



JUNE 2019

Wenhaston Warbler

News from Blyth Woods

Did you know that bats can be as large as a **small** dog or as **small** as a bee? We found out so much about bats, especially Suffolk species from Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Alan Miller who gave a fascinating presentation at our recent AGM.

Grove Piece is bursting into life, with young trees putting on healthy growth, buttercups and other flowers blooming and birds using the bird



boxes. The bug hotels have sheltered so many small creatures over the cold months and the pond has a resident pond skater and a water boatman although the water level is rather low. Could we ask walkers to keep their dogs away from the pond to give the banks a chance to get established.

We also announced our latest project which is to acquire Malsters Little Field (pictured), adjacent to Grove Piece, to develop into another community wild space. We will be pulling out the stops to raise funds to purchase the land. Our first event will be a Vegetarian Starters and Puddings meal on Saturday 13 July at the Church Rooms in Wenhaston.

It will be an informal and fun way to spend the evening, enjoying great food and company while having the chance to bid on some fantastic prizes in the auction. Tickets cost £15. Numbers are limited so get in touch with Geraldine on 07787191850 or blythwoods1@gmail.com to grab a place! For more information and news about Blyth Woods, please check out our website and Facebook page. www.blythwoods.org

Footpath Walking

A morning walk will leave from Wenhaston Village Hall on Tuesday, 4th June at 10am. Heather Hammond will lead a walk round Southwold and Reydon on Tuesday, 18th June. Meet near the water tower at 10 am with lunch at the Pit Stop later. *For any further information or help please contact Heather Phillips on 01502 478545.*

Commons Conservation

Barry Norrington will lead a work party on Black Heath on Tuesday, 11th June. Meet at 10 am opposite the chalet site on Blackheath Road. John Holmes will lead a work party on Bickers Heath on Sunday, 23rd May. Meet at 10 am at the seat off Coles Hill; parking off Low Road.

Heather Phillips

Wenhaston Parish Recorder

I am Lyn Gedny and I am your new Village Recorder.

The purpose of this voluntary role is to keep a record of significant events, note changes that have taken place and record community activities for historical purposes. During 2019, please let me know of anything local that you would like me to include in my Annual Report which will be sent to the Suffolk Local History Council at the end of the year. I will continue to mention the many events that take place in our village but if you would like me to report on an event that you are attending, please get in touch. All these records are archived for the benefit of future generations of historians and family history researchers. So all event posters etc. are welcomed. **Tel: 01502 478942 Email: photolyнк@gmail.com**



Help us fundraise for Malsters Little Field

***Starters and Puddings
Evening Saturday 13th July***

7pm Church Rooms Wenhaston

Come and enjoy some of our favourite vegetarian food and bid in our auction.

Tickets £15 contact Geraldine 07787191850 or

blythwoods1@gmail.com

Wenhaston Save Our Swifts Action Group invites you to join two events during the National Swift Awareness Week 22-29th June

Sunday 23rd June, we invite you to visit two

Open Gardens!

View the gardens between 2-4pm. Find out more about the endangered swifts and view installed swift boxes (hopefully occupied) whilst treating yourself to refreshments.

The gardens are open at ***Erica*** and ***White Lodge***, both are on The Street at the north end of Wenhaston.

Wednesday 26th June, join us on the popular

Swift Pint Walk!

Led by Jonathan Alder and Alan Miller, meet at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall car park. The walk will take us around the village identifying nesting sites and watching swift 'screaming parties'. The walk will take just over an hour ending at The Star which has several swifts nesting and excellent hospitality.

Ann Follows



Nature Notes from Marsh Cottage

We moved here in January and although we still have to go back to London to work in the week, we are spending more and more time in this lovely place as we get nearer retirement. Every day we are here we see and hear wonderful wildlife. I heard my first cuckoo this year early at sunrise on Friday 10th May, and then later that morning while I was working in the garden, there he was singing his heart out from the top of a tree in the meadow at the end of our garden.

We have been keeping an eye on the reckless couple of swans who were nesting right next to the path along the river towards Blythburgh. On Saturday we passed by to see the tragic sight of the nest abandoned with four eggs within, and another by the side of the path. The swans were further down river. We hope that with experience they will choose a safer spot next time.

Up on Bulcamp Hill the ground is now covered in pale green tufts of lichen and dark red sprays of miniature sheep's sorrel, the vegetation recovering after the intense grazing by ewes and their lambs, who have been moved to another field near the old Workhouse. Ahead of us down on the river is another swans' nest, and we saw both parents in attendance. Suddenly a fox appeared, quickly frightened off by the male swan. He then skirted rapidly along the river bank, and flushed out a pheasant.

On the way home we heard the chatter of a reed warbler, and then glimpsed a sedge warbler, and a chetti's warbler too in the reeds next to the ditch on the way back to the old railway path.

On Sunday a hobby flew low through the garden as we ate breakfast. A couple of bluetits have set up home in our nesting box and we love to see them on their regular flight path back and forth across the garden as they forage. Orange tip butterflies flutter amongst the cabbage whites, and damsel flies flit low over the grass.

We have been seeing swallows, but no sight nor sound of the swifts yet. Last night we saw a barn owl flying silently from the marshland up towards the village.

Kate Archibald

Talent in Wenhaston (contd).

It's been drawn to the editors' attention that the photograph of talented Wenhastonian Andy Norris was incorrectly titled Gerry Kemp in the last edition. Apologies for that, and apologies also to talented Gerry Kemp, whose picture did not appear at all. So just to clarify we give you:



Gerry Kemp

and, Andy Norris

..... or is it the other way round?

Spot the difference!



Notes from the editors

Our apologies to Jane in the Post Office, whose request for recycled plastic milk bottle tops resulted in her being inundated with milk bottles, after we managed to omit 'tops' from the sentence. Sorry Jane! Please note that batteries are no longer accepted at the Post Office, except for recycling.

In future we will be acknowledging receipt of contributions to the Warbler. If you don't hear from us within a few days of sending your articles, please let us know.

Contact wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com

Deadline for copy for next month is June 15th

Wenhaston Flower Club

We are in for an entertaining evening at our next meeting on Tuesday 4th June (7.30 pm Wenhaston Church Rooms). Alan will be with us again for a demonstration entitled POT LUCK. As well as superb flower arranging there will be plenty of fun. If you have never been to flower club before please come and join us as everyone is very welcome. Just £3 on the night with tea/coffee and biscuits provided.

For more information please contact Jean Spindler on 01502 478317

St Peter's Church Thorington Coffee Morning Saturday 8 June

Please come to a Coffee Morning on Saturday 8 June, 1030 onwards at Marjorie Onyett's Brook Farm Wenhaston. As well as coffee tea and delicious home-made refreshments, see the Southern Marsh Orchids on the meadow just behind the house. All welcome, donations for coffee etc for Thorington Church.

Report for Wenhaston W.I's May Meeting

Who would think an hour's talk about cows could be so riveting?

Helen Reeve conveyed her enthusiasm about her herd of Dexter cattle with such verve we were quite captivated. Even as a small child Helen had always loved cows and had dreamt of owning a herd. She started her career at Easton College where she had to milk 150 cows day and night and at county shows she would walk the animals around the ring. Somehow she found time to join the Young Farmers and worked her way up the hierarchy, becoming chair of the local group and being spokesman for the National Young Farmers. An embossed envelope arrived inviting her to a garden party at the palace, this caused much consternation as it stated in small print at the bottom, 'Hats must be worn.' 'The only hat I owned,' Helen said, 'was a bobble hat and I didn't think this would fit the bill.' On two other formal occasions she met Prince Charles, the second time she was in a line up with three other people. On being introduced one of the men mentioned to the Prince that he had awarded him with his OBE. The Prince murmured that he was sorry he didn't remember, moving on he took Helen's hand and said, 'Helen how nice to see you again.' Quite a special moment. She now owns a herd of 40 Dexter cattle. Why Dexter? Helen explained that being short she couldn't cope with cows that she couldn't see over their backs. 'How lucky am I,' she said, 'to be able to create a business out of a hobby.'

Next month Sharon Lockhart informs us about recycling, very topical. Our play reading group is becoming sadly depleted so we would welcome any new members. We meet once a month usually on a Tuesday afternoon at 2.30. We read anything from Shakespeare to light comedy. **Felicity Jelliff**

Cold Callers

It has been reported that a lady in the village was visited by a man trying to sell her various items. When she refused to buy anything, and closed the door, the caller banged on the glass and shouted at her. Fortunately, she had a chain on the door, so he wasn't able to gain entry, but it was quite a frightening experience. She called the police, and she was advised that people should be on their guard and report any suspicious persons if they have concerns.

Studio Open Days

Ruth McCabe would be delighted to welcome you to her weekly Open Studio Days during the summer months, until mid-July.

These will be working studio days, so you can see what she's currently got on the easel and chat about that. No need to worry about interrupting. The bigger part of the studio is a gallery space and there's plenty of work to browse.

Next Open Studio day: May 29th

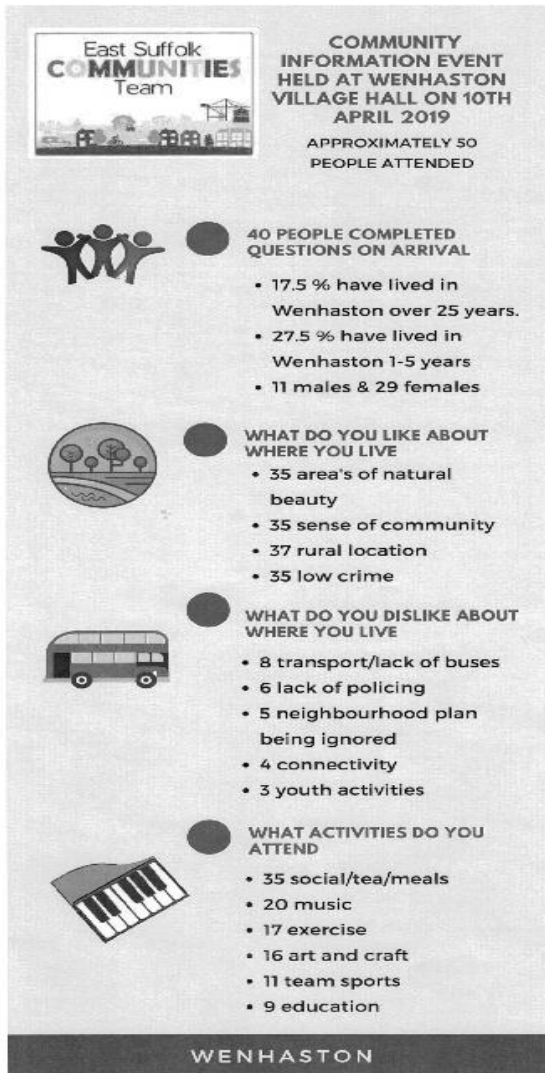
Summer Wednesdays will also be open days:

June 5,12, 19, 26 July 10,17

Coles Hill Wenhaston I P19 9DS**

***There is signage at the garden gate fixed onto a grey shed.
Follow Ruth on Twitter, Facebook (Ruth McCabe art page)
or Instagram (@ruthmccabe8420) to DM any enquiries.*

Results of the Community Information Event Held on the 10th April in the Village Hall



Is Wenhaston Warming Up?

Children at Wenhaston Primary School are doing a wonderful job conserving and improving Grove Piece. They clearly care about the local environment and the future of our planet. They should not have to inherit a world that is damaged beyond repair, and which appears to be in deep trouble. Britain was the first industrial nation and Suffolk played its part in this process. It is easy to forget that the county had significant 'smokestack' industries: steam engines, maltings, brewing and chemicals. Several international and national reports (one chaired by our previous MP) have described the problems caused by global warming. It is worth asking, 'Do we have a future?'

We have just had the warmest winter on record, despite the odd blip. The four warmest springs on record have all occurred in the past 12 years, including 2017 and frosts are becoming less frequent. Since the New Year I have kept a record of the first appearance of wild flowers in the parish, comparing dates with those given in the book 'Wild Flowers of Britain' by Roger Phillips first printed in 1977. The results may not be scientific but, with the exception of primroses, several flowers e.g. violets, bluebells and stitchwort are appearing two to three weeks earlier than in 1977.

These observations do indicate some significant changes in the growing season in the last forty years. With climate change a reality, an increasing number of farmers are questioning the agricultural policies of the last decades. They have been locked into a system of payments by acreage that appear to be causing long term damage to the soil. Is deep ploughing necessary, should slurry be sprayed onto the land, releasing ammonia. A Cambridge based group of commercial farmers, 'Nature Friendly Farming Network' is giving serious thought to these problems. They are not talking about turning the clock back but advocating the use of high-tech to enhance the value of land and reduce damage to the soil. Small farmers created the beautiful Suffolk landscape and they will be the agents of change.

Brian Withnall

Village Hall 100 Club

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

- 1st prize Jane Peters (number 42) £37.50
- 2nd prize Valerie Ellis (number 112) £22.50
- 3rd prize Clive Rammell (number 160) £15

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 £3 for the year starting from June. 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***

Wenhaston Mothers Union June 2019

We were very pleased to welcome members of Halesworth M U. Our May Speaker was Christopher Wilkes and he talked about the Society's work in Suffolk. At present there is not a Children's Home in the County as thankfully there is not sufficient need for one. However there are continuing calls for the caring and help of the Society. Children continue to run away from home for various reasons and it is then that the Organisation is often able to help. Sometimes the reason is a broken Family relationship or Physical Abuse.

Christopher asked us if anyone would like to take a Collecting Box to help with this very positive work. We are lucky in Wenhaston as Margaret Bloomfield acts as our local Organiser and we have an annual Coffee Morning when the Boxes are collected in and counted. Last year Wenhaston raised over £800.00 for the Society. If any Reader would be

interested in having a Box to collect odd cash during the year which would raise our annual figure even more, we should be very pleased. Please talk to Margaret (01502478502) if you're interested.

For our June Meeting we shall be joining our Friends in Halesworth on the 26th June for their meeting in St. Mary's Church Hall at 2 o'clock when the Speaker will talk to us about the work of Sure Start. If any member would like a lift to Halesworth for this meeting please get in touch with me. There will not be a Meeting in Wenhaston on Wednesday 12th.

Our Garden Meeting will be at Spindleberry on Wednesday 10th July at 3 o'clock.

Wenhaston St Peter's Church

Our Easter Teas followed by Resurrection Reflections was a lovely occasion and helped our Fund Raising too. In early May, Anita and I had a boot at Holton Car Boot and braved three heavy hail storms. It was a pity about the weather as not many people were selling, but we managed to raise £46 for church funds and I hear that Holton did well overall so good news really. We have only one service at Wenhaston in June – things are quite difficult staff wise at present and we have to be patient. Jane Held is doing a marvellous job juggling with so few clergy. The first Sunday is Team Service at Halesworth, the second is Pentecost at Holton and the third is another Team Service when the Elders will be re-licensed by the acting Archdeacon. We have Pause for Thought on the fourth Sunday at 11.15am at Wenhaston and another Team Service at Halesworth on 30th when our new priest (Jane) will officiate.

At St Petertide, which is at the end of June, Jane Held will be ordained into the priesthood, and Alison and Linda will be ordained as deacons (another year until they are fully priested). We send them all our love and congratulations and look forward to their continued ministry among us.

I hope Summer is on its way now, and wish all of you who are holidaying a refreshing time.

Margaret Bloomfield

St Peter's services in June

- 2nd June Team Service at Halesworth 10am
- 9th June Pentecost Service at Holton 10.30am
- 16th June Team Service at Halesworth with re-licensing of Elders 10am
- 23rd June Pause for Thought 11.15am at Wenhaston
- 30th June Team Eucharist at Halesworth 10.am

Wenhaston Methodist Church

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.30	TUESDAY MEETINGS AT 2.30PM
2 Iris Baker 4pm Easter Offering Service at Trinity Church Lowestoft	4 Women's Fellowship Suku Bailey
9 Rev. Dr Alan Palmer	11 Bible Study
16 11.15am Rev. Louise Morrissey Church Ann. Followed by lunch.	18 Women's Fellowship Pat Williamson
23 Rev. Robin Searles	25 Bible Study
30 Rev. Ernie Boss'e	

ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

WENHASTON

Produce & Craft Market

Saturday 29th June

10am – 12.30pm

In the Village Hall IP19 9EP

A wide and ever-changing range of local foods and produce, craft, plants, home baking and pre-loved treasures. New stallholders welcome...Pitch Fee £6. To book your table (provided) contact:

Carol Hudson-Jary

Tel@ 01502 478732 or

e-mail:caz-mike@outlook.com

Raising funds for village hall maintenance

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.).

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David Smeaton Small puts up a swift box at the village school. Read more about swifts in our village and some fun things we can do to support them on Page 4 of this edition