



# Worlington Pump

## April May 2020



### Worlington Community Phone Tree

Dear neighbours, I want to let you know about a scheme being set up in our village to keep us in touch with each other during this period of isolation. The scheme is called a Phone Tree and it works like this:

I will act as the co-ordinator: anyone who would like to receive a regular phone call over the next few weeks and months either phone me on 720770 or email me on [revsandiebarton@gmail.com](mailto:revsandiebarton@gmail.com). I will match you up with two 'phone buddies'. The idea is you can just have a natter, or simply let each other know you are ok. You can decide between yourselves when to call and how often etc. If you have a special friend you would like to be linked with, that's fine, just let me know.

If anyone is in need of help there are volunteers in the village willing to run errands or offer practical help, so don't suffer in silence - you or your buddy can contact me and I'll put you in touch with someone who can help.

The more people who join in with the phone tree the better it will work so do give me a call!

**Revd Canon Sandie Barton - Parish Priest of Worlington**

## Bird Talk

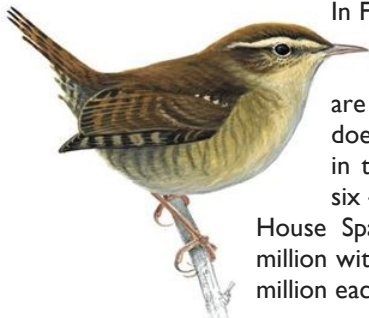
I liked Rev Gordon Anderson's piece on the possible origins of St Valentine's day in the February edition of *The Pump*. Despite it not being the most likely origin I will go for the Medieval belief that by 14th February most birds have found partners for the breeding season.

My own unscientific observations of our garden birds supports this view. There are too many tits and finches buzzing around all the time to tell whether they are in pairs or not but the dunnocks are a different matter. Until January I only ever saw one dunnock but in mid February suddenly there were two.

They are easy to watch because they spend most of their time under one of the feeders scuttling in and out of the shrubbery. They make occasional forays to other parts of the garden but seem to be joined by an invisible thread that is no more than a meter long – they are certainly “an item.” However, I have mentioned before that the dunnock's marital arrangements can be complicated so I must look out for an interloper.

I am not sure whether the blackbirds had paired up by St Valentine's day but they have been fun to watch. There are at least two males in the garden and I have seen three females at the same time. Until well past the middle of February the males were having acrobatic in-flight squabbles which appeared at first glance to be ferocious but in fact were more huff and puff than contact combat.

Last year a pair nested in the ivy on the fence and I hope this will happen again so that we can watch their comings and goings. The cars are parked beside the fence so there is much mechanical and human comings and goings close to the nest but this didn't seem to bother them. I like to think that this is because they know that we wish them no harm, but who knows? Because much of the male show fighting took place on the drive and the air space above it, it may be that it was a nest site rather than a female that was the prize at stake.



In February the BTO (British Trust For Ornithology) published its latest assessment of the size of bird populations in the UK. I know what the results are likely to be but it always surprises me because it does not accord with what I observe in our garden, in the village or the countryside. Here are the top six – Wren 11 million pairs, Robin 7.35 million pairs, House Sparrow 5.3 million pairs and Woodpigeon 5.15 million with Chaffinch and Blackbird as joint sixth with 5.05 million each.

*continued on page 4*

## All Saints Church Services

There will be no public worship at All Saints until further notice. However you can still join in remotely with worship with us at 11am every Sunday in any one of the following ways:

1. On your PC or laptop – we will send you a link to a Zoom meeting. Simply click on the link and you will be able to chat to other worshippers and join in with hymns and prayers.
2. If you have a smart phone or tablet, you can download an app called Zoom Cloud Meetings. You will then be able to join the meeting using a number we will give you.
3. You can dial into the meeting using your normal phone. You won't be able to see what is happening, but you will still be able to hear and we will be able to hear you. We will give you the number to ring beforehand.

If you would like to know more about any of these methods, just let me know on [revsandiebarton@gmail.com](mailto:revsandiebarton@gmail.com) or 01638 720770 and I will give you all the details you need. Pictures from Mothering Sunday on page 6.

Parish Priest	Canon Sandie Barton	01638 720770
Elder	Heath Rosselli	01638 717337
Churchwarden	Mrs Shirley Reeder	01638 716096
Treasurer	Elizabeth Klingaman	01638 711642

## A prayer you may like to use at home



Keep us good Lord,  
Under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
lift up all who are brought low,  
and protect those who risk their own health  
to care for others;  
that we all may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love  
Amen

continued from page 2



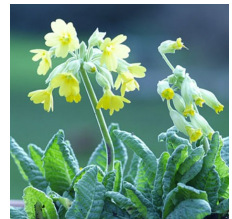
I hardly ever see a wren and I never hear one because of poor hearing although other people hear them frequently; but I still find it surprising that they are the most populous bird by a long way. I also have a problem with the robin because I only ever see two in our garden and this year there is still only one. I guess the reason is that they are very territorial so keep intruders out. I am comfortable with the house sparrow because they are the most populous bird in our garden and we love having them around constantly. But they are on the Red List of birds at serious risk because of the rate of decline which is 70% between 1977 and 2016 which I find really distressing.

The pigeon does not surprise me because they are ever present in the garden and the local area; I wish they weren't but I suppose they are one of God's creatures as well. Blackbirds and chaffinches are almost ever present and very welcome they are. As mentioned I see a wren only occasionally and then only in glimpses so I think of it as an SBB (Small Brown Bird) with a cocky tail. But for about two weeks in early February I was treated to prolonged close quarter views of the elusive bird. At the bottom of the large elm tree outside our kitchen window is an untidy pile of twigs and leaves which attracted the attention of a wren which flitted about engagingly pecking at insects in the pile, on the wall and on the bark of the tree; at times it reminded me of a tree creeper.

I now realise that to think of it as a SBB is a massive aesthetic insult - they are gorgeous! The eyes are jet black, the bill (is it the most pointed of all birds?) is black/brown but bright yellow when open, which it often is as it sings a lot; the main body is subtle shades of brown and near white while on the upper parts of the wing is a delicate zig zag of dark and light brown; the lower wing has four or five rows of a pronounced brown and white brick wall pattern. The distinct cocked tail adds a unique dimension to this charming little bird. *Don MacBean*

## Churchyard Wild Flowers - Update

On March 7<sup>th</sup> the weather finally allowed us to prepare a decent sized patch for sowing. My neighbour Lewis Harvey and his father, John, did the rotovating while Steve Foster and Lewis' ten year old son, Oliver, did the raking with Joan Mortlock observing and advising. We are grateful to all for their work but particularly to John whose rotovator we used.



We invite anyone (no gardening skill or knowledge needed) to grow some plug plants to go into the patch. Please phone Joan on 01638 713751 to get seeds, compost and plug trays [*ed—subject to appropriate social distancing*] *Don MacBean*

# Worlington Parish Council

## Members of the Parish Council 2020-21

Cllr. Nick Foster (Chair)	<a href="mailto:el_fozzo69@hotmail.com">el_fozzo69@hotmail.com</a>
Cllr. Ken Lucas (Vice-chair)	<a href="mailto:ken14lucas@gmail.com">ken14lucas@gmail.com</a>
Cllr. Steve Foster	<a href="mailto:fozbuck51@hotmail.com">fozbuck51@hotmail.com</a>
Cllr. Peter Merrick	<a href="mailto:peter.merrick123@btinternet.com">peter.merrick123@btinternet.com</a>
Cllr. Alan Marshall	<a href="mailto:alanwmarshall@googlemail.com">alanwmarshall@googlemail.com</a>
Cllr. Lesley Osborne	<a href="mailto:lesleyosborne37@gmail.com">lesleyosborne37@gmail.com</a>

## Parish Clerk

Mrs Vicky Bright Tel: 07712 232920

3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 7LT

**Email:** [worlingtonparishcouncil@live.com](mailto:worlingtonparishcouncil@live.com)

**Parish Council Website:** [www.worlington.onesuffolk.net](http://www.worlington.onesuffolk.net)

## Parish Council Meeting Dates

Following on from the Government's announcement on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, together with the guidance from Public Health England and West Suffolk Council & SALC, in relation to COVID-19, the Council has made the decision to postpone all meetings until further notice.

Once further guidance is received from Central Government & NALC we will be in a better position to advise how the Parish Council will hold meetings and carry out its statutory duties. Details will follow regarding the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council meeting in May.

Apologies for any inconvenience.

Date for copy for the next edition by: **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**. Please send articles to [pump@worlington.org.uk](mailto:pump@worlington.org.uk) or [ellen.clowes@btinternet.com](mailto:ellen.clowes@btinternet.com). Thanks.

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### Contacts for the Pump

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## Hi-Tech Mothering Sunday Service March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Thanks to the ingenuity of Worlington resident Julian Campbell, members of at least 10 local villages gathered for video-conference worship led by Canon Sandie Barton and beamed from All Saints on Mothering Sunday. See page 3 for information on how to join in on future Sundays.

## Churchyard - Metal Detecting

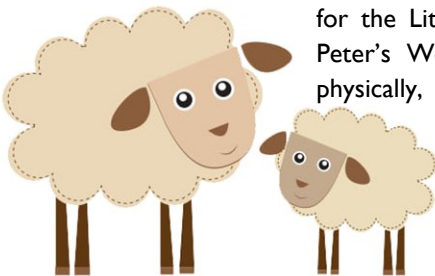
Some of you will know that many years ago the church yard was the site for the village market and such places can be good for finding old metal objects. The base of the old market cross can still be seen beside the path to the east of the church.

Prior to the rotovating Steve and Nick Foster ran their metal detector over the area and found some old bits of metal plus some trinkets of probably Victorian origin, they will be on display in the church when it eventually reopens. Steve and Nick have kindly offered to go over the whole church yard and we will display any other items of interest. If we could turn up another Mildenhall Treasure our financial future would be secured!

*Don MacBean*

## Little Lambs Online

If you have little ones at home you may like to know that I will be singing nursery rhymes and telling a story live via Facebook every Friday at 11am. This was initially for the Little Lambs Baby and Toddler Group at St Peter's West Row while they are unable to meet physically, but all are welcome and it also remains available as a short video. I don't claim great expertise and I won't be giving up my day job, but it is a bit of fun! You can find the live stream in the Little Lambs Baby and Toddler group and the video version on the Lark and Lee Parishes group. *Sandie.*



Little Lambs

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