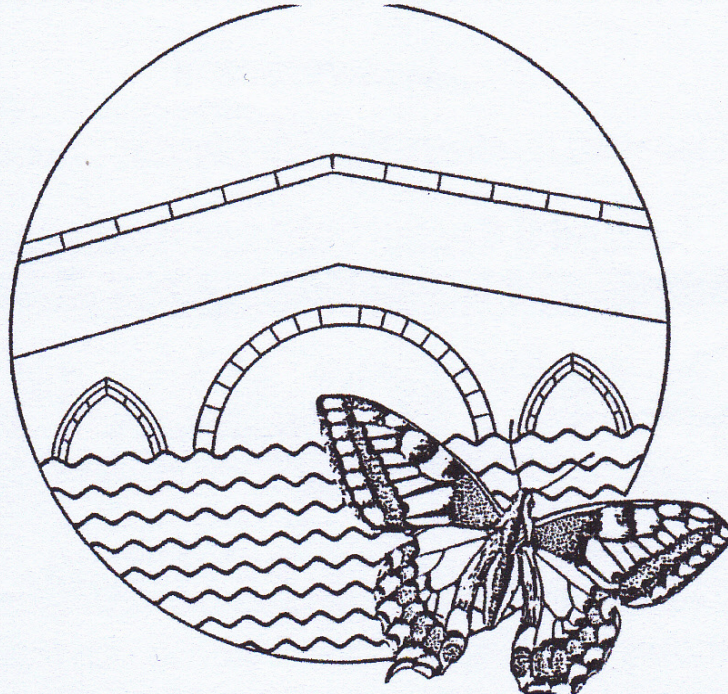


*Potter  
Heigham*



*December 2022*

*Christmas Greetings  
And a Happy New Year To All  
And  
Thank You To All Our Advertisers,  
Distributors and Contributors*



*What's on in December*

Fri	2nd	BROADS LADIES	7.30pm at Methodist Church
		~	
Wed	7th	SOUP & PUDDINGS	12 noon at Village Hall
		See overleaf for details	
Thurs	8th	WINTER WARMER	11.30am at Village Hall
		See overleaf for details	
Sun	11th	CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT	3pm at St. Nicholas Church
		~	
Wed	14th	MARDLERS & MORE CHRISTMAS PARTY	10am at Village Hall
Wed	14th	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	<b>7pm</b> at Village Hall
Thur	15th	CHRISTMAS TEA AFTERNOON	2pm at Village Hall
		See overleaf for details	



**Weekly at Village Hall**

Monday	1.30pm	STITCHERS & CRAFTERS –	Contact :Sue Harris 670471
Tuesday	9.30am	SLIMMING WORLD - Kim 0798 5184015	
Tuesday	2.00pm	SHORT MAT BOWLS – Mick 670616	
Wednesday	(not held on 2nd Wednesday of the month)		
	6.30pm	MANNERS4PAWS - Ringcraft	Contact: 07932 658925
Thursday	11.30am	WINTER WARMER CENTER	
Thursday	6.30pm	MANNERS4PAWS- Puppy Class	
	7.30pm	-Novice Obedience	Contact: 07932 658925
Friday	2.00pm	SHORT MAT BOWLS – Mick 670616	

Rainbows (aged 4-7), Brownies(aged 7-10) and Guides (aged 10- 14) meet weekly in term time For more details go to [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) and follow the links.

## St Nicholas Church Services

- 4th 10am Benefice Holy Communion
- 11th 10am Morning Prayer at All Saints, Catfield
- 3pm Carols by Candlelight
- 18th 10am Carol Service – United with the Methodists
- 24th 11.45pm Midnight Holy Communion at All Saints, Catfield
- 25th 10am Holy Communion at St. Catherine's, Ludham

### January 1st

10am Benefice Holy Communion at St Catherine's, Ludham  
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## Methodist Church Services

- 4th 11am First Sunday Special Service at Hemsby
- 11th 2.30pm Rev K Adams
- 18th United Carol Service at St. Nicholas Church
- 25th 10am Mr S Cushion at Martham

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## Carols By Candlelight

On Sunday 11th December at 3pm in St. Nicholas Church why not enjoy an atmospheric afternoon of Carols. The Waterside Scratch Band will be providing the music – with a little audience participation!  
The Church will be lit with candles and there will be free refreshments and of course it wouldn't be Norfolk without a raffle!

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## Tree of Remembrance

The usual Christmas Tree of Remembrance will be in the Church Porch from the first weekend in December. Please feel free to use as many of the tags provided that you need, or perhaps you would like to make your own.

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## **The Reason for the Season:**

It was Pope Julius, in AD353, who authorised December 25<sup>th</sup> to be celebrated as the birthdate of Jesus. This followed a great deal of research by learned people of the time but, it must be said, the evidence that this is the actual date is not strong. To me, it doesn't matter. Christ had to be born at some time and this seems as good a date as any. But I doubt whether, when Pope Julius made that declaration, anybody would have foreseen what it would become in our day.

Similarly, when professor Charles Follen, in 1832, lit candles on one of the first Christmas trees in America, nobody, in their widest dreams, could have imagined how elaborate the decorations would become. Over 2000 years have passed since that dark night was brightened by a guiding star that led the wise men to King Jesus's humble birthplace.

Yet, as we approach December 25<sup>th</sup> once again, amidst all the excitement, decorations and commercialisation, let us all be very intentional in keeping Christ at the centre. Let us pause to reflect and worship God as we consider afresh the outlandish Christmas story of His rescue plan for humanity by actually taking on human flesh and becoming a vulnerable baby.

So perhaps it would be good to take a moment this Christmas to, ourselves, follow that guiding star. Carol services are a super way to 'catch up with God' and what an excellent thing to do with our family and friends - taking time to consider the real *reason for the season* in joy and love.

Our churches in this Benefice wish you all a truly blessed and happy Christmas.

John Savage, Worship Assistant

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## **Don't Forget to Light Up Potter Heigham for Christmas!**

We are in difficult times but we can still bring light to the village for all to share. We are so lucky to have real community spirit in our village so I know you will do whatever you can, however small ! Merry Christmas to you all !

Hazel

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## **Carol Singing**

Keep an eye out on Tuesdays, December 13th and 20th for Carol singing round the Village from 5pm to 8pm (weather permitting!!) in aid of St. Nicholas Church Funds. If you would like to join in the singing there will be a "rehearsal" at the Village Hall at 6pm on 6th December – all will be made very welcome.

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## **Garden Allotments available now.**

There are 2 garden allotments available to rent now. If you are interested please will you contact Donald Pickering 01692 670407.

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## **Dear Friends,**

This will be our first Christmas with you in the Waterside Benefice, and we would like to wish each one of you a very happy and blessed Christmas and New Year. It really is a joy and a privilege to be with you in the churches and parishes that make up our Benefice, and we hope to meet as many of you as possible at the various services planned in the area during December.

We would all agree that we live in challenging times, and it's good to remember that Christmas is all about the true hope that God brings to us in the person of Jesus, and there is a particular verse in John's Gospel that seems to highlight this in a special way- it is this: 'I have come to bring light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me will not remain in darkness'. The point here, of course, is that God himself has chosen to come to us- into our lives, our doubts and fears, the low times of our life as well as the highs, and to be our light in times of darkness. All he asks is that we make room for him, and to open the door of our lives to him, and not simply reserve him for the periphery.

The prayer for all of us this Christmas might be this: 'Lord Jesus Christ, help me to make room for you in my own life-meet with me in the centre of where I am at the moment, and then stay with me forever. Help me to give you not merely a token place in my heart, but to place you at the core of all I am, and all that I do. Amen.'

May you have a truly blessed Christmas, wherever you may find yourselves.  
With our love and best wishes, Gary and April

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### **Free Winter Warming Center** **supported by the Norfolk Community Foundation.**

We are thrilled to announce that Potter Heigham has been awarded funding in support of our Free Winter Warming Center. This will be at the Village Hall and open to ALL from 11am to 2.30pm on Thursdays from December 8<sup>th</sup> to the end of March 2023. Come and enjoy friendship, hot food and activities for all ages.

We will need volunteers to help every Thursday, we think two per session, and will have a calendar posted on the Parish Council Website where you can check to see when we need help.

If you have any playing cards (complete packs) or board games that you could donate for people to play we would be very grateful.

Please call Mary Haslam on 670429 if you have any items to donate or would like to volunteer.

Many thanks, Potter Heigham Parish Council.

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## Broads Ladies

Firstly let me say a big thank you to all the ladies that made the pet Christmas crackers this year. I will let you all know how much we made at the meeting in December.

We will be making a Christmas tree decoration at the next meeting. You will need to bring along some Christmas fabrics, half to three quarters of a meter should be enough, different patterns will be best but you can do all one fabric if you wish. Scissors and a pencil will also be useful, however I will bring along extra things so you can share scissors and pencils. We also thought it would be nice to have a few nibbles to enjoy. Please only bring along a small amount of food to share. It would also be useful to let me know what you are bringing, so we have a variety of things. We are meeting on Friday 2nd December at 7.30pm at the Methodist Church hall. It will be a fun evening.

On Friday January 6th 2023 we have our AGM. It was decided that we will again be going to the Falgate. I will need to know how many will be attending so I can book the restaurant places. Can you also bring along ideas for next years meetings. I have a couple of things already booked, but new ideas are always welcome. I can't believe this is the last meeting for 2022. I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy and healthy New Year .  
My contact details are, Marilyn 01692 671945

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### Christmas Potter Afternoon Tea: 15th December 2-4pm

Our next afternoon tea is a special tea for Christmas! There will be a great raffle, play your cards right, crackers and a tea including sandwiches, Christmas cake, mince pies, and sausage rolls, and much more.. so why not put the date in your diary and come along?

The Potter Heigham Afternoon Teas are for people of all ages (including children) who fancy a get together for a natter, with tea, sandwiches and cake. There is a small charge of £3 for adults and £1 per child.

If you are interested in coming along, contact Maggie on 07905 320956. We can provide a lift to the hall if that would be helpful.

Our next tea two teas will be on:

**16th Feb, Valentines Tea**

**20th April, Easter Tea**

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### Christmas Soup & Pudding Lunch

This will be held on Wednesday, December 7th at the Village Hall 12.00 - 2.00p.m. £5 includes home-made soup, pudding, tea/coffee. There will also be a Christmas Raffle as requested.

As many of our tables from our last lunch have been rebooked please ring Hazel on 01692 670616 to book yours if you would like to join us.

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## **Potter Heigham Mardlers & more**

It was a pleasure to welcome Heather Hasthorp who introduced us to a really informative talk on Traditional & Contemporary Quilting illustrated with many beautiful samples. Also on display was some lovely work from our own members including beadwork, soft toys, glasswork etc. Who knew we had such talented members.

On November 27th we had a trip to Thursford Christmas Spectacular and on the 30th held our Christmas lunch at the Acle Bridge Inn. What a start to the Christmas festivities!

Just 2 more events before the end of the year.. a trip to see Sleeping Beauty at Hemsby Village Hall and our Christmas party on December 14th.

Our first meeting of 2023 will be on January 11th so we would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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## **Potter Heigham Parish Council**

Notes from the meeting held on 9th November 2022

- Council received a petition by a local Traffic Action Group to address speeding and traffic conditions on Mill Road, Bridge Road and Station Road. Council will take the petition under consideration.
  - The Boundary Commission for England concluded its revised proposals for new constituency boundaries and Potter Heigham will remain under North Norfolk District Council
  - Residents were asked to contact District Councillor Harry Blathwayt with any ongoing issues relating to domestic bin collections. [harry.blathwayt@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:harry.blathwayt@north-norfolk.gov.uk)
  - The Potter Heigham Trust Fund had supported improvements to Ludham School who were developing the school ethos and vision towards embracing the principles of Forest School.
  - A Highways visit took place on Friday 4th November with Councillor Lovick to confirm the status of problem areas in the village including potholes, road markings, road signs and drainage issues. A running log of reports and status will be provided on the Parish Council website moving forward.
  - The Police and Crime Commissioner was unable to attend a meeting with the Council to discuss resources in the Village. Council representatives have been invited to attend a Q&A on 5th December to raise their concerns.
  - Council sent a letter of thanks to Latham's for litter picking in their Car Park.
  - The draft 2023/24 Council budget will be presented at the December meeting for first consideration.
  - Council agreed to begin the December meeting at 7:00 pm instead of 7:30 pm
  - Council will participate in training on November 10<sup>th</sup>
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**Vicar:** Rev Gary Noyes 678842

**Methodist Contact:** Mr Shaun Cushion 01493 728693

Rev Andrew King 01493 750799

**Parish Council: Clerk –** Ms Amy Gallant

**e-mail** - potterheighamparishcouncil@gmail.com

**web site** -<https://potterheighamparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/>

**The Village Hall Bookings Clerk:** Mrs L Parker, 1 Green Lane, 670297

e-mail - potterheighambookingclerk@gmail.com

**Flood Warden:** Mr Paul Rice 672149

**Churchwardens:** Mrs Mary Haslam 670429

Mr Donald Pickering 670407

**Gazette Deadline**

If you have an item for publication, please send the text no later than 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month, but preferably earlier, to Mrs. Mary Haslam, Bethel Farm, Church Road, Potter Heigham NR29 5LH Phone 670429 or e-mail - [mary@doomgloomandclose.co.uk](mailto:mary@doomgloomandclose.co.uk)

**Advertisements**

If you wish to advertise in the Gazette please contact Mrs. Mary Haslam, Bethel Farm, Church Road, Potter Heigham NR29 5LH Phone 670429

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