



October 2021

Wenhaston Warbler

What's been going on at Grove Woods?



You don't need to be a Friend of Blyth Woods to come on one of our fun and friendly work parties. Nor do you need to be young and fit.

Every extra pair of hands is hugely welcome and we'll match you to whatever you think you can do, whether it's tackling the holly in Vicarage Grove, helping plant trees and hedges, cutting back brambles, sowing seeds, recording, drawing or photographing specimens, and much else. We supply gloves and tools if needed. Just bring yourself.

The first work party is on 9th October from 10.00 a.m. Meet at Vicarage Grove to hear our plans for the morning, or join us when you can. If you could let us know beforehand by emailing blythwoods1@gmail.com, it would be much appreciated.



The Blyth Woods group had an enthusiastic turnout of Friends for their Picnic on the 15th August, fortunately in brilliant sunshine for once this summer. A new BioBlitz was recorded in Malster's Little Field, where we found 65 different plant species, 5 butterflies, 4 dragonflies and identified 16 different insects. As Blyth Woods member, Alan Miller, remarked, 'Pretty good for what was a barley field four years ago!' In Malster's Little Field it has been a joy to watch the newly-restored pond come to life this year. The seed bank that must have been in the overgrown and blocked-up pond is now producing a variety of aquatic and wetland plants, such as Water Crowfoot in the pond and Celery-leaved Buttercup around the edge. Great-Crested Newts have been spotted swimming below the surface. We have also scattered locally gathered wildflower seeds in some areas.

A reminder: dogs love swimming but ponds don't love dogs! They can churn up the bottom, destroy the vulnerable aquatic plants and the treatments used to control fleas and ticks are lethal to all aquatic life. Please restrain your dog from swimming in the Malster's pond. Thank you!



Patricia Elliott

Wenhaston Walks

On Tuesday, 5th October a walk will leave from Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am.

On Tuesday, 19th October, Ian Bigwood will lead a walk starting at 10am from the Poacher's Pocket, Carlton (near Saxmundham). The circular walk will take us through Carlton, Kelsale and part of Saxmundham and will conclude with lunch at the pub; more on this by e-mail in due course. If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email ipbigwood@btinternet.com

Heather Phillips (01502 478545)

Puffins Galore

The Blyth Valley and Southwold branch of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust were happy to be back with “live” meetings after such a long time away.

Our first talk was entitled “Puffins Galore”, presented by Simon Hooten. Simon has been visiting the island of Skokholm, off the coast of Pembrokeshire, since he was a schoolboy, and he gave a lively account of these characterful birds. It is a small island with a long history of rabbit and general farming, but today is owned by the Wildlife Trust, and is a bird and wildlife observatory.

The surface of the island is fragile, with so many burrows, and so visitors are restricted to marked footpaths, but with so few people allowed – a maximum of 26 – there is plenty of space to enjoy the birds in close proximity.

The Puffins arrive in late March, lay one egg in May that hatches in 2-3 weeks, and the young Puffling is fed by both parents in turn. When the chick is large enough to be independent, the parents abandon it in the burrow, and hunger brings it out to face the world and fend for itself.

Gulls are serious predators, and the young birds need to keep their wits about them. As well as breeding birds, bad weather brings younger puffins onto the island in huge numbers, and throughout the summer season puffins can be observed at very close quarters.

As well as Puffins, Skokholm’s cliff edges attract huge numbers of Razorbills and Guillemots. At night, Storm Petrels and Manx Shearwaters arrive. The latter are clumsy on land, and will only approach the island on the darkest of nights to avoid predation. They breed successfully, and Manx numbers on the island have risen to an astonishing forty-six thousand.

As summer ends, the Puffins and other avian visitors prepare to leave on their long voyages across the seas, and the island is left to the peace and quiet of the small resident wildlife populations.

It was an entertaining evening that we all enjoyed.

Our next meeting is at 7.30pm, Thursday, October 14th, back at the **Southwold Arts Centre, Cumberland Road, Southwold, IP18 6JP**. Alice Wickman, from the SWT, will be bringing us up to date on the River Blyth Project. The cost is £3, to include refreshment, children are free, and all are welcome. **Contact us at swtblythvalley@gmail.com**

Penny Mansfield

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SATURDAY 16th OCTOBER
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TEA/COFFEE AND DELICIOUS CAKES

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WENHASTON VILLAGE HALL

Quiz Night

Saturday 27th November

at 7:30pm

- Doors and paying bar open from 7pm
- Teams of four per table; £4 per person
- Tickets from Jane Peters (Village Post Office)

Quiz Master: the incomparable Phil Corbett

Further details from **Carol Hudson-Jary** on:

Tel: 01502 478732

Come and join the fun!

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Can Spiders Jump?

On a beautiful September morning I came across a single thread of spider's web spanning the footpath near Blackheath Farm, some fifteen feet long! How does a spider do it? The only answer is that the spider jumps across the space trailing the thread behind it. Spiders create amazing beauty on the heath when the sun is shining on their dew-covered webs early in the day. Funnel spiders produce 'funnels' of superb intricacy.

On September 5th, around 8 o'clock, I watched six sand martins (accompanied by a single swallow) swooping over the sand quarry. They stayed for a day. Perhaps they had returned to clear up the discarded dog waste bags left by the small minority of dog owners who spoil the heath. As an owner of three dogs, I am dismayed by people who allow their dogs to rampage around the heath, disturbing wildlife and depositing waste. The heath is a precious and rare habitat and needs protecting.

As the autumn progresses, we look forward to our Canada-based daughter coming 'home'. I love the chilly evenings and the starry skies. Our collie, with his thick coat, is delighted with the prospect of morning frosts. Jupiter is a wonderful sight in the southern sky. It is an enormous gas giant some five hundred million miles from the earth.

With the darker mornings there is a chance to listen to the farming programmes on Radio 4 in bed. A growing number of farmers are developing exciting new policies for improving the soil and the landscape. With the end of the CAP, 'Public money for public good' is an excellent concept.

Whatever policy changes are proposed, farmers will be the agents of such changes. They created the English landscape that we love and value. The 'single payment' will be phased out and farmers will be paid to improve the countryside; planting hedges and trees etc

Brian Withnall

Film Night for Young People

Friday 15th October 6 – 8pm

Wenhaston Village Hall

(Subject to Covid Limitations)

For further details contact: Alison
Alder alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk or text
07584 416277



Well, Squire, That's a Nice Little Runabout

Have you noticed how the sight of different makes of car evoke very different emotions – from irritation, to (perhaps) envy, then through to fondness or even infatuation? Well, Bob Chipperfield's Ford 100E 'Squire' is firmly in the fondness/nostalgia section. Many of us of a



certain age will have owned – or even learned to drive in - an old Ford Anglia, Prefect or Popular, and have memories of the three gears and 'interesting' windscreen wipers that worked off the manifold via a vacuum tank,

which meant that when struggling uphill in heavy rain, the wipers would conveniently slow to a standstill...

Bob has had his brown and cream two-tone Squire for a couple of years now and travelled to Yorkshire to get it (yes, they are sought-after as a collector's car), and it's the latest in a line of old 'working man's' cars he has fondly nurtured. But don't get the idea that he's

precious about it: it's very much a working vehicle even if it does appear at local rallies and shows; full marks to Bob for that – we share a strong view that these old vehicles should be used, not refurbished to showroom condition and wrapped in cotton wool. As Bob says, it's very practical and, due to its size, easy to park. The only nods towards the 21st century are the electrically operated wipers, and replacement of the old cross-ply tyres with radials.

Those who still have traces of oil beneath their fingernails will recall that the standard engine for this series was a 4-cylinder side-valve 1172cc engine, and the Squire was the 'up-market' version of the Escort. The tailgate is split horizontally – not something you find these days – and there's a very reasonable load-space in the back. Even better, there's not a computer engine management in sight.... So please give Bob and his Squire a cheery wave when you see them on the road.

Wil Harvey

Halesworth Dementia Carers' Fund



A.G.M. HDCF held its Annual general Meeting in August. It was attended by representatives of the Council and various welfare organisations, as well as members of the public. One of the jobs was to elect the committee for the new year. The existing committee members were re-elected, with Teresa Fyfe continuing as the Chair and Dave Rich as Secretary. Paddy Cox took on the role of Carers' Representative.

Fund Raising

HDCF has to raise thousands of pounds annually to enable it to carry out the main function of supporting families. We are delighted to hear of two people running marathons to help us. Danny Mitchell will be running on 3rd October in the Chelmsford Half-Marathon. Later this year Karen Prime will be running a virtual marathon and will be donating some of the money raised to HDCF. We are truly grateful to

both of these people for running on our behalf. We do hope people will feel able to sponsor either of these local heroes, and we will let you know how they get on.

Thoroughfare Stall

The committee ran a stall in the Thoroughfare on 14th August. The aim was to publicise our work, and we were delighted at the interest from people coming past. Danny was there with sponsor forms for his marathon. We also had cakes, CDs and books for sale, and with the pick-a-square competition we took £206 for funds. Many thanks to all who supported us. The basket of fruit was won by Irene Thomas.

Film at The Cut

Following the September showing of the Cut the next film show will be in November, and it is likely to be Downton Abbey and will be shown on Wednesday 17th Nov.

For further information regarding HDCF please contact us via information.hdcf@btinternet.com or call 01986 875444

Potato in a Bucket



Covid – 19 may have scuppered The Village Show again this year but it did not stop the Potato in a Bucket from going ahead in the Village Hall car park.

We had 21 entries with weights ranging from 100 grams (4oz in old money), to the winning 1.22 kgs (2lbs 11oz) bucket of Jane Peters, well done Jane. In total almost 13kgs (28lbs 9oz) of potatoes were grown for the competition.

It was lovely to have three children entering this year who all won prizes for their entries.

One class from Wenhaston Primary School produced some wonderful art work inspired by the illustrations in Eric Carle's book 'The Tiny Seed' which should have been entered for the cancelled Village Show. These colourful pictures can be viewed in the Village Hall.

We can only look forward to next year's Village Show, which must take place and invite any new members to join our small informal group for a few hours a year to help the Wenhaston Village Produce Show to survive in the future.

For more information, please contact Richard or Jan on 01502 478775.
Jan Clements



Editors' Note

Xmas is coming, and we're looking forward to our December COLOUR edition. It's an opportunity for our regular advertisers, charities and volunteers, to wish readers the compliments of the season (no larger than two small ads, please!). Anyone can join in: £5 for a small ad size greeting, £10 for double small ad size!

Can we just clarify that the What's On listing we are suggesting is only open to non-profit organisations or fund raisers? This can be as well as your poster or article, and should be no more than 4 lines of A5. Just what, when and where, to go into a list!

wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com

Marsh and Garden

We had many Lords and Ladies plants, also commonly known as Cuckoo pint (due to it arriving at the same time as the cuckoo) appearing in the hedgerows of the

garden this year. The garden is now decorated with tight bunches of deep rich red berries atop their completely straight pale green stalks. The berries, at first completely green, appearing in

early July, have now fully developed into food for the birds, who play a vital role, distributing the seeds within the berries which pass through their bodies. The fruit is extremely toxic to most other animals, including humans. The flowers develop in spring and early summer showing their extraordinary form, the male stigma (the 'lord') developing within the lily like flower sheath of the female part (the 'lady').



Insects are drawn in to the plant attracted by the smell and heat generated by the male part. They then transfer pollen onto female parts of neighbouring plants. Like almost all plants, propagation relies on a delicate interplay between plants and animals.

Interestingly the only part of the plant which is not so toxic is the root (known as 'starch root') which contains soapy substances which have been used in the past in laundry processes. The root can be eaten only after very careful preparation, and was known as 'Portland sago' in the past. Small mammals do seek out the stigma to nibble on when the berries fall off or are removed by the birds. Meanwhile around us I still encounter joyful flocks of chattering swallows feeding on the insects released into the air during the last hotter days before they head off to Africa. In contrast, incoming migrants from Scandinavia, a flock of Fieldfares, settled on the potato field for a while, presumably finding some worms and insects to eat. They rarely feed from garden seed feeders, although they will eat apples.

A hobby was sighted over the garden yesterday, veering up over the roof and back out again, on a hunting trip.

This is berry season and I am looking forward to adding some hedgerow blackberries to eat with the apples which are now falling from the trees in the garden.

Kate Archibald

Art & Craft starts up again

The Tuesday afternoon Art & Craft group made a welcome return and celebrated with a glass of fizz and cake! All welcome on Tuesdays at 2pm – bring your own arty/crafty project to this fun, informal gathering. Many thanks to Phil and Denise Corbett and Andy Norris for getting us up and running again.



Photo by Elda Hobson

Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club

Winners for September 2021

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

- 1st prize Deborah Cartwright (number 140) £37.50
- 2nd prize Lillian Spindler (number 9) £22.50
- 3rd prize Claire Bigwood (number 16) £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 £11 for the year starting from October.

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 478078.

WENHASTON

Produce, & Craft Market

Saturday

30th October 2021

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 stall-holders always welcome...

Pitch fee: £6

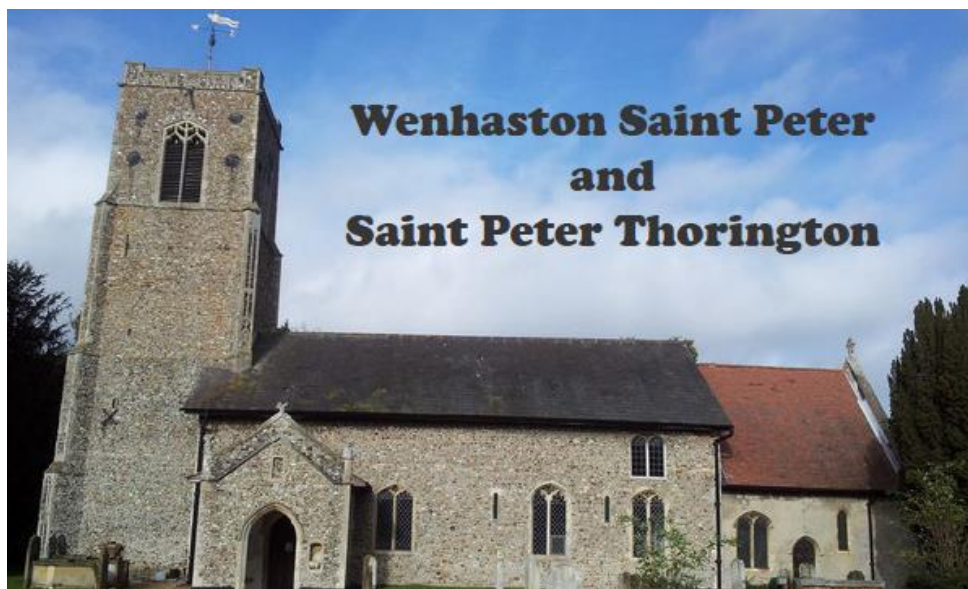
To book your table (provided) contact:

Carol Hudson-Jary

Tel: 01502 478732 or

e-mail: caz-mike@outlook.com

Raising funds for Village Hall Maintenance



**Wenhaston Saint Peter
and
Saint Peter Thorington**

**Two-Saint-Peter's
Quiz**

Friday 22nd October

Wenhaston Village Hall

Raffle

7 for 7.30

Bar

**Entry £12 for a table of four
Proceeds in aid of both churches**

Forms available at Wenhaston Post Office

Geraldine, Queen of the Small Ads



Introducing Geraldine Lines, who took on the challenge of accounts and small ads for the Warbler, when Jonathan Alder retired from the job. We are grateful to have such an effective volunteer in the village, so, take a bow, Geraldine!

Community Lunches start up Monday 25th October Wenhaston Village Hall



Before the pandemic, church organised monthly lunches for



the

older people and people living on their own. We are starting the lunches again on Monday 25th October. We will be inviting people who previously attended the lunches but would also welcome new people. To book a place for yourself or on behalf of someone, please contact me on 01502 478855 or at alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk. If you would like to help with cooking, serving, washing up or transporting people to and from the event, please get in touch.

Alison Alder

St Peter's Church

It came as quite a shock to hear that our Assistant Curate, Rev Jane Held is leaving us. We will surely miss her, but wish her every blessing in her new post. Jane will be leaving the Blyth Valley Team in November and will be licensed in her new benefice on 7th December. Our love and prayers will go with her.

Harvest Festival is over for another year, the nights are pulling in and winter is waiting in the wings. Before we settle down by the fireside in the evenings, we invite you to join with us for our annual Two St Peter Churches Quiz which takes place on 22nd October in the Village Hall, at 7 for 7.30. We are charging £4 each for tables of four people and there will be the usual bar and raffle. We are very grateful to Phil and Denise Corbett for once again running this for the church. Application forms will be available from the Post Office.

Our services for the month of October are as follows: -

3rd October Team Service at Halesworth at 10am

10th October Eucharist 10am

17th October Pause for Thought 10am

24th October Morning Worship 10am

31st October Team Service at Halesworth 10am

Margaret Bloomfield

Wenhaston Methodist Church

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30 am

3 Rev Peter Rayson HC

10 Rev Robin Searles

17 Julie Warren

24 Rev Louise Morrissey

31 Rev Ian McKillop

Tuesday 19th Bible Study at 2.30 pm

ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

FACE COVERINGS TO BE WORN

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