



July 2016

# WENHASTON WARBLER



**NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T!**



**Stage 1 of the Womens Cycle tour took place in Mells.**



**This sign passed through Wenhaston almost as fast as the cyclists.  
Perhaps it should have said 'GOING SOON'.**

## **Jennifer and the Smoking Gun**

**At the Memorial Service for Jennifer Dickson on 3 June in St Peter's the Revd Anna Wright extolled her wide ranging contributions to the arts and crafts in the Blyth Valley area, and among them her association with Circle 67, of which she was a founder member and in which she took part, on stage and back stage, in 20 productions between 1967 (its foundation year) and 1986.**

**Jenny had no ambition for major roles, though in the now defunct *Halesworth Times* the theatre critic of its 1973 production, Agatha Christie's 'The Hollow', gave her his highest praise as the neurotic wife who turned out to be the murderer, and there is a smudgy newspaper photo in the archive of her standing upstage in a doorway with pistol in hand, while her murdered husband (played by the late Peter Kemsley) lies supine downstage breathing his Agathan last.**

**When Michael retired the Dicksons moved to Wenhaston, and he was elected President of Circle 67; Jenny continued to be a pro-active and influential supporter of it as the 'President's lady'. It was she, who seeing me playing my first ever stage role in the Wenhaston Blyth Players pantomime, sent me off to Circle 67 in response to an SOS for a minor Shakespearean part and so started my 24 years as actor and stage director, and for that I shall always be deeply grateful.**

**Many other Circle 67 members also remember her fondly. Lately Chairman, Chris Collins said: "I remember her encouraging me after a performance in Wenhaston Village Hall on my first foray with Circle 67 in 1983"; and our veteran character actor John Frost summed it up with these words:**

**"Some people don't need a tombstone to remind us that they lived: Jenny was one of them."**

*Peter Lewis President Circle 67*

## **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

**A month later than its traditional calendar date Circle 67 brings its new 'Shorter Shakespeare' production of the nation's favourite Summertime play on Sunday 24 July at 2.30 to Church Common. This will be its last UK performance before the company sets off to the Dordogne to show the (mainly holiday-making) Anglo-French audiences how well we perform our beloved Bard without interference from the EU in Brussels.**

**Last year's initial venture to France was very successful, but you'll be able to see them at their best English venue on the eve of their departure, so to speak, and put real money in the hat afterwards rather than those quaint euros.**

*Peter Lewis President, Circle 67*

### Crime in Wenhaston

It is sad to report a recent spate of criminal activity in Wenhaston. In a recent break in, about £2 500 worth of garden machinery was stolen, including chain saws, brush cutters, lawn mowers and strimmers. The police were informed and are continuing their enquiries, and are also aware of a number of thefts in the area. In a separate incident a prize chicken was killed, another was injured and eggs were stolen. The third case to report is vandalism to the sports club pavilion near the tennis courts. As always, there is a reminder to be vigilant and if you see any suspicious behaviour, make a note, especially of car number plates etc and report it to the police. The telephone number for minor incidents is 101

### Footpath walking

A morning walk will leave from Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am on Tuesday 5 July. Sandra Canham will lead a walk round Sotterley on Tuesday 19 July. Meet at 10am at the Chapel in Waterloo Road; lunch at the 'Shadingfield Fox'. For further information, please contact Heather Phillips 01502 478545.

### Commons Conservation

Monday 4 July 10am. Gus Jones will lead a work party in St Peter's churchyard'  
Tuesday 12 July 10am. Barry Norrington will lead a work party on Bickers Heath. Meet near the seat.  
Sunday 24 July. Jonathan Alder will lead a work party on Blackheath. Meet at the seat by the pond.

### Thank You

We would like to express our most sincere thanks to everyone for their messages of sympathy, cards, support and prayers for Jack. He will be missed by Valerie and all of his family, but he will live on in our hearts and memories.

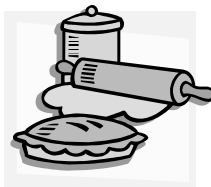
*Valerie Ellis*

# WENHASTON VILLAGE SHOW

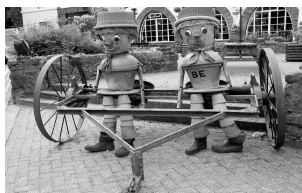
EVERYONE WELCOME TO ENTER



**SUNDAY JULY 17<sup>th</sup>.**  
**2016 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.**  
**VILLAGE HALL**



ENTRY SCHEDULES FROM  
THE POST OFFICE AND THE STAR



**SPECIAL THIS YEAR! Flowerpot  
Sculpture Competition**

Bring it along on the day – **by 1p.m.**  
No entry form required.

Plant & Produce Stalls  
*Grand Raffle*

Village Groups  
*Tea & Cakes*

**Entry 50p**

Children under 15 Free

Further details: **Jenny Jeffrey 478815 or Tony Gow 478977**

## Village Show

Now that we have had a touch of 'flaming' June perhaps those vegetables, flowers and fruit will be ready after all. Why not enter even if it is only one or two items? Schedules and entry forms from the Gardeners Club noticeboard at the village hall or from the Star. Don't forget to get your entry forms to Jenny Jeffrey, 3 Corn Hill by the evening of Wednesday 13th. or in the Gardeners Club pocket at the Village Hall by 1.00 p.m. on that day. Any photographic entries need to go in at the same time.

The 'wild card' classes that don't need entry forms; 'Potato in a bucket', The tallest Sunflower in a pot' and the 'Flowerpot Sculpture' can be brought along to the village hall on the morning of the show. What a choice! Give it a go.

## Calling all Gardeners and Cooks

### Wenhaston Village Show July 17th

When I first came to Wenhaston I had no thought of competing in the Village Show. I was persuaded to go on the G.C. committee and one thing led to another. It is great fun and also challenging. The unpredictable British weather may damage your lovely blooms or as once happened, someone eats your longest bean! I had never won anything in my life except 6 eggs years ago and at the time we kept chickens! So have a go, no-one is going to laugh only praise you for joining in. June Tate, secretary Wenhaston Gardeners Club

### How Time Flies!

It's nearly a year since Trish Gower and I became promoters for the Wenhaston 100 Club.

During the last 12 months, we have been busy signing up new members and 142 local residents have now joined the club. The prize draws take place once a month at locations around the village including the village café, The Star pub and venues for classes such as yoga and pottery. Once the draw is made, the lucky winners receive their winning cheque of £33, £20 or £13 hand-delivered to their door!

The purpose of the 100 Club is to raise much-needed funds for the village hall. So far £2,750 has been donated and many of you may have enjoyed a cup of tea at the village café while sitting at the tables and chairs bought by the club or seen one of the excellent films shown at the hall projected using the equipment supplied by the generous donations of the 100 Club members.

During the next month we will be reminding the current members that their annual subscription for the forthcoming year is due. Anybody who would like to join the club from August 2016 can pay an annual charge of £12 by cash or by cheque made payable to Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club. All payments can be handed into the post office in a clearly marked envelope.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact Kirsten West or Trish Gower. We'd love to welcome you to the club! *Kirsten West*

### Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club. Winners June 2016

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

- 1st prize Heather Phillips (number 78) £33
- 2nd prize Clive Curteis (number 31) £20
- 3rd prize Ann Pidgeon (number 93) £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 - our accounting year starts in September so anyone wishing to join now, the fee is £2 (that will be for the period to end August 2016).

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.



**A Wildlife Treat**  
Members of Wenhaston Commons Group enjoyed a real eye opener on Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, when Jonathan Alder led a walk over



Thorington Marsh fields and Black Heath. It was extremely interesting. So many species! Luckily Michael Gasper took notes while we observed and listened. Some of the bird call highlights were: - Nightingale, Chiffchaff, Bullfinch, Blackcap, Common Whitethroat, Buzzards, Willow Warblers, Yellowhammer, Linnet, Cetti's Warbler and Cuckoo.

We also caught glimpses of several butterflies including the orange tip, small heath and speckled wood. Let's not forget the grass snake, stickleback, great crested and smooth newts and various dragonflies and damselflies we saw and the brook where otters live. We were particularly pleased to see the Sand Martins on Black Heath, which were flying round the new area, taking insects into their nests in the cliff.

Many thanks to Jonathan, with his extensive knowledge, particularly from those of us who are rookies in this field. I was amazed at the wide variety of species and I would never have discovered them without his expertise.

A wondrous morning finished perfectly of course with refreshments at Heather's and a chance to talk about the wealth of nature we had experienced.

*Janice Claxton*

### **Parish Notice Board**

A concern has been raised that there is not a Parish notice board at the north end of the village. One suggestion is to place one on the triangle green for all the regular Parish notices and events.

The Parish Council would like to hear your views on this.

If you would like to see this happen, or indeed if you are prepared to make and install a board, please contact one of the Parish Councillors or the Parish Clerk. If on the other hand you are against such an action, similarly make contact with the Parish Council.

### Wenhaston Mother's Union

A very interesting afternoon was enjoyed by all the members present when Sheila Harrison came along to tell us the history of Leiston Abbey. We were surprised to hear that the Abbey was originally situated on the coast at Minsmere, close to the large city of Dunwich in the 1170's. It was not until several disputes with the dignitaries of Dunwich, and the problems with flooding and erosion, that in 1365 permission was sought to relocate to Leiston. The new Abbey was later destroyed by fire and had to be rebuilt but when the monasteries were sacked in Henry VIII's reign, that was the end of the Abbey. It was left to become a ruin but was eventually bought by English Heritage, and today anyone can visit the ruins free of charge. Thank you to Sheila for such an interesting talk.

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 2.30pm, there will be a sponsored walk to celebrate 140 years of the MU. It will start and end at Southwold Pier and will take us down to the harbour and back, approx. 3 miles. If anyone would like to join the walk, they would be very welcome. The sponsorship monies will be donated to the Big Summer Appeal to support the work and mission of MU at home and abroad.

The garden meeting this year will take place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July at Spindleberry at 3pm. Please could members bring a small quantity of food to share. Thank you to Margaret for hosting this event.

*Margaret Bloomfield*

### Wenhaston Warbler Wine

A brief note this month for fans of the Merlot grape. A traditional "heavy", thick with fruit style can be obtained from Tesco: "Finest" Las Lomitas Merlot Colchagua 2015 from Chile. Good with barbecues or chilli con carne. £6 a bottle.

A different, brighter style can be found in our local Co-op. Mount Rozier The Beekeeper Merlot 2014 from South Africa. This has an appetising tang – try with roast pork or simple roast chicken. £7.99. Whilst in the Co-op see if they have Devil's Rock Riesling 2015 from Germany. This is a very refreshing off-dry Riesling at a competitive price. Lovely on a hot day. We're bound to get one soon!

*Bernard Orme*

## Wenhaston WI Report for June 2016

Shiatsu, not to be confused with Sushi, was the subject of the talk given to us by Trish Dent. Shiatsu is similar to acupuncture but fingers are used on the pressure points rather than needles. The origins of Shiatsu are in ancient Chinese medicine dating back 2,000 years. The treatment combines stretching as well as massage. The receiver remains clothed throughout, either on the floor, a massage table or on a special chair. Massage helps both physical and mental health. Shiatsu can also be used on animals but cats do not respond – there's a surprise! We were invited to stand and try some of the basic exercises, we were told to close our eyes so that we could experience how it felt. Afterwards we were asked if we felt any different, several of us said that we felt more relaxed and one member said that the back ache she had been suffering all day had completely disappeared. Our evening closed with a slice of sumptuous cake, made by Cheryl and beautifully iced by Roz, and a glass of prosecco which we raised to wish her majesty the Queen a Happy Birthday.

### Summer Reading Recommendations from the Warbler Team

Barbara Kingsolver's Flight Behaviour. Engaging narrative about the fiery and fragile beauty of the Monarch butterfly and its vulnerability to climate change. This change echoes the unravelling of a marriage of people with different temperaments. Its impoverished rural Tennessee setting is surprisingly pertinent and evocative. *AW*

My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante The first of four books following the very different lives of two women, friends who grew up in Naples. A fascinating insight into that life and culture. *SW*

Nora Webster by Colm Toibin Set in Ireland and continuing with some of the same characters from "Brooklyn", which was made into the popular film. *AE*

The Facts of Life by Graham Joyce. This is a slightly supernatural novel set in post war Coventry, concerning a family of women and the little boy who changes their lives. *CW*

I Am Pilgrim by Terry Hayes. Lee Child on steroids. A must read. *PC*  
Backlash by Lynda LaPlante. Two unsolved murders, three confessions, one suspect. Something doesn't add up. A superb story from the mistress of suspense. *DC*



## Southwold Railway Trust

Two Trust events will have taken place by the time people read this – the Open Weekend, and the second Pop-Up Shop in Halesworth. We hope that both will have encouraged more Wenhasston residents to join the charity: by becoming a Member (as increasing numbers of Wenhasston villagers are) you can influence the direction of the organisation, by voting for Trustees, and by discussing policy at the November AGM.

The Trust's Heritage Victorian Train (as ran through Wenhasston from 1879) is gathering pace, with quotations being received for locomotive "Blyth", both wagons well in hand, and coach designs almost complete: it is hoped that, at some stage, a replica of 1914 locomotive "Wenhasston" will also be able to be built. Work proceeds on the project to establish a living museum of the railway in Blyth Road, Southwold. Work is also in progress to ensure that the restoration of the railway becomes an important part of the various local authority, transport, and tourism plans in Suffolk.

The major civil engineering on our land at Blyford Lane is complete, with drainage (provided by our neighbour) now working well, and the stock fencing in place to define Trust-owned land: cattle are back on the pastures. As landowners, we are enjoined (if possible) by the local and national authorities to open permissive footpaths which would form connections between other footpaths and roads. Trust land would provide a very nice link between Blyford Lane, the centre of Wenhasston, and Bulcamp, so such provision is under consideration. Volunteers now work onsite on each Saturday and Wednesday, almost always calling in at the Community Café first: several Members' events will take place later in the season, although at present it is not planned to hold many more for the public, this year.

We plan tree-planting in autumn, to provide additional native species to "fill the gaps" where the recent land drainage works enforced the removal of some tree cover. We would like to involve the community in this work: details will be available later in 2016.

*James Hewett, Chairman*

## NEWS FROM THE CHURCH

Well over One Hundred people joined the family of Jennifer (Jenny) Dickson to celebrate her life at a Memorial Service in St. Peter's on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. We were extremely pleased that the family decided to hold this service at St. Peter's.

Jenny was a very special person to many of us and she was a very faithful servant to the Church during her many years in Wenhaston and of course previous to that in Halesworth, when she and Dr. Dickson (Mike) lived at Highfield.

One of my earliest memories on moving into Spindleberry is being asked to go to a Safari Supper and going to Hall Farm for the dessert course. Jenny and Mike were living there at that time and so I met Jenny for the first time. I also remember thinking how delicious the desserts were and what a good cook Jenny must be! This was proved to be true on many occasions in the future when she produced food for fund raising events etc.

Jenny played a very active part in our Church Life always being very willing to help in so many ways. She was a Churchwarden with June Lewis for a few years doing all that this job entails with her usual enthusiasm and caring. Jenny loved singing and was an extremely keen member of our choir always encouraging the group to be more adventurous with their hymns and solo choices.

The Mother's Union was also important to Jenny, she was a committee member for many years and believed strongly in the work and the principles of the M U. We enjoyed her lovely Garden on several occasions for our summer party.

Jenny was a kind and generous Lady and she always tried to visit and to cook for anyone who was ill or in difficulties. I know this from my own experience when she would arrive with homemade cake and flowers from her garden! Above all she was strong and sincere in her faith and this showed in so many ways.

Our love and prayers go to her family at this difficult time and we thank God for her life and we pray that Jenny may rest in peace and rise in glory.

*Margaret Goldstone. Churchwarden.*

## **Halesworth Guides Need You!**

Would you like to work with girls and young women to make a difference in your community while developing your skills and making new friends? Volunteering with Girl Guiding could be for you! Girl Guiding is the leading charity for girls and young women in the UK. Thanks to the support of 100,000 amazing volunteers, we are active in every part of the UK, giving girls and young women a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive difference to their lives and their communities. And that includes Halesworth! We have active groups of Rainbows (aged 5-7), Brownies (aged 7-10) and Guides (aged 11-14), and a team of brilliant volunteers who lead the units. But we need more adult support! To be safe for the girls, any unit needs at least two adult leaders. At the moment the Guides only have one Leader and although other adults are helping out at the moment, if the unit is to continue they need some more permanent help. If no-one comes forward, then the unit will have to close in September. Halesworth Guides are a small but enthusiastic group of girls, who value the opportunities that guiding gives them for fun, friendship, challenge and adventure! Could you help to support them? Whether as an Assistant Leader, a Unit Helper, or just as an Occasional Helper, there are a range of opportunities to get involved according to the time that you are able to give. Interested? Then drop me a line to [jennyanddick@aol.com](mailto:jennyanddick@aol.com) or give me a ring on 01502 478314 to find out more. You won't regret it!

## **Blyth Valley Community First Responders (CFR)**

The Community First Responder initiative is an important link in the response to medical emergencies co-ordinated by the East of England Ambulance Service (EEAS). Wenhaston is part of the Blyth Valley Group and needs to recruit community first responders to keep the initiative viable. Full training is provided by the EEAS with monthly training sessions at Saxmundham Ambulance Station. If you are aged between 18 and 65 years of age and interested in assisting the community in this important role, please contact Gus Jones (CFR Coordinator) 01502 478085 or email – [gus5644@gmail.com](mailto:gus5644@gmail.com)

*Gus Jones CFR Blyth Valley CFR Coordinator*

### Room 101

Send in your nominations for items to be consigned to Room 101, never to be heard of again.

#### **SELFIES**

For those of you who do not know what this is, it is the practice of making a nuisance of yourself, quite often in places of beauty or tranquillity, by taking a picture of yourself with your mobile phone on the end of a broom handle. You then email it round to a bunch of people as inane as you are and they email you back with their rubbish.

It is a derivative of the word selfish.

### Services at St Peter's in July

**3<sup>RD</sup>. 9.30AM** No service at St. Peter's. Team eucharist at St Mary's

**10<sup>th</sup>. 9.30am** Parish Eucharist

**17<sup>th</sup>. 9.30am** Parish Eucharist

**24<sup>TH</sup>. 11.15AM** Informal worship coffee and refreshments

**31<sup>ST</sup>. 10.30AM** Team Eucharist at Wissett *Margaret G.*

### Wenhaston Methodist Church

Sunday Services at 10.30am		Tuesday Meetings at 2.30pm	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rosemary Remy	5 <sup>th</sup>	Women's Fellowship
10 <sup>th</sup>	Thelma Waller	12 <sup>th</sup>	Revd Martin Houseman
	6.30. Songs of Praise Offering for Action for Children		Bible study
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am at St Peter's	19 <sup>th</sup>	Women's Fellowship Linda Culwick
24 <sup>th</sup>	Revd Don Moxon	26 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm Tea at Tilly's
31 <sup>st</sup>	Rev'd Pam Bayliss		
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> 9.30 - 11.00 am "Pray Awhile" on a come & go basis for prayer & meditation. ALL WELCOME AT ANY EVENT			



## Halesworth Dementia Support Project

Halesworth Dementia Support Project aims to enhance the quality of life of people living with dementia and carers in the Halesworth area.

Alison Begley from Alzheimer's Society will be available for anyone to drop in and see her at Wenhaston Village Hall from 10.30am – 12.00pm on Wednesdays 27<sup>th</sup> July and 24<sup>th</sup> August and 28<sup>th</sup> September. She will be available to answer questions relating to, amongst other topics, concerns about memory loss, what a diagnosis of dementia actually means and the support services available to anyone affected by dementia, with refreshments available from the hall coffee morning. For more information, contact Alison on 07773 230339 or Jonny on 07860 912458 or email [alison.begley@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:alison.begley@alzheimers.org.uk)

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### CALL YOUR BLUFF

An international flavour to this month's offering  
Which of the following three definitions best describes this word?

## GALINGALE

- a) A Turkish sailor
- b) Root ginger from India
- c) A North American bird of the nightingale family

