

Tunstall Parish Council

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

The Parish Council would like to wish all Tunstall residents and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tunstall Parish Website - your village needs you!

Tunstall Parish Council would like to update their website to make it more exciting and accessible. Is there some technical wizard out there that could help and/or advise us please? If you have the necessary skills or know someone who has, please get in touch with the parish clerk. We are eager to hear from you!

Farm traffic through the village

The parish council recently wrote to local farmers about concerns expressed by residents with regards to the speed of tractors passing through the village. Members of the council were delighted to report that there seems to have been a reduction in speed and would like to thank the farmers and their drivers for their consideration.

Dog poo bag dispenser

A local resident has requested that a dog poo bag dispenser be provided on the playing field in an attempt to encourage dog walkers to clean up after their dogs. Following a discussion about cost and the pros and cons of this it was agreed that this would be trialled for a period to assess its effectiveness.

New parish councillor

The parish council is pleased to welcome Lesley Cresswell back onto the council after a short break. Lesley has lived in the village for 10 years, likes to be involved in the local community and has just published her first book, a collection of poetry.

Flooding news and the Community Emergency Plan.

The parish council has agreed to fund a second pump to help protect properties in the area should the need arise in case of further flooding. A location has been agreed and training has been received in use of the pump by the flood team. Anyone wishing to join this team should contact Sarah on 07900657780 for Tunstall Village or Oliver on 07771972338 for Tunstall Common. It is in the best interests of everyone that we are all mindful of the damage and devastating impact that flooding in the village can have and are prepared to step up when needed. Cllr. Silovsky was elected to review and develop the Community Emergency Plan which is quite outdated.

Diary dates

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 18 December 2024
at 5:30pm in the Community Hall.

The Mobile Library

Tuesday 10 December 2024
Tunstall Green 10.10—10.25am
Tunstall Common 10.30—10.50am

Tunstall Bowls Club

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming new members and our existing members back to the club in the new year.

Blaxhall Christmas Party

Saturday 14 December from 7.30pm
at Blaxhall Village Hall

£16 per head.
For tickets call Graham on 01728 688192

Tickers on sale until 6 December
Dancing to 'Handle with Care'
Turkey buffet supper, Bar at club prices



Sorry, Santa
Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Santa visit in Tunstall this year has been cancelled. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Tunstall Grapevine

Let us know your email address and we will keep you informed of the latest news.
Tiffany Pollock - Clerk to the Parish Council
01728 688816
1 CountryLife Cottage, Orford Road,
Tunstall, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2JA
pcclerk@tunstall.com

January 2025 Bulletin

Please send or give all material to
The editor: Tiffany Pollock 688 816
tiffpollock@hotmail.co.uk by
15 December 2024

Tunstall BULLETIN

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Christmas Songs at The Green Man Inn



We look forward to seeing you with your Santa hats and tinsel at 5pm on Sunday December 22nd for a Christmas sing-along with the pub piano. Come a bit early if you want a seat, as it got busy last year. There will be a couple of Christmas carols, but also a nod to some of the classic Christmas songs that have made the charts over the years. If you're not sick of them by then, we'll have

mulled wine and mince pies, but Georgy and the team at the pub will be serving all their usual drinks as well.

We're holding a collection with 50% going to church upkeep and the rest to the Red Cross for their humanitarian work in Gaza, and all donations, however small, would be greatly appreciated.

Flooding Update

The Tunstall Parish Council Flood Team have been working hard to ensure the corrective works for all areas of Tunstall are concluded as soon as possible. We have been consistently chasing Highways to ensure a swift resolution over the past few months.

Green Man Pond

We have spoken to the Head of Environment Strategy at Suffolk County Council and met the Flood Engineer to discuss the current system and how this could be improved.

We have asked the Landowner to ensure the ditches and drains on the land to the rear of the playing fields are maintained.

We have been in contact with our Local District and County Councillors as well as the lead County Councillor responsible for Operational Highways and Flooding to chase the progress and works to an urgent conclusion.

Tunstall Common Area

During our investigations we have found a Suffolk County Council highways owned but unmaintained soak away at the Walk Farm Road/ Orford Road junction. This has not been looked after and due to 20 years of neglect now doesn't work as intended.

Highways will be surveying and then clearing the debris and silt to allow for the drains at that junction to take more water and ease the issues. The local landowner has also agreed to do some work to his land next to Walk Farm Road, to help retain more water.

The Parish Council has agreed to fund another pump for the use of the Emergency flood team at the Common.

Emergency Flood Team

We met with some of the team, some of whom were flooded, to ensure they were fully aware what Tunstall Parish Council has been doing and to assure them that we have been very active in pursuing a resolution. Two of the residents wrote excellent emails. One was to the local MP, Jenny Riddle Carpenter. The other to County Councillors and responsible officers in Suffolk County Council. All the above has resulted in a meeting with the Head of Contract and Commissioning at Suffolk County Council. We intend to get a full update on the progress and timelines with a view to getting the corrective drain work underway.



TUNSTALL BOWLS CLUB presents a Christmas Gift & Craft Fair 2024

On Sunday 8th December at 10am to 3pm
At Tunstall Community Hall,
Duck Lane, Ashe Rd, Tunstall, IP12 2JE
25 Stallholders selling handmade crafts
Refreshments cakes & savories at modest prices,
and free parking
Come and join us on the day and pick up a very special stocking filler, or just treat yourself.



Are you ready for Christmas?

Despite the cynical age in which we live, it strikes me that people still put a lot of effort in getting ready for Christmas! I am writing this on the 13th November and I have already seen a few Christmas lights on houses. My daughter is coming home this weekend and she wants to put our tree up!

Then there is the food, the presents and deciding who is going to be where and when! The run up to Christmas is one of the most hectic times of year. There is so much to get ready!

The Bible tells us that from almost the beginning of time, God was getting the world ready for the first Christmas. Our first ancestors decided to rebel against God - much like we all do, and God's perfect world was damaged - as is all too obvious today. God's response was to promise that the offspring of a woman (as opposed to a woman and a man) would come and destroy evil and undo the damage that we had done. God's preparations for Christmas had started.

The rest of the first half of the Bible tells us why the first Christmas was necessary and what God was doing to get ready for it.

This year at Grace Church we are taking a closer look at some of God's preparations for Christmas during the Sundays of Advent, leading up to the birth of Jesus that we will be celebrating on Christmas Morning.

We would love it if you could join with us for these services. All of which will be in Rendlesham School. Most will be at 10:30am, but our Carols by Candlelight Service will be at 4pm on Sunday 22 December.

If you can't make it in person, you can also watch these services on our Youtube channel.

We hope you have a well organised and joy-filled Christmas and would be really pleased to welcome you to any of our Christmas events.

DAVE RUSHBROOK

Minister, Grace Church Rendlesham
www.gracerendlesham.org

Tunstall Foodbank Collection

Our Food bank collection is taking place from Sunday 1 - Monday 9 December. Please drop off non-perishable food items, toiletries and small Christmas luxuries (eg mince pies, chocolate biscuits) at any of the locations below where a box will be available for the purpose.

We're splitting the donations equally. Half goes to Rendlesham Church pop-up shop, which allows you to fill a jute bag (provided) for just £2. There's no means testing, no referral system, just turn up on a Tuesday morning, usually from 11-11.45.

The other half of donations will go to the Salvation Army in Woodbridge - as well as their drop-in centre, they deliver food parcels to those in need.

You can drop items off at any of these locations:

Tunstall St Michael's Church
Open roughly 10-4; please leave donations in porch if locked as long as they are not things mice like!

North House, Woodbridge Road
Sarah, 07900 657780

7, Street Farm Close
Chris and Carla, 07738 104844

The Old School House, School Road
Lesley, 07799 768716

Thank you to those volunteering to be a drop off point.

Activities

Coffee Cake and Chat

For all, including Toddlers
Every Wednesday during School term time at Tunstall Chapel
9:30am -11:30 am

Friday Club

For Primary School Children
Every Friday during School term time at Tunstall Chapel
6:30pm-7:30pm

Youth Group

Secondary School Young People
Every Friday during School term time at Tunstall Chapel
7:45pm-9:00pm

Women's Fellowship Carol Service

Tuesday 10 December, 1.45pm
at Tunstall Baptist Chapel.
Refreshments following the service. RSVP by 7 December – Jennifer 01394 450223

Coffee, Craft & Chat, Wreath Making Evening

Wednesday 4 December, 7.30pm
at Tunstall Baptist Chapel.
Booking Essential please visit - www.gracerendlesham.org

Christingle, Crafts & Carols

Christmas fun for all the family.
3.30-4.30pm
Sunday 15 December at Rendlesham Primary School

Carols by Candlelight

4pm, Sunday 22 December at Rendlesham Primary School

Christmas Morning Service

10.30am at Rendlesham Primary School

The Vicar's Voice

As I write this, we have just worn our poppies, polished medals, stood in silence to the haunting sounds of the Last Post, and seen a myriad of Poppy Wreaths laid on Remembrance Sunday. Now it feels as if we will run full pelt into Christmas preparations. Of course, the shops have been preparing since September, with the shelves becoming increasingly more "seasonal", with fairy lights, decorations, tinsel and of course, mince pies!!

But, before Christmas comes the season of Advent, and from the 1st December, miniature cardboard doors will be opened on the calendars, many containing chocolates, counting down the days until the main event on the 25th.

Yet, actually, the season of Advent is not just for a few weeks until Christmas, it's with us all year round, We remain in a state of "not yet" as we wait for the promised coming of Jesus again, because it is clear that God's will is not yet done on earth as it is in heaven.

Advent and Christmas are all about the coming of "Peace on earth and goodwill among all people. Well, we are all very aware, that this peace is still a long way off. There are wars still raging between Russia and Ukraine, in the Sudan and The Holy Land, the birthplace and home of Jesus, is once again divided; with numerous innocent people who are homeless and frightened.

And what about closer to home? A quarter of the United Kingdom live in poverty. More and more people, many former members of the Armed Forces are homeless and suffering from the effects of recent conflicts. The cost of living crisis remains and there are families who will not be able to celebrate with tables laden with delicious treats, or provide even simple presents for children expecting Santa to arrive on a sleigh pulled by a red nosed reindeer called Rudolph.

So it might seem wrong to think about celebrating Christmas in times which are bleak and mournful. But Advent promises future glory. Through sending his son into the world, God offered a hopeful promise, that something new would take place. The promise of Advent is a promise of hope; that God will be present as we journey through the wilderness. Even in the gloom of December and the heart of

Christmas message—Jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP

As Christmas approaches and 2024 draws to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible privilege of being elected to serve as your Member of Parliament. It's been a remarkable year, and I've been truly moved by the spirit of community across our constituency.

This time of year reminds us of the importance of looking out for one another, and I'm especially grateful to our local charities and army of local volunteers whose dedication brings hope and light to so many lives. Since I was elected, I've had the privilege of visiting so many charities and organisations supporting our communities— and I'm both appreciative and inspired by your work and service to provide support to those in need.

I'm deeply thankful for the trust you've placed in me, and I look forward to working hard for you and representing Suffolk Coastal in the year ahead.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

JENNY RIDDELL-CARPENTER MP.

winter, we can know that all of earth's longings will be fulfilled in Christ, when he comes again. That is why we pray in Advent, "Come, Lord Jesus".

And Christmas, when it arrives, reminds us that God is faithful. We celebrate the birth of a baby for whom we've spent praying. He comes in nativity plays and in the gospel story strangely but beautifully re-told through the sticky oranges and sweets of the Christingle. We see Him coming in a million different ways because of the way he once came into the world through Mary. Then, throughout the year, He comes among us in the bread and wine which we share during Holy Communion, our spiritual food for the journey.

This is the reason for our hope; the Light of the world, born into our world, remains in our lives through the sacraments and the Scriptures, and will come again in glory. Until then, we are called to be faithful, celebrating Christmas, with such joy that, despite it all, amidst it all, God is with us.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and all whom you love, a very blessed Christmas, and a peaceful New Year.

Rev Mandy xx

THE REVEREND MANDY REYNOLDS

St Michael and All Angels Church Services in December

Sunday 22nd December- 11am

Tuesday 24th December- 6pm

Wednesday 25th December- 11am

Christmas Eve service

Our traditional service of lessons and carols takes place on 24th December at 6pm and is always well-attended. After the service ends, the light show we projected onto the church tower last year will play as you leave. It lasts just over 5 minutes so if you've not seen it before, please join us as we take a nostalgic journey back in time from Christmas present to Christmases past.