

# Bepton Parish Council

## Autumn 2023 Newsletter



### Cocking and Bepton Church Fete

One essential ingredient for a successful Church fete for any parish is a good helping of sunshine. After a few threatening rain clouds appeared mid-morning, the blue sky and sunshine prevailed by the afternoon to help make this a very happy and successful event. While attendance numbers were down a little on 2022 the funds raised were very encouraging. After expenses, £4,800.

Teas, ice creams and cakes provided by the Cocking team were eagerly consumed by the fete goers. The children's play area was very popular in the good weather and provided a happy shady place under the pine trees for watchful parents to congregate while the youngsters played.

At the same time, **the Bepton and Cocking Bake Off** occurred with an extremely high standard in the junior categories posing some difficult decisions for the bake-off judges. Some very talented young bakers had been busy creating wonders for the fete competition. In the 7 – 11 year old category, Eddy came in a close second with his 'apple, lemon and blackberry muffins garnished with oregano' to Maeve's first prize winning 'mini chocolate cat, cup cakes', each one intricately decorated with little cat faces. The next age group, 12 – 16 year old was even more challenging and special mention must be made to Ivy, who created excellent 'gluten free, strawberry eclairs'. Second prize went to Annie for her 'Pistachio macaroons'. Both young ladies had presented their entries beautifully. However, the winner, with first prize for her creative and delicious 'chocolate highland cattle cup cakes' was Hazel who had made very decorative chocolatey 'fur and faces'. Another special mention should go to the wonderful smartie cake entered by Arabelle, Fifi and Aby.

Last but not least, the adult section was won by Tessa with her both delicious and well-presented chocolate sponge cake which was both moist and chocolaty.

*A big thank you to all the entries as we were able to sell your contributions on the very popular cake stall.*

***Please all age groups get practising for next year's bake off!***

### Bepton Parish Council are pleased to welcome New Councillors

**Michael Freeman** has lived in the parish since 1988. His career after reading history at Cambridge University was spent in education, as a teacher, adviser and inspector.

**Ben Tyrrell-Evans** moved into the southern end of Bepton in 2017 along with his wife Caroline and three children. Ben has worked in the city broking for 18 years and loves his escape to rural Bepton at the end of each day.

**Sarah Port**, after having grown up in West Lavington and attending schools in Midhurst in the 1960's and 1970's, moved to Owl's End in Pitsham Lane in 2022. After a career in corporate and private hospitality, running her own business in London from 1990-2020, Sarah returns to West Sussex as a practicing Independent Funeral Celebrant, working with bereaved families.

### Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch is an independent crime-fighting charity with over 2.3 million members across England and Wales. In Sussex, there are over 3,300 recognised Neighbourhood Watch schemes covering over 100,000 households helping to provide a voice for residents and a link to the police and other relevant organisations.

Michael Freeman has agreed to become the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Bepton parish. Contact him at [michaelbeptonpc@gmail.com](mailto:michaelbeptonpc@gmail.com) or on 07517 662870. The contacts for the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) are Nathan Ford at [nathan.ford@sussex.police.uk](mailto:nathan.ford@sussex.police.uk) and Matthew Iles at [matthew.iles@sussex.police.uk](mailto:matthew.iles@sussex.police.uk) or telephone 101.

Neighbourhood Watch monthly newsletters and relevant weekly bulletins are on the parish website [www.bepton.org](http://www.bepton.org). (Go to the website [bepton.org](http://bepton.org) and click on the 'Follow' button that will appear in the bottom right-hand corner of your screen. You will find a wealth of useful information on the website, such as how to report pot holes or fly tipping (under the Do You Know How To? tab), planning matters (Bepton Parish Council tab), Neighbourhood Watch and Sussex Police matters, St Mary's Church calendar, and so on.)

For visible deterrence, Neighbourhood Watch window stickers are available from Michael Freeman. Large stickers for CDC rubbish bins can be bought for £3.00 each from [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) or contact Michael Freeman if you do not use the internet."

## News from St Mary's Church

### Looking back

#### St Mary's Church, Bepton. Gift Day on Wednesday 9th July.



The bunting went up a few days before the event along with signs for the gift day. Early on Wednesday morning gazebos and tables were set up to accommodate the plentiful fresh produce, cakes, preserves and other delicacies on offer. Sheila Ryan had, as always, done a wonderful job of co-ordinating the event.

The PCC has just been informed that the cost of the necessary, essential, repairs to the bell tower will be £150,000.

If you would like to make a donation, please do so direct to St Mary's or send a cheque payable to 'Bepton St Mary's PCC', to the Treasurer, Alan Sadler, Stickledown, Severals Road, Bepton. Bank details are Bepton St Mary' PCC Sort 30-96-61 A/C 00913810

### Looking forward

#### Harvest Festival at St Mary's on Sunday 8th October

All donations can be delivered to St Mary's on Saturday 7th or preferably on Sunday 8th in the morning. Donations of tinned and packaged foods as well as fresh produce will be passed on to The Rother Valley Together group at the Grange in Midhurst. Also known as RVT, it is an activity and lunch club offering fun, friendship and support to those who have difficulty in getting out and about independently.

#### Remembrance Sunday Service

This year the service will be held at St Mary's, Bepton on Sunday 12th November at 10.45am. All are welcome there.

#### Christmas Carol Concert

The tentative date and time for this popular parish event is 3th December at 3pm. Please make a note in your diary! Come along to St Mary's to sing traditional carols and then enjoy a glass of mulled wine or a cup of tea and some delicious sweetmeats.

For details of regular services as well as any updates of events at St Mary's Church, please visit the website [www.bepton.org](http://www.bepton.org)

#### Bepton Parish Councillors:

Chairman: Rosalind Hart 01730 815473  
Clerk: Lorraine Grocott 01428 741393  
Vice-Chairman: John Becket (Planning)  
James Beaumont (Website)

Mike Freeman (Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator)  
Paul McCulloch (Winter Resilience Plan)  
Sarah Port (Footpaths & Byways & Newsletter)  
[sarahportbeptonpc@gmail.com](mailto:sarahportbeptonpc@gmail.com)  
Ben Tyrell-Evans