

Parish Council & Village News

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Introducing the New Bodham & Beckham Village Hall Committee

We're delighted to introduce the new Bodham & Beckham Village Hall Committee, who will be helping to shape and support community activities in the months ahead.

Officers: Chair: Kerri Clarke, Vice Chair: Callum Ringer, Secretary: Melanie Clarke, Treasurer: Paul Clarke, **Committee Members:** Tracy Toyn, Roger Ward, Jemma Cutting, Carolyn Rawlings, JP Ringer, Amanda Roe, Paul Suffolk and Lee Thaxter.

The committee is keen to bring more events and activities to the hall — but we need your help! If you'd like to get involved, whether by supporting regular gatherings or one-off events, we'd love to hear from you. Keep an eye out for future events and announcements — there's lots to look forward to!

A new covered cycle rack has been installed at the Bodham & Beckham Village Hall, funded by Broadland Housing. The new rack provides a safe and convenient place to leave your bike when attending events at the shared village hall. It's also handy if you'd like to cycle to Bodham and use the regular bus service that runs from the village.

This facility is there for everyone in Beckham and beyond to use — whether you're visiting for a community event or connecting with local transport. Please do make use of it anytime!



Coffee mornings at Chestnut Farm, West Beckham (by the Village Sign)

'Coffee and Chat' every **last Tuesday** in the Month. A social gathering with cakes and an opportunity to look round the Wilson's delightful garden. There is no charge but an optional donation towards Church expenses.

So as not to interfere with Christmas and the New Year we have decided to hold the last meeting in 2025 on **16th December**.

Hope you will join us!

Contact **Judy Wilson** for more information
email judywilson100@gmail.com





The Weybourne Group of Churches consists of 6 churches in total. 1. St Helen's and All Saints in West Beckham, 2. All Saints in Bodham, 3. All Saints in Upper Sheringham, 4. St Mary's in Kelling, 5. St Nicolas in Salthouse and 6. All Saints in Weybourne.

The Associate Vicar, Rev. Adrian Wolton, has taken the lead on the services in West Beckham over the last season to establish a regular pattern of worship at St Helens and All Saints, (pictured left) with the 5 newly occupied Broadland Housing association homes opposite. All new and established residents are encouraged to join in.

1st Sunday – St Helen's, West Beckham – 9am Celtic Communion: A service using simple Celtic liturgy with both familiar and new sung worship, and Holy Communion.

2nd Sunday – Bodham & Beckham Village Hall – 4pm Afternoon Praise: A relaxed, family-friendly afternoon service.

3rd Sunday – St Helen's, West Beckham – 9am Celtic Praise: A service using simple Celtic liturgy with familiar and new sung worship (no communion).

4th Sunday – Bodham & Beckham Village Hall – 4pm Afternoon Communion: A relaxed, family-friendly afternoon service including Holy Communion.

Contacts: Associate Vicar, Rev. Adrian Wolton Email adrian@weybourne.church or Vicar Rev. Ian Dyble Email ian@weybourne.church

At Thaxters Close, Cllr Julia Dovey and Editor Kathryn Lord met with residents Mr. & Mrs. Bernie and Jill Burton-Pye. The couple moved in September from their home of 62 years, Ivy Cottage, The Street West Beckham, to a new single storey Broadland home.

Jill told us how much she loved the new cottage - where we found her outside collecting fallen leaves as we arrived. In her old home she had difficulty tackling the stairs and now the house being on one level makes it so much easier for them both. The cosy underfloor heating and new facilities are wonderful too. They both agreed the new neighbours who came from villages like Bodham and Upper Sheringham are so kind and helpful.

The Burton-Pye's also had to leave an extensive and established garden at Ivy Cottage, but they have already started creating a new garden at their new home.

We wish them all the very best for the future.





Here's a taster of a recent work party at West Beckham Old Allotments

West Beckham Old Allotments* is surrounded by an old but rather leggy hawthorn hedge which has long played host to sinuous Ivy, which uses the Hawthorn as its host, as it climbs towards the light. This is wonderful in one particular way: Ivy flowers provide autumnal succour to many insects, when all other sources of food have died off. But ... and it's a big but ... as the Ivy grows it makes the Hawthorn top-heavy, so that, when a strong wind gets up, the Hawthorn is more likely to topple. And topple some of our taller Hawthorns have done in recent storms. So, the solution is to limit the hold of the Ivy, to allow the Hawthorn to last for a good few more seasons.

So, a recent work party focussed on beginning to reduce the Ivy. Four pairs of volunteers fought their way through the undergrowth to reach the trunks of a number of Hawthorn trees, where they cut through the thickest part of the Ivy, removing a chunk of trunk – the result of which will be, in coming months, less dominant Ivy. This was quite hard, demanding work – but hugely satisfying. The cuttings were loaded onto tarpaulins and dragged or carried across to the bonfire site, where the other members of the work party were tasked with setting fire to the pile of cut docks – a pile that had been lying, gently rotting, for several months or more, bringing back memories of dock-bashing work parties past. After checking the heap for any sheltering wildlife, we set to. The bonfire, once lit, smoked pleasantly and when Ivy was added, leapt into life. A huge amount was burnt, with a number of volunteers feeding the hungry flames and dodging the smoke, which unfailingly follows wherever you go. One large pile of Ivy, left from an earlier Ivy-removal session, was left untouched to give Hedgehogs and other mammals cover for the winter.

If you would like to find out more about Felbeck Trust or volunteer at West Beckham Old Allotments, West Beckham Green or East Beckham Common – or even further afield – contact us via enquiry@felbecktrust.org.uk.

* West Beckham Old Allotments can be found down Allotment Lane, off Sheringham Road in West Beckham.





Over-70s' Christmas Lunch – Bodham & Beckham Village Hall

All residents of Bodham and East & West Beckham aged 70 or over – along with their partners, even if under 70 – are warmly invited to a festive Christmas lunch at Bodham & Beckham Village Hall on **Friday 13th December at 12 noon**.

Come and enjoy a delicious meal, good company, and plenty of festive cheer!

To book your place, please contact Mel Clarke by email at bodhambeckham.villagehall@gmail.com or by text/message on **07379 029 513**.



You can also reach the team via Facebook – Bodham & Beckham Village Hall.

If you need transport, just let the organisers know when booking.



**At The Wheatsheaf,
West Beckham Tel: 01263 822110**



Contacts

- ❖ John Stibbons 01263 577397 johnstibbons@gmail.com (Parish Council Clerk)
- ❖ Mel Clark 01263 58840 melclarke58@gmail.com GOOD NEIGHBOUR Co Ordinator