

CLENCHWARTON

Your Village News

NOVEMBER 2025





Some of the fruit and lovely flower arrangements in church for our Harvest Festival.

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

St Margaret’s Church Clenchwarton (OPEN 10am – 4pm every day)

**Rector: Reverend Barbara Burton
01945 781228**

Churchwardens:

Debra McGowan – 01553 773467
warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk
Andy Taylor – 07939 055031

Parish Safeguarding Officer:

Jan Taylor – 07725 940453

Please contact Debra McGowan for Baptisms, Marriages, etc.

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

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

Contact your magazine

Editor: Grahame Sampson: 01553 769819
grahamesampson@btinternet.com
or drop off at 18 Margaretta Close, Clenchwarton.

All other enquiries and advertising enquires:
Debra McGowan: 01553 773467
warden@clenchwarton-church.org.uk

The advertising and magazine subscriptions help keep the magazine in print and provides some funds towards church projects. If you can help with the magazine please let either Debra or Grahame know.

**We need your articles in by 14th NOVEMBER for the
DECEMBER edition**

CLENCHWARTON
Your Village News

From the editors:

We are determined to make this magazine an inclusive voice for our entire community.

We welcome all contributions, however modest, on the understanding that we will not publish any offensive material, and may have to edit articles for reasons of space.

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors.

GS; DM; AJT; JT

WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER EDITION OF YOUR VILLAGE NEWS.

Well - Storm Benjamin blew all the cobwebs away! If you are interested in storms and why they have names take a look at the article starting on page 24. And who hasn't been interested in Debra's very interesting childhood living in London - possibly quite unlike our own childhoods. Learn more about one of our Churchwardens as she continues her 'Memories' serial. On a more sombre note, this year we have celebrated 80 years since the end of WW11. It is Remembrance Sunday on November 9th. Please do join us at St Margaret's Church at 10.45am for our Service of Remembrance, and then as we lay wreaths at all three war memorials in this village.

JT

THIS MAGAZINE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!

- We would love to have some more adverts in this magazine! Do you run a small (or large!) business locally and feel you would like to support this magazine by taking out an advert? Prices listed on page 5 opposite. Contact Debra on 01553 773467
- When putting the magazine together there are often gaps and I have to try to find something of interest to fill them. It would be great if other people would be willing to send in articles about something that interests them - a hobby, an interesting country they have visited etc. Editors rights reserved!! Please email grahamesampson@btinternet.com
- Photos needed - lots of opportunities coming up: fireworks, Christmas, New Year. Do you have a special celebration in your family? Can we see a photo? Please email a copy to me: 1753jan@gmail.com

FRONT PAGE TOP RIGHT HAND SMALL PHOTO: ROYAL BRITISH LEGION STOCK PHOTO

ALL OTHER PHOTO CREDITS: JAN TAYLOR



**Coffee Morning
at St Margaret's Church
Every Thursday between 10-12 noon**

Do come along for a drink and a friendly chat.
Come and meet a wonderful group of Ladies and
Gentlemen joining us every Thursday.

Please contact Debra (01553 773467) if you require
transport to get to any coffee morning.
We look forward to seeing you.

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01553 777948
for further information

St Margaret's Church Services in NOVEMBER



- Sunday 2nd Holy Communion Service
- Sunday 9th 10.45am Remembrance Sunday.**
Starting with a service and wreath laying in St Margaret's Church, then visiting the Memorial cottages and the Memorial Hall to lay wreaths at both places
- Sunday 16th Holy Communion Service
- Sunday 23rd Morning prayer with Hymns, led by a church warden
- Sunday 30th No service at St Margarets. Combined service at Walpole St Peter Church**

All services at 10am unless otherwise stated. Everyone welcome

Methodist Chapel Services in NOVEMBER



- Sunday 2nd Worship Team
- Sunday 9th 10.45 Remembrance Sunday.** United service at St Margaret's Church
- Sunday 16th Rev Jackie Goddard Holy Communion
- Sunday 23rd Cafe Service
- Sunday 30th 1st Sunday in Advent Rev Jackie Goddard
- All of the services at the Chapel start at 10.30am. The Remembrance Service is at the parish church and starts at 10.45am

Everyone is welcome to attend any of our services.

All services begin at 10.30am unless otherwise stated

Please join us at any of our services. All are welcome to attend.

WALKING GROUP - SATURDAY 8th NOVEMBER 10.20am



The November walk will start at the different time of 10.20am and from the Saturday Market Place in King's Lynn. This is to allow time to get from the 10.00am ferry. We shall have a town guide, Mike Brown, to take us down the High Street which I am sure we will view in a different light to what we normally see if we are shopping. Anyone can come along. Learn about the history and the architecture of the buildings we can see regularly but usually miss.

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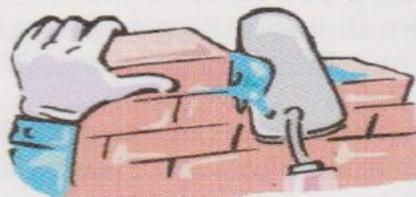


FUTURE EVENTS AT THE METHODIST CHAPEL

Coming up:

- Craft Fair 8th November 10.00am - 2.00pm.
Craft stalls, display and sale of art, baby clothes,
tropic skin care, books, handmade
cards and pyrography. Refreshments available.
- Wreath Making 28th November. Wreath Making at the Chapel.
Contact Rhoda quickly (very limited spaces left) on
07917 652757.
- Christmas Concert 6th December.
- Christingle Making Workshop Saturday 20th December - **please note this
has been cancelled***
- Christingle Service 21st December 10.30am.

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A POEM FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

IN RETROSPECT

The world asks a great deal of the poppies;
Insists they carry the wounds of war
and shoulder the weight of remembrance.
Such flimsy, wavering plants;
we painted their flowers the colour of blood
and punched dark holes in their heads
as if bullets had passed through,
then trimmed them with green sprigs of hope.
And from deep in the seeds we concocted
the essence of sleep and dreams and resting-in-peace.
Almost weightless even in full bloom
we made them souls, the poppies, souls
of those who we lost, and - let it be said -
those who we killed.

Poppies - nursed in darkness, nourished by dirt.
But for all their spindly roots, frail stalks
and papery petals - as easily smudged
as a butterfly wing -
they joggle into existence
again and again, unearthing themselves
in fallow fields and railway sidings,
on roundabouts, verges, and no man's land,
from the brickwork of old chimneys and bridges
and cracks in the pavement.
They nod and they nag,
reminding us not to forget, flagging a red alert
as their crumpled petals unfold.

So, rightly, the poppies ask a great deal of the world.

Simon Armitage (Poet Laureate) Commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces

DIARY OF EVENTS in CLENCHWARTON

and surrounding area for OCTOBER

EVERY THURSDAY 10am - 12 Noon

COFFEE MORNING at St MARGARET'S CHURCH

ALL WELCOME



Save
the
Date

- Tues 4th 9am - 10am **Prayer Group** Methodist Chapel
- Tues 4th 10am -12pm **Coffee Morning** Methodist Chapel
- Thurs 6th 10am - 12pm **Coffee Morning** at St Margaret's Church
- Fri 7th 7pm **Quiz** Methodist chapel. Free entry – donations welcome
- Sat 8th **10.20pm Walking group.** *See page 8 for details*
- Sat 8th 10am - 12pm **Craft Fair** Methodist Chapel *see page 10 for details*
- Sun 9th 6.30pm - 8.30pm **Story Cafe** Methodist Chapel
- Tues 11th 10am - 12pm **Coffee Morning** Methodist Chapel
- Thurs 13th 10am - 12pm **Coffee Morning** St Margaret's Church
- Sat 15th 2.30pm **Talk** Methodist Chapel. *See page 13 for details*
- Sat 15th 10am - 2pm **Winter Craft Fair** St Margaret's Church
- Tues 18th 10am - 12pm **Coffee Morning** Methodist Chapel
- Thurs 20th 10am - 12pm **Coffee Morning** St Margaret's Church
- Sat 25th 3.00pm **Coffee & Craft** Methodist Chapel
- Tues 25th 10am -12pm **Coffee Morning** at the Methodist Chapel
- Thurs 27th 10am - 12pm **Coffee Morning** at St Margaret's Church

NEWS FROM ST MARGARET'S - Looking back

The month started with our very traditional Harvest Festival, with people bringing along fruit, vegetables and home made chutneys, plus a bread harvest sheaf. The church had been decorated beautifully by Debra and Vera, and it was so lovely to be greeted by the flowers and produce as we walked into the church - see page 39 for photographs. So many churches these days just have non perishable goods, and the sense of fresh produce for harvest is being lost. We ended with our usual auction of all the produce and home made chutneys,

Continued on next page

ST MARGARET'S Looking Back continued from previous page

and amid lots of fun raised an amazing £138.50. Together with our collection, and a donation from the church that day we were able to send £250 to The Farming Community Network Charity. This is a voluntary organisation and charity that supports farmers and families within the farming community, with things such as helpful information around health, wellbeing, business resilience and planning ahead, as well as topics such as succession planning, farm safety and rural crime.

We also had a very successful Quiz Night with 7 teams, lots of fun, and sometimes challenging questions. This event raised just over £262 for our church toilet and kitchen funds. Thank you to all who attended.

ST MARGARET'S Looking forward

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 9th November | 10.45am REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE in church |
| Sat 15th November | 10am – 2pm WINTER CRAFT FAIR in church
Free entry to the public. Refreshments available. Contact Debra 01553 773467 |
| Sat 16th November | 10am. SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY when we think about all those working to protect those children, young people and vulnerable adults who may be suffering abuse in some form or another (<i>see page 20</i>) |
| Sat 13th December | 10am - 12 noon CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP 10 Places available. £10 per person. In church. Contact Vera 01553 774698 |
| Sun 21st December | 3pm NATIVITY SERVICE with carols |
| Wed 24th December | 4pm CHRISTINGLE SERVICE |
| Thurs 25th December | 9.30am Christmas Day Holy Communion Service |

THE CLENCHWARTON TALKS - all talks start at 2.30pm

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Sat November 15th | 'The Environment' by Michael De Whalley |
|-------------------|---|



From the Little Yellow Smart Car

Revd. Jackie Goddard

j.goddard@methodist.org.uk (07881 952098)
(Clenchwarton & Terrington St Clement Methodist Churches)



Free ticket in hand.

Train with open doors at the station.

People to travel with who may already be friends, or those who may become new friends.

The choice is whether get on or not.

This is how faith works.

Faith is not a place to arrive at. It is not a conclusion to come to. It is an amazing journey of exploration, discovery, challenge, and wonder. There is so much to see, and learn, and encounter. You can find out more at:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/faith/a-methodist-way-of-life/> or you can speak to someone who is already on a faith journey. You choose.

In 1604, the Protestant King James I introduced new laws against Catholics. Many Catholics hoped that they would be able to worship more freely under his reign, but that didn't happen, and the result was the failed Gunpowder Plot. In 1606 celebrations with a church service, bonfires, and fireworks were ordered, and these were mandatory until 1859. The tradition is still part of our culture today – although I suspect that very few give much thought to the importance of freedom of faith and the challenges that it has faced in our nation's history. To be able to say that the attack on Parliament was wrong, and in the same sentence say that the religious intolerance was wrong, is not to avoid taking sides, but to recognise that faith and politics are inextricably linked. All of us must choose what to do with them because what we believe drives how we live. We are blessed to have the freedom to make choices and blessed to be able to make faith journeys without fear of persecution. That is not always the case, and we have seen how easily terrorism can bring faith communities to fear and grief. This month, take time to ask whether your faith brings better politics, and your politics grows a more loving faith. God invites us always to choose the way that leads to life for all.

Every blessing,
Revd Jackie Goddard

PASTORAL LETTER

Reverend Barbara Burton writes.....



By Autumn 1918 it was obvious that the First World War was coming to an end, Germany was clearly beaten, but no one had actually won. High level discussions took place, while in Britain the public mood was surprisingly optimistic. 'There's a silver lining', the songs said, and 'keep the home fires burning till the boys come home'. When an Armistice was announced, there was euphoria. Peace at last!

Armistice was a new word for most people – not a peace treaty or settlement, but simply a laying down of arms, but for many that was enough for now. 'No more killing', they declared. Most of the boys did come home, but nearly a million didn't.

We have tended to judge the First World War by the huge losses, but each casualty was also someone's personal loss, as I learnt many years ago when I moved to Cambridgeshire. I got to know an elderly woman known to everyone as Kim. She was in her nineties and had been a teenager during the Great War. Her two brothers served on the Western Front. A few days before the Armistice the post office motorcyclist delivered the telegram the family had been dreading: one of the boys had been killed in action. A week or so later, after the fighting had stopped, the same messenger returned, with the same message about Kim's other brother. As she told me of it, seventy years after the event, her eyes filled with tears. That was the true price of war, and when I share the silence on Remembrance Sunday it is her and those two men that I think of, not the millions of others from many nations who fell in that terrible conflict.



My own grandfather fought and died in 'the war to end all wars'. It didn't, of course. Twenty-one years later in 1939 it all started again. War doesn't end wars. True peace does. Let us all pray for true peace in our world today, so that there is never again a world war.

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CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP



SATURDAY 13th DECEMBER

10am - 12 noon

in St Margaret's Church

Tickets £10

Places limited

Contact Vera Osborne on 01553 774698

16th November: Safeguarding Sunday - action speaks louder!

Thirtyone:eight, the UK's leading independent Christian safeguarding charity, has launched its annual safeguarding awareness campaign for churches – Safeguarding Sunday. This year the theme of the campaign is 'Action Speaks Louder' – encouraging churches to not just talk about safeguarding but to take positive action towards creating safer places. The campaign is now in its 7th year and last year saw over 5000 churches across the UK, from a variety of backgrounds and traditions take part. This year Safeguarding Sunday is on 16 November 2025. .

Churches are encouraged to not just reflect but also act on improving safeguarding practices, learning from where they may have got things wrong. To build on the ways they are supporting those who have been hurt, and highlight all the good work being done behind the scenes to protect vulnerable people.

Peter Wright, Thirtyone:eight's Head of Communications said:

“Protecting vulnerable people from harm and speaking up for their rights is an integral part of our scriptural mandate as Christians. Sadly, the church hasn't always done this well. But we have a chance to change that. When we look at the life of Jesus, he didn't just teach, he took action that backed up his words. That's why our theme and focus for this year is – 'Action Speaks Louder'. It's time to move from talking about safeguarding to taking action. We need to improve where we've got it wrong and do more of what we're getting right. It's a chance to reflect, build on good work, and act on preventing abuse and creating a Church where everyone can feel and be safe.”

St Margarets Church has a Parish Safeguarding Officer, JAN TAYLOR, who can be contacted on 07725 940453. All calls will be treated in confidence,

Continued on next page

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but Jan may need to pass on your details to our Diocese Safeguarding Advisor, depending on the nature of your call, or to the police if someone is in danger.

Clenchwarton Parish Council - Meeting 2/10/2025 7.30pm by Grahame Sampson

Thirty nine members of the public vastly outnumbered the six Parish Councillors. The audience included children and I hate to think what they felt but I suspect they might have been bored.

I suspect that most of the public were there principally for the public questions but unfortunately few questions could be asked in the allotted time as each questioner seemed to have follow up questions. The first question was from David Hutton who I am pleased to report had read his parish magazine. He quoted the magazine which alleged the minutes of a previous meeting were inaccurate. The Council reported that its decision was taken at the end of the meeting after the public had been excluded.

The next member of the public was a Councillor – Cllr. Lucas, who read out a statement from Clenchwarton Community Foundation Trust announcing that because of continuing attacks on them they had decided to disband and would no longer hold any events in the village. This would affect the Fun Day. It also was reported later that the committee were intending to give the monies they had obtained for use in the village to the Parish Council to give to a charity or charities in the village. The council turned this down and asked them to decide who they wanted to give the monies to.

A positive suggestion was provided by the floor about how to stop unwanted visitors to the Recreation Field, and a question was asked about what the Council was doing to improve the Pavilion. The council is planning to make changes but external funding, though it may be available, is not easy to come by.

Neither the County or Borough Councillors were present as they were at a Borough meeting. The County Councillor had sent a report which was read out in full after a request from the floor. As usual Christmas trees were discussed. Bus stop shelters were also raised once more. The council intended

Continued on the next page

Clenchwarton Parish Council Meeting Continued from previous page.

to put shelters at every bus stop in the direction of Terrington so the children did not get so wet in future. Unfortunately they are coming up against brick walls as some of the sites do not provide enough room and others have met objections from nearby residents. The council have not given up and are trying to find ways in which at least some of the shelters may be erected.

A health and safety alarm has been raised about some of the trees on Main Road and a specific branch in particular. Some work has been done to mitigate the threat and the council are trying to get an appropriate tree surgeon to deal with the trees as a matter of urgency.

Proposed work on the car park has come up with a stumbling block as the cost of a Biodiversity Report is throwing the budget out. Councillor Thornalley has been appointed to try to solve the problem

The toilets were discussed after a letter had been received regarding their state. Costs of a new door and toilet roll holders are being looked at, and from now on there will be daily and weekly reports on the toilets.

Due to another booking at the Memorial Hall this meeting was at the unusual time of 7.30pm, and the next meeting will again be at 7.30pm on Thursday 5th November.



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 and search for St Margaret's Church Clenchwarton

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

REMEMBER, REMEMBER THE 5TH OF NOVEMBER

A Traditional English rhyme celebrating the failure of the Gunpowder Plot, 1605, and associated with Guy Fawkes Night in the UK. Do you know the whole rhyme?

Remember, remember!
The fifth of November,
The Gunpowder treason and plot;
I know of no reason
Why the Gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot!
Guy Fawkes and his companions
Did the scheme contrive,
To blow the King and Parliament
All up alive.

Threescore barrels, laid below,
To prove old England's overthrow.
But, by God's providence, him they catch,
With a dark lantern, lighting a match!
A stick and a stake
For King James's sake!
If you won't give me one,
I'll take two,
The better for me,
And the worse for you.
A rope, a rope, to hang the Pope,
A penn'orth of cheese to choke him,
A pint of beer to wash it down,
And a jolly good fire to burn him.
Holloa, boys! holloa, boys! make the bells ring!
Holloa, boys! holloa boys! God save the King!
Hip, hip, hoor-r-r-ray!

Apologies to our Catholic friends - but in 1605 England was ruled by a passionately Protestant King, and those who were involved in the Gun Powder Plot were Catholic!

WEATHER STORMS AND THEIR NAMES

FROM BBC BITESIZE, & THE OFFICIAL BLOG OF THE MET OFFICE NEWS TEAM

People have been naming storms for centuries now, with early examples dating all the way back to the 1500s - but why?

Well, simply, it makes it easier to communicate about severe weather events, providing clarity and simplicity for both weather agencies and the public.

As autumn is here and the likelihood of impactful weather increases, the Met Office, in partnership with Met Éireann and KNMI, has prepared a new list of storm names for the 2025/26 season.

But how are these names chosen, and why do we name storms at all? Here, we explain the process behind naming storms, the criteria involved, and the benefits this system brings to the public.

The process of naming storms

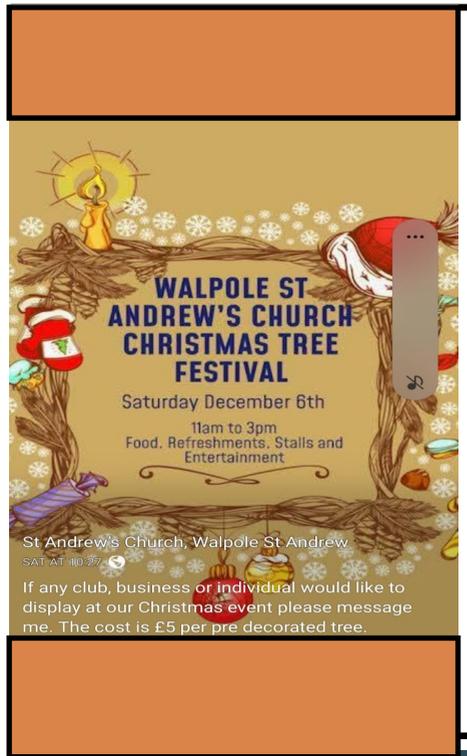
The annual list of storm names is not created in isolation. Instead, it is a collaborative effort involving the public and our partners in Ireland and the Netherlands. Suggestions are invited from members of the public all year round, as well as from Met Éireann and KNMI. This ensures the list reflects a broad range of names from across the UK, Ireland, and the Netherlands.

Once all suggestions are gathered, a dedicated group reviews the names. However, not every name submitted makes it onto the final list. Several important factors are considered to ensure the names are suitable for use in weather communications.

Criteria for selecting storm names

Pronunciation is a key consideration. Names that are too difficult to pronounce may be excluded, although it is important to remember that some names may be unfamiliar due to the involvement of partners from Northern Ireland and the Netherlands. The group also examines whether a name has different meanings in different countries, which could lead to confusion or

Continued on page 34



**WALPOLE ST
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CHRISTMAS TREE
FESTIVAL**

Saturday December 6th
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Entertainment

St Andrew's Church, Walpole St Andrew
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County Councillor's Report

by Alexandra Kemp

Devolution

I voted against the elected mayor and mayoral authority today at County Hall. It's not democratic. This is not devolution. It's a fire sale of Norfolk's powers and should be stopped now.

It's an undemocratic power grab, a loss of control for Norfolk over local taxation, over our important services, transport, housing, and Norfolk's cherished Fire Rescue Service. There should be a referendum now. The Norfolk and Suffolk Public consultation showed that 65% of the public don't want an elected mayor. The Government should respect the public.

I was on the County Council when we voted down the elected mayor proposal in 2016, and I pointed out that Norfolk would lose control over our cherished Fire Rescue Service and lose our powers as a Passenger Transport Authority, but would have to bankroll the new mayoral authority. Nothing has changed. The deal is not suitable for Norfolk.

The Government claims that the new elected mayor and combined authority for Norfolk and Suffolk due next May, will bring decision-making closer and empower communities. This is far from the truth.

Firstly, it will be the elected mayor, instead of councils in Norfolk, who will draw up the Local Transport Plan, decide on bus franchising and partnerships, concessionary fares and even set up a Key Route Road Network. But transport planning is crucial to our rural areas and should be kept as local as possible. This radical change is literally the wrong direction of travel, and there is nothing to stop the mayor being more focused on Suffolk and oblivious to what we need in West Norfolk.

The elected mayor will have powers of compulsory purchase, the ability to set up a Mayoral Development Corporation, and even make his own "Mayoral Development Orders", instead of obtaining planning permission in the usual way. This is all in aid of driving through housing targets and involves the loss of local control.

The elected mayor will chair a new council called a Combined Authority with only 4 other members, two appointed by Suffolk County Council and two

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

appointed by Norfolk County Council. The elected mayor can then appoint seven commissioners, one of whom will take over the Police and Crime Commissioner powers, as the Secretary of State will redraw the boundaries of the police area to include Norfolk and Suffolk. Since when did we have councils with only five members, with the voting members unelected to that authority, except for one? The whole set-up is extremely undemocratic and without the proper checks and balances we have now.

Any Council leader can currently be unseated, if voted out by their political group or by the Council, but an elected Mayor is there for 4 years and cannot be removed from office.

Nobody asked for this. In the public consultation this year, the response from Norfolk and Suffolk was 65% did NOT want an elected Mayor. They thought it was too remote and not good value for money. So what did the Government do? It said that the statutory tests have been met and Norfolk and Suffolk will have an elected Mayor. That's not democracy.

Kind regards

Alexandra

County Councillor Alexandra Kemp

County Division: Clenchwarton and King's Lynn South Norfolk County Council, including South Lynn, West Lynn, Clenchwarton, West Winch, Setchey.

Landline: 01553 630329 / Mobile: 07920 286636

MORE AGE SAYINGS

- I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.
- Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you right out.
- When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "east " or "left" or "right"
- I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

The Bowls Club continues to go from strength to strength.

The club, after our promotion last year approached the season confidently. However, we made our characteristic slow start losing five of the first six matches before we hit our straps. Our strongest performance came in the Albert Victor league where a six match unbeaten run saw us catch up the early leaders. We just needed to win our final match, and at one stage that looked a distinct possibility. However, Wiggenhall finished strongly and just pipped us for second place and promotion.

Our club competitions were hard fought affairs but always friendly. The victors are shown below:

Kerkham Cup - Men's Singles- John Stacey.

Ladies Challenge - Women's Singles- Alison Barnes

Ladies Challenge - Ladies Pairs- Pip Stacey & Helen Harris

Annual Challenge - Men's Pairs- John Stacey & Graham Short

William Collison Memorial - Mixed Pairs- John Stacey & Helen Harris

Black Horse Cup- Triples - John Stacey, Helen Harris & Sue Fearn

Mary Bruce Cup - Most improved player of the year- Chris Bunting

In September, the club carried out some major work on the green which was showing the wear and tear of nearly 30 years of use. The club would like to thank British Sugar for donating four ton of top dressing and Brandon Hire for the use of their Scarifier. Our team of volunteers gave up over 200 man hours to apply the top dressing and hopefully we will have a better playing surface in 2026.

We also successfully applied for £500 from the Councillor Community Grant Scheme which will allow us to improve our storage facilities inside the green. This will make our green tidier.

After providing years of great service to the club two of our longest serving members have stood down from the committee. David Hutton will be replaced by Richard Moate as Chairperson and Paul Evans will take over the Treasurer role from Sue Fearn. David and Sue have served the club diligently and their efforts are fully appreciated. Fortunately, they will remain as active club members.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who has supported us this year. Your encouraging comments on our Facebook posts are great at keeping our morale high. If any residents want to get involved with the club do use our club email to contact us: chaircbc2022@gmail.com.

Letters Page

Memorial Hall invite.

Dear Clenchwarton Parishioners,

The Clenchwarton Hall Management Committee would like to invite you all to an open evening at the Hall on: **MONDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 19.00-21.00.**

Several members of the Management Committee and Trustees will be on hand to show you around, explain what we are doing and our plans for the future, as well as answer any queries or questions you may have. We would love to see as many of you as possible.

See you there!

Birgit Gipp

The Purple Crocus

St Margaret's Church would like to thank Mr John Hardy, President of the Trinity Rotary Club, for the beautiful purple crocus bulbs that he has given to us for planting in the church grounds.

The purple crocus bulb planting takes place every year to raise awareness of the Rotary fight for a polio free world.

What do they mean?

Polio is a dangerous illness, so Rotary raises money to pay for vaccines in many countries in the world. After they are vaccinated, the doctors dip the children's little fingers into a purple dye to prove that they have been given a vaccine.

And so – the Purple Crocus was used!

It tells everyone what is being done by Rotary to protect children from Polio throughout the World.

Debra McGowan



Memories of Primary School

Happy memories of Clenchwarton School by Penny Duncan nee Osborne

I clearly remember my first day at Clenchwarton School, the feelings of excitement tinged with nerves. Meeting Mrs Featherstone and the other teachers was reassuring and from that moment on I thoroughly enjoyed my time there.

I have fond memories of sitting on the carpet in the afternoon waiting with anticipation for the next instalment of "The Hobbit" - still one of my favourite books. It installed in me a lifelong love of books.

I learnt to swim in the new pool at the school and participated in many other sports. Swimming became a real passion of mine as I grew up and I have to thank the school for teaching me and supporting me. My first introduction to tennis was watching Virginia Wade win the Wimbledon Ladies Singles Final in a classroom with Mrs Page and lots of excited classmates.

I found a real love of music and performing under the guidance of Mrs Macintosh. My year was lucky enough to make a recording of songs which was made into a record and we had poetry published thanks to opportunities created by Mr Foot and others. Our class also went to see 'Jesus Christ Superstar' and 'Annie' in Norwich with Mr Pratt, which made a huge impression on all of us.

We were encouraged to try everything, and that has set me up well for life after leaving the school, and left me with some lovely memories.

Memories Part 5 by Debra McGowan

I didn't like school, not even from an early age. In fact the first time I walked out of school was when we were living in Rotherhithe, so I was probably only six or seven years old. I actually got all the way home before one of the teachers caught up with me!

Secondary school was a comprehensive school called Blackwell, now known as Hatch End High School, Headstone Lane, Harrow. When I was at Blackwell School, the headmaster was a Mr Douglas Clark. Mr Clark was a disciplinarian, the boys got the cane and the girls got the slipper, or so we all believed. The truth is that I don't remember anyone getting either but the belief that these punishments were being carried out was enough to keep us in order. My older sister Dawn had gone to Blackwell before me, she was bright and popular and enjoyed her time there. I got on well with my teachers and had good friends,

Continued on next page

Memories part 5 continued from previous page

but I struggled with my education. My next door neighbour, Janet, was a year older than me and she went to a different school, Roxeth Manor First School. One day Janet told me that she was going to skip school for a few days and asked me if I wanted to join her; of course I said yes. A few days led to months at a time. When I did go to school I would write my own sick notes and forge my mum's signature. I think that because I was liked by my teachers, when I eventually got caught I did not get into trouble. I went back to do my exams, but they were worthless! The day after I left school I went into Harrow, where all the big department stores were. I walked into every one asking for work, and by the end of the day I had been offered six jobs. So I went home and thought about it and decided to take a job at Debenhams Department Store.

From a young age I used to go to work with my dad. My father's main job was as a driver for Benskins Brewery in Watford, which had been acquired by Ind Coope in 1957. When dad wasn't working at the brewery he worked for himself as a painter and decorator, employing the lads that he worked with when needed. I loved not just working with my dad, but I loved his company. So I went with him everywhere I could. Dad taught me how to drive, so I would often go out with him and if he had a couple of pints I would be his driver.

(to be continued next month)

***NATURE WATCH** by Brian Edwards*

I am pleased to see that the farmer who cultivates the field behind my house has left a generous stubble strip parallel to the drainage channel. In previous years the field was ploughed right up to the edge immediately after harvest. As a consequence I now have the pleasure of watching red-legged partridges, pheasants and starlings as they forage for spilt wheat and wild flower seeds amongst the stubble. It also means that when tractors access the public highway they are less likely to inadvertently deposit mud on the roads since the ten metre stubble strip is also the farm vehicle route to fields beyond.

I know farmers have a prime responsibility to produce food but they also have a duty to safeguard the environment. As far as I can tell most farmers on the Fens plough right up to field edges leaving little habitat for wildlife. Tidiness and sterility appear to be the objective. So I look upon my stubble strip as a welcome sign of changing attitudes.

I am also reminded of my own responsibility as a gardener. I live in one

NATURE WATCH Continued from previous page

of the new housing developments in Clenchwarton. My garden is new and relatively small. Like many these days I have tried to strike a balance between tidiness at the front and wildness at the rear. Half of the back garden is the developer's grass sward left uncut. The golden and half metre high grass sways in the breeze with the odd ragwort and thistle providing food for the butterflies and moths. This is my nature reserve rather like the farmers stubble strip. Amongst the grass front and back I have planted twenty fruit trees (plum, apple, crab apple and pear). My plan is to create an orchard garden for future generations and a reminder that Clenchwarton was once an important fruit growing area. Unlike many I do not feed the birds. My view is that habitat creation comes first and feeding is the last resort. Otherwise we run the risk of turning our wildlife into garden pets.

CAN YOU HELP?

Many of you will know that our medieval church needs to install a toilet and a modest kitchen facility to make it more relevant to the community. With better facilities we can look at running a parent/carer and toddler group, and other things that would be of benefit to all. An outside Portaloo and getting water from an outside tap are not long-term solutions!

Do you have experience of making grant applications, and the time to do it?

The few of us that look after the church don't, and have failed to secure grant funding in the past, primarily due to rushed and unprofessionally constructed applications.

So, if you feel you can help to secure funding for a project that will bring your church into the 21st century, please get in touch.

Debra McGowan 01553 773467

Andy Taylor 07939 055031 / Email: treasurer@clenchwarton-church.org.uk

WEATHER STORMS AND THEIR NAMES continued from page 24

unintended associations. Names connected to significant public figures, or those that could be considered controversial or political, are avoided. Similarly, any name that has already been retired as a hurricane name will not be used again. To maintain impartiality, storms are never named after private companies brands.

Continued on page 35

Importantly, the frequency with which a name is submitted does not influence its selection; it is the suitability of the name that matters most.

When are new storm names announced?

Since the launch of the 'Name our Storms' initiative in 2015, a new list of names has been published each September. The list covers the period from early September to late August the following year, aligning with the seasonal increase in low-pressure systems and the potential for named storms.

The latest list of named storms were revealed on Monday September 1st. So far we have had AMY and BENJAMIN.

Why do we name storms?

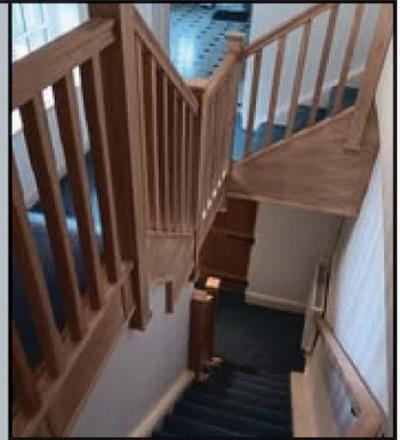
The primary reason for naming storms is to provide a consistent and authoritative message about approaching severe weather. By using a single, recognisable name, communication through media partners and government agencies becomes clearer and more effective. This helps the public to better understand the risks, take appropriate action, and ultimately keep themselves, their property, and their businesses safe.

When is a storm named?

In the UK, a storm is named when it is expected to cause disruption or damage significant enough to warrant an amber or red warning. This decision is based on the National Severe Weather Warnings service, which considers both the potential impact of the weather and the likelihood of those impacts occurring.

While storms are most often named due to the threat of strong winds, other weather types are also considered. For example, heavy rain that could lead to flooding, as advised by agencies such as the Environment Agency, SEPA, and Natural Resources Wales, or significant snowfall, may also prompt the naming of a storm. In this way, the system ensures that the public is alerted to a range of severe weather threats, not just wind.

Naming storms is a vital part of how the Met Office communicates severe weather risks. Through a careful and inclusive process, we ensure that each name is suitable, recognisable, and effective in helping people stay safe when severe weather approaches.



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St Margaret's Church has a box, near the font, for donations to the food bank in Kings Lynn. They currently need: Strong carrier bags (to take food home in); Tinned Meat; Puddings; Tinned Fruit; Coffee; Tinned Fish; Pasta Sauce; Deodorant; Washing Powder. If you feel you can donate any of the above items, please leave them in the marked box.

The Food bank staff and recipients are always extremely grateful. There is a thank you card on the notice board in the porch. Thank you.



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- Rectory Drive 10.40-10.50
- St Annes Crescent 10.55-11.10
- Linford Estate (1) 11.15-11.30
- Hall Road opp. no 28 11.35-11.50
- Black Horse Road 13.00-13.20
- Wildfields Close 13.25-13.45
- 36 Station Road 13.50-14.10
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Puzzle Page. (Answers on page 5)



This month the answers are all flowers.

- 1 The purple variety of this flower is used in the campaign against polio.
- 2 An avalanche?
- 3 Mrs Bucket?
- 4 Favourite actress of King Edward vii
- 5 Song sung in "The Sound of Music"
- 6 First name of actress who played the part of Ena Sharples.
- 7 Common flower found on the garden lawn known in medieval times as 'Mary's Rose'.
- 8 The birth flower of August and associated with the fortieth wedding anniversary.
- 9 Flower which means that you will never be forgotten
- 10 Flower associated with the First World War which has become the flower of Remembrance Sunday.

This beautiful crafted wall hanger was recently donated to St Margarets Church by a friend of Debra McGowan's, and is now hanging on the inside of the West Door, in the Bell Tower. Do come in and have a look at it.





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