



The Wenhaston Warbler

November 2025

The Village Hall 50th Anniversary Celebrations

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who came to join us in celebrating the 50th anniversary of our lovely Village Hall. It was exactly 50 years to the day, 4th October 1975, that the Hall was opened.



The cake!

The Hall looked lovely draped in blue and gold celebratory decorations. The day kicked off with our usual busy café, serving homemade cakes, scones and bacon rolls. It was lovely to see small children enjoying themselves running around the hall. Talented local artists exhibited their work around the Hall. Unfortunately, the treasure hunt that had been planned, was called off because of bad weather but in the evening, we saw the talents of the ukulele band, Viv Kemp sketches, Tom Sharples, Bob & Kris & Bryn (aka The FAB Five) and the Sugar Beatniks. Food platters were provided on the tables and the event raised £522.08 to go back into the Village Hall. Trevor Stammers, who has lived in the village for 70 years, cut the cake in the evening, during the very enjoyable talent show. The cake was beautifully decorated depicting the Village Hall and the village sign.

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Sat 1st, Mon 3rd, Tues 4th &
 Thurs 6th Nov at 7.15pm

GOOD FORTUNE (15)

Wed 5th Nov at 7.30pm. ON STAGE
FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

Fri 7th & Sat 8th Nov at 7.15pm
 Sun 9th Nov at 6.00pm
 Mon 10th - Wed 12th Nov at 7.15pm
 Thurs 13th Nov at 3.00pm
 Sun 16th Nov at 7.30pm
 Wed 19th Nov at 7.15pm

**SPRINGSTEEN: DELIVER
 ME FROM NOWHERE (15)**

Sun 9th Nov at 3.00pm. ON STAGE
**HI-DE-HI - AN AFTERNOON
 WITH JEFFREY HOLLAND**

Thurs 13th Nov at 7.15pm
 Sun 16th Nov at 3.00pm
JOHN CLEESE PACKS IT IN (12A)

Tel: 01728 830549
www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

Fri 14th Nov at 1.00pm
 Sat 15th Nov at 7.15pm
 Sun 16th Nov at 5.00pm
 Mon 17th & Tues 18th Nov at 7.15pm
 Wed 19th Nov at 3.00pm
 Thurs 20th Nov at 7.15pm

THE CHORAL (12A)

Sat 29th Nov at 7.30pm. ON STAGE
**FOLK AT THE THEATRE
 MERRY HELL**

Sun 7th Dec at 7.30pm. ON STAGE
**WE THREE KINGS OF
 ROCK 'N' ROLL**



(continued from page 1)

The atmosphere in the Hall was of warmth and happiness – I was so proud to be part of the celebration. What a legacy we have all been left – to enjoy for many more decades to come, and by future generations!

I would like to thank the members of the Village Hall Management Committee, and all the volunteers, for their hard work in helping to organise such a wonderful, special event and continued duties throughout the night: our excellent compère, Mike Wilkinson, PA and lighting arrangements by Roger Claxton and Mac Mckeown, Bob Rixon for organising the acts in the talent show and our Jane Peters, who was busy serving drinks at the bar with the help of Karen Clegg. Such a memorable evening.



The food!



The audience!

Artwork from the children at the primary school was chosen, and printed on mugs, which are for sale for £8. Order forms can be found at the primary school and in the Village Hall during the café opening times – Saturdays 10-12, if you would like one as a memento.

Best wishes to all and thank you again for supporting our lovely Village Hall.

Susie Cooke, Chair of the Wenhaston Village Hall Management Committee

Heather Phillips 1927-2025

HEATHER WAS BORN AT BLACKHEATH FARM in 1927, her parents being Roland ('Goldie') and Jessie Ellis. As such, her early years were during the Great Depression, when times were hard. In the late 1930s her family, now including her younger brother Jack, moved into *Homeland* (now *Martlets*) where she spent her teenage years. Heather attended John Leman School in Beccles, cycling to Halesworth and catching the train – with the train apparently always running smoothly and to time



throughout the war! Heather went to teacher training college in 1945, before teaching at Westbourne Girls School in Ipswich, then Yoxford School, and finally at Saxmundham Middle School, from where she retired in 1986.

Heather married Peter Phillips in 1955, and they remained happily married for many years, Peter sadly passing away in 2013. Whilst they didn't have children, they were both dedicated to their family – spending much time looking after their parents and other elderly relatives, and entertaining younger relatives with great happiness.

Heather lived almost her whole life in Wenhaston, and during that time she served on the Parish Council (from 1955 to 2020!), helped to fund-raise for our Village Hall, was instrumental in the formation and success of both the Commons Conservation Group and the Footpath Walking Group, as well as supporting a vast array of good causes, eg the *Pepyn and Lessey Trust*, and village activities including: bowls, the Millenium Map, hedgerow surveys and visiting the Saturday café. She was also very keen to welcome newcomers to the village, and her hospitality usually included sausage rolls, Suffolk rusks and a range of desserts. Her dedication to serving the community of Wenhaston was recognised in 2005, when she received an MBE!

Whilst Heather's physical strength declined over the course of 2025, she retained her encyclopaedic knowledge of local history and village events, and tried to support village events in any way she could. Heather was dedicated to

her family and home, and was adamant she would never want to go into a care home. Her gentle passing at home in September allowed her to fulfil this wish. Whilst Wenhaston has lost a fount of local knowledge, she will be reunited with Peter.

Heather always valued her friends in the village and sense of community. She was so grateful to the many people who rallied round to help her after Peter's death and in her later years. Very many thanks to all of you who spent time with her: whether it was a lift to or from the Saturday café, picking up some shopping, transcribing her hand-written notes into a book, taking her to a village event, helping with some DIY, or simply popping round for a chat – she treasured all those moments. Many thanks also for the cards and notes of sympathy.



Jim Ellis

Heather's funeral will be on Friday 14th November, 11am at St Peter's, Wenhaston. People are welcome for refreshments in the Village Hall afterwards.

WENHASTON WITH MELLS PARISH COUNCIL invite suggestions from organisations and parishioners to mark the service to the village by the late Heather Phillips MBE. Amongst her many notable achievements Heather served as a Parish Councillor for over 65 years and we wish to acknowledge this in some way. If you or your organisation wishes to collaborate with the Parish Council on this initiative or make a suggestion as to how Heather should be remembered then please make contact via email clerk@wenhastonmells-pc.gov.uk or by telephoning 07500210476. We look forward to hearing from you.

Arthur Musk, Chair, Wenhaston with Mells Parish Council

The Tree Nursery

FOR SEVERAL YEARS we have had a small tree nursery at the primary school where the children learn to raise trees from acorns and other seeds they collect. The resultant trees have been planted in Grove Woods, and now St Peter's Pightle.



Taking on the land at St Peter's has given us the opportunity to move and expand the nursery, which makes watering and caring for the trees easier, particularly when the school is closed for the summer holidays. Thanks to a small grant from the Parish Council, we have fenced off an area to protect the plants from rabbits and muntjac, and built new raised beds ready for this year's seeds and acorns.

Two *Blyth Woods* members are also part of the Suffolk Tree Warden Network www.suffolktreewardens.org.uk. Courtesy of Suffolk County Council and the *Woodland Trust*, the network supplies thousands of trees to farmers, landowners, schools and community groups across the county. In addition, they are helping to set up community tree nurseries to augment commercially supplied trees with plants grown from local seed. They propagate the usual oaks and other common species, run courses on fruit tree grafting and are helping to save one of the East Anglia's rarest trees, the Black Poplar. Once a year they have a tree collection day where the commercially grown stock is made available, and any excess trees from the community nurseries are distributed to groups all over the county.

In our nursery we have already grown several Black Poplar, two are in Malster's hedge at Grove Woods, and one is at the entrance to St Peter's Pightle. We have also grafted fruit trees that are ready to plant out around the grassland area of the Pightle. Acorns will soon be planted by the primary school children, and they have 60 oaks ready to be planted from last year's collection.

If you have unwanted saplings growing in your garden, of native species, we can probably find them a new home. Or, if you are interested in helping

maintain the nursery, please get in touch – geraldine.lines@hotmail.co.uk .

We are also looking for a small shed if anyone has one they no longer need.

If you would like to volunteer there will be tree planting sessions in December and January: see posters, Facebook and www.blythwoods.org for details.

Finally, it is sad to hear of the death of Heather Phillips; she was a great supporter of the group, funded the planting of two wild service trees in Grove Woods (there were none in the village and Bramfield boasts a mature specimen!) and suggested *Pightle* be used in the name of our new wood.

Alan Miller

Ukraine – a thank you!

ONCE AGAIN, I NEED TO THANK the people of Wenhaston and the surrounding villages for all their contributions of items to be sent to Ukraine.

I have had so many duvets! But I have also had lots of bedding – so all of the duvets have been put in covers and packed with matching pillow cases! Very satisfying. I have also had some beautiful hand knitted jumpers and a gorgeous quilt.

Of the 60+ boxes that I have waiting in my garage for collection, there are three boxes of food and one each of hygiene items and household cleaning things. So, you have been emptying some cupboards and adding items to your shopping to donate. By the time you read this, the boxes should have been collected, delivered to the warehouse in Basildon, loaded onto pallets, wrapped and loaded onto a *Hope and Aid Direct* lorry and be on their way.

You might imagine that it has been quite an effort to do all the sorting and packing this time. It's what it takes, but I am going to pause for a few weeks! And the family are coming to stay for half-term and I need the bedrooms! Come January, I will be asking for you to look again in your cupboards and think of Ukraine when you do your shopping!

Thank you.

Jo Small

Thank you!

Village Hall 50th Celebrations

Those of us who went to our lovely Village Hall the evening of October 4th were in for a real treat. The Hall and stage were attractively lit and decorated in blue and silver, with 50th banners and cloths. On the tables was a selection of beautifully prepared nibbles, and at the front was an amazing celebration cake. We were entertained by a variety of music groups, together with two amusing monologues..... and throughout the evening, Jane worked her socks off manning the Bar!

The whole event was superbly organised by Village Hall Management Committee, who worked so hard planning and during the evening to make it such a success. We all owe our thanks to every one of them for their commitment and organisation in giving us such a wonderful celebration.

Christine Buttle



From Pillar to Post??

TRAGEDY HAS BEFALLEN the family of knitted folk (*created by the brilliant Margaret King*) who delight the village atop the pillar box at the Village Hall. They are being evicted with virtually no notice!

Since 1852, Anthony Trollope's iconic pillar box – elegant in design, excellent in function (letter, slot, gravity...), has done its job quietly and efficiently and from children's stories and Christmas cards to murder mysteries, it has become a cherished feature of British life.

When you read this, it is likely that our pillar box will have been

digitised. Automated. No, this isn't April 1st, but harsh reality. Royal Mail (owned by a Czech billionaire) is keen to wrest business from its rival, the Post Office, so is remodelling our pillar boxes to accept larger packages than will fit in the current slot. You'll have to enter your package's vital statistics and pay the postage online, then download the ensuing bar/QR code. Armed with this, take it along to your new pillar box where a digital sensor will read it, open the chute and welcome your package. Ye gods, what have we come to . .

So, Royal Mail has gained revenue, which our Post Office will lose, Anthony Trollope is rotating in his grave and – what fate has befallen our knitted friends? The top of the pillar box has been remodelled to accommodate an ugly solar panel to power the digital wonders beneath. Catastrophic loss of knitted folks' habitat and summary eviction. However, I'm hopeful that resourceful Wenhastonians will come up with some suggestions . . .?

Do I hear rumblings from the militant wing of WACKA (Wenhaston Action Committee for Knitted Animals)?

Wil Harvey



Save our Swifts Wenhaston action group

What's been going on?

THE SWIFTS ARRIVED in the village at the beginning of May, and most of them had left within the first week of August. A few residents with swift boxes have installed live cameras: Nick and Sally Amery were able to confirm that the two youngsters hatched and raised in one of their boxes did not fledge and leave until August 23rd. See this little film about swift migration routes

<https://youtu.be/O1dyhNM6FUA>

During the period they were with us, the numbers seen and heard could vary depending on weather conditions. The dry bright weather, especially after rain, brought out 'screaming parties' over the fields near Low Farm.

The group organised counts in July. July 4th saw the biggest ever average of 57.5, and a large spot count of 30. The second count, on 24th July, revealed so few birds on a gloomy, slightly damp evening, that we repeated it on 30th July. Counts were still low with an average of 14.75, boosted by a single count of 20 over the playing field. We think that the birds started arriving early this year, then started to leave towards the end of July. The mature

adults with somewhere to nest had paired up and bred, usually producing one or two swiftlets, and other less mature birds flew around feeding, screaming, and testing out potential future nest sites for next year or the year after. We were excited to see lots of swifts flying around and testing out entrances to the nest boxes which are installed in St Peter's Church tower – so we hope that the boxes there will be in use as nests in the next year or two.

Linda and Raymond Hammond had a wonderful and generous idea of providing funding for people in the village to install new nest boxes this year, together with the callers to attract swifts. The group really appreciate this gesture, and we now have twenty-four new boxes installed, thanks to their help, on various homes around the village. Eddie Bathgate from *Suffolk Swifts*, part of Suffolk Bird Group, delivered the boxes and the nest box hosts donated to his organisation. A big thank-you to Linda, Raymond and Eddie, and of course to our fellow residents who enthusiastically took up the offer.

We now have a total of around 65 swift nest boxes in the village. We

have observed 32 sites where swifts have been regularly entering and leaving, of which ten are nest boxes and others are sites under roof tiles, often with several entry points seen. Do have a look at the RSPB *Swiftmapper* website where I have tried to record all the sites that we are aware of.

Persevering, with swift callers positioned near to boxes, gives best chance of attracting potential breeding swifts in the coming years. This has worked for several villagers. Numbers of swifts are still declining, and loss of nest sites is likely to be a major factor. Building and restoration work can often

unwittingly block the existing sites under roof tiles.

Please get in touch if you have any interest in learning more about providing homes for swifts, or indeed avoiding the removal of existing nests. We have some excellent booklets provided by *Action for Swifts*. We also run an annual 'Swift Pint Walk' every July, open to all, when we walk around the village looking at swifts and where they live, ending up at our lovely local, *The Star Inn*. This will be advertised in next year's *Wenhaston Warbler*.

Contact Kate via email:

wenhastonSOSactiongroup@gmail.com

with any queries. *Kate Archibald*



Young swiftlets spreading out to exercise their wings and thinking about looking out into the big wide world. Ready, set, migrate!
(With thanks to Sally Amery.)

Historic Churches Trust

EAST ANGLIA IS HOME to hundreds of parish churches. These ancient buildings and their associated churchyards provide so much to our society, whether you are interested in social history, genealogy, art, architecture, places of faith or spirituality, as well as being oases for our natural history. They are also wonderful landmark buildings when planning country walks.

The **Suffolk Historic Churches Trust** (SHCT) contributes to the 'preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of churches and chapels in the County of Suffolk'. The SHCT organises a 'ride and stride' each September, where people cycle, walk, or drive between churches, raising sponsorship for the Trust, which then helps support the fabric of our church buildings. Half of what you raise can go to the church of your choice.

A few weeks ago, on 13th September, I had a delightful walk of about 11 miles, that started from Reydon Church, and thence to Southwold (two churches), Walberswick, Blythburgh, Blyford and then Wenhamston Chapel, before finishing at St Peter's in Wenhamston. Very many thanks to everyone who so kindly sponsored me, it is very much appreciated.



It is a very rewarding activity, and I would certainly urge others to don their walking boots or get pedalling next year.

Jim Ellis

School News

a monthly update from Mr Stone

I HOPE THIS FINDS ALL OUR village residents well. We're delighted to share some school news with you, following what has been a really bright and positive start to the school year for all the children.



A Village Remembers It is with great sadness that our school family extends its deepest condolences to all who knew and loved **Heather Phillips**. Heather was a wonderful servant of our school community and, through her generous work with so many village organisations, contributed **greatly** to the **children** of the village. As a school, we express our heartfelt thanks for her lifetime of service to both the school community and the wider village. She will be greatly missed.

Thank You, Blyth Woods We want to say a huge thank you to **Blyth Woods** for their continuing work with our **children**. They have already run a number of brilliant activities this year which have been adored by all involved. Tree planting is always something I believe is a truly wonderful activity we undertake as a school, and we are so privileged to have such a great working relationship with such great people.

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon Success A massive well done and thank you to all of you who attended our coffee afternoon in honour of **Macmillan**. It was wonderful to be able to open our doors and offer this event to our community. The children did a magnificent job, helping to serve drinks and cakes with enthusiasm and impeccable manners. Your support was quite wonderful, helping us to raise a staggering amount of money: **over £600!** Thank you so much for your generosity.

Support the Uniform Bank For those of you who may be grandparents or may have children at schools other than Wenhaston, I want to make you aware of the free **Uniform Bank** just down at the church. They've got a brilliant selection of good-quality items available and it's completely **free** to use. By using the bank, you're not only saving money but also supporting a great example of **sustainability and recycling** within our community.

School and Village Celebrations: Village Hall Anniversary Mug

Every child will be bringing home a special commemorative mug to mark the 50th anniversary of the village hall. The mug features combined designs from our two competition winners, Jess and Elle. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Village Hall for their wonderful work in organising this opportunity and providing this lovely keepsake for the children. We are very grateful for our continued positive relationship with the Village Hall team.



Football Teams Finish Runners-Up A huge cheer for our Year 5/6 Oak Class girls' and boys' football teams. The girls worked incredibly hard, reaching the quarter-final stage of their competition. Our boys had an amazing tournament, finishing as **runners-up** in the final! This is a magnificent achievement for a school of our size, especially as many of our boys don't play football outside of school. We are incredibly proud of all the **children** involved.

Volunteers Welcome! We are always delighted to hear from anyone in the community who would love to **volunteer at the school**. While we have many wonderful readers, we'd love to hear from people who could share a talent or skill with the **children**, be that an art, a craft, or something else. Equally, I would always love to hear from anyone who might be interested in helping to keep our school grounds lovely, tidy, and presentable—perhaps a budding gardener!

As ever, thank you so much for supporting the school. We love being part of this community. If you ever want to have a look around, you are more than welcome to pop in and arrange a time—I'd be delighted to show you around.

Kind regards,

Mr Stone, Headteacher



Wenhaston



Primary

Stay and Play

Tuesday 4th November

If your child is due to start school in September 2026 please join us for our Forest School Session on Tuesday 4th November! Your child will have a chance to meet others who may join the school and explore the school grounds. Parents must attend and will be able to tour the school and ask any questions. Outdoor clothing is essential.

The session runs from 9:30am - 10:30am. Please call or email the school office to book a spot.

wenhastonprimary.co.uk

admin@wenhastonprimary.co.uk
01502 478328

Flower Club News

THE OCTOBER MEETING was our annual Charity Night, raising funds for The Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research. This year's Charity Night was a different format, as it was a celebration of forty-five years since the club was founded by Jean Spindler and Hazel Ward: we were delighted that both ladies were able to attend, and they were presented with bouquets of flowers.



Jean and Hazel

Roger was Jean and Hazel's very first demonstrator and, although he has retired from demonstrating, he was persuaded to team up with Jane for this very special occasion. They took it in turns to astound us with some beautiful arrangements which were donated as raffle prizes.



Roger and Jane

Thank you to everyone who provided the other raffle prizes. Thank you also to the Club members who prepared the plates of food and served the drinks, and to anyone who contributed in any way to make the evening a success. There was an opportunity to buy *Cancer Research* Christmas cards, and also some beautiful knitted items on Sally and Julie's stall.

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket and supported this wonderful evening, raising funds for the Halesworth branch of *Cancer Research*. We will let you all know how much was raised in the next edition of the *Warbler*.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th November in the Village Hall, 7.30pm. It will be our Christmas workshop with Roger. Full details of what you will need will be listed in the Club's next email to members, but one of them will be a wooden coat hanger!

For more information please contact:

Jackie Chenery on 01502 47840

Plastic Pollution

RECENTLY, THE WORLD FORUM on Plastic Pollution failed to reach any agreement on reducing plastic production into the future. Should we be worried? We have all seen the pictures of huge areas of waste plastics in the ocean, and animals on land and sea dying from swallowing plastic detritus. But this visible pollution is really just the tip of a much bigger problem: these waste plastic products break down into tiny particles, most of them invisible to the naked eye, called *microplastics*. These have now been found literally everywhere on our planet – on land, sea and in the air, and in human, animal and fish tissues. They have even been detected in breast milk.

So, what's the problem, aren't plastics inert and harmless? Sadly not. They contain an array of toxic chemicals used in their manufacture, and also chemicals such as pharmaceuticals and pesticides that attach themselves to the particles' surface. We are only now beginning to realize the effects of these *microplastics* can have on human and animal health – they have been associated with heart disease, some cancers, dementia and can also affect the immune system.

Microplastics in the environment come from two main sources: the gradual breakdown of plastic items, and their intentional inclusion in domestic items such as cosmetics and toiletries. These inevitably find their way into water courses and through the sewage works and into our groundwater and rivers.

Plastic pollution is a global problem, and it needs global solutions. But what can we do in *Wenhaston*? We can make an effort to reduce our own consumption of plastics, notably plastic bags, and containers; we can buy clothing made from natural fibres – cotton, wool, etc. which will avoid the shedding of synthetic fibres into waste water every time we wash our clothes. And we can make sure that any cosmetics and toiletries we use are *microplastic-free*.

Anything else? Yes, we can agitate – ask for alternative packaging, write to companies that use plastic when more eco-friendly materials are available, and raise the issue wherever decisions involving plastic items or components are made. It has been suggested, ironically, that the 20th century and beyond will be labelled by future geologists as the *plasticine era*. Let's try and avoid that plastic tag!

Wil Harvey, Wilder Wenhaston

Methodist Church Services in November

Sunday 2 nd	10.30am	Revd Iain McKillop
Sunday 9 th	10.50am	Remembrance at the War Memorial
Sunday 16 th	10.30am	Revd Martin Keenan
Sunday 23 rd	10.30am	Mrs Laura Lawrance-Martin
Sunday 30 th	10.30am	Mrs Julie Warren

Bible Study Course at the Methodist Church

An eight-week Bible course began at the Methodist chapel on 16th October. The eight weeks cover an introduction to the course, then seven studies from Genesis through to Revelation, giving an outline of the Bible's main topics.

Small group, led by the minister, Revd Martin Keenan, on **Thursdays at 2.30pm**. There's still time to come and be curious!

For those unable to attend during the day, it would be good to hear from you, so that another course can be arranged at a suitable time.

Please telephone:

Diana Furness on 01986 872593

Services at St Peter's in November

Sunday 2 nd	10am	Team Service at Halesworth
Sunday 9 th	10.50am	Remembrance at the War Memorial
Sunday 16 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd	10am	Pause for Thought
Sunday 30 th	10am	Holy Communion at Wissett

THANK YOU EVERYONE for your birthday donations – I was able to send £360 to The East Anglian Air Ambulance and £350 to Guide Dogs for the Blind – and I know that there were donations made directly to the two charities. I had a wonderful 90th birthday, and have some very happy memories!

Margaret Goldstone

News from St Peter's

WE CELEBRATED HARVEST FESTIVAL on 12th October. The church looked lovely decorated with flowers and fruit, and many thanks to our kind flower arrangers. We were able to send £160 to Practical Action due to the generosity of our congregation. After the service, which was led by Revds Alison and Iain, we enjoyed delicious refreshments and chat. The schoolchildren came for their harvest earlier, and entertained us beautifully, as well as bringing a wonderful harvest loaf and lots of tins and packets for the Food Bank and Pantry. I am sure they will be much appreciated.

The Christmas Market will be on 13th December and the church will have a Tombola. I should be most grateful for any gifts for this, costing £1 or over.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust James walked around the area for St Peter's and raised over £350, as did Stephen for the Methodist Church. We are very grateful for their efforts on our behalf.

Margaret Bloomfield 01502478502 margaret@wrush.plus.com

Mothers' Union

I COMMENCED THE OCTOBER MEETING by thanking all the members for the delightful vase which they gave me for my birthday and for all the lovely 90th cards which I received from them.

At our meeting we were very pleased to welcome back Linda Ginn as our speaker. Linda is a past President of Mothers' Union in Diocese and she had spoken at our branch during that time. Linda's talk was titled 'Reflecting', and she asked us to imagine that we were making a film of our life during the last nine months. She then led us in hymns and prayers, before talking to us about decluttering our lives – in all that we do, and all that we are in our day to day life and in our prayer life. In her own daily life she said she feels that decluttering helps her to see where God is leading her, and what he is asking of her. This can be the same for us. We all appreciated and enjoyed her talk.

We are again this year filling shoe boxes, which will be taken to Ukraine. I am very grateful for the generosity of the members for all that they have contributed for the boxes. In November we will welcome the Fire Service, who will talk to us about 'Safety in the Home'.

Margaret Goldstone 01502 478378

Wild Church, Blyford

Blyford Church Wild Party We had a lovely evening at the Wild Party at Blyford Church on the night of the harvest moon in October. It was a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the past year, to thank some of the many people who have helped bring the church to life, and to welcome newcomers. A big thank you to all our wonderful performers, most especially nine-year-old Francis who played the ukulele for us.

Thank you to everyone who brought food to share: we had a feast! And thank you to all those who helped decorate the church with candles, bunting and a magnificent violet balloon arch. It was cloudy on the night so we didn't see the full moon, but hearing the bells of St Peter's Wenhaston ring out at the end of the celebration was an unexpected treat.

Services and events in November Our next wild church service will be on Sunday 16th November at 10am. Our next Stall on the Green will be on Saturday 15th November, 11am-2pm. Please come along and support the stall to help raise funds for the church.

Services and events in December We shall be holding a Christmas Angel Day in the church on Saturday 6th December, 10am-1pm. This is a free event for all the family and an opportunity to make your own Christmas Angel.



Christmas angels

Our annual Christmas pub carols will be in the Queen's Head on Thursday 11th December, 6-7pm.

There will be more carol singing at a traditional Christmas service on Sunday 21st December at 10am in the church.

Get in touch! If you would like to know more about All Saints, Blyford, please come to an event, attend a service, or contact any members of the PCC: Virginia Storey, Charlie Hawkins, John Handley, Martin Clarke, Christina Ballinger, or our Team Rector Rev Dominic Doble.

Christina Ballinger

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Worlingham and Carlton Marshes

THE BLYTH VALLEY AND SOUTHWOLD group welcomed Vicky Eyles, the SWT's Wilder Community Officer, who gave us an update on Worlingham and Carlton Marshes. Many of you may have visited Carlton Marshes, now such a successful reserve, with its varied fen, marsh, tree and wetland areas, and its good access, play and café facilities. The land was in agricultural use until the 1970s, so there was much to do to restore it to a more natural state. The Trust has continued to buy areas of land there, when possible, with the aim of creating a wildlife corridor along the River Waveney, making links with Castle and Worlingham Marshes, allowing the flora and fauna to move and flourish more easily. Peto's Marsh was a recent major purchase, with match funding from the Heritage Fund, and it is now a magnet for overwintering wildfowl, and a spring breeding ground for diverse species.

Worlingham Marsh is very different. It has always been a wild area, and so the Trust has been able to enhance what is already there. There is limited public access to the Marsh while improvements to habitat are carried out, but greater access will be possible in the future. We watched and enjoyed some fascinating footage from trail cams, a taste of what we will find there.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 13th November, at 7.30pm at the Southwold Arts Centre, IP18 6JP. Ian Bedford will talk about 'The Trouble Without Wasps'. The cost is £5 to include refreshments. Under 25s are free, and all are welcome. Contact us at swtblythvalley@gmail.com Penny Mansfield

Wenhaston Walkers

OUR FIRST WALK IN November will be on Tuesday, 4th and will leave Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am. The second walk on Tuesday, 18th November, led by Ali and David, will range over part of Carlton Marshes and will set off at 10am from Moss & Co at Broadlands, 3 Marsh Road, Lowestoft NR33 9JY, which is situated in the Broadlands Park and Marine. Free parking is available, and lunch may be ordered on the day.

If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email: ipbigwood@btinternet.com Ian Bigwood

The Library *in November*

AS THE WEATHER COOLS and the nights draw in, don't forget that all members of the community are welcome at **Halesworth Library** to stop by for a hot drink. The Library will also be offering a Kindness Rack – donations of winter clothing would be much appreciated!.

As part of their 'Thursday Book Talk' series, the Friends of Halesworth Library will be hosting a book talk on Thursday 20th November at 2.30pm. Further details will be published in due course, on our website

suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk, social media channels, or speak with a member of staff.

There will also be sessions of Sociable Sundays on Sunday 2nd, 16th and 30th November 10.30-12.30pm and Board Games Café on Monday 24th November 2-4.30pm, both hosted and run by volunteers of the Friends of Halesworth Library.

Talking Therapy can help those with anxiety or depression: the NHS is holding a drop-in session on Wednesday 5th November, at the library, from 1-4pm.

Saturday 15th November sees the switch-on of the Festive Lights in Halesworth. Craft activities will be available in the library, so why not pop in and see us before going to see Father Christmas switch on the lights?

Don't forget our regular activities and drop-ins! Every Tuesday 10-11.30am there is a free Rhyme Time & Play session to sing fun songs followed by free play with our toys. Every Wednesday at 10am our *Time Out* sociable group for older people meets for tea and biscuits. The Knit & Natter group meet alternate Tuesdays 2-4pm, staff can provide dates. Lego Club is on every Saturday 11am-12 noon, and Family Board Games Club every Sunday 10.30-11.30am. You can find advice drop-ins from East Suffolk Council Customer services every Tuesday 10-4pm, and Barclays Bank on Wednesdays 9-5pm. Citizens Advice have a drop-in every other Tuesday 10-12 noon – please ask a member of staff for future dates.

Catherine Draper

Sizewell C road closures and traffic management

- **Willow Marsh Lane**, Darsham is closed until June 2026 to enable the construction of the Northern Park & Ride roundabout and site. Diversion in place via Walpole Road, A144, A12.
- **Abbey Lane, Leiston** is closed until January 2027 to enable the construction of the new railway line. Diversions in place via Harrow Lane, Hawthorn Road and Pretty Road. Night-time closure of Abbey Road B1122 from 22 September till 31 October 20:00 – 05:00. This closure is to enable several utility diversionary works to take place, as well as other tie in works. Diversions in place for Abbey Road diversion via B1122, A12, A1094 and B1069, and via King George's Avenue and B1122 for Lover's Lane. Further closures of both roads are required.
- **Kettles Lane, Benhall** is closed until June 2026 for the construction of the Friday Street roundabout.
- **A12 single lane closure** northbound along the dual carriage way from Ufford Road to the Wickham Market Slip Road. Expected to be in place till 20 December 2025.
- **A12, Friday Street** varying traffic management in place, including lane closures and traffic signals until June 2026 as part of construction of the new roundabout.

This is not a definitive list. The editors are not responsible for the accuracy of the information.

Craft, Chat & Bacon Rolls!

The café team have decided to have the Bacon Roll Mornings on Craft Market Days. Pop into the Village Hall on Craft Market Days for a double treat – browse the brilliant Craft Market and grab a freshly cooked bacon roll from the café. Cakes, sausage rolls, cheese scones and fresh tea and coffee available as normal!

Great finds, good food, and even better company.

Lizzie Pitkeathly

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Saturday

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10am – 12.30pm

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Carol

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Email: caz-mike@outlook.com

Raising funds for Village Hall maintenance



Winners for October

THE DRAW HAS BEEN MADE for October and we are delighted to announce the winners:

- 1st prize £37.50 Peter Walker
2nd prize £22.50 Elizabeth Grimwood
3rd prize £15.00 Gill Frostick

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 if you need to renew or become a new member, contact the promoters, 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, 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 on 07878241258

Wenhaston Village Hall Ladies' Coffee Morning

Wednesday 12th November

10.30–11.30am

Now Autumn is well and truly here, join us
for coffee/tea, something to eat, and a chat – £2.50
Every second Wednesday of the month – everyone welcome
Look forward to seeing you all



Tennis Club

The Wenhaston Tennis Club is open to all abilities and new members are most welcome (fees available on request).

We have approximately 26 members and ladies play doubles on Monday,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings starting at 9.15am. The court is available all year round, subject to weather conditions. We also have Cardio tennis on a Wednesday evening between 6pm and 7pm. The cost is £8 on the night and is open to all ages and abilities – rackets are supplied. 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.



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Wenhaston Warbler

Co-editors: Gill Frostick, Hilary Jeffrey, Janet Wagon

welcome contributions to: wenhastonwarbler@gmail.com

or for adverts: warbler.ads@gmail.com

Deadline for entries: **15th** of the month.

(except for December and for February when it is the **12th**).

Please send contributions either in an email, or as an email attachment
in MS Word format, and keep articles to below 400 words.

Photographs will print in black and white, so there may be loss of quality.

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Warbler.

The editors reserve the right to shorten or amend articles.

We try our best not to make mistakes, but sometimes they do happen.