



*December 2023*

# Wenhaston Warbler

**Wenhaston Village Hall**

## **Christmas Bazaar**

Sat 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023

2.00pm - 4.00pm

**Festive Stalls - Raffles**

Café Open Homemade Cakes

**See Father Christmas**

**Music by Flute Cocktail & Saxpack**

*Supporting local organisations*

*Come and enjoy the Christmas Spirit*



To book your table (provided) - Cost £8

Contact Carol: [caz-mike@outlook.com](mailto:caz-mike@outlook.com)



## **Wenhaston Post Office Update**

As from Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November this will be the last delivery of medication from Halesworth and Reydon Doctor's Surgery, this also includes dropping off repeat prescriptions at the Post Office.

If you are housebound or do not have access to a car to collect your medication, I would advise that you contact your surgery to see if they offer an alternative service. Having had two break-ins this year my insurance company are not happy for me to have prescribed drugs on the premises.

*Jane Peters*

## **Wenhaston Walking Group**

As is traditional, there will be just the one walk in December on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup>. Gail will lead a walk starting out at 10am from the car park in Walberswick, just beyond The Bell pub. A festive lunch will follow at The Bell and a menu will have been circulated already. If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, email [ipbigwood@btinternet.com](mailto:ipbigwood@btinternet.com) We look forward to a celebration; merry Christmas!

*Heather Phillips (01502 478545)*

### **Wenhaston Village Hall 100 club**

#### **Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club - Winners for November 2023**

The Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club October draw was made at the ladies' coffee morning and we are delighted to announce the winners:

- 1st prize John Hennessey (Number 57) £37.50
- 2nd prize Deborah Cartwright (Number 140) £22.50
- 3rd prize Robin Dillaway (Number 75) £15.00

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 £9 for the period to end August 2024, we welcome new members and there are a few spaces left. Contact the promoters, or forms are available from the Post Office where details of how to pay can be found. Thank you for supporting the village hall in this way and having a chance be a monthly winner. Don't forget, as well as the usual December prizes, there is a Xmas Bonus Prize of £50 to be won! All enquiries please phone Elaine on 07577431350 or Angela 07878241258.

*Elaine Potter*



## Wilder Gardens 2024

Wilder Gardens is a sub-group of the Wilder Wenhaston project. Following our Garden Survey in early 2023, we arranged the 'Open Wilder Gardens' event on June 4th 2023; many reported this as an enjoyable and educational experience, nice teas and cake too!

In 2024, we want to encourage sharing ideas via Wenhaston Warbler to increase our potential, as a village, to attract and protect local wildlife in our gardens.

Our idea is to publish seasonal monthly "Wilder Garden tips and jobs", gathered from seasoned experts in the village, including you!

We are grateful to Sue and Tony Gow, Alan Miller, Sue and Barry Norrington for their contributions to kick-start 2024. We invite you to send YOUR ideas by email to [wilderwenhaston@gmail.com](mailto:wilderwenhaston@gmail.com) and we will include them in subsequent editions.

Christmas present ideas:

Buy for wildlife: hedgehog house, bird nesting box, nest box camera, wildflower seeds. Buy from organisations that support wildlife for example: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, World Wildlife Fund, World Land Trust, Woodland Trust.

*Ann Follows and Judy Miller*

## Commons Group Notice

A notice about a change of date of the work party which was previously scheduled for Sunday 26th November. This will now be held on Sunday 3rd December. Meet near the upper edge of the sand martin pit. We may be able to spread heather brash onto burnt areas near Bramfield Road (if it has arrived from Dunwich). This will hopefully produce a good regrowth of heather in this area. Alternatively, there is work to do tidying up the sand pit itself. Meet at 10am. Tools and gloves provided. Please bring own refreshments. Myles is leading the work party. Call 07774 781186 if any queries. See you there!

***Kate Archibald***

## Wilder Wenhaston

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November twelve Wilder Wenhastoners planted 500 narcissus bulbs in the various village greens. The bulbs were supplied free by East Suffolk in an effort to increase the numbers of pollinator plants in the local area. The take up for the scheme was oversubscribed with 120 applications from various parishes. Only 82 packs were available, and we were one of the lucky recipients, so we



are now looking forward to a more colourful spring. Thanks to the team of trowel wielding planters who completed the task in just one-hour, great team work.

***Alan Miller, Wilder Wenhaston***

**Editors' Note.** Seasons Greetings to all our readers, advertisers, and contributors. Thank you for your support throughout the year. **A reminder that we have a strict deadline of December 12<sup>th</sup> this month, because of Xmas holidays.** All items to [wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com](mailto:wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com) as usual.

**70'S/80'S & DISCO  
MUSIC EVENING**

WENHASTON VILLAGE HALL, NARROW WAY, WENHASTON, IP19 9EQ



**SATURDAY 30TH MARCH 2024**  
7.15PM - 11.30PM

**50/50 RAFFLE • SPOT PRIZE FOR BEST 70'S/80'S OUTFIT**  
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ONLY 150 TICKETS AVAILABLE.  
LAST EVENT WAS A SELLOUT WITH NO TICKETS ON THE DOOR.

## 70s and 80s Disco Night

Following on from the sellout Tamla & Soul evening, comes another night of good music and dancing.

This time we will be focusing on the great 70's/80's and Disco.

An 80's collection of songs will be performed by the amazing and energetic singer Jonno and our DJ Danny will be bringing us some great 70's and 80's Disco on vinyl. You don't need to be born in the 1950's and 60's to appreciate this era of music, you just need to let your hair down and dance or tap your foot to the music

An alcoholic bar will be provided at the usual reasonable prices and a pop-up food bar will be providing substantial pizzas for you to purchase.

It's not mandatory for you to dress up but if you feel the need to don your flares and glitter, then a spot prize will be given to the best dressed 70's & 80's outfit.

So come along to Wenhaston Village Hall on Saturday 30th March and have a fun & entertaining night.

***The £10 tickets are NOT available on the door but available to buy beforehand from Jane at Wenhaston Post Office, or myself Karen Clegg, on 07734200624.***

Please don't leave it till the last minute as we are limited to 150 tickets. I look forward to seeing our lovely village community dancing the night away again.

***Karen Clegg***

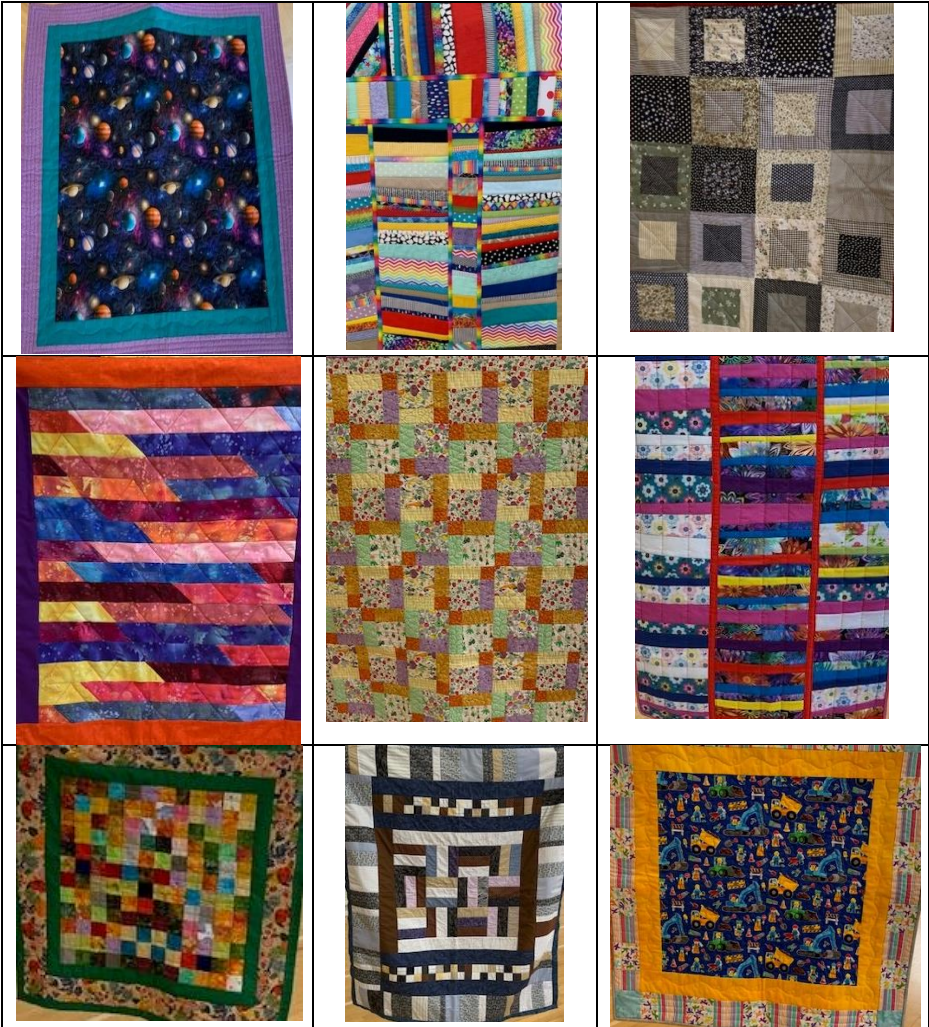
## Wenhaston Patchwork and Quilting Group

Wenhaston Patchwork and Quilting group started in January 2023. We meet in the village hall usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, from 10 until 4pm. The cost is £10 for the day, which includes refreshments, but you need to bring your own packed lunch. We make quilts for the Linus charity and have this year, so far up to July, donated 10 quilts to Linus

<https://projectlinusuk.org.uk/> . Not bad going considering that 7 ladies in the group were new to Patchwork and

Quilting. Inexperienced ladies are helped and supported by more

experienced ladies in the group. The group is open to anyone who is interested in spending the day sewing, and there is no pressure to work on the charity quilts should you wish to work on your own project. ***If you would like to know more, you can telephone Helen Jones on 07961821039 or email [WenhastonPandQ@outlook.com](mailto:WenhastonPandQ@outlook.com).***



## **The Broads and its Wildlife**

In November, the Blyth Valley and Southwold branch of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust welcomed Tony Brown to talk about the many facets of Broadland wildlife. Tony is a naturalist and keen photographer, and we were treated to a fascinating presentation of the rich variety of Broadland flora and fauna. Some species have been brought back from dangerously low numbers to become part of our regular sightings, such as otters, bitterns, marsh harriers and avocets. We looked at rare sightings of black terns, and an American wood duck. We could see details of the unusually large feet of moorhens, the stunning display of the 'eyes' of the emperor moth, and the intricately detailed feathers of the barn owl, complete with its prey, a wood mouse. Tony had many wonderful anecdotes to tell, but the prize goes to the stowaway stoat, which refused to leave his dinghy until the boat was turned upside down on the shore.

We all enjoyed seeing the beauty and richness of the wetlands that are part of our local area, and which we can visit now with a clearer eye of what to look out for.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. 7.30pm at the Southwold Arts Centre, Cumberland Road. IP18 6JP. Hannah Nutt will talk about the Work of the World Land Trust. Admission is £4 to include refreshments, under 25's free. There's no need to book, just come along, all are welcome. Contact us at [swtblythvalley@gmail.com](mailto:swtblythvalley@gmail.com)

***Penny Mansfield***

## **The Bauble's Void – A Poem**

*In the hush of a winter's night, so still, Hangs a bauble on the tree, so chill. A vessel of glass, a sphere so bright, Yet within it, a world, devoid of light.*

*Its surface gleams with a lustrous sheen, Reflecting the tree's resplendent green. But within its depths, a void resides, A hollowness that in the heart abides.*

*Embossed with glitter, it glistens and gleams, A starry night within a world of dreams. Yet, look closer, and you will discern, the emptiness that it seeks to yearn.*



*A tiny universe, self-contained, A world of wonder, beautifully ordained. Yet, inside the bauble's fragile shell, an absence of life, a story to tell.*

*For it hangs there, a mere decoration, A symbol of holiday celebration. But it echoes a truth we often hide, the emptiness that can lurk inside.*

*In the hustle and bustle of the season, we adorn our lives with ornaments and reason. But deep within, a void we may find, the emptiness that can haunt the mind.*

*So, as you gaze upon this bauble's grace, Consider the emptiness it does embrace. For in its hollowness, we may see, A reflection of our own humanity.*

*And though it may seem a fragile thing, this Christmas bauble, with its shimmering, it reminds us to cherish what's within, to fill our hearts with love, and let it begin.*

**Paul Meaden**

### **William Whincop**

As a result of research, I have been doing recently I have an enquiry concerning a past inhabitant of Wenhaston - William Whincop - who died in 1715. I am interested to find out whether anything is known about the location of his property, and also what might be known about a lawsuit contesting the inheritance of his property by his nephew William More, following Whincop's death. I would be very interested to hear from anyone who might know anything about Whincop. A big thank you to the Wenhaston Warbler for allowing me to make this request.

**Hilary Nutt**

### **Wenhaston Flower Club**

We were delighted to welcome a new demonstrator, Amie Galione to our meeting on 7th November. Amie's demonstration was entitled "Sustainable Christmas" with an emphasis on using natural products and recycling and reusing containers whenever possible. The evening provided the members with lots of Christmas gifting ideas and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

We were all delighted to see Jean back with us again and in good spirits after being a bit poorly.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 5th December in Wenhaston Village Hall 7.30pm, and this will be our Christmas Party.



There will be a demonstration by Jenni Baker themed “The Scent of Christmas “and we all look forward to seeing her again this year. For the party after the demonstration, we ask everyone to please provide a plate of sharing food, sweet or savoury and a Secret Santa gift of a value up to £5. Flower Club will provide the drinks. There isn’t an entrance fee on party night. We hope to see everyone there for an enjoyable entertaining evening and to begin the Christmas Festivities.

***Amie demonstrating some environmentally friendly and sustainable alternatives to traditional methods.***

***For more information, please contact Jackie Chenery on 01502 478401***

***Blyford Bridge***

***By Tony Gow***



**Wednesday 6th December**  
**11am –2.30pm**  
**St Mary's Church,**  
**Halesworth**

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**Enjoy delicious**  
**refreshments**



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For more information contact Rev Alison  
07584 416277 / [alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk)

# Wenhaston Primary School Update

I am glad to provide you with an update on the happenings at Wenhaston Primary School so far this year.

## Remembrance



On Friday 10th November, our oldest children had the privilege of attending the war memorial with local veteran John Levy to pay homage to those who served in the war. They participated in singing and poetry and laid crosses. We are truly grateful to John for his involvement and inspiration.

## Blyth Woods Partnership

We are proud to have a wonderful relationship with Blyth Woods, who organize exciting workshops for our children. I would like to extend my gratitude to Marie and all the volunteers involved. To give you a glimpse

of these workshops, here are some accompanying photos.



## **Library Completion**

I am pleased to announce the completion of our library, with an official opening scheduled later this month. I am eager to share photos of this momentous occasion in next month's issue.

## **Sporting Success**

Additionally, I am delighted to inform you that our Wenhaston girls' football team emerged victorious in their area tournament. They exhibited exceptional skill and determination, ultimately triumphing over Bungay Primary in the final. We could not be prouder of their achievement.



On another note, our boys' team finished as runners-up in their respective tournament, which is still a remarkable accomplishment.

## **Science week**

Recently, we organized a science week. Numerous parents volunteered their time to discuss how science contributes to their respective professions. We had engaging contributions from individuals working in the medical, veterinary and agricultural sectors. Furthermore, we encourage our children to participate in a "Dress like a Scientist" day. In a unique twist, we challenged stereotypes by requesting a limit on white coats and crazy hair, emphasizing that scientists come in all forms!

## School Facilities and Initiatives

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Have you considered the option of hiring our school hall and classrooms for your events? Wenhaston Primary School offers these facilities for hire. For more information, feel free to visit our website or contact us directly.

Furthermore, we are also a recycling point for household batteries.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update. We appreciate your continued support in our endeavours to provide a nurturing and enriching educational experience for our children.

*Mr Stone, Head Teacher*

## **Blyth Woods - Moles, Voles and Mushrooms**

Through October and into November we have suffered weeks of almost prolonged rain. Villages, fields, paths and back gardens have been flooded and huge damage has been done to many homes and businesses, bringing disruption and despair in the struggle to clean up. In the case of small mammals, it has been life-threatening. Many rabbits, mice, shrews and voles will have drowned or died of cold. Indeed, we had a pair of tiny field voles in our kitchen, which rushed into the warmth to escape the worst storm, and provided a day of entertainment for our dachshund, Ludo, who watched them intently but under strict instruction didn't lay a paw upon them while we tried to encourage them out again! The deaths of small mammals may mean that their predators, like barn owls, go hungry this winter.

However, apparently moles avoid the rising water in their tunnels by building 'fortresses'. They pile up huge mounds of soil which contain chambers linked to food stores, and survive in these until the water table goes down. (This may not be such good news for gardeners!) All the rain has resulted in an abundant season for mushrooms. On our Mushroom Walk in late October, we spotted at least fifteen different varieties in Grove Woods, among them Rosy Bonnet, Whitelaced Shank, Brittle Gills, Hairy Curtain Crust, Sulphur Tuft, Tawny Funnel and



Leopard Earthball. Their old country names are so descriptive and poetic.

Continuing our programme with Wenhaston Primary, at the start of last month Marie Rolfe guided the Reception Class in planting out acorns and sweet chestnuts - which had been gathered from local trees - in the school tree nursery. Last year's planting of hazel, oak and sweet

chestnuts is not quite big and sturdy enough yet to plant out in Grove Woods. That is also where this autumn's planting will go eventually. (If you'd like to help Marie with all the exciting events we do with the school, do contact her on [marie@yafflecottage.co.uk](mailto:marie@yafflecottage.co.uk) for dates and details.)

The group's other activities over the past weeks included weeding and mulching around the trees we planted in Merton Orchard and weeding and clearing in Malster's Little Field.

Meanwhile, we look forward to the Christmas Bazaar in the Village Hall on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December (2 – 4 p.m.), where our lovely cards will be on sale, together with other treats. Come and visit the Blyth Woods' tables there and hear more about what we do.

[blythwoods1@gmail.com](mailto:blythwoods1@gmail.com)

[www.blythwoods.org](http://www.blythwoods.org)

## **Wenhaston Blyth Spirits**

It was good to welcome Jo Small to our October meeting when she took us on a Journey in Costa Rica where she has been on holiday several times. She gave us a very interesting afternoon with her talk and accompanying slides about this beautiful country. We were grateful to her for giving her time.

As always in December we shall be meeting together for Christmas Drinks and Nibbles at Spindleberry on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 12 o'clock - 12.30pm. Please do come and join in the chat and friendship,

you will be very welcome. As this may well be the last time that we meet together it would be lovely to see all our members on the 20<sup>th</sup>. both past and present.

More news of our future in the January Warbler.

Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to all Warbler Readers.

***Margaret Goldstone***

### **Wenhaston Mothers Union**

We were all very saddened to learn of the death of our member Daphne Francis and we send our sincere sympathy to Stephanie, David and all of Daphne's family at this sad time. Daphne had been an inspiration to those of us who visited her during her long and difficult illness and it was a privilege to have known her. Many of her friends in the village were able to be at the service at the Waveney Crematorium and afterwards at the Halesworth Golf Club where many happy memories were shared.

At our November meeting we were very pleased to welcome Seva from the Peartree Centre in Halesworth. Seva gave us a very informative talk on the many aspects of the facilities which are now available at the Centre. I think that we were surprised at how much help there is available, but perhaps felt that the surrounding villages are not always aware of the work of the Peartree Centre and how welcoming and available the Centre is. Seva said that they were aware of this and hope to distribute more information into the villages. In December we will be having our usual Christmas gathering with carols, a raffle and tea at Spindleberry on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December and I will look forward to seeing everyone. *Please note that this meeting is at 3 o'clock not 2.30pm.*

We wish all our readers a Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

***Margaret Goldstone***

### **St Peter's Church**

Our quiz night fell foul of Storm Babet, there was so much flooding and awful weather that we decided to postpone it until the Spring, and Phil and Denise have kindly said they will hold it over until then so watch this space.



Our act of Remembrance was taken by Alison and it was good to see so many people at the Village Hall when we stood for 2 minutes silence in memory of the glorious dead. The following service in church was also well attended and the church looked very fitting decorated with poppies. £230 was sent to the RBL.

Every year Wenhaston Church donates 5% of its unrestricted income to charity and this year we have sent donations to St Elizabeth Hospice, The Prison Fellowship and Mission Aviation Fellowship, all of which were very grateful.

The church is having a Tombola at the Christmas Bazaar and I should be grateful for any prizes for this. Could I have any prizes by early December, please.

Our Carol Service this year is on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 7pm. We warmly invite you all to join us to sing carols and enjoy mince pies and drinks. The collection will be for the Children's Society.

***December Services see poster***

***Margaret Bloomfield***

***Santa negotiating the new village hall gate! By Wil Harvey***



Wenhaston Village Carol Service

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 7pm

St Peter's Church

followed by refreshments including mulled wine



Hear the Christmas Story and other  
festive readings.

Come and sing some favourite carols.

Everyone welcome!

## Coles Hill Art Studios: Winter **Sale**

Sally Erb and Ruth McCabe look forward to welcoming you on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 December 11 - 3pm



Sally Erb  
Surprise  
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Ruth McCabe  
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[www.ruth-mccabe-artist.co.uk](http://www.ruth-mccabe-artist.co.uk)  
Instagram: @ruthmccabeartist8420

### **Methodist Chapel**

3rd December. Sue Groome

10<sup>th</sup> December, joint service at the chapel with St Peter's and all village

Rev. Martin Keenan

17<sup>th</sup> December, Liz Zukiewicz

24<sup>th</sup> December, 3 p.m. Candle Light Carol Service. Note the time!

Christmas Morning, 10 am, Rev. Iain McKillop.



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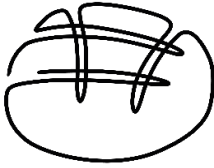
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