Councillor Report continued

In the past 6 months, the number of props and fail safes holding up the hospital RAAC roof has more than doubled, from 1528 props in May to 3397 in November.

Even with £130 million being spent on safety schemes, the hospital would start to fall down after 2030 and have to close.

The Government cannot allow this to happen.

Could the Government put the QEH on the list for the rebuild as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

County Councillor Alexandra Kemp.

County Division: Clenchwarton and King's Lynn South.

Landline: 01553 630329

Mobile: 07920 286636

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Email: [clenchwartonNHW@gmail.com](mailto:clenchwartonNHW@gmail.com)



Website: [www.clenchwarton.org.uk](http://www.clenchwarton.org.uk)



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further information

## Pepper Fen. Episode 23

*(The village of Pepper Fen is fictitious and is not based on any particular village. None of the characters are based on real people living or dead.)*

Matis had never been inside any of the properties in Pepper Fen but he was now. "You wanted to speak to me – urgently?" he enquired. "Yes" Gabrielle replied, "There have been developments in the Pepper Fen murder case". "Oh I am so pleased" Matis said smoothly, "You must be delighted". "I am, but I mentioned what you told me about the victim seeing a girl in Pepper Fen and well it seems to be important but they want your name from me. It will be all right won't it?" .

She looked at him pleadingly and he knew he had to say yes. "Of course" he assured her, "Anything to help you with your career".

.....  
"Can I go out now?".

"Where do you want to go? You cannot visit anyone you know, the Government says so".

She looked at him disbelievingly. "But I have been good haven't I? A good housewife like you want me to be, and I have obeyed everything you have said".

"You have been very good. But now is not the time to go walkabouts. You will only be pestered by that nosy woman who works for Avon".

"Elaine is my friend".

"Elaine is not your friend. She is your enemy. I don't want you to speak to her any more. I am your friend. Do all your speaking to me. It is what all good wives do".

"I want to be a good wife".

Martin smiled. "Of course you do dear. Of course you do".

.....  
Rob was being interrogated by his boss who was normally based at Headquarters but had come to the local station, it appeared to Rob, to give him a hard time. He wanted to know about the progress on various cases including the Pepper Fen murder. Rob tried to give him an upbeat message but he kept intervening.

"Do you know?" he said, "that most detectives never see a murder in a given year and if they do they are usually cleared up almost immediately. In fact over the country as a whole there are more cases solved each year than there are murder because most forces" and he emphasised the last two words, "are able to solve past cases that can now be cleared up with the advances in DNA. But you", and he paused for dramatic effect, "have not cleared any past cases and have three current cases on your patch".

Rob looked puzzled. "I have just the two cases, sir" he said.

"Oh yes. How do you know. From my reading you probably have three. The body found at Pepper Fen, the knifing in Wisbech, and the missing girl in Pepper Fen"

## Pepper Fen. Continued

"I don't think for one minute the girl has been murdered. She has just run away from her family. You want to meet her father. He's a right bully".

"But she has been missing ages and you have not found her. I fear the worst".

There was a change of tack. "That deputy of yours Robert. How do you find her? Is she pulling her weight. Only we promoted her on the recommendation of Vic at Cambridge who thought she was a high flier."

Rob was not expecting the question and was in two minds how to answer. A thought occurred to him that he could plant the blame on to her for his deemed lack of success but he hesitated to do this. He was instead lukewarm with praise.

"Send her to me. I'd like to know her thoughts". That was the last thing Rob wanted but he promised to send her in as soon as she could be located.

.....  
"But I don't want to go to Pepper Fen again".

"That statue needs coming down. We won't take the whole gang this time. Just me and you. No more silly schoolgirls".

"What about the vicar?"

"What about him. He won't trouble us this time. We were just unlucky last time, and if he does try to stop us? Well, he might get himself hurt because next time I am not stopping for anyone."

.....  
Fiona was angry and upset. How dare he insinuate she was not pulling her weight. She stormed downstairs. "Where's Gabrielle?" she demanded, "Is she trying to avoid me?"

"She didn't turn up this morning and not a word from her. You just can't rely on those foreigners".

Fiona stormed out of the station. "Well she's in a good mood".

**To be continued.....**

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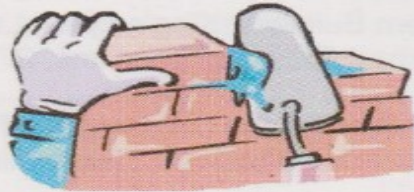


# Clenchwarton Village Official Group

Private group · 1.2K members

This group is run for Clenchwarton residents - it's not run by the Parish Council and takes a neutral standpoint in all local issues and matters. Residents are encouraged to contribute but it's under the conditions that we all talk to each other with respect and regard.

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# Magpie Centre.



When the Christmas festivities are over, and we are in to the long, dark days of January, be of good cheer.

As a new initiative, volunteers of the Magpie Centre, home of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association are running a Ceilidh (Barn Dance) on **Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 at Stowbridge Village Hall, Downham Road, Stowbridge from 7.30 to 11pm.**

Tickets, including a Hog Roast Supper (with vegetarian option) are £15 each for adults and £7.50p for children aged 13 and under. Bring your own drinks.

Live band "Take the Floor" will provide the music, with their caller ensuring that everybody learns the formations, and has a good laugh at every step.

**To book your tickets, call 01760 337056 or email [suer2006@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suer2006@hotmail.co.uk).**

All profits will go to the Magpie Centre.

As 2022 draws to a close, it only remains for us to thank everybody in the West Norfolk community, and beyond, for all their support, hard work and donations throughout the year.

**From all at the Magpie Centre, thank you to everyone, and best wishes for a lovely Christmas and a healthy, successful New Year.**

Look forward to Tea with a Pony sessions resuming April 2023. To book, just call the centre on 01553 810202.





Please continue to sign up with easy fundraising to help St Margaret's Church raise funding.

They will give you a £5 shopping voucher once you have raised your first £5, PLUS we will get a bonus £5 donation.

**Go to [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and search for St Margaret's Church Clenchwarton**

You can visit our website at  
<https://clenchwarton-church.org.uk>

---

## Puzzle Page Answers. How did you do ?

---



- 1 Two
- 2 Claudius
- 3 Four
- 4 Wallington Hall
- 5 1871
- 6 Fifteen
- 7 Seven Hours
- 8 Eighty Thousand
- 9 Spring
- 10 Fifty Three. Twenty Seven books in the New Testament as against Twenty Six in the Old Testament.
- 11 She is holy.
- 12 Pope Gregory the Great in 587 AD.

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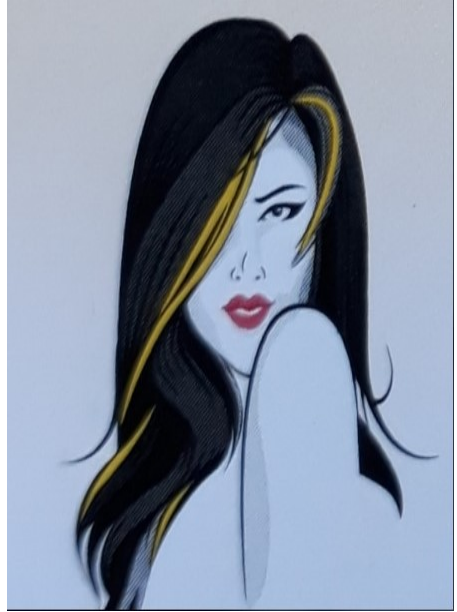
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## Nature Watch

Every morning I wake up to the sound of geese flying overhead, their “wink-wink” calls getting louder the nearer they get, pink footed geese on their way to their feeding grounds. Eventually their V-formation passes overhead, one formation after another, the sound of their calling each other getting louder and louder. The whole sky is full of the most marvellous spectacle, sometimes I can hear them but because they are flying so high, they cannot be seen.

The estimate is that some 70,000 pink footed geese visit Norfolk every winter mainly from Greenland and Iceland. There are two different populations. The other group of pink footed geese come from Svalbard (a Norwegian archipelago between the mainland of Norway and the North Pole). This group emigrates to the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark to over-winter. Although the UK winter population, which is around 306,000 individuals is spread over large estuaries such as the East Scottish coast, the Ribble and Solway, the largest number by far is in Norfolk in the Wash and the Broads.

The pink footed goose is a medium sized goose, it is pinkish grey with a dark head and neck. It has a pink bill and pink feet and legs. The geese spend their daylight hours feeding on farmland. Back in the 1960's only about 50,000 birds wintered in the United Kingdom. The geese feed in the arable farmland on post-harvest cereal stubble, sugar beet crops and winter beet crops. Previously sugar beet crops were left on the surface of the fields for as long as possible, providing a good source of food for the geese. Now, however, a lot of farmers are ploughing the sugar beet tops in directly after the harvest in order to sow a winter cereal. This practice is causing a shortage of available food for the geese, and as a result the birds are moving on to unharvested sugar beet, as well as other crops such as oilseed rape and cereals. This was reported back in December 2020 by David Lyles, an award winning farm conservationist based at Muckleton near Burnham Market, who was also a director of the National Nature Reserve at the Holkham Estate. He pointed out that Norfolk hosts nearly a third of the world population of these geese and therefore we have a responsibility for them. Unfortunately the problem has not been resolved, and the shortage of the sugar beet tops being left for the geese still remains.

The best viewpoints to see the geese flying in and out of traditional roosts at dawn and dusk are at Snettisham RSPB Reserve, and on the coast at Brancaster and Wells Next the Sea.

(DM)

# Contact your magazine

Editor; **Grahame Sampson** on **01553 769819**. Email articles to [grahamesampson@btinternet.com](mailto:grahamesampson@btinternet.com) or drop off at 18 Margareta Close, Clenchwarton.

We need your articles in by

**14 Jan for the Feb Edition.**

Just send to Grahame thanks.

All other enquiries and advertising enquires; **Debra McGowan** on 01553 773467 or email at [warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk](mailto:warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk)

The advertising and magazine subscriptions help keep the magazine in print and provides some funds towards the church projects. If you can help with the magazine let us know.

<https://clenchwarton-church.org.uk>

## WEST LYNN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

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**WARM HUB  
ST MARGARET'S,  
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10AM – 4PM EVERYDAY**



Supported by Clenchwarton Parish Council and Norfolk Community Foundation through the Surviving Winter Community Hot-Spot Fund.

The spiralling cost of living is putting added financial strain on people this winter, especially those who are 'just getting by'.

St Margaret's Church Clenchwarton recognised this and applied to be part of the 'Warm Hub' scheme. We applied to the two organisations mentioned above, for grants to enable us to keep the church open and heated during the hours of 10am-4pm every day.

We are now delighted to report that we have been **successful** in these applications and so there is now somewhere warm for you to go during these hours.

Tea/coffee and biscuits is also available.

**St Margaret's Church is now a Clenchwarton's Warm Hub, and will stay open AND HEATED, between the hours of 10am – 4pm EVERY DAY.**

**This is for absolutely everyone in the village and is happening NOW !!!!.**

**Please do come along and take advantage of this great opportunity.**

Bring a friend, a baby / toddler, a book, your knitting, a sandwich. You may be by yourself, or there may be other people there. You may make new friends.

*There will be the service in church on Sundays from 10-11  
For services during December please see page 3*