

Dogs can't use Loos...



So...clean up their poos!

Keep our Community Clean
Poster drawn by Ava Dickens age 9 years
www.n-kesteven.gov.uk



Help us keep Lincolnshire safe

- 1 Follow Government guidelines:**
 - Wash hands
 - Cover face
 - Make space
 - 2 Get a test if you have:**
 - High temperature
 - New continuous cough
 - Change in sense of smell or taste
 - 3 Book a test via:**
 - www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119
 - 4 If you have symptoms or test positive:**
 - Stay home for 10 days
 - Other members of your household should stay home for 14 days
- We're here to help - call us on 01522 782189 or visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/requesthelp

Great News...

LEARN TO SWIM at a pool near you.

The East Midlands Swimming Academy and EMSA Babies will be providing swimming lessons at the The Farm, Sutton-Cum-Beckingham, LNS 0RE
EMSA offers a unique and intimate swimming experience, available to learners of all ages and abilities, from babies to adults.

For more information, contact us on:
Office: 07453 300840
Email: lucy@em-sa.co.uk
www.em-sa.co.uk



Find us on Facebook (Emsa Sally)

We look forward to meeting you!

1417 EMSA Lucy Advert Oct 20.indd 1

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The Beckingham & Sutton Bugle

December 2020

Beckingham and Sutton Village News and Information



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Light up The Village.

Unlike other years we will be unable to gather around the Village Christmas Tree sharing a glass of Mulled Wine and singing a Carol but of course this is Beckingham and we will have a Tree.

The Tree lights will be turned on at 7pm Saturday 5th December ...to make this special and bring the Village together switch on your outside Christmas lights at 7pm as well, for us all to enjoy.

Let's light up the Village ..stand in your Garden with a glass of Wine admire the lights and wish your neighbour a socially distanced " Happy Christmas" ..

It's life Jim but not as we know it*.....

Unfortunately the caption can be related to much of life at the current time, and more so at Yuletide. Amongst the many differences that will occur this year in households the length and breadth of the country are the inevitable changes to a wider field of festivities.

One that is disappointing from a purely local perspective is that for only the second time since it's inception, Lincoln Christmas Market has this year been cancelled. 10 years ago, the only other cancellation was when the weather was less than supportive.

In the early 1980s a small party of Lincoln City Councillors lead by the then leader Jim Sullivan travelled from Lincoln to the twin town of Neustadt an der Weinstrasse (literally new town on the wine route) in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate to see the Christmas Market there. (nice work if you can get it). Christmas markets being a long established tradition in villages, large and small. Their visit and the impression it made was enough to encourage them on returning home to seek to establish a similar market in Lincoln. The result was the first German Christmas market in the UK with around a dozen stalls to what has now become one of the biggest in Europe.

The location at the top of Steep Hill, nestled between the Cathedral and the Castle are an almost fairytale setting and probably not bettered anywhere else here or in the fatherland. From humble beginnings in the first year when the strange concept must have drawn the usual criticisms of a council wasting public money, the event is a major tourist draw to the city. Estimates of visitor numbers range from 200,000 to approaching 300,000, a reasonable figure for a four day event that costs nothing at all to wander around.

The draw of the market is countrywide with many coach trips from all parts of the UK which has brought into use the County Showground as a bus and car park. Other visitors are from special railway trains that are again from various parts of the country that bring a variety of rolling stock some hauled by steam locomotives. Other locations have copied the idea and stage their own version of a market, but Lincoln is the father of them all, with stallholders from Germany using the convenience of the ferry link from Rotterdam to Hull. The range of Germanic products such as Gluwein, Stollen, Bratwurst and Lebkuchen that were new in the early days are now available in supermarkets such as Lidl, Aldi and used to be in as well Netto before it disappeared.

German Christmas markets in Germany tend to last a lot longer than Lincoln's four days and as a result are quieter and easier to navigate. They also tend to go in for a green approach, green as in using a lot of conifer and ivy to trim practically everything from the stalls to bollards and traffic signs. A marked difference is that any Christmas lights also tend to be white, with no added colours. A lot of stalls sell traditional Christmas gifts made of wood and other hand made craft items. The market tradition is very old and several towns vie to claim to be the oldest, my favourite is one that in 1384 was granted the right to hold a market at Christmas by no other than one King Wenceslas.

Let's hope that we all enjoy a safe and joyous and merry Christmas this year however it is celebrated by us all.

*To all of you who identified, it's life Jim etc., as being a quote from Star Trek, it wasn't, it was from a parody song, Star Trekkin released in 1987.

Social Club News - November 2020

The reopening of the club on Saturday evenings commencing 15 August seemed to be working well.

The Management Committee met on 14 September and agreed that this was the case and planned a limited programme of events. This optimism proved to be short-lived as further restrictions were announced the following week. The committee agreed that these were too onerous for the club to safely operate and the decision was taken to close until further notice. In the event it would have been a short extension, as a complete lockdown was announced a few weeks later.



We are now waiting to see what restrictions remain in place after 2nd December, when the current lockdown is due to end. Members are assured that as soon as the Management Committee thinks it is safe and practicable to re-open we will do so. Our real hope lies in the introduction of an effective vaccine and a return to something approaching normality. With this in mind we will plan for a bumper year in 2021 to make up for the disappointments of 2020. Watch this space !!

The season's greetings to all members and best wishes for 2021

CHURCH CLOCK FUND

The September Bugle contained an article about Beckingham Church's clock and the restoration fund that had been established at the request of David Webb's family. So far just over £500 has been raised towards the target of £2,000 and further donations are welcome. Residents may be relieved to know that it is not proposed to re-instate the chimes, so there is no need not be concerned about possible noise from the clock, when it is working again. It does however remain an important symbol of village life through the ages.

Contributions by cash or cheque payable to "The PCC of Beckingham" should be sent to the Church Treasurer, Vic Rampton, Tansy Cottage, Hillside, Beckingham, LN5 0RQ,

Email: victor.rampton @waitrose.com or phone 01636 626665 for further information

Many (many, many !!) years ago as a young lad I would be taken on holiday to a village called Nettlecombe nestling deep in the Dorset countryside behind Bridport. It was idyllic then and courtesy of no close motorways, it more or less remains so today. Come on Parish Clerk, what's the point?



Well the next cottage belonged to a very happy couple and the husband was the local **lengthsman**.

*The term **Lengthsman** was coined in the 1700s in a concept rooted in the Tudor Era as far back as War of the Roses and enclosure. Originally, it referred to someone who kept a "length" of road neat, tidy and passable in the middle ages, with particular emphasis on boundary marking.*

(Wikipedia)

And a brilliant job he made keeping all the local lanes in tip top condition. Those of you used to Dorset lanes will know that keeping the hedges in control is a must if you do not want too many dents and scratches in your car. More than that he took great pride in his work.

Sixty years on and it is interesting that many schemes are now afoot to employ again a local lengthsman. Sometimes this is down to the initiative of the Parish Council who see no option but to assume the responsibilities which they think are being neglected by bodies higher up the food chain. Sometimes it comes from a County Council initiative to delegate more responsibility to parishes. Nearby Nottinghamshire County Council is one of the latest to embark on such a scheme.

Is this coming to Beckingham. At the moment no but with the current Covid damaged public finances it might just happen. To certain extent it already does happen in part since Beckingham Parish Council uses some of its precept for road maintenance and grass cutting.

BLACK SWAN RESTAURANT

We are looking forward to opening our doors again on Thursday 3rd December (unless told otherwise). We have all the necessary safety requirements in place and will be accepting bookings for dates from 3rd December. Please book early as there are restrictions on numbers to allow safe social distancing (maximum 6 per table). We are already fully booked for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year. We will then re-open on Friday 8th January.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and hopefully a more normal 2021 from all at the Black Swan.

All contributions for the next Beckingham Bugle welcome The deadline for the next March 2021 issue is February 14th 2021



Greetings lovely people of Beckingham and may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. Well life here in the sun and sand continues with a regularity that would make the cast of Ground Hog Day despair. I think I've now got the hang of the never changing food menu. We have delights to look forward to such as Taco Tuesday, Meatball Sub Fri and Pulled Pork Saturday....thank goodness for the never ending supply of ice cream!!!! Life here isn't too bad and somethings are very similar. Like the rest of the UK we came together to remember all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice on Remembrance Day with a service involving 13 Nations at the British Headquarters. It was a very moving service but my thoughts were at home where I know a lot of you took the time and trouble to stand and pay your respects. I really cannot tell you how much it means to us all, not just here but at all the units far from

home that there are people who appreciate the sacrifice colleagues past and present have made. You're a wonderful village Beckingham and I couldn't have been prouder knowing we stood together in a moments reflection.

But with the thoughtful event over minds have been focused on the up coming visit of the big guy in the red suit! Now speculation has been rife that due to the restrictive quarantine controls imposed by our American colleagues Santa wouldn't be allowed onto the base this year (COVID-19 negative test and 2 weeks isolation are not helpful to a busy present delivery service) and it would be a brave Santa not to pitch up to Mrs Toomer with a present on the big day! With that in mind (and because frankly we desperately needed some colour to make us feel Christmasy) a brave band of suntanned elves have decided to make their own. Now granted this is slightly cheating (we are even making our own fire place to hang stockings on...not much call for real versions around here) but when your world has this much beige in it ANY change is good. We have a full month of various activities planned (guess who volunteered to shop for raffle presents...well when you have a talent why waste it) but no matter what we do all of us will be thinking of the ones we love and miss next month. For me Christmas is such a special time. The log fires, the fine food and drink but most of all very special friends and dear family to toast and to hold and share, even if it's for just a day, a moment without concerns. This year will be hard for all of us but I will be thinking of you all and wishing I could be there for just 1 more mince pie.....

Love cherish and take care of yourselves and here's to a New Year that will see the world returned to normal.

Merry Christmas and a VERY Happy New Year





A few days ago whilst trawling through Facebook I saw a post which made me smile. It read, 'I'm staying up this New Year's Eve, not to see the new year in but to make sure this one leaves!' I think most of us can relate to that statement given the year most of us have had. None of us this time last year could have foreseen this COVID virus hitting us and the world so hard and for so long.

This virus has affected each of us in so many ways; loss of work, loss of time with friends and family, isolation, financial impact, loss of friends and family to the virus, even the ability for some to be unable to say goodbye properly to a loved one who has died.

It has affected the way we do church, having to shut our doors for so many months, opening again for services and now closed again apart from individual private prayer due to the second lockdown. Our churches in the group went online for services very quickly and whilst we miss the relational side of things that a physical service brings, the online services have brought a lot of positives too; people being able to sit at home and still join in the services, families joining in together from different parts of the country, friends joining the service from abroad, the ability to still sing hymns and songs as loud and out of tune as we want without others hearing us.

But there have been so many other positives too with communities coming together and helping each other and we mustn't lose sight of those. At the moment we still have to be very cautious, following the guidelines, keeping our distance and keeping safe but this will end and when it does we will all have that enormous celebration we have all been promising ourselves.

As we know it's the time of year now that we are moving towards another big celebration; that of Christmas. During this time of Advent we are in the church preparing for the big event, the time when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. I always find this is a time when we look back over the last year, counting our blessings but particularly this year what a difficult one it has been.

Christmas, as we suspect, will not be a normal one this year with gatherings limited and people being unable to travel but that doesn't mean we shouldn't do our utmost to celebrate it in a way that we can.

A number of things are planned for our villages to bring the Christmas spirit alive including virtual Advent calendars where visible windows in the village are decorated and 'opened' (lit) from 1st December onwards until 23 windows are lit with the final window being 'lit' on Christmas Eve in the church. Anyone in the villages wishing to join in please contact:

Welbourn – Alison Short 01400 273292 / Leadenham – Henrietta 07889540605/
Brant Broughton – Jennifer Harvey 01400 273211/ Beckingham – Rosemary 07702499960.

We are also hoping to hold an online Christingle service via Zoom for all ages, but especially our young ones, at 4pm on Sunday 20th December. All those joining us should have ready the makings of a Christingle as we will make during the service: an orange, red tape, a candle for sticking in, cocktail sticks and sweets. We might not be able to meet up physically for such a fun service but I'm sure we can still have fun online. The Zoom links for all online services are below.

We await the government guidelines relating to other usual Christmas services so please keep an eye on the local noticeboards and the Leadenham Plurality Facebook page for details nearer the time. We will however definitely be holding an online 'Carols by candlelight' at 6pm Friday 18th December. Have your candles lit and join us in singing our favourites.

Christingle service: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87120188031?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87120188031?pwd=K3hsei9Jczd0bzJjZ3g1WVBpTkQ0Zz09)

[pwd=K3hsei9Jczd0bzJjZ3g1WVBpTkQ0Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87120188031?pwd=K3hsei9Jczd0bzJjZ3g1WVBpTkQ0Zz09)

Meeting ID: 871 2018 8031 / Passcode: 018797

Carols by Candlelight

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81042707874?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81042707874?pwd=VWNtZHFLENW9zVndDSlJU0FiRkM2dz09)

[pwd=VWNtZHFLENW9zVndDSlJU0FiRkM2dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81042707874?pwd=VWNtZHFLENW9zVndDSlJU0FiRkM2dz09)

Meeting ID: 810 4270 7874 / Passcode: 898535

'The Light of the World by Holman Hunt'

