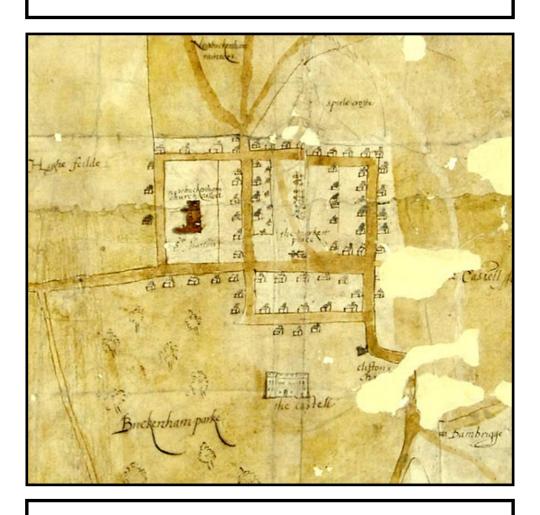
New Buckenham Parish News



September 2024

Cover image: Extract from a historical map of New Buckenham, drawn in 1597. The original is held by the Norfolk Record Office and a copy hangs in the Large Meeting Room at the Village Hall.









A warm welcome from our team will greet you at The King's Head. Once inside, you can expect a cracking pint, a glass of lovely wine or a G&T at the bar, along with some delicious classic British dishes from the kitchen.

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New Buckenham Parish News

September 2024

Thank You

We have been very touched to receive so many messages of sympathy from friends in New Buckenham following the passing of our dear son Tim after a short illness. We are very grateful for your support. Tim lived with us in the village for four years from 2012 before moving to Norwich, and then again in the last couple of months while we cared for him at home.

There will be a service to celebrate Tim's life at 11am on Thursday 5th September at Colney Woodland Burial Park near Norwich followed by a reception in the village at The King's Head.

Full details, including the option to donate to our chosen charities, can be found at https://timothylester.muchloved.com

Rory and Sandra Lester

Sponsor the Parish News

This month's issue is kindly sponsored by the New Buckenham Gardening Group.

If you would be interested in sponsoring an issue of *Parish News* or advertising in the magazine, please contact Mary Dowson on 01953 860320 or email mdowson@btinternet.com.

Parish News Committee

Gardening Group

Well, a big thanks from all of us in the Gardening Group to everyone involved in the Village Show. We had 193 entries this year, down very slightly on last year, which makes it the second most successful show in numbers of entries in our history. We know that we hold the Show at the worst time in that most flowers are over and the vegetables have not had time to mature, but we have to salute the efforts made by all who entered. Nevertheless, the best in Show was the Dahlia grown by Olly Cator, who doesn't have a garden, only a small courtyard and that has limited sun. Well done Olly, our judge was seriously impressed with the quality of your bloom. Well done to all the others who almost made best in show, but missed by a whisker! Thanks also to the eight who entered Up the Wall and the standard was very good as usual. The judge had great difficulty in deciding the winner, but Graham Wilby's hanging basket won by a tiny margin from Ley Heels with Paul and Carol Martin coming third.

Our handicrafts judge had quite a bit to do this year. Previously, the handicrafts section has been quite small, but this year had 19 entries. One of the adult classes was won by a junior, well done Tahlia!

We also announced the winners of the Decorated Benches. The winner by a long way was the bench on the Market Place promoting bees and seed bombs prepared by John and Tammi Hall utilising 'free child labour' to complete a brilliant display. Second place was Bella Chirodian's bench in Grange Road and third was Christine's bench by the bus stop. Well done to all of you and we'll look to do it again!

It was great to see many new faces taking part in the friendly competition. We miss so many of the old faces but it is excellent that numbers are up and the Show is still successful and will continue.

Thanks also to the committee of Karen, Lyn and Ian and all those who help on the day with stewarding, raffle, Judges' Lunch and afternoon

refreshments. We cannot do it without you. Another successful one under our belt and now we can start planning the 2025 Show!

Jimps (Chairman, Gardening Group)

New Buckenham Village Hall

The electric car-charging stations are now up and running. These appear on the 'Electroad' app, so can be used by locals and those travelling through the area. The return for the Village Hall is small, unless the sun is shining and we generate our own power, but every little helps.

There are now three disabled parking bays marked out. We ask people to respect these. They are for Blue Badge holders only and will be regularly monitored. Blue Badges must be displayed.. There is usually plenty of room in the main car park and it is just another 30 seconds' walk to the front door via the path!

Thank you for supporting your Village Hall and we look forward to a busy autumn and winter in our community.

Juliet Fulford, on behalf of Village Hall Trustees

Winter Warmer Wednesday Café

New Buckenham Village Hall 1pm to 3pm

Working from home, living alone, make a date and take a break! Join us at the community café. Join in on the games table, find out what is going on, meet up for a chat. We hope you will join us on Wednesday afternoons (1–3pm) at the Village Hall from Wednesday 30th October. A warm welcome is guaranteed!

Juliet Fulford

News from the Pews

August is often a quieter month, with people on holiday and generally enjoying the last few months of 'summer'. The same is true at St Martin's, so there is not too much to report this month.

Coffeemates!: Thank you again to everyone to who supported the coffee morning in August. Numbers may have been slightly smaller, but they were still perfectly formed. A total of £200 (including Gift Aid) was raised for the Anne Robson Trust, which was a wonderful result. When we sent the money to the Trust, explaining how we had raised the sum, they wrote back to say that a coffee morning was a great idea to fundraise and asked if they could talk to us about how we did it, because as a result they are now thinking of putting a coffee morning fundraising pack together!

Our next coffeemates! is on Saturday 14th September and is in aid of Home-Start Norfolk. Home-Start is a local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times.

Bats in our Belfry: Janet Trewin's bat survey in July produced some interesting – and amazing – results, which Janet has now kindly collated. Of the 18 species in the UK, here in New Buckenham we have at least 12 of them! The survey recorded Barbastelle bats, one of Britain's rarest bats and currently listed as endangered or vulnerable in most European countries. So whilst we may occasionally curse bats, we should be very pleased (and proud) that we have such a rare creature in our midst. Janet has produced some very interesting information sheets, from which we will be putting together a small exhibition in the porch. Do go and have at look and be amazed – and thank you Janet!

Book Stall: Don't forget that the book stall is always open when the church is. There is a wide variety of fiction to choose from, for a small donation of 50p a book and we obviously welcome donations to add to the library.

Contact details: Revd. Sarah Walsh is always happy to visit or chat. You can contact her on 01953 571549 or 07809 430967.

For any queries do contact me: Louise Casson (Churchwarden) on 01953 860191

St Martin's Services: Septen	าber	2024
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Sun 1st	10:00am	Group Service at New Buckenham Rev Sarah Walsh	Trinity 14 Proper 17			
Sun 8th	4:30pm	Choral Evensong Canon Tony Billett	Trinity 15 Proper 18			
Sun 15th	11:00am	Holy Communion Canon Tony Billett	Trinity 16 Proper 19			
Sun 22nd	11:00am	Morning Prayer Val Plummer (AWA)	Trinity 17 Proper 20			
Sun 29th	10:00am	Morning Prayer at Old Buckenham Alison Hannah (AWA)	Trinity 18 Proper 21			

For more information about services, contact:

Priest in Charge: Revd Sarah Walsh (01953 571549)

New Buckenham Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 10th September at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. All residents of the village, young and old, are welcome. Residents are able to raise any issues of concern or of interest so please come along and participate.

The Parish Council welcomes the Forestry Commission's proposal to create new woodlands at Old Buckenham and Banham. However, the Parish Council are still keen to create our own community woodland. If any landowners have potential sites please do contact me.

The Parish Council is awaiting confirmation from Norfolk County Council of a date for installation of the new speed gateway feature on the Norwich road.

Andrew Bingham (Chair – New Buckenham Parish Council)

New Buckenham Parish Council

Chair: Andrew Bingham (01953 861150 /

cllr.andrew.bingham@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Vice-Chair: Paul Martin (01953 861117 /

cllr.paul.martin@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Councillors: Don Crossman (01953 861246)

Mary Dowson (01953 860320) Steve Highton (01953 860000) Karen Hobley (01953 860529)

Mary Manning (01953 861242)

Clerk: Angela Thornton (01953 887830 /

parish.clerk@newbuckenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The Parish Council meets at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month at the Village Hall. Further information can be found on our notice board on the Village Green or www.newbuckenhampc.info.

The Stinging Nettle

The stinging nettle, also known as the common nettle, burn nettle, nettle leaf or just plain stinger, is from the plant family *Urtica Dioica*.

The Latin *Urtica* means 'to burn' with 'nettle' said to be from the Anglo-Saxon word 'noedl', which means needle.

When the skin brushes against the nettle trichomes (almost invisible hairs on the stem and leaves) the bulbous tip breaks off leaving needle -like tubes. These pierce the skin injecting a fluid containing formic acid. This is the same chemical found in both ant bites and bee stings and causes a painful, tingling, burning rash.

The stinging nettle is a perennial plant, appearing year after year in the same place with the potential to grow 5 to 6 feet tall. The nettle doesn't root particularly deeply, but has a running rhizome, an underground stem with many fine rootlets and nodules growing along its length. Each of the nodules is capable of producing a new plant, which will appear several feet from the parent plant. With so many rootlets anchoring it firmly to the ground, anyone who has tried pulling up a nettle will know just how tenacious it can be!

But why would you want to rid your patch of this amazingly versatile plant? The first nettle leaves can appear as early as the end of February, not dying back until well into autumn. Not only does the nettle produce new plants from the nodules on its rhizomes, it is also a prolific self-seeder. In late summer, groups of tiny greeny-yellow flowers appear down the stem under each grouping of leaves, a little like catkins.

The stinging nettle is one of nature's great survivors. Its stinging stem and leaves make it unpalatable and uncomfortable eating for many potential predators. Although not far under the earth, the sturdy rhizomes are strong enough to be protected from harsh weather

conditions. To make extra sure of their survival, the flowers produce a mass of light seed that can be blown by the breeze or spread by attaching themselves to anything that passes close by.

Every part of the stinging nettle is useful. In her book *The Garden Cottage Diaries*, which describes her living for a year as the 18th-century wife of a Scottish school-master, Fiona Houston describes how useful she found the stinging nettle. When growing your own food, April to June was referred to as the hungry gap. The kale and cabbage that would be available to her later in the year were not yet ready, so the stinging nettle was there to replace otherwise missing nutrients in her diet. Picking the tenderest leaves from the top of the plant and frying them gently in butter with an onion, she then added water, potatoes and oatmeal for a thick, satisfying soup. Rest assured that the process of cooking the nettle completely removes its sting! Nettles can also be used as a substitute for spinach.

Moving from the east end of London to Suffolk when they married in 1953, my parents had heard that nettles would be a rewarding, and free, addition to their diet. Having little money, this would be a useful way of stretching an already slim budget. Picking the nettles was not a pleasant experience and eating them even less so. They had not realised it was the tender tops of the plants that were needed, not the whole thing. The result was a stringy, tough, inedible mess and the experiment never repeated.

Nettles are also used to make an infusion which boosts the immune system, provides vitamins A and C and helps the body fight infection.

Northumberland Farms have created a cheese containing flecks of nettle which give it a subtle added flavour. Cornish Yarg, a cheese based on a Caerphilly recipe, is beautifully wrapped in nettle leaves. Not only are the nettle leaves completely edible, but they also protect the cheese while still allowing it to breathe.

Medicinally, the stinging nettle has been used for hundreds of years treating painful muscles and joints, eczema, arthritis, gout and anaemia. Anecdotally, the pain of arthritis has been treated by putting the nettle leaf directly on the painful area. Today it is possible to buy stinging nettle in capsule form, which seems far more agreeable than creating one pain to cure another.

There are also household uses for the stinging nettle. Slowly simmering both the stems and leaves in water and then leaving overnight to cool creates a subtle green dye. In her book, Fiona Houston describes making nettle string by separating the fibres from the more woody stems and twisting them together. The resultant string, or cordage, is tremendously strong. Ray Mears gives a good demonstration of this, which can be found on YouTube.

Nitrogen-rich fertiliser can be made by half-filling a container with nettles, topping it up with water, stirring occasionally and leaving it to 'brew'. After three to four weeks, the stinky liquid is strained and diluted one-part fertiliser to ten-parts water, before being used to fertilise nitrogen-loving plants.

In terms of value to wildlife and biodiversity, the stinging nettle is vitally important supporting at least 40 different insect species. As its sting is used to protect itself, insects use it as a protective shield. The caterpillars of the Peacock, Red Admiral, Small Tortoisehell, Comma and Painted Lady butterflies use the nettle as their only or main food source. The common nettle aphid is food for parasitic wasps and ladybirds. These are then food for smaller birds, such as the Blue Tit. The thousands of tiny seeds from the flowers provide food for the House Sparrow, Chaffinch and Bullfinch.

Out on a country walk one summer with my five-year-old daughter, the footpath became impassable with nettles. Although her dad was in front, beating them back with a stick, she was not convinced this would prevent her legs from being painfully stung. She asked to be carried the short distance to keep out of harm's way, so I picked her up. Unfortunately, I tripped over a hidden root, launching her into the very nettles she asked me to protect her from! With the 'juice' from plenty of dock leaves growing nearby applied to her indignation, and the promise that I actually DIDN'T throw her into the nettles on purpose, she was eventually mollified.

So, apart from its nasty propensity to inflict pain and take everything else over, why would we want to remove this incredible plant from our gardens? Perhaps growing some in a large pot, controlling its desire to freely wander, and placed away from any passing bare flesh, would be a beneficial and happy compromise.

Kim Cutmore

Weavers [by the sheep]

Good Companions

The meeting on Thursday 15th August was attended by sixteen members. We were entertained by Jimpy with a talk on the Lord of Manor of New Buckenham. Tea was served by the committee.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19th September at 2:30pm in the Village Hall, when we will be entertained with a talk by Simon from Natural Surroundings.

All new members will be made very welcome. For further details, please contact Diana Cole on 860636 or me on 860467.

Christine Wilby

200	Club	Lucky	Winners
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Thank you for your continued support of the Village Hall. Here are the lucky winners for the latest draw.

£20	Sue Cattermole, Norma Porter, Emma Bailey
£10	Anne Burton, Lisa Attfield, Gordon Chase, Claire Heasman, John Rigden, Stevie Hobley



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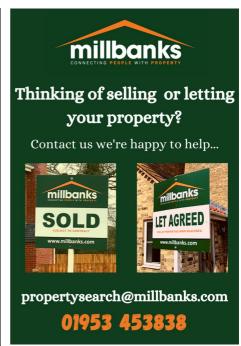
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Dates For Your Diary

September 2024		
Tues 10h	Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7:30pm	
Sat 14th	Coffeemates!, St Martin's Church, 10:30am	
Sat 14th	Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Bike Ride	
Thurs 19th	Good Companions, Village Hall, 2:30pm	

The Village Hall Bookings Administrator is Stevie Hobley 07469 715517 ~ bookings@newbuckenhamvillagehall.co.uk

Contributions for the October 2024 issue of New Buckenham Parish News should be submitted by 6pm on Friday 20th September to Richard Hoggett, 9 Church Street (860136), Katie Wyatt-Hupton, Orchard Cottage, Marsh Lane (308427) or by email to editor@newbucknews.co.uk.