

# Claxton Parish Newsletter

## Spring/Summer 2019

### Parish Council

We hope you will all have spotted the **defibrillator** installed at the front of the Village Hall. Thanks to the Pits Trust for their help in funding this.

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 are our **District Elections**. The incumbent **Parish Council** has been re-elected due to an uncontested election, with one exception - Mike Balmer, our former Clerk, is now a Parish Councillor. This is due to Mary Button, a Councillor of 8 years, deciding to step down. Our thanks go to Mary for her service to the Council.

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm at the Village Hall, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

On 11<sup>th</sup> November Claxton took part in a national event to commemorate the ending of WW1, accompanied by the lighting of a bonfire, with the last post and songs from the period around the bonfire, together with a display featuring the local men who lost their lives, along with members of some parishioners' families who took part in the war. This was a very well-attended event and a great success. Many thanks to those involved who made it so.



WW1 Centenary Beacon at the Village Hall

Thanks to our small team of litter pickers, **27lbs of rubbish** was recently removed from the highways and byways of Claxton.

One other very important message on **Dog Fouling**. Thank you to all the vigilant, responsible and concerned villagers for their efforts in keeping all our paths and lanes free from dog fouling. You will have noticed an increase in signs, and hopefully the message has reached the wider community. The issue is of deep concern to both local dog walkers and non-dog walkers alike. Unfortunately there still appears to be a particular issue in Mill Lane down to the river. Whereas the majority of owners clear up after their dogs, there are regular 'deposits' left along the lane. This is unacceptable behaviour in any part of our Village. A dog waste bin is situated at the Village Hall. Or just take it home. Please let us make sure our footpaths can be enjoyed by all. These are contact numbers for our footpath wardens - Helen Balmer 01508 484162 and Julia Kaye 01508 480527.

### Village Hall

The Village Hall continues to offer a variety of events. Apart from the weekly Art Group and Yoga class there will be a first **Pamper Night** on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May starting at 7.00pm. Full details are on the website and tickets will also be on sale at the Community Cafés on 9<sup>th</sup> April and 14<sup>th</sup> May.

The Summer Village Quiz is on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm. The 50/50 Auction will return on 15<sup>th</sup> September and the annual Photography Competition providing photos for our 2020 calendar will take place around the same time, so don't forget to keep snapping away when travelling around Claxton or Carleton St Peter. The Hall's **AGM** will take place sometime in July. Check out the website (details below) for all events, with details of later ones following nearer the time. Lastly, tickets for the **200 Club Lottery** starting in April are now on sale from Mike Balmer (details below) who can explain how you can enter our monthly draw which last year had an average prize of £30. The odds are excellent.

Village website: [claxtonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](http://claxtonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk)

**Parish Council:** Chair: Pat Clare 01508-480317 [clarepv@gmail.com](mailto:clarepv@gmail.com), Vice-Chair: David Hamblin 01508-480422 [djlrha@gmail.com](mailto:djlrha@gmail.com),  
Jason Cantrill 01508-480879 [jason.cantrill@struttandparker.com](mailto:jason.cantrill@struttandparker.com), Sarah Kennedy 01508-480560 [enquiries@marshpig.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@marshpig.co.uk),  
Mike Balmer 01508-484162 [mbalmer@btinternet.com](mailto:mbalmer@btinternet.com). **Parish Clerk:** Carla Petersen 01502-730166 [claxtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:claxtonpc@gmail.com)

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### Fair on the Yare

There will be no Fair this year. Carolyn Moar, who steered the galleon that was the Fair, stepped down last year and as no-one came forward to take on the task, it was decided to take a break.

### Claxton Parish Pit Charity (the Pits Trust)

The Trust can support residents who need to be able to summon help in the case of an emergency. This can be done through Contact Care, who provide a call system through providing either a pendant or wrist button to press. The Trust will pay the installation costs and the monthly fee. If you or someone you know could benefit from this service, please contact the Chair, David Bissonnet (01508 484081) or another Trustee. This service is confidential and free to all Claxton residents.

The **allotments**, having been extensively advertised, have had no-one come forward. With this in mind it was decided to turn the area into a Community Orchard, with the backing of Claxton Estate. This will be done in stages and the fruiting trees will be local varieties. As this develops we will keep you informed. The orchard is being dedicated to the centenary of the ending of WW1.

The Trust also manages **Ducan's Marsh**, an SSSI and a rare survival of a grazing meadow that has never been fertilised and holds many rare plants. The Trust is currently installing more bird boxes that will encourage a wide range of birds to this valuable site, which will add to the boxes for birds and bats already on site.

### St Andrew's Church

On 11<sup>th</sup> November, St Andrew's church commemorated the centenary of 'The Great War' with a Remembrance Day service. The church and its war memorial were decorated with flowers, including hand crafted symbolic red poppies. Red Sentinel crab apple trees

have been planted in the churchyard in memory of the three soldiers who were lost.

Janice Dix has researched these men and their links to Claxton. Their stories were shared with the congregation during the service which was framed by emotive songs and the music of WW1. The service was very well attended and provided the opportunity for all to remember this period and their relatives who served and fought in the fields of Flanders, the Somme and throughout the areas of conflict.



Part of the beautiful floral display on Remembrance Sunday at the Church

The well-attended Wassail included local musicians leading the carols. The PCC are in the process of addressing the problem of deterioration of the church tower and hope to complete a programme of repair before the end of the year. They are also planning another musical event, hopefully featuring "Reed All About It" and a local choir, in the Autumn. Dates and details to be confirmed nearer the time.

### Community Café

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10am-12noon at the Village Hall. Come and enjoy cake or maybe a bacon bap, along with lots of chat and of course tea or coffee. Café dates going forward will be **April 9<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup>, July 9<sup>th</sup>, August 13<sup>th</sup> and September 10<sup>th</sup>**.

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