

# All Saints News



**JUNE 2023**

Including news from the village of Eyke and surrounding area.

(Website [www.eyke.onesuffolk.net](http://www.eyke.onesuffolk.net))

**Clergy:**

**Rev. Mandy Reynolds 01394 420129**

**Church Wardens:**

**Mr. Michael Fisher 01394 460494**

**Mrs Gillian Nicholls 01394 461244**

## The Vicars Voice – June 2023



As I write this Vicars Voice, I am preparing for my annual trip, some might say pilgrimage, to Normandy, France, to commemorate 79 years since the start of the D-Day landings, a definitive moment in the beginning of the end of the Second World War. Sadly, this year, there are even fewer veterans who will be able to make the pilgrimage to remember their mates, their comrades, (from the picture of myself with 7 Veterans 2 years ago, only 2 are still with us), so we will do it for them. And it is always an honour and privilege to do so.

It is always a privilege to stand on the beaches where brave young men gave their lives, or had their lives changed due to wounds sustained, or managed to advance in order to fight for freedom from oppression. My father landed at Sword Beach, and, advancing inland, found himself at the liberation of Belsen Concentration Camp. He didn't talk about what he had seen or experienced, but I know it affected him profoundly for the rest of his life.

The first world war was supposed to have been the war to end all wars, but, as we are all aware, this wasn't to be. As we have travelled through the years, we have seen conflict and suffering all too often. WW2, The Falklands, the Gulf, and more recently, Ukraine and Sudan. It often feels as if the human race has learnt nothing from it's long and often war-torn history.



However, there is one word which, as defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as *a feeling of expectation and desire for a particular thing to happen...* and that word is HOPE. We all hope for a peace which will envelope and surround the world, so that everyone can live in harmony, unity, mutual respect and tolerance of whatever beliefs, creeds or culture they belong to. The hope that the earth's resources might be shared equally so no one will go hungry or thirsty. The hope that all life will be seen as precious and sacred.



Let us all live in hope for an end to war and that all past and present conflicts might be consigned to the pages of the history books, for ever!!

With love and blessings, *Rev Mandy Xx*

### Village Fete

You will have received raffle tickets with this newsletter in advance of the Village Fete which is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July. Please return the stubs and money to the promotor before the event or bring them along on the day.

There will be more information about the Fete in the June Newsletter. MJF

## **Services in Bromeswell, Eyke, Rendlesham, & Wantisden Parish Churches I June and early July**

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May (Pentecost)**

9.30am St Greg's	Morning Prayer	Stephen Nicholls
11.00am Bromeswell	Holy Communion	Rev Mandy Reynolds
11.00am St Felix'	Holy Communion	Rev Kevan McCormack

### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June (Trinity Sunday)**

9.30am Eyke	Holy Communion	Rev. Kevan McCormack
11.00am Bromeswell	Morning Praise	Greg Gooch
11.00am St Felix'	Holy Communion	Rev. Robin Alderson

### **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

10.00am St Felix'	Holy Communion	Rev. Kevan McCormack
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### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June (Trinity 1)**

9.30am St Greg's	Holy Communion	Rev. Mandy Reynolds
9.30am Bromeswell	Morning Prayer	Stephen Nicholls
11.00am St Felix'	Holy Communion	Rev Mandy Reynolds

### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June (Trinity 2)**

9.30am Eyke	Morning Prayer	Rev. Mandy Reynold
11.00am Bromeswell	Holy Communion	Rev Kevan McCormack
11.00am St Felix'	Morning Praise	Greg Gooch

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June (Trinity 3)**

9.30am St Greg's	Morning Prayer	Stephen Nicholls
11.00am Bromeswell	Holy Communion	Rev Mandy Reynolds
11.00am St Felix'	Holy Communion	Rev Kevan McCormack

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July (Trinity 4)**

9.30am Eyke	Holy Communion	Rev Mandy Reynolds
11.00am Bromeswell	Morning Praise	Greg Gooch
11.00 St Felix'	Holy Communion	Rev Mandy Reynolds

### **St Felix Church, Tuesdays Top Up Shop**

**Donations always welcome. e.g. Personal hygiene goods, cleaning/laundry products, tinned meats, soups, non-perishable foodstuffs, dog/cat pet food**  
**There is a box at the back of Eyke Church and anything left in it will be taken to St Felix'.**

## **Councillor Mervyn Whitmore: February 1936 – April 2023 Tribute from Eyke Parish Council**

Mervyn was a real stalwart of the council and the wider village. He was first elected as a Councillor in 1971, and re-elected at every election since then. He attended his final meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March this year, and it was only his increasing frailty which prevented him from standing again in 2023.

He was a familiar and popular face around the village, always there to listen to villagers' concerns, and do what he could to help. Ahead of his time, he was a committed recycler for many years, of his own and other peoples' goods. He raised a significant amount of money for good causes in this way.

For many years, he was to be seen, walking miles in and around the village collecting litter – so much so, that the Parish Council gave up being involved in the District Council's Spring Litter Pick Initiative: there was nothing left to collect!

He kept a close eye on the recreation ground. And when the Parish Council installed the children's play area, he meticulously recorded his weekly checks of the equipment.

Until recently, he was a regular attendee at Safer Neighbourhood Meetings in Woodbridge, reporting back to the Council on issues affecting the local area. Every year, he would be the Council's representative and lay a wreath on Remembrance Sunday, a role he took very seriously.

Mervyn was always on hand to do whatever he could, much of it unsung. He loved the village and the villagers loved him. When villagers got together to produce a book about Eyke to mark the Millennium, it was Mervyn who wrote the following in the introduction:

“Our village is akin to a family, its strengths lie within the residents, of which I am blessed to be one.”

Mervyn will be very sadly missed by us all, and our deepest sympathies go to his family.

### **Eyke Parish Council**

At the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 15<sup>th</sup> May, Councillors signed their Acceptances of Office as this was the first meeting of the new council – although all six councillors had served previously, and were elected unopposed, as there were not enough nominations to fill the seven vacancies.

As a result, the Parish Council will be seeking to fill the space by co-option, so anyone interested in filling this role is urged to contact the council as soon as possible. If you have lived, or worked in the parish for at least a year, and are on an electoral register, you are most likely to qualify.

The Local Government Association at [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk) provides some useful information.

You can contact the parish council for further help at [eyke.pc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eyke.pc@hotmail.co.uk).

Ideally, the parish council would like to appoint a seventh councillor for the next meeting in July.

There are likely to be amendments to the Denbury Homes planning application, with further discussions over the next few weeks, followed by a chance for the public to make their comments.

Traffic and planning in general is still high on the agenda, with a meeting of concerned local parishes with the new chief executive of East Suffolk Council being planned. Eyke Parish Council has also affiliated itself to the East Suffolk Planning Alliance, which operating as a wide group of parishes, should have a stronger voice on planning matters.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm in Eyke Village Hall.

## **Remembering Mervyn Whitmore**

It has been suggested that a lasting memorial should be provided as a tribute to Mervyn, remembering his long life in the village he loved and which he served so well. The favoured option is two inscribed benches, one to be placed on the rec, where he kept a watchful eye for many years, and the other in the Churchyard, where he will be buried alongside Ann. He supported the church in many ways, including locking up and unlocking daily, and often, singlehandedly for some years, in putting up and disposing of the Christmas tree erected beside the porch.

The Parish Council will provide funds for this, but is also happy to receive donations from villagers who might like to show their appreciation too.

If you wish to donate, this can be in cash, to Jackie Pooley or Mike Fisher, by cheque made out to Eyke Parish Council, or if you wish to donate online, please contact Jackie via [eyke.pc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eyke.pc@hotmail.co.uk) for the bank details or telephone on 07486629701. Thank you.

## **Village Hall (Update)**

Summer will soon be here, and the familiar cry of ‘Are we nearly there yet?’ will soon be heard from the back seats of cars up and down the country. In Eyke, meanwhile, the same has been asked of the village hall refurbishment – and the answer, finally, is yes, we are. The last internal fittings are going in, and a new porch roof will signal the end of Phase Two of the work. In fact, if you were at the Coronation lunch, you will already have been able to admire the lovely new loos. So the hall is now open for business, and the Sunshine Club, children’s birthday parties and regular yoga sessions are taking place, along with such things as Parish Council meetings and the May local elections.

And if you’ve been wondering ‘Hasn’t it all taken a long time?’ – well, yes it has, and for good reason! The village hall had never had any substantial modernisation in the whole of its life, so this was a huge job. Well over 2500 hours of (mostly unpaid) work has gone into making the hall the inviting, comfortable and usable venue that it has now become. It’s been quite a project, and has meant quite a few people putting the rest of their lives essentially on hold.

But we’re on the last lap now. Phase Three, the final one, will begin almost immediately, focusing on the area at the back of the hall, where we plan to have a fantastic space for outdoor events. Sadly, we didn’t meet the criteria for ‘levelling-up’ funds, which is a pity, but we are keeping our fingers crossed for the success of our Lottery bid.

Bookings are now welcome if you’d like to hire the hall for future events, and there is a special discounted rate for Eyke residents. Please see the website for details, and for information about future events. See you soon at the village hall!

## **The Village Hall Committee**

## **Coronation Weekend Celebration**

Well done to Linda & Dave Macfarlane, Sue Clark and Lee Weavers for organising the celebration of the Coronation and to all those who supported it with their gifts of salads, coleslaw, cakes etc. in addition to bottles and other items for the raffle and tombola.

Close to 80 people gathered in the village hall and the churchyard on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon, greatly in contrast to the dismal Saturday weather of Coronation Day. Although not intended to be a fund raising occasion because of the generosity of attendees supporting the raffle and tombola a total close to £600 was raised of which the church received £150 with the remainder going towards the cost of finishing the hall porch.