



May 2023

Wenhaston Warbler

Soul and Motown Evening

So, who knew that the village could boogie so hard! The Soul & Motown evening on Saturday 8th April (Easter weekend) at Wenhaston Village Hall was a sold-out ticket event.

With 140 plus people in attendance the dance floor was packed nearly all the evening and it was amazing to see people from 20 – 85yrs up and dancing.



The doors opened at 7.15pm to a queue of people, some who had been waiting for 30 minutes to secure good seats, but as it was a lovely evening, everyone seemed in good spirits.

As they entered the hall, they were greeted by some laid back soul records played by DJ Danny Clegg who had travelled up all the way

from the North West of England to play his vinyls



The bar queue was tailing back into the hall but the two volunteer bar staff, Jane & Sue did a sterling job all night, because boy it was busy!

The singer Jonno came on at 8pm and wow did he get everyone up on the dance floor with his start up song of 'Dancing on the ceiling', and that continued through his two 50-minute sets of a variety of soul hits.

Danny then continued with some upbeat disco and soul/Motown tunes and people were STILL dancing. What a lovely, fun atmosphere and people partied like it's 1999!

Antony & Robyn provided a selection of soul themed pizzas and hot dogs which seemed to go down well, although the jalapeno one (Burn baby burn) left my eyes watering.

The night ended at 11.30pm with everyone on a high (possibly too much alcohol).

Anyway, the night was a result of several months of planning and advertising and would have been impossible for one person to do on their own so, a big thanks to the following people: -

Mac for being so enthusiastic and supporting me from the initial idea and through to the end, Sue & Jane for the hard work & patience behind the bar, (setting up and cleaning after), Carol and Terry for entry tickets and 50/50 raffle ticket selling, Danny & Jonno for excellent musical performances, Rod for being a very good door man



for the night, and Eileen for pre-event washing beer glasses and setting up table decorations. Annie for her graphic designer skill for the posters and tickets and all the people who volunteered their time to help with setting up/ and sorting the hall out afterwards including Mike, Guy, Richard, and anyone else that helped. Carl and Virginia at The Star and Spencer and Clare at the Fox, Shadingfield. Thank you.

Finally, a big shout out to you, the Villagers for attending and making the night so memorable. What a night! All profits (which have not been totalled prior to this write up) will be going back to the Village Hall. I will leave a note of amount raised at the Post Office when possible. Thank you Wenhaston

Karen Clegg

Children's Society Collection St Peters Church

I am delighted to say that I have sent £604.55 to the Children's Society which is all the cash from the collecting boxes. The Society is very grateful, so thank you to everyone who contributed. I have boxes if anyone else would like one.

Margaret Bloomfield

Editors Notes: Lots of fun events coming up as summer approaches. You must all be so busy that we've had rather fewer articles than usual. We hope that the next deadline, 15th May, brings us a bumper crop. All copy to wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com.

Garden Survey Results



Thank you to the 90 residents who completed a garden survey form. This is a statistically valid number, equal to 22.5% of all residents. The overall results are shown below. We received many useful comments but unable to include them here – you'll find them on the Wilder Wenhaston website. We shall use the responses below and comments received, to encourage each other to make our gardens more wildlife friendly and increase habitats across the village.

Our next step is to organise a Wilder Garden Trail – see save the date advert opposite

		Yes	No
1	a) Do you leave an uncultivated area in your garden/tended specifically for wildlife?	59	18
	b) Do you use plants specifically for wildlife/as pollinators?	72	11
2	<u>BUGS:</u>		
	a) Are you aware of the insects in your garden?	83	8
	b) Do you have a bug hotel?	40	49
	<u>BIRDS:</u>		
	a) Do you put food out for birds in your garden?	80	10
	b) Do you have bird feeders?	78	23
	c) Do you have any nest boxes?	65	24
	<u>BEASTS</u>		
	Are you aware of seeing/seen signs of any of the following in your garden?	45	42
		32	55
a) Frogs	53	35	
b) Grass snakes			
c) Hedgehogs			
d) Is there a route through boundaries for hedgehogs to move to a neighbouring garden/area?	76	12	
3	Is your garden		
	a) A whole garden for wildlife? b) Or a smaller wildlife area within your garden?	31 51	44 24
4	Are any of these in your garden? (Including any season):		
	a) Trees	85	5
	b) Shrubs	89	0
	c) Hedgerows	75	12
	d) Wildflowers	74	10
	e) Long grass area/s	58	28
5	a) Do you have a wildlife pond (i.e. not one for ornamental fish)?	36	50
	b) A different sort of water area e.g. a sink	37	43
6	Do you have any water butts?	78	12
7	Do you compost garden/kitchen waste?	61	26
8	Do you garden for wildlife in ways not mentioned above?	12	10



Wilder Wenhaston
Pathway to a Greener Future



“Wilder Gardens Trail”

Save the date: Sunday 4th June 2-5pm

A number of gardens will be opening for a Wenhaston Wilder Gardens Trail. Visitors will be able to gather ideas on features which promote wildlife – including ponds, planting, hedgehogs and insects.

Each garden is a ‘work in progress’. Hosts will be happy to talk about their gardens; what’s worked and what’s been less successful. They’ll be interested to hear what you are doing.

See June’s Warbler and village noticeboards for Trail details.

Christian Aid Week 2023

As I write, rain seems to have poured down for days and though we welcome it after last year's lengthy droughts, we can get a little tired of it after a while. I say this because Christian Aid Week 2023 is almost upon us. And even if we are experiencing extremes these days, they pale in contrast with what other countries suffer as climate change extends its grip.

This year Christian Aid week focuses on Malawi, a land-locked country in southern Africa bordered by Zambia, Mozambique and Tanzania. Like many countries it is experiencing ever rising costs of food, fuel, fertiliser and school fees, the last two important in a largely crop growing country and where, like many African countries, parents must fork out for basic school fees.

Last year Malawi's harvest failed dramatically, only to be followed by cyclone Freddy lasting 34 days, which washed away what meagre crops there were. Over 500 000 people were displaced while hundreds lost their lives. Malawi is still struggling to get back on its feet.

As in past years, we ask if you can contribute something towards the Christian Aid appeal 2023 for Malawi. As usual an envelope will drop through your door during the week of 14th – 20th May.

There are then three drop-off points in the village for you to return your envelope:

- Wenhaston Post Office
- Rev. Alison Alder Oakhurst Blackheath Road
- Moira Cooke Stonecott, St Michael's Way (the house with the big chimney)

You can equally donate by using the QR code on the envelope, or, if you are housebound, call me on: 478503 and I will come and collect. Thank you in anticipation for all Wenhaston has done over the years for Christian Aid Week and will hopefully continue to do this year!

Moira Cooke for Christian Aid Committee

Blyth Valley Parkinson's Support Group
Invite you to
A coffee morning
at
Wenhaston Village Hall
on
Thursday May 11th 10.30 – midday
Entrance £2 to include coffee and biscuits



All monies raised in aid of Parkinson's support work in our area
Please come and support us!

Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund

Film Show.

Our next film to be shown at the Cut will be the wonderful Fishermen's Friends 2. It is a very uplifting film and we are delighted to be showing it. This film will be on Wednesday 17th May at the usual time of 2.00. Doors will open at 1.45 and admission is by £5 donation.

Golf Day

We are delighted with the response to this great fund-raising event. So far, we have 15 teams entered, and some wonderful sponsorship. We are so grateful to all who are contributing to this day. The event takes place on Weds 3rd May, and further details may be obtained by calling John Giles on 07789991046.

Lottery Draw

The winning numbers in our 100+ Club draw for March are as follows: - £90 85, £60 2 and £30 47. If you would like to join the 100+ Club please contact Anna on 01986 872207.

Contact Details

I am pleased to give the following information for those who may wish to contact us.

For general enquiries please contact our secretary, Alison Cackett, at info@halesworthdementia.co.uk

Those wanting information about our Respite Care Service should contact respite@halesworthdementia.co.uk

You can also follow us on our Facebook Page – Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund.

John Wood HDCF

Blyth Woods' Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting, at which everyone is welcome, will take place on Thursday, 25th May at 7 p.m. in Wenhaston Village Hall. Entrance is free and refreshments will be provided.

The talk, with slides, will be on 'Wilder Wenhaston 2023'. This will bring you up to date on what has happened so far and how you can be part of it - both in very simple ways, such as leaving an area of your lawn unmown for wild flowers, butterflies and bees to flourish, or by joining in our activities, such as planting more trees, more vital than ever in a time of climate change.

So much has been achieved in the past year since this important enterprise started: do come and hear all about it!

Grove Piece Copse: Pond Restoration

The Copse is the small triangular piece of woodland adjoining Grove Piece on its northern border. Last month you may have seen a digger there, clearing the pond. This work is now completed and, in the photographs, you can see how the pond looked before and after.



An army of alexanders are thrusting up by the hedge in Malster's Little Field. By the

time you read this, we hope to have dealt with them before they flower and take over the area, taking light and water from the new trees planted there. Once a medieval pot plant, they have become all too invasive everywhere. Meanwhile, on 22nd April a work party undertook general maintenance through Grove Woods, doing jobs such as weeding tree protective tubes or removing them where they had been outgrown.

Along the path to Vicarage Grove from the Bramfield Road the delicate white flowers of blackthorn are out, to be followed by hawthorn blossom, and in Vicarage Grove you can see greater stitchwort and the glossy yellow stars of celandine now. Spring is here at last!



Patricia Elliott blythwoods1@gmail.com www.blythwoods.org

Community Café

Please note the cafe will be closed on Saturday May 6th – Coronation Day.

Volunteers are always needed to help in the cafe so if you are interested, please contact lizcunningham111@yahoo.co.uk.



Celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III

Sunday 7th May 2023



10am Village Community Service

at St Peter's Church Wenhaston

celebrating both the Coronation and community life.

Traditional hymns, an opportunity to give thanks and a time to reflect on the future.



3pm-5pm Community Afternoon Tea

in the Village Hall

Everyone welcome.

Wenhaston With Mells Hamlet Parish Council

Notice Of Meeting & AGENDA

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in Wenhaston Village Hall on Wednesday, 24th May at 7pm. All Parishioners are invited to attend. The minutes of the previous meeting appear on the Parish Council website.

1. Welcome from the Parish Council Chair and note of apologies
2. Approval and signature of previous minutes
3. Chair's report on behalf of the Parish Council
4. Parish Council financial report
5. Wenhaston Charities report
6. Blackheath Common report: (Suffolk Wildlife Trust/Wenhaston Commons Group)
7. Open forum with an opportunity to question Parish, District and County Councillors

Library News

In addition to the regular activities in May, (Sociable Sundays and Board Games Cafe) the Friends of Halesworth Library will be hosting further events at the library in Bridge Street Halesworth during the month.

On Thursday 18th May at 2.30pm, there will be another in the series of book talks. Details will available from the library closer to the time. There are a couple of fund-raising events for the library in May. On Saturday 20th May there will be a plant and garden sale. Donations of plants and garden related products would be welcome. On Wednesday

24th May at 7.30pm there will be another Quiz Night. The teams will be in tables of 4 and the entry fee per team is £12.

For further information about any of the events and entry forms, ***please enquire at the library on 01986 875095.***

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be at the Village Hall from 3pm to 3.45pm on Friday 19th May. ***N. Frostick***

Wenhaston Village Show

Save the Date: - Sunday 16th July 2023 2-4pm

Schedule of Classes and Entry Forms now available from The Village Hall Foyer

Pick Up Yours Now! Varied Classes – including

Photography, Arts & Crafts, 6 Children's Classes, Baking & Preserves and Sculpture as well as traditional Fruit, Vegetable and Flowers

Plus model Railway Display. Something for Everyone.

Wenhaston Walking Group

Our first walk in May, on Tuesday 2nd, will leave Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am. The second will start at 10am on Tuesday, 16th leaving from the Huntingfield Arms, The Street, Huntingfield, IP19 0PU. A lunch menu will be circulated in advance. If you wish to have your name added to the walkers' circulation list, please email ipbigwood@btinternet.com

Heather Phillips (01502 478545)

Wenhaston Flower Club

We had a wonderful evening at our meeting on Tuesday 4th April when Roger held an Easter workshop, showing us how to make a rustic themed display of spring flowers. We always look forward to Roger's workshops.

The arrangements looked beautiful when displayed all together.

The vote of thanks was given by Jean, our founding member who has known Roger for quite some time.



Our next meeting is on Tuesday 2nd May in Wenhaston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

We welcome a new demonstrator, Moira Nevilles, for this meeting and she will be demonstrating arrangements entitled "Let's Twist".

The price per meeting is still only £5 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Raffle prizes and items for the sale table always welcome.

Looking forward, our June meeting on Tuesday 6th will be a visit to Henstead Exotic Garden, meeting there at 7pm. The cost is £10 which includes entrance fee and tea and cake.

In July we will have our annual Garden Party in a member's garden or if wet in the village hall.

For more information, please contact Jackie Chenery on 01502 478401



*St Peter's Church,
Wenhaston*

Plant Sale

Saturday 13th May
10:30 to 12:30

In the Church Yard
In the church if wet

Plants, Cake Stall, Raffle

Proceeds To The Church

Wenhaston Tennis Club



The Wenhaston Tennis Club is open to all abilities and new members are most welcome (fees available on request). We have approximately 17 members and ladies play on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and

Thursday mornings starting at 09.15. The court is available all year round, subject to weather conditions. To play regularly, occasionally or just a one off, ***please get in touch via our email account:***

wenhastontennisclub@gmail.com or contact Zena Grant Secretary on 07775953987

Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club - Winners for April 2023

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

- 1st prize Roz Curteis (number 30) £37.50
- 2nd prize David Elliott (number 48) £22.50
- 3rd prize Jenny Jeffrey (number 118) £15.00

Congratulations to all! It's never too late to sign up! A chance to win a prize cost just £1 a month - our accounting year starts in September so anyone wishing to join now, the fee is £4 for the period to end August 2023.

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 Jane at the Post Office (thank you Jane for being our collecting person!)

All enquiries please phone Trish on 478078.

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Carol on 07864 083296

Ore-mail caz-mike@outlook.com

Raising funds for maintenance of the Village Hall

WENHASTON

Produce & Craft Market

Saturday
27th May 2023

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...Stall Fee £7
To book your stall (provided) contact:

Carol

Email: caz-mike@outlook.com

Raising funds for Village Hall maintenance

Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research

Spring Fair

SATURDAY 20th MAY

10.30am - 2 pm

HOLTON VILLAGE HALL IP19 8RZ

Light Lunches and Delicious Desserts served from 11.30am

New and Gift Stall, Raffle, Cakes, Books, Bric- a - brac, Tombola etc.

A WARM WELCOME TO EVERYONE.

St Peter's Church

It doesn't seem possible that we are half way through April already, and Easter has passed by. The time seems to go so quickly. We had a good Easter in Wenhaston, starting with a lovely meditation by Alison and Linda on Good Friday. Jonathan sang 'Were you there when they crucified My Lord' which was very moving. Sadly, not many people were there but those who were really appreciated it.

There was a goodly congregation on Easter Sunday to celebrate the Resurrection, where Alison presided. The church looked lovely with all the Easter Lilies, and flowers in the porch. We served Easter Teas on Monday and a good number came along to have tea and view the flowers. Thank you to all who made cakes and helped on the day.

Our next fund-raising effort is the Plant Sale on May 13th from 10.30am in the Church Yard, or in church if wet. There will be a raffle and cake stall as well as lots of good plants so do come along. If anyone has any spare plants, raffle prizes or would like to make us a cake, we should be grateful. Just bring them along on the day. Thank you.

We send our King good wishes for his Coronation. There are plans afoot to help us celebrate and you will find details elsewhere in this edition.

For May services, see posters outside church

Margaret Bloomfield

Formation of a new monthly painting group

The three recent watercolour workshops run by Annie Rice at the Village Hall were very successful and well attended. Nervous beginners gained confidence and knowledge at the first workshop. Watercolours, using the wet in wet technique, flowed loosely over the page in the second workshop and, finally, we explored texturing and altering the surface of the paper, or flow of the paint, to make interesting changes to our paintings.

Following this success Annie has decided to offer a monthly session in watercolour and water-based media, for all levels of experience, from 10-12 am at Wenhaston Village Hall. The first one being held on Sunday 23rd April, then May 21st and June 18th after that. There will be a summer break and start again in the Autumn.

It is hoped that a friendly supportive group will form with the individual members creating their own painting with help from Annie. She will also include tuition on techniques and materials and set 'homework' (optional) to keep you going until the next group session. The cost will be £16 for the 2-hour session.

Contact Annie on 07906011676 or at anniericeartist@gmail.com

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