



May 2024

Wenhaston Warbler

*St Peter's Church,
Wenhaston*

Plant Sale

Saturday 14th May
10:30 to 12:30

In the Church Yard
In the church if wet

Plants, Cake Stall, Raffle

Proceeds To The Church

Events at Halesworth Library

On Thursday, 23rd May at 7.45 p.m., Halesworth Library is hosting a talk by Simon K. Jones, a writer based in Norwich, specialising in weekly serial fiction. His debut novel, *A Day of Faces*, won a Watty Award in 2016 and has over 190,000 reads. His newsletter goes out to over 3,500 readers each week, with insights and tips on how to write serial fiction. Simon has spoken at Primadonna Festival and for the National Centre for Writing. He has produced the Writing Life podcast for several years and has also taught for the BBC, FutureLearn, LinkedIn Learning and Access Creative.

This talk is preceded at 6.30 p.m. by the AGM of The Friends of Halesworth Library. Come along and learn about what the Friends group does to support the Library's role in the community.

There will be a quiz on Wednesday 22nd May at 7.30, with Linda Sherman setting the questions, and on Saturday 25th May there will be a plant sale outside the library in the morning. If you have any cuttings or seedlings you can contribute, please bring them along on the morning.

There will be a poetry evening with Tamar Yoseloff on 27th June. Further details in the next edition of this publication.

All events will take place in the Library. There will be a charge for the Quiz Night (registration forms will be available from the library nearer the time), but all other events are free, though donations to cover the cost of refreshments are appreciated.

Wenhaston Walks

Our first walk in May will take place on Tuesday, 7th (the day after the Bank Holiday), leaving Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am. On Tuesday 21st May we set off at 10am from the Queens Head, Bramfield IP19 9HT. Park on the main road or on the road to Walpole, wherever there is space. The walk will be on public footpaths and permissive paths on Earlsway Farm. The lunch menu is changing and will be circulated shortly. If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email

ipbigwood@btinternet.com

Heather Phillips (01502 478545)



May's Wildlife Garden "tips and jobs"

Why not make this a "NO MOW MAY" and even consider extending this beyond May, by a month or longer? Leaving a certain amount of your lawn/grass long encourages an enormous amount of wildlife and if you let the weeds (also known as Wildflowers) get going they will stay around!

A suggestion is to grow bulbs in any meadow-type area and not dead head as you might with bulbs in the border or tubs; instead let them seed as well as producing their bulblets.

Try planting in your verges and leave some longer grass but do cut or mow a metre nearest the road for visibility.

Look out for the plant sale up in the churchyard this month. This and other local plant stalls can help you find reasonably priced native plants look especially for good pollinators; or try a plant swap with your friends and neighbours.

If you have a pond keep watching for signs of frogs, toads, newts, dragonflies and other wildlife that use it.

Thinking ahead:

Plant winter bird food plants, for example teasel and sunflowers.

You can order bulbs now to be delivered later in the year.

Try planting wallflower seeds in May to produce plants for your borders later in the year, they will flower earlyish the following spring to be a source of nectar.

Thanks for additional contributions this month from Jo Small.

Tell us YOUR ideas for tips and jobs to be shared here, email wilderwenhaston@gmail.com

Ann Follows and Judy Miller

Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research

SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY 18th MAY

10.30am - 2pm

HOLTON VILLAGE HALL IP19 8RZ

Light Lunches and Delicious Desserts served from 11.30am

Stalls include, Cakes, Tombola, New and Gift Stall,

Raffle, Garden Stall, Bric- a -Brac, Books.

Wenhaston Bowls Club's Successful Winter Season

Wenhaston Bowls Club is known for being one of the strongest clubs during the outdoor season within the leagues they play. But this winter captain Richard Long has taken the Wenhaston Carpet Bowls Team from strength to strength. Going into the last game against Kelsale on 28th March Wenhaston was holding 3rd position in the league, but after a staggering 9-1 win Wenhaston finished the season as runners up. This is a big improvement on last year's 4th finish.

Richard Long has done an incredible job as the carpet bowls captain this year and being runners up shows that.

Richard said "As always I would like to thank everyone who helps set up and clear up the equipment, does the teas and gives lifts to both home and away games - and a massive well done and a big thank you to all the players who have played in the team this season"

At the end of April Wenhaston Bowls Club will be back on the green for the outdoor season, in which everyone at the club cannot wait for.

If you would like to come and have a go at bowls please get in touch by emailing the secretary on jake.moyes9@gmail.com

Editors Note: Deadline for copy and adverts for the June issue is the 15th May. Keep those articles, photos and artworks coming!

Wenhaston Blyth Spirits

To the Hammer Born
A History of Auctioneering
Stephen Poulter

(An online dealer in antiques, vintage items
and collectables. Insider secrets and a
history of auctioneering.)

**Including a fun quiz relating to antiques
and collectables**

Wednesday 15th May 2024

Wenhaston Village Hall

2.30pm

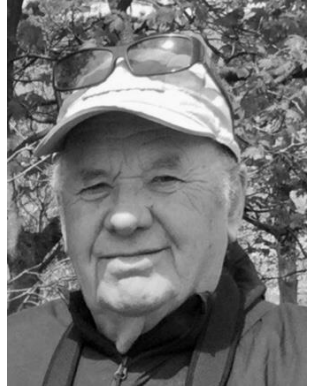
Admission £4 to include refreshments

All welcome!



David Smith

David Smith sadly died peacefully, after a short illness, on 13th March 2024. Thank you to all the people who have sent cards and flowers to Ellie and family, it is appreciated. David contributed to village life after moving to Wenhaston. An enthusiast for home-grown vegetables and for railway travel, he established the Wenhaston Allotments Group and was involved in the Southwold Railway Trust. His working life was spent travelling and in the travel industry when he set up overland, visa and cycling businesses. He was a mine of travel information, which many residents enjoyed sharing with him, including advice about their own journeys. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.



Wenhaston Flower Club

Our meeting on 2nd April was a new format for us. Three of our talented members did demonstrations for us. The members split into three groups and during the evening we rotated round all three demonstrators. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this new idea and

appreciated the work the ladies put into the evening.

After visiting Japan and taking part in a class there Beverly demonstrated the art of Japanese flower arranging, Ikebana.





Alison demonstrated a beautiful inexpensive heart woven with ivy which could be adapted for any occasion.

Diane demonstrated how moss could be used instead of floral foam, to hold flowers in place in her arrangement

and how to make a twig arbor, that again could be adapted for any occasion.



Our next meeting on Tuesday 7th May will be in Wenhaston Village Hall at 7.30 pm as usual. We welcome back Moira who will be doing a workshop for us. Moira will be showing us how to make a Beargrass Spiral or a Hand Tie. Items required will be listed in the newsletter, or contact Jackie. The cost is still only £5 payable on the night and will include tea/coffee/biscuits. Donations of raffle prizes always welcome.

For more information please contact Jackie Chenery 01502 478401

Christian Aid Week 2024

Once more Christian Aid Week 2024 is almost upon us. And even if we are fed up with wind, rain and gales constantly battering our shores, at least it's not been as extreme as in some other countries, as climate change continues to invade our lives.

This year Christian Aid week focuses on Burundi, a land-locked country in East Africa bordered by Zaire, Uganda and Tanzania. Like many African countries its poverty levels are extreme. Take Aline for example, who has suffered not only extreme poverty but also violent abuse. Without the help of Christian Aid she would find it impossible transform her life. Christian Aid brings security, health, safety and above all hope to those who need it most.

It is hard asking people to give when there is so much need in so many parts of the world. But please, if you are able to, spare a little something for the Christian Aid appeal 2024 for the people of Burundi.

During the week of 12th – 18th May as in the past, a Christian Aid envelope will drop through your door. There are 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)

Alternatively, you can donate 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! For once, I'm short of a couple of people to deliver envelopes to houses in Blackheath Road as far as and including Marsh Lane and Hog Lane and secondly down Coleshill and including Chapel Lane. Please contact me on the phone number above if you are willing to deliver – it rarely takes more than 1 hour. ***Moira Cooke for Christian Aid Committee***

The Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club April Draw

We are delighted to announce the winners:

1st prize £37.50 94 Angela Burnham

2nd prize £22.50 85 Suzanne Watkins

3rd prize £15.00 34 Andy Norris

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 the fee is £4 from now to end August 2024. We welcome new members. Contact us, or get a form from the Post Office (Thank you Jane) where details of how to pay can be found. Thank you for supporting the village hall in this way and having a chance to be a monthly winner. Don't forget there is an extra Xmas Bonus Prize of £50 to be won! **All enquiries please phone: Elaine on 07577431350 or Angela on 07878241258**

Blyth Valley Parkinson's Support Group

Invite you to

A coffee morning

at

Wenhaston Village Hall

on

Thursday May 12th 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!

Speaker Announced for Blyth Woods' Annual Meeting, 9th May

Our meeting will take place on Thursday 9th May at 7 p.m. at the Wenhaston Village Hall and everyone is welcome (entrance free). We are delighted to confirm our speaker: Darren Tansley of the Essex Wildlife Trust. Darren was a member of the panel at the Halesworth Climate Conference last year, has worked for the Trust since 2007, and is currently their Wilder Rivers and Protected Species Manager. His own special interest is mammals – he is chair of the UK Water Vole Steering Group, and he has been involved with the beaver release in Essex. His talk, 'Conservation at a Landscape Scale', should be fascinating. Come and listen to his talk and hear about the Blyth Woods group's activities in the past year and our future plans while you enjoy delicious home-made refreshments. We look forward to welcoming you on the 9th!

Recent School Activities

As spring was dawning, Marie Rolfe of the Blyth Woods group led a party of excited children from Years 1 and 2 of our Primary School to Grove Woods on 13th March. They investigated buds, flowers and bees – even puddles! - and listened to birdsong, as well as examining mayfly larvae, ramshorn and common snails and small, fast-moving creatures from the pond in Malster's.

Two days later, Years 3 and 4 were busy in the Copse beside Grove Piece being shown how to build a bug hotel, while Mr Stone was stalwart with a saw and loppers. Each child was able to go home with their own bug hotel afterwards. By chance I met some of them coming out of school, flourishing their hotels and looking delighted with themselves!

If you would like to help with some or all of the fun educational activities Blyth Woods does with children, do get in touch with Marie Rolfe direct: marie@yafflecottage.co.uk

For further details: blythwoods1@gmail.com www.blythwoods.org

Patricia Elliott

Wenhaston Village Show

21st July 2024

Open 2pm to 4pm

Café Open



Archaeology finds from
David Steadman



Tallest Sunflower Competition



Potato in a bucket
Competition

70's/80's & Disco Night

Wow, just wow! Wenhaston Village Community never ceases to amaze me. Saturday 30th March saw the second of the annual themed music evenings at the Village Hall. This time the music focused on 70's/80's & Disco, and the village rose to the occasion!

A variety of glittery disco tops, flared trousers, platform shoes and droopy moustaches arrived at the village hall to the sounds of background 70's music from the brilliant DJ Danny.

Sonny & Cher, Bob Marley and Cyndi Lauper danced alongside Boy George and ABBA. What a celebrity mix!

The dance floor filled to capacity and the bar was constantly busy.

Jonno our singer reminded us of some of the popular 80's hits that we used to watch on 'Top of the Pops' and we knew most of the words to sing along.

A break in the singing, brought the results of the 50/50 raffle. The winner, Anne, generously gave half of the money back to go to charity. Despite so many people making the effort to dress up, we could only choose 3 winners in the best dressed spot prize. DJ Danny chose Moira, Christine and Nigel, and George, as our prize winners. However, a big thanks to everyone who made that extra bit of effort, you were all winners in my eyes.

The aroma of pizzas, hot dogs & jacket potatoes encouraged us to eat again, even when we had already had tea. Well done and thank you Antony & Wendy

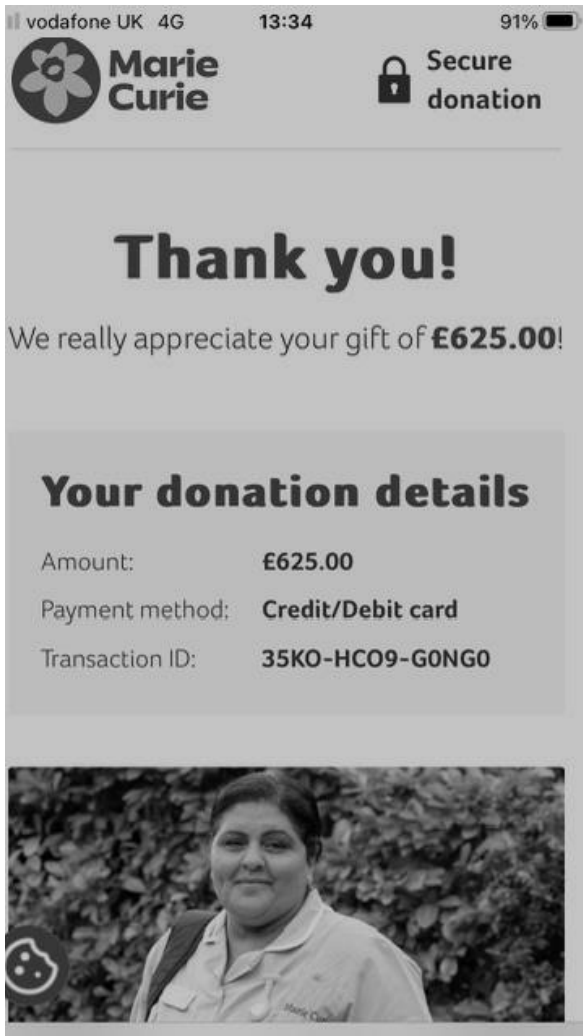
A second set from Jonno was followed by some high energy disco music from DJ Danny. People were still dancing long after the bar had called last orders and calling for 'one more record'!

So it seems that everyone had a ball and I am delighted and humbled that so many people got behind this event.

I'd like to thank everyone who got involved in setting up /dismantling the hall and cleaning up the next day, helping collect glasses and wash up throughout the evening, Virginia, Phil, Elaine, Mac & Sue, Jane &

Suzie and anyone I've missed. Thanks to Carol, Terry & Rod at the door and Danny & Jonno for entertainment.

A huge thanks to Jane & Sue for running the bar, they never stopped! A special mention again to Jane for supporting me from start to finish with this event. She needs a medal for putting up with all my requests and ideas.



So folks, the final update is that as well as having a good time we have raised some money! I'm pleased to say that I have been able to donate £625 to Marie Curie Cancer care, £425 to the Village Hall and to put £500 aside for an even better event next year.

Well done everyone and watch this space for the next music themed night.

Karen Clegg



**Oh what a
70s and 80s
disco night!**



Wenhaston Commons Group

The work parties on the commons are, as usual, stopping until September, while birds and other animals are breeding. We have had some very productive sessions over autumn/winter, clearing gorse to enable better heather growth, spreading heather brash, planting tree saplings and creating firebreaks in overgrown gorse on the edges of Blackheath to protect housing. There will be a session in the churchyard to rake hay in July (date to be decided).

Dates for your diary:

We are running a couple of fundraisers during the summer which we hope will interest everyone. All are welcome, just come along!

Birdsong Walk, led by Alan Miller.

Sunday 12th May. Meet at Well Green (Wenhaston) at 8 am. Come and listen to, and learn from, the wonderful birdsong on Blackheath early in the morning (it will be worth an early start!).

Suggested contribution to WCG funds £5 per person.

Moth Morning (following last year's popular event).

Saturday 10th August, 10am, venue to be confirmed in July Warbler.

We will study and enjoy populations of moths collected from three different sites (farm, heath and marsh) in the village.

Coffee/ tea and bacon or mushroom rolls will be on offer.

Suggested contribution to WCG funds £5 per person.



And then our AGM later in the year will be on Tuesday 22nd October at the village hall

at 7pm. Speaker: Hawk Honey, entomologist and editor of White Admiral Journal (Suffolk Naturalists Society) talking about bees and wasps and findings of his surveys at the sand pit on Blackheath.

Kate Archibald

Halesworth Dementia Carers Fund

May Film

On 15th May we shall be showing the film *One Life*, starring Anthony Hopkins. This very moving film tells the true story of Sir Nicholas Winton and how he saved hundreds of children from the Nazis in 1938-39. It will, as usual, be at The Cut, with doors opening at 1.30 for a 2.00 start. Entrance by £5.00 donation.

Golf Day

On 1st May there will be a fund-raising Golf Tournament at Halesworth Golf Club. In addition to the golf there will be a great raffle, with many prizes, and an auction. The main sponsors are Suffolk Car Sales, but we would be delighted to receive any other offers of sponsorship. We are most grateful to Halesworth Golf Club for putting on this event, and to John Giles who has done so much work in planning and arranging it. If you would like to help in any way, or would like further details, please contact John on 07789 991046. For the more golf-minded, it will be a Texas Scramble, with a shot-gun start at 8.00.

100+ Club

The club now has 139 members, and we are aiming for 150 by June. The winning numbers for April were 21 (£100), 92 (£75), 9 (£50) and 17 (£25). If you would like to join in please call Anna on 07721 842802.

New Groups

I would like to remind you of our two new groups, both taking place at the Co-op Community Room each Friday. From 12.30 – 1.30 there is Seated Tap Dancing with Garth, and new members are welcome. Then, for those who are caring for loved ones with dementia there is the Carers Support Group that meets from 2.00 – 3.30.

John Wood

- The Adventures of Plucky McQueen or
- “Why did the chicken cross Blackheath Road?”



If you have walked around Well Green or in Merton Woods over the last few months, you might have encountered Plucky McQueen, the runaway hen. Back in October, Janice and Malcolm of Blackheath Road received delivery of four new hens. Unfortunately, one of them escaped and ran off into the wild. Since then, Plucky has been a regular visitor to our garden, living off dropped bird-food and roosting in the blackthorn bushes in the woods. She has survived cold, wind, torrential rain and sub-zero temperatures. She has ignored the call of Janice and Malcolm’s cockerel and has now formed a strangely close relationship with an exotic male pheasant. Nicknamed the “Sassy Chick” of Wenhaston, Plucky continues to enjoy her great escape, living a truly free-range existence.

Alison Alder

Wenhaston Primary School - End of Spring Term Update

First of all, I hope you have had a wonderful Easter.

As we bid farewell to the rainy days of winter, the sight of daffodils blooming fills me with hope for brighter times ahead. It brings me immense joy to reflect on the wonderful term we've had here at Wenhaston. The enthusiasm and progress displayed by the children in their learning has been pleasing. Moreover, the vibrant engagement with our wider school community has been amazing.

Community Pasta Kitchen Success

Our community lunch on Wednesday 20th March was a resounding success. Once again this year we have been overwhelmed by the support and interest from our Local Community regarding this event, which this year took the form of a 'Pasta Kitchen.' The children planned, tested, advertised, resourced and led the project and couldn't have done a better job! This is a whole school project with Acorns (Reception) making biscuits for pudding, Seedlings (Years 1 and 2) baking Focaccia and making side salads, Seedlings, (Years 3 and 4) producing a vegetarian Pasta option, and Oaks, (Years 5 and 6) creating a Beef Bolognese and Creamy Mexican Pork dish.



lovely diners.

Oak Class children are also the hosts on the day and undertake all manner of tasks from meeting and greeting, taking orders, waiting tables, clearing and cleaning, and, most importantly, talking to our

Thank you to everyone who came. This initiative is in its second year now, and this is beginning to show in the childrens' knowledge of the skills needed to prepare and cook the ingredients, and their technical knowledge around nutrition, seasonality, food hygiene etc too.

This event would not be able to go ahead without a huge team effort from the staff and some incredibly generous donations from local businesses. Special thanks this year go to Halesworth Co-op, Bramfield Meats, Black Dog Deli and Ward Farms. We are also incredibly grateful for the voluntary contributions left on the day from diners...this means that we can purchase further resources to keep improving our DT (Design and Technology) curriculum in school. *Miss Welby*

Saplings workshop with the Natural Habitat Charity

Just before the end of term, our Saplings class (Year 3/4) worked with new local nature charity Natural Habitat. This workshop introduced children to the concept of time in landscapes and nature. They made time capsules with artist Kasia Posen thinking about what they would want in the world seven generations from now. They also worked with Bob and Annie Jellicoe, local farmers who taught the children about the importance of biodiversity in nature. They were also treated to a presentation from Luke from the RSPB, who explained the work they are doing to regrow the turtle dove population. A captivating workshop - the children will be doing more with Natural Habitat in future weeks.

Royal British Legion Visit



Last Thursday, we were joined in assembly by the Royal British Legion who explained to us more about what the charity does other than remembrance. We were also joined by members of the Halesworth branch. We have become an affiliated school which means we will be able to draw on their expertise when studying conflicts, such as the world wars in history but the British legion will also be able to signpost us to community projects they are involved in.

Cross-country success!



I am pleased to report that we finished second in the recent cross country tournament for

Bungay High feeder schools. What's more, two of our athletes, Poppy and Jake won the individual races for their age range. Phenomenal!

I hope you have enjoyed this update. As always, if you wish to come and visit the school or wish to offer any volunteering to the school, I would love to hear from you.

Mr Stone

St Peter's Church

We celebrated Easter at St Peter's starting with a very moving meditation led by Alison and Linda. On Easter Sunday, there was a goodly congregation to mark our Lord's resurrection. The church was beautifully decorated with lilies and Spring flowers. Many, many thanks to our flower arrangers who always make the church look so lovely. The weekend concluded with Easter Teas in church which was very successful. Thank you to all who provided cakes and helped on the day. We are very grateful.

Our APCM was on 16th April when we reviewed the church year and elected members to the PCC. We are very grateful to Jonathan for carrying on as Church Warden and for all that he does, and to the other members for their support.

In May we have our Plant Sale on Saturday 11th at 10.30am. I am sorry I am always appealing for help but we should be very grateful for any plants, cakes or raffles prizes as well as help on the day. We are a small band of people and couldn't manage without all your generous help.

For May Services, see poster

Margaret Bloomfield

WENHASTON

Produce & Craft Market

Saturday

25th May 2024

10am – 12.30pm

in the Village Hall IP19 9EP

A wide and ever-changing range of local foods and produce, crafts, plants, jams & chutneys, home-made cakes and more.

New stallholders always welcome –

Pitch fee £8

To book your table (provided), e-mail:

Carol at: caz-mike@outlook.com

Raising funds for Village Hall maintenance

±.



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 doubles 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 0777595398

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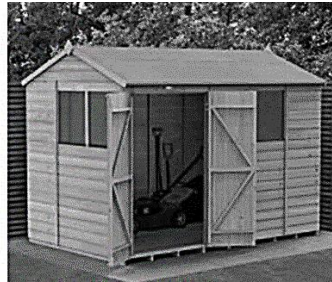
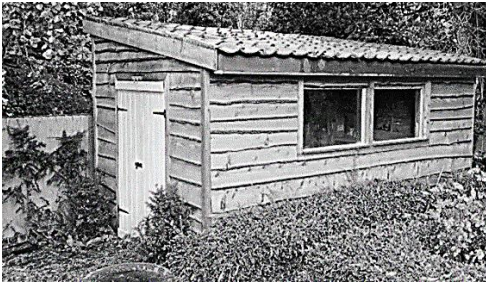
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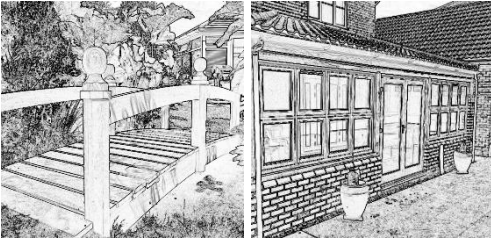


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