

Church & Village News

Baconsthorpe • Barningham Winter • Edgefield • Hempstead
Matlaske • Plumstead • Saxthorpe with Corpusty

July 2021



Flax Field – Baconsthorpe
Photograph by Isabel Christophers

Black Shuck

Recollections by Arthur Pentney

Talk of a spectral hound haunting the marshes of Norfolk and Suffolk goes back hundreds of years. When seen, this dog is as big as a calf, has glowing eyes and the ability to go straight through walls, gates and other obstacles. Most researchers are convinced that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle based his *Hound of the Baskervilles* on stories of Black Shuck that he heard while staying at Cromer Hall.



The hound's worst visitation was well documented, when in 1577 at Blythburgh it was clearly seen as it tore through the church in a frenzy of fire, leaving scorch marks on the door as it left. Worse was to come when it sped across the marshes to Bungay, entered the church there, killed two worshippers as they knelt in prayer, and scorched another in a grip so intense that the victim curled up like a piece of burnt leather. Again, when leaving, scratch marks attributed to the hound were left on the door, still to be seen this day.

Nearer home, sightings have been recorded between Salthouse and Kelling and along the coastal path from Beeston Regis to Overstrand. Hundreds of such sightings are known, some from eminent persons such as Lady Walsingham and Lady Rendlesham, the former "a level-headed woman not given to exaggeration or idle fancies".

As recently as 1960 a notice was displayed in a church porch saying that due to unfortunate occurrences on no account were dogs allowed into the church. A local was incensed by this, maintaining that the village dogs never soil the church. He said to a visitor, "No, it was Black Shuck that old hell hound what did it."

During a camping trip to Warham in 1956, a group of us schoolboys were fascinated by all these stories about the phantom hound and were determined to investigate by visiting Warham marshes late at night to see if Black Shuck manifested himself. It's one thing to plan such a trip during the day, but quite another to actually carry it out in the dead of night. (Try going down to Baconsthorpe Castle on your own in the dead of night and you will see what I mean.) Primeval fear must have set in, as some lads decided there was a film on in Wells that they didn't want to miss. Others suddenly remembered non-existing dates with non-existing girlfriends, made their excuses and left. That left just myself and "Skylon" Y. We two decided that perhaps discretion was the better part of valour, and stayed close by the camp fire roasting jacket potatoes – just as well, really!

Black Shuck remains, though: he can be seen on the shirts of the Bungay football team, on a weather vane in the town and literature about him can be obtained from the very church he visited all those years ago.

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Hempstead	Paul Sanders	713217
Matlaske & Barningham	Sara Buxton	577207
Plumstead	Nick Fulford	577433
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	Imogen Waterson	587610

Parish Council Websites

Baconsthorpe	http://baconsthorpepc.wixsite.com/baconsthorpepc
Edgefield	https://edgefieldparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
Hempstead	https://hempsteadpc.wixsite.com/hempsteadpc
Matlaske & Barningham	http://matlaskeparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk
Plumstead	https://plumsteadpc.wixsite.com/plumsteadpc
Saxthorpe & Corpusty	https://corpustyandsaxthorpeparishcouncil.wordpress.com

Local MP

Duncan Baker MP
Tudor House, Grammar School Lane
North Walsham, NR28 9JH
duncan@duncanbaker.org.uk
<https://www.duncanbaker.org.uk/>
Monday - Friday 9am – 5pm
01692 557140

County Councillor

Steffan Aquarone
steffan.aquarone.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk
01603 327827

* Judy is currently on placement in the Aylsham & District Ministry Team

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Baconsthorpe, Hempstead, Matlaske & Barningham, Plumstead
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Church People

Rector Revd Canon David Longe	577252
Lay Minister Gill Peat	734226
Lay Minister Judy Rosser *	587584
Authorised Worship Assistant Dr Alain Wolf	577292

Church Wardens	
Baconsthorpe	Tessa McCosh 577611 Harry Steel 07711 890360
Barningham Winter	Amelia Courtauld 577250
Edgefield	Emma Cletheroe 587049 Angela Turner 587292
Hempstead	Airlie Inglis (acting) 577440
Matlaske	Thomas Courtauld 577250 Duncan Wood (acting) 570293
Plumstead	Eleanor Faulkner 577868
Saxthorpe with Corpusty	Kevin Beales (acting) 585067 Cathy Stern 587014



Flax Field and Plumstead Church - Photograph by Norman Allen

What's On

JULY

Sat 3	10.00am	Benefice House Contents Sale	Church Farm, Saxthorpe
Sun 4	10.00am	Benefice House Contents Sale	Church Farm, Saxthorpe
Fri 9	10.30am	Hempstead Coffee, Cake & Chat	Ian Summers's House 710702
Mon 19	7.00pm	Baconsthorpe Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Tue 20	5.00pm	Edgefield Churchyard Clean-up	St Peter & St Paul Church
Sat 24	7.00pm	Edgefield Edgefest 5	Village Hall
Fri 30	6.30pm	Baconsthorpe Pop-Up Pub	Village Hall
Sat 31	4.30pm	Matlaske Music & Pizza in the Park	Barningham Hall

Clash Diary 2021

August 1	Hempstead Fête & Dog Show
August 7	Edgefield Photo Exhibition
August 8	Edgefield Photo Exhibition
Sept 6	Plumstead PC
Sept 11	Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride
Dec 6	Plumstead PC

If you are arranging an event please check with Corinne Youngs that there is not already an event being held that day
 577263 / corinne@avyoungs.com

Post Offices

Baconsthorpe Mobile Post Office Van

Wednesdays 10.00am Village Hall

Corpusty Stores 587202

Monday-Saturday 9.00am – 12.00noon

All services including Euros

Itteringham Shop 587325

Monday + Thursday 9.00am-1.00pm

The Church & Village News is grateful for the support of the National Lottery Community Fund



Holt Library

9 Church Street, Holt NR25 6BB 712202
 Mon Wed Sat 9.30am-1.00pm
 Fri 9.30am-6.00pm

Mobile Library Van

8 July / 5 August / 2 September

Matlaske	11.40	NR11 7AQ	Old Post Office
Plumstead	12.25	NR11 7LG	Walnut Farm
Edgefield	1.55	NR24 2AL	The Memorial
	2.15	NR24 2AX	The Street
Corpusty	2.45	NR11 6QP	School
	3.40	NR11 7BU	Great Farm Cott's
Saxthorpe	4.10	NR11 7BL	Old Post Office
Corpusty	4.30	NR11 6QJ	Adams Lane
	4.50	NR11 6QL	16 Council Houses

1 July / 29 July / 26 August / 23 September

Hempstead	3.40	NR25 6TL	Telephone kiosk
Baconsthorpe	4.05	NR25 6LE	Hare & Hounds
	4.20	NR25 6LG	Old Post Office
	4.40	NR25 6LJ	Council Bungalows

You will be required to wear a face covering. One customer (or one household of up to 3 people) at a time. Your contact details will be needed for test and trace. Hand sanitiser will be available and surfaces that are commonly touched will be regularly wiped down. Returned items will be quarantined for up to 72 hours. Times and dates sourced from Norfolk County website: <https://bit.ly/2AJdSGA>

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Church & Village News. Apologies if contributed material is not published due to space constraints. All facts are believed to be correct at the time of going to press.

Letter from the Rector - Reverend Canon David Longe

577252 / 07881 950294 / rector@matlaske.org.uk

Dear All

Last month I suggested exploring what a 'better world' may look like and holding this vision in prayer.

Yet this vision is, I believe, not just an external vision to be worked towards but also internal reality which can be experienced. The Heavenly Kingdom has been considered and experienced for millennia as part of our interior world as much as working for it as part of the exterior world.

Christian mystics, such as Teresa of Avila, Ignatius of Loyola, and George Herbert have found and described that through the discipline and habit of prayer we find that God reveals his kingdom to us.

Sitting, praying, in silence in a world full of televisions, podcasts and addictive buzzing smart phones is not fashionable, but it is without doubt beneficial.

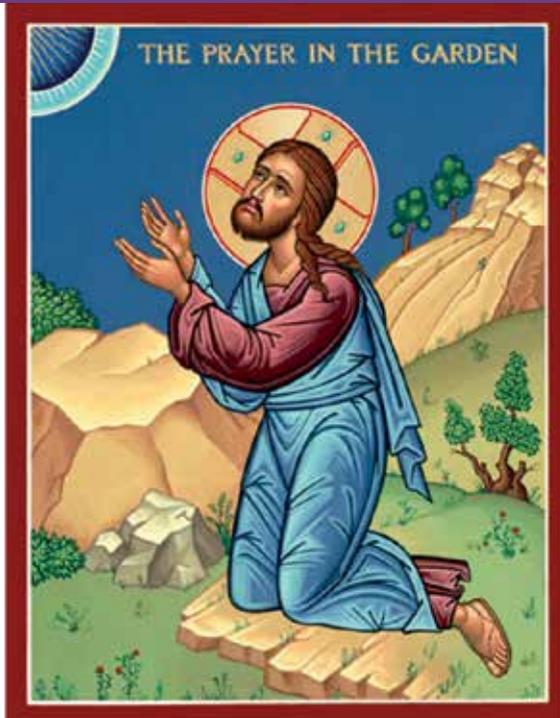
400 years ago, a young noble man was keen to make his mark as a soldier of valour when a cannon ball struck and shattered his leg. Ignatius of Loyola spent the next year lying in bed recovering. With little distraction he read the nearest book, no doubt initially sighing at its contents, which were the lives of the saints. And so began a journey of prayer and habit, which led to the founding of the Jesuit order. One of Ignatius' most famous prayers is known as *The Examen*¹. Its five stages run on the following page.

We already have so many habits – looking at our phones, watching television – some of which are healthy others are not.

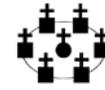
Can you create 5 or 10 minutes, initially, to dwell in the presence of God each day?

Written in prayer for you all,

David



¹ cf Martin, J, *The Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything* (Harper One: 2010) pp 88-97; see too: *St Ignatius Loyola, The Spiritual Exercises*.



The Benefice of Matlaske Church Services for July

4th July	Trinity V	
10.30am	Eucharist	Baconsthorpe
3.00pm	Evening Prayer	North Barningham
11th	Trinity VI	
10.30am	Eucharist	Barningham Winter
5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Hempstead
18th	Trinity VII	
10.30am	Eucharist	Edgefield
5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Matlaske
25th	James the Apostle	
10.30am	Eucharist	Hempstead
5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Saxthorpe with Corpusty
1st August	Trinity IX	
10.30am	Eucharist	Plumstead
Wednesday 7th 10.00am Eucharist Saxthorpe		

THE EXAMEN

Begin reminded that you are in God's presence, and asking for God to help you pray. (As Rabbi Kushner says "we are to be aware of the presence of God around us".)

- Gratitude:** Recall anything from the day for which you are especially grateful, and give thanks.
- Review:** Recall the events of the day, from start to finish, noticing where you felt God's presence, and where you accepted or turned away from any invitation to grow in love.
- Sorry:** Recall any action for which you are sorry, and consider seeking amends where appropriate.
- Forgiveness:** Ask for God's forgiveness. Decide whether you want to reconcile with anyone you have hurt.
- Grace:** Ask God for the grace you need for the next day and an ability to see God's presence more clearly.

Close with the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Baconsthorpe

Parish Council

The Parish Council are holding a Parish Meeting on Monday 19th July in the village hall at 7pm – 7.30pm approx. This was not held as usual in May due to covid restrictions. It is a meeting for the village residents and all are welcome. The Village Hall Committee will be attending as well as the PCC and the Parish Council will also give a report. The residents can raise village matters and there will be an item on the agenda for them to speak if they wish.



Corinne Youngs
577263

Village Hall News

The Village Hall 200 Club has been relaunched and those with existing numbers have received a letter asking them to restart their subscription. Do please follow-up on this so we can ensure you remain in the draw. We also have some spare numbers if anyone would like to participate, it is only £1 a month for one number. Please contact baconsthorpe.villagehall@gmail.com if you would like to take part. Thanks for your support.

The Pop-Up Pub will restart from Friday 30th July, covid rules permitting. We hope to restart the Film Nights, probably in September and hold a Quiz Night, probably in October, again covid rules permitting.

In the meantime, the hall is available for hire for events, please contact Lee Rix on: baconsthorpe.villagehall@gmail.com

Piers Warner

Barningham Winter - no news this month!



Flax Field at Baconsthorpe Castle - Photograph by Norman Allen

Edgefield

Church News

Our Open Gardens will be over when you receive this magazine. At present we are badly needing rain, but praying our weekend isn't spoiled by a deluge. Thank you so much to all the garden owners (who have not had an easy time), all who helped with the refreshments and the raffle, and especially to Alison and Iain Mawson for organising the whole event so smoothly. Your work was much needed and appreciated. Thank you also to all who came and supported us.



Richard Peaver
587486

It's grass-cutting time again! We badly need help in the churchyard, and would love to see you, plus trimmers and rakes, on Tuesday, 20th July, at 5pm. If the weather is useless then, let's try Tuesday 27th. Clearing around the graves and awkward corners makes such a difference. Hope to see you then.

Angela Turner

Village Hall News

Over the weekend of 7th and 8th of August the village hall will be open between 10am and 4pm each day to allow people to view the collection of photos we have of the village and many of its past inhabitants. We hope that those attending will help us to identify subjects in said pictures, so that we can in time produce a collage to display in the hall for future generations to view. Light refreshments will be available.

Just a reminder – Edgefest is completely sold out.

Jim Frost

Hempstead

200 Club

£50 S Thurston, £25 P Tomlinson, £10 M Thody, £5 N Summers, D Sewell and N Tyajbi

Birth Announcement

We are proud to announce that Shelby Anne Sanders was born on 19th May 2021. A beautiful daughter to Daniel and Kayleigh and little sister to Jack. Granddaughter to Joanne and Paul and great grand-daughter to Pam. Congratulations!



Diana Spalton
711117

Some of us may not be aware that David Durst is living at Letheringsett Hall and as far as I am aware is quite well and happy there.

Hempstead Coffee & Gossip

I am uneasy about starting this up again in the village hall just yet. The chance of spreading covid is extremely low and a good number of us will be double-jabbed. However, the covid threat is like no other: any risk that anyone takes is taken for everyone around them and I feel that it is unwise to take even small risks when so much is at stake. Outside is fine. So I propose to invite everyone into my garden next to the village hall on Friday, 9th July between 10.30am and noon. I would be delighted to receive offers of cake and help transferring table and chairs into the shade of my garden.

With the change of person at the helm it might be a good time to change the name. What do you think of 'Stop for Coffee, Cake & Chat'? It doesn't roll off the tongue in the same way but we do

Hempstead Village Fête 2021

A Traditional Village Fête NR25 6AH

Sunday
August
1

Be there!
2-5 pm

Fun Dog Show

* *Plants & Produce*

Bric-a-Brac

* **Tombola**

Side-Shows

Children's Stalls at the Church

* **Teas**

**GRAND
DRAW** *

Books

Cakes *

what it says in the name. I know that some potential participants have been uneasy about the name so, if this releases you from constraint do join us for coffee, cake and chat. It may be rained off – check the forecast on the day and/or ring me on 710702.

Ian Summers

Village Fête & Fun Dog Show Sunday 1st August

Our traditional fête is widely regarded as one of the best and preparations are now underway for all your favourite attractions including the Fun Dog Show. As a small village we are hard-pressed to find enough helpers - please help if you can. Volunteers are needed for setting up on Saturday 31st 10am and to help on the day, including dismantling after the fête. Could you run one of the side-shows or stalls? or make a cake (contact Mo Williams 712947); or donate plants or produce (Jill Roy 715851). Liz Buxton is collecting tombola prizes, and Sharon Hannah (711769) children's tombola prizes. Airlie Inglis (577440) is organising the Grand Draw and would appreciate donations of raffle prizes. The village hall will be open each morning Tuesday to Friday in the week before to receive good quality bric-a-brac and books. We look forward to seeing you on the day. Please contact Yvette Gibson (712460) or Liz Buxton (714082) if you can help in any way.

The Global Alliance for Vaccines & Immunisation Fund Raising

This year's Church charity for Hempstead is Rebecca Roger's (a King's Lynn Vicar) crowd funding page for The Global Alliance for Vaccines & Immunisation (GAVI). This is her story:

I'm sure, like me, you are hugely grateful that your loved ones will be receiving the covid vaccine soon. Some already may have had it. What is sure, is that by the end of the year, everyone in the UK will have been offered this potentially life-saving treatment, so that we can go back to doing the things we love. Tragically, this is not true for millions of people in the world. It is estimated that only 10% of people in low-income countries will receive the vaccine this year. Many will have to wait until 2024. The inequality in our world is desperate, but there are things we can do. The Astra-Zeneca vaccine costs between £5 and £10 for two doses. Would you consider donating this much to enable someone, somewhere else in the world, to have the vaccine? You might like to donate this once your own vaccine letter comes through, or even in the knowledge that you'll be getting it soon. It could also be a gesture of thanks for a loved-one's treatment. GAVI was set up in 2000, for the purpose of vaccinating people in low and middle income countries. In response to the pandemic GAVI is now co-leader of COVAX; a programme specifically created for the development and manufacture of covid vaccines, and to guarantee fair access of these vaccines across the world. Hempstead Church is proud to have donated £500 to this cause, and if you wish to lend your support please go to Rebecca's page - link below. So far nearly £30,000 has been donated.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/donatethecostofyourvaccine>.

Francis Feilden

Matlaske

100 Club

£25 Kelly Baynes, £10 Jenny Rance, £ 5 Mathilda Courtauld



Marion Shepherd
577521

Matlaske Music & Pizza in the Park

Due to the uncertainty around covid restrictions, our annual fête takes on a different theme this year. On the 31st July there will be Music & Pizza in the Park. Holt Ridge Morris Dancers will be making an appearance, there will be freshly baked pizza (please order in advance) a bar, raffle and a tea tent with home-made cakes. Kick off is 4.30pm and finishing at 7.30pm. Please see the poster and Facebook page for details.



Plumstead

Church News

There are no further services in the church until 1st August. A gentle reminder that we would very much appreciate returning the questionnaires canvassing the views of the village regarding the church. They can be returned to Eleanor Faulkner at Oak Tree Cottage or John Lintott at Church Farmhouse.



Mary Lintott
577718

Welcome

To Nicholas and Sarah Coulson who have moved into Acorn Cottage. The current owners, Steve and Carolyn Price, have moved a few yards up the road to Applewood. Doug and Anne Reid, the previous owners, have moved to be near their daughter in Peterborough. We wish everyone well in their new homes and particularly hope that Nicholas and Sarah enjoy their time in Plumstead.

Midsummer Celebration



With the hope of restrictions easing and celebrating Midsummer Plumstead decided to have a Strawberry Tea after Evensong on Sunday 20th June. The day was surly grey but this did not stop us having a lovely gathering in the churchyard with over 40 friends old and new indulging in a scrumptious tea with the bonus of a glass of Pimms. Very many thanks go to Mary and her wonderful team who not only baked for England but beautifully decorated our church. Also to those who donated books and plants to sell. here



being no such thing as a free "tea" many people gave generously buying from our stalls and as a result we raised £200 towards church funds.

John Lintott

Nick Fulford reports that his grandsons Ben and Thomas, did their bit for the Great British Sprint-clean and from the photo seemed to have an enjoyable time! It's wonderful to get young people involved in keeping our villages clean.

Saxthorpe with Corpusty - no news this month!

The Village Gardener

To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow



Finally summer has arrived in all its loveliness! Our swallows have just landed the latest I have ever known them to grace us with their presence and the roses are finally getting into gear. It's been a slow start to summer but some plants appear to have relished it, our aquilegia are the best we've ever known them - perhaps they thrive on a long slow cold start to summer - I know we don't!!!

Plenty to be getting on with in the garden, now that it's not bucketing down every five minutes do keep an eye on your watering – now is not the time to take your eye off the ball. Keep tying in your sweet pea shoots so they use their energy for producing flowers not for clinging onto their supports for dear life. If you are growing dahlias do think about making some support for them, as our weather is somewhat erratic at present its helpful to ensure all eventualities are accounted for and new growth is especially vulnerable, so they need protecting from strong winds and heavy rain. Normally at this time of year I would be encouraging you to dead-head your roses, but as with everything else, the roses have been delayed too, by as much as two weeks or more! Hopefully by the time you get to read this we will be overrun with roses and dead heading like crazy...

As ever there is lots to do in the veg patch, keep going with successional sowing - little and often with lettuce and radishes, etc. Do keep an eye on any outdoor tomato plants, especially for signs of blight (brown patches on leaves). I feel it's always a race to get a successful crop of outdoor tomatoes before we get hit by the almost inevitable blight; it would be nice if the blight was held up too! If you're unfortunate enough to be affected then do remove any affected leaves and either burn the affected leaves or dispose of them well away from your garden, blight is spread by affected spores carried on the wind and other insects and animals. They then get re activated (so to speak) if we have a period of rainy weather as they need moisture to reproduce, which is why it is especially important to watch your tomatoes and potatoes after a period of rain in the summer as that's the perfect breeding ground for blight!

Do make sure you continue to take the time to continue enjoying your garden as much as possible this really is the loveliest time of year!

This month's question comes from Ernest Stone, who asks, "I have a much loved hedge that's sadly looking less than its best, is this the best month to cut it?" Now is not the time to reinvigorate a poorly hedge, wait till winter when the hedge is dormant then trim it hard. This will encourage really vigorous growth in the spring, that should get your well-loved hedge a lift!

Do keep the questions coming in! Email us at redmaple@btinternet.com, as ever the most interesting question will be published next month.

Michelle & Mick McCarter



Saxthorpe Spinney - Photograph by Tony Barnett

SAVE THE DATES FOR A UNIQUE SALE

SATURDAY 3RD + SUNDAY 4TH JULY
10.00AM - 4.00PM
CHURCH FARM, SAXTHORPE

WITH THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF NIVEN & LESLEY LAST

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We are looking for someone who would be interested in taking on the responsibility of distribution of the Village Newsletter. It involves about two hours a month and journey to Aylsham to collect the magazines from Barnwell's. If this is something that you might be interested in or would like more information please contact

Mary Lintott on 577718 or mary.lintott57@btinternet.com

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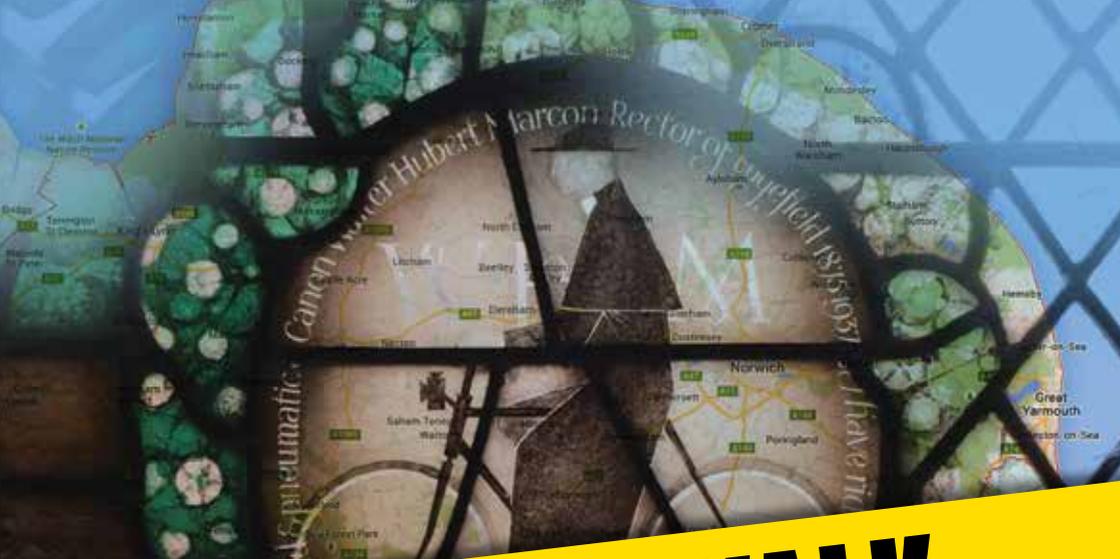
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