

GREAT RINGSTEAD NEWS AND VIEWS

Ringstead Parish Council – From the Chair, Bill Jacob

The Parish Council normally meets on the Second Monday in the Month at 7 pm in the Village Hall. **In the coming quarter it will meet on 13th April 11th, May and 8th June.** Members of the Public are welcome to attend, and ten minutes are set aside at the beginning of every meeting for public participation, including questions, matters of clarification, or matters to be drawn to the Council's attention. Matters may also be raised with individual councillors, whose names and contact details on the new website at: <https://www.ringsteadnorfolkparish.gov.uk/about>

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Monday 11th May to which all parishioners are welcome. At this meeting reports are given by the officers, and received from village organisations, including the Village Hall Committee, the Parochial Church Council, and the various clubs and societies in the village. Questions may be raised.



Spring in the much-improved churchyard

The Council continues to monitor numerous routine matters on behalf of residents for the benefit of both residents and our many visitors.

Finance

In addition to monitoring its own expenditure, the Council has continued its annual grants to the Village Hall Committee (£800), towards its running costs, and to the Parochial Church Council (£1,000) towards the upkeep of the Churchyard where all parishioners have a right of burial. The Council's website has also been refreshed.

Highways and Paths

We are grateful to the person who has very kindly planted low shrubs in front of the 'gateway' sign on Peddars Way North on the approach from Holme.

Unfortunately, one of the 'Sam-Signs' which monitors traffic speeds through the village has not been functioning. However, the Council has been successful in securing grants via Andrew Jamieson, our County Councillor, and the County Council's Planning Partnership Scheme for a new 'Sam-Sign'. A new taller post has been installed in the High Street, so that pedestrians do not need to duck to walk under it.

Residents should note that potholes in roads may now be reported directly to the County Council via their website at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/39671>.

Village Clean Up

Please join the Parish Council on Saturday 28th March for the Annual Village Tidy and Litter Pick, in conjunction with the Great British Spring Clean. Meet at the Village Hall at 10am. If you cannot make the date, you can still get involved by clearing any litter you see in the village.

Facilities and Services

We are very pleased to report that the Norfolk County Library service have agreed to a second stop at the bus shelter on Holme Road (10.35am-10.55am) in addition to Docking Road at 10.15am-10.30am on the following Thursdays to July: **2nd April, 30th April, 28th May, 25th June, 23rd July**

RINGSTEAD *Village Tidy & Litter Pick*

SATURDAY

28TH

MARCH

10 AM

MEET AT
VILLAGE HALL



SUPPORTING THE GREAT
BRITISH SPRING CLEAN

The possibility of a bus service through the village continues to be pursued, with the support of our County Councillor.

The Playing Field is inspected weekly. The fence between the carpark and the Playing Field has been repaired. Unfortunately, there is something of a conflict of interest between human users of the Playing Field and the resident rabbits and moles.



There have been several reports of dog fouling and the inappropriate disposal of dog waste. If you own a dog, please dispose of its waste responsibly. Here is a map below showing locations of the four dog bins around the village. No dogs are permitted on the playing field.

Planning

The Council are consulted by the Borough Council about planning applications in the village.

Following comments, submitted by the Council, on applications for a large new house on the site of a demolished two-bedroomed bungalow at 5 Burnham Road and for an extension at 2 Chapel Lane, the designs have been modified and planning permission has been

granted. Consultations are continuing about the future of the partially collapsed barn at Geddings Farm.

The Council has drawn the Borough Council's attention, in their call for sites for residential development, to the designation in Ringstead's Neighbourhood Plan of a site for six social housing units on Peddars Way North.

Local Government Reorganisation

The Council continues to monitor the Government's proposals for local government reorganisation for Norfolk and Suffolk. **Please note there will be an election for Norfolk County Councillors on Thursday 7th May.**

Garden Sunday 7th June 2026– Melanie Hutchinson

Spring has sprung and we are on countdown to Garden Sunday already! We have a great team organising the event and lots of people have already, very kindly, signed up to get involved but we are always in need of more help.



If you would be willing to help out, please could you consider any of the following:

- Giving an hour or two to sit in someone's garden on the day to give them a break. We get well over 500 visitors each year and its exhausting hosting them and finding time to grab a drink or food.
- Spending a few hours on the bar, tombola or plant stall, again to give people a break.
- Helping on Saturday morning at the Village Hall setting up marquees and then taking them down at 4.30pm on the Sunday.
- Helping on Sunday morning setting up tables and chairs and preparing food.
- On the day any help at lunches or teas is really, really welcome.
- Providing a cake for the teas.
- Donations to the raffle or tombola are always gratefully received.
- Delivering flyers to pubs, hotels etc while you're out and about.



It's always a lovely day and a great way to meet new villagers and catch up with those you already know.

If you can help, please contact me, Melanie Hutchinson Tel: 07771 434616

St Andrew's Church Churchwarden's report Spring 2025

Calm is restored to the churchyard as the work on the rainwater disposal system has been completed. The snowdrops are back in profusion where the ground was disturbed, and the primroses are prettily colourful.

The view of the church across the old yard from the roadside footway is much improved.

Stephen and Martin have worked hard to clear the heavy undergrowth in the south-east corner, adjacent to the road, but it is an ongoing and costly job to keep it looking tidy whilst keeping an area for wildlife.

We have recently received the required 5 yearly report on the church and churchyard. There are sixty pages detailing work that needs to be done over the next five years for which money will need to be raised. The PCC have met to discuss this, and I will keep you updated as work proceeds.

Despite still having no Rector, worship continues in St Andrew's church on a weekly basis, and I am very thankful for the retired clergy who give of their time. You are most welcome to join us on Sunday mornings at 9am and on the second and fourth Thursdays at 10am.

Thursday	26th March	10.00am	Said Eucharist
Palm Sunday	29th March		No service at Ringstead
		10.00am	Benefice Service at St. Mary's Church, Brancaster
Thursday	2nd April	10.00am	Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion
Sunday	5th April	9.00am	Easter Day Holy Communion
Thursday	9th April	10.00am	Said Eucharist
Sunday	12th April	9.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday	19th April	9.00am	Holy Communion
Thursday	23rd April	10.00am	Said Eucharist
Sunday	26th April	9.00am	Morning Prayer

My thanks too to all those who maintain and clean the church.

As part of the Village Litter pick, I would like some help on Saturday 28th March to tidy the two flower borders adjacent to the playing field and along the wall between the churchyard and the playing field.

On Tuesday, April 28th at 3pm in church you are welcome to The Annual Parochial Church Meeting when the annual report and accounts are received, and churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council are elected.

Kate Bulmer, Churchwarden. 01485 525432

Village Hall – Jane Barnett, Chairperson

Thank you to everyone who supported the Village Get Together on 7th March. There was a small turn out this time, but it was good to meet up with everyone, and we encourage others to come along to future events.

We run these events to get the village together, if there are other events you would like to see take place, please contact one of the committee members. The hall is a village resource, and we can help you with any event you would like to hold for the village.

Village Clubs are:

- Table Tennis Club on a Tuesday evening between 7.30 and 9.00pm.
- Carpet Bowls on Wednesday afternoons between 2.00 and 4.00pm.

If you are organising an event yourself, either at the Hall or your home, we have an urn, crockery, tables and chairs, that are available for villagers to use free of charge.

The hall is very competitively priced, and the hourly Hire Rates for the Hall are:

- Ringstead Residents £10/hr
- Commercial £12/hr
- Half day £30
- Whole day £50

To hire the Hall please contact the booking Secretary, Mr. Roger Pincott, on 525522

Carpet Bowls - Mo Covel

The club continues to be well supported by its members who all enjoy their Wednesday afternoon sessions of gentle exercise, with a healthy amount of competition and social interaction with a cup of tea/ coffee and a biscuit.

We had a successful Christmas celebration where members supplied food and drink, and we played 'whacky' games related to bowls and a good time was had by all.

The sessions take place from 2-4 pm. The cost is £2.50 which covers the cost of the hire of the village hall and refreshments. Come along if you would like to give it a try.

Mo Covel



Bowls Club - Roger Pincott

By the time you read this article the Bowls club will have held their AGM.

I am not expecting many, if any, changes to the roles of the committee members so we should have the same players as last year. But last year was a struggle to get a team out for every game. The club is looking for anybody to have a go at bowling, any age. We will be holding practice days during (weather permitting) April. Before that we will also be spending a lot of effort on getting the green back into shape after a very wet winter. And as for worms, they must have grown gills to survive the waterlogged ground, as there are worm casts every square inch of the green, which we have to get off.

If you are interested in playing next season you can contact me on 525522 or rogerpincott@btinternet.com

A Bit of Ringstead History - Ringstead School 1844-1970

“School closed for 11 days because of Measles in the village. May 1866”

“A school concert in the Village Hall on 18th December 1942 raised money for a school party and for wireless set.”

Just two of the interesting facts I found out about Ringstead school when I recently visited the Norfolk Record Office in Norwich to look at the School Admission Registers and School Logbooks in preparation for a display at Docking History Fair in May and at Ringstead Garden Sunday.

The Admission Registers start in 1844, and the Log Books in 1865. The first register lists 18 girls aged between 6 and 11, all admitted to the school on 15th November 1844. This suggests the opening of the school. The first entry is Elizabeth Langford, age 11, daughter of John and Phoebe. She left on October 2nd, 1846, to “go to work.” More girls are admitted through to 1852, and then on 11th September 1852, 60 names of girls and boys are listed.

These Admission Registers provide much information. The parents' Christian names, occupation and residence are listed. There are also a "withdrawn" date column and a "Remarks" column showing reason for leaving. The Register of admittance PD696/46 records the sad deaths from Typhoid of Ethel and William Kidd in November 1915. Another boy's death is recorded in August 1918, Clifford Henry Masters "met with an accident during the holidays". Previous schools and attainment levels are also recorded. The entry for Daisy Bullock, born 4th April 1890 and admitted to the school 18th May 1896, gives her previous school as Accrington. In the week ending 12th March 1866, three boys (James, Thomas, and William Howard) left the school, "as the family has emigrated to Australia".

The Logbooks, starting in 1865, list entries recorded every week by the Head teacher. Some weeks "nothing unusual has occurred" and "everything going on properly". Numbers and names of new children, absences due to working in the fields or illness, average attendance and holidays seem to take up much of the weekly reports. The assistant teachers' names are recorded and some of them only stayed a few weeks. The summaries of the Inspectors Reports are included, some more favourable than others. The Rector, or the curate, attended the school weekly to teach scripture. In 1886 the Rector's daughter, Miss Hussey is recorded as taking the Infants for Scripture, 'as usual'.

The School Logbooks housed in the Norfolk Record Office end in 1970, with the then Headmaster, Phil Unsworth recording 41 children on the roll. Then the school building was noted as very cold, the stove in one room being beyond repair, parents and pupils were helping create an Arts and Crafts Room in one of the upstairs rooms of the house, a sink installed. A number of animals were kept in a large pen built by the children with wire-netting supplied by Mr. David Pull.

Did you attend Ringstead School? Were you at the school when it closed in the mid 1980's? Do share your memories with me. Kate Bulmer 525432. Ringstead History Group.

To search archives at the Record Office you need an Archives Card. This can be arranged online, and proof of identity is required. You can search the catalogue in advance and note the documents you would like to view. For more information: norfrec@norfolk.gov.uk



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A Fresh Spring Recipe: **Lemon Polenta Cake (gluten free)**

Ingredients:

- 200g soft unsalted butter
- 200g Caster sugar
- 200g ground almonds
- 100g fine polenta
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder (check gluten free)
- 3 large eggs
- Zest of 2 lemons

For the syrup:

- Juice of the 2 lemons
- 125g icing sugar



Method

- Line the base of a 23cm/9in springform cake tin with baking parchment and grease
- Heat oven to 180deg C/160 deg C fan/gas mark 4/350deg F
- Beat the butter and sugar till pale and whipped
- Mix together the almonds, polenta and baking powder and beat some of this into the butter/sugar mixture followed by 1 egg then alternate dry ingredients and eggs beating all the while.
- Finally beat in the lemon zest and put the mixture into your prepared tin and bake for about 40mins.
- The cake may seem wobbly but if a skewer comes out clean and its slightly shrunk away from the sides of the tin, its cooked.
- Leave in the tin to cool.
- Make the syrup by boiling together the lemon juice and icing sugar in a small pan.
- Prick the top of the cake all over and pour over the syrup.
- Leave to cool in the tin
- Enjoy!!

To make this cake dairy free substitute the butter for 150ml of light, mild olive oil making sure you whisk the oil and sugar together well.

This cake keeps fresh for up to 5 days in an airtight container or 1 month in the freezer if double wrapped in clingfilm and then foil.

Ringstead Artists DAVID LENDRUM and HELGA JOERGENS will exhibit at Thornham Village Hall

Friday, 1st, - Monday, 4th May 2026

Opening times: Friday to Sunday, 10 – 5 and Monday, 10 – 4

Free entry and full disabled access

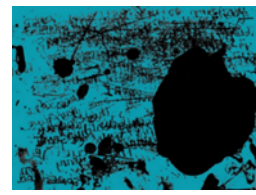
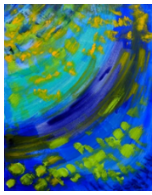
Do come along if you want to see some vibrant and colourful abstract art in many media and materials: paintings, drawings, prints and small sculptures.

You will have the opportunity to meet the artists and discuss their works with them, learn about their inspiration, working methods, as well as being able to purchase their art.

Thornham Village Hall, Main Road, Thornham, PE36 6LX

Ringstead Artists' Exhibition: A Celebration of Local Creativity

23rd to 26th May



Art lovers are invited to experience a vibrant showcase of local talent at the Ringstead Artists' Exhibition, taking place from Saturday 23rd May to Tuesday 26th May at Ringstead Village Hall, PE36 5JU. The exhibition is open daily from 10am to 5pm, with free entry, disabled access and parking on-site.

As part of the **North Norfolk Open Studios** event, four Ringstead-based artists - Helga Joergens, Barbara King, David Lendrum, and Cass Wedd - will present a diverse collection of artwork. Visitors can expect to see abstracts, landscapes, and still life, ranging from the experimental and interpretive to the reflective. The exhibition features work in acrylic, watercolour, photography, print, collage and sculpture.

Meet the Artists:

- Helga Joergens creates spontaneous abstract paintings, using vibrant colours and dynamic compositions to evoke movement and rhythm. She will also be exhibiting her sculptures made from fired clay or stone.
- Barbara King captures the diverse light, colours, and shapes of the Norfolk coastline, and the wild beauty of the natural and cultivated countryside.
- David Lendrum draws inspiration from nature, using both diluted and thickly applied acrylics to create expressive, textured works that reflect the beauty of the local environment.
- Using mixed media, Cass Wedd explores the everyday – less traditional still life, more what surrounds us, from skin to clutter.

Throughout the exhibition, the artists will be present to meet visitors and discuss their creative processes. This is a unique opportunity to engage with the artists, discuss their work, and purchase original works.

For more information, please contact Barbara King at bek@barbaraking.co.uk.



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 Sunday: Closed

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