



January 2020

Wenhaston Warbler

A Brace of Santas from Wenhaston (And 598 more)

On December 8th, six hundred deputy Santas gathered at Colchester Castle



for a 10k Santa run to raise funds for Ipswich and Colchester Hospitals. (The real Santa was far too busy at this time of year to attend, but sent his best wishes). **Phil Corbett and his son Mike** ran to raise money for the neo-natal ward.

Notes from the editors

Happy New Year to all our readers and contributors!

Contact wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com

Deadline for articles is the 15TH January 2020

Crisis At Christmas Charity Concert

The Charity Concert on November 30th at the village hall was very well supported, both in numbers attending and the generosity of all concerned. In total, £816 was raised which will pay for about 30 homeless people to be looked after on Christmas day.

Photographs by Viv Kemp and Lyn Gedny



The Wenhaston Ukulele Band's grand finale



No Country for Old Men performing anything but country music



Auctioneer Denise Corbett



Katy and her Amazing Musical Saw

News from the village hall

A generous legacy

The hall received a very generous legacy of £1,000 recently from the estate of Lilian Daphne (Anne) Pidgeon who used to live in Narrow Way. The bequest was given in memory of her and her husband in recognition of the importance of the village hall as an essential part of the community of Wenhaston and is for its general charitable purposes and for the fabric of the hall. We will ensure it is used according to their wishes and are very grateful for their generosity.

Maintenance and improvements

The Committee has been planning throughout the year for some maintenance and improvements to the village hall.

The emergency exit doors have recently been replaced by Upvc doors by Waveney Windows. The old wooden doors were rotting along the bottom, some had become very difficult to close and they had reached the end of their life. Ongoing maintenance is a continuing worry both in terms of expense and volunteer time and the new doors will avoid these problems. We are very grateful for a grant of £500 received from the Parish Council towards the cost. They also granted us a further £500 towards our insurance premium.

The splintery hall stage will be sanded down and primed and lacquered after the Christmas/New Year break by Roger Hyde Ltd who also re-sealed the hall floor in January. We are very grateful for a grant of £650 received towards the cost this cost, from Mike Gower when he was the Suffolk Coastal District Councillor.

A team of volunteers are hoping to decorate and improve the Maurice Stammers Committee room in the New Year and this will be part funded by the money donated by the 100 club.

The new bench by the hall entrance is made of recycled plastic and has been secured to the bollards. Funds towards this were donated by The Broadside Boys after a concert they performed at the hall a while ago.

Roof repairs due to leaks over the Tardis and behind the stage will be carried out during February.

Unfortunately we had a major mains water leak identified by Wessex & Suffolk Water under our new car park in October. We were most grateful to Mark Woolnough of Woolnough Contractors in the village, who very quickly came to our aid. The leak wasn't easy to reach and a new length of pipe had to be laid around the problem area with plumber Scott Baxter mending it for us. Waterfields have now re-laid the tarmac. We all breathed a sigh of relief as a lot of water had disappeared since the previous meter reading, but fortunately the costs are all covered by our insurance. Following some concerns raised, Waterfields also replaced the concrete channel which crosses the main car park entrance with a covered drainage channel. Thank you very much to everyone who has regularly or even just occasionally hired and supported the hall over the year and we all wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Sally Amery

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The final total for this important appeal was £685. Our sincere thanks to all the box holders, and special thanks to those who contributed so generously. Thank you for your continued support.

John Levy

Nature notes from Marsh Cottage

The leaves have almost all fallen away, leaving bare branches and new views. At the beginning of December we had a sharp frost and frozen pools could be seen on the grazing marshes through the naked poplars which follow the line of the vanished railway. The delicate skeletons of grasses and seed heads in the garden were clothed in silver sparkling frost. Redwings settled in the hedge, eating red berries, and later long tailed tits dangled from bare branches.

The day after that the waters melted and we saw a perfect full double rainbow over the marshes, and a marsh harrier flew up from the field in front of us as we walked. When we crossed the river, we were astounded to see new lakes formed by flood water, leading to the base of Bulcamp hill, our own watery bird reserve, being enjoyed by many gulls, and the resident swans including the family with their five grey almost grown up cygnets. They were joined by

two new migratory visitors, a couple of Bewick swans, with yellow bills and a louder voice than their mute cousins. Over the marsh we saw a flight of at least thirty shelduck, and then four Egyptian geese flew in to settle on the new lake, happily naturalised residents.

More recently the birds on the feeders in the garden were joined by a rare greenfinch, and we have enjoyed many viewings of the group (charm) of six goldfinches feeding together.

When standing on the track just outside our garden, our attention was grabbed by the sound of small bird alarm calls, followed by the sight through the bare hedge of the dramatic swoop of a female sparrow hawk as she grabbed a blackbird from the garden, and then swept away into the far hedgerow to feast on it.

Kate Archibald

Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund



Our film matinee at The CUT on Wednesday 18th November was very successful featuring the film "Yesterday", which had scenes shot in the Thoroughfare, Halesworth. We had 153 people turn up to enjoy the film, an audience all time high. With money from the raffle the film netted £608, all of which goes towards respite care. At our pre-film presentation, our Chairman, Patrick Cox, Trustees Nikki Sawkins, Teresa Fyfe and Dave

Rich gave a brief history of the fund, what it stood for and how hard work and dedication had all played a part in supporting 81 families from 2014 to the present day, at a staggering cost of £162,000, fund raised by events and donations. On top of that the fund has chased grants and received more donations to cover the cost of having a Dementia Support Worker, seconded from the Alzheimer's Society.

Carers Massage Day:

An enormous thank you to Sarah Maidment, a local Massage therapist who donated a whole day's massage for nine of our Family Carers, on National Carers Day 21st November.

Sarah kindly offered a free thirty minute treatment giving Carers a choice of Indian Head, Hand and Arm, or Back Neck and Shoulder massage.

A big thank you also to Alice Sparksman, our Dementia Support Worker and Jim & Teresa Fyfe, Trustees who organised the day and provided transport. All of the Carers said they benefited greatly from the session and one wrote. "I just wanted to say thank you for the massage session that you provided last week. It was lovely and relaxing. It is so nice for someone to think about the person doing the caring. So often I am asked 'How is your husband' and seldom does anyone ask how I am.... so your support is very much appreciated."

As a huge thank you to our 'Friends of' for all their help during the year a Christmas lunch was organised and held at the Angel, and those who came had a fun afternoon.

Our thanks to Simon & Cleone and staff for their wonderful Christmas event and their continuing support with the use of the Stables for our meetings.



With good wishes for a happy and peaceful 2020. **DR/PC**

Halesworth Dementia Carers' Fund are showing their next matinee film at the CUT, Halesworth on Wednesday 15th January 2020 of 'Rocketman' at 2.45 pm for 3 pm start - £5 on the day. All are welcome.

Wenhaston WI December report

2019 was our centenary year and to celebrate we enjoyed a splendiferous meal, supplied to us by Emma Briggs, in our beautifully decorated village hall. I sat next to one of our most venerable members who could remember some of the founder members of our group. A 50/50 draw collected a goodly sum and we were able to donate the profit to Erica's charity. The evening was rounded off with Christmas songs by Barry, accompanied by Jonathan on the piano. After which we all sang several carols with great vigour.

Next month the meeting is to be held on the 8th January at 2.00 in the Church Room, Cheque books at the ready. The poem below was handed to me at the last meeting.

*The first Wednesday in the Village
Hall*

*What can I do to catch the eye?
And get you to join the WI.*

*There must be plenty of readers out
there*

*Who once a month has an hour to
spare.*

*There you will find such an open door
You will wonder why you haven't
joined before.*

*The Jam and Jerusalem went long ago
But there is still a lot you may wish to
know.*

*Like social issues about which we care
With experts to help us to be more
aware.*

Local – Regional - -National too-

*Just name the subject – we'll fix it for
you.*

*Hobbies and crafts, interests and
sports*

*Topics of all conceivable sorts.
Courses, day schools, outings and fun*

*A worldwide fellowship second to
none.*

*Friendship and laughter, happy
greetings*

*What better way to enjoy the
meetings.*

*Where on earth you might ask can be
answer to this call*

*THE FIRST WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT
THE VILLAGE HALL.*

Wenhaston Mother's Union

Delicious smells of Oranges and Spices filled the Church Room after our November Meeting when Jane, our Member, guided us in making Pomanders in preparation for Christmas. It was all good fun working in Groups and the final results were very interesting!!

Our Annual Christmas Party will have hopefully been enjoyed at our December meeting at Spindleberry and then into the New Year when we will be pleased to welcome The Revd. Malcolm Walkey to Celebrate at our annual Corporate Communion and to chair our brief Annual Meeting. We will meet in the Church at 2.30pm on Wednesday 15th January and after our Service we will enjoy Tea and Biscuits.

We were all saddened to learn of the Death of Joan Buse who had until quite recently been a member of our M U. Joan had lived in Wenhaston for many years before moving to Halesworth to be near her Family. She was an active

member continuing to attend every meeting after she left the Village. We shall all miss her Friendship and Kindness and we send our Sympathy, Love and Prayers to her Family at this sad time.

We wish all our Friends and Readers a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Margaret G.

Wenhaston Flower Club

We had a lovely Christmas party in the church rooms in December and a big Thank You to the U3A Ukulele group and Viv who provided the excellent entertainment.

There is no meeting in January.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Pub Lunch on February 4th, 1pm at The White Hart in Halesworth. If you haven't already signed up but would like to go please ring Dawn 01986 87360.

For all other information contact Jean Spindler on 01502 478317

Successful Season For Wenhaston Bowls

Another successful season was reported at the Annual General Meeting of Wenhaston Bowls Club held in the club's pavilion on October 14th when the Chairperson Dr. Jean Macheath presided and thanked the committee, including team captains and club members who had helped during the season.

The secretary/treasurer John Robinson reported that the club's finances are in a healthy position and that he was relinquishing the position of secretary to enable him to spend more time helping greenkeeper David Hambling. His financial summary and reports had been circulated to all members and it was agreed that they be accepted.

Nigel Roberts, the men's Bowls England league captain's report was read in his absence and this stated that the team had lost just one match, against Beccles Town who were the new champions taking over from Wenhaston, the 2018 champions.

Nigel was also captain of the Halesworth Three-wood league, the winners of which had not been determined owing to a fixture misunderstanding.

However, it is believed that Wenhaston came either first or second. Chris

Peck, captain of the team in the Lowestoft and District League, thanked all the players for making the effort for the club to come first for the third consecutive year.

Kevin Canham, captain of the team competing in the Saxmundham League who was unavoidably absent, reported that Wenhaston finished third in that competition.

David Hambling thanked all who played in the Sax Pairs league in which the team finished fifth.

Officers for the 2020 season were elected as follows:

President: Eve Peck, Chairperson: Jean Macheath, Vice- Chairman: Jim Boggis, Secretary: Jake Moyes, Treasurer: John Robinson, Greenkeeper: David Hambling,

Committee:

E. Peck, K. Dyer, P. Hurren, J. Jordan, M. Allen, and team captains.

It was agreed that the club would withdraw from the Halesworth Three-wood league and the Sax pairs league due to excessive demands on the players.

Elaine Peck said she was no longer running the club annual tournament and Tom Daly said that he would take this on with help from Elaine.

New members are welcome for the 2020 season and details of membership are available from the secretary on jake.moyes9@gmail.com

Footpath Walking

Only one walk in January which will leave from Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am on Tuesday 7th January.

Commons Conservation

On Tuesday 14th January Jonathan Alder will lead a work party on Bickers Heath. Meet at seat off Coles Hill with parking off Low Road at 10am.

I wish the walkers and volunteers all the best for 2020 with good walking and good weather for conservation.

Heather Phillips

Write Now!

*The Blyth , our river is well
known,
Perhaps a lesser river than in
days of yore,
Still a river to wander the
field paths along,
Lost in reverie and heartfelt
song.*

*Then there's that other
constant river,
Nourished in our small
heaven on earth,
That passing, invigorating
flow of words
To explore, expand and
excite.*

*Words to see and taste and
hear.*

*Written sounds , describe,
show love and cheer.
Flexing minds with writing
purpose.*

*Now pick up your pen, tap
those keys*

*Listen, the pounding of your
heart that tells*

*Join other writers at our
Village Hall*

*Perhaps to leave your mark in
Wenhaston with Mells*

***New writers group starts Jan
6/7** village hall 10am –
noon***

***** Please let us know which
day suits better (Mon/Tues)
Terry.blackheathdawn@gmail.com
[01502478822](tel:01502478822)
sandra.bryson6@yahoo.com***

Blyth Woods News – Malsters Little Field

We've done it! Blyth Woods are happy to announce that the purchase of Malsters Little Field has been completed. We would like to send a big 'thank you' to everyone who has given so much support and contributed to our fundraising efforts.

We haven't allowed the grass to grow under our feet and have already put our management plan into action with children from Wenhaston Primary School squelching through the mud to plant the boundary hedge. Many thanks and apologies to whoever is responsible for their laundry. The fundraising will continue to cover ongoing costs of trees

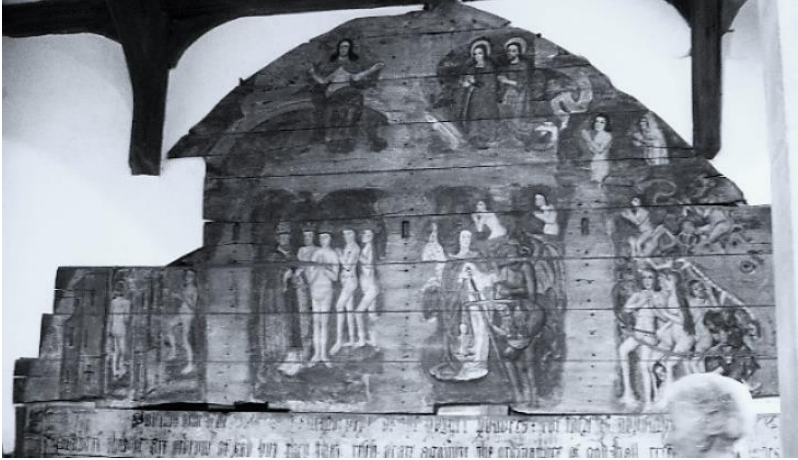


to plant, maintenance and equipment, with the first event of 2020 being a Grand Jumble Sale at 2pm on 18 January in Wenhaston Village Hall.

Please come along to one of our Saturday work parties at Grove Piece at 10am on 25 January and 22 February and find out more about plans for our expanding community wild spaces.

www.blythwoods.org

Doom Day 2020



The Wenhaston Doom is a remarkable piece of art. It has survived for over 500 years and has been visited by people from all over the world since it was rediscovered at the end of the nineteenth century. It captures in a dramatic and graphic way the religious thinking of the time when it was painted.

St Peter's Church is planning a "Doom Day" in 2020 to encourage people to find out more about this village treasure. We plan to have talks, artwork and music, children's activities and, of course, refreshments. We are also hoping to set up a small group of people to help promote the Doom. By attracting more visitors, especially group visits, to see the Doom, the church hopes to raise money to meet the ever-increasing financial demands it faces for its running and maintenance.

If you are interested in supporting this project, either by helping organise the day, or by joining the Doom promotion project, please contact Revd. Alison Alder at alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk / 01502 478855

Alison Alder



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THE USAAF IN EAST ANGLIA 1942-45

Find out more about the impact of the American Army Air Force from 1942 to 1945 on the people, economy and countryside of our part of Suffolk by coming to our Spring lecture series by Ian McLachlan starting on Friday, February 7, 2020 ending on Friday 27 March with half term on Friday 23 February, 10am-12.

The course has seven sessions, costs £54 and is open for online or telephone booking at wea.org.uk or 0300 303 3464. The Course Code is C2226723.

Venue: Wenhaston Village Hall, Hall Road, Wenhaston IP19 9EP.

**Any questions please contact Barry Norrington on 01502 478762
barry.norrington48@btinternet.com**

BLYTH WOODS GRAND JUMBLE SALE
SATURDAY 18 JANUARY 2020
2pm-4pm Wenhaston Village Hall

If you are planning a post Christmas clear out, Blyth Woods would welcome donations for our jumble sale ... then you can come along and buy some replacements! Refreshments will be served.

10am-12pm – drop off goods at the village hall (local collection available)

For more info, ring
01502 478 466



www.blythwoods.org

blythwoods1@gmail.com

Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club

Winners for December 2019

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

- 1st prize Derek Roberts (number 163) £37.50
 - 2nd prize Annie Jellicoe (number 113) £22.50
 - 3rd prize Melanie Mills (number 150) £15
- Xmas bonus winner Janet Dillaway (number 76) £50

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 £8 for the year starting from January. 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.***

Environment Weekend May 1st - 3rd 2020

The Blyth Valley Team Ministry are organising a weekend in May focused on environmental issues. The aims of the event are:

- To showcase the many projects in the local area which work to protect our local environment and its diversity.
- To give a voice to young people and others in the community who are deeply concerned about the implications of climate change.

- To celebrate our environment through music, art and creative writing.
- To invite people to join acts of worship which both celebrate creation and call for its protection.
- To showcase the potential of St Mary's, Halesworth as a community space for exploring key issues.



If you have any ideas, know of groups who could be involved, or wish to help organise the event, please email me at: alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk

Wenhaston St Peter's Church

Our Grand Garage Book Sale raised £185 for Church Funds. Many thanks to Margaret G for having the brilliant idea and for hosting it, for all who gave books and came to buy, the sellers and refreshment ladies, and to Jill and David who very kindly transported the left over books to their next destination.

We are looking forward to a busy December, what with 'Sing out Yoxford', The Carol Service, Christmas Lunch for those who live alone, and, of course, Midnight Mass to celebrate our Saviour's birth. Update on this next month. Could I take this opportunity on behalf of St Peter's to thank everyone who helps to keep the wheels oiled – the sidesmen/women, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the door openers, the brass cleaners, those who read and lead the prayers at services, the bell ringers (when we have them), Heather who faithfully makes the coffee, all our generous givers and fund raisers, Valerie who explains the 'Doom' to visitors, those who look after the Church Room and to our clergy who manage to let us have a service three times a month. Especially to Jonathan, our Churchwarden, and Margaret before him, who work so hard for the church and its members. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, but if I have, you are appreciated too. Many, many thanks.

And a Happy New Year to one and all!

Sidespeople and Services in January

5 th	January	Team Service at Halesworth 10.am
12 th	January	We join the Methodists for their Covenant Service at 10.30
19 th	January	Eucharist 9.30 Clive Watson
26 th	January	Pause for Thought 11.15

Church Cleaning in January

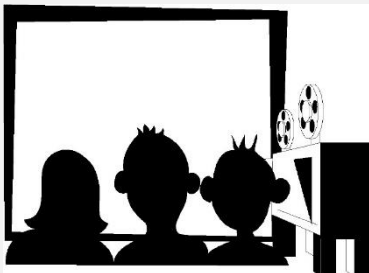
5 th January	Anne & Colin Wright
19 th January	Dorothy Franklin & Suzanne Watkins

Margaret Bloomfield 01502478502

Wenhaston Methodist Church

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10.30AM	TUESDAY MEETINGS AT 2.30PM
5 Iris Baker	7 Bible Study
12 Rev Louise Morrissey United Covenant Service	14 Fellowship
19 Julie Warren	21 Bible Study
26 Laura Lawrence-Martin	28 Fellowship
ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE	

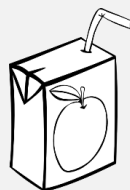
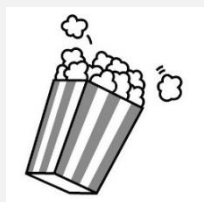
Young People's Film Night



Friday 24th January 2020

6-8.30pm

Wenhaston Village Hall



FREE ADMISSION

(Donations welcome)

(Year 5 and upwards)

*For more information contact: Alison Alder from BVTM
alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk*

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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Wenhaston

Hand made Christmas card from the Wenhaston Archive