



The Wenhaston Warbler

December 2025

Sign up now! – to help keep your neighbourhood warm for winters to come

Community Thermal Imaging Project

Funded by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership



WILDER WENHASTON IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to help carry out a second thermal imaging survey in the village in **February 2026**. The first survey was carried out by the former Wenhaston Energy Support Group (WESG)¹ in November 2012, when 21 buildings, including the Village Hall, Methodist Chapel and The Star were surveyed. At the conclusion, the WESG wrote *“The results were fascinating and it was quite easy to come up with some simple inexpensive suggestions”*.

This, our second Thermal Imaging survey, is funded by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, which brings all Suffolk councils together to better equip Suffolk for our changing climate.

The Partnership is loaning thermal imaging cameras for community groups like ours to use. We need your help to attend homes in the village, and to take photos using a thermal imaging camera. We are requesting householders, who are interested in having this short survey undertaken, to sign up. The survey is **free** to all residents.

(continued on page 3)

¹ thanks to Janice Claxton, Ann Edwards, Janet Dillaway for providing information about the Wenhaston Energy Support Group thermal imaging survey 2012.

Fri 5th Dec at 2.00pm

Sat 6th Dec at 7.30pm

Tues 9th Dec at 2.00pm

Wed 10th Dec at 7.15pm

NUREMBERG (15)

Fri 5th, Mon 8th, Tues 9th Dec at 7.15pm

Wed 10th Dec at 2.00pm

Thurs 11th Dec at 7.15pm

WICKED FOR GOOD (PG)

Sat 6th Dec at 4.00pm

ANDRÉ RIEU -

MERRY CHRISTMAS (PG)

Sun 7th Dec at 7.30pm. ON STAGE

**WE THREE KINGS OF
ROCK 'N' ROLL**

Sat 13th Dec at 7.30pm. ON STAGE

**JIVE TALKIN'
BEE GEES TRIBUTE**

Tel: 01728 830549

www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

Fri 9th Jan, 7.30pm

Sat 10th Jan, 3pm & 7.30pm

Sun 11th Jan, 11am & 3pm

FINAL FEW TICKETS FOR ALL PERFORMANCES



Team B Productions invites you to their EGG-citing family Pantomime, Mother Goose, appearing LIVE at the splendid Leiston Film Theatre between the 9th and 11th January 2026. Mother Goose's heart may be full, but her purse certainly isn't ... she's behind with the rent and in danger of losing her farm. Thankfully, there's a twist of fate, when a magical goose that lays golden eggs arrives, turning their family fortunes upside down. But when the devious Demon Dark-Heart arrives, will Mother Goose be tempted to give up her wealth - and her gorgeous goose, in return for youth and beauty? You'll love this traditional Pantomime, packed to the panto brim with toe tapping tunes and CRACK-ing jokes, that'll have you HONKING with laughter, with more audience participation than you can shake a feather at! So, what are you waiting for? Get a waddle on, and book your tickets today at

www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

(continued from page 1)

Residents included in the February survey, will be able to see where their home is losing heat; and we will be able to give advice about how to keep the heat in! This can save money on energy bills, keep families warmer and make homes more carbon conscious. If you were one of the residents included in the 2012 WESG survey, you may request a repeat survey this time to measure the effectiveness of any improvement work you have carried at their suggestion. The surveys in the village will take place from **4th February to 9th February 2026**.

- **If you'd like to volunteer to carry out the surveys**, you do not need to have any experience or prior knowledge – all training and equipment will be provided. To get involved, contact us at wilderwenhaston@gmail.com
- **If you would like your property included in the survey**, please sign up by using our email: wilderwenhaston@gmail.com . Just let us know you're interested and we'll get in touch with you nearer the time.

Thank you. *Alan Miller and Ann Follows, on behalf of Wilder Wenhaston*

New for 2025 Family Crib Service St Peter's, Wenhaston



Christmas Eve is a hectic time and by late afternoon children are often getting over-excited. This year we are holding a short candle-lit Crib Service at **4pm on Christmas Eve**. Suitable for people of all ages but especially for children and grandchildren, this will be a time to reflect on the Christmas story and what it means for us. The service will be followed by **Holy Communion at 5pm**. You are welcome to come to one service or both.



Christmas at St Peter's Church

Friday 19th December at 7pm Carol Service
Christmas Eve at 4pm Family Crib Service,
then at 5pm Holy Communion

Revd Alison Alder

News from St Peter's

OUR TWO ST PETER'S QUIZ was very successful, raising £500 to be divided between the churches. It was an enjoyable evening with lots of laughter. Congratulations to The Hogbacks who were worthy winners. We are very grateful to Phil and Denise for putting this on for us over the years, especially as they have decided to now retire from quizzes. It has been a very good fund-raiser and we are most grateful.

The **Christmas Bazaar** will be on 13th December and the church will have a Tombola. I should be grateful for any gifts for this, costing £1 or over. Christmas is just round the corner, and we invite you to our **Carol Service** on Friday 19th December at 7pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies. On Christmas Eve we have a **Crib Service** at 4pm, followed by a short Holy Communion.

At the end of each year, St Peter's Church donated 5% of its unrestricted income to charity; this year the charities that have benefited are: East Anglian Children's Hospices, RABI and DEC Gaza.

We wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas.

Margaret Bloomfield 01502478502 margaret@wrush.plus.com

Services at St Peter's in December

Sunday 7 th	10.00am	Team Service, Halesworth
Sunday 14 th	10.30am	United Service at the Methodist Church
Friday 19 th	7.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 21 st	10.00am	Holy Communion
Sunday 24 th	4.00pm	Crib Service, followed by Holy Communion
Sunday 28 th	10.00am	Team Service, Halesworth

Methodist Church Services in December

Sunday 7 th	10.30am	Mr D Tiueti
Sunday 14 th	10.30am	United Service with St Peter's
Sunday 21 st	10.30am	Revd Martin Keenan
Christmas Day 25 th	10.00am	All welcome
Sunday 28 th	10.30am	No service

Where does the rainwater go?

A RECENT EDITION OF PRIVATE EYE carried a letter giving information about how all households should qualify for a rebate on sewerage charges from Anglian Water if no *surface water* drainage from your property enters the public sewer. So if your property has soakaways, or other collection like holding tanks, where no rainfall enters the sewer, then you should apply to Anglian Water for the rebate – currently around £70 per year.

I was not aware of this before. I didn't even have to provide evidence of our soakaways to Anglian Water, as they should have details of the property on their records. Apparently, in some cases, rebates will be given for up to six years, that is from the date they knew, or ought to have known, that no surface water drainage from a particular property entered the public sewer; but it's not clear if Anglian are following this. The number to call is: 0345 7820111.

I hope this information is useful – obviously each individual needs to look into this themselves, and any rebate will be dependent upon their own circumstances

Jonathan Alder



Winners for November - we are delighted to announce the winners:

- 1st prize £37.50 Charlotte Gower
- 2nd prize £22.50 Helen Siddle
- 3rd prize £15.00 Steve Corsan

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, for anyone wishing to join now, the fee is £9 for the period to end August 2026. We welcome new members – 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, there is a Xmas Bonus Prize of £50! All enquiries please phone:

Elaine on 07577431350 or Angela on 07878241258

What would we do without wasps?

IN NOVEMBER, THE ENTOMOLOGIST, Dr Ian Bedford, spoke to our SWT local group about wasps. He showed us how to view wasps in a different light.

There are an astonishing nine thousand different species of wasp in the UK. All are excellent pollinators, a great help with pest control, and an essential part of the eco system. The great majority are solitary wasps, which are generally no trouble to us. They may live underground, or in nooks and crannies in trees, bushes, or sheds. Gall wasps create odd little growths on leaves, branches, or acorns to harbour their young. Other wasps are parasitic, using caterpillars and grubs as hosts for their eggs. Some, like the bee wolf, hunt a single species to feed their offspring.

Only about 1% of wasps are social, living in large colonies, and we have eight native species. The yearly cycle begins when a mated queen wakes from hibernation, begins to build her nest, and to lay eggs. The workers, infertile females, then labour to build, protect, feed, and repair the nest. Their lives are short, two to three weeks. Male drones hatch later, and once mated with a new queen, they too die. By late

summer, the wasps' need for sugar makes them uninvited guests at outdoor meals, but Ian suggests we resist the urge to swat them. They sting if provoked, and an alarm pheromone in the venom will attract other angry wasps. There are kinder, more effective ways to deal with the issue. They dislike certain smells, so have cloves-studded lemons, peppermint tea, or thyme on the table. A false wasps' nest hanging nearby has been shown to be effective, as wasps are territorial creatures. Their value in our gardens is significant, and where possible, they are best left alone. Wasps may even help humans medically, as their complex venom is being studied for new ways to fight bacteria. It was a fascinating talk that made us look at these useful insects in a much more positive way.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 8th, 7.30pm, at Southwold Arts Centre. Local naturalist Tony Brown will talk about 'The Fascination of Fungi'. Admission is £5, to include refreshments, free for under 25s. All are welcome.

*Penny Mansfield,
swtblythvalley@gmail.co*

Joan Johnceline

8th June 1930 - 26th October 2025

JOAN, AND HER LATE HUSBAND Keith, moved to Wenhaston more than forty years ago. She quickly became fully immersed in village life, helping to deliver Meals on Wheels and organised walks. Joan and brought her needlework skills to new skills too, became President of and held the post for bell-ringing lasted for not only rang regularly at Rumburgh churches, she also participated in bell-ringing tours of the county.



joining local activities, including particularly enjoyed the WI considerable craft and the organization – and learnt including spinning. She the local branch of the WI three years. Her passion for more than twenty years; she Wenhaston, Halesworth and

Nicola Johnceline

Flower Club News

OUR MEETING IN NOVEMBER is traditionally our Christmas workshop, and we were delighted that Roger could be with us again. This time he showed us how to make an arrangement using a wooden coat hanger to produce a festive swag.



Roger's Christmas arrangement

Our next meeting, on Tuesday 2nd December at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, will be our Christmas Party night. We will welcome back Moria, who will be dancing her way through her Christmas demonstrations, so it will be a very entertaining evening – “bring your dancing shoes !!!”

Please bring a sharing plate of buffet food, either sweet or savoury, for the party afterwards. The Club will provide the drinks. Also please bring a Secret Santa present, costing no more than £5. There will be some Christmas Charity Stalls for you to browse – sorry, but these will be *cash only*.

For more information please contact:

Jackie Chenery 01502 478401

New Look for the *Ukulele Group*

THE WENHASTON UKULELE GROUP was established in 2018 and has produced many hours of enjoyment for us, both socially and musically, since then. There is no limit to the number of players and we have, in the past, had the pleasure of twenty-two, presenting a strong and pleasing sound.

Over the years, player numbers have shrunk a little and we would like to capture our previous levels. We are not only looking for those who would like to play their ukuleles, we would also greet those who might like to try. If you don't want to do that, but prefer to sing the many songs we play, you would also be made very welcome.

Currently, we have listed well over one hundred different songs covering different genres from The Beatles to Elvis Presley.

We may be able to lend you a ukulele if you would like to come along to try it. We meet every Monday afternoon at the Village Hall from 4.30pm to 5.30pm throughout the year. It's great fun – and it is only £2 a session. Why not come for a free 'taster' session to see if you like it. It might surprise you!

Peter Wildish

Pop-up Thai Street Café night

Saturday 24th January 2026

FIFTY SPACES WILL BE AVAILABLE for a pop-up Thai street café at Wenhaston Village Hall on Saturday 24th January 2026. The meals will be cooked by the amazing Julie from *Jewel in the Box*, Southwold.

Pre ordered choices:

- Thai Green Chicken Curry
- Massaman Beef
- Pad Thai Veg

There will be tables of six, and two sittings at 6.30pm and at 7pm.

Bar available and streamed music.

Price per person is £15

Sign up and pay for your meal with Jane at Wenhaston Post Office.
Or contact: *Karen on 07734 200624 to enquire/reserve a space.*



Test your knowledge of *Wildlife* with our Big Quiz!

In the Village Hall
on Friday 16th January at 7pm

A table for four is £20

Book via Jane at the Post Office,
or email: blythwoods1@gmail.co
wenhastoncommonsgroup@gmail.com
or pay at the door.

A fun way to test your
wildlife knowledge!

Wenhaston
Commons
Group



Caring for the Commons

Wenhaston *Walkers*

AS IS TRADITIONAL, THERE WILL BE just the one walk in December on Tuesday 2nd. 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 We look forward to a celebration; merry Christmas!"

Ian Bigwood

A message from the Editors

The next *Wenhaston Warbler* will be our Christmas edition in **colour**.

We look forward to receiving your photos and details of all your festive activities. Please make sure that you send articles to us by the earlier deadline of **December 12th**.



Hallowe'en

THE HALLOWEEN DISCO FEATURING DJ Byron was held in the Village Hall, starting at 5.30pm with the children's disco. The Hall had been extensively decorated with scary posters, pumpkins and hanging ghouls. The 30 plus children got into the 'spirit' of the evening by dressing up and exuberantly dancing and running around the dance floor. Bloodied fingers, aka hot dogs, and squash were offered by the organisers, as well as much needed alcoholic drinks for the accompanying adults!

A prize for best dressed child and best carved pumpkin were handed out with all the children offered a 'Halloween duck' for attending and taking part. A 20-minute break and quick tidy up separated the children's disco from the adults' evening.

Again, most people had spent time dressing up in some amazing outfits. Ghoulish alcoholic shots were offered alongside our normal bar and both hot dogs and filled jacket potatoes were for sale at the side counter.

DJ Byron did a sterling job of keeping people on the dance floor and it seemed like everyone was having a monster 'ball' of a time.



Will Harvey took away the prize for best dressed outfit, sporting a superb

in Wenhaston

wizard outfit. Also a scratchcard prize 'Name the Halloween dog' was won in her absence by Jane Peters.

The Disco finished at 11pm and an array of Witches, wizards and ghouls tottered back home through the streets of Wenhaston. All money made from the night will go back to the Village Hall.

A big thank you to the volunteers who supported this event, some of whom had been setting up/assisting for 12 hours from start to finish. Without these volunteers and people who purchase tickets or attend, these events could not happen. Well done everyone.

Karen Clegg



At the Library *in December*

CHRISTMAS IS AROUND THE CORNER and we have two festive events this month. On Saturday 6th December, Kinetic Adventure are running two sessions making snow globes, 10.30am-12 noon, and 1-2.30pm – for children aged five and above; children will need to bring with them a clean jam jar with the label removed. There will also be ice experiments and the opportunity to make bath bombs to take home. Booking required: see library staff.

On Saturday 13th December, there will be a handbell ringing workshop in the library from 10.30am-12 noon. No booking required.

On Friday 5th December, Suffolk County Council Home Education Services will be holding a drop-in session from 11am-12.30pm.

There will also be sessions of Sociable Sundays on Sunday 14th and 28th December 10.30-12.30pm. This event is hosted and run by volunteers from the Friends of Halesworth Library. There will be no Board Games session this month but it will return in the New Year.

Christmas closure: 24th-26th December, re-opens 27th December, 9am-2.30pm.

As the weather cools and the nights draw in, don't forget that all members of the community are welcome to stop by for a hot drink. The Library will also be offering a Kindness Rack (donations of winter clothing much appreciated!).

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 2-4.00pm; 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 10am-4pm. The last Barclays Bank session will be held on Wednesday 10th December, 9am-5pm. Citizens' Advice have a drop-in every other Tuesday 10am-12 noon; please ask a member of staff for future dates.

Catherine Draper

CHRISTMAS WREATHS FROM WILDSCAPEFLORALS



Pre-made wreaths from £35. All locally grown or foraged in Suffolk.

Find us at the Christmas Market at The Anchor in Walberswick on Saturday 29th November 10.30-5.30pm

Or join our Wreath Making Workshop on Saturday 6th December 11-1.30pm £55, refreshments included.

Please call 07979755770 or email wildscapeflorals@gmail.com

FAMILY PANTOMIME AT THE LEISTON FILM THEATRE

Mother Goose appears live on stage at the 111-year-old venue on Friday 9th, Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th January, with demand for tickets so high, that a fifth and final additional performance has now been scheduled for Sunday 11th January at 11.00am.



Limited tickets are still available, priced £18.95, £18.50 and £16.95. Book your seats today on 01728 830549 or online at: www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk.



Christmas Fair

Walberswick Village Hall
The Street, Walberswick, IP186UA

Friday	19 th Dec	10.00am to 5pm
Saturday	20 th Dec	10.00am to 5pm
Sunday	21 st Dec	10.00am to 2pm

Proceeds from coffees, teas, cakes and raffle will go to Cancer Research UK



THE SUFFOLK CELLAR

Fine Wine Merchants

We specialise in fine wines for drinking
from around the world
Bordeaux, Burgundy, Rhone, Sauternes, Rioja,
Vintage Port, Champagne and more...
by the bottle or case
Knowledgeable staff, friendly advice
We look forward to welcoming you!

OPEN
Tues - Friday
10am - 6pm
Saturday
10am - 4p



01502 473 473 - contact@suffolkcellar.com
Online: suffolkcellar.com

- Visit us at: Red House Farm, Hinton**
- **just off A12, South of Blythburgh, IP17 3RF**
 - ***Plenty of Free Parking***

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: wenhastontenniscub@gmail.com or contact Zena Grant, Secretary on 07775953987.

Eco Chimneysweep

**NACS registered & fully insured
Certificates issued**

All types of chimneys/flues swept
Stove servicing

Mob 07534971654
leighturrell@hotmail.co.uk

A PET'S BEST FRIEND

Animal Sitting
Occasional & casual dog walking

SARAH GRIMWOOD
9 Bigod Close, Halesworth
Tel 01986 873 592
Mob: 07895 025 174
frary8sr@btinternet.com

Ian Poole Decorating

Painting, Tiling & Wallpapering
Hand-painted kitchens & furniture
Reliable & Insured

Tel: 01502 710257 / 07952022436
decor@ipooledecorator.co.uk

WOOLNOUGH CONTRACTORS LTD

COMPETITIVE PRICES on
SAND, GRAVEL, AGGREGATES &
PLANT HIRE
Call 01502 478894 or 07702 139291
Fast Friendly service

Adam and Barbara Gill

Your local carpet and
upholstery cleaners
Environmentally aware
Tel. 01502 377427

TO ADVERTISE EMAIL
warbler.ads@gmail.com
£5 for a small ad
£15 for a ¼ page



Learn to Bake *with Rebecca Bishop*

Founder of Two Magpies Bakery

**Many classes to choose from
including....**

Sourdough & pizza
Intro to breadmaking
Scandinavian baking
Easter/Christmas baking
Parent and child

Gift vouchers available

Classes take place in Wenhaston

To book go to

www.thenextloaf.co.uk



WenHaston

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Delivery Services

Available within 12 miles
Fast Turnaround, Friendly Service

wenhastonlaundry@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 07418641664

Facebook: Wenhaston

Laundry Services

MRWCF Electrical

Domestic and Commercial

Rewiring, extra sockets,
inspection and testing.

24 hour call out. Free
estimates

City & Guilds qualified

Tel. 01502 478473

Matthew 07884 477110

William 07717 176655



Leftley and Mann
Construction Ltd

**All general building work
undertaken**

Stuart Mann

07884484420

Tom Leftley

07931412456

leftley.mannconstruction@gmail.com



MOTOR ENGINEERING LTD

Wash Lane, Back Rd, Wenhaston

Tel 01502 478642

Email: paul@pjn-motor.co.uk

FOR ALL YOUR GENERAL

VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS

MOT for cars & bikes classes I, II and IV

Car Servicing

CAM Belt & Clutch Replacement

www.pjn-motor.co.uk

For a Personal, Friendly Service

please contact Paul Nolloth

Karl Andrews Painter & Decorator

**Qualified City &
Guilds**

30 Years' Experience

01986 874926

07825622477

karlandrews603@gmail.com

TOWNSEND ELECTRICAL

DOMESTIC - COMMERCIAL - INDUSTRIAL - SECURITY

Electrical
Contracting
Electrical Testing
Battery Storage
Off-Grid Solutions

Backup Power
EV Charge Points
CCTV
Smart Home
Solar PV

Broadway Drive, Norwich Road,
Halesworth

T: 01986 875397

E: info@townsend-electrical.co.uk

www.townsend-electrical.co.uk



Heathside Stores

Shoplocally
Great value local service

**Blackheath Road
Wenhaston**

01502 478747

EV CHARGER AVAILABLE



Building & Carpentry

- conversions
- renovations
- alterations

Tel 01502 724293



Allen's Clean Sweep

Established 43
years

All appliances catered for including
wood burners & Agas

Now based in Wenhasston

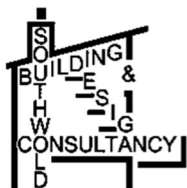
Professional service at great rates.

Fully insured.

Call Steve on 07919 258206

01502 478040 (answerphone only)

srosbrook1@yahoo.co.uk



**SOUTHWOLD
BUILDING
& DESIGN
CONSULTANCY
LTD**

Your Local Property Experts
for Architecture, Design &
Planning Advice

FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

Tel: 01502 578421

southwoldbuildinganddesign@gmail.com

www.southwoldbuildinganddesign.co.uk

Find us on Facebook

Specialist legal advice in Southwold

Residential Property

Commercial Property

Wills & Powers of Attorney

Probate

Notarial Services

Tel 01502 724750

MANTINS.CO.UK



MANTINS

SOLICITORS & NOTARIES

Steven Howlett SJ Floor Fitting Service

sjfloorfittingservice@gmail.com
07359813204
All types of flooring fitted
18 years' experience

THE STAR INN

Opening times:
TUESDAY TO SATURDAY
12pm-3pm & 6pm-9pm
SUNDAY
12pm-4pm
Live music 1-4pm Sunday
Tel: 01502 478240

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Piano,
Keyboard, Recorder, Concertina,
Melodeon, Piano Accordion, Tin
Whistle, Lever Harp

Tuition & Performance

Marie Young
CTABRSM ATCL LTCL
07917 484161

NATHAN HUNT TREE SERVICES

**Professional Arborist
Fully qualified & insured**

All aspects of tree work undertaken.
Professional tree inspector: tree surveys,
insurance reports and health & safety
assessments

Tel 07900 734 124
nathan.khan15@gmail.com

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.