

Upper Wansbeck News

*Benefice Newsletter
Of
St. Andrew's, Bolam,
St. Andrew's Hartburn,
St. John's Meldon,
St. Giles's, Netherwitton
St. Mary Magdalene, Whalton*



February/March 2023

Who's Who

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Facebook

Our page can be accessed via
<https://www.facebook.com/upperwansbeck>
You do not have to be a Facebook member to use this link. Service details, events and news can be found here, and reflections are posted daily.

Website

Contains service details news and events
<https://upperwansbeckchurches.weebly.com>
and is administered by Sadie Flanagan

www.bolamchurch.com provides information about the Church and its history

Email wansbeckchurch64@gmail.com

Our Ministry Team

Revd. Elaine Jones



*Mrs Pam Walker -
Associate Minister*



Rachel Coundon - Lay Worship Leader



Editor's Note:



Happy New Year!

I hope everyone has enjoyed a happy healthy festive season and now starting to look forward to the lighter evenings.

As I'm typing this I'm looking out into my garden and thinking how tired it looks and there's not much colour to look at. Hopefully we will have a mild few months and everything will start to recover – I do see snowdrops!

This edition sees the first message from our new Minister Rev.Elaine Jones and you will also notice I am now including services for Mitford and Hebron.

The next edition of the newsletter will be issued at the end of February on 21st as for personal reasons I am not able to produce the March edition.

PS. Without sounding bias, I always like 'The Joke' from the Belsay School contribution – it always makes me smile!

Roisel

January to April 2023 - Mitford, Hebron and Upper Wansbeck Church Services

January 2023

Date	Time	Venue and Service type
22 nd	10:30 am	Bolam – Holy Communion
26 th	2:00 pm	Hebron – Anna Chaplaincy Afternoon Worship and Fellowship
29 th	10:30 am 4:00 pm	Meldon – Holy Communion Hebron - Evensong

February 2023

Date	Time	Venue and Service type
5 th February	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Mitford - Holy Communion Hartburn – Morning Prayer Bolam - Family Service
12 th February	9.30am 10.30am 11.00am	Mitford - Morning Praise and Worship Whalton - Holy Communion Hebron- Morning Worship
19 th February	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Mitford - Morning Praise and Worship Netherwitton - Holy Communion Whalton - Morning Prayer
22 nd February Ash Wednesday	10.00am 6.30pm	Hebron - Holy Communion with Ashing Hartburn - Holy Communion with Ashing
Thursday 23 rd February	2.00pm	Hebron - Anna Chaplaincy Afternoon Worship and Fellowship
26 th February	9.30am 9.30am 10.30	Mitford - Morning Praise and Worship Hebron - Café Church Bolam - Holy Communion

March 2023

Date	Time	Venue and Service type
5 th March	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Mitford - Holy Communion Hartburn - Holy Communion Bolam - Family Service
12 th March	9.30am 10.30am 11.00am	Mitford – Morning Praise and Worship Whalton - Holy Communion Hebron - Morning Worship

19 th March Mothering Sunday	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Mitford - Morning Praise with Mothering Sunday Celebration Netherwitton - Holy Communion with Mothering Sunday Celebration Meldon -Mother's Day Runaways (Mothering Sunday sensitive service)
Thursday 23 rd March	2.00	Hebron - Anna Chaplaincy Afternoon Worship and Fellowship
26 th March	9.30am 9.30am 10.30am	Mitford – BCP Morning Prayer Hebron – Café Church Bolam – Holy Communion

April 2023

Date	Time	Venue and Service type
2 nd April Palm Sunday	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Mitford – Holy Communion Hartburn – Holy Communion Bolam – Family Service
9 th April Easter Sunday	5.45am 9.30am 10.30am 11.00am	Mitford – Sunrise Service and Shared Breakfast Mitford – Family Celebration and Holy Communion Whalton – Family Celebration and Holy Communion Hebron – Family Celebration and Holy Communion
16 th April	9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Mitford – Morning Praise and Worship Netherwitton Holy Communion Whalton – Morning Prayer
23 rd April	9.30am 9.30am 10.30am	Mitford – BCP Morning Prayer Hebron – Café Church Bolam – Holy Communion
Thursday 27 th April	2.00pm	Hebron – Anna Chaplaincy Afternoon Worship and Fellowship
30 th April	9.30am 10.30am 4.00pm	Mitford – Morning Praise and Worship Meldon – Holy Communion Hebron - Evensong

Holy Week services and Events will be published separately and will follow soon

Message from the Ministry Team

By Rev. Elaine Jones

Happy New Year!

How quickly time seems to pass us by before we find ourselves at the beginning of yet another new season! It doesn't seem like five minutes since I visited the Upper Wansbeck and Mitford churches in the summer as a candidate for the role of Priest in Charge. I thank God that this was where He was calling me to, and I am honoured to be here with you as we excitingly move into a new season together.

As we face another new year and begin to work together with a new leader, sharing worship with our neighbouring parishes, we may be uncertain about change and the unknown. There are new faces in the pulpit and presiding at our Holy Tables. But it has been said that the only constant is change, that everything flows and nothing stands still. We look around us and that seems to be true. Seasons change. People age. Civilizations rise and fall. Is there anything that really stays the same? As we move through the seasons of the church, from Advent into Christmas and now into Epiphany, we are reminded of the ever-constant love of God in our midst through the seasons of change. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us *'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever'*. Jesus Christ, came into the world silently and without fanfare; yet as the world around Him moved and changed, the son of God remained faithful to God's promise.

I am also reminded when I step inside our ancient church buildings, of the generations of faithful people who have worshipped over the centuries. How different life is for us today than when our buildings were brand new! Yet, the thing that has remained constant is the desire to worship and serve God Almighty just as we continue to do today – even when it feels different! If our walls could speak, we would hear the cries of lament and joy; the prayers of sorrow and disappointment; the thankful tears of hope restored and fear cast-out echoing throughout eternity. And our voices will join them, permanently etched in the very fabric of those places of familiarity because the same holy, amazing, God who created the world has always been here, and He always will be.

Whatever we will face together this new year, may we be encouraged and remember that God is the same, Yesterday, today and forever! Our landscapes may change – but God is always with us! And that is Good News Indeed!

An extract from a sermon on New Years Day

By Mrs Pam Walker - Associate Minister

I recently heard a joke, it went like this.

Disobey the laws of man, you go to prison

Disobey the laws of God, you go to hell

Disobey the laws of physics, you get a Nobel prize.

Being a nerd, it made me laugh, but like many jokes there is a lot in it, about creativity and defiance, even courage to find the truth. But one thing irked me, the popular belief that religion, Christianity, is about punishment, about hell. For this is the fear that the birth of Christ freed us from, the gift God gave us to show his love for us, the hope of redemption rather than the fear of punishment.

God's love for us is not about punishment but hope and encouragement, it is for us to decide how we respond but very importantly we have been given the gift of His Son, priest, teacher and role model to guide us.

At New Year we tend to assess the past year, what could we have done better, what went right, how do we resolve to be this year, what have we learnt?

The great comfort of Christianity is that every day, every moment, is as though it were New Year, a turning point in which we can change our lives, all we need to do is turn to God in all honesty and say "I am sorry help me do better today "

This is the promise of God's grace, loving, forgiving, providing that inner peace we need to face the world as we continue Christ's work, bringing justice to all and building the kingdom of Heaven on earth. Understanding this I want to finish with a well-known piece of poetry from Minnie Louise Haskins.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown"

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way"

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone east

From the Registers



Baptisms:

Nothing to add.



Weddings:

No details at the time of publication.



Funerals:

Nothing to add.

Photo Puzzle
From Jim Grant

Several people have asked for the return of the Photo Puzzle, so here's a starter!

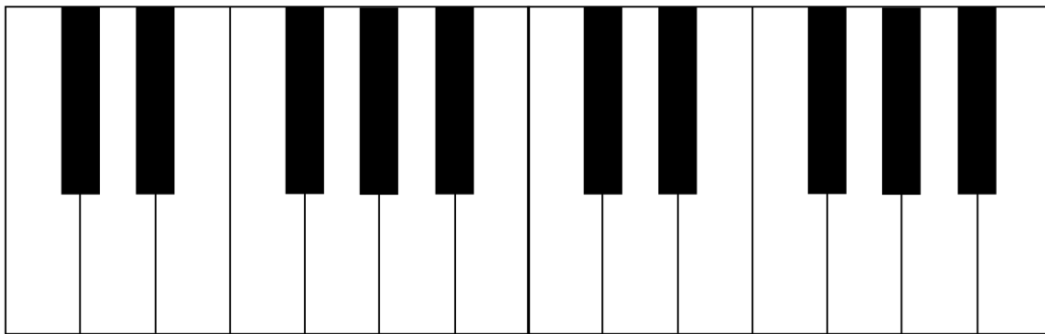
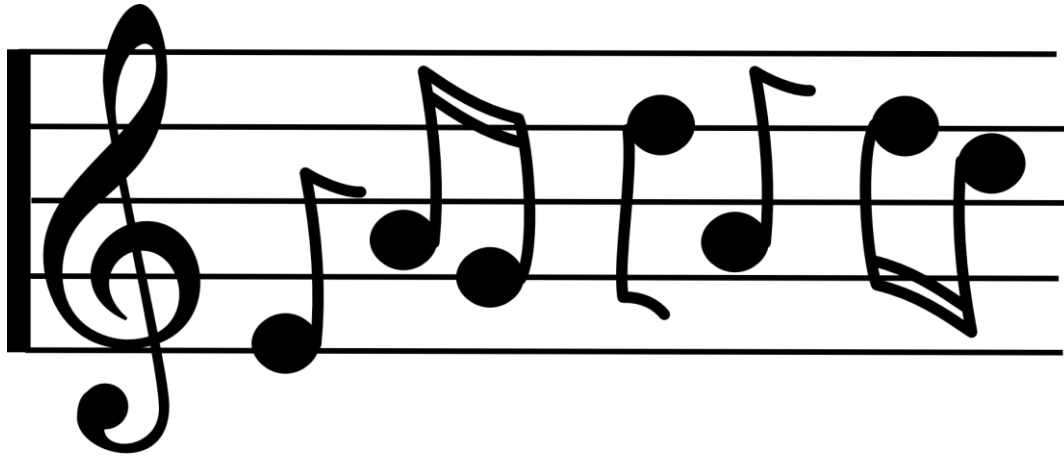
If you know where it is, send your answer to Jim by email to storiesfromjim@gmail.com

Fame and Glory to the first correct answer, which will be given in the next newsletter.

Please do send in your own suggestion photos to Jim. But tell him where they are, of course!



Come and Play

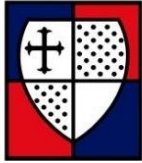


Come and play can you tinkle the ivories on piano, keyboard or organ, or know someone who can? We hope more people would like to play for services regularly or occasionally in church. If you might be interested, please contact Pam Walker 01670 772301, Lucy Bird (07808 490004) or Wendy Sheldon (01670 775385).



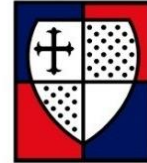
News from Belsay School
by Sean Harvey - Teacher

Belsay School



Spring Newsletter

Belsay School



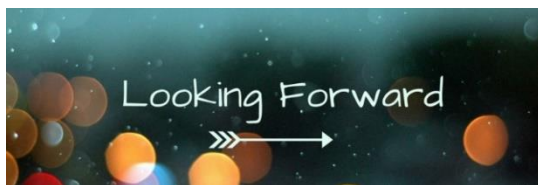
Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (Years 4, 5 and 6)



The Shakespeare Schools Foundation is a cultural education charity, which holds the world's largest youth drama festival every year. Months of preparation culminate in exhilarating performance evenings; young people playing Shakespeare in professional theatres, raising aspirations and unlocking the potential of students from all backgrounds. Belsay children will be performing *The Tempest* at Northern Stage on Monday 27th March. Please book tickets direct with the theatre if you wish to join us. www.northernstage.co.uk

Value of the month: Positivity

The children are excited about this month's school value: Positivity. We have seen great enthusiasm in abundance since we've returned to school after the Christmas holidays. A positive mind-set leads to wonderful things.



Our Spring Term

Across school we have a number of wonderful things to look forward to in this coming term. At Belsay School we pride ourselves on offering children a variety of experiences and opportunities to enrich their learning.

Reception

This half term in Reception we will be spending time thinking about our hopes and wishes for 2023. We will focus on the story '*The Polar Bears' Home*' by Lara Bergen. It allows us to discuss the issue of global warming, In the story two polar bear cubs are left behind because



Belsay School - Cont.

the ice has melted quicker than they thought it would; thankfully they are reunited with their mother polar bear, but we have started to think about what we can do to help this happen at a slower pace. We will also continue our forest school journey- thinking about our environment and how we can protect this. We will focus on whittling skills and start by using potato peelers. We will then begin to use whittling knives to make lots of creations. We are very excited to start this!

Year 1 and 2

Year 1 and 2 will be learning about 'Sustainability' this half term during their study of '*The Tin Forest*' by Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson. We will be learning about pollution and litter and how this destroys our environment. Together, we will think carefully about our local environment and how we can help prevent further damage. We look forward to organising a class litter pick and using the rubbish collected to make a recycled sculpture in art. We will also be writing rules in English for how we can look after our school wildlife area which we hope will help encourage more creatures to live there.

Year 3 and 4

This half term Year 3 and 4 will be focusing on our BIG question: 'How do festivals and worship show what matters to a Muslim person?' We will be exploring:

- What do we already know about Muslim people and Islam?
- What does the opening chapter of the Qur'an teach Muslim people about God?
- Why does prayer matter to Muslim people?
- Why is the mosque a special place for Muslim people?
- Why do Muslim people celebrate at the end of Ramadan?
- How do festivals and worship show what matters to a Muslim person? What can I learn from this?

This will allow the children to explore Islam further and compare it to past work we have done around Christianity.

A joke

What did the mama cow say to the calf? It's pasture bedtime!





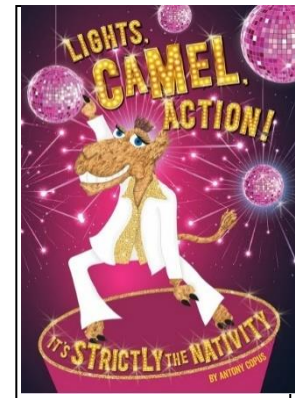
News from Whalton School - by David Morris - Assistant Head Teacher

Whalton Church of England Primary School

A very happy New Year from everyone at Whalton School!

We had a wonderful Christmas time at school.

The children were fantastic in our performance of 'Lights, Camel, Action'. All of their hard work paid off as the children put on a tremendous show.



Collectively, the children earned enough marbles in school from their good work and excellent

behaviour to have a treat. The children all went on the Polar Express and met Santa! Wonder what they could have as a future treat if they keep up their hard work?

As part of our focus on staying healthy, the children took part in the Santa Dash! We all donned our warm hats and ran around the frosty field to keep active.



Just before our Christmas holidays, Whalton Church held a wonderful Church Craft Trail. The children all went to the church to take part in lots of creative, crafty challenges.

Finally from Whalton, we shared in a fantastic Epiphany family service at the church. We always enjoy

our time in this beautiful church and we're thrilled that many of you were able to join us to welcome Reverend Elaine too .



All of us at Whalton Church of England Aided Primary School wish you the very best for an exciting 2023!



News from Cambo School - by Paula Cummings - Head Teacher



'Happy New Year to everyone from all your friends at Cambo First School'.

And what a start to the new year. Rain, wind and temperatures above average for this time of year! Seemingly December was the only month colder than usual in 2022; and the hottest ten months have all been in the last twenty years... A worrying statistic! So will there be any snow in 2023. I would say it is too early to say, but it isn't looking good for the children!

It has been a strange return to school in 2023, e.g. later than usual and without a theatre visit; as this took place in November! However it was, and is, good to be back in school once again without all of those illnesses which were causing massive problems pre Christmas! [Fingers crossed they stay away!]



This term in class 2 we are focussing much of our work on the history theme 'Stone Age - Iron Age.. A massive historical area! The children will be focussing on key questions e.g. Was it better to live in the stone age or the iron age? Was stone age man simply a hunter gatherer? How different was life in stone age times until the farm was developed? What can we learn from Skara Brae? How much did life change and how can we know? To this

end the children will be working with Ancient Britain practitioners to connect to our landscape, environment and past



Our younger children are also finding out about Significant women within history, namely Grace Darling. I feel a visit to Longstone Lighthouse and the Grace Darling Museum will be on the cards for this



term to help us learn about Grace, her life, her achievements and the challenges she faced in life. We will also be working with that 'history bloke' to bring our learning to life via drama and role play!

Kathy Anderson and Anne Hedley continue to work with us once again. This term we will be learning songs linked to Easter and our current learning topic. We will also be fine tuning our whole school music playing through percussion, recorder, ukulele and Violins, even at lunch times! as Y3/4 will also be taking part in the Morpeth Big Music event, with children and staff from all of our partnership schools performing and appraising! We can hardly wait. The event was supposed to take place in 2020 however COVID meant it had to be cancelled, so it has been long waited for!



Cambo School – Cont.



In PE this term we are focussing on Dancing, gymnastics and swimming skills with Liz Armstrong, Michelle Hankinson and Ponteland Leisure Centre staff. Children in class 2 will also be taking part in the Morpeth annual Gymnastic festival and hopefully other festivals will follow in the spring term. We also welcome Debbie MaCallister back into school, as we continue to support the social and emotional elements of learning through yoga and story!

Phew what a term with lots, lots, more to come! How fabulous it is to be back at school again!
Fingers crossed it remains that way!

WHALTON BURNS NIGHT

SATURDAY 21 JANUARY

7.00 p.m. - MIDNIGHT


WHALTON
VILLAGE HALL

SUPPER & CEILIDH

Tickets £20

Dancing and Music from
REAL TO REEL

*“Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit.”*

The Selkirk Grace
ROBERT BURNS

TO RESERVE YOUR TICKETS CALL
JULIE AND RICHARD POTTER ON
01670 775528 OR 07854 322424

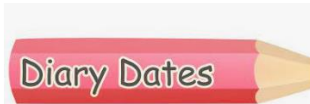


Fund-raising Event for Ukraine

On 19 February, the award-winning travel writer, Nick Redmayne, will be giving an illustrated talk about his recent trip to Kyiv in the Cambo Village Hall. It is part of his fundraising campaign to send a fire engine to Ukraine. The talk will start at 2.30pm and will be followed by delicious home-baking and other refreshments.

Donations to his appeal can also be made from <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ukraine-fire-engine>

For further details about the talk and other events see [Cambo Village Hall Home Page](#)



PCC Meeting Dates

Bolam

Monday 23 rd January	19:15 – 21:15
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Whalton

Tuesday 17 th January	18:30 – 20:30
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Netherwitton

Tuesday 7 th February	18:00 – 20:00
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Hartburn and Meldon

Tuesday 24 th January	19:30 – 21:30
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Mitford

Thursday 19 th January	19:00 – 20:00
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Hartburn Community Lunches
Hartburn Church

Tuesday 14th February – 12:00 pm at Hartburn Church - £6.00

Tuesday 14th March – 12:00 pm at Hartburn Church - £6.00

Contact Pooh Stafford to book – poohstafford@btinternet.com

Phone: 01670 772313

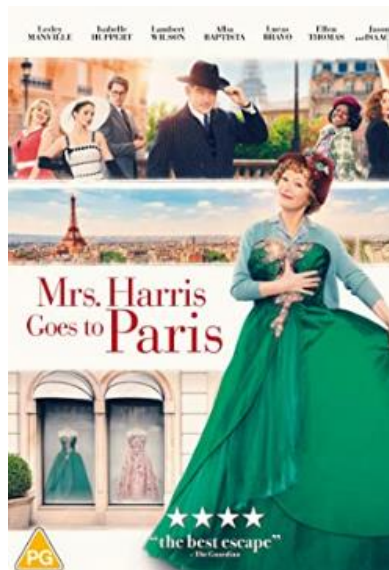


FILM NIGHTS

Middleton Village Hall - 7.30pm
Refreshments



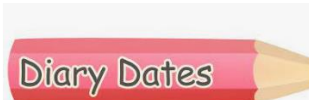
Friday 27th January



Friday 24th February



Friday 24th March



WHALTON VILLAGE HALL - WHAT'S ON (February and March 2023)

MONDAY

Jewel in the Lotus Yoga 5:15pm - 6.15pm – This class is suitable for all abilities and open to anyone wanting to give it a try.

Jewel in the Lotus Yoga 6:45pm - 8.00pm - Join this existing Yoga class, open everyone.

For all classes, booking required & please bring your own Yoga mat. Contact Debbie on: Tel: 07812 124888

Whist 7.00 pm - Everyone welcome, just turn up on the night to have some fun.

TUESDAY

Morpeth Art Group 10am-2pm - For further details visit the Morpeth Art Group Website on: www.magart.org.uk

Gardening Club 7.30pm (First Tuesday of the month) Mixture of visits, practical sessions and speakers – contact Anna Sill 01670 775375

WEDNESDAY

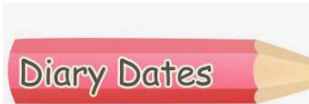
Seniors keep fit 9.30am - Contact Olaronke Ashiru-Gbadebo at tokunbogbadebo@gmail.com or just turn up on the day.

Chiropodist 9.30am - (February 22nd 1pm onwards & March 29th 9am onwards) - To book an appointment call Joanne Leiper 07890322719

WEA Painting and Drawing and Art class with Angela Nunn 1pm-3pm. (10 week course starting January 18th term time only)

To book a place on this 10 week course, or join at any time visit wea.org.uk or phone 03003033464

Carpet Bowls 7.30pm - New members wishing to join this group will be made most welcome. For more information email Karen on karenfenwick1@sky.com or contact Linda at the Village Hall on 07856176358



THURSDAY

Post Office 9:15am – 10:45am. On every Thursday unless otherwise informed.

Whalton Toddlers 9.30am till 11.30am (Term time only) - Contact Amy to book or just turn up on the day 07708507568 or on facebook @whaltontoddlers

Whalton WI 7pm (Every 3rd Thursday of the month) - Come along to find out more or contact Emma Nevin on 07792620241

FRIDAY

Jewel in the Lotus Yoga 9:00am – 10:30am Booking required & please bring your own Yoga mat. Contact Debbie on: Tel: 07812 124888

SUNDAY

Sound Bath 7pm (19th February & 26th March) Enjoy this deeply relaxing meditative experience surrounded by gongs, singing bowls, chimes and other instruments. To book a place and further information available at www.soundroomhealing.co.uk

EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

Quiz night 7pm (11th February) Fundraising event for Joe Goodwin to help with the M10 Mission to Mexico, full details and to book a place call Gill on 07502008508 or Andy on 07881388837

If you require any further information please contact Linda Willis on 07856 176358 or Email: bookings@whaltonvillage.org.uk



Wallington Demesne Parish Council

The next meeting will be held on Monday 23rd March 2023 commencing at 7:30 pm in Cambo Village Hall.

Members of the public are welcome to attend.



Yoga Classes In Cambo & Middleton



Find balance, calm & inner peace

And at the same time build strength and flexibility



Monday Evenings 7:00pm Middleton Village Hall

Thursday Evenings 7:00pm Cambo Village Hall

All classes £8.00 P.A.Y.G



For more information or to book a place contact John Moat

Mobile:- 07864076923 Email:- yogavisava@gmail.com

Deadline for the next Newsletter is 21st February 2023
(this is an early newsletter date as I won't be able to produce
the newsletter in March)

All future newsletter articles please email to:

roisel@btinternet.com

The Newsletter has been checked and verified by the Ministry
Team