



April 2017

# WENHASTON WARBLER



## In April's Warbler

**The Real Wenhaston Warblers. A month in bird watching  
Viv's Choctastic Cheesecake**

### Centre Pages



**May Parker 100 Years Old**

### Grove Piece Tree Planting



**Well-deserved break after some heavy digging in sticky clay.**

**The Annual Parish Meeting of  
Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet Parish Council  
will take place at Wenhaston Village hall  
on Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm.**

**This is your opportunity to hear a review of the year, the  
Play Scheme update and to ask questions.**

### Neighbourhood Plan Update

**The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Suffolk Coastal to go  
through the appraisal process.**

## **WENHASTON**

***Produce, Craft & Flea Market***  
**Sat 29<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 12.30pm**  
**in the Village Hall IP19 9EP**

*A wide and everchanging range of local foods and  
produce, crafts, plants, home baking and pre-loved  
treasures*

**New stallholders always welcome – Pitch fee £5**

**To book your table (provided) phone**

**Ann: 01502 478085 or Christine: 01502 478511**

**or email [christinemargaret@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:christinemargaret@hotmail.co.uk)**

### **Successful Launch Of Regular Wenhaston Market 2017**

Driving past the Village Hall on the last Saturday of the month, you will have been amazed at the packed carpark and you will have missed a treat! Inside were 25 stalls selling all manner of produce, crafts and bric-a-brac. You could have purchased all the ingredients for your evening meal, from olives or smoked pate from Suffolk Smokehouse to home-made bread from Cheryl. Main course free range meats from Philip at the door and veg. grown by Fred. Fruit pies from Cheryl for dessert, followed by goats' cheese from Larry and Karen.

Exhausted from all this shopping, in need of caffeine and a sugar hit? Take a break in our café for coffee or tea and delicious local cakes.

Refreshed and invigorated you could then have wandered around all the other stalls packed with home-made goods and crafts ranging from toiletries to cushions, bags, cards, pottery, jewellery and many more.

Wenhaston is raising money for maintenance of our lovely Village Hall and supporting local small businesses and traders. We plan to have a market on the last Saturday of the month throughout the year. New stallholders always welcome. Want to know more? Contact Ann 01502478085 or Christine 01502478511, [christinemargaret@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:christinemargaret@hotmail.co.uk)



*If you would like a lily or Spring flowers to be included in memory of loved ones, please enter details on the list in the Church and give your donation as shown there. (Lilies and bunches of flowers £2.50 each)*

# **St Peter's Church, Wenhaston**

*Remember your  
Loved Ones with  
Lilies and  
Spring Flowers  
in the Church*

*Easter Sunday  
\*Easter Monday*

*\*Teas 2.30-5.30 on  
Easter Monday*

O	F	T
S	L	E
T	W	O

*How many words  
of 3 letters or  
more can you  
make always  
including the  
middle letter*

		8			4	6	3	
			1	3		4	9	
			9		5			
				4				6
1	6						7	8
8				5				
			5		2			
	2	1		7	9			
	8	3	4			2		



The Blackcap

### **The Real Wenhaston Warblers**

April is a great month for bird-watching around Wenhaston. Many of the warblers return to our commons, heaths and gardens, and use their song to claim territories and attract partners. Their songs make them easy to locate and the absence of leaves on the trees means they are easy to spot. Chiff-chaffs are usually the first to start singing around mid-March.

They are small olive-brown birds, which actively flit through trees and shrubs, with a distinctive tail-wagging movement. They are easily identified by their song, from where they get their name.

They are soon followed by their almost identical cousins, the Willow Warblers with their delightful descending song. We are lucky to have several in our area every year, particularly on Blackheath, as their population has undergone a moderate decline over the past 25 years making them an Amber List species.

Around the middle of the month Whitethroats begin to appear. They are about the size of a great tit, with a longish tail which it flicks and cocks as it darts rapidly in and out of cover. The male has a grey head, a white throat and a brown back, and is buff underneath.

Also, look out for Blackcaps, a distinctive greyish warbler, the male has a black cap, and the female a chestnut one. Its delightful fluting song has earned it the name 'northern nightingale'.

Aside from the warblers, April is the month when, if we are lucky, the cuckoo appears. They have declined locally and nationally over the past few years so keep an ear out for their distinctive call.

If you regularly feed the birds, please remember to keep feeding them for the next few weeks at least. Many of our summer visitors return exhausted after long migration flights to find that local food sources have been depleted over the winter and struggle to find enough food.

*Roland Hammond*

### **Just for Fun Riddle.**

**Dora and her sister Laura were born on the same day of the same month and same year, but they were not twins. How can this be?**

### **The Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club March 2017**

The draw was made and we are delighted to announce the winners:

1<sup>st</sup> prize    Jan Clements (number 12) £33

2<sup>nd</sup> prize    Judy Miller (number 60) £20

3<sup>rd</sup> prize    Michael Gower (number 87) £13

Just a reminder about the 100 Club, at least 50% of the annual income from subscribers is for the Wenhaston Village Hall the other 50% is paid out as monthly prizes, plus a £50 Bonus prize in December. Please keep supporting this worthy cause. It's never too late to sign up! A chance to win a prize costs just £1 a month – our accounting year starts in September so anyone wishing to join now, the fee is £5 for the period to end August 2017. Please pay by cash or cheque, made payable to Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club, and hand in, clearly marked with your name, in an envelope to Jane at the Post Office (thank you Jane for being our collecting person!) or either of the promoters, Kirsten West or Trish Gower. All enquiries please phone Trish on 478267

### **Children's Society**

We had a very successful Coffee Morning and Box Opening at Wenhaston Church Room in February, and as result £938 has been sent to the Society. Many thanks to all the box holders, the counters, and to all who helped and supported the Coffee Morning.

*Margaret Bloomfield*

### **Wenhaston Mothers' Union**

As we are now in Lent, we were pleased to welcome Mrs Win Sutton, who is a member of Halesworth Mothers' Union, a Lay Reader and was formerly Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union in Norwich Diocese, as our speaker. Win gave us her thoughts on activities for Lent, and assured us that Lent is a cheerful and hopeful time, and she gave us some pointers on how to make it more meaningful. We were inspired, and Win was thanked by Margaret Bloomfield and presented with a colourful plant. We are looking forward to our Lady Day Service in Southwold on 25<sup>th</sup> March, and I will report on this next month. On April 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have an interesting talk by Mr Anthony Mason, who will tell us about the work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. We always welcome visitors.

*Margaret Bloomfield*

### **Wenhaston Gardeners March Report**

Ladybird nurseries came to Wenhaston Village hall for the Gardeners meeting. Bob Booker had a wonderful selection of plants for us to gaze upon while he gave his talk.

He started by telling us the history of the garden centre. His parents met at a horticultural college; after they married they ran a small holding in Spalding before buying the land in Snape. Here they grew and sold produce to local shops.

Bob had been to college and in 1985 he joined his parents to help run the business. With his wife Maggie they now grow over 650 thousand plants every year with 25 varieties of scented and fancy Pelargoniums among them. Plans as to what to plant have to be made a year ahead and cuttings are taken in September. While explaining how to propagate and look after these lovely plants, Bob showed us some beautiful slides of the many different varieties of Pelargoniums.

His daughter, Angela, is keen to join the venture while Archie, her two-year-old son seems also to be in the frame. Bob is convinced that in years to come Archie will be telling him what to do.

When the talk ended, we were able to buy some of the plants on display.

Next Month; David Keleel will give an illustrated talk on some of the interesting gardens he has visited in various places. *Felicity Jeliff*

### **Footpath walking**

A walk will leave from the Village Hall at 10 am on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April Ian Bigwood will lead a circular walk round Sibton and Peasenhall. Meet at Sibton White Horse car park at 9.45 am to order lunch before starting the walk.

For any further information contact Heather Phillips on 478545 *HPP.*

### **Local History Recorder**

For the last 25 years, I have been the Local History Recorder for Wenhaston. As this year I shall reach the age of 90, I feel it is high time that someone younger took over the above position.

It does not entail a great deal of work and mostly involves a report to be sent to HQ in Ipswich every January covering the year in Wenhaston.

Anyone wishing to volunteer, please telephone me on 478410 to discuss.

*Keith Johnceline*

### **Wenhaston WI March Meeting**

It would seem that a Bee's dance is more accurate than a Sat. Nav. David Burns explained that when a bee finds a good source of pollen it returns to its hive and either does a round dance to show that there is a good source of food nearby or a waggle dance showing the precise location of a source further away. The longer the waggle the further away the pollen is. Top pollinators know what time of day and when each flower yields its best pollen. Currently there are 250 species of bee in the U.K. including; hoverflies, wasps and hornets. A queen bee lays 2,000 eggs during the summer but has a well-earned rest during the winter. She can live up to 5 years, unlike a worker who probably only lives for 6 weeks but longer in the winter when he doesn't have to work. Bees always die away from the hive. These are a few of the fascinating facts given to us by the very enthusiastic David. Next month Pip Wright tells us about The Plague in Suffolk. *Felicity*

### **Viv's Choctastic Cheesecake**

This is the recipe for the cheesecake at the village hall cafe.

For the base-275g chocolate digestive biscuits, 100g unsalted butter, melted  
For the filling- 250g full-fat cream cheese, 1 large egg plus 1 large egg yolk, 2 drops vanilla extract, 90ml double cream, 15g self-raising flour, 15g cocoa powder, 60g granulated sugar, 100g dark (70%) chocolate  
To decorate-50g (70%) chocolate (keep as a block) 5g cocoa powder

First prepare the base- Crush the biscuits to crumbs and mix with the melted butter, press into the base of a greased 20cm cake tin. Place tin in fridge while you make the filling.

Heat oven to 120 deg C/gas mark ½.

Put the cream cheese and eggs in a blender and mix until smooth. Add the vanilla and cream and blend until smooth. Sift together the flour and cocoa and add slowly, with the sugar to the cream mix.

Break the chocolate into pieces and scatter on top of the biscuit base. Pour the chocolate filling over the chocolate pieces and bake for 1 hour. Allow to cool completely in the tin.

Meanwhile use the whole blade of a sharp knife to scrape shavings from the surface of the chocolate bar. Distribute over the cheesecake and, just before serving, dust with a little cocoa powder. Serves 12. Enjoy. *Viv Kemp*

### **Mrs. May Parker. Centenarian.**

**May, very many congratulations on such a landmark birthday.**

*It feels rather unreal to be 100 this month. It seems to have come slowly and then fairly recently, it has thundered into my life. I can't quite believe it, but I can't deny it's happening on April 15<sup>th</sup>!*

**Do you have a secret recipe for your longevity?**

*Definitely having a sense of humour, and thinking twice before entering into arguments! I've tried to keep my mind alive; having things to do like reading, letter writing, talking to friends on the telephone. I do things more slowly of course but I always look forward to getting things done. I'm a bit of a night owl but don't lie in bed in the morning, usually getting up at about 7.45.*

*I am lucky having wonderful friends, but there is sadness in being so old, as many have gone before me. I have great memories, great fun. We have always been there for each other and, looking back, I have been very fortunate.*

**I imagine you must have seen so many changes in your long life – and of course living through the Second World War.**

*Well, I worked as a secretary; I think you would call it a P.A. these days, for an Accountant, Solicitor and Doctor. I learnt shorthand, which I still use today, and to touch type. I had a manual Remington typewriter, which was so heavy an office boy had to move it for me.*

*I remember coming home from work by underground and as I emerged to go home, I would meet others going down, carrying mattresses and bed linen to spend the night on the platform. I married in 1941 and we honeymooned with relatives in Frome, Somerset. It was lovely to be out of London – like coming out of a dark cave into the sunshine. The weather was lovely and it was so quiet. We ate well because my uncle grew all his own food. One of the challenges I remember, was a shortage of tea. It became the custom, if you were visiting anyone, to take tea with you.*

*We all had ration books but sometimes you would hear that some shops had 'off-ration items' for example, chocolate. As soon as the word went around, a queue would form. I remember one very hot day queuing for so long, I felt faint and had to sit down, which meant losing my chance. I married at 24 and hadn't done much cooking. I've no idea how my husband survived! I could do*



*a lot with rabbit, so we didn't starve. The only thing that made us ill was powdered egg.*

*My husband, Cyril and I were Air Raid Wardens doing the night shift, because we both worked during the day. We had tin hats, a whistle and a notebook – and walking through the streets we really did shout, 'Put that light out.' We weren't in the heart of the bombing, being in Hertfordshire. I think the only fatality was a cow in a neighbouring field.*

*The war turned things round in an amazing way. They were uncertain times. With the bombing, you never knew when you came home at the end of the day, if your house would still be standing. Transport was very erratic, I had to walk 6 miles, but you lived as well as you could, enjoying leisure such as the cinema or shopping. You obeyed the sirens, keeping away from glass doors and windows. Before I married, we had an Anderson shelter in the garden, so lived underground at night – my mother, my grandfather, the cat and me. My grandfather planted flowers on top of the shelter.*

***You asked me about changes.** During the blackout, I was never afraid of walking alone at night. I remember running to escape an enemy plane circling overhead when a woman I didn't know, opened her door and told me to go in. I wouldn't do either now. The NHS was a revelation when it came, lots of hospital beds and good care. A real turning point for everyone. I remember a doctor working in a poor area of London whose fee was paid with one egg! Many things are easier, especially domestically. It was always hard work running a home, but I think there have been some disadvantages. It isn't so easy getting a GP appointment these days! I think the world is more materialistic now and, with modern technology young people have become so engrossed in it, that I worry they will lose comradeship with each other.*

***And what about living in Wenhaston?***

*We moved to Suffolk in 1971 – thirteen years in Rumburgh and then to Wenhaston in 1984. I can't believe I've been here for over thirty years. After my husband died, I decided to stay. I liked the quietness but with so much going on to take part in. It's a good place to live and, as I have mentioned, I feel very fortunate in my life.*

*Sue Gow*

### **Wenhaston Flower Club**

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 pm in the Church Room when Jane Clarke will hold a “workshop” evening, a hand tied bouquet with an Easter theme. If you don’t have a list of what to bring please contact Jean Spindler on 01502478317. All very welcome. JS.

### **Commons Conservation**

Barry Norrington will lead a work party on Bickers Heath on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April. Meet by the seat off Coles Hill at 10 am. This work party is subject to a prior bird survey. HPP.

### **Christian Aid Week**

Christian Aid week this year will be the week beginning Sun 14<sup>th</sup> May. Our thanks to all who contributed last year. A total of over £350 was raised. The Post Office have kindly agreed to act as a drop off point as in previous years. Alternatively, you may wish to give a donation to the collectors when the envelopes are delivered. We are urgently in need of more collectors to help distribute envelopes. Please contact us at Belmoor, Blackheath Road if you are able to help (phone 478503). We would be most grateful for anyone willing to lend a hand. Bob and Moira Cooke

### **POLICE WARNING!!**

Note that Suffolk Police will be assembling in force in the Village on the evening of May 13th. next. After a thorough forensic and acoustic examination the celebrated Suffolk Constabulary Male Voice Choir will be giving a Concert in the Village Hall beginning at 7.30pm. The Choir has sung widely in the UK and abroad and has raised considerable sums for charity. Their repertoire is wide and varied and provides an evening of enjoyment for everyone. Proceeds will go to our Village Hall and Wenhaston WEA. There will be a bar and raffle. Tickets available from Wenhaston Post Office or Bernard Orme on 01502 478708.

### **Sad News**

Sadly, Little Miss Cinnamon (18) passed away on 4 March. She came to live with us four years ago, when her owner moved abroad. She was a most sociable cat, often meeting and greeting whenever people walked by, particularly during the school runs. She was our beloved feisty minx, extreme mouser extraordinaire and definitely the prettiest kitty in the street. You will be terribly missed by us all Becky Canham

## **NEWS FROM THE CHURCH**

Soup and pancakes were very popular in the Church Room on Shrove Tuesday and it was good to welcome friends from around the area. As always, we were extremely grateful to Felicity for making the delicious pancakes. The event raised £305.00 for Church funds. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.

Easter will very soon be with us and our Easter Eucharist will be at 9.30am on Easter Day. The Church will as always be decorated with lilies and spring flowers and we invite you to visit the Church and enjoy them especially on Easter Monday when we shall be serving teas in the Church from 2.30.pm until 5pm (No teas on Easter Sunday this year.) Do come and have a cup of tea and delicious cakes!

We are again giving people the opportunity to donate money for the lilies or spring flowers in memory of a loved one. We very much hope that this idea will be as popular as in previous years and the board for you to write your details on will be on the table at the back of the Church until Easter - The Church is open during daylight hours every day.

Unfortunately, the Concert which we were hoping to organise on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>. April has had to be cancelled, but hopefully we may be able to arrange to have it in the autumn.

On Easter Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April, we shall be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup>. birthday of Wenhashton's oldest resident. May Parker has been a very faithful member of St. Peters Church for many years. May has always cooked and helped in many ways and has been very wise in her counselling. She is a lovely lady, much loved and we all congratulate her and wish her a very Happy 100<sup>th</sup>. Birthday.

*Margaret G.*

## **CELEBRATING May Parker's 100<sup>th</sup>. BIRTHDAY**

May has been a Member of Wenhashton Mother's Union for many years and the members have decided to give May a Birthday Party to celebrate this auspicious occasion They would like to invite anyone and everyone to drop into the party to say "Happy Birthday" to May. It will be a very informal party with light refreshments and a drink to celebrate!

**Please do drop into SPINDLEBERRY NARROW WAY ON WEDS 19<sup>TH</sup>. APRIL between 3.pm. and 6.pm. - You will be very welcome.**

May knows about this Party and is looking forward to welcoming many of her Friends and Neighbours.

### **Grove Piece Tree Planting**

Volunteers from the community, the Commons Group and Blyth Woods were out in force on two days last month to plant trees donated by the Conservation Volunteers and the Woodland Trust.

In all, nearly 400 native trees have been planted on Grove Piece, including, of course, the oaks planted earlier by the school children. We now need some rain and a good growing season!

### **Wenhaston Warbler Wine**

As part of his March Budget the Chancellor announced duty rises on beers, ciders, spirits and wines in line with RPI inflation. This adds about 10 pence to a bottle of wine. Excise duty was, typically, already in the region of £2-08 so now duty will be nearly £2-20 a bottle. After adding VAT, the cost of packaging and transport, a margin for producer and retailer there is precious little left to spend on the actual wine if it retails at £5-00 a bottle. In fact, its wine content is probably less than 50 pence worth. If, however, you spend a tenner on a bottle the value of the wine in it rises to over £2-50. In other words, spend twice the amount per bottle and get five times the value of the wine! Getting value for money doesn't always mean buying the cheapest bottle.

Bearing the above in mind, I suggest you try the following, none of which actually costs £10-00. Firstly, a red from the Halesworth Co-op, made by an excellent Cooperative in the South of France: Saint-Chinian, Les Hauts de Saint Martin. It costs £6-99 and has a liveliness and personality you would not expect at this price.

If velvety smoothness is your thing, then try Chateau Cadenette Costieres de Nimes from Adnams in Southwold. It is a blend of syrah and grenache and costs £7-99. Finally, a friend has reminded me of the ever-reliable quality of New Zealand's Villa Maria Sauvignon Blanc. This is a crisp, refreshing white packed with passion fruit and grapefruit flavours and is on offer at Majestic for £7-99 (if you buy six). It is also worth checking at the Halesworth Co-op, too, where it is often on offer. *Bernard Orme*

### **Southwold Railway Trust**

In a wish to hasten spring, Trust volunteers held their first barbeque at Blyford Lane on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The workshop team were able to appreciate the considerable work put in by the trackbed team on improving the environment and ecology. With the start of the nesting season on March 1st, no tree work can be done until September, but there is still a lot of clearing up to do. Meanwhile, as recommended by the RSPB, specialist tree-sparrow nest boxes have been added to those already onsite.

It has unfortunately been necessary to improve security on the site, to avoid a repeat of last summer's criminal damage, theft and vandalism. Tools that were stolen have been replaced by members, but the damage to the trees and fencing is harder to repair.

The Southwold Railway Victorian Heritage Train is making progress, with both Van 40 and Open Wagon 41 (both of 1879 design) promising completion this summer.

The Trust Model Show will be at St. Edmund's Hall, Southwold, on Saturday 29 April. Many interesting layouts are booked, and there will be the chance to talk to us about the Steam Works plans and progress and plans for our Wenhaston land. Advance notice: there will be a Trust Pop-Up shop at iChameleon in the Halesworth Thoroughfare from May 25<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>. Many local charities and community groups will be joining us there, and of course Wenhaston groups are very welcome to participate. There is no charge to any non-profit group or organisation: please contact us on [www.southoldrailway.co.uk](http://www.southoldrailway.co.uk) or 725422 for details. *James Hewett.*

### **Wenhaston Methodist Church**

<b>Sunday Services at 10.30am</b>		<b>Tuesday Meetings at 2.30pm</b>	
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Iris Baker</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lent Group</b>
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Rev'd Robert Soames</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lent Group</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30. Rev'd Ian Gardner</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Women's Fellowship</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Rev'd Ian Gardner</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
<b>30th</b>	<b>Rosemary Adams</b>		
<b>Good Friday 9.30am. Meditation Rev'd Ian Gardner</b>			
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> 9.30 – 11.00 am "Pray Awhile" on a come &amp; go basis</b>			
<b>for prayer &amp; meditation. ALL WELCOME AT ANY EVENT</b>			

