

Beckham

VILLAGES EAST & WEST
Bulletin

ISSUE 15, WINTER 2021/22

Solar Community Fund
update & Parish News
www.eastandwestbeckham.org



Firstly, Happy New Year 2022! We hope this year brings joy and all that you wish for.

Spring 2021 edition was our last communication and told of the progress made over the years since the Solar Fund Contributions have been available. We have not issued any other Bulletin since then as the news had been rather slow and sadly due to Covid uncertainty, Village events like the Horticultural Show were cancelled. However, as the Bulletin is a good way to link the villages the Parish Council would like to tell you a little of what has been going on.

By the way, if you missed the last Bulletin or would like to review past issues go to Beckham Website as highlighted above. These Bulletins, as well as the Household Information sheet, and Village Walk pamphlet, are also printable.

The Solar Fund Committee took a decision, with the agreement of the Parish Council, to halt separate gatherings as our project workloads had reduced significantly. Instead, at the start of Beckham Parish Council Meetings (which are held every other month) there will now be an 'informal slot' allocated for Solar Fund business which enables residents to discuss any concerns or promote new ideas that you would like to put forward. Don't be shy, please attend Beckham Parish meetings at the Village Hall in Bodham if you would like to contribute. Next meeting dates are THURSDAY 10th March, 12th May, 14th July, 8th September and 10th November. Noticeboards in the Parish have the agendas and minutes or visit the website.



Since Autumn 2019 Felbeck Trust have been managing West Beckham Old Allotments for us (plus the Village Green and East Beckham Common) and on September 16th, a number of their trustees and volunteers attended the CPRE Norfolk awards ceremony in Dereham.



The judges selected Felbeck Trust as joint winner of the Countryside Champions category for projects "that enhance and protect the Norfolk countryside and all that is within it through the vision and perseverance of local community groups and individuals". The award was made for the ambitious work underway at West Beckham Old Allotments (WBOA) to create a wildflower meadow and improve the habitat for insects and amphibians, while also providing good access to enable parishioners, local residents and visitors to enjoy the site.

Trustees said " we are immensely proud of this recognition of the achievement and all the work that has taken at WBOA over the last few years. This award is testimony to the spirit of the volunteers who have persisted through the frustrations of the pandemic to transform the site for the benefit of wildlife". This four-acre former daffodil field was overrun with dock plants when they took it over in the autumn of 2019. Having largely controlled the docks by hand digging, they are now restoring much of the area to wildflower meadow, by repeated scything and raking to favour wild flowers over rank grasses.

As part of the RSPB's Operation Turtle Dove, they have hand dug a pond, created a butterfly bank and planted about 800 hedging trees. The work has all been done by volunteers, with much of it carried out during the pandemic and with small work parties of volunteers in pairs or sixes, to ensure that all restrictions in place were met. If you would like to join in please contact Felbeck Trust's Volunteer Co-Ordinator **Peter Maingay on** petmai@hotmail.com as they would love to hear from you. Visit Felbecktrust.org.uk for regular updates.



Celebrating 20 years of the West Beckham Walkers! by Julia Dovey

In February 2021, the West Beckham Walkers celebrated 20 years of regular monthly walks. The first walk was on Sunday 11th February 2001 and led by Lorraine Wakeford around some newly opened permissive paths on the Stody estate - around Edgefield, Stody and Hunworth. Rather damp and dull I remember but it was in February!

Since then the group has met on the **fourth Sunday of each month** to walk about five miles on local footpaths and tracks. The only long breaks were caused by the lockdowns of 2020 but, as outside activities were one of the first to make a comeback when restrictions eased, we were soon up and running (walking 😊) again.

The group now includes residents from Bodham and Sheringham as well as East and West Beckham. It is an opportunity for sociable walking – a good name for the group would be the 'Walkie Talkies'!

If you would be interested in joining one of our walks please contact Julia at juliadovey@btinternet.com to go on the email contact list. We look forward to hearing from you.



A very enjoyable walk on the Bayfield Estate (Glandford) in early April 2021



Lorraine Marks will lead the group for the next walk (23rd January) towards Baconsthorpe. We are hopefully going to see the evidence of the resident beavers! Why not join us?



Wonderful carpets of primroses near Mannington Hall



BODHAM & BECKHAM VILLAGE HALL FILM CLUB

Bodham Village website (www.bodhamvillage.co.uk) holds the latest details of Film Club & other Events

Wednesday 19th January – 7.00pm: Gripping and Deliciously Deceptive “THE GOOD LIAR” 2020 (15) starring Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen.

Career con man Roy (Ian McKellen) sets his sights on his latest mark: recently widowed Betty (Helen Mirren), worth millions. And he means to take it all. But as the two draw closer, what should have been another simple swindle takes on the ultimate stakes. Legendary actors Mirren and McKellen star together on screen for the first time in this suspenseful drama about the secrets people keep and the lies they live.

Review: A very sophisticated drama.

Wednesday 2nd February - 7.00pm: A genuine ‘one to watch’ “THE LAST BUS” 2021 (12) starring Phyllis Logan and Timothy Spall.

Set in John O’Groats, Scotland, an elderly man Tom (Timothy Spall) whose wife has just passed away, uses only local buses on a nostalgic trip to carry her ashes all the way across the UK to Land’s End, where they originally met, using his free bus pass. Unbeknownst to Tom, his journey begins to capture the imagination of the local people that he comes across and ultimately, becomes a nationwide story.

Review: Emotional

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Wednesday 16th February - 7.00pm: "Jennifer Hudson's voice rivals that of the Queen of Soul" 'RESPECT' 2021 (12) starring Jennifer Hudson as Aretha Franklin, Forest Whitaker, Marlon Wayans, Tituss Burgess and Audra McDonald.

Following the rise of Aretha Franklin's life from a young child singing in her father's church to her international super stardom, 'RESPECT' is the remarkable true story of the music icon's journey to find her voice and

become The Queen of Soul. Review: A great movie about Aretha, an amazing singer!

Wednesday 2nd March – 7.00pm: Based on the incredible true story of a businessman turned spy "THE COURIER" 2021 (12) starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Rachel Brosnahan, Jessie Buckley, Merab Ninidze and Angus Wright.

Review: Even though this is a true story - so you can find out the ending in advance - it was a really gripping film to watch, and made me thankful for living in Britain in 2021. Well acted with all characters very well portrayed.

Wednesday 16th March – 7.00pm: Disney "CRUELLA" 2021 (12) starring Emma Stone, Emma Thompson and Joel Fry. Emma Stone stars as one of cinema's most notorious and stylish villains, Cruella de Vil. Determined to become a successful fashion designer, a creative young grifter named Estella (Stone) teams with a pair of mischievous thieves to survive on the London streets. But when her flair for fashion catches the eye of the legendary designer Baroness von Hellman (Emma Thompson), Estella rises to become the raucous, revenge-bent "Cruella."

Review: Great movie for all ages! Recommended.

The following Film was due to be shown on 15th April last year however due to lockdown, you all know the rest! One of our regular filmgoers has requested we show it this year, so here it is!

Wednesday 30th March – 7.00pm: An all-star modern classic "KNIVES OUT" 2020 (12) starring Daniel Craig, Chris Evans, Jamie Lee Curtis, Christopher Plummer and Don Johnson. A detective investigates the death of a patriarch of an eccentric, combative family.

Review: Witty, well acted and entirely entertaining OR Review 2: Just ok!

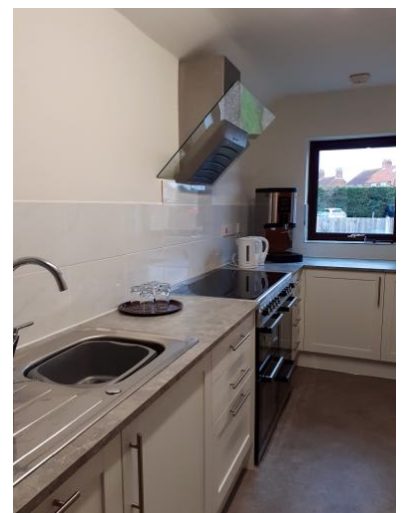


Remembering RAF West Beckham

One of the last Solar Fund Committee projects is the completion of the RAF West Beckham Display boards which detail the history and significance to the area. These 4 boards were successfully deployed back in November 2021 in the newly refurbished Village Hall. Thanks must go to Pauline Coast, Graham High and Mike Digby for all their work relating to content and design - plus Julia Dovey for the installation!



The Hall has been completely redecorated and the kitchen re-fitted to provide up to date facilities including a stove cooker and dishwasher. The Wifi connection completes the modernisation. The Village Hall Committee hopes that this will encourage a wide range of different people to use the hall for social events, classes and groups. The Village Hall committee are planning a re-launch event in the near future, when everyone will be welcome to come along, get together and see the new facilities.



In the last Bulletin in 2021 we highlighted an **'Affordable Housing' project by Broadland Housing Association**. This was brought before the Parish Council and we had expected Broadland to create a mail drop leaflet to inform residents of a suggested draft proposal of the small scheme, so you could comment on it and have your say. Unfortunately, this has not happened.

Broadland's Head of Development, Ed Mumford explains below, they are going back to basics by reviewing the landscape and site constraints in the village before suggesting any proposals to the community. They are also making an approach to Anglian Water as the Parish Council has highlighted previous issues with the foul sewer pump in Sheringham Road. A lot of research and time, it seems, will be needed to further this project.



"Broadland Housing Association continues to explore developing two small mixed tenure exception housing schemes on the corner of Sheringham Road with Back Lane and Church Road opposite the Church.

Topographical and other walk-over surveys are due to take place in the New Year, to determine detailed site constraints before proposals can be consulted with the community." Ed Mumford, Broadland Housing, Head of Development

Our allotment year & renewals begin on 25th March each year. There are allotment plots available at East Beckham Allotment. The rental is £20.00 p.a. for a FULL plot (size 30 feet x 80 feet) and 1/2 plots are also available. If you wish to pay your renew or get started, please get in touch with Kathryn Lord (contact details below)

Beckham Church



At the moment, St Helen and All Saints in West Beckham is closed due to the essential repairs needed to the roof but we are hoping that these will soon be under way, financed by the money raised with the sale of the Mission Hut at the bottom of the Loke in East Beckham. Then the church will then be open to receive worshippers and visitors.

Urgent! A general public meeting was held around Harvest Festival time as the Church are currently looking for a minimum of 2 volunteers - one volunteer to be Church Warden and the other to be Treasurer. They would help steer the future of St Helen's and All Saints, because without them it is likely to close for good. Anyone interested should please contact the Revd Ian Dyble on his Email: reviandyble@gmail.com or Telephone (01263) 741235.

Please note you do not have to be religious or attend services to take either of these posts but if you value the Church as an amenity in the Village, and can spare some of your time, then please get in touch with The Reverend. Essential repairs to the roof may take place in the New Year but an active Parochial Parish Council (PPC) needs to in place for the Church to be viable.

Contacts

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