First of all a very belated Happy New Year to you all – although it seems like spring is starting to show its’ head with the snowdrops and daffodils appearing.

We are now at the point where we need to wake the village up after its winter sleep and start asking for your help.

But first of all some good news – we have a new Manager in the Crossroads Inn, Simon Young, so we would like to take this opportunity to welcome him and you as we would like to see the village pub flourish.
Telephone no. 01673 857629
Opening Times: Monday 6pm – 11pm
Tuesday to Thursday 12noon – 2.30pm and 5.30pm to 11pm
Friday, Saturday and Sunday 12noon to 11pm
BINGO will be held on a Saturday afternoon 3 – 5.30pm – everyone welcome.

There is a special offer on Batemans XB and Fosters at £2.50 per pint
Games Night every Wednesday 7pm – 10pm with 50p off selected drinks.
Simon will be serving a limited menu for a while and then hopefully there will be a SUNDAY SPECIAL – ORDER TWO SUNDAY LUNCHES AND GET A BOTTLE OF WINE FOR £6.00

The Best Kept Village Competition has come round again and are wondering if the village is up to – we think we are for many of you have already pushed the boat out over the past year or two and made your gardens and fronts look inviting. (We got close to winning in 1998) The Parish Council is still maintaining the War Memorial, Village Green, Village Hall, Play Area and the Parish Field. If you think there are any
public areas in the Village that could benefit from a bit of a clean-up please let us know, which leads to a request for volunteers to help with a clean-up squad. A BIG THANK YOU to all the dog walkers that pick up rubbish from the verges as they stroll around the Parish.

**The Churchyard** – Spring came early and then stopped and has now just started again so the cutting season is nearly upon us if we can get over all the mole hills.

The Church Committee is seeking consent to extend over the existing old boiler house to install a toilet facility for the disabled.

**Play Area** – The Committee is always looking for new members to join and help to look after the area and keep it safe for the children’s use. If you can help please contact Chris on 01673 858138, cnwilsondesign@gmail.com

This year’s project is to look at extending the area by incorporating the ground between the Hall and the Area and installing more equipment. The question is what type of equipment would you like to see for the children? Please let the committee members know.

**Parish Council** – The Parish Councillors are here to help so please contact them to let them know if there are any Parish items you feel need to be addressed. Details of the Councillors are on the Parish Website. There is an opportunity to become a member of the Council as the elections are in May. One issue is the water leak on Panton Road footpath, the Council has been in touch with the Highways and they are investigating the problem as they have placed the footpath on their program of work for this year for repairs to the whole footpath.

**Parish Website – eastbarkwith.com**
The website has been upgraded this year with sections as follows:

- Welcome
- Local Amenities and Businesses
- Your Parish and Local Council
- Parish Council Documents
- Community Groups
- Local Events Calendar
- St Mary’s Church and Services
Police and Emergency numbers, map, Contact us details and the Parish History.

**History Group**  If you would like to join just pop along to our next meeting that will be held in the Crossroads Inn on Wednesday 20th February at 8pm. Our task is to collect information and preserve our local heritage.

**The Village Hall**  The Village Hall Committee is looking for new members to help keep the Hall as a viable community facility. Please contact Chris if you can help and please remember that it is a versatile setting for parties, wedding receptions, dances, meetings etc. **The best thing is its local.**  
For details contact Barbara Theairs the booking clerk on 01673 858751

**Parish Field**  Thanks to Eric Brady for trimming round the trees and keeping the Parish Field tidy. If you would like to join the Countryside Committee and help look after areas around the Parish contact Chris 01673 858138 or if you would like to have a tree names after a family member. Please remember there are a few trees left without names and these have been retained for any new children born in the Parish. There are going to be some small changes to the are, roadside ash saplings are to be trimmed back, Owl and Bat boxes to be put up. The main gate will be lifted so it can be closed. Do not forget to take a stroll down and check on how your trees are doing. The ponds are filling up just in time for the influx of frog spawn and the newts are already there.

**Remember the old saying:**  
If you do not look after your community,  
There will be no community left to look after you.

If there is anything you wish to add to the Newsletter please contact Tricia Brady on 01673 308536 or tricia.brady@eastbarkwith.com