

*a free monthly email newsletter for Welbury people, past and present
promoting a vibrant village community*



“Merry Christmas” ... children’s Christmas Party at the Village Hall ... *photo Vicki Henry 03-12-2017*

Joanne Hughes writes: All the children played together nicely at the Christmas party with ages ranging from 3 months to 10 years and were all very well behaved. Rev Jonathan Cooper presented James & William Henry and Daniel and Sophie Green with certificates and prizes for completing the ‘Mouse Makes’ that appear in the Gazette every month. It was a lively afternoon with an hour of games before a sit-down tea and then Santa arrived with a sack full of presents. They all waited patiently for Santa to call their name and have a chat about what they would like for Christmas, if they had their list ready for him, what to leave out for Rudolf etc. Then Santa kindly made time in his busy schedule for the attached group photo before leaving.

Coming up ... *more details in church gazette and separate wel-e-bulletins*

Wed 20 Dec Carol singing, meet at 6.30pm outside the Duke of Wellington
Thu 28 Dec free Christmas Lecture “Fractals in Nature” 4pm Village Hall

wel-e-policy

local and personal news, comment, opinion, pictures wanted – editing with your agreement
terms and conditions apply – see welbury.com news page

www.welbury.com

editor Mike O’Carroll, Garden House

www.northallerton.info

Edwin Nunn ...

Edwin Nunn, formerly of Welbury, died peacefully in hospital on November 23, aged 85. A Service of Thanksgiving for Edwin's Life was held at St. Leonard's Church, Welbury, on Friday, December 8. See

http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/announcements/deaths/deaths/15692877.EDWIN_NUNN/

Edwin was well known, along with his brothers, for breeding and showing those magnificent furry-footed Clydesdale horses which were an iconic feature of Welbury in the paddock opposite the church (now Shire Garth).

Quiz of the month ...

WARDEN? That's the name of the community group seeking to take over the pub as a community asset. How was that word derived?

Answers from last month (as far as we know; tell us if you know better).

Bonfire? *What is the origin of this strange word?* Google finds this: "The word is believed to come from "bone fire". In the time of the Celts, there were midsummer festivals where animal bones were burnt to ward off evil spirits." So it's not from French for good after all! Wikipedia has further interesting detail.

Duke of Wellington ...

The 'WARDEN' group set out its proposals for the Duke of Wellington at an open meeting in the Village Hall on Monday, December 4. The aim is to secure and safeguard the future of the pub as a valued community asset by purchasing the freehold within 5 years, with an initial lease period for development with the option to purchase. The vision is for a community hub, "more than a pub", which is supported by various bodies, some with possible grant support, and has been pioneered elsewhere. Several business units are envisaged: principally the existing pub and restaurant; the existing B&B courtyard rooms; a new café/deli/bakery in the main building; a new Salon in the existing courtyard building; and a new potential unit in the old shed. The scheme would be financed by shares, at a minimum of £200 each, with the intention of paying a small amount of interest and with the protection of forming a company in the form of a Community Benefit Society. Members of the community are invited to subscribe. For details of the presentation please contact Colin at wardencic@outlook.com. James Robson adds: we expect a prospectus to be available early in January which will contain a Pledge Form for people to complete if they are prepared to invest.

Weather from Rod ...

After an unseasonably warm October, November temperatures were closer to the norm. The average monthly temperature of 5.7 °C was 1 degree above last November, but 1 degree below the previous 7-year November average. The warmest day reached a little under 15 °C on the 22nd and the coldest night dropped to -2 °C on the 25th, both typical for November in recent years: temperatures fell below zero on nine nights. It was a fairly dry month with just 65 mm of rain, in fact very dry compared with November 2016 and 2015 when rainfall exceeded 100 mm. The first snow of the year arrived on the 30th: our updated weather station still doesn't record snow-depth, but there was around 10-15 mm in our garden.

Up until 13th December, this month has been very cold with an average temperature of less than 3 °C. There was a maximum of 12 °C on the 7th followed by 5 sub-zero nights. The coldest of these fell to -7.7 °C on the 11th, the lowest temperature since 16th January 2013 (-8.6 °C). Somehow though, we've missed most of the snow with just a sprinkling on the 10th.

W I Report (November)

from Dervor Hanson

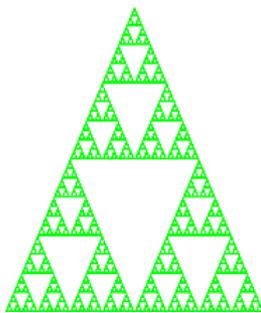
It may have been winter outside the Village Hall but inside we were in the Caribbean with all members wearing brightly coloured shirts or dresses and garlands of flowers, except for a palm tree and a turtle who served pineapple cocktails for everyone to enjoy as we got through the business of our AGM. This was followed by all the fun of a coconut shy and an excellent buffet eaten in most attractively decorated surroundings. *Photos Dervor Hanson 16-11-1017.*



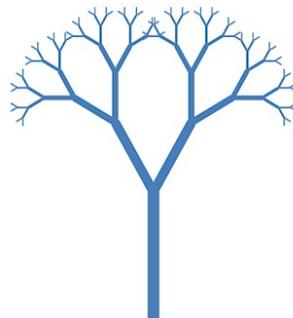
Christmas Lecture ...

The eleventh annual Christmas Lecture will be at 4pm on Thursday December 28 in the village hall by Martin Brown on **Fractals in Nature**.

FRAC TALS



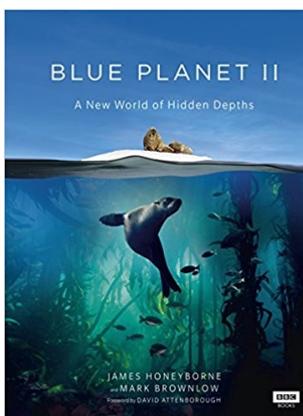
in Nature



Suitable for children of all ages 5 - 95. Free admission as usual.

Book of the month ...

Blue Planet II



by

James Honeyborne and Mark Brownlow

If you are wondering what to delight a nature lover with as a gift this Christmas, you need wonder no more! This book is enthralling from start to finish and accompanies the epic BBC seven-parter narrated by Sir David Attenborough, looking at the rich variety of underwater life across our planet.

It is astounding to learn of the never-before-seen secrets of the ocean – from ambush hunters such as the carnivorous bobbit worm to cuttlefish which mesmerise their prey with a pulsating light display. There are over 200 beautiful photographs and stills from the BBC Natural History Unit's amazing footage and each chapter brings to life a different habitat of the ocean world, making this a great souvenir of the series.

The final chapter explores the science and technology behind the whole enterprise – not only how they were able to capture these incredible stories on film but what the future holds for marine life based on these discoveries. So, take a deep breath and dive into the mysteries of the ocean!

Sarah Hoiles

Party pics! More photos by Vicki Henry from the Children's Christmas Party, 03-12-2017



First fall ... pictures from Rod Bennington of this winter's first snowfall, such as it was, on November 30th.

