

THE  
**LITTLE CORNARD**  
MAGAZINE



EASTER 2018



## **SERVICES at ALL SAINTS**

Sunday service at 10.30 a.m. except each 1st Sunday of the month –  
Benefice Communion at St Mary's, Bures, at 10.30 a.m.  
5th Sundays at Assington or Little Cornard (check noticeboard)

**Morning Prayer each Friday at 9.00 a.m. in the Schoolroom**

Mothering Sunday Sunday 11th March at 10.30 am

### **Easter Services**

Holy Communion Palm Sunday 25th March at 10.30 am  
We hope that Dilly the Donkey will be in attendance to greet us all

Good Friday Meditation 30th March  
in St. Mary's Church, Bures at 2.00 pm

Holy Communion Easter Day 1st April  
at 8.00 am followed by breakfast in the Schoolroom

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## **From All Saints Registers**

### **Baptisms**

Toby John Timothy Stone  
Harrison Wheeler Stone

### **Funeral**

Raymond Henry Layzell

# Vicar's Letter - Easter 2018

Dear Friends,

As we all know Easter is a moveable feast – the date fluctuates each year, for which we can blame the Council of Nicaea, which in 325AD decided that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox. That's what I'm told, but please don't ask me to explain!

Anyway, this year, in 2018, Easter falls on a very interesting date – April 1st or April Fool's Day. Apparently it's the first time this has happened since 1956, so a rare event indeed! A useful bit of trivia for your next pub quiz, but it also made me reflect for a moment on the whole idea of Easter as April Fool's Day. After all, that must be very much how it must have seemed – utterly crazy - to those who had been following the events surrounding Jesus' death when they opened their eyes to a new dawn on that first Easter Day.

After all, any decent script wouldn't let the leader of a successful new movement blessed by God end up dying on a Roman cross on a rubbish tip outside town. The cross was the punishment inflicted on those the Empire wanted to make an example of, those it wanted publicly to humiliate in death. But this was how, apparently, Jesus' career had ended. It wasn't the sort of ending his family or followers had expected, especially after all that they had seen: the calming of storms, the dramatic healings, the wisdom of his teaching. No, this was a fool's ending indeed. It's hardly surprising that St Paul, writing a few decades after the event describes the cross as "a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to the Gentiles".

And pretty bad marketing, wouldn't you think, to use a symbol of Roman torture as your logo, if you wanted to promote a new religious movement successfully? What were those early Christians thinking of? April Fools indeed.

How on earth did those April Fools, the cowering followers of Jesus give birth to a faith which swept the world? Because God took a symbol of hate, the cross, and turned it into a symbol of love: *"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."* (John 3:16).

The foolishness of the cross represents, in the end, the abundance of God's love. Maybe it's no coincidence, then, that in years like this, when Easter falls on April Fools' Day, the season of Lent begins on another significant day – Valentine's Day. I bet the Council of Nicaea didn't see that one coming...

Have a wonderful Easter

*Steve.*

## CHURCHWARDEN'S CORNER

We have Easter fast approaching and Christmas fading into memories. I hope that by the time you read this Spring has sprung and we have left the cold and wet behind.

As always the Christmas services were well attended and without the snow we've had some years.

The bells restoration is coming along very well, Robert has written about it elsewhere. We would like to give a big thank you to everyone who is involved with this.

The quinquennial inspection of the church fabric had some rather ominous news regarding the condition of the spire on the top of the tower, so it looks like our fundraising efforts will be continuing for a while yet.

Thanks to Revs Steve and Tricia for organising an interesting and well attended lent course based on the Live Lent study of the Gospel of John.

We will have our traditional Easter Breakfast after the eight o'clock Easter Communion and everyone is welcome.

*Churchwardens Brenda Pentney and Jeremy Apter*

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## First Tuesday

On the first Tuesday of every month the Schoolroom and Church are open. Coffee and Refreshments are available all day between 10am and 4pm and lunch is served at 1pm.

Do come along, you can be sure of a warm welcome. If you would like transport please give me a ring on 01787 227615.

*Brenda Pentney*

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# **FLOWER FESTIVAL**

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**12th & 13th May 2018**

**11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. each day**

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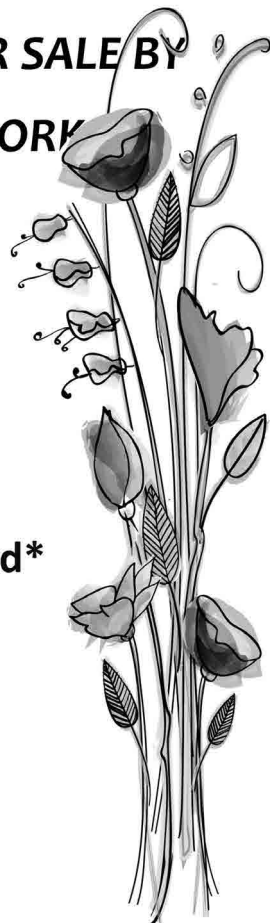
**\*Success After Stroke\***

**\*Little Cornard Village Hall Roof Fund\***

**\*Upkeep of the Church\***

**Evensong at 6.30 p.m. on**

**Sunday, 13th May**



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## **Noel King**

Sadly, Noel died on Wednesday 7th February. Noel was well known in the village and held in high esteem for all his community work: with the Parish Council, the Conservation Society and the Village Hall. He also did a lot of renovations to the Hall, where his skills as a craftsman came to the fore.

Noel's involvement in many aspects of village life will live on – together with the numerous trees that he helped plant and maintain as a Conservation Society member.

Noel was always generous with his time and help, his knowledge of Parish matters was considerable and he was renowned for his calm, reflective opinions. In Peter Cutmore's words: "Noel was a wise counsellor with helpful advice. When I was Parish Clerk I had the privilege of working with Noel on parish matters, there was a very wise head on those broad shoulders."

Our condolences and sympathies go to Eileen, Michael, Stephen and all the family. Noel's was a life well-lived and he leaves special memories. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

*Clive Johnson.*

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## **Lt Cornard Conservation Soc. Easter 2018**

The members of the Little Cornard Conservation Society have been very sad to hear of Noel King's passing. He and Eileen have been absolute stalwarts of the Society since its inception.

At the Christmas Social on the 7th December, as he had done for a number of years, Noel made delicious mulled wine both alcoholic and non-alcoholic so that everyone could enjoy it. He has been our Treasurer for many years, going back into the mists of time and we will miss this very gentlest of gentlemen for a very long time.

I must mention the Society's next event which will take place at the village hall on Thursday 29th March at 7.30 for 7.45. All are welcome. Adrian Walters, Warden of the Water Meadows and Great Cornard Country Park, will talk to us about his work and in particular about the wildlife and plants he comes across at our local country park.

*Tina Cutts, Secretary Little Cornard Conservation Society.*

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## Village Litter Pick

Some villagers got together for a village litter pick in February, again collecting many sacks of plastic, glass, and the obligatory collection of car parts. A couple of road signs have been fixed (and turned the right way round) as a result too.

If you are able to give an hour or two on a Sunday for a litter pick later on, in the autumn, let us know and we'd be pleased to have the help. Many hands make light work.

Many road signs have been damaged or have rusted their posts all over Suffolk and pot holes abound. Suffolk highways have a handy reporting tool that can be used to log defects that include pot holes. Pictures can be added for extra help and any inspection / planned works as result are noted on the map.

If you note a problem give it a go on <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/>

*Karen Gilbert*

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## Village Hall

The Village Hall committee will be hosting a Quiz evening on Saturday 14th April at 7 pm to raise funds for the Hall. Please contact Patricia 01787 227614 or Ruth 01787 227467. Tickets are £12 and this includes a delicious two-course meal.

The Hall has lost a dear friend and stalwart supporter in Noel King. For decades Noel was Treasurer of the management committee and booking secretary. We will miss him very much.

*Ruth Adams*

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## Storehouse Foodbank

No changes with the drop off points at Waitrose and the Christopher Centre.

A large number of boxes are packed each month and I know any contributions are very welcome.

Any queries Sue Macdiarmid 01787 375858



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## Flowers for Easter

We will be buying lilies to decorate the Church for Easter. If anyone would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one please contact our Treasurer, Patricia Monk 01787 227614.

Marian and I will be contacting those who kindly decorate the Church nearer the time to fit in with the Holy Week Services being held at All Saints Church.

*Sue Macdiarmid*

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## All Saints Church Flower Festival 2018

We will be holding our usual Flower Festival and Art Exhibition on 12th and 13th May. If anyone would like to help with the flowers or exhibit paintings they would be most welcome. Please contact Marian Turner 01787 377889 or Sue Macdiarmid 01787 375858.

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## Suffolk Historic Churches Bicycle Ride 2017

There was an excellent result for the Bicycle Ride, with over £140.00 raised so far, with more to come. The best result since 2014.

*Sue Macdiarmid*

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**Little  
Cornard  
Neighbourhood  
Watch**



**Phil Gooch  
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It is very wise to make sure you lock your doors, gates etc and leave a light on at night if leaving your home.

There have been break ins in our area recently and across the border in Essex.



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**Little Cornard Parish Council website**

[www.littlecornard.onesuffolk.net](http://www.littlecornard.onesuffolk.net)

**Little Cornard Village Hall -**

**Patricia Monk**

**01787 227614**

**Ruth Adams**

**01787 227467**

**All Saints Church Wardens -**

**Jeremy Apter**

**01787 373439**

**Brenda Pentney**

**01787 227615**

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## **CHRISTENING ON A SNOWY SUNDAY**

### **by Shirley Cotton**

On Sunday December 10th, when the snow lay all about, two little boys were Christened at Little Cornard. They were Toby John Timothy Stone aged four and his eighteen month old brother Harrison Wheeler Stone. A beautiful ship's bell stood on a decorated stand before the altar and was used for their Christening. The bell came from HMS George V on which the children's great great grandfather had served when in the Marines during World War 2. HMS George V was a battleship. It served in the battle which succeeded in the sinking of the Bismarck. When the ship was broken up after the war the boys' great great grandfather bought the bell and it has since been used for all the family Christenings.

Many family members and friends struggled through the snow, eventually reaching the church in varying degrees of lateness! It was also the morning of the Christingle Service and everyone was in time to receive an orange and a candle and to join the party.



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# **CHRISTENING ON A SNOWY SUNDAY**

## **by Helen Stone**

Helen and Ed Stone baptised their two sons Toby, 4 and Harry, 1 at All Saints Church on December 10th 2017. Helen is a local girl gone to London, and wanted to return to All Saints Church for this important introduction of her sons to the family of God.

Baptisms are always special events – but this one turned out to be even more special than usual - due to events both planned and unexpected!

The planned special event was the use of a font made out of the upturned bell from the King George V battle ship. This is a special tradition from Ed's side of the family. Ed's grandfather Jon Lee served on the King George V during World War 2 (the ship had quite an historic life - it's worthwhile looking it up on Wikipedia if you have a moment), and when the ship was broken up Jon was able to purchase the bell. Since then, every one of Jon's grandchildren, and now great grandchildren, have been christened in the upturned bell. Toby and Harry were the latest additions to this Stone family tradition and in due course their names will be engraved on the inside of the bell alongside their father, cousins, and even some grandmothers.

The unexpected event was the weather. December 10th saw some of the heaviest snow this area has had for years and this had several consequences. First, driving to the church was a little adventurous and second, we suffered from somewhat depleted numbers as over half the Godparents were either caught in the snow or unable to even leave their houses. Additionally, our organist was sadly stuck in the weather which led to Tim Stone, Toby and Harry's grandfather (iPop to them) taking a turn at the stops and delivering superb (even if not quite on tempo) sight read renditions of Shine Jesus Shine and other hymns and carols. And finally the snow made for a wonderful backdrop to all the family photos that came at the end of the baptism.

All in all the day was a wonderful example of how the most unusual and unexpected things can often make for a most special event.

Ed, Helen, Toby, Harry and all of the Stone and Wheeler families wish to extend their grateful thanks to all those at All Saints for sharing this very special day with them.



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Patricia Monk

Booking Secretary on 01787 227614.



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## **The Casting of the Lt Cornard Church New Treble Bell by John Taylor & Co of Loughborough on the 1st February 2018.**

A beautiful day saw a Kings coach take some folk from Lt Cornard Church to the John Taylor & Co Bell casting foundry in Loughborough. We were met by a journalist from BBC Look East who filmed much of the tour. A copy of part of that film is available on the BBC news website.



A bell wheel being repaired on the jig

The foundry is a red brick Victorian Building with thick 335mm brick walls and its own bell tower holding a peal of twelve bells. We were to enjoy eight of those being rung by the team of ringers from our group at the end of our tour.

We arrived at the foundry to be welcomed by the John Taylor guide who showed us around their fascinating museum. The foundry does work on bells from all over the world, casting new, repairing damaged bells and tuning peals from all parts of the globe. They have been doing so since Victorian times. Amongst the museum exhibits, which date from 1300, is a bell made by Thomas Gardiner of Sudbury. The tour began in the delivery area where amongst numerous others we saw bells 4 and 5 from Little Cornard Church. As well as the bells, John Taylor & Co make all the huge steel support gantries, bell headstocks and ropes. The heavy engineering skills were visible all around us. We progressed to the woodworking area where, using ash and beech, frames and supports are still made to the same pattern as they were back in Victorian times and before. Then on to the tuning area to see the massive lathes that turn the bells, reducing the thickness of the metal to get the tuning of the peal just right. The thinner the metal the lower the bell tone.

The tour then progressed to the foundry. It was a remarkable sight and a truly historic moment to witness the new Lt Cornard treble bell being poured. The newly cast bell consists of 77% copper and the rest is tin heated to a molten 1200 degrees in the cauldron and skimmed to cool ready to pour at 1060 degrees into the mobile skip.

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The bell mould is buried in the sand pit which is 14 feet deep to allow large bells to be cast. The sand allows the metal to cool consistently and stops the risk of draughts cooling one side faster than the other.

The top of the bell is at floor level so the pouring of the molten metal minimises the risk of splashing those workers on the pouring skip.

A party from Wilbaston church who were also visiting that day had a clergyman amongst their number and he kindly said a dedication prayer as "our" bell and two others were cast.

We were allowed down into the foundry floor immediately after pouring to watch them rodding the molten metal to push air out and the metal down into the mould. It would take from that Thursday 1st February to Monday 5th February for the metal to cool and the bell to be ready for lifting from the pit.

To think that bell will still be in the Church in 500 years time as the existing ones have now and we saw it cast! If all goes to plan we look forward to hearing the first peals of the reinstated bells on Armistice Day.

*Gerald Bird*



Tuning demonstration area

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## Bell Update 20/2/18

We have now entered perhaps the most frustrating period of the whole process.

The 5 bells have now been removed from the tower and are at the foundry - Taylors of Loughborough - where they will be overhauled and restored. There will be some welding required which will be carried out at a firm called Soundwell in Newmarket. The work on the tower has now been completed apart from a few small jobs that require the finishing touches.

There was a coach trip to Taylors to see the new treble bell being cast which is being donated by Lesley Ford Platt in memory of her son, Michael. This was a day of high emotion. It was wonderful to see the molten metal being poured into the mould knowing that in a very short period of time it would be hanging in our tower ready to be rung. We were shown round the foundry and learnt the process of how bells are cast from the mould being made with its inscription down to the pouring and the cooling process and finally how it is removed from the sandpit. We had a cameraman/reporter from BBC Look East and Radio Suffolk – all reports and photographs are available on the bell page on the church website.

The bells will be rehung on the new bell frame sometime during the Summer. We are just finalising a date for Bishop Martin to come and dedicate the bells when they are reinstalled. This will be in the early Autumn in time for a peal to be rung on Armistice Day.

*Robert Mackman*



Our bell being cast



Our bell one week on, still needs some finishing off!

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## Loughborough Trip - 1/2/2018

The trip to Loughborough was much enjoyed if these comments are anything to go by

An excellently organised day. A memorable occasion. History in the making. Fantastic job organising it, Robert. Excellent, everything went so smoothly. Sunny weather was a bonus. Everybody felt welcome with all the shared snacks on the coach. Emotional moment as we stood and watched the bell being cast. Remarkable visit and memories that will remain with me for the rest of my days. Thank you for looking after us so well. An historic moment. The snacks were beyond expectation. It's one of the best trips I have ever done (coach driver to his bosses). Delicious pub food and excellently organised. Fantastic building, engineering skills and machinery. Thank you so much for the wonderful day. It was a real bonus that we could ring the bells in the Foundry Campanile (one of the Suffolk Guild of bell ringers). When are you organising the next day trip out?!

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## LITTLE CORNARD FILLING STATION

Roger Lane's interesting piece about his grandparents Mr and Mrs Tabearth which appeared in the Christmas magazine made mention of the petrol pump and cigarette machine which were installed outside their home at Pump Cottage in around 1937 by landowner Mr J. E. Francis.

The photo shows Mr and Mrs Tabearth's daughter Doris standing beside the cigarette machine which carries the impressive wording:

Little Cornard Filling Station.



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## **Banstead Remembers - C.S.M. Willie Layzell of Banstead Asylum**

As part of a commemoration of local men who fell in WW1, the church of All Saints, Banstead, Surrey, remembered a son of Little Cornard at a service on 14th January 2018, the centenary of his death.

Willie George Layzell was born in Lambeth in early 1875. He was the son of Thomas, a slater, and Abigail Layzell (nee Tricker). Willie had several brothers and sisters and the family lived at 2 Joiner Street, Southwark, near London Bridge Station. His parents were from Suffolk and they moved the family back there when Willie was about 10 years old, living in the village of Little Cornard. Willie was baptised at All Saints, Little Cornard, alongside six of his brothers and sisters on 27th October 1886. Willie was apprenticed as a baker in Sudbury and lived with the master baker and his family at their shop.

When his master died, Willie joined the Army, enlisting in the Suffolk Regiment. He served in India for nearly five years before going to fight in the Second Boer War, in South Africa. He was captured early in the fighting and was a prisoner of war for nine months before being released and rejoining his regiment.

After Willie returned to Britain in 1902--3, he got a job with London County Council, working as an attendant at the asylum on Banstead Downs. He lived in the on-site accommodation blocks for single male attendants until he married Edith Bailey, of Lodge Road, Sutton, in Sutton on 31st March 1907. They made their home at 2 Lenham Gardens, Sutton, and had a son, John, in 1908. They moved to 3 Argyle Terrace, Collingwood Road, where another son, Thomas, was born in 1911. Their next move was to 1 Belmont Road, in Belmont, in 1913-14. Their new house was much closer to Willie's work and several attendants lived in the road with their families. They were still living there when war broke out. The Council encouraged their employees to join the Armed Forces, keeping their jobs open and continuing to pay their salaries. Willie joined the Army for a second time on 9th September 1914. As he had previous military experience and had been a corporal, he was immediately appointed corporal instructor and then made up to lance sergeant the following day. He helped to train the enthusiastic volunteers that flooded into the Army in the autumn of 1914 and went with them when the 6th Bedfordshires left for France in July 1915. The Bedfordshires spent most of their time just north of what became the Somme battlefield. When the Somme offensive came in July 1916, the Bedfords were soon sent south to fight. Shot in the neck during an attack in August, Willie was invalided home. While convalescing, he developed a bad cough and started to lose weight. He was diagnosed with tuberculosis, believed by the doctors to be hereditary and aggravated by exposure, gas poisoning and fatigue during his time at the front. Willie was treated in Fulham Military Hospital. He transferred to the Royal Defence Corps (WWI's Home Guard) but by then was already too ill to serve. Discharged from the Army in September 1917, Willie died four months later, aged 42. He is buried in the churchyard at St Dunstan's, Cheam.

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## FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH

On 8th February I attended Suffolk County Council's meeting which voted to increase council tax in Suffolk for the first time since 2010. An increase of 2.99% was approved, along with a 2% adult social care precept, meaning taxpayers will be paying an increase of a little under 5% more for county council services than last year. A council tax rise was not surprising – we had mentioned it last year, with a 1.99% increase put forward, with the adult social care precept at 3%. Despite the small change in the way the tax is being divided, the increase remains the same.

We spend about half a billion pounds providing services every year in addition to the circa £600k which is direct government funding (ring fenced) for our schools. Like the majority of councils in England, we accepted a four-year financial package from the Government, covering the period from 2016/17 to 2019/20. It also, helpfully, provides some certainty about our funding. However, we can't rely on this alone. We were successful in our bid to be one of 10 areas where we can retain 100% of business rates generated here in Suffolk, which will help. But there still remains a budget gap.

In 2018/19, the gap is £26.8million. That is the difference between the amount of money it will cost to provide essential council services in Suffolk and the amount of money we actually have to spend. We are required by law to have a balanced budget so we have therefore had to find ways of closing that budget gap. We have proposed a range of savings totalling £23.9m, leaving us with a gap of £2.9m which will come from our reserves. We have been careful to limit the use of our reserves as once that money has been spent it's gone forever and won't be available to close any future budget gaps.

This isn't a new way of working for Suffolk County Council. We've successfully managed the financial challenges laid down in the Government's austerity programme and have made savings of £236 million between 2011 and 2018. The response to these challenges has been measured, pragmatic and innovative, and designed to protect front line services as much as possible.

Demand for services has increased since the last council tax increase and continues to do so. We have an investment programme totalling nearly £100m this coming financial year, which includes building new schools, extending and improving existing schools, investing in Suffolk's road network, continuing to provide better broadband coverage across the county and delivering two major river crossing projects – the Lake Lothing Third Crossing in Lowestoft and the Upper Orwell Crossings in Ipswich.

Being clear about your goals, listening to people and being accountable for your actions are fundamental principles in public services. When the people of Suffolk voted in this council last May, it was on the basis of a clear manifesto. We are introducing business plans which set out how we will deliver services and how we will measure performance. These are based on three core priorities: inclusive growth, healthcare and wellbeing, and efficient and effective public services.

*Continued overleaf*

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## FEEDBACK FROM JAMES FINCH (continued)

These are deliverable because of the hard work and commitment of our councillors and staff working with our partners, businesses and residents to make Suffolk a healthier and more prosperous place to live and work.

Yes, the latest Autumn Budget confirms that the pressure on public spending is likely to continue. But this is not news to us and we have a positive response. We don't hang about in Suffolk, we get on and do everything we can to get the best possible outcomes for the people we serve. We do this by listening to what people say and giving them an opportunity to influence the difficult decisions we have to make. The decision to increase council tax wasn't taken lightly and every penny will be put to the best possible use. Our staff, my fellow councillors and I will make sure of that.

### My Priorities

Education - Supporting Vulnerable People - Jobs and Growth  
Localism and the Stour Valley - Building on Suffolk's Strength  
all underpinned by strong financial management and low council tax

### James Finch,

*County Councillor Stour Valley Division.*

*Tel 01206 263649 Mobile 07545 423796*

*Email: james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk*

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## Lee Parker - Babergh District Council Report: Spring 2018

I'm writing this report having just come in from a Sunday stroll around some of the footpaths locally. The sun was warm and there is definitely a Spring feel to things.

The political news from Babergh remains stubbornly insular with the continuing headline being 'merger'. The matter has caused much consternation within the 'Babergh bubble' and caused the resignation of Jennie Jenkins as leader before a motion to depose her brought by opposition members, with support from a small but vocal number of Conservative colleagues, could be heard. The arguments in favour of merger are compelling in my opinion. Try as the Leader and Cabinet might to put the arguments before constituents, opposition members have done their utmost to thwart the process at every stage.





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To an extent this is the job of the opposition so it should come as no surprise. There are not many members who are actually opposed to merger, but on the process by which merger might come about there is considerable difference of opinion. Finances are at a critical state as they are for most local authorities. Doing away with tiered Local Government in favour of a single unitary authority might well be the solution but hasn't yet gained enough traction to be an option in Suffolk. Creating a union with our counterparts in Mid-Suffolk seems to me to be a credible alternative but undoubtedly there are challenges ahead whatever transpires. The new leader, John Ward, has committed to holding a referendum on the matter once a business case setting out the case for merger has been presented to constituents and Council. I will advise further as the matter progresses.

Babergh District Council will be gifting Gainsborough's Chambers in Sudbury, purchased in 2014 for £235,000, to the Gainsborough's House Society, free of charge. At a recent meeting Babergh's Cabinet voted to gift the building to the Society, which runs Gainsborough's House, as part of the Society's project Reviving an Artist's Birthplace – A National Centre for Gainsborough. Council officers will now begin working to transfer the ownership of the property to the Society, to allow it to be fully incorporated into the project's wider £8.7 million investment in the regeneration of the centre of Sudbury.

Your Parish Council have been deliberating over whether to consider writing a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans, which came about as a result of the Localism Act, promise to give local communities a statutory say on such matters as future development within the Parish. All three of the Parishes within my Ward have now expressed an interest in writing one. Currently three plans have been formally recognised within Babergh but over twenty Parishes more have applied to get one underway. They are not small pieces of work but they are truly community led and, if your Parish Council does decide to commit to producing one, they will be looking for help from residents within Little Cornard in writing it. I am all in favour of the Neighbourhood Planning process and will do all I can to provide support and information if this is a route you choose to take together.

I was delighted to read that the fundraising to restore the bells at All Saints Church has progressed so well. It is testament to what can be achieved when communities work together. My own small contribution has been attending fundraising quiz nights which have been most enjoyable. Well done indeed to all involved.

As always, if you would like any information on anything Babergh related I would be glad to hear from you.

All the best

**Cllr Lee Parker** - Babergh District Councillor  
for Bures St Mary Ward, Bures St Mary, Little Cornard & Newton  
Tel 01787 376073 Mobile 07970 196884 Email [lee.parker@babergh.gov.uk](mailto:lee.parker@babergh.gov.uk)

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## **The Oldest Bible Comes Back to the UK**

The world's oldest surviving complete Latin Bible returns to the UK this autumn. It left these shores for Rome 1302 years ago, when monks in the northeast of England sent it as a gift to Pope Gregory II.

The Codex Amiatinus was one of only three produced at the twin monasteries of Wearmouth and Jarrow. (One has since got lost, and the other survives in fragments.) It was kept safe for centuries at the Abbey of the Saviour in Monte Amiata, in Tuscany. Then in the 18th century it was sent to the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, in Florence.

It is the Laurenziana which has now agreed to send it back to the UK and it will be displayed along with the Lindisfarne Gospels for the British Library's exhibition 'Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms', which begins on October 19th and runs until February 19th 2019.

The Bible is 12 inches thick, and weighs 35kg. It contains both Old and New Testaments and was written on 1030 leaves made from the skins of at least 515 sheep. It has been called one of the greatest treasures of Anglo-Saxon times.

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## **Two hundred years ago...**

Towards the end of the 18th century the Church of England faced a number of challenges. The Industrial Revolution had seen urban populations increase dramatically resulting in a mismatch between the population and the pastoral services provided by the church. In addition there was a fear amongst society that, following the French Revolution of 1789 - 99 there might follow a similar uprising in England. There was a belief that "the influence of the Church and its religious and moral teaching was a bulwark against revolution".

In 1818 The Church Building Act made available £1 million for the construction of new Anglican "Commissioner's Churches" to serve the expanding urban population and by February 1821 85 churches had been provided, with seating for 144,190. A second Church Building Act in 1824 provided a further Parliamentary Grant of £500,000. Grants made under the second Act were on the whole less generous with some as little as £5. The building of Holy Trinity Church just over the Suffolk/Essex border in Halstead was part funded by a grant of £500. The Church Building Commission continued to function until 1st January 1857 when it was absorbed into the Ecclesiastical Commission

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## One hundred years ago...

The 1918 flu pandemic infected 500 million people around the world and resulted in the deaths of between 50 and 100 million, equating to between three and five per cent of the entire world population. The Great War was in its final year and the spread of the virus around the world was in no small part facilitated by troop movements related to the war plus malnourishment and the overcrowded medical camps and hospitals combined with poor hygiene.

Restrictions due to the war meant that the extent of the pandemic went under reported in Britain, France and Germany. Neutral Spain, with no such restrictions, was free to report on such matters and thus a perception developed that the flu outbreak had begun there and so it became known as Spanish flu. It spread as far as remote Pacific islands and the Arctic. Life expectancy in the United States dropped by about twelve years.

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SPRING 2018

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### **CORNARD MERE -**

*By Robin Ford - Voluntary warden, Cornard Mere*

In the latest edition (2016) of "Suffolk Birds", published by the Suffolk Naturalists' Society, Cornard Mere receives six entries, ranging from a Pintail Duck that stayed for two weeks, in April, on the main pool to a Yellow Browed Warbler that stayed for two days in October, calling from willow scrub.

Included among the bird ringing reports was a Robin caught on Cornard Mere in February 2011 and re-trapped in Great Cornard in May 2016. This record reminded me that bird ringing had been carried out on the reserve, between 1985 and 1987, by Derek Moore who was, at that time, the director of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. He ringed Tree Sparrows from a colony living on the bank above the public footpath and a pair of Willow Tits near one of the freestanding willows in the reed bed. Sadly, one of the Willow Tits was found shortly afterwards, in a Great Cornard garden, having been partly eaten by a cat. Both these species are now considered to be on the verge of extinction in the county of Suffolk. However, the sight of a Red Kite, leisurely soaring over the mere during our February 2018 work party, would have astounded even the most optimistic of bird watchers from all those years ago.



*Robin Ford (Suffolk Wildlife Trust volunteer)*

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## Recipe - SIMNEL CAKE

Simnel cake is a fruit cake eaten in the United Kingdom, Ireland and some other countries during the period of Easter but was originally made for the middle Sunday of Lent when the forty day fast would be relaxed. Why not try this easy recipe...

170g (6oz) Butter  
170g (6oz) Soft brown sugar  
3 Eggs, lightly beaten  
225g (8oz) Self raising flour  
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon  
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg  
170g (6oz) Sultanas  
115g (4oz) Currants  
57g (2oz) Peel  
57g (2oz) Ground almonds

### For Cake Centre

115g (4oz) Almond paste or marzipan

### To decorate the cake

115g (4oz) Almond paste or marzipan  
Sugar coated Easter egg sweets

Cream the butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Beat in the eggs a little at a time.

Fold in the dry ingredients then stir in the fruit and ground almonds. Spoon half the mixture into a lined 7" cake tin.

Roll out the almond paste to a 7" circle and place in the tin. Finally, spoon the remainder of the cake mix on top of the almond paste.

Smooth the top and hollow slightly. Bake in a pre-heated oven for 2½ hours at 350F, 180C, Fan Oven 160C or Gas Mark 4.

Allow the cake to cool thoroughly. Roll out the almond paste into a circle, place on top of the cake (a little boiled apricot jam will help it adhere to the cake surface) then arrange the Easter eggs decoratively on top.

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## Don't read the Bible, listen to it

Fancy listening to the Bible? Try the new audio Bible app from SPCK, called the NRSV Audio Bible for Everyone, costing 99p.

The basic app provides the text and audio of the NRSV, while the option to upgrade offers a version that includes commentaries and guides from the For Everyone series by Tom Wright and John Goldingay. Visit [www.SPCKapps.com](http://www.SPCKapps.com).

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## The BBC makes more room for God

The recent publication of the BBC Religion and Ethics Review has been welcomed by church leaders as 'positive' and 'encouraging'.

The Director General of the BBC, Tony Hall, writes in his foreword: 'We know – our research tells us – that today's audiences are interested in learning more in this area. People of all ages, and of all faiths and none, think it is important to learn about religion in general. They recognise that, if we truly want to make sense of the world, we need to understand the systems of belief that underpin it. For the BBC, this is a fundamental part of our responsibility. It has also, perhaps, never been more important for us to get it right.'

And so, the review has promised a commitment to: 'accurately portray the diversity of beliefs in our society, to helping people understand their values and decisions, and to increasing specialist knowledge of religion in the news.' A new post of Religion Editor will be put in place, along with a global team containing new reporters, with specific religious experience.

The Bishop of Repton, the Rt Revd Jan McFarlane, has welcomed the BBC's new plans. She points out: 'Religion is a force to be reckoned with across the world. It is not in decline: it needs to be taken seriously and understood properly if we are to make sense of the world around us, understand our history and culture, and live in peace with our neighbour.'

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## Little Cornard Parish Councillors Contact Details:

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**Who's Who in our Parish**  
[www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk](http://www.littlecornardchurch.org.uk)

<b>Vicar:</b>	Reverend Stephen Morley	227407
<b>Clergy:</b>	Reverend Mary Cantacuzene	227616
	Reverend Tricia Box	227528
<b>Readers:</b>	Murray Emerson	269073
	John Symons	211534
	Andrew Clift	227648
<b>Lay Elders:</b>	Sylvia Gaspar	01206 240591
	Sue Emerson	269073
	Virginia Hill	227524
	Carol Barnham	228417
	Sarah Pryor	227518
	Sue Ryman	227715
	Andrea Carter	228081
	Jenny Wright	227750
<b>Church Wardens:</b>	Jeremy Apter	373439
	Brenda Pentney	227615
<b>Parochial Church Council:</b>	Rosemary Bullen, Sue Macdiarmid, Robert Mackman, Marian Turner	
<b>PCC Secretary &amp; Electoral Roll:</b>	Clare Lodge	312494
<b>Treasurer &amp; Gift Aid Secretary:</b>	Patricia Monk	227614
<b>Deanery Synod Reps:</b>	Robert Mackman, Rosemary Bullen	
<b>Church Flowers &amp; Cleaning:</b>	Sue Macdiarmid, Marian Turner	

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# **LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL**

All meetings start at 7pm and members  
of the public or press may attend.

Minutes from Parish Council meetings are available on:  
**[www.littlecornard.onesuffolk.net](http://www.littlecornard.onesuffolk.net)**

**Clerk - Dave Crimmin**  
**Cragston, Sudbury Road, Newton, Sudbury CO10 0QH**  
**01787 375085 [yourclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:yourclerk@btinternet.com)**

## **Parish Council Meeting dates for 2018**

9th January • 13th March • 8th May • 10th July • 11th September  
13th November • APM to be held on Tuesday 3rd April

## **MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS**

If you have any matter of interest or news item you  
would like included in the next issue of the  
Little Cornard Magazine, please contact:-

**Rosemary Bullen**  
**[bullenrosemary@gmail.com](mailto:bullenrosemary@gmail.com)**  
**Tel: 01787 379890**

**All material for the Harvest magazine to be  
received by Thursday 2nd August**

This is the Little Cornard Magazine which reports on all areas of interest  
in the parish. The Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee assist  
the Church with the finance of this magazine.



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