

All Saints News



OCTOBER 2022

Including news from the village of Eyke and surrounding area.

(Website www.eyke.onesuffolk.net)

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Vicars Voice – October 2022



I am writing this piece, in readiness for this month's newsletter, a few hours after the death of Our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth II.

I make no excuses for the fact that I wept at this news.

There is not much I can say, that has not already been said a myriad of times since the sad news came that our beloved Queen had died. It seemed such a shock around the world, as only two days before her death there had been photographs of an admittedly frail queen, but with her beaming smile, she had shaken hands with the newly elected Prime Minister.

But I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to someone who, as for so many of you reading this, has been the only monarch I have known. At her coronation in 1953, she took on the commitment and obligation of duty. Through her reign, she has seen many changes, the years after the war and the end of rationing, the swinging 60s and the Beatles, the tragic disaster in Aberfan, the beginning and end of Concorde, the space age and a man walking on the moon, the launch of Telstar, the troubles of Northern Ireland and the death of her beloved "Uncle Dicky" Mountbatten by an IRA bomb, the death of Diana, the advent of the World Wide Web, social media and of course the recent Covid Pandemic and lockdown, during which she went on television to reassure us all, "we will meet again".

On her 21st birthday, whilst on tour with her parents in Cape Town, she gave her now most memorable and unforgettable speech, Princess Elizabeth said those words which were, as she put it, made in her salad days, to come to fruition a few days ago.

"I declare before you all, that my whole life, be it long or short, shall be devoted to your service"

And it certainly was devoted to the very end, her final duty which saw one Prime Minister out and welcomed a new one in. She was unstinting in her devotion to duty to the very end. Always with a smile and kind word. How many people have we heard being interviewed during the last 48 hours who, having the privilege of meeting her, either as she visited factory, school or hospital, or perhaps at a garden party, said she had a way of making them feel special and that she was truly interested in them.

I have never met the Queen, but have been close to her on two occasions, once at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party, and once at Windsor Castle, during an evening when the Band of the Coldstream Guards were playing a concert for the Queen and Prince Philip. I was a few feet away from her, I, dressed in Mess Kit, and she carrying her obligatory handbag. There was a space between us. We looked at each. She smiled, and I gave a nod of the head. It is a happy memory.

Another line from her 21st birthday speech, the young princess asked God ***"to help her make good her vow"***.

Queen Elizabeth has never shied away from talking about her faith, her belief in God's grace and salvation. In her own words, she has said, "her faith, family and friendship" brought her strength and comfort. Notice that faith comes first. During her many Christmas Broadcasts, she talked of her faith, often quoting bible passages and stories. Worship and attending church was always an important and integral part of her life. Not just for the big ceremonial or on state occasions, but quietly and reflectively such as in Craithie Church nr Balmoral.

She made it quite known that she relied on her faith to see her through the good times and the bad.

The Princess during that same speech, asked God ***"to bless all who were willing to share in that sense of duty."***

I, like so many who have served in Her Majesty's' Armed Forces, am proud to have served my Queen and Country through my time as Chaplain in the Army.
The Queen in one of her earliest speeches told her people,
"I cannot lead you into war, I do not make your laws, I do not administer justice, but I do give you my heart".
And she gave her heart for 70 glorious years.

Her marriage to Philip, Duke of Edinburg, was also life-long and, as we all know, he was simply, her strength and stay.
I'd like to read a poem, I have no idea who wrote it, but it has been going around on social media since Thursday, and I would like to share it here.

Philip came to me today, and said "its time to go"
I looked at him and smiled as I whispered that " I Know"

I then turned and looked behind me, and saw I was asleep,
all my family were around me, and I could hear them weep.

I gently touched each shoulder with Philip by my side,
then I turned away and walked along with my Angel guide.

Philip held my hand as he led the way,
to a world where kings and queens are monarchs every day

I was given a crown to wear, or a halo known by some,
the difference is up here they are worn by everyone

I felt a sense of peace, my reign had seen it's end,
70 years I served my country as the peoples friend.

Thank you for the years for all your time and love,
now I am one of two again, in His Palace up above.

To end this small tribute, I am going to use those immortal words spoken at the Platinum Jubilee just a few months ago by Paddington Bear,

"Thank you Ma'am, for everything".

With love and blessings, Rev Mandy Xx

Services in Bromeswell, Eyke, Rendlesham, & Wantisden Parish Churches in October & early November 2022

Sunday 2nd October

9.30am Eyke	Holy Communion & Harvest Festival	Re v. Mandy Reynolds
11.00am Bromeswell	Pet Service	Greg & Charlotte
11.00am St Felix	Holy Communion	Rev. Mandy Reynolds

Wednesday 5th October

10.00am St Felix	Holy Communion	Rev. Mandy Reynolds
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Sunday 9th September

9.30am St Greg's	Holy Communion	Rev. Mandy Reynolds
9.30am Bromeswell	Morning Praise	Stephen Nicholls
11.00am St Felix	Harvest Festival	Rev. Mandy Reynolds
3.00pm Wantisden	Harvest Festival	Re. Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 16th October

9.30am Eyke	Morning Prayer	Re v. Mandy Reynolds
9.30am Bromeswell	Holy Communion	Rev. Kevan McCormack
11.00am St Felix	Prayer & Praise	Greg Gooch

Sunday 23rd October

9.30 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 30th October

10.30am for 11.00am St Felix	Café Church	Rev. Mandy Reynolds & Greg Gooch
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A different way of worshipping together

Sunday 6th November

9.30am Eyke	Holy Communion	Re v. Mandy Reynolds
11.00am Bromeswell	Family Worship	Greg & Charlotte
11.00am St Felix	Holy Communion	Rev. Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 13th November

10.45am St Gregs	Service of Remembrance	Rev. Mandy Reynolds
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Parish Council

The Parish Council meeting on 12th September started with a minute's silence, led by the chairman, as a tribute to the late Queen, Elizabeth the Second.

Most meetings due to be held in the period of mourning had to be postponed, but any meeting properly advertised, and the councillors summoned, was advised to continue as planned: there is no mechanism for postponement.

Councillors, including our District and County Councillors, admired the improvements made so far in the hall, which is now plastered and painted, with ceiling and wall lights in place.

With the stage now completely gone, the space looks very large indeed!

Matters were discussed ranging from finding a contractor to cut the grass on the rec, and a groundwork company to deal with straightening and re concreting the height barrier, to the continuing problems of traffic in the Street,

Our County Councillor had arranged a site visit with the Highways Liaison Officer, at SCC, but unfortunately the pavements, although in poor repair, do not meet the criteria for intervention. However, they are regularly inspected, and any further deterioration will be noted. Please remember to use the reporting tool on the SCC website to report problems, and keep us on their radar!

You can go to the parish website www.eyke.onesuffolk.net to find reports from both our county and district councillors. With the cost of living crisis in mind, and colder weather looming, both have information and links to websites offering help.

Finally, on a cheerful note, Cllr. Thomas said that plans are already in hand for a New Year's Eve party in the village hall, and Cllr Abu-Hejleh is making plans for another dog show next summer, following the success of the last one.

Village Hall update September 2022

Hello to everyone from the Village Hall Committee. We didn't put out an update for a while as people were so busy over the summer, but if you were passing the hall regularly over those summer months you'll have noticed that the work never stopped! The hall has been transformed inside and out, and the project is now approaching fruition.

WHERE WE ARE NOW Plasterers are still hard at work, but most of the plastering and decorating is in fact now finished, along with most of the heating, lighting and electricals. The new porch is also close to completion, and the joists are up in the toilet area. As soon as the plasterers have done their stuff, the connections can go in ready for the new ladies', gents' and disabled toilets. Lee and Neil are now turning their attention to the former stage area and the back wall, where a bifold door is to be installed, leading to a landscaped area out at the back.

FOR THE DIARY We are delighted to say that the hall will be ready to host a New Year's Eve party. Please save the date! Details will go up on the website soon.

FUNDRAISING AND FINANCE The village fete in July raised a welcome £1167 for the hall. Huge thanks to the anonymous donor who has pledged a substantial sum over several years to help with the hall's ongoing costs. This donation is dependent on our obtaining Gift Aid status, which we have applied for and which should come through very soon. Once we get this status, of course, all donations will be worth 25% more – so do please keep them coming! We do still have some money in the bank, but there are some major expenses coming up, too.

JOB OPPORTUNITY Once the village hall reopens, a Hall Manager will be needed to take responsibility for running it. This would be a paid position, which might suit a recently retired person or someone who happens to have a few hours spare every day. The precise details are open for negotiation, but we would envisage the Hall Manager being responsible for things like taking bookings and ensuring events run smoothly, monitoring security on and around the premises, keeping financial and other records, doing some light cleaning and basic maintenance, and being the village's main point of contact for information about the hall. If you think this might suit you or someone you know, please contact Sue Clark on sue.clark@leemarsk.com for an initial discussion.