

your Wimbotsham

October 2024



Produced by Wimbotsham Parish Council

This newsletter is produced by Wimbotsham Parish Council. Every effort is made to ensure that information is accurate at the time of going to print but no liability will be accepted for losses caused by inaccurate information.

Your Parish Council

Contacting the Parish Council

The best way to contact the Council is via the Parish Clerk. Please remember to provide your name, address and telephone number.

Clerk to Wimbotsham Parish Council: Nicola Forrest

Email: clerk@wimbotsham-pc.gov.uk

Or, Telephone 07557 118580

Parish Council Meetings

Meetings are held in the Methodist Church, Chapel Lane at 7pm

Everyone is welcome to attend

If you would like to address the council, there is an opportunity to speak.

Agendas & Minutes are published on the village notice boards and on the website:

Next Meetings - 22nd October & 10th December

Your Councillors are:

Dean Chilvers (Chair)	45 West Way	01366 386211
Chris Hitchens (Vice/Chair)	53 Church Road	07977 275884
David Fendley	12 Millers Lane	01366 383436
Steve Mingay	14 Church Road	07714 761871
Anne Smith	30 Church Road	07948 725224
Jackie Squires	88 Westway	01366 386370

Welcome to the October 2024 edition of your Wimbotsham newsletter.

Earlier this year, Ian Cable took the decision to step down as Chairman of the Parish Council. As we all know life is busy and involves many commitments within our roles and Ian has done that over many years. Ian has been an excellent Councillor, Vice Chair and Chairman of the Parish Council and his passion and care for the village has seen some excellent improvements.

Ian will still be playing an active part in the village with his involvement in the Village Hall and the 100 Acre Trust. Thank you, Ian, for all of your contributions past and present.

Between myself and Chris Hitchens we have filled the Chair and Vice-Chair roles and will do our best to keep enhancing the village, making sure it stays the great village we all love.

Tree Guard:

The new oak tree that was planted on the village green last year, now has a tree guard. Designed to match the village hall fencing, it will protect the tree for the first few years of its life.

The Village Sign:

As you know the village sign had deteriorated badly and Paul Goodrum had generously volunteered to refurbish the sign. However, after a few months of drying out the sign, it seems that it is beyond repair and no longer usable. We are currently looking at options and will, hopefully, find a conclusion soon.

Village Hall:

Great effort was made by the village hall committee on recruiting new members and breathing a fresh new approach to our very special village hall.

Congratulations everyone.

Chairman's report /contd... on page 4

Chairman's Report /contd....

Recreation Ground:

As always, the Midsummer Fayre was a great event bringing music, dancing and joy to the village. A massive effort was involved by all volunteers to stage an event like this. Thankfully, the weather held, it was well attended and everyone looked like they were having a good time.

Unfortunately, the damage being caused by dogs chewing up the equipment is now becoming very expensive to replace. It is a shame to have to remove equipment from a well-used playing field, especially now the children are back at school. Hopefully this problem can be rectified soon.

Parish Councillors:

Two vacancies remain for parish councillors. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, please take the time to attend a few parish council meetings as a member of the public.

If it looks like something you would like to do, then please apply via the Parish Clerk.

Dean Chilvers



New Tree Guard



Base of village sign

80th Anniversary of D-Day

On the evening of the 6th June, villagers met up on our Village Green to pay tribute to those brave men and women who gave their lives for us to enjoy the freedom we have today.

We started our evening at 7.30 with free cake, tea and coffee in The Chequers.

Many spent time chatting with friends, neigh-

bours and meeting new people. It was a buzzy atmosphere and lots of family tales of D-Day were shared from being evacuated to how to make Churchill's cake to the sound of Run Rabbit Run. Then the mood turned more sombre as we all walked over to the Village Green.



Proceedings began with Jackie Squires, a long standing member of our Parish Council, reading the International Tribute.

Then Dean Chilvers, our new Chairperson, lit the Beacon. It went very smoothly thanks to his newly found taper making skills - it didn't bend or break which allowed him to nonchalantly walk around the Beacon lighting it with ease. Never have these skills been found in Wimbotsham before. Where has he been hiding? ,

The International Tribute

9.15pm - 6th June 2024

The Tribute



Let us remember those who gave their lives at home and abroad during the D-Day landings, whose sacrifice enables us all to enjoy the peace and freedom we have today.



Let us remember those who came home wounded, physically and mentally, and the friends and family who cared for them.



Let us remember those who returned to restore their relationships and rebuild their working lives after years of conflict and turmoil.



Let us remember the families that lost husbands, wives, sons, daughters and sweethearts.



Let us remember the servicemen and women and merchant seafarers of all faiths and nationalities - from all countries - who fought, suffered and died during the D-Day landings and six years of war.



Let us all remember those in the Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force, Merchant Navy, reserved occupations and our Allies - the brave people who kept us safe on the home front and abroad during the difficult time of war.



Let us remember the brave doctors and nurses who cared for the wounded, the men and women who toiled in the fields, the coal mines, the factories and the air raid wardens, police officers, firemen, ambulance drivers and the young people of the Scouts and Guides who all played such a vital role in the war.



A big thank you to all who gathered together at the Commemoration to remember the brave, selfless men and women who fought so we and our families can enjoy the freedom

From the Vicar

My dear reader,

Bob Dylan famously wrote that we live in changing times:

*If your time to you is worth savin'
And you better start swimmin'
Or you'll sink like a stone
For the times they are a-changin'*

Amidst all the changes of our times, the Church of England too has had to make changes to its organisation and ministry in order to declare the gospel afresh to each new generation. Here are some of the changes as they touch us in West Norfolk.

First, your local parish church is now under the benefice that is called 'The West Norfolk Priory Group'. We are twelve churches under one priest. You can find more information on our website (see below).

Secondly, one vicar is now shared between twelve parishes and churches. The vicar is assisted by Lay Ministers who are trained and certified. If you are visited by a Lay Minister, rest assured that you are visited by the church.

Thirdly, these changes have partly come about because of declining church attendances, reduced church givings and scarcity of clergy. Your local church needs your support in order to keep going.

TWELVE CHURCHES, ONE MISSION

With prayerful good wishes,

DK

The Revd Canon Dr David

www.westnorfolkpriorygroup.co.uk Tel: 07596 707469 (9am to 1pm, Mon-Friday)

Email: louise.vigus@westnorfolkpriorygroup.co.uk; Follow us on Facebook!

St Mary's Church Wimbotsham – Christmas Services
Sunday 22 December Holy Eucharist 11am
Christmas Day Service with Carols at 10 am
at Holy Trinity Stow Bardolph
All are welcome



your Wimbotsham

October 2024

In memory of Reverend Alan Bennett

Reverend Alan Bennett, a cherished member of the Wimbotsham Stow Parish community, passed away unexpectedly at home on 14th February 2024, at age 92. His loss leaves a significant void for those who knew him.



To many, Alan was more than a spiritual leader; he was a beacon of hope and wisdom. His sermons, rich with themes of love, compassion, and community service, deeply resonated with all. He had a unique gift for connecting with people from all walks of life, offering comfort during their darkest hours and joy in celebrations.

Ordained in 1964, he dedicated his life to the spiritual growth of his parishioners, serving as a mentor, friend, and confidant. His warm smile and attentive listening made everyone feel valued.

As we remember him, we reflect on the countless lives he touched through his guidance and community outreach. His legacy of love, faith, and resilience will continue to inspire us as we navigate the future without him. Beyond his ministry, Alan was a devoted family man, leaving behind a legacy as a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His love for his first wife Doreen (29 years) then his marriage to Ann (40 years) both created a loving base for the family relations and friends. The door was open to all.

His spirit of service and belief in the power of kindness will be missed. Let us celebrate a life well lived knowing that his spirit will guide us and may we remember to cherish each moment and love life as Alan did.

Bye for now, dear friend.

Michelle Strikes Gold for Magpie Centre

A disabled rider from Watlington fought off competition to gain first place at the National Riding for the Disabled Dressage Championships, held at Hartpury College, Gloucester on July 12 -14.

Michelle Alflatt, representing West Norfolk RDA, based at the Magpie Centre, gained an impressive 68.09%, riding Simba, a piebald cob. RDA riders are graded according to their disability, and Michelle, who has cerebral palsy rides at Grade 1.

Junior rider Jessa Seekings, riding Buddy, also put in a good performance to place third in her class. Three other Magpie Centre riders also qualified at the Regional competition, held at Milton College in May and competed at the Nationals. They are: Aynsley Calvert, Robert Baldwin and Annabelle Glegg.

Said Michelle: 'It was a fantastic experience, but Simba and I couldn't have done it without our wonderful team, including Magpie Centre Yard Manager, Natalie Dade and RDA Group Instructor Jo Gordon, who transported the ponies, looked after them and prepared them for us to ride.'

If any group organisers need a speaker for one of their meetings and participants would like to learn about the history and work of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled, please call the Centre on 01553 810202 or 01553 828935 and we shall be pleased to arrange this. We do not charge a set fee but suggest a minimum donation of £30.

We are still on the lookout for two equines on loan. We need a 14.2hh riding pony, plus a 15.2 hh riding or ride and drive horse. Must be well-behaved and sound in all three paces. If you know of one, please call the Magpie Centre on 01553 810202.

Caroline Dudley, Voluntary Publicity Officer, West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled.



Top:

Michelle receiving
her trophy

Bottom Left:

Michelle &
Simba in action

Bottom Right:

Jo Gordon,
Jessa Seekings
with Natalie
Dade riding
Buddy



Midsummer Fayre Saturday 22nd June

Another successful and well attended Midsummer Fayre hosted by The Wimbotsham Recreation Ground Committee. We were so lucky with the weather considering all the rain we had and how wet the ground would have been. That was such a relief!

Thank you to all those who bought raffle tickets and to the lucky winners who received £100 first prize, £50 second prize and £25 third prize. Congratulations.

Several bands and singers played on the day and they sounded great. We also had The Ouse Washes Molly Dancers to entertain us and several people from the crowd joined in. Always good to keep the younger ones entertained and they enjoyed craft areas, story telling, games and making head garlands in the traditional Fayre style using wild flowers. Great to see so many stall holders, over 30 came along to showcase their items for sale.

No need to go hungry or thirsty as we had a BBQ, vintage tea and cake stall and a beer tent all run by committee members and other helpers on the day. Thank you to all who helped out.

The reason we hold this event is to raise money, to ensure we keep the Recreation Ground in good order from Health and Safety to being able to buy new equipment for the villagers of Wimbotsham and surrounding villages to enjoy. We are very proud of this.



A thank you to our sponsors, Accent Fresh, Bearts and JW Sargeant Butchers. The committee members are very grateful that you came along and made it another fabulous Midsummer Fayre and to those who gave their time on the day. Much appreciated.

Yes, we will be hosting The Midsummer Fayre next year and it will be great to see you all again. **Until 2025!**

your Wimbotsham

October 2024

Summer Fayre



Wimbotsham Methodist Church

*In June we commemorated our
150th Anniversary!*

Our doors were open on the afternoons of 22nd and 23rd June for members of the public to pop in to view and browse through a display of historical records, old photographs, Sunday School memorabilia and newspaper cuttings. A selection of Circuit Plans dating back to 1938 also jogged many a memory of days of yore!

Compared with only 15 active Methodist Churches in the Downham Market Circuit nowadays there were 51 at that time, many holding two services each Sunday as well as Sunday School for the young people.



On Sunday 23rd June our service at 11 am was led by Rev. Paul Critchley, at which we were delighted to have members of the Hilgay/Southery and Feltwell Methodist Churches to join us. The service was followed by coffee, cake and chatter!

For further information and latest updates, please call Mary Davies on 07980 196611.

**We warmly welcome all to join us for worship and
fellowship**

Sunday Morning Services:

Every Sunday at 11am

Monthly Coffee Morning with bric-a-brac:

10am—12 noon on 3rd Saturday of every month. With home-made cakes, bric-a-brac, books and jigsaw puzzles

Ouse Washes Molly Dancers

Ouse Washes Molly Dancers have had a busy 2024 celebrating their 40th anniversary. It all kicked off with our day of dance in Ely in January, which was the biggest gathering of molly dancers in modern times, with teams travelling from as far away as Massachusetts! Then it was preparing for a summer of festivals, performing at Chippenham Folk Festival, St Neots Folk Festival, Sheringham Potty Festival, Ely Folk Festival, Kings Lynn Folk in the Town, Warwick Folk Festival and finally Denver Windmill Beer Festival!



Molly dancing is a type of traditional dance particularly associated with East Anglia and The Fens, it is one of a variety of styles of Morris Dance that have developed in different parts of the country. Ouse Washes Molly Dancers have been going since 1984, based in and around Downham Market and bring their own colourful twist to dances and tunes new and old.

We are always keen to welcome new dancers and musicians who want to give it a try. We practice in Wimbotsham Village Hall on Monday evenings at 8pm, and also on one weekend morning a month. If you are interested, get in touch, either via Facebook or email **owmolly@gmail.com**



We are now busy practicing, creating new dances, arranging new tunes and generally getting ourselves ready for another busy year in 2025. We are always keen to welcome new dancers and musicians who want to give it a try.

Wimbotsham Village Hall Diary

Monday: 10am—11.30am La Leche League (alternate weeks)
Contact Emily & Charlotte
llwestnorfolk@gmail.com or
www.facebook.com/llwestnorfolk

8pm - 9.30pm Ouse Washes Molly Dancers
Contact Phil on 07878 000175 or 01328 701254

Tuesday: 4.00pm—8.00pm Serenity Dance Studio
(Contact Abbie: abbie@serenitydancestudio.com)

Wednesday: 7.00pm—9.00pm Social Crafting Group
(Alternate Weeks)

Thursday: 6.00pm-8.00pm Fitness with Sal
Contact Sally 073688 84600 or
www.fitnesswithsal@outlook.com

Also available for hire Friday, Saturday or Sunday
Hall Hire fee: £8 per hour plus £50 deposit

For all Village Hall enquiries and bookings:

Please note new contact and telephone number

Contact Lisa: 07876 473896



Additional Volunteers Help Village Hall

Following a last ditch call in the Wimbotsham News for additional volunteers to help run the village hall, two open door sessions resulted in five new volunteers stepping up to help run the village hall. It is fantastic to have some additional energy and enthusiasm alongside Christine, David, Ian and Kate. So, welcome and thank you to Lisa, Marion, Paul, Peter and Sally for joining us.

This has already helped to lighten the load of just a few running the hall and already we are getting some little jobs ticked off the list more rapidly than would otherwise have happened. You may have seen our new clock! And, we have our new King Charles III portrait in position.

Lisa and Sally are taking on the role of bookings clerk and treasurer respectively (contact details remain the same), so giving Kate a break from this after 5 years. Thank you Kate for keeping everything ticking along efficiently even through COVID.

With a reduction in bookings in recent times (mainly due to changing circumstances of hirers) the hall now operates at a loss. Fortunately, we have some reserves, so in the short term we can continue to operate, though obviously in the longer term, a loss-making hall will be difficult to sustain.

So, please remember the hall is there for anyone to use at very modest hourly hire rates. We are looking at ways to increase bookings and raise funds to maintain the village hall.

With more volunteers on board we now hope to be able to organise some community fund raising events in the near future, so please look out for these and support us where you can.

And, if you have any ideas, please let us know.

The Recreation Ground Committee invite you to



Join us for Carols Under The Tree

Saturday 21st December: 17:00-17:30

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Wimbotsham Allotments Sept 2024

As the growing season draws to an end we can look back at a reasonably productive year on the allotments, now we have water available close to all plots, we are less weather dependant than we used to be on our light soils. This is also helped by the Digestate (by product from Anaerobic Digesters producing electricity) which is used as a soil conditioner.

All of our allotments are almost fully taken but a few are available to let as we have some retirements this year. Lettings to residents of Wimbotsham will always have first offer of available allotments, with applicants from neighbouring parishes considered next.

You will notice how well the allotments are kept as you walk through them on the footpath, please respect them and keep all dogs on a lead and PLEASE PICK UP after your dog. The allotments are an extension to many people's gardens, so please treat them as you would your own.

Should you wish to join us as an allotment holder, lettings begin at the AGM at the end of October or early November. To register your interest please contact Liz Wing on 01366 388954.



Pins & Needles

All change for our craft club! We have moved our meeting place from The Chequers to The Pavilion within Wimbotsham Recreation Ground and have changed our name to Pins and Needles.

We give a huge thank you to Kim who allowed us to hold our weekly meetings in the pub. However, some of our members wished to bring their sewing machines along which was not possible in The Chequers, so we are hiring The Pavilion situated on Wimbotsham Recreation Ground. Our members now enjoying building their sewing skills. We also have knitters and those who crochet.



We are a friendly group who formed many years ago and are happy to help each other by sharing our skills on different projects. Right now members are making and donating items for the Warm Baby Project, or attempting that pattern they've always wanted to knit or crochet, or learning how to use their sewing machines.

We welcome newcomers. If you would like to come along you can find us in The Pavilion every Wednesday from 7.30 to 9pm. There are kitchen facilities available, so bring a drink if you wish. Also a toilet. We ask for a small £2 towards the hire of the premises. If you would like to know more, contact Carolyn (Tel: 07955 739873) or Anne (07948 725224) a call.



Recreation Ground

The car park in recreation ground was looking a bit tired. A phone call to Middleton Aggregates and they very kindly donated and delivered some hardcore for us to be able to repair the potholes.

With a team of volunteers, all holes were filled, and the car park should be good for another year. Thank you again to Middleton Aggregates.

Over the past few weeks, the recreation ground has seen an increase in dog fouling. This has implications on health and safety of children and parents using the recreation ground.

Please be aware that dogs are not permitted on the rec except for using the public footpath whilst on a leash.



It is also sad that I have to report that three pieces of rec equipment have been taken out of service due to criminal damage, where it appears that a dog has savaged the rubber seats of the swings, the zip wire and large donut swing.

Due to the repair costs we are unable to say when they will be back in service. Also, because of the extent of damage, the police are investigating

and I would ask anyone who has information as to possible suspects to contact: Steve Mingay, on 07714 761871 or, the Police on 101.

your Wimbotsham

October 2024

Wimbotsham Recreation Ground is a charity (Charity number: 1052106) run by volunteers from the village, for the village.



WIMBOTSHAM

RECREATION GROUND

Wed 16 October 2024

18:00 (6pm) Volunteers for Wimbotsham Recreation Ground

19:30 (7.30pm) Committee Annual General Meeting

At the Recreation Ground Pavilion

Please come and help with the Recreation Ground.

We need volunteers for practical matters such as keeping the equipment in good condition, managing pavilion bookings, and committee members to make decisions on future matters such as new/replacement playing equipment.

Interested but can't make the day? Please contact

wimborecgroundchair@yahoo.com or Steve on 07714761871

Bus Services stopping in the centre of Wimbotsham

No. 37 Towards King's Lynn 0914—**request stop** at main entrance to Village Hall, in Low Road. The senior bus pass can be used on this bus.

No. 37 Return from King's Lynn 12.28—**request stop** opposite Village Hall in West Way. **The above times are Monday to Saturday.**

*The No. 37 buses run hourly to King's Lynn from Lynn Road, turn right at the top of Church Road and the stop is approximately just past the first 3 white gate posts of Hill House (Usually. there are free bus maps on board these buses). The return bus from Kings Lynn to Downham Market stops at the field entrance just opposite No. 28 Lynn Road. Both are **request stops** with no visible bus stop signs.*

No. 47, Go to Town, Monday to Friday to Downham Market (Ask Driver for return times) From Wimbotsham, The Chequers—08.53: 09.40: 09.53: 11.39: & 14.23

Norfolk County Council Mobile Library Service

Route No. DER 204 This service stops in Wimbotsham on the following **Tuesdays** outside No. 2 Southside, from 10.05 to 10.20 on the following dates:- 2024 — 29th October, 26th November, 2025 — 21st January, 18th February, 18th March and 15th April.

Please note the above dates and times are subject to change or amendment on a permanent or temporary basis. All enquiries, please telephone 01603 222303

Norfolk County Council also run a Home Library Service

The home library service provides books on wheels to the homes of people who like to use the library service but are unable to get to a branch or mobile library due to age, disability or mobility.

If you would like to use this service, email us at libraries@norfolk.gov.uk to ask to be added to a local delivery route.

[Visit the Royal Voluntary Service website](#) if you would like to volunteer to help deliver the Home Library Service.

Magpie Centre News —August 2024

Following the Charity Ride held at the Magpie Centre, home of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association in the grounds of Wallington Hall on 30th June, we are delighted to report that the event attracted 70 riders and raised £1,122 for WNRDA.

Ellie Head, Chairwoman of Hoofbeats, who organised the ride said, “Two of the riders are registered disabled and we were happy to support the Magpie Centre and all the good work it does. We are already looking forward to another successful ride next year!”

And moving from four feet to two, Stephen Riley-Elliot, whose child rides at the Magpie Centre put in a huge effort to accomplish a 50km Ultra Marathon (Boudicca Way 50K) on 20th July, boosting the Centre’s funds by a further £1,175 in sponsorship.

An aspect of the Centre’s work, which is gaining momentum is for home-schooled children, many of whom are on the autistic spectrum, to take up riding. The benefits are not only physical but include increased confidence and enhanced communication skills.

If you wish to explore this option, please call the Magpie Centre office on 01553 810202 to request an application form. Once this has been completed and returned, the participant will have an assessment, which lasts about half an hour and is free of charge. If all goes well, the participant will be slotted into a class (maximum 4 riders) of riders of similar ability for regular lessons.

Lastly, our Chairwoman, Bernadette Ford will be standing down at the end of September for personal reasons and we are seeking to appoint her successor. Knowledge of horses and/or people living with disability, although desirable, is not essential. More important is the ability to lead a team including staff, volunteers and the Board of Trustees. This role might suit a newly retired person with management experience. For more details and an informal chat, please call the Centre on 01553 810202.



The Chequers Pub

Hi, to everyone from Chequers Team, just thought we would share with you some great pictures of our motorbike meet held on the same day as The Fenman Classic Bike Show was previously—August Bank Holiday Monday.

The day is still supported by a majority of the Fenman Committee, members of the Parish Council, Wimbotsham



School and villagers and a lot of attendees are still coming to the meet as they have been visiting Wimbotsham for over 30 years for this special day. Although the numbers



are far less, the enthusiasm and goodwill of everyone is still the same and it creates a fantastic friendly atmosphere.

Café Connect

Our village cafe has now been opening for eight months. Many of you will have already paid a visit. A reminder that we open in the village hall on the first Saturday of the month from 10 to 12 noon.

Cafe Connect offers an opportunity for residents and others to receive a warm welcome, to meet others and get together for friendly chat. All at the same time



as enjoying delicious homemade cakes and savouries all served on vintage china. Parish Councillors, Anne Smith and Jackie Squires initiated the cafe idea and with Parish Council support have been coordinating its monthly running.

We have excellent, reliable volunteers who share the Cafe's ethos. Our volunteers have various roles: some set up and clear away the tables and chairs and store away the lovely china: others bake a variety of cakes, biscuits, scones, sausage rolls etc., and help with serving the food, teas and coffees and taking payment.

Our volunteers are so valuable and without them the cafe wouldn't run.

If you haven't already, please do visit us and bring your friends.





WIMBOTSHAM VILLAGE HALL

Low Road
Wimbotsham
PE34 3QQ

 07876 473896

 wimbotshamhall@hotmail.com

The village hall is at the heart of the village, and a central point for village activities and events.

The hall boasts a spacious venue, with a large main hall, with a further interconnecting medium sized room, a spacious kitchen, a stage and facilities.

Ideal for:

Bingo

Quiz Nights

Conferences

Club & Society Meetings

Pilates / Yoga / Fitness groups

Birthdays, Weddings & Anniversaries

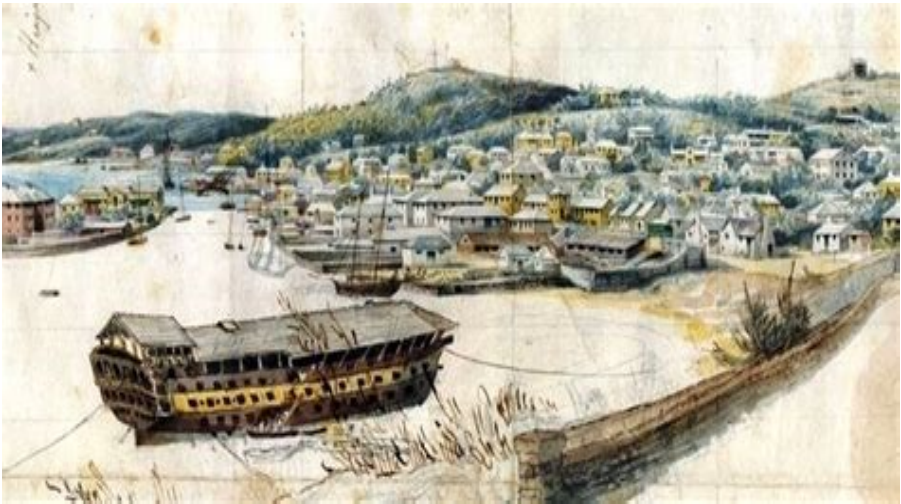
Outside the hall has parking for several vehicles.



A Bermudan Puzzle

Every now and then a puzzle in our village history suddenly shows up another lead to follow. So it was in September 2023, when talking with Mark Orchard, the nephew of one of the Lancaster crew members, that I realised he might be able to help with a story we had found in part of a magazine called The Norfolk Ancestor, dated March 2006. The article was written by Ted Monk, whose ancestors were born in Wimbotsham.

In December 1840 James Monk, James Gutteridge and Robert Chapman went into a plantation in Bexwell on a poaching expedition. They were challenged and



Prison hulk in Bermuda. Convicts were housed on 3 decks containing 500+ men on each.

James Monk tried to fire his gun at a gamekeeper but it didn't work. In court, Robert Chapman was acquitted but Gutteridge and Monk were transported for 10 years hard labour, not to Australia but to Bermuda.

/contd on page 24

A Bermudan Puzzle (contd)

In the penal colony, convicts were building the Royal Navy dockyard. By 1843, James Monk had died in the penal hospital.

So, we have 3 unknowns:- cause of death; James' final resting place and what happened to his wife and 2 young sons in Wimbotsham. Mark Orchard put me in touch with the National Museum of Bermuda and their Registrar Jane Downing replied:-

“Most of the convicts are buried in unmarked graves. The only known convict cemetery is the one on Ireland Island which spans 1842-1848 but there is no record of James Monk's grave. The registers show an entry for “James Monks (sic), convict on the Antelope ship, buried 30th August 1843.” Jane advised there was a yellow fever epidemic in 1843 and those aboard the Antelope, a prison hulk were particularly affected, so it's possible that was the cause of death for James. No record was found of James Gutteridge.”

Elizabeth and James Monk were married in St Mary's Church in Wimbotsham in September 1832. The 1841 Census shows they had two sons, Charles age 6 and William age one. By 1851 Census, Elizabeth, is described as a housekeeper, living with her brother-in-law Robert Monk and his two sons in South Runcton. William, now 11, is staying at Shepherd's House, South Runcton as a Shepherd's boy with the Cambridge family. Charles Monk, an agricultural labourer, died at age 19 in Runcton and buried 20th September 1854 in Runcton Holme. Elizabeth died 7th November 1858 and was buried in Stow Bardolph. Life then was very tough and this family certainly experienced many problems. However, the youngest child William, married Maryann and the 1871 Census finds them in Chapel Lane, Wimbotsham with Charles 10, James 8 and George, 5. A daughter Ann Elizabeth was born about 1880. Ted Monk is a direct descendant from this family.

By Carolyn Seymour, Wimbotsham History—August 2024

*NB: With grateful thanks to the Norfolk Family History Society -
www.norfolkfhs.org.uk*

your Wimbotsham

October 2024

100 Acre Trust

*Wimbotsham Coal Dole makes payments to assist the poor
of the village with fuel costs*

(Not just pensioners, anyone in hardship can apply!)

Dating from 1911, the 100 Acre Common Charity was established to assist the 'poor inhabitants' of Downham Market, Stow Bardolph & Wimbotsham through the distribution of fuel. This generally being coal. Hence the name **Wimbotsham Coal Dole**.

Today, the charity makes payments each year to assist the poor of the village with fuel costs, traditionally coal was provided, though as few no longer use coal to heat their homes. Payments are usually made in December/January to coincide with the coldest time of year, though applications can be considered at other times.

As general guidance, single parent families, those on sickness benefit, income support or job seekers allowance, pensioners existing solely on the state pension, could apply. This list is not exhaustive but gives a general idea of those who the Coal Dole expect to help. This guidance is in keeping with the aims of the Charity, and the terms of the Trust Deed; *to benefit the poor inhabitants*.

Funds are distributed at the discretion of the trustees based on the information provided by applicants.

To apply for funds, please complete the application form on the next page of this newsletter together with any additional information you feel appropriate and return to one of the addresses below: **by 1st December 2024.**

88 West Way or 35 Church Road, Wimbotsham

your Wimbotsham

October 2024

Application for 100 Acre Trust funds 2024

(To be returned by 1st December 2024 to 88 West Way or 35 Church Road)

Please answer questions accurately and honestly to the best of your knowledge, providing as much supporting information as you feel appropriate. Please provide the basic information required below and additional information on a separate sheet.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Marital Status: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

How long have you lived in Wimbotsham: _____ Do you live alone: _____

Any dependents: _____

Please specify why you feel you are eligible and what you wish to use grant monies for (please continue on a separate sheet where required):

Do you find it difficult to meet yours or your family's basic needs? E.g. Providing clothes, food, electricity, gas etc.

Details of the following will assist in assessing your application:

Details of your/household income/benefits/savings/investments:

Do you own/rent your own home:

ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION - Details which you feel may be helpful to us:

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements I have made are full and correct in every respect and that no relevant information relating to my circumstances has been withheld. I also accept that all applications are considered at the discretion of the trustees and it will be their discretion as to whether this application is successful. I accept that I may be required to provide further evidence in relation to my financial information.

Signed..... Date:
(Signature of Applicant) All information will be held in strict confidence

Water Leak at West Way Corner

The corner of West Way has always had an issue with flooding. Over the years the pipe was damaged and did not allow for the water to be drained.

In July this year, the road was closed and Anglian Water got to work to find the issue. The road was dug up and new pipes laid, so hopefully we can now drive through the road rather than a very large puddle.



QUIZ NIGHT

& FESTIVE SONGS

WIMBOTSHAM VILLAGE HALL

Friday 13th December 2024

Prizes

7pm start

Raffle

£2 entry per person - Teams of 4-6

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

CALL OR EMAIL LISA TO BOOK: 07876 473896

wimbotshamhall@hotmail.com

Raising funds for Wimbotsham Village Hall



WIMBOTSHAM VILLAGE HALL

19th January 2025

9AM TO 1PM

BOOK A TABLE FOR £5

TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE

CONTACT LISA: 07876 473896

wimbotshamhall@hotmail.com

Raising funds for Wimbotsham Village Hall



FIRES CAUSED BY E-BIKE AND E-SCOOTER BATTERIES ARE CLAIMING LIVES.

The UK's leading charity on electrical safety is calling for tighter lithium-ion battery regulations for e-bikes and e-scooters following a surge in fires across the UK.



SUPPORT OUR CAMPAIGN TO SAVE LIVES.



To support, visit: bit.ly/batterycampaign