

Beyton Village News

APRIL - MAY 2025



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Dates for your Diaries 2025

Beyton Parish Council Meetings 2025

1st April 2025	2nd September 2025
6th May 2025	7th October 2025
1st July 2025	

Parish Council meetings

Will usually take place on the first Tuesday of the month, starting at **7.30pm** unless stated otherwise.

If you would like to make written representation rather than attending in person, please send an email or write to the Parish Clerk to be received no later than 7 days from the date of the meeting.

Meetings are open to the press and public and there is a section of the meeting where residents are invited to raise questions or make comments; although there is no requirement of the Council to answer any questions at the meeting, Councillors will take account of the balance of views expressed when they are deliberating matters during the remainder of the meeting.

Knit & Natter

Monday 7th April	10am-12 Church Vestry
Monday 12th May*	Wednesday 23rd April
Monday 2nd June	Thursday 22nd May
	Monday 16th June 2-4pm**
*Due to Bank Hol	**trial afternoon session

Village Walk

Sunday 13th April	10am	Felsham Village Hall Car Park
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Vintage Tractor Run

Sunday 20th April	3:15pm (approx)	The Green
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VE Day Celebrations

Saturday 3rd May	7:30pm	The White Horse
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Supercar Event

Saturday 24th May	10am-2pm	The Green
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Open Gardens

Saturday 24th May	10am-4pm	Around the Village
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Deadline for next edition:

Friday

16th May 2025

Please let us have any contributions by the above date at the latest for consideration for the next edition. Please send to: editor@beytonvillage.news
Letters welcome.

Chairman:	Graham Jones	chairman@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Vice Chair:	Ann Alderton	ann.alderton@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Peggy Orsler	peggy.orsler@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	John Clark	john.clark@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Helena Harris	helena.harris@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Jonathan Wilson	Jonathan.wilson@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Councillor:	Kerry Mason	kerry.mason@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Parish Clerk:	Claire Usher	parishclerk@beyton-pc.gov.uk

Editor's Welcome

Welcome to the April – May edition of the magazine which is as full of events as usual, plenty to keep us all entertained.

In the last magazine I asked for any ideas or articles that you'd like to see included in an effort to keep the magazine content varied and interesting and I am delighted to say that I have had a great idea submitted, details of which you will read about and some interesting content from some of the regular contributors.

As I write this the Quiz is almost upon us and as always has proved to be very popular and was very quickly booked up – we wait to see who the next Brains of Beyton will be!!

Editor

Beyton Parish Council

Chairman's report

Those dark, cold and damp winter days with the depressing grey skies have finally left and we can start enjoying warm sunshine once again.

The current weather rather reflects the mood of the Parish Council as we have enjoyed a positive start to the new year.

Firstly, there has been no flooding in the familiar places such as Drinkstone Road and Thurston Road thanks to stream clearing between Beyton Green and Thurston. There is still some work to be done on the short stretch between the A14 culvert and the caravan park which Suffolk County Council Highways have agreed to carry out, however, they cannot confirm a date and have warned that there are limited funds available. We will continue to chase.

Residents in Quaker Lane have reported flooding to the point where some families are unable to leave their homes without wearing wellington boots. Penny Otton, our County Councillor will raise this issue with SCC Floods Team.

The Beyton Speed watch team have requested two more speed cameras one for Thurston Road and one for Tostock Road and our two District councillors and the Parish Council have agreed to fund these.

Beyton Environment Group will, in the next couple of weeks, plant five specimen trees in a line parallel to the one-way side of The Green.

The Geese are coping well with being housed as a precaution against Avian Flu and have even started to lay eggs – Spring is truly here!

Oh, and I almost forgot, Clean-Up Beyton day is Saturday 22 March, starting at 10:00 at the old bus shelter and finishing with refreshments at the White Horse around lunch time. Why not join us?

Enjoy our beautiful village in Spring.

Yours **Graham Jones** *Chairman, Beyton Parish Council*

House Sparrows

During a bit of spring cleaning, I came across this copy of an old poster which was leant to me back in the 1990's.

This got me thinking about the environment today, in contrast to that at the time of this notice.

Back in those days, corn was gathered by a horse drawn reaper/binder to make sheaves which were put into stacks for threshing later in the year. The farm stackyard was a magnet for all the abundant wildlife of the time but especially rats and sparrows who treated the stacks as a giant larder, hence the focus on controlling the populations as best they could to minimise losses.

Today, the house sparrow population in England is classified as Red List "of concern".

House sparrows are sociable little birds and each group tends to be loyal to a small area, centred around an area of dense bushes which they can dive into when threatened.

In Beyton there are a few of these "families" around the area of the Green that I am aware of but there may be others.

Despite having several feeders in the garden they rarely visit, even though I'm only a stone's throw from the Green. I also put up a communal nest box (3 units) several years ago but with no success although they are "desirable" sparrow residences – that was what the label said, anyway!

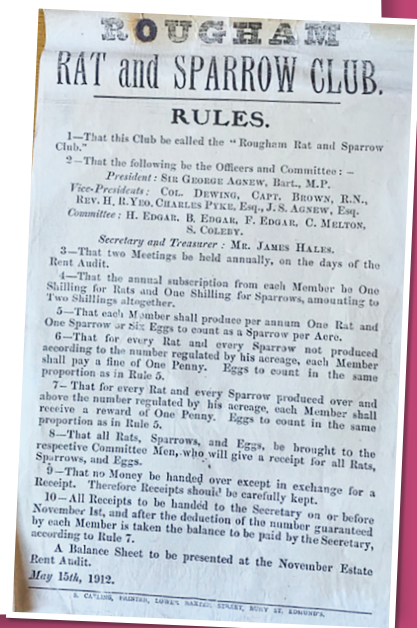
In my youth (1950s-60s) sparrows were abundant, nesting in any available crevice, even under the tin ridge cover on our garage roof, which must have been horribly hot in the midsummer sun. Furthermore, whenever a row of peas were set in the garden they always had to be cottoned off to prevent the sparrows picking off the shoots when they emerged. Pigeons never seemed to be a problem in those days.

No-one seems to understand the reason for the decline in sparrow populations in England, whether it is the result of predation, farming practices, shortage of suitable nesting sites, or a combination of any of these.

Rats, on the other hand, seem to have defied the changes over the decades, I'm always hearing complaints of rats in peoples' gardens.

I'm not sure what we can do to help sparrows, but maintaining the dense hedges that they are using and creating more opportunities for nesting in these areas might just improve their chances, together with providing access to food in the harder winter weather.

Roy Crosby



www.blackbourne-u3a.org.uk

Blackbourne U3A is part of a UK-wide movement which brings together people, who are no longer in full-time employment, to meet and make new friends, develop their interests and pass their expertise onto others in a friendly and informal environment. Members are drawn from villages to the east of Bury St Edmunds including Beyton and the surrounding villages. We have an interesting programme of speakers at our monthly lectures held at the New Green Centre, Thurston. We have over 25 interest groups all run by members ranging from art, photography, walking, history to travel, dining out and many others, details can be found on the web at www.blackbourne-u3a.org.uk. Annual membership is £10 which provide access to the monthly lectures, interest groups, overseas travel and outings to theatres and gardens. As part of a wider national body workshops and on-line learning for members are also on offer.

If this is of interest details can be found at our website:

www.blackbourne-u3a.org.uk

Knit and Natter

Do you fancy spending a sociable morning with coffee, tea and a chat?

Our friendly Knit & Natter mornings take place in Beyton Church Vestry from 10am to 12 midday normally on the first Monday of each month. However, by popular request, we are trialling additional midweek meetings.

No need to book, just come along. Bring any yarn or craft project along with you or just come for a chat!

Knit & Natter mornings coming up on:

Monday 7th April
Monday 12th May*
Monday 2nd June

Wednesday 23rd April
Thursday 22nd May
Monday 16th June 2-4pm**

*Due to Bank Hol

**trial afternoon session

**For more information, please contact:
Debbie on 01359 271314**



Eric Maffey

We are very sorry to report that Eric Maffey of Bury Rd Beyton, died on 10 March at the West Suffolk Hospital following ill health.

Eric & his late wife Maureen, who died in 2022, had lived in the village for 40 years.

Brought up in Cambridge, he started work at the University labs, then on to Prudential Insurance and when he retired he was working at Sealey's tool company.

He was a very helpful neighbour who was able to make and mend, repairing people's lawn mowers & other bits & pieces, including some of the children's play equipment on the green and at Beyton Church. Sadly, that repair shop is now closed.

A member of the Speed Watch team, Eric made & put up the warning notices. He always looked for a way to get the things done and quietly got on with the job. He will be missed by many in the village.

Nature Notes



I've received a suggestion from a reader that it might be a nice idea to have a 'Nature Notes' section in the magazine where we could record interesting observations related to nature that we may have seen around the village or in our own gardens.

Beyton Environmental Group members regularly contribute and there are people who often comment on the village Facebook page with photos and observation, it would be nice to share things like this in the magazine.

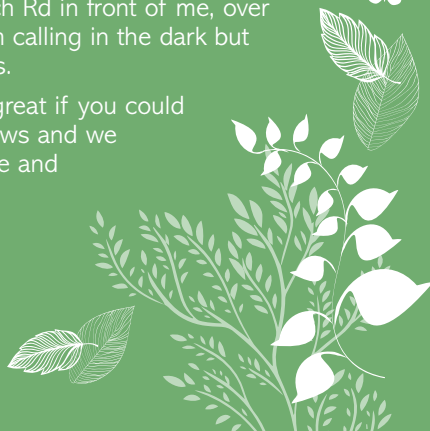
This has prompted my own example, I was driving home a few days ago in the early evening and a barn owl flew across Church Rd in front of me, over the churchyard and into the trees. I often hear them calling in the dark but it was a real treat to see one at such close quarters.

If you have noted anything of interest it would be great if you could email a sentence or two to editor@beytonvillage.news and we could keep a track of the amazing variety of wildlife and plant activity around us.

Many thanks for the idea!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Editor





80TH ANNIVERSARY VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

SATURDAY 3RD MAY 2025



We are taking part in the shared moment of celebration to commemorate VE Day

Join us to celebrate peace and the **80th Anniversary of VE Day**
at The White Horse on Saturday 3rd May

7.30PM ARRIVAL with recorded 1940s music played throughout the evening

8.00PM 1940s style hot meal

A CHOICE OF: Fish, chips and mushy peas

OR Spam fritters, chips and mushy peas

OR Sausage and mash with mixed veg*
(vegetarian/vegan option available)*

*please make this clear when booking

9.00PM VE day decorated cake

9.25PM Reading of Tribute

9.30PM Lighting of fire pits as a beacon in the pub garden

9.35PM Further 1940s music, with the possibility of dancing

Meals are being sold at the special reduced price of £7.50 per person, courtesy of funding from the Parish Council.

Meals must be booked in advance please make your booking by email to the following address:

beytonvillageassociation@gmail.com

We need your name, the numbers of meals required and the meal choices.

The deadline for bookings is

FRIDAY 25th APRIL Spaces are limited – book now to avoid disappointment!



Dressing up in 1940s style clothes is optional

There will be a display of wartime memorabilia and we would be delighted if you could contribute to that.

Please bring any written memories you may have of that period for display on a memory board and possible inclusion in the Beyton Village Magazine afterwards.



Super Car Event

BEYTON GREEN – SATURDAY 24TH MAY

10.00am – 2.00pm

Alongside the upcoming Open Gardens event there will also be a display of supercars on The Green.

The Green Wheels Car Collective will offer a fantastic opportunity to see a wide variety of Supercars up close and personal.

Expect to see a variety of machinery as we anticipate Ferraris, McClarens, and Porsches, all being displayed on Beyton Green.

There is no charge for people coming to look at the cars. Viewing the cars is completely **FREE**.

If you have a supercar (or a classic car or motorcycle) which you would like to display please e-mail snowy1101@aol.com. The fee to display a car is £10 per driver, donations per passenger & £5 per motorbike.

Income from the car show will be donated to Bethany Williams, a student of Thurston Sixth, Beyton Campus, who was diagnosed with a brain tumour at 15 years of age and although this has been removed it has affected her mobility and balance as well as her hearing and concentration. The money raised will help her to make the transition to living independently of her parents, with the necessary adaptations to furniture which will be required at this point.

If you have a car that you'd like to display this is **FREE** to Beyton residents. If you do wish to take part with a car, please make it clear on booking that you live in Beyton although you may wish to make a donation to our fundraising in lieu of the charge.

*Why not combine visiting the Open Gardens
and the Supercar event on the same day?*



Beyton Open Gardens

SATURDAY 24TH MAY

10.00am – 4.00pm

As we publicised in the last magazine, plans for the Open Gardens and Supercar event are well underway.

All types of gardens are welcome: big or small, tidy or wildlife friendly. We would love to welcome gardens which were part of the event last year but also new gardens.

All you need is an outdoor access route to your garden to avoid visitors having to go through your house.

To open your garden to visitors please send an email to beytonvillageassociation@gmail.com

Please put **OPEN GARDENS** as the subject and make sure you include your

Name
Address
Postcode

Book
now!

We also require a short description of your garden, one or two sentences describing its main features, to be included in the event brochure.

Entrance to view the Open Gardens will require visitors to purchase a brochure for **£5.00** per person from a stall on The Green. (Accompanied under 16s go free). No dogs (except assistance dogs).

Plant stall on The Green. Donations of plants very welcome for the stall – please provide these on the day between 9.15am to 10.00am.

*Catering will be available -
Bacon/sausage rolls will be available from
10.00am-2.00pm & cream teas from 2.00-4.00pm.*



Beyton Environmental Group

Members of Beyton Environmental Group have planted five trees on the west side of the Green.

The two cherries and three rowans will not only enhance the already attractive landscape, but should also provide a valuable food source for birds and insects.

Beyton Environmental Group



BVA News

The BVA has again had a very successful year organising events for the local community and raising money for charity. The year started with the annual Beyton Quiz held in the hall at the 6th form campus and a record 21 teams took part with the winners being the Beyton Bad Baristas who now have the honour of setting the questions for the event this year.

In May we held the first Open Gardens for many years and combined it with a new Supercar event organised by The Green Wheels Car Collective. Twelve gardens were opened and a total of 129 people went to look around them. The car show raised £460 towards Ellie Walters' World Challenge trip to Tanzania and the BVA donated £500 from the profit of the Open Gardens to the Beyton Environmental Group to support the improvement of the natural environment in and around the village.

The Beyton Fayre was once again held on the August bank holiday and despite steady rain all morning when the rain stopped at 2.30pm The Green suddenly filled with people. We had a few new attractions this year such as the police car and the Name the Bear along with old favourites such as the coconut shy and the bottle tombola. Unfortunately, the grass was too slippery to hold the children's races or the tug of war, but the dog show was a great success and we still managed to finish the day with the traditional Beyton water bomb throwing.

The profits from the Fayre have been reinvested into purchasing new gazebos to replace some of the older ones which were at the end of their life, so that we can continue running events like this in future and we have also brought our reserves back up to pre-covid levels to cover the possibility of a major event having to be cancelled or a major piece of equipment, such as the marquee, needing to be replaced.

The Safari Supper took place in November for the first time since Covid. A total of 41 people participated starting at The White Horse for canapes, and then going to different houses for main course and dessert before returning to the White Horse for coffee and mince pies. Everyone seemed to have a great time meeting old friends and making new ones.

The traditional Carol Singing on the Green in December was supported by more than 50 people and £160 was raised in donations for the local food bank: Still Good Food. After the singing everyone went to the White Horse to warm up in front of the fire with complimentary mulled wine and mince pies.

Throughout the year we continued to organise village walks approx. every 3 months. We have developed these to include evening walks with a pub stop part way round and most recently by starting for the first time from a location outside the village Blackthorpe Barns. This was very popular with 19 people taking part so we will be planning further walks starting from venues outside the village in future.

We have also completed the task of revising our constitution this year as it has been decades since this was last updated, so the document now reflects what we are currently doing.

Thanks so much to all the members of the committee who have done so much to organise these activities and also to the many other volunteers who have assisted with running the events on the day. I am very lucky to have such an enthusiastic and energetic committee, and it is their hard work which makes events like these happen.

Village Walk

The next village walk is on Sunday 13th April.

10am Meet at FELSHAM CAR PARK beside the village hall. The walk will go across the fields to Bradfield Woods and then round the wood before heading back to Felsham.

Anyone unable to make their own way there who would like a lift please ring Anselm 01359 270176 or Val 07557 989592.

If you have any problems locating the group at the start of the walk, please ring Anselm on his mobile 07920 454145 before the start time of 10.00am.

The route will be 5-6 miles long and will last about 2 hours and there will be the option of going to the Six Bells pub in Felsham at the end of the walk for a drink or Sunday lunch for those who want to.

If you decide to have lunch, please book your own table but let them know at the time of booking that you are with the Beyton Village Walk so they can try to sit us together.

Everyone is welcome, including accompanied children and dogs on leads.

Hope to see you there.



The news from Thurston Community College this edition and in the next, will focus on two incredible journeys the students have recently taken. The journey for each student has been in terms of both the distance travelled and their own personal growth and understanding of the world we live in. The students who study at Main School, Thurston Campus visited the Somme Battlefields and students studying at Thurston Sixth, Beyton Campus visited the country of Panama.

So now over to the Somme visit to hear the reflections on that journey:

As we stood on the plinth of the Thiepval Memorial, looking at the colossal columns that record the names of 72,000 without a known grave, a rainbow appeared. Cutting through the dark clouds, it reminded us of the other side of the scales; the men who survived and came home.

There are thousands of books and films about the Great War of 1914-18, and they mostly focus on the mud, blood and trenches. The fact that 87% of all men who fought returned home is almost lost amongst the gun smoke.



Our visit aimed to show the GCSE History students that medical advances in those four years meant that men who were wounded had a pretty good chance of survival; with the focus at the time on repairing the physical wounds and not so much the mental scars of war. From our base in the beautiful town of Ypres we explored sites in both Belgium and France to gain a deeper and more accurate understanding of what it meant to fight in the war. Of course, we visited trenches and battlefields, but we also stood where the Christmas Truce football match was played and marveled at the ingenuity of the combined fork and spoon given to troops.

In battle, preserving life is just as important as taking it. The medical bunkers at the Ypres battle site called 'Essex6 Farm' and the hospital at Lijssenthoek showed us the lengths that doctors and nurses went to so that men could literally 'fight another day.'





For Thurston students, on a rainy day in March, it was easier to imagine the awful conditions that men faced on the frontline. It was harder to see the rainbows on a battlefield, but it is definitely worth the effort – light and hope existed everywhere, even on the Somme.

Dog Fouling

It has been noted that sadly, most of the footpaths in and around the village are being spoiled by an increasing amount of dog poo being left and not picked up by owners.

We live in a lovely village and are fortunate to have good access to the countryside with a network of well used footpaths.

Many of us enjoy walking not just those of us with dogs and you will all agree that stepping into dog poo is highly unpleasant and unhygienic.

We are fortunate to have plenty of dog poo bins placed at strategic points around the village making disposal of bags easy and straightforward.

There is 1 on Thurston Road

2 on the Green

1 on Bury Road

2 on Church Road

3 on Quaker Lane

1 on Drinkstone Road

If you have a dog, please be aware of what it is doing and clean up after it.

Beyton Parish Council



36th NATIONAL VINTAGE TRACTOR ROAD RUN Sunday 20th April 2025

**Starts 9:30 Blackthorpe Barn, Rougham,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP30 9JG**

Route is

10:00 Thurston	10:15 Pakenham
10:40 Norton	11:00 Elmswell
11:15 Wetherden	11:30 Haughley
12:00 – 13:30 Food Museum Stowmarket	
14:00 via Lockington Road Harleston	
14:30 Woolpit	
15:00 Tostock	
15:15 Beyton	
15:30 Blackthorpe Barn Rougham	

All times are approximate & subject to change

**Collection taking place along the route for SARS 999 & St
Nicholas Hospice - All Donations welcome**

For Enquiries phone Vanda 07990947510 or Robert 07789995851

Contact Information

Beyton Village News Comments & Contributions

Email: editor@beytonvillage.news



Websites

<https://beyton.suffolk.cloud>



Facebook

Beyton Village Community
Beyton Village Association
The White Horse Beyton



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@thurstoncollege



PC Clerk

Claire Usher
parishclerk@beyton-pc.gov.uk
Meadow View, Oak Farm Lane,
Mendlesham IP14 5TE

Beyton All Saints Church

The Rev'd Canon Julia Lall

Email: rector.roughambenefice@gmail.com

Mobile: 07543 824837:

The Rev'd Sarah Lock

Email: revsarah23@gmail.com

Mobile 07510 114359

Shops

Thurston – Co-Op

Tel 01359 230803

Opening hrs: Every Day 7am-10pm

Thurston – Cracknells

Tel 01359 270256

Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 7am-9pm,
Sunday 8am-9pm

Thurston – PO Londis

Tel 01359 230450

Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 6:30am-
8:30pm, Sunday 8.00am-6pm

Rougham – Meg's Farm Shop

Rougham Hall Nurseries

Tel 01359 270577

Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 9am-5pm,
Sunday 10am-4pm

Rougham – PO

Tel 01359 270201

Opening hrs: Mon-Fri 7.30am-6pm,
Sat 9am-12.30, Sun 9am-12

Garages

Beyton Garage Tel 01359 271166

Thurston Cracknells Tel 01359 270256

Pubs Restaurants

The Bear Chinese Takeaway Tel 01359 256788

The White Horse Tel 01359 270324





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