



July 2017

# WENHASTON WARBLER



## Heather Phillips. 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. (Page 8-9)



Photograph on Blackheath by Jason Gairn.

### **St Peter's Church Thorington**

Saturday 1 July Open Afternoon 2-5pm

Please book the date! Walk over the heath and across the marshes past the Balancing Barn to the ancient St Peter's Church, and join us for teas, delicious home-made cakes, Tombola, a Silent Auction and to listen to our Church Architect Matthew Thomas who will give a short talk about the history of the church at 3pm. There is car parking beside the church too. Admission free but we are fund raising for the Church funds.

Further details, especially about the Silent Auction list of lots (to include meal vouchers for the Star and the Queens Head, a painting by Wil Harvey, chocolate gifts, a gilded table from Sole Bay Pine Co, local cottage holiday weekend accommodation for four, and much more - a real variety pack!) please phone Trish Gower 01502 478267, email [trish@coastall.plus.com](mailto:trish@coastall.plus.com)

### **WENHASTON**

***Produce, Craft & Flea Market***

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 12.30pm**

**in the Village Hall IP19 9EP**

*A wide and ever changing 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)**

### **Wenhaston Fund Raisers**

Arthur and David are pleased to announce that the Wacky Races raised £600 which will go to the Community Nurses and another small local charity. They would like to thank all those it made it such a successful day. The Battle of the Blyth will take place at Well Green on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

## **Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club**

Winners for June 2017

The Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club December draw has been made and we are delighted to announce the winners:

- 1st prize     B.A. Orme (number 33) £33
- 2nd prize     Isabelle West (number 126) £20
- 3rd prize     Elda Hobson (number 58) £13

Well done to all the winners this time! It's never too late to sign up. A chance to win a prize costs just £1 a month so anyone wishing to join now, the fee is £2 for the year starting from July.

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 the Post Office or either of the promoters, Kirsten West or Trish Gower. All enquiries please phone Trish on 478267.



### **Grove Piece**

Happily, most of the trees planted in very muddy conditions in March, have survived the drought in April and are now flourishing with the recent rain and warmth.

Rides have been cut through the field, so that it is easier to walk and see the outline of the future woodland. There is a carpet of buttercups at the moment. We have been keeping a record of the wildlife seen which includes: partridges, hares, yellowhammer, bullfinch, swallows, orange tip butterflies and, most recently, a kestrel, as well as the inevitable rabbits.

Do let us know what you see when you visit.

We hope to be finally able to purchase the field as soon as the legal niceties have been completed, and will have a real celebration then. We will keep you posted!

In the meanwhile, work is going ahead on producing an interpretation board and continuing fund raising for ongoing costs. *Ann Edwards – Blyth Woods*



A blackbird in full moult

### **July and August – a Quiet Time for Birds?**

Many of our songbirds stop singing in July, because bird song is part of the breeding cycle. This can give the impression that bird activity has decreased, but this is not the case. The year's first broods have only just dispersed and second attempts at breeding are already underway. Nests, therefore, are still very much

in use. For this reason, it is inadvisable to trim hedges until late July. Towards the end of July the swifts, which have been screaming through the village, start their migration through France and Spain to spend their winter in Africa, south of the Sahara, where they follow the rains to take advantage of rapid changes in insect populations.

In early August the garden and countryside can be eerily quiet with fewer birds to see. When they do appear, they can look quite strange - faded blue tits, blackbirds with speckled heads, brown-headed starlings. This is because the birds are moulting.

Moulting is a process of shedding and regrowing feathers which wear out during a bird's busy year. Flying, rubbing against neighbouring feathers, nests or trees, general weakening due to exposure to sun, along with parasites, all cause damage to feathers. Adult birds must shed the worn-out feathers from this year's breeding season and grow new, strong, warm feathers to see them through the winter. Young birds also lose their first feathers at this time and moult into their adult plumage.

Moulting drains a bird's resources. It takes energy to grow new feathers, there may be heat loss when feathers are shed, affecting insulation. When flight feathers are lost, more energy may be needed for flight. A full moult may be spread out over a considerable period, which is fine if there is a plentiful food supply. For this reason, it is vital to keep feeding the birds in our gardens.

*Roland Hammond*

### **Conservation Work Parties**

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July, Nick Amery will lead a work party clearing paths on Church Common. Meet at 10am at the entrance to the common.

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July, Jonathan Alder will lead a party clearing paths and bracken on Mill Heath. Meet at 10am at the entrance off Heath Road. *H P P*

### **Cafe Artist of the Month**

Last month visitors to the Village Hall Cafe were treated to Denise Corbett's first art exhibition. Denise, pictured here with some of her work, admitted to being quite nervous about it. No need, though, as her work, mainly acrylics, is delightful often featuring family members and friends, sensitively painted and fun.



This month, Ros Curteis is displaying her paintings on porcelain and bone-china. Painted on the unglazed surface then kiln-fired, Roz started this fine art-form over 40 years ago! Many will have seen examples in our Village Show, and some, indeed, go to the classes for all abilities she teaches in Bramfield. Do come and feast your eyes, but remember these exquisite plates are not for Cafe sausage rolls.

*Wil Harvey*

### **Wenhaston Gardener's June Report**

It was a perfect afternoon when the Wenhaston Gardeners made their annual afternoon visit. This year we went to Priory Oak, where a beautiful garden is laid out on a ten-acre plot. The lush vegetables were a joy to be seen, set out in precise rows. Old railway carriages had been carefully restored and housed memorabilia and the family's history. Bird song accompanied us as we strolled along the many meandering paths, while tortoises could be seen trundling their ponderous way through the flowerbeds. Our visit ended with tea and luscious cakes being served in the garden room.

Finishing on a low note on the 26<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 there will be an Extraordinary Meeting to discuss the future or otherwise of the club.

*FJ*



## Photography Competition Launched to Capture the Sounds of Suffolk

Take a moment to imagine that you couldn't hear the birds singing, your friends talking in the pub, or your favourite song playing on the radio. This is reality for many people who experience hearing loss and a major new photographic competition is being launched by one of Suffolk's best-known businesses to raise awareness about the importance of hearing.

Titled '*Sounds of Suffolk*' the competition is being launched as part of Deaf Awareness Week, a national initiative also aimed at highlighting hearing impairment. Award-winning hearing care specialist, The Hearing Care Centre, based locally at Cecil Amey Opticians, is inviting amateur and professional photographers alike from across the county to enter the competition with pictures which demonstrate the incredible sounds that can be found in and around our beautiful county and may not otherwise be heard by those with hearing loss.

"It could be the sea crashing against the shore at Southwold, birds singing at Minsmere, the bells chiming at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral or screaming thrill seekers on a ride at Pleasurewood Hills" says Karen Finch, Managing Director of The Hearing Care Centre. "In fact any picture which depicts the sounds of the county in a powerful way," she says.

"People with good hearing often don't realise the impact even mild hearing loss has on the enjoyment of ordinary things around us – we want our competition and the campaign to draw attention to some of the sounds that hard-of-hearing people cannot hear."

Karen explained: "It can take years for some people to decide to do something about their hearing loss - it's estimated that there over 119,000 people in Suffolk who experience hearing loss, yet so many have yet to do anything about it. We want to get the message across that they really are missing out on life and CAN do something about it."

The Hearing Care Centre, which has 24 centres across Suffolk and Norfolk, is putting up a top prize of £250 for the best picture, followed by £100 for second place and an annual subscription to Suffolk Magazine for third place.

The closing date for the competition is Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017. For full information about the competition and the entry details, visit

[www.hearingcarecentre.co.uk/soundssofsuffolk](http://www.hearingcarecentre.co.uk/soundssofsuffolk)

## SEEN HERE IN ITS NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THE LESSER SPOTTED PUMPING STATION

If you have a private pumping station at the bottom of your garden or in your street we need to know about it. You are currently responsible if anything goes wrong but the good news is that from October 2016 we will take responsibility for many private pumping stations in our region. This will include the cost to maintain and run them, but we have to find them first. If you're not sure what you're looking for our handy spotter's guide can help.

So if you have one get in touch today:

**03457 145 145**

Or email us at:

[privatepumpingstations@anglianwater.co.uk](mailto:privatepumpingstations@anglianwater.co.uk)

[spotpumpingstation.co.uk](http://spotpumpingstation.co.uk)



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every  
drop  
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### **What's in a Name – 'Breadmakers'**

Previously we have looked at villager surnames that derived from places and then from nicknames. This month we look at some that come from an occupation. On the surface the obvious bread maker name is Baker from the Old English, but history is rarely that simple. Although indeed the name Baker could have derived from a breadmaker, it could also have come from the keeper of the communal kitchen in a time when humble households had no cooking facilities of their own, or a kiln owner who baked pottery or maybe bricks.

Baxter derived from the Anglo-Saxon and is an occupational name for a woman who bakes, but the modern spelling is the masculine form of this name. Another notable breadmaker is Becker when derived from the german source as is the case with Harry (Otto) Becker (see page 13) who although born in Colchester, was of german parentage. The name Backer has the same origins.

Finally, although I don't think we have any in the village, Bolinger (with one L) is the french form of Baker and any fluent linguist might be able to guess why. Bollinger derives from a place name in Switzerland.

### Heather's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

A special thank you to Jill and her brilliant team of willing volunteers who worked so hard to give me memorable birthday celebrations.

It started with a family lunch at the Star, after which I was taken to St Peters Church where a team of six bell ringers rang a quarter peal of 1290 changes in 42 minutes to celebrate my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was very moving to have the bells rung specially for me. In the church, I was welcomed by friends with Pimms, homemade savouries and a lovely cake.

On Sunday, I was taken to the village hall for a sit down lunch party, where more than 100 guests from organisations with which I have been associated, and close members of my family joined me. The hall was beautifully laid out and decorated. In the background a DVD compiled of my activities during several decades of village life was shown on a large screen accompanied by music. This caused much interest.

The menu was carefully compiled with the alternative version causing some mirth! Between delicious courses cooked, prepared and served by volunteers, a delightful group of villagers entertained us. At the end of the meal was another lovely cake which I cut, accompanied by a toast and the presentation of flowers, a book of the event and the bellringing certificate.

I was impressed and moved by the amount of thought and work that had gone into making the party such a happy and perfect occasion for everyone. The Queen could not have been better treated!

On Monday morning, I had a surprise visit from all the children and staff from Wenhaston School who sang to me.

Thank you Wenhaston for many lovely surprises and for creating such a happy weekend. It's amazing the amount of talent we have in Wenhaston. You made me feel very humble but also very special. It was a weekend I will never forget.

*Heather Phillips*

A celebratory lunch was held in the village hall for Heather Phillips 90<sup>th</sup> birthday to thank her and her family, especially her late husband Peter, for all they have done for Wenhaston over many years. More than 100 guests attended representing the many different village groups Heather has initiated, supported and been a member of – just about every group in the village!

*Jill Daines*

Opposite are pictures of the village hall by Jason Gairn, primary school children with Heather and the birthday cake by Viv Kemp and bell ringing in church on the Saturday by Matthew Ellis.





<u>Wenhaston Methodist Church</u>			
Sunday Services at 10.30am		Tuesday Meetings at 2.30pm	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Iris Baker	4 <sup>th</sup>	4pm Women's Fellowship. Tea at Yoxford
9 <sup>th</sup>	Gordon Frary 6.30 Rev'd Ian Gardner		11 <sup>th</sup>
16 <sup>th</sup>	Rev'd S Yelland	18 <sup>th</sup>	Women's Fellowship
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Rev'd Robin Searles and 4pm Farewell Service at Beccles	25 <sup>th</sup>	No Meeting
30 <sup>th</sup>	Rev'd Robert Soanes		
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> 9.30 – 11.00 am "Pray Awhile" on a come & go basis for prayer & meditation. ALL WELCOME AT ANY EVENT			

### **NEWS FROM THE CHURCH**

"Pause for Thought" in May, our short Service at 11.15am. was a Vigil for all those who died so tragically in the terrorist atrocities in Manchester. Alison led the Service very sensitively and during the Service she read the names of all those who had died, and then lit a candle for each person in their memory. The moving service gave us all an opportunity to stop and to pray for all the victims and their families, and for the many people who assisted in so many ways. I am certain that we are now all praying for all those caught up in the recent incident in London, remembering again the bravery and courage of so many.

Two very happy events have taken place since I last wrote. Firstly, on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May Lucy Wren and Tom Frostick were married in St. Peters. It was a lovely country wedding on a beautiful hot day and we were so pleased to welcome them and their families and friends to St. Peters for this important day in their lives. We wish them many happy years together. On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June, Heather Phillips celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup>. birthday with a luncheon party in the village hall for over one hundred guests. This was a very happy occasion giving everyone the chance to show their appreciation to Heather for all she has done for our village over many years. Several of her friends at the Church were involved in helping and cooking for this important event and I think that we were all very pleased to be part of her celebrations. On the Saturday prior to the party the bells were rung in the Church, the flag was flown and a small reception was held as this day was her actual birthday. Congratulations Heather, we all look forward to celebrating your 100th!

*Margaret - Church Warden*

### **Wenhaston Mothers' Union**

The deadline falls before our meeting this month, so I am unable to report on it but we are looking forward to hearing about 'Hearing Care!' and also taking part in the N. Suffolk Quiet Day on 29<sup>th</sup> June. On July 12<sup>th</sup> we have our Garden Meeting and Wave of Prayer at 3pm, so we are praying for good weather, and on 8<sup>th</sup> August we go to Westleton for the NSA morning, which will be very interesting and informative. *Margaret Bloomfield*

### **Footpath Walking**

A morning walk will leave from the Village Hall at 10am on Tue 4<sup>th</sup> July. On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July, Heather Hammond and Ian Denney will lead a walk round Southwold. Meet near the Water Tower at 10am with lunch at the Pit Stop.

For any further information, contact Heather Phillips 01502478545 *H P P*

### **Wenhaston W I report for June 2017**

Wendy and John Mendham heroically stepped into the breach when our designated speaker was unable to come. Wendy had been a District Councillor as well as a County Councillor. She became a councillor because she was so angry at the way certain departments were being run and she hoped to improve them. While working as a district councillor she experienced how every department was run, even going out with the rubbish collecting team. 'It's amazing what some people throw out,' she said. Her most difficult job was the reorganising of the middle schools when education went back to the two-tier system.

John had worked in the Ministry of Agriculture and in Health and Safety; 'The latter,' he said, 'was mostly down to common sense.' In one instance a lady in Norfolk complained that a farmer had been spraying from a helicopter and had killed her rhubarb. This turned out to be a misapprehension; the farmer protested that in no way could he afford to hire a helicopter.

In later years John was a magistrate, when he started there were several courts, Halesworth and Saxmundham among them, but now there are only courts in Ipswich and Bury. Having reached the age of 70 he has been compulsorily retired; a shame as all his expertise is lost.

Next month we hope for a sunny day as we have a garden party at Christine Buttle's house.

### **Mrs Mary Jane Stammers**

A large congregation filled Wenhaston Methodist Church on May 26<sup>th</sup> for a Service to celebrate the life of Mrs Mary Jane Stammers who died peacefully in Beech House, Halesworth on April 28 2017 aged 86. Entry music was Handel's Largo in G played by the English Symphony Orchestra. The Revd Robert Soames officiated and the hymns, In Heavenly Love Abiding, There is a Green Hill Far Away and Lord Of All Hopefulness, were sung and the Bible reading was Psalm 121. The Eulogy, "Our Nan" was delivered by grand-children Hannah, Kris and Melanie who said that their Nan was born in June 1930 in Glenarm, Northern Ireland. She was the only girl in the Wharry family of boys to whom she remained close for their entire lives. She met Maurice George Stammers in 1952 during the post war period when he was employed on milk collections to Larne, Northern Ireland, necessary because of the milk shortage on mainland Britain, and she often recalled the happy days they had sitting in his lorry overlooking Ballygally beach. They were married on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1953 and she left her beloved Ireland to spend a few weeks in Uttoxeter before moving in with her in-laws in Blyford Lane Wenhaston, where they eventually bought the bungalow next door known as Glengally and this remained their forever home. With Maurice working as a lorry driver and away a lot Nan found bringing up Jeni, Trevor, Paul and Dale a full-time job, but she filled any spare time with apple picking and helping to run Wenhaston's many clubs: Playgroup & Toddlers, the Luncheon Club, Phoenix Club, Women's Fellowship, Drop In Club and Chair Exercise, and she was in the Pier Show. Lovers of dancing, she and Maurice were a part of The Brown Shoe Gang, a regular group of friends, including Hazel & Billy, Daisy & Roy, Jack & Daisy, Jean & Paul and Mo & Betty, attending dances wearing brown shoes! Nan was a lifelong fund raiser, from dances to jumble sales; she collected for the Village Hall with Maurice where their input was tremendous for many years, for Marie Curie and Unicef and supported her family's charitable events, especially Craig when he ran The Great North Run, Pier to Pier and London Marathon for Cystic Fibrosis. Like others of her generation she was brought up to 'make do and mend' and she hated waste. When she was able she worshipped at the Sunday Services in the Methodist Church where she had been a devoted adherent since arriving in Wenhaston. She was widowed in September 2008 but continued living at the bungalow supported by her family. Her love of humanity meant she was regarded as a Mum or Nan by so many more people than her descendants and her loyal band of children and their families. She leaves one daughter, three sons, four grandsons, four grand-daughters and eleven great grand-children. Cremation took place at Waveney Memorial Park, Ellough earlier in the day and the exit music from the Church was the Londonderry Air.

*Derek Newby*

Inspired by Becker 2017  
ART EXHIBITION

Returning to St Peter's Friday 4th to Sunday 6th August.  
OPEN Friday & Saturday 10 until 5  
Sunday 10 until 4  
(FREE ENTRY)

Friendly and free "PAINT-OUT" competition open to all.  
Register 10am Saturday at the church, and have a go to win  
a prize.

NEW THIS YEAR: The Mike Holtom Award.

For further details please visit [www.ibbas.co.uk](http://www.ibbas.co.uk)

Twitter: @BeckerInspired

Facebook: @InspiredByBecker

The Inspired by Becker Art Society looks forward to welcoming visitors to our 5th Annual Exhibition in which we celebrate Wenhaston's link to the work of Harry Becker, eminent Edwardian artist once resident in the village, and painter of the last few years of non-mechanised agricultural practice. In the main exhibition 35 artists will exhibit contemporary artwork inspired by some aspect of artists each year. Over 130 works, unframed, and cards on sale.

INVITATION

Please pop into our Opening Evening on Thursday 3rd August from 6pm in St. Peter's. We'd love to hear your views on the show, and there might be a little something you could be tempted to buy! Wine and soft drinks supplied.

**Wenhaston Warbler Information**

The Warbler welcomes articles (please keep as brief as possible, max 150 words). The editors reserve the right to amend or not to publish articles which are unsuitable for whatever reason.

Advertising: £15 p.m. for 1/4 column (£150 p.a.), small ads £5 p.m. for 4 column lines (£50 p.a.).

Deadline for articles for inclusion in The Warbler is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

Contact: [wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com](mailto:wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com)

Proof Reader: Deborah Holmes

Ads: Jonathan Alder

Editor/Compiler: Phil Corbett

