



BEYTON VILLAGE NEWS

DECEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021



We would like to
wish you all a

*Merry
Christmas*

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



<http://beyton.suffolk.cloud>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES – 2020



Beyton Parish Council Meetings 2020

Monday 6th January	Monday 1st June
Monday 3rd February	August – No Meeting
Monday 2nd March	Monday 7th September
Monday 6th April	Monday 5th October
Monday 11 May (Ordinary, Annual & Annual Parish Meetings)	Monday 23rd November

All meetings are held at 7.30pm in The Vestry, Beyton Church.
Please also look on our website: <http://beyton.suffolk.cloud>
or village notice boards for details.

**SADLY STILL NO
PROGRAMME OF EVENTS
TO ADVERTISE
BUT HOPING FOR A MORE
SOCIABLE 2021**



DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

Please let us have any contributions by **Friday 22nd January 2021** at the latest for consideration for the next edition.

Send to: editor@beytonvillage.news – Letters welcome

EDITOR'S WELCOME

It feels like a lifetime ago since we were putting together the last edition of the BVN!

Even though the threat of Covid 19 was very present I didn't for one minute imagine that it would be 8 months before we published the next one!

So welcome to the December / January edition, a round-up of things that have been happening in the village during the Summer & Autumn, with the hope that once we are in to 2021 that we can start looking forward to life resuming a more sociable and active pace.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas, it will certainly be a different one.

Editor

CORONAVIRUS

Beyton Parish Council offers help to those who feel isolated and vulnerable. If you need help for shopping, collecting medicine and other important supplies, the following people will do their best to assist you:

Graham Jones: 01359 271266

Adele Newberry: 01359 270196

Ann Alderton: 01359 271171

Jane Gurney: 01359 270176

Volunteers: No one knows what exactly will be required or how long the emergency will last, but certainly we need as many volunteers as possible to help our community get through this very difficult time. If you feel that you can offer your services, please contact either Adele or Graham as soon as possible.

**Suffolk Social Services is also available to help you,
their phone number is: 08088004005**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

First and foremost, I hope that everyone is keeping well and not suffering too much at this very difficult time. I personally feel privileged to be living in an area with plenty of open spaces, low infection rate and the chance to speak to other dog walkers, albeit from a safe distance. I look at two of my sons living in small flats in huge cities, mainly working from home and very little contact with friends and colleagues. Luckily, they still have their jobs unlike so many. Please remember that our actions at this time may have serious consequence not only our own wellbeing but others too. Be sensible, follow medical guidance and take the long-term view to ensure the best chance of coming through this terrible period.

I feel proud of the way Beyton parishioners have responded to the pandemic. It seems a long time ago when the first lockdown occurred, the Parish Council asked for volunteers to deliver prescriptions, shop, supply meals for the most vulnerable and to simply maintain phone contact with those isolated at home. Thirty-one of you offered help. Actually, we had more volunteers than people requesting help. To those who offered their services and were called upon and those who offered but were not called, I would like to thank you all.

I believe that a special mention should go to Simon Newberry who made multiple trips to Woolpit Surgery to deliver essential medicine to not only Beyton but Hessett and Rougham as well. Thank you, Simon.

What has the Parish Council been up to during the last nine months? Here are some of the key subjects and actions:

Flooding in the village

I believe we are making some real progress in Thurston Road and at the junction of Church Road, Quaker Lane and Cangles Lane. Suffolk Highways have produced plans for these areas and have a provisional date 8th – 19th February scheduled for the work to be carried out. We have also requested that Drinkstone Road be addressed at the same time, but no promise yet.

I must thank our County Councillor, Penny Otton for her continued badgering of the Highways Department to secure the budget to address these constantly occurring floods. Thinking of flooding, it is a good time to remind ourselves that ditches are the first line of defence. Please keep them free of obstructions. A little bit of preventative maintenance will save a lot of effort down the line!

Village Green Lease

No progress has been made on a new lease, however, the land owners made a proposal for the Parish Council to purchase the freehold for £50,000. We do not have that kind of money, in any case an independent valuation two years ago suggested £10,000 would be closer to the mark. The area is registered as a "Village Green" therefore, according to legal advice development would not be permitted.

Play Area

Nothing done on fencing off the small children`s area, this will be considered again in the New Year. Meanwhile, Penny Otton has offered some money from her locality fund, which can be used for amenities. We have thought of a Volleyball (seemed to be a popular activity this year) net or Basketball net. If anyone has other suggestions, please contact one of the Parish Council members. We would love to hear from you.

The annual independent inspection of the play equipment revealed no major concerns.

Improvement to the edge of The Green

The road edge alongside the one-way street looked scruffy, many puddles and no clear line to the road. Andy Rollett re-enforced the edge with deep plastic supports and hardcore before reseeding. There is still an area to be addressed where the road impinges onto the grass, however, tackling this is proving more difficult as we must work with Suffolk Highways to determine just how much of the road can be returned to grass.

Unsafe Tree on The Green

One poplar tree became the victim of Storm David back in March. The decision was to pollard rather than remove it. I`m happy to say that it is now sprouting again.

Phone box library in Quaker Lane

Four volunteers cleared the pile of books, cleaned the box, and restocked. Thankyou Paul, Cathy, Dee, and Barbara.

Community Infrastructure Levey (CIL)

CIL is money that Parish Councils receive when houses are built in their area and can be used for infrastructure projects within their village. Beyton received £7,258 this year. £1,400 was spent on improving the edge of the Green and as a contribution to upgrading the Church Vestry toilet to disability compliance standards. Just as a reminder, the Vestry is the muster point in our Emergency Plan.

Hopefully, you feel that the Parish Council adds value to your village and perhaps, just perhaps you could be motivated to join. There are currently two vacancies, anyone interested?

Christmas is likely to be a bit different this year, but whatever regulations are in place, I hope that you find love, peace and happiness, followed by the prospect of a better New Year.

Yours

Graham Jones

BEYTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Beyton Neighbourhood Plan is coming to a crucial point - completion of the Second Draft before submission to Beyton Parish Council which is on track to occur before Christmas.

Of course, the pandemic has delayed us – and more particularly halted any possibility of the Team meeting face to face since March. However we remain on track to deliver an “adopted Plan” following a village-wide referendum in summer 2021.

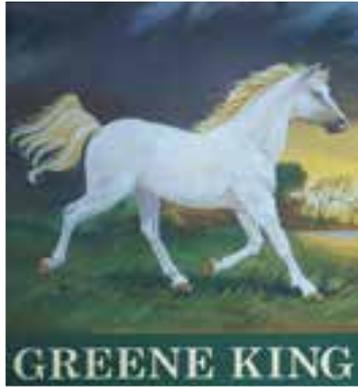
There’s much to do before then of course, further consultation with the village, submission to Mid Suffolk District Council and then independent verification, all before the village vote can take place.

As well as Covid-19, there have been other bumps in the road including most recently a surprise in the recently published District Council Joint Local Plan. Disappointingly, and without any consultation, council officers allocated sites for housing in the village that were not in accord with what the village has expressed so far. This means the Neighbourhood Plan team and Parish Council will need to put energy into formulating our mutual objections to present to an independent inspector as well as carrying on with the regular work that creates the Neighbourhood Plan.

Jonathan Wilson

Chair, Beyton Neighbourhood Plan Group





The White Horse

Beyton

01359 270342

Hospitality across the country has been dealt a massive blow during this pandemic and pubs have had to work extremely hard over the past 8 months to keep as much custom as possible coming safely to their doors.

During the summer came the wonderful news that Jane & Barry had received an award in recognition of the contribution they have made to pub life and their 35 years service at The White Horse. Huge congratulations to them and many thanks for everything that they have done to keep open, providing takeaway meals and entertainment for the village as and when possible.

Here are Jane's reflections on running the pub during a pandemic!

I think my highlight during the first lockdown was doing 35 afternoon teas in a box to celebrate the anniversary of VE Day.

Reopening was extremely stressful! Meeting all the new requirements, reading umpteen advisory emails and filling in risk assessments.

Fortunately my son-in-law fixed screens around the bar and between some tables for us thus saving us a lot of money.

My daughter and my other son-in-law took almost half the furniture up into the attic so we could comply with social distancing.

So eventually we opened with a glass of prosecco and the red ribbon cut by our local dignitary Mr David Kemplay.

We were very pleased to hold some music nights in the garden, with great music provided by the Larks. Hopefully we can hold some more indoors by the fire before too long.

The Eat out to Help out scheme was very successful and brought in lots of customers. So much so that we carried it on in October.

When we reopen we will have our Christmas Decorations up and will have a Christmas Menu available.

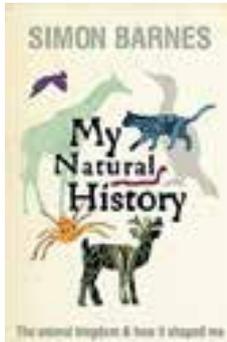
We will repeat the Eat Out 50% off in January.

We were also pleased to be recognised by CAMRA for 35 years in the pub.

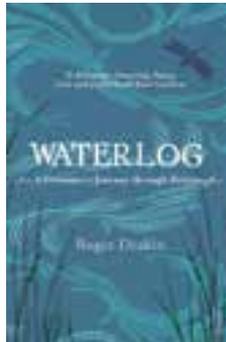
BOOKS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST

I have had a bit more time for reading in the last ten months....I wonder why?!

So I have been looking through our nature/environment/wildlife books, and have compiled a list of ten that are interesting, important and well-written.



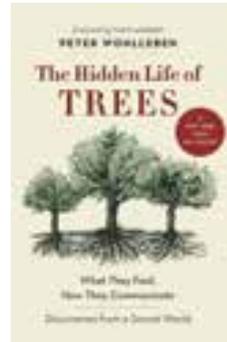
Simon Barnes
My natural history



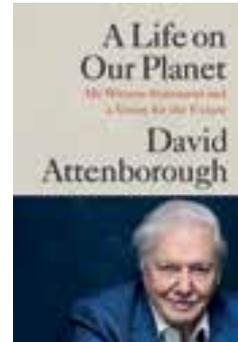
Roger Deakin
Waterlog



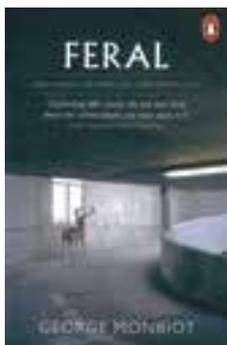
Michael McCarthy
**The moth snowstorm
(nature and joy)**



Peter Wohlleben
The hidden life of trees



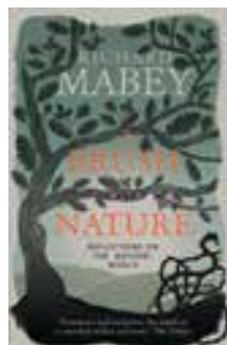
David Attenborough
A Life on our planet



George Monbiot
Feral



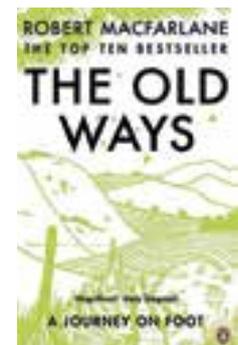
Mark Cocker
Our place



Richard Mabey
A brush with nature



Isabella Tree
Wilding



Robert MacFarlane
The old ways

Of all of these, the one to dive into right now is the Attenborough book. It is the book of 2020. Most of these authors have written other books, so a wealth of great reading awaits you. Other authors to try could be James Lovelock, Chris Packham, Tim Flannery, John Lewis-Stempel, Merlin Sheldrake, Ronald Wright, Patrick Barkham, Bill McKibben and I can't resist recommending George Ewart Evans's *Acky*, which is about an old Suffolk Bo'....best read aloud in a broad Suffolk accent.

Happy reading!

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

What did you do with your Christmas tree?

I remember in my Grandfather Green's time it would be pulled up the chimney at Hessayt Heath, thus giving the chimney its annual clean.

In our house last Christmas we had 5 trees, all artificial and all but one quite small, but very decorative, when you have 21 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren you, by which I mean my wife! must be prepared although they do not all come.

In the olden days we had one real tree which with my brother and sister & I decorated and as Christmas only lasted 4 or 5 days the tree was removed before it covered the lino in needles. At 7 years old I had the job of taking the tree down the garden to eventually be part of a bonfire, we had a cinder path going down the garden which followed the linen line and that year I decided to plant the tree just in case it might grow, move on to 2019, according to the tree surgeon's who cut it down, it was over 40ft tall!

The needles were always a problem, but in high winds it was a potential significant danger, so it was reduced to 20ft, and the branches joined the village bonfire, the logs I stored for eventual kettle wedges,

I built a platform 6ft off the ground for said grandchildren and carved it, directly East-West, as a totem pole inc a red and black rat and Peppa Pig. As you can see, we put our big Chief "cook and bottle washer" and a weather vane to top it off,

So what did you do with your Christmas tree?

Regards

Rod Scott BEM



NEWS FROM THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

I would like to thank all members of our community for your support during 'lockdown', when we were unable to fully open our doors to our young people. Staff, parents, carers, wider family members and friends have worked tirelessly to support our students as they strived to continue their learning from home. I commend our students for their perseverance and resourcefulness throughout this time.



During lockdown the school remained open for students of key workers. In the early days we hosted just a handful of students but as time went on the numbers rose and by the end of the summer term we had some 80 students regularly attending. Then as the term progressed, we were asked by the Government to bring the Year 10 and Year 12 students back into school. The Year 10 students who were 14-15 years of age at that time, were coming to the end of their first year studying for their GCSE examinations; the Year 12 students who were 16-17 years of age were coming to the end of their first year of studying for their A Level examinations. It was marvellous to have them back with us, to teach them in person as they continued with their studies in school. As from the September we have been open to all students to attend school and to progress with their education.

I thought it was fitting to share with you all just a small example of some of the outstanding work created by our students whilst working at home or in College during lockdown. We are as always extremely proud of them all.

We really missed our students and are delighted to have all year groups return to College full-time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Helen Wilson Principal



Photo Alphabet
A Walshe (13 years of age)

THURSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Our Family Tree
M Curry and F Curry (13 years of age).

CLEAN-UP BEYTON 2020

Our Spring clean-up was cancelled because of Lockdown #1. However, once the shackles were released the tidy gang was on it again. Twenty-two villagers met on Saturday 25th July and it was business as usual, the only exception the weather being much better than usual. Refreshments (ham egg and chips) in the garden of the White Horse followed- a great day for all.

The Autumn event went ahead as scheduled on 24th October. Weather not so kind this time, but no one was put off! One would expect there to be little rubbish since only three months had elapsed since our last clean-up – no such luck! Biggest problems were in the usual places, the exits from the A14. We even found a large sofa in the layby along Bury road. The job was completed by another twenty-two volunteers. Refreshments at The Bear, this time cottage pie.

Regrettably, no pictures available as no one had a camera with a wide-angle lens to cover the socially distancing team.

Next clean-up will be the end of March, why not join us?

Waiting...

K Barry (12 years of age)



The beast is coming,
We are going,
Retreating to our homes,
Escaping from the beast
Locked inside like prisoners,
Waiting...waiting
Saying final farewells,
For the lengthy depart,
We relied on technology to
bring us together,
Even when, we are apart,

Once fun activities,
Bore until you can take it no
more,
Films, reading, games
I've tried them all before,
Sad, angry, tired,
Emotions you cannot feel while
staring at a wall,
Muddling through the day like
a mindless zombie,
Work. Eat. Sleep. Repeat.
My only schedule.

Waiting. Waiting
For this to be over?
To see loved ones again?
Friends perhaps?
Soon we shall see them all,
The beast is still here,
But no longer can we fear,
We are fighting back,
Slowly being let out of the cage,
The cage. That is our home.
No longer, waiting...waiting

BEYTON ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

A different sort of year

As you would expect, our usual programme has been greatly affected by lockdown and other Covid-related restrictions. We missed our indoor meetings (an opportunity to talk and drink wine) and our outing (pub lunch included) and several work parties. As I write, our Christmas party in the woods (mulled wine and sloe gin, with Sheila's famous cheese straws) looks threatened. We also missed some work parties. Nevertheless, we managed to complete essential tasks and some additional site development due to the stalwart efforts of our site wardens Steve, Roy and Andy. There was also the great hedge rescue when a bucket chain was created to deliver much needed water to struggling new hedging along the path between the church and Drinkstone Road. This had the desired effect-it rained the next day and from then on after, but I am pleased to report that the hedge is doing well.

Managing wildlife sites is a balancing act and timing of work is important. We want nettles on our sites for caterpillar food, but we don't want so many they swamp everything else, so when to cut and how much? In the churchyard we aim for a diversity of wildflowers, but we have to mow and rake off the cuttings after the flowers have seeded so the soil isn't enriched and favours grass, or, more particularly, ground elder. This plant is the enemy of many gardeners and is threatening our less dominant species such as meadow saxifrage. It is edible, raw in salads, or cooked liked spinach and I have seen recipes for ground elder pesto although I haven't tried them yet. In the middle ages it was used to treat gout, hence the alternative name "goutweed".

This balance of wildlife friendly v tidy is also an issue in the garden. I have been experimenting with mowing half the lawn at a time and leaving the rest to, in our case, clover. This has led to a significant increase in bees in the garden as they always have somewhere to feed. I made my wildflower patch look a bit more deliberate by mowing a path round it and identifying species gave me another thing to do in lockdown.

In lockdown we had more time to explore the local patch and take pleasure in the simpler things. When we were not allowed to travel anywhere, the set aside land to the west of Church Road became increasingly important to the community as a place where they could safely walk themselves and their dogs.

For those of you who follow Autumnwatch, their mindful moments have proved to be popular. Times when we can just take time to look at the wonders of nature. There have been some wonderful things around Beyton this year-not worthy of national news coverage, but interesting just the same. Here are just a few:

- the sound of song thrushes early in the year to establish their territory and attract a mate
- stands of white wildflowers: dead nettle, stitchwort, cow parsley and garlic mustard together with the blue/purple of the often overlooked ground ivy were stunning this year.
- yellowhammers, whitethroats and other hedge-nesting birds displaying and even a pair of wheatear on their migration along Cangles Lane and Drinkstone Road Hessett.
- the daily sound and spectacle of buzzards being mobbed by members of the crow family
- watching three or four broods of house sparrows fledge from our nest boxes.
- groups of swifts screeching through the sky over the Green and Church Road
- spotted flycatchers raising their young in a rather unusual nesting site.
- seeing a young female barn owl being ringed
- the emergence of flying ants mid-July
- the beautiful wildflower field margins planted by the farmers with such a diversity of plants to support our diminishing insect populations
- clear night skies with spectacular views of Mars, Venus and, on 22nd October-Saturn and Jupiter close to the moon. (A star gazing app strongly recommended to help to identify other stars and constellations.)
- watching grey heron standing on the ploughed fields-were they digesting their earlier fishy meal or looking for rodents to supplement their diet?
- flocks of fieldfare flying past chack-chacking as they move from Scandinavia for the winter.
- autumn leaves, notably below silver birch, “shining” in the early morning light

Beyton does not have the diverse landscape of even nearby villages. We need to make the most of everything we have and to seek to find ways to maintain and improve our natural environment so that we can continue to enjoy these memorable moments. Maybe, to mark the end of this most unusual year, we could all do one small thing to make our gardens more wildlife friendly.

Val Conaboy

BEYTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

BVA REPORT 2020

Well what can we say? Only one village event took place this year - the village quiz back in early March.

Fifteen teams took part at Beyton 6th Form Campus and in a hard fought contest, The Cardigans beat The Evolutionists and Hell's Bells to lift the Golden Egg. The excellent questions were set by last year's winners and many thanks go to Richard and Jill Carter, Graham and Klair Bauly and Simon and Margo Ellsworth for all their hard work.

Realistically, it will probably be the second half of 2021 before any more village events happen. In the meantime the BVA are always looking for new recruits and new ideas.

Please join us. For more information contact **Trish on 01359 271971.**

POPPY APPEAL

**"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning.
We will remember them"**

These poignant words echo through churches and over war memorials usually crowded with grateful people remembering those who gave their lives that we may live in freedom. But not this year. The invisible enemy has prevented us paying our respects. Covid-19 prevented our usual door to door collections and severely restricted opportunities to give our usual support to this worthy cause.

The only option open to the Beyton Poppy Appeal team was to place un-manned trays and collection boxes in our pubs, school, church and the garage and I thank everyone for their help. We managed to collect £420, which, unfortunately was less than half of our usual total.

However, one of our stalwart team, Rod Scott BEM showed great initiative by advertising on Radio Suffolk Covid compliant poppy sales from his garden. He collected £250. Thank goodness we have people like Rod in our village.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Beyton Village News Comments & Contributions

Email: editor@beytonvillage.news



Websites

<http://beyton.suffolk.cloud>
www.Beytonvillage.tumblr.com



Twitter

@beytontweets
@thurstoncollege



Facebook

Beyton
Beyton Village Association
The Bear Inn Beyton
The White Horse Beyton



PC

Geese information

beytongeese@outlook.com

Clerk

Pat Lamb – Tel 01359 233288
parishclerk@beyton.suffolk.gov.uk

Beyton All Saints Church

Rector Nick Cutler – 01359 270250
www.allsaintsbeyton.co.uk

Shops

Thurston – Cracknells

Tel 270256 – Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 7am-9pm, Sunday 8am-9pm

Thurston – PO Londis

Tel 230450 – Opening hrs: Mon-Sat 6:30am-8:30pm, Sunday 8.00am-6pm

Rougham – PO

Tel 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 Inn Tel 01359 270249

The White Horse Tel 01359 270324

WELCOME TO BEYTON LEAFLET

If you are new to Beyton – Welcome: Our 'Welcome to Beyton' booklet is packed with information regarding the village, its contacts and facilities.

If you would like a copy contact Barbara Jones on **01359 271266** or gonetomygarden@gmail.com

FANCY A NATURE QUIZ?

1. Match up the following:

Earth

Crest

Wind

Vole

Fire

Worm

Water

Flower

2. Here are local names for some birds found in Suffolk; what are their proper names?

Windhover

Yaffle

Goatsucker

Storm cock

Thick knees

Peewit

Mavis

3. Complete the names of these birds found in Beyton in the recent past:

Turtle _____

Spotted _____

King _____

Sky _____

Mistle _____

Answers to the Nature Quiz:
1. Earthworm, Windflower, Firecrest, Watervole
2. Kestrel, Green woodpecker, Nighthawk, Mistle thrush, Stone curlew, Lapwing or Green plover, Song thrush.
3. Turtle Dove, Spotted flycatcher, Kingfisher, Skylark, Mistle thrush.