



The Wenhaston Warbler

August 2026



Saplings
Class
with
Debbie
Tubby
from BBC
Look East

BBC comes to Wenhaston . . . to talk about elephants in Portugal

The Pangea Trust is a local charity that has built the first large-scale elephant sanctuary in Europe. When the first elephant arrived last month, Saplings Class at Wenhaston Primary School celebrated, and a film crew from *BBC Look East* came to learn more.

Pangea's 1000-acre sanctuary, in the Alentejo region of Portugal, exists to help zoos and circuses looking to re-home elephants in need. Julie, Portugal's last circus elephant, became their first resident last month.

She was taken from the wild in southern Africa as a young calf and then spent over 40 years performing in a Portuguese circus, before a national ban on wild animals in Portugal came into force in 2024. Her owners finally agreed to

(continued on page 3)



Fri 31st July & Sat 1st Aug at 3.00pm
Sun 2nd Aug at 2.00pm
Mon 3rd Aug at 6.00pm
Tues 4th & Wed 5th Aug at 4.00pm
Thurs 6th & Fri 7th Aug at 6.00pm
Sat 8th & Sun 9th Aug at 3.00pm

MOANA (PG)

PLEASE NOTE: Screenings on Sun 2nd &
Sun 9th Aug are sing-a-long versions

Sun 2nd Aug at 4.45pm

TOP HAT - THE MUSICAL

Sun 2nd Aug at 7.30pm

EPIC: ELVIS PRESLEY IN CONCERT (12A)

Tues 4th & Wed 5th Aug at 7.15pm

500 MILES (12A)

Sat 8th Aug at 6.00pm
Sun 16th Aug at 3.00pm

ANDRÉ RIEU'S 2026 MAASTRICHT CONCERT

Tel: 01728 830549 www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

Sun 9th Aug at 6.00pm

HANDA OPERA: PUCCINI'S TURANDOT

Fri 14th Aug at 7.00pm
Sat 15th Aug at 5.00pm
Tues 18th, Wed 19th &
Thurs 20th Aug at 7.00pm

THE ODYSSEY (15)

Fri 21st Aug at 12.00pm
Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd Aug at 3.00pm
Mon 24th - Thurs 27th Aug at 12.00pm

PAW PATROL: THE DINO MOVIE (U)

Fri 21st Aug at 7.15pm
Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd Aug at 6.00pm
Mon 24th - Thurs 27th Aug at 7.15pm

SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY (12A)

Fri 28th Aug - Thurs 3rd Sept
(Not showing Wed 2nd Sept)

THE END OF OAK STREET (12A)

(continued)

rehome her to Pangea, and she will soon be joined by another elephant, Kariba, a female African elephant, wild-caught in the 1980s, and living alone at a zoo in Belgium. She is one of the lucky ones: although the last circus elephant in the UK retired in 2011, there are still over 40 elephants performing across Europe.

Julie already has a habitat that is more than ten times the size of an average European zoo

enclosure, but the plan is to open a further 70 acres by the end of the year to give space to roam.

Wenhaston's Saplings Class have been following Julie's story closely, learning not only about elephants and the ecosystems they help to shape, but also about how we as humans need to treat animals, as our understanding of their needs grows. The children were fascinated to discover that elephants once performed in circuses, here in Suffolk, in bygone days, and loved telling the film crew what they had learnt.

If you would like to support Pangea Elephant Sanctuary, please go to

www.pangeatrust.org/donate or email kate@pangeatrust.org.

Pangea

Kate Moore, Managing Director
c/o 5th Floor, Marina House,
62 Prince Street, Bristol, BS1 4QD

| Travessa Da Trindade,
Nº 16, 5º A 1200 – 469, Lisboa

T: +44(0)7950391052 | E: kate@pangeatrust.org | W: www.pangeatrust.org

Julie's first day in her new habitat



More News from the School



The end of term has arrived, bringing to a close a period where life in school was moving at a rate of knots.

At the end of June, we enjoyed our Sports Day. The weather was absolutely perfect – not too hot and not too cold! We enjoyed an afternoon packed with sporting activities and great displays of sportsmanship. The afternoon was so full we didn't have time for a parents' race, much to the disappointment of the children!

At the beginning of July, Seedlings class visited Blyth Woods, where they carried out some weeding and mulching around the young oak trees. They

then made some beautiful bunting, showing the animals they hoped to find in the woodland once it is fully established.



Seedlings class with their bunting

Our ASSET Arrows (School Reps for Pupil Academy Trust Meetings), Keeley and Ben, visited Ipswich Waterfront earlier this month to take part in a youth protest about single use plastic. They did a great job talking to members of the public about their work and their desire to see a more sustainable future. This is something that ASSET is working towards improving.

On Wednesday 8th July, Pepyn and presented each of our leavers with a



*Keeley and Ben
Lessey visited the school and
beautiful book of their choice –*

to mark the end of their primary years. We would like to publicly thank them for their generosity, not just on this occasion but throughout the year.

Near the end of term, our Year 6 leavers enjoyed a trip to Oulton Broad Water Sports Centre. This was a most enjoyable day, made even better by the fact we had a fish and chip lunch.

Wishing all the *Warbler* readers a lovely summer!

Jo Lockhart



ARE YOU WORRIED about a child or family at Wenhaston Primary School?

You can report in confidence by scanning the QR code.

Mr Stone



St Peter's Pightle *is now open*

MANY OF YOU WILL REMEMBER that 18 months ago this was an ex arable field that local charity, *Blyth Woods*, leased from St Peter's Church. The plan was to create a woodland and wildflower meadow to encourage wildlife, increase biodiversity and provide a space for all to enjoy. St Peter's Pightle is accessed through the small gate off the footpath at the end of Church Lane and is now open to the community.



We would like to thank all the volunteers, as well as Wenhaston primary school together with their parents and carers, who helped to plant, weed and maintain over 3,500 trees and hedging. A pond was dug, gates installed, wildflower seed sown and a tree nursery built.

Thank you to everyone who came to the opening in July and helped with the Bioblitz. Bunting was created by Seedling Class at Wenhaston Primary and used to welcome visitors. It was cut to mark the official opening by founding members John and Marie Rolfe.



To protect wildlife, we are asking visitors to follow the cut circular path, and to keep dogs on a lead.

St Pete's Pightle is now awash with wildflowers and we are looking for more volunteers to help maintain this community space and to fulfil our 5-year plan. Please email

blythwoods1@gmail.com to receive our newsletter and details of forthcoming working parties and events. Families welcome.

Latest news At the recent Trustees meeting the Blyth Woods steering group were elected as follows: Sally Amery (Treasurer), Ann Edwards, Katharine Edwards, Patricia Elliott, Jo Jarvis, Nick Jarvis (Chair), Geraldine Lines (Secretary), Alan Miller, John Rolfe, Marie Rolfe.

For further information visit... blythwoods.org *Jo Jarvis*





Notes from a Fluffy Garden

THE HERB GARDEN IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE PARTS and in the beginning there was a plan. Right, that's the literary allusions out of the way.

First comes the culinary collection: sage, thyme, coriander, rosemary, savory and all. Bit of a squash in there, so we jump to section two. Here, in slightly more shade, we find the parsley, the chives, pineapple sage and oregano. The latter doesn't care. It will grow anywhere, and does!

Further back are the dye plants and medicinals: coreopsis, woad, weld and madder give wonderful colour to cloth. Feverfew, self-heal, chamomile and St John's wort all have healing properties.



In the centre, a terracotta urn sports a strawberry plant. The birds get there first! A huge clump of chicory is alive with bees in the early morning. Hyssop and sundry salvias vie for space. Blue campanulas flaunt cheekily in all the beds, pretending to be something wildly useful.



That leaves us with the final stand tall fennel and milk. They shouldn't really be. Well, they are edible and kill you. Their bedfellows attributes. But that's a story for



part. It's at the back, so here thistle towering over the plot. there. And why not, you cry. beneficial but... they won't have somewhat darker another day. *Cherry Wilkinson*



WENHASTON VILLAGE SHOW



SUNDAY 26th JULY

CHILDREN'S CATEGORIES

Entry
number

Category

76

A Drawing or Painting in any medium,
maximum A4



77

A Miniature Garden - Created in a dish,
seed tray or container (maximum size
30cm x 22cm apx) using natural materials,
toys etc.



78

Animal or person made from
vegetables or fruit



79

A Lego model of your own design,
(not a kit) a maximum size of
30cm/12inch Tall, wide and deep.



80

Decorated Plant Pot



81

A decorated bookmark made
from card or fabric



OPEN TO ALL
CHILDREN
NOT JUST
RESIDENTS OF
WENHASTON!



CLOSING DATE
FOR ENTRIES

FRIDAY 17th JULY
IN SCHOOL



It would be wonderful if you could enter one or more of the above categories, there are prizes and it's free, you don't even have to live in the village! Children can enter any of the adult classes too, but you will need a village show programme for that, available from the Post Office.

Return your entry form (available from school) to the school office by Friday 17th July and I will collect it and submit it to the committee. You can enter after that up until the 22nd of July, by taking your entry form to the Village Hall or Elaine Potter at Stone Cottage in The Street. Then all you have to do is bring your entry to the Village Hall between 8.30 and 10.30 on the day.

FREE
TO
ENTER!



GOOD LUCK!



The Village Show Committee



Methodist Church Services in August

Sunday 2 nd	10.30am	Laura Lawrence Martin
Sunday 9 th	10.30am	Revd P Bayliss – joint service with St Peter's
Sunday 16 th	10.30am	Revd Martin Keenan
Sunday 23 ^d	10.30am	Revd Iain McKillop
Sunday 30 th	10.30am	Liz Zukiewicz

Mothers' Union

THE MEMBERS HAVE THIS MONTH ENJOYED A PLEASANT and thoughtful afternoon in the garden at Spindleberry. We were able to find enough shade to enable us to enjoy and appreciate the annual Wave of Prayer Service, when we pray and think of our Link Dioceses in Africa. The service was led by The Revd, Edmund who as always made it very meaningful; members participated with various readings.

Following the service we all enjoyed a delicious tea with strawberries and cream and of course lots of chat!

As I mentioned last month we are holding a Coffee Morning again at Spindleberry on Wednesday 29th July. to raise funds for Families in Africa where there is continual need. This event will be from 10.30am until 12.30pm and there will be a raffle and a Bring and Buy stall.

We do hope that as many people as possible will want to join us for coffee and chat on the 29th – to help us raise the funds which are always urgently needed.

For our August meeting we plan to go out for afternoon tea!

Margaret Goldstone 01502 478378

News from St Peter's

WELL WE CANNOT SAY WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY SUMMER WEATHER this year! My, hasn't it been hot. It has even been completely dry for Wimbledon, which is unusual! Let's hope we have a mellow Autumn too.

On Friday 21st August the Village Hall Committee are hosting a **Big Quiz** and they have invited the church to help at this event. We will receive a part of the proceeds, which is very kind of the Committee. The doors will open at 6.30pm and the quiz will start at 7pm. Teams of four, £10 to enter. There will be a bar and light refreshments. Please register your team with Karen Clegg on 07734 200624.

We usually attend St Mary's, Halesworth on the first Sunday of the month, and alternate with the Methodist Church on the second Sunday. Holy Communion is on the third Sunday and Pause for Thought, an informal service, on the fourth. Do come along and join us in our worship, in our beautiful church.

On 12th September The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust will hold their annual sponsored Ride and Stride. This brings in a substantial amount of money to be spent on the upkeep of our historic churches, and Wenhaston Church has benefited from it this year. Wenhaston Church will be visited by quite a few cyclists, and there will be a rota in the porch for stewards. If anyone would like to cycle or walk for Wenhaston Church, there will be sponsor forms in church. Let's hope for a nice warm day.

Margaret Bloomfield 01502478502 margaret@wrush.plus.com

Services at St Peter's in August

Sunday 2 nd	10am	Team Service at Halesworth
Sunday 9 th	10.30am	Joint Service at the Methodist Church
Sunday 16 th	10am	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd	10am	No Service
Sunday 30 th	10am	No Service

THE BIG QUIZ

Gather your friends, test your knowledge and enjoy a fun evening!

In conjunction with St. Peter's Church

WENHASTON VILLAGE HALL
NARROW WAY, WENHASTON

FRID 21ST AUGUST

DOORS OPEN **6.30PM** | QUIZ STARTS **7PM**

BAR AVAILABLE & **LIGHT BITES AVAILABLE**

TEAMS OF 4 REGISTER YOUR TEAM NAME (4 TO A TEAM) WITH KAREN ON **07734200624**

PAY ON THE NIGHT £10 A TEAM

★ **ALL WELCOME!** ★

SIGN UP FOR OUR BIG QUIZ ON FRIDAY 2^{1S} AUGUST 2026 at the Village Hall. Four persons maximum to a team, and a fee of £10 per team to enter, payable on the night, **BUT** you must register your team name beforehand so that we know how many teams, for the purpose of setting up the hall and light bites (cheese and biscuits, etc) which will be available halfway through the quiz.

The entrance fee money will be split between our **Church and Village Hall**.

The bar will be open, and a raffle available. Please join us for a 'test your knowledge' fun night.

Karen Clegg

What's in a pond?

FIRSTLY, WHAT IS A POND? A pond is a body of water from between a square metre and two hectares; it can be permanent, or temporary – drying out in summer. Many of us will have garden ponds and, as so many have been lost in the wider countryside, they are vital for wildlife.

While the numbers of garden ponds have increased in recent times it's estimated that the past 100 years has seen the loss of more than half the number that was once found in the countryside. A recent survey compared the number of species found in ponds compared to rivers. Ponds were revealed to be much richer than rivers, owing to their isolation, varied depths, locations, soil types etc.

So why are there ponds out in the countryside, particularly when they are a good distance from any water course or drainage ditch? East Anglia has the second highest number of ponds in the country, and the majority were dug either for marl (marling was the digging of calcium rich clay or chalk used as a soil improver on sandy acidic land),

'retting' which was the processing of flax (the water being used to separate the fibres to make textiles) or as a water source for stock or working horses before the age of the tractor.

There are still many ponds within the parish and *Wilder Wenhaston* is looking at recording and encouraging restoration of neglected water bodies and discovering ghost ponds, ie ponds that have been filled in.



In the past six years *Blyth Woods* and Mike Gower have between them restored and created eight ponds, and Bob and Annie Jellicoe have restored a ghost pond on their land – each one is now a haven for wildlife.

Neglected and overgrown for 50 plus years, opening them up to the light and removing sometimes over a metre of silt from the base, the transformation is instant. Some ponds have immediately been colonised by stoneworts, whose seed have lain dormant for many years just waiting for the right conditions to come back to life. In neighbouring Bramfield, one restored pond

revealed a stonewort species that had been regarded as extinct in UK since 1954.

They are also a stronghold for great crested newts (often wrongly hated by developers) but they are a European Protected Species, and the UK population is internationally important. Many of the village garden ponds are hosts to small numbers. A survey in April of six of the restored ponds revealed healthy populations of both great crested and smooth newts.

As our changing climate puts an even heavier emphasis on our need for clean fresh water, ponds are vital for our wildlife, whatever their size. Also please refrain from allowing your dog to swim in any of the ponds – the current chemicals used in flea and tic treatments can destroy the invertebrate life, and so the value of the pond which has taken time and money to restore.

Alan Miller for Wilder Wenhaston

Wenhaston Tennis Club Beginners and Rusty Rackets

THESE SESSIONS ARE STARTING on Wednesday evenings between 6-7pm – one hour for complete beginners, or for anyone who hasn't played in a while.

They will begin with the basics, then build up to rallies and finish with some fun games. It's a relaxed way to improve your skills, get active and meet others locally. The cost is £8 per person, or £20 per family (up to 4).

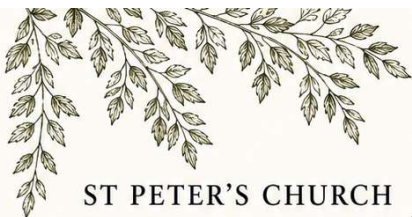
A small number of rackets are available to borrow.



*For more information please
contact Jamie Bretton on
07955 043036*

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



ST PETER'S CHURCH

THORINGTON

SUMMER OPEN AFTERNOON



SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST

FROM 12.30PM ONWARDS



1PM

POETRY READING

WITH LOCAL POET

Steph Ellen Feeney

Award-winning Suffolk poet Steph Ellen Feeney will be reading from her debut collection, *Small Change*, published by Broken Sleep Books.

2PM

SUFFOLK PHOENIX
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Commons Group Working Party programme 2026/2027

Meet at 10am unless otherwise specified

See the *Wenhaston Warbler* for any changes, or phone:

Myles Archibald 07774 781186

If you would like to receive regular updates about upcoming work parties,

email: Jo Small smalljo259@gmail.com

Month	Date	Leader	Location	Meet at	Task
Sep	Tue 8	LH	Churchyard	Church gate	Late grass cut
	Sun 27	SM	Blackheath	East end	Birch & bracken removal
Oct	Tue 13	JA	Blackheath	Bench, South side	Extend SSB area
	Sun 25	MA	Mill Common	Verge by traffic bollards	Bracken & bramble removal
Nov	Tue 10	AM	Blackheath	Entrance opposite shop	Gorse clearance
	Sun 22	MA	Blackheath	Bramfield Lane	Gorse/sycamore removal
Dec	Sun 13	MA	Blackheath	Black Deek	Gorse removal
Jan	Tue 12	AM	Bicker's	Bench	Bracken & bramble removal
	Sun 24	MA	Blackheath	Sand Pit/South side	Removal sand falls/clearance around scrub planting
Feb	Tue 9	JA	Mill Common	Verge by traffic bollards	Gorse removal
	Sun 21	SM	Blackheath		
Mar	Tue 9	JA	Blackheath	South Side	Extend SSB area
	Sun 21	MA	Bicker's	Bench	Bracken and gorse removal



Winners for July

THE DRAW WAS MADE at the Ladies' Coffee Morning and we are delighted to announce the winners:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|------------------|
| 1 st prize | £37.50 | Sue Spoor |
| 2 nd prize | £22.50 | Tony and Sue Gow |
| 3 rd prize | £15.00 | Dave Grimwood |

Elaine Potter and Angela Corsan

Wenhaston Village Hall Ladies' Coffee Morning

Wednesday 12 August 10.30 – 11.30am

£2.50 for coffee/tea, something to eat, and a chat

Every second Wednesday of the month

Look forward to seeing you all



Wenhaston *Walkers*

OUR FIRST WALK IN AUGUST WILL BE ON TUESDAY 4TH setting off at 10am from Wenhaston Village Hall.

On Tuesday 18th August, Sally and Nick will lead the walk from The Huntingfield Arms, The Street, Huntingfield IP19 0PU starting out at 10am. There is limited parking at the pub and in adjacent roads, but parking is permitted at The Hub opposite (cash donation requested). Lunch can be ordered on the day before starting out.

If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email

ipbigwood@btinternet.com

Ian Bigwood



Dear Subscribers

It's time to think about renewing your Village Hall 100 Club membership. It costs £12 a year per number.

You can do this in the following ways:

- BACS transfer to Wenhaston Village Hall 100 club account
30-13-64
16021468
Use your name as a reference and if possible, email one of us to let us know that's how you have paid.
- Cheque made payable to Wenhaston Village Hall 100 Club, handed to Jane at the Post Office, in an envelope clearly marked with your name.
- Cash in an envelope, as above.

Some people have already set up automatic payments so need to do nothing.

Changes

The following changes will take place from **September 2026**:

- As Lloyds are now charging for cheques, we are going to encourage everyone to pay their subs and receive their prizes through BACS. We realise that some people may want to continue to receive or give cheques, and this option will be available for those who wish to do so. Cash subscriptions will still be accepted.
- **There will be one prize of £60 a month and a Christmas prize of £120.**

If you are a current subscriber and do not wish to continue from September, please let us know well in advance.

Any new members are welcome, contact the administrators for more information:

Elaine Potter 07577431350 Potter375@hotmail.com

Angela Corsan 07878 241258 angela.corsan@hotmail.co.uk

At the Library in August

- Wednesday 5th August: Mini Monsters at the library with their creepy crawly roadshow. £1 per child, booking required. Choose between our morning session 11.30am-12.30pm, or the afternoon session 1.30-2.30pm.
- Wednesday 12th August: local artist, Anita Andrews, a craft workshop 1-3.pm. £1 per child, booking required.
- Friday 21st August, 10am-3pm: Anita will be running an all day workshop showing children (aged 8+) how to create their own notebooks. Lunch provided. £1 per child, please book in advance.
- Wednesday 26th August 10-11am: a rainbow fish craft club, FREE but booking required.
- Tuesdays during the summer holidays, 11.15am-12.15pm: a themed Lego Club. Drop-in session, no booking required.

The Reading Quest runs every day through the summer holidays – drop in 10am-12 noon and 2-4pm to speak with our dedicated volunteers.

Catherine Draper

The East Suffolk **Donkey Sanctuary** **Charity Concert**

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART or came to watch the donkey show on July 3rd.

We raised over £1000 which will pay for their winter hay and the donkey dentist.

Many thanks, *Marie Young*



WENHASTON

Produce & Craft Market

Saturday

29th August 2026

10am – 12.30pm

In the Village Hall IP19 9EP

A wide and ever-changing range of local foods and produce,
crafts, plants, home baking and pre-loved treasures.

New stallholders always welcome...Stall Fee £10
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Carol

Tel: 01502 478732 or

Email: caz-mike@outlook.com

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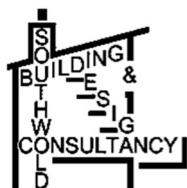
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Deadline for entries: **15th** of the month.

(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.

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The editors reserve the right to shorten or amend articles.

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