

# REEPHAM TOWN NEWS



News and information for Reepham and surrounding villages

Issue 5



## Coronation Celebrations

**Reepham Town Council, supported by local voluntary groups and organisations, are planning a family event, for all generations, to celebrate the coronation.**

This will take the form of a village fayre at Stimpson's Piece on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May from 2.30 to 5.00 pm.

The event is free, and no tickets are required, so just come along, and celebrate with the local community.

Bring a picnic or purchase refreshments from the available outlets. Bring your own blanket or chairs.

There will be music, games, entertainment and many more things to join in with. More details will be announced soon, but spread the word and come along with family, friends, and neighbours.

This will be an ideal opportunity for everyone to get together whatever your age and meet up with people you may see on a regular basis but have never spoken to, an opportunity to talk to some of the groups in our community and find out what makes them buzz, and what they do.

If you are a local organisation we need your support and involvement to make

this event a success so, if you have not already done so, please get in touch with the Town Clerk. We are also keen to hear of any caterers, musicians etc. who would like to be involved with the afternoon's activities.

Loneliness is something that can affect any of us, but particularly the elderly who often live on their own and since we started publishing Reepham Town News we have tried to focus on some of the less known groups that exist in the town: Reepham Rover, Wednesday Lunch Club, Knit 'n Natter...

We also have the Scouts, Rotary Club, The Lions, Reepham WI, ... but do you know anything about them, the members and their aspirations? Have you ever thought you might like to learn more, or possibly join them?

Volunteering is a great way to make friends, but it is difficult to choose how to volunteer and this can lead to a real fear of over committing yourself. Talk to the volunteers for advice as they may have had the same experiences.

There is one thing in common to each of these groups: they are all keen to meet you and share their interests and ambitions with you.

**Please make the effort to come along on the 7<sup>th</sup> May, join us for an informal afternoon and ENJOY!!**

**Reepham Town News** is published by Reepham Town Council with the welcome support of Reepham and District Rotary Club. We hope to be able to address the cost issues by keeping print runs to a minimum, making copies available for collection in local shops/venues, and encouraging readers to go on line wherever possible.

To achieve our aims we ask for your help, only taking printed copies as necessary so that those of us that are less IT familiar can access the news.

There will always be an up to date online copy available at <https://adobe.ly/3LxGzuT> or by scanning this QR code with a smartphone.



**Do you need a copy of Reepham Town News delivered to your door?**

If so please ring 01603 879269 to give your name and address (or leave a message).

**COPY DEADLINE**

for the May 2023 issue is 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Please send all copy to

[reephamnews@gmail.com](mailto:reephamnews@gmail.com)

Reepham and District  
**Rotary**  
supporting  
our community





# CHURCH & CHAPEL SERVICES, HELEN'S THOUGHTS

Morning Prayer - Monday to Thursday at 8.00 a.m.

Evening Prayer - Tuesday and Wednesday at 6.00 p.m.  
and and Zoom on Thursday 6pm.

These services are held in Reepham in addition to the services stated below.

All Reepham services are in St Michael's Church unless otherwise stated.

Further details about [events in local churches](#) can be found on line.

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

9.0 am Salle Holy Communion

10.30am Reepham Morning Worship

## Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

8 pm Reepham Compline

## Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April

8 pm Reepham Compline

## Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

8 pm Reepham Compline

## Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April Maundy Thursday

7 pm Reepham Maundy Thursday

## Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April Good Friday

10 am Methodist Church Walk of Witness

2pm Reepham Hour at the Cross

## Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April Easter Sunday

6 am Reepham Easter Sunrise Service  
(with breakfast in St Michael's)

10.30am Reepham Holy Communion

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April

9 am Wood Dalling Holy Communion

10.00am Reepham Café Church

(Service starts at 10.30am)

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

10.30am Reepham Holy Communion

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April

10.30am Lyng Whole benefice service

bereavement issues, trauma issues (situations at home and in the wider family), some confidence needs and classroom concentration needs are linked to past trauma situations.

The thing I have noticed is that teachers and support staff now have to be social workers. Social services can only deal with high acute and chronic family situations leaving schools and other community groups to support our children, young people and families.

There are many families working well enough yet there are some on the brink and accessing mental health and social care is so difficult.

As a community, we need to be aware of those who need support mechanisms around them without undermining their autonomy. Jesus said 'come to me all who are weak and heavy laden and I will give you rest'. The church community is here for you, so don't struggle on your own, if this is ringing bells for you. We are here to help signpost you to good helpful resources and give you a sense of rest and support.

May Easter be for you an opportunity to see the miracle of new life when darkness is lit up with goodness and love. This is the resurrection power of God's love in and through Jesus.

God bless and keep well and safe.

Revd Helen

## Reepham Methodist Chapel

### SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

**Minister;** Revd Sharon Thraves. 01263 478283

**Every Sunday** 10.30am Worship Service

11.30am. Coffee morning

**All Age Worship;** first Sunday of the month

**TOTS SPOT/WARM SPACE** Every Wednesday 9 - 11.0am (term time) see facebook page or just drop in. No charge. Contact Candy Rogers for details 01603 872466

**WARM SPACE** Every Thursday 10 - 12

**Bible study** house group run in the style of a book club. Fortnightly in term time.

Contact Michael Price for details 01603 871831

Church Steward Frances Price 01603 871831

**For Hire** of the church premises contact Candy Rogers 01603 872466

More information on the Circuit Website

[www.northnorfolkmethodist.org.uk](http://www.northnorfolkmethodist.org.uk)

## Helen's thoughts

*from Revd Helen Rengert MA, Team Rector  
Reepham and Wensum Valley Team Churches*

Revd Keith started his new role as School Chaplain for Synergy multi academy trust in January. He visits four high schools each week and mentors around up to 30 students and supports staff helping with pastoral needs of the young people as well as helping them.

Keith has found that lots of people need support with

# BIRCHAM CENTRE, ROVER TRIPS, LUNCH CLUB

## Bircham Centre



### Raise the Roof for the Bircham Centre!

The Bircham Centre in Reepham Market Place is asking residents and businesses to help them "Raise the Roof" in 2023. The community building is in dire need of repairs to the roof and attics and is hoping that their new fundraising campaign will help to fund the work needed.



To support the campaign, the Bircham Centre is asking for people to sponsor one or more tiles on the roof at a minimum donation of £5 per tile.

Chair of the Bircham Centre Trustees, Les West, is hopeful that they will meet the target of raising £10,000 through the Raise the Roof campaign. "Reepham people are always hugely supportive of the Bircham Centre and recognise the important role it plays in the community. We are so grateful for their generosity: we can't survive without it."

The money raised may also be used as match funding to help gain grants for the roof and attic repairs, which would allow more critical work to be done.

The Bircham Centre was given to Reepham for use by the community in 1919 and relies on donations, fundraising and the occasional grant to meet the cost of its maintenance. The Centre houses not only the town's only Charity Shop and Book Room, but also hosts the Library, the Reepham Archive and the weekly Country Market. In addition, the Centre provides meeting/consulting rooms for therapists, groups and individuals.

To sponsor tiles, supporters are invited to visit the Bircham Centre's JustGiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/raisethebirchamcentreroof>, or to complete a paper form and drop it, with a cheque or cash, into the Raise the Roof box in the Charity Shop when that is open, or into the secure postbox in the front door.

Further details of the Raise the Roof campaign can be found on the Bircham Centre's new website at <https://www.birchamcentrereepham.org/>

## The Reepham Rovers

We have set out the proposed trips with the Reepham Rovers for April and May.

If you fancy joining them please get in touch on on 07765 321458 or e-mail: [reephamrover@whitwellhall.org.uk](mailto:reephamrover@whitwellhall.org.uk).



Incorporating Reepham Patient Care Fund

	April	May	Cost exc food
Aylsham Tesco	13 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	£4.00
Sheringham	1 <sup>st</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	£6.50
Wells fish'n chips	18 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	£7.00
Kings Lynn shopping	4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	£7.50
Dereham Tesco	27 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	£4.50
Wroxham shopping	22 <sup>nd</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	£6.50
Wednesday Lunch Club			£2.00
Monthly mystery trip	28 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	£variable

The Reepham Rover offers a door to door service 'to relieve those in need by reason of their youth, age, ill health, disability or financial hardship' by offering these trips.

Passengers will be charged a fare to help cover the vehicle's operating costs.

To book your seat on any of these trips (or for further details) please call Reepham Rover on 07765 321458 or e-mail: [reephamrover@whitwellhall.org.uk](mailto:reephamrover@whitwellhall.org.uk).

## Wednesday Lunch Club

**There are changes afoot for the Lunch Club as it transitions into summertime mode.**

Whitwell Hall will soon be fully occupied with much younger people for their summer activities at the Hall and their extensive grounds - camping and residential groups.

Arrangements have been made for the Club to go to the Kings Arms until the 19<sup>th</sup> July, except for 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April. On the 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a themed lunch - 'Easter bonnets' and on the 19<sup>th</sup> an early 'Coronation' lunch back at Whitwell Hall.

The Kings Arms have kindly agreed to host us during the summer term and Mark and Lynette came and visited the club recently at Whitwell Hall. The costs of the meals remains unchanged and the Rover will still be available for those that use the service

# REGULAR EVENTS

**Adult Exercise Class (over 50's)** in Stimpson's Piece every Wednesday at 10am followed by coffee/tea. All exercises can be done standing or seated. Cost £6/session. For more details contact Sam on 07925 602862

**Baby Play sessions** (suitable from birth to 2 years) Baby play session with the opportunity to meet other parents while your little ones enjoy some sensory play based around development. Tuesdays, 11:45-12:45 at Stimpson's Piece Pavillion. Contact Katie Brown [Squidgeandme@outlook.com](mailto:Squidgeandme@outlook.com)

**Reepham Knit and Natter Group** (one of 130 groups belonging to Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers). We knit for many National and International charities. 2-4 p.m. at the Bircham Centre on the 1st Monday of the month (except Bank Holidays). No joining fee, just £2 each meeting to cover refreshments and a raffle ticket. Contact Gwenda Dove 01603 870598

**Kurling**, Tuesdays 2.00-4.00pm, Town Hall. First session no charge but if you do decide to join us it will only cost £2.00 per session with tea/coffee/biscuits included. Equipment provided. Kurling is easy to learn, non strenuous for all ages and abilities and is adaptable for the disabled. Details- Maria Jones 01603 871751

**Line Dance with the Wednesday Weavers** Town Hall, Wednesday. Beginners 2-3.45pm All ages, easy paced. Mainly country/ rock /50s/60s/golden oldies/pop. Sing along encouraged. £5.00 per session, first taster free. Tel: Sandra 01603 872102 [sandradancer57@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sandradancer57@yahoo.co.uk)

**Reepham and District Gardening Club.** Meetings are held in Reepham Town Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm. New Members and Visitors always welcome.

**Reepham & District Photographic Club** Meets 7.30 pm on the first and third Thursday of each month in the Sidings Marquee, Whitwell Station Contact: Kevin Penney 01603 870850 [www.reephamphotoclub.org.uk](http://www.reephamphotoclub.org.uk)

**Reepham Badminton Club** Meets at Reepham High School Sports Hall every Thursday evening from 8 - 10 pm. Sessions are friendly and informal. Experienced, new players welcome. Please call Diana 01603 873244 or David 01263 584221 for further details.

**Reepham Country Market** every Wednesday 8am-11am, Bircham Centre. Homemade cakes, pies, biscuits, savoury dishes, vegetables, fruit in season, free range eggs, jams, jellies, chutneys etc

**Reepham Golf Society** meets monthly at various courses around Norfolk & Suffolk. New members welcome. For information contact Mark Smith on 07824 849397 or Dean Mears on 07825 299634, daytime 01603 870814

**Reepham Library:** Mon 2-7, Wed 9.30-1 and then 2-5, Friday 10.00- 1 and then 2-5, Saturday 9.30 - 12.30

**Reepham Lions Club** Meets at 7.30 pm on the first Thursday of the month at St Michael's, Reepham. Come along from 7 pm for a cup of tea before the meeting starts. For more information, visit the website [www.reephamlions.co.uk](http://www.reephamlions.co.uk) or email [reephamlions@gmail.com](mailto:reephamlions@gmail.com)

**Reepham WI** – 7.30pm, St Michael's, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month. New members always welcome

**Rotary Club of Reepham & District** 7.00pm for 7.15pm every Monday, in St. Michael's. For information call James Fraser, President on [pres@reephamrotary.org.uk](mailto:pres@reephamrotary.org.uk) or John Tym on 07760 272422 email: [admin@reephamrotary.org.uk](mailto:admin@reephamrotary.org.uk)

**Sunshine Café** in St Michael's on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays each month 10.00 to 12.00. No charge, just turn up. Peter Williams 01362 686860

**Table Tennis** Wednesday afternoons fortnightly at Reepham Methodist Chapel. 2.30 - 4pm. Contact Rob Holman 01603 870740

**Tai Chi class** Mondays 11 am – 12 noon, St Michael's, Reepham. For further information contact: Dr Ian Kenyvn 07769 348231 or [ian.evexia@gmail.com](mailto:ian.evexia@gmail.com)

**The Bircham Centre Charity Shop**, Market Place, Shop opening hours Mon, Wed, Fri and Saturday 9-1pm

**The Reepham Archive**, upstairs in the Bircham Centre, is open on the first Wednesday and Saturday of each month from 10:00 am - 12:00 noon and at other times by arrangement. Contact [reephamarchive@gmail.com](mailto:reephamarchive@gmail.com) or 01603 870334

**Tots Spot at Reepham Methodist Church** 9.00 - 11.30 on Wednesdays for parents and toddlers. Croissants, coffee and singing - all free  
Contact: Candy Rogers (01603 872466)

**Welcome Café:** In St Michael's weekly on Tuesdays from 11.30 -1pm. Contact Revd Helen Rengert for details 01603 879275

**W.I Crafters** at the Bircham every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 2.30-4.30pm

## Reepham Town News

can accept no responsibility for the accuracy of these details. If you organise a regular activity in Reepham please let us know at [reephamnews@gmail.com](mailto:reephamnews@gmail.com).

Please inform us of any changes to any of these activities.

Thank you.

# REEPHAM ROTARY, FESTIVAL, REEPHAM WI

## Reepham Rotary Club



Although winter seems slow to relinquish its hold on us, the days are lengthening and Reepham Rotary are anticipating a range of summery activities.

On 28th May we will be running the **Reepham Food Festival** and anticipate lots of enthusiasm for the event. If anybody would like to offer their help as volunteers they will be very welcome.

Also, we anticipate the return of the wonderful **Tarantara Choir to Salle Church on 8th July**. Ticket news will be available soon and booking for what promises to be a special event is strongly advised.

Our 'Share the Warmth' appeal for the Ukraine was well supported and we sent 8 generators as part of the convoy of 112 units that was led by the North Norfolk MP, Duncan Baker. These generators have now been delivered to schools, orphanages and hospitals in areas close to the front line. We also sent over £5,000 to Starenki, a Ukrainian charity that focuses on supporting the elderly with heating and other essential needs.

No sooner than this task was accomplished, the disastrous earthquake struck Turkey and Northern Syria. The Club scraped together most of its remaining resources and sent £6,300 to Shelterbox, a Rotary sponsored charity that specialises in providing tents and basic survival equipment in disaster struck areas.

With our funds somewhat depleted, it was fortunate that our annual **Quiz Night** was so well supported with a large number of quizzers who bought lots of raffle tickets to see us raise over £1,000 on the night.

We are delighted to have been able to resume our support of the primary school by listening to the children reading, having completed all the necessary procedures with DBS checks. This will continue on a weekly basis going forward.

Although we have been working towards re-establishing the 'Youth Speaks' event during Spring term at the High School this has been moved into the summer term and the final is on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the School. We are proud to promote this competition, normally annually and the standards of presentation have to be heard to be believed.

A new writing competition is also being trialled this year and will be judged by members in June.

Richard Cooke is always on the lookout for interesting speakers to join us for our meetings which are every Monday in St. Michael's. If you would like to know more about Reepham Rotary please contact the President, Jim Fraser at [pres@reephamrotary.org.uk](mailto:pres@reephamrotary.org.uk) or 01603 871850.

## Reepham Festival '23



### King's Arms to Host Festival Sunday

The Reepham Festival team is delighted to announce that the second day of R23 – Sunday 13 August – will take place at the King's Arms in Reepham Market Place.

There will be a programme of music from midday to 5pm, with an eclectic mix of bands and performers. The plan is for the performances to take place in the pub's courtyard, and Reepham Town Council has kindly approved a proposal to fence off part of Reepham Market Place to extend the Festival into our lovely Georgian square.

It is anticipated that the new Sunday venue will hold around 300 people. The King's Arms team will be serving a special Festival menu for attendees.

Landlady Lynette Tilley said "This is a real thrill for us. The King's Arms regularly hosts music events so it seems absolutely right to be a core part of the Festival. We'll be running a fringe event on the evening of Friday 11 August too: we'll be welcoming back the Elton John and Billy Joel tribute act that our customers enjoyed in January this year."

The Festival ticket gives entry to both the Saturday and the Sunday events. There will be an entry charge at the door for those who attend the Sunday only.

Festival tickets can be purchased online at <https://www.reephamfestival.co.uk/buy-tickets/> or, for those local to Reepham, from Very Nice Things & More in Reepham Market Place.

## Reepham WI



### Keen to attract new members

In March Reepham WI held its Annual General Meeting where, as well as re-electing their President and new members of the Committee, ladies were given the opportunity to voice suggestions on how to improve and expand an already vibrant group:

- Attracting younger ladies, who may bring a fresh perspective, is a priority.
- Members are keen to explore the possibility of more outings to exhibitions, theatre, gardens and lunches, whilst continuing with an informative and entertaining speaker programme.
- Further developing interaction with the wider Reepham community is vital. The walking and craft groups, which meet on a regular basis are well attended, as is the lively book club.

# MUSIC FOR QUIET TIMES, REEPHAM LIONS

On a more serious note, it was agreed that this year Reepham WI will support a National WI Resolution to recommend tougher action regarding online gambling.

After coffee and cake the Committee gifted those ladies present with pretty pots of Tête-à-tête supplied by Flower Folk - Spring is on its way!



Do come along and see what we have to offer - there really is something for everyone!

For more information contact: Christine Smith on [williamsmith110@btinternet.com](mailto:williamsmith110@btinternet.com) or 01603 870486



## Reepham Lions

### Volunteering in Reepham

The Big Help Out is a volunteering day set for Monday 8 May as part of the celebrations for the coronation of King Charles III. Are you looking for a chance to do some volunteering?

Reepham Lions is actively looking for new members, so this article is a call for readers to get involved. We're part of a world-wide organisation, but our primary focus is on the needs of those much closer to home.

What this means is that we fundraise locally and spend the funds we raise on local causes. We plan to hold our annual raffle again this year, between July and November, and you'll find us fundraising at events like the Reepham Food Festival and Reepham Music Festival. Please support us if you can.

We want to help groups that benefit the community if they need something to boost what they do. We occasionally help individuals too. Let us know if you're aware of a cause we could support.

We meet once a month, usually the first Thursday in the month – but our April meeting is to be held on 30 March – at 7.00 for 7.30pm at St Michael's Church Hall and have regular social events too. We believe that we offer fun and friendship as well as making a difference.

## Music for Quiet Times

Reepham Methodist Chapel

Half an hour of  
violin and piano music  
with Judith and friends  
Tuesday 18th April  
at 3.00pm

Come early and enjoy  
Tea and Cakes before the music

SMITH & BARNES  
CHICAGO  
GABINET GRAND

All Welcome



Photo: John Tym

Reepham Lions members help prepare for Reepham's Jubilee Tea Party in 2022

Membership of Reepham Lions, including membership of the national and global Lions organisation, costs £60 per year – so just £5 per month.

If you're interested in joining, contact us either via our website at [www.reephamlions.org.uk](http://www.reephamlions.org.uk) or email us at [reephamlions2@gmail.com](mailto:reephamlions2@gmail.com) – or just pop along to a meeting.

# NURSERY, FOOD FESTIVAL, KNIT 'N NATTER



**Reepham Nursery**  
at  
**Reepham Primary School**

Our experienced Early Years staff offer high-quality Nursery education for our three- and four-year-olds

*For more information*

01603 870321



*Limited spaces available after Easter*




**REEPHAM FOOD FESTIVAL 2023**

**FREE Admission**

- Wine & Dine in Reepham
- Cookery Demonstrations
- Food and Drink Market
- Picnic Area
- Art Trail

**Sunday 28th MAY**  
10am - 4pm



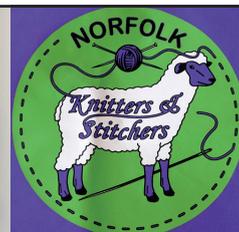
Principal Sponsor **VATTENFALL**



## Knit 'n Natter Group

### Do you like knitting? and a bit of a natter with friends?

Did you know that Reepham has a group of ladies who are members of [Norfolk Knitters and Stitches](http://www.norfolkknitters.org.uk/) and that they meet in the first room on the right as you go into the Bircham Centre each month?



They would welcome any new members to join them and are even prepared to teach any non knitters who would like to give it a try or polish up old knitting skills. It costs nothing to join the group, but a charge of £2 per session is made to cover the cost of the room hire, refreshments and a raffle ticket.



The knitting is done for many national and international charities and Gwenda takes all the completed knitting to the Wool Loft in Norwich for distribution to the charities. Wool, also from the Wool Loft (*cheaper than in the shops*) is available for members when they meet in the Bircham.

Knitted goods include adult and children's hats, scarves, gloves and jumpers of all sizes, 'twiddle muffs and mats' for dementia sufferers, blankets (large and small), baby clothes and more...

If you fancy having a look in and meeting them either go along to the Bircham when they meet on the first Monday afternoon each month from 2 - 4pm, or give Gwenda a call on 01603 870598 to find out more.

For more information about Norfolk Knitters and Stitches go to :  
<https://www.norfolkknitters.org.uk/>



Image: John Tym