

*TV gardener Joe Swift  
on a visit to Yoxwood  
Community Woodland*

*The Yoxmere  
Fisherman*

**August 2023**

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2023

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<b>Sunday 6th</b>		<b>Trinity 9</b>
10.00am	Dunwich	Benefice Holy Communion & Flower Festival
<b>Sunday 13th</b>		<b>Trinity 10</b>
9.30am	Yoxford	Holy Communion
11.00am	Darsham	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Dunwich	Holy Communion with Bishop Mike
11.00am	Peasenhall	Morning Prayer (BCP)
12.00pm	Theberton	Animal Blessing Service with BBQ & Pet Show
<b>Sunday 20th</b>		<b>Trinity 11</b>
9.30am	Yoxford	family@church
9.30am	Theberton	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Peasenhall	Holy Communion
11.00am	Dunwich	Morning Worship
6.00pm	Darsham	Evensong
<b>Sunday 27th</b>		<b>Trinity 12</b>
9.30am	Theberton	Holy Communion
9.30am	Westleton	Harvest Festival, Informal Worship
9.30am	Yoxford	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Darsham	Holy Communion
11.00am	Dunwich	Morning Prayer
11.00am	Peasenhall	Morning Worship with the Methodists
<b>Sunday 3rd September</b>		<b>Trinity 13</b>
10.00am	Sibton	Benefice Holy Communion & Harvest Festival

### LECTIONARY

*Trinity 9, The  
Transfiguration, Green*  
Daniel 7.9,10,13,14  
2 Peter 1.16-19  
Luke 9.28-36

*Trinity 10, Green*  
Genesis 37.1-4,12-28  
Romans 10.5-15  
Matthew 14.22-33

*Trinity 11, Green*  
Genesis 45.1-15  
Romans 11.1-2a,  
29-32  
Matthew 15.[10-  
20]21-28

*Trinity 12, Green*  
Exodus 1.8 – 2.10  
Romans 12.1-8  
Matthew 16.13-20

NB. No Wednesday services at Westleton in August  
due to renovations to St Peter's Church

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*Thanks to Pat Wallace for this month's cover photo.*

## RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

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A couple of weeks ago my family and I went to Oxford for a few days. We spend a day visiting Bourton on the Water (a chocolate-box Cotswold village, with its own model village that is even cuter), and Chipping Norton.

The next day we saw Oxford properly, by taking a sight-seeing bus around the centre. I sat the little one beside me, unwrapped his headphones, plugged them in, and found the kids' channel of commentary. Did he listen? Vain hope! A panel with buttons on it was too alluring, and he spent half the journey listening in Korean before I noticed (or he, apparently) and switched it back. As things got on, he got more restless and, while trying to listen and look at the sights, I now had to be alert to a three-year-old swinging his legs through the bars of the open top deck and sliding off the side of the bus. I'm not sure I took in anything after that...

The Oxford Natural History Museum (with a stuffed dodo! - and an iguanodon skeleton that the eleven-year-old identified immediately from across a crowded room), and the Pitt-Rivers Museum rounded out a day with lots of walking.

The next day we went to Magdalen College. Sarah has a friend who is the librarian there, so we had the privileged tour — past the deer park (I'm not kidding), up the tower for stunning views over Oxford, and into the old and new libraries, where I got to see the memorably titled fragments P64, also known as the Magdalen papyrus. These were fragments of a papyrus codex (book with pages) containing Matthew's gospel, chapter 26. They date from around AD200, making them some of the oldest fragments of the New Testament in existence. They were still legible (if you're good with uncial Greek).

The great age of these fragments is somewhat awe-inspiring. Something as fragile as a book can survive so many centuries. And it is worth preserving and treasuring. How many people read, studied, delighted in, and were changed by this *particular* book?

I enjoyed all that little week off, but a couple of minutes in a library gave me plenty to reflect on — while Sarah restrained the rampaging three-year-old!

*Blessings, Tim.*

## FROM THE REGISTERS

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### **Baptism**

Louis William Macfarlane, on Sunday June 25th, at St Peter's Church, Theberton

### **Marriage**

Liam Mervyn Banns to Jakki Lee Tompkins, on Saturday 8th July, at St Michael's Church, Peasenhall

### **Funerals**

Peter William Brown, aged 59 years, on Wednesday 14th June, at Holy Trinity Church, Middleton, followed by a private cremation

Gillian Ann Padgham, aged 87 years, on Tuesday, 20th June; thanksgiving service at St Peter's Church, Westleton, following a cremation at Seven Hills Crematorium

Rosemary Alys Fellowes, aged 95 years, on Monday 26th June; thanksgiving service at St. Peter's Church, Yoxford, following burial at the Greenwood Burial Ground, Farnham

Kenneth Thomas Bent, aged 86 years, on Monday 10th July at St Peter's Church, Theberton, followed by burial in the churchyard

### **Interment of Ashes**

Margaret Frances Chenery and Eric Brian Chenery, on Monday 12th June, at St Peter's Church, Westleton

Kenneth Roy Jones, on Saturday, 24th June, at St Peter's Church, Westleton

Archie Patrick William Poulter, on Thursday 29th June, at St Michael's Church, Peasenhall

Carl Thurston, on Thursday 6th July, at St Michael's Church, Peasenhall

### ***THE YOXMERE FISHERMAN - Guidelines for contributors***

The *Yoxmere Fisherman* is published for the Yoxmere Benefice, which comprises the Church of England parishes of Darsham, Dunwich, Middleton, Peasenhall, Sibton, Theberton, Westleton and Yoxford.

Visitors may find more information at [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

**SUBMISSIONS** should be sent by the 14th of the preceeding month, and preferably by email to [yoxmerefisherman@gmail.com](mailto:yoxmerefisherman@gmail.com)

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### **VIRTUAL FISHERMAN**

The current edition and a few months of previous issues can be found at <https://westleton.onesuffolk.net/church/yoxmere-fisherman/>



Heartbeat a cappella group  
who will be singing in Dunwich  
for Ukraine. See P.17



Photos from the "French Day" in Westleton, with music, dancing, wine,  
food (including snails), retro car trips, and more. *Magnifique!*



### The Law

You may remember that Jesus occasionally mentioned the law and the prophets, as in Matt. 7:12 in which he says, ‘Do to others as you would have them do to you, for this sums up the law and the prophets.’ What did he mean by ‘the law and the prophets’?

The answer is this: the Hebrew Bible is arranged differently from the English Bible. So for Jews our Old Testament is called the Tanak, and that is an acronym of the letters T, N, K, standing for Torah, Nevi’im and Ketuvim — or, law, prophets and writings. The law is Genesis to Deuteronomy; the prophets comprises the narrative books of Joshua, Judges, Samuel and Kings, and Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and the book of the twelve minor prophets (which were so short they all fitted on one scroll). Daniel is not amongst those prophets, though we may agree that he should be!

A few interesting things come out of this: when Jesus talked about the law and the prophets the full canon of Hebrew Scripture hadn’t apparently been fixed yet — that didn’t occur until the council of Jamnia in about AD100, so books like Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Esther, Ruth, Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah weren’t officially scripture. But that said, they *were* regarded as inspired by God, and were highly influential. So the fixing of the canon was in part about *limiting* the library of essential writing. The second interesting thing is that the major narrative books of Joshua to Kings were regarded as prophetic. Perhaps this is because the prophets are such significant characters in the narrative that it is only right to highlight their influential role as spokespeople in the ongoing story.

But perhaps a better reason for the division is this: the Torah books are roughly half law and half narrative. Which means that the detailed laws that are given are to be found *in the context of story*. And then the books of the prophets are, in the Hebrew Bible, situated *in the context of story too*. The context is vital to read it right.

So, the Old Testament is actually law, prophets and writings. What about the law, then?

First, what makes a nation a nation? What makes the French French? Or the Germans German? Religion? Favourite sport? Food — sauerkraut, pasta, roast beef? Or history; the legal system; or a certain sense of national character: romantic, efficient, or flamboyant?

Now, let's go back to the time of Moses. You are a Hebrew slave in Egypt, making bricks. What do you know of the world? You know the Egyptian world, and only that — because you are uneducated and haven't been allowed to go anywhere. You know that there are many Egyptian Gods who require sacrifices, and who are feared. You know a world of cruelty and abuse. The laws you know are Egyptian laws, favouring Egyptian people. You know about pyramids, mummies and Canopic jars — and that's it. That being the culture, you walk like an Egyptian and you talk like an Egyptian, and the chances are that you believe like an Egyptian. You follow Moses into a fiercely inhospitable desert, because of the promise of freedom and a new life — but when he goes up a mountain for forty days to be with God, you can't help behaving like someone raised in Egypt.

Moses comes back down, with instructions on how to behave — the Ten Commandments and many more to reshape the values and principles the people are to live by. Instructions on how to worship — what sort of space, who is in charge, etc. How to find reconciliation with neighbours after a dispute, and so on. Worship included a detailed sacrificial system.

The laws of Moses in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy are about the creation of a wholly new culture, in which the Lord God set the principles and practices of life. It was a cultural reset. And it took time.

It didn't take forty years to get from Egypt to the promised land. The journey can be done in a week. But it took forty years to isolate a slave nation, reshape their culture, feed them manna and show them that God loved them and could be trusted to provide for them — that they could lead a better life under his guidance.

This is the foundation by which we understand the books of the law in the Old Testament. Don't compare the law to modern law. Compare it to the slavery they came from, and to the Code of Hammurabi, and observe how compassionate the laws given to Moses are. This is the beginning of understanding Old Testament Law.

*Tim.*

## **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Monday 7th August, 2pm, Westleton Village Hall Foyer.

Have you lost someone close in the last few years? This group is a safe space for those who have been bereaved to be as open as you wish about your experiences, both emotional and practical, following loss.

Tea, coffee and biscuits supplied and no charge.

More information from Revd Tim.

## Westleton Bookshops!

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## SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCH TRUST 50TH ANNIVERSARY RIDE & STRIDE 2023

Our 50th ANNIVERSARY of the setting up of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust RIDE & STRIDE takes place this year on Saturday 9th September between 9am and 5pm.

This 50th anniversary year is an important one for the trust, which has a countywide target to raise £215,000 this year. In 2021 the event raised £201,000 and last year £189,000. The trust would also like to encourage more sponsors and participants, especially younger riders or striders.

So, if you feel like cycling, walking, sponsoring, or helping in a church for an hour or two, you will be very welcome - don't be shy! (Sponsorship forms and details of participating churches should be available in our benefice churches.) Enjoy your day whether cycling or walking, but please keep safe!

*Local organisers and stop-off points in our benefice:*

Darsham Church – Clive Beaumont - 07775 582310

Dunwich Church, Leper chapel & Monastery ruins – Joan Godfrey 648270

Middleton Church – David Burgess – 07795 292885

Peasenhall Church – Michael Thickett – 01728 660549

Peasenhall Methodist Chapel - Christine Cole - 01728 660075

Sibton Church – Jan Belton – 01728 660111

Theberton Church – Nicolas Cooper – 01728 635736

Westleton Church – David Blencowe – 01728 648566

Yoxford Church – Rosemary Draper – 01728 668536

Area Organiser: Greg Spray – gregspray5@gmail.com



Our thanks go to Rupert Hannen who, after many years, has recently retired as our SHCT Local and Area Organiser.

*Rosemary Draper*

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### HELP FOR LEISTON FOODBANK

As the cost-of-living crisis continues and more people feel the effects, it is not surprising that donations to foodbanks, of both goods and money, are declining. Increasingly, Leiston's foodbank, based at Leiston United Reformed Church, is now dipping into financial reserves to buy goods for the foodbank sessions on Friday and Saturday mornings. Funds are diminishing rapidly and the foodbank is appealing for help, whether in cash or kind.

Please could you help? You could call in to the regular coffee mornings held alongside foodbank sessions or call Sue Hardy (a serving elder at the church) on 07771 882738. Thank you.

# SING OUT!

Join our **COMMUNITY CHOIR** for this area.

Whether you are new to singing, have sung in a choir before, or read music or not, all are welcome. We sing a wide range of music from pop to choral and musicals. We start our new term on Wednesday 6th September at St Peter's Church, Yoxford. Join us then or any Wednesday at 7.00pm. We hope to see you there, especially if you have a lower range singing voice: tenor / bass.

For more information...

Email: [singoutyoxford@gmail.com](mailto:singoutyoxford@gmail.com) Website: [singoutyoxford.co.uk](http://singoutyoxford.co.uk)

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*All Welcome*

**family@church**

Yoxford Church Sunday 20th August  
Breakfast 9.00am Service 9.30am

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## UPDATE FROM STOP SIZEWELL C

The much anticipated - and predictably delayed - launch of Great British Nuclear contained no more than warm words for Sizewell C. As one newspaper opinion writer put it, "One should regard the fanfare for Great British Nuclear with scepticism because nothing moves quickly in the world of nuclear energy... Grant Shapps arrived bearing no fresh news on how (or if) Sizewell C will be funded." EDF called the GBN launch a "vote of confidence" for the project, but Stop Sizewell C observed to the media, "No vote of confidence can help Sizewell C unless it has a big fat cheque attached."

Meanwhile we have launched a NEW online campaign to help people write to their pension funds and ask them not to invest in Sizewell C. We've a new video on our website home page ([stopsizewellc.org](http://stopsizewellc.org)) and the campaign action is at [stopsizewellc.org/goodpension](http://stopsizewellc.org/goodpension). The campaign and video is also on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Threads - our profile on each is @stopsizewellc. Please take part and share this campaign widely with friends and family.

*Alison Downes*

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## DISABILITY ADVICE SERVICE (EAST SUFFOLK)

We are a friendly local charity based in Martlesham Heath, providing advice and support to adults and children with disabilities, their families and carers and changing the lives of people in crisis across East Suffolk. We offer FREE services including: advice and help in completing benefit forms; immediate support in a crisis; appealing a DWP decision if you aren't satisfied with the award you've received; lastly, signposting: if we can't help, we'll help you find someone who can. Contact us – we'd love to help you! 01394 387070, [advice@daseastsuffolk.org](mailto:advice@daseastsuffolk.org); [www.daseastsuffolk.org](http://www.daseastsuffolk.org)

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## CITIZENS ADVICE EAST SUFFOLK

Citizens Advice helps people find a way forward. We provide free, confidential and independent advice to help people overcome their problems. Call us on 0808 278 7866 between 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday. Our lines are very busy at the moment, so alternatively visit [www.caes.org.uk](http://www.caes.org.uk) for all the different ways you can contact us.

**Main office:** Leiston Office: 14 Colonial House, Leiston IP16 4JD. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday by appointment.

### **Outreach drop in centres in this area:**

Aldeburgh and Alderton – by appointment.

Framlingham Library, The Old Court House, Bridge Street, Framlingham IP13 9BA. Drop in every Friday 10am-12noon.

Halesworth Library, Bridge St, Halesworth IP19 8AD. Drop in on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday 10am-12 noon.

Saxmundham Library, Street Farm Road, Saxmundham IP17 1AL. Drop in every Wednesday 10am-12 noon.

**NEW\*\*** Stella Peskett Millenium Hall, Might's Road, Southwold IP18 6BE. Drop-in 2nd Monday of each month from 10- 12noon starting on 7th July.

# DARSHAM

## **ALL SAINTS CHURCH: SAVE THE DATES**

Churchyard Tidy will be on Friday 8th September at 10.30am. Light lunch to be available.

Church Deep Clean 6th October at 10.00am.

Any help is much appreciated.

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A decorative banner for the Darsham Village Fete. It features a central text area flanked by two strings of triangular flags. The flags are red, white, and blue, with the word 'FETE' written in white on the red flags.

## **DARSHAM VILLAGE FETE**

**Saturday 5th August 2pm–5pm**

We are pleased to be able to introduce a few new activities for this year's fete.

- **Children's Fancy Dress competition** with a **theme of book titles or characters from books** - Free entry
- **Fun Dog Show** with six entry classes :- Cutest Puppy, Golden Oldie, Handsome Male, Gorgeous Girl, Waggiest Tail, Best Trick. A small entry fee for each class will be charged.
- **Craft Table for children** to make and take away. Free to each child taking part.
- **Face Painting** for the children.

We will also have some of our regular features:- refreshments, book stall, plant and produce stall, individual sellers, games, sun gazing with Dash Astro.

**And the Fox public house will be running their very popular bar again.**

**Raffle:** we are going to run this in a slightly different way - making up gift baskets in the following categories:- Female, Male, Gardeners, Fruit & Veg, Delicatessen, Child, and Pot Luck. Contributions of prizes are welcome, especially to fit the above categories. These need to be with **David and Diane Taylor at Sunnyside, The Street, Darsham** by the end of the day on **Sunday 30th July**. If you have any links to local restaurants, golf courses, pamper palaces or anything else and could perhaps get a voucher that would help out, please let David know in advance.

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## **DARSHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Since the last publication of the *Fisherman*, Darsham Parish Council has met on three occasions: Tuesday 20th June, Friday 30th June, and Tuesday 11th July. Members of the public mentioned continuing issues with anti-social parking and speeding in the village. Politely worded signs will be made available to any resident who wishes to place one on their property.



With regard to speeding, two new speed indicator devices have been acquired from Beccles Town Council, and have been mounted at new locations in the village following the purchase of new batteries. Cllr Green presented the latest speeding statistics for April to June, noting that compliance with the speed limit has improved from 73% to 81% in the twelve months that the SID has been operational. Meanwhile the volume of traffic through the village has increased by 20% since March, evidencing the impact of tourism in the village.

On 20th June, Ian Fergusson was co-opted as the parish council's newest councillor and his portfolio will cover the Community Orchard, trees, and IT support.

Cllr Stanley reported that there is one vacant allotment available for rent. Anyone interested in this plot is invited to contact him on 07493 922847. Priority will be given to residents of Darsham. Cllr Redgrave is contacting local land owners to explore the opportunity for expanding Darsham's network of permissive footpaths.

Cllr Taylor provided a detailed report on Darsham's emergency plans and kindly agreed to act as the council's ESC Community Partnership Representative.

With regard to planning, the councillors discussed at length new highways drawings that have been submitted for the proposed 110 new homes at the intersection of the A12 and Westleton Road. The majority felt that the proposals do not go far enough to ensure safety for pedestrians and cyclists and continue to oppose the application until this issue is further addressed.

Cllr Green put forward a detailed proposal for a solar power system for the village hall, including emergency backup power in the event of a power outage in line with the village hall's status as a REST centre. The proposal was further clarified at an extraordinary meeting on 30th June, and was unanimously approved at the meeting on 11th July.

A new notice board has been erected at Coronation Square with the old board to be refurbished and replace the dilapidated board at Granary Cottages. The Parish Council hosted the monthly coffee morning on Saturday 8th July and raised £153 to be donated to the Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Darsham Parish Council's next meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Tuesday 8th August at Darsham Village Hall and all are welcome. *Jasmine Backhouse*

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### **100 CLUB WINNERS FOR MAY**

**1st Prize:** £100 Mr M. Simons **2nd:** £50 Mrs D. Taylor **3rd:** £25 Mr C. Fox

### **100 CLUB WINNERS FOR JUNE**

**1st Prize:** £100 Mrs S. Perkins **2nd:** £50 Mr S. Wilson **3rd:** £25 Mrs S. Davies

## WHAT'S ON AT DARSHAM VILLAGE HALL - AUGUST 2023

### Classes & Clubs

Sequence Dancing – every Tues. & Thurs. from 1pm (contact Carol 01986 784642)

Pilates – every Thurs. 9.30 to 10.30am (contact Maria 07999 848655)

Seated Exercise – every Thurs. 11am to 12pm (contact Maria 07999 848655)

Yoga – every Fri 10.30 to 11.30am (contact Debbie 07906 346545)

Table Tennis – every Thurs. 7pm to 9pm (contact Alan Holland 01728 668451)

Carpet Bowls – Every Friday 2.30pm (contact Heather Shipp 01728 668251)

Crafty Club – Mon. 3rd July - 9.30am (contact Heather Ballantine 07860 278955)

Pétanque – every Tues. 6pm (contact Ron Clark on 07423 399406)

### Events and Meetings

- Darsham Village Fete – Saturday 5th August
- Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 8th August 7pm
- Coffee Morning – Saturday 12th August 10am

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## DARSHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### OPEN AUTUMN SHOW

16th September 2023

*Flowers, domestic and a children's section*

Exhibits will be received between 9.30am and 10.30am;  
all exhibitors must leave by 10.45am.

Refreshments and viewing from 2.45pm

*All welcome*

Schedules will be available from village hall noticeboard  
and the stall outside Springfields.

Also, on the Darsham village website: [www.darsham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.darsham.onesuffolk.net)

Jill Fergusson, Show Secretary: [jillfergusson2@gmail.com](mailto:jillfergusson2@gmail.com).



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## TEXTILE EXHIBITION BY MAJYK SCRAPS

23-24 September 2023 Saturday 10am-5pm Sunday 10am-4pm

Darsham Village Hall, IP17 3FA

*Entrance £3*

Raising funds for East Anglian Air Ambulance & Darsham Village Hall

*Refreshments, sales table, trader stalls & tombola*

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(See photos on Page 32)

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## DUNWICH

### HEARTBEAT SING FOR UKRAINE

This a cappella women's singing group (see photo on Page 5) will perform songs from around the world at St James Church Dunwich on Saturday 12th August at 5pm with refreshments to follow.

FREE BUT DONATIONS INVITED FOR UKRAINE.

Do come and join us.

*(Sadly, the concert by Syzewell Gap advertised for this date had to be cancelled for health reasons, but we are delighted that Heartbeat offered to perform in their place.)*

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### MIDDLETON SCHOOL WORKSHOP AT ST JAMES

Fourteen children from Middleton School recently spent a Monday in St James, Dunwich. They started with some activities that helped them get to know the church. Artist Jenny Nutbeem then encouraged them to find interesting details to sketch in church before they ventured across the road to the graveyard where they made crayon rubbings.

After a picnic lunch the children worked in the chancel which had been converted into an art workshop. They folded paper into shapes that replicated the gothic windows, transposed their sketches onto these, and then coloured them in using special paints that allowed their pictures to be transferred, by ironing, onto silk. The fourteen panels will be linked to form a beautiful window display that our visitors and congregation can enjoy. We hope that the children will come back to see their work displayed in its splendour.

*Angela Abell*

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### NEWS FROM DUNWICH HEATH

August is here, and with it the summer holidays, so it's all hands on deck. Our conservation team is concentrating its main efforts on keeping the bracken from taking over the paths, and of general maintenance of the visitor areas. Of course, our ranger still continues his surveys, so if you see him, don't be afraid to stop and ask what he's seen. A lot of the time at the moment he gets asked how the heather is doing, and unfortunately this year it's not doing so well. Overall the heath is still struggling with the effects of last year's drought and heather beetle damage, but the bell heather started flowering nicely in July. The common heather is a bit more patchy, but where it is flowering it's a lovely vivid purple. Fingers crossed that next year it will be blooming all the more!

Providing for our younger visitors is the main priority during the holiday period. The National Trust's 'Summer of Play' campaign does just that, with activities such as 'nature play' including pond dipping and bug hunting on both days of the weekend and Wednesdays, plus tracker packs, geo-caches, trails and den building, and 'loose parts' play, where you decide how to play with the things left out. In booked events we have an Insect Safari and a Bat walk on the 5th, and a Mini-Ranger walk on the 20th, so if any of those tickle your fancy then head to our website and book your spot.

*Daniel Payne*

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## DUNWICH MUSEUM

### Dunwich Art Show - August 4th–7th

We will be hosting an art show in the Dunwich Reading Room, coinciding with the Dunwich Flower Festival. The Reading Room will be open each day from 11am to 4.30pm and there will be a private viewing on Friday Aug. 4th at 6pm. Local artists are invited to sell and/or display their work in the exhibition. Please email Sarah sample jpgs at [chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org](mailto:chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org) to apply.

**The Bard of Dunwich featuring the Dunwich Drifters, August 5th 7.30pm, Reading Room (see poster)**

### Family Activity Drop-in Days – August 2nd, 23rd and 30th

We are running a series of drop-in activity days throughout August, ranging from archaeology days to plant craft days. Keep an eye on our Instagram [@dunwichmuseum](https://www.instagram.com/dunwichmuseum) and website [dunwichmuseum.org.uk](http://dunwichmuseum.org.uk) for more updates!

**Chronicles of Greyfriars – August 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 13th and 16th**  
The Chronicles of Greyfriars NHLF project is continuing with their Environmental Art Workshops and drop-ins throughout August.

Email [artbranches@icloud.com](mailto:artbranches@icloud.com) to find out more about any of these days.



*A Caroline Gay Way Production*

## **THE BARD OF DUNWICH**

*with*

**THE DUNWICH DRIFTERS** *folk group*

**Saturday – August 5th – 7.30pm**

**DUNWICH MUSEUM READING ROOM**  
*Behind the museum*

*donation of £10 cash or card reader includes a drink*

*Card bookings 01728 648796 or on the door  
proceeds in aid of Dunwich Museum*

*A time-travel play linking our climate change future  
with the city that drowned – Britain's own Atlantis story!*

## MIDDLETON

# Middleton Village Summer Fete

*with Comic Dog Show*

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August  
2pm  
Recreation Ground**

**Raffle &  
Tombola**

**Live Band  
Silmor**

**BBQ  
Teas & Cakes**

**Beer Tent**

**Children's  
Crafts**

**Egg  
Throwing**

**All sorts of Games**

**Community Stalls**

**And so so much MORE!!**

**Come and enjoy a Variety of Stalls and Games from  
Our Community. Please come along and support the  
Community Council this year at the playing field.**

---

### PIANO CONCERT AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, MIDDLETON

3pm Sunday 22nd October

Reiko Fujisawa is an internationally renowned concert pianist (see brief biography below and her website: [www.reikofujisawa.com](http://www.reikofujisawa.com)) who, when work allows, lives in Middleton. She has felt so welcomed both in the village and locally that she has offered to give a concert in Holy Trinity Church, Middleton at 3pm on Sunday October 22nd. The concert will see music from Beethoven, Brahms, Schubert and Sarasate, and Reiko will perform with the renowned violinist Ofer Falk. Reiko is keen that



tickets are offered locally first so we are initially only promoting the concert via the Middleton newsletter and the *Yoxmere Fisherman*. We will be advertising further afield soon and we expect strong interest, so if you want to be sure of reserving a place for this very special occasion then do contact Paul asap.

Ticket prices are set simply to cover costs (not least hiring and moving a Steinway piano!) and will be available for just £15. These can be reserved by emailing Paul Taylor (from The Old Post Office, Middleton) on [taylspaul@gmail.com](mailto:taylspaul@gmail.com). Paul will then contact you with payment details. Tickets will be allocated on a strictly first-come-first-served basis.

*Reiko Fujisawa fuses the sensibilities of a musician raised in the Far East who trained in the West. She appears at prestigious venues and festivals all over the UK and overseas, and was a featured artist at the Japan 2001 Festival. Reiko has broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and her recordings include an acclaimed CD of music by Bach, Beethoven and Schubert, which The Arts Desk found “irresistible”. Her recording of Bach’s Goldberg Variations also received a glowing review from The Record Geijutsu, Japan’s equivalent to The Gramophone, describing it as an “unpretentious, clean and refreshing performance with a refined dignity”. Her most recent project is “Nature & Music”, a series of four chamber music programmes that focus on the tangible and spiritual aspects of nature and aim to inspire audiences to admire the beauty and importance of the natural world through music, and to think about our environment from a fresh perspective.*

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## MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY WI NEWS

At our June meeting we had the pleasure of meeting Graham and Sylvia Hawes and Sylvia’s guide dog, Yara, a lovely golden retriever. Yara is her third guide dog and she was matched with Yara in 2016. Sylvia told us that she had very bad eyesight as a girl which prevented her from training to be a nurse. She married and raised four children and then worked in nursing homes caring for dementia patients which she loved. But in 2003 her eyesight suddenly deteriorated and she had to stop working. She was then advised that she was eligible for a guide dog.

Sylvia then told us about the charity Guide Dogs. Their National Centre is in Warwickshire where the breeding and training are done. Potential breeding dogs are health checked and screened for any genetic abnormalities and then suitable matches are made. The chosen dogs live in volunteers’ homes. When the time comes the puppies are born at home and live there for six weeks. They are then transported to the National Centre to live in family groups and are chipped at seven weeks. Puppies in one brood are given names starting with the same letter. As they grow, they are assessed for their abilities and personalities. Each dog will



then go to a home of a volunteer puppy “raiser”. The puppy goes to training school at the centre during the day and then goes home to the raiser after classes. The training by professionals at the centre includes agility training, getting use to the harness, walking on pavements, going into shops and cafes, using public transport and responding to commands. Living with the raiser gets them used to a home and what they can and cannot do there (getting up on the furniture is a no-no!). At eighteen months old, the dog is matched with a person on the waiting list. They take into account the personality of the dog and client, walking speed of both and the size of person and dog. They meet and spend two weeks at a hotel getting used to each other before they go to the client’s home. If there are any problems there are advisors on hand. Guide Dogs will pay all the client’s expenses for the upkeep of the dog throughout its working life. The average working life is ten years, then they are retired. The cost for the breeding, training and upkeep of each working dog is £58,000. Sylvia says that for her and all the others that benefit from the freedom it gives them, it is priceless. Lynda thanked Sylvia for her talk and for bringing the star of the evening: Yara!

Our next meeting will be the 20th September at 7:15pm at the village hall. The speaker will be Steve Everett on “Red Deer”. All are welcome.

*Lynne Venn*

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### CONCERT IN MANOR HOUSE GARDEN

In 2022 we staged our first garden performance with local Benhall-based musicians Jon & Lucy Hart plus Toby Shaer - aka Honey & The Bear. We did this in aid of Bowel Cancer UK which was meaningful to us in honour of Mandy’s younger brother Darren who succumbed to the disease in 2021.



When the meadow was cut in late summer, we erected a stage and invited Middleton villagers to bring a picnic (and chair/blanket) and enjoy an afternoon of excellent folk music. It was such a success we would like to invite a wider local audience this year on: **Sunday August 6th**, again to raise funds for Bowel Cancer UK. **If you would like to join us, please send an email to: [manorhousegarden@btinternet.com](mailto:manorhousegarden@btinternet.com)** and we will send full details nearer the time. (Suggested donation £10 per person.)

*Mandy Beaumont*

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## PEASENHALL

### PEASENHALL TRAFFIC ISSUES

An encouraging meeting was held on the 13th July. A report will be on the parish notice board. The Parish Council is in possession of a mobile speed gun, which is not currently in use. The reason for this is due to not having enough volunteers to run a training course. Therefore if you are concerned about the volume and speed

of village traffic PLEASE VOLUNTEER!! Contact the Parish Council on email [peasenhall.clerk@hotmail.com](mailto:peasenhall.clerk@hotmail.com)

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### **BARN SALE**

Bric-a-brac, books, furniture, etc. **Saturday 5th August, 10.30am – 4.00pm**  
Goodwins Farm, Heveningham Long Lane, Peasenhall. IP17 2JW

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### **CREAM TEA**

**Thursday August 17th, 2.30-5pm,**  
Farthings, Sibton Rd, Peasenhall. All welcome. See notice on Page 10.

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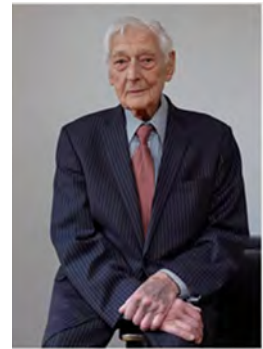
### **BINGO**

**Peasenhall Assembly Hall. Next date: 15th September.**  
Doors open at 6.30pm till 9.45pm. Over 18s only, please

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### **ALEC WHEELER- EARLY**

Alec Charles Wheeler-Early of High House Farmhouse, Peasenhall, died on 10th May at the age of 102. After serving as Captain in the Royal Engineers in World War Two he was a civil engineer and surveyor at Shell Mex and BP Head Office. He retired to Peasenhall and his beloved Suffolk landscapes and regularly collected for



the Royal British Legion for Remembrance Days. He lived independently to the last, survived by two daughters, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

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# SIBTON

## CHARITY LUNCH IN SIBTON CHURCH

You can help the very poor in NE Bangladesh by coming to an Indian lunch in Sibton Church at 1.15pm on 23rd August, hosted by the Friends of St Peter's Church. The food is being provided by a renowned chef who is a trustee and treasurer of the Ipswich-based family-run charity **Al Tazid Foundation**. The charity is organised by its founder, Boshor Ali, who was awarded the Suffolk Medal last year for voluntary services in Suffolk over the last thirty years.

The three course meal costs £20. Please contact Andrew Campbell by Friday 18th August to book (01728 453349, or email [sibtonchurchfriends@gmail.com](mailto:sibtonchurchfriends@gmail.com)). You will be able to pay on the door (cash only please). A raffle will be included and a carboy for additional donations.

Al Tazid Foundation knows how generous many people in the Yoxmere benefice have been in the past, and you will be able to hear about amazing work that has been carried out by the foundation, as well as some of their existing projects - run by a thoroughly 'hands-on' charity with no overheads. All proceeds from this fundraising event are used directly by Al Tazid Foundation in the Sylhet province of NE Bangladesh to help destitute people trapped by poverty and sickness.

### *The Menu*

STARTER: Onion bhaji, vegetable samosa, mixed salad, Indian mint sauce, papadam

MAIN COURSE: Chicken biriani, vegetable bhuna, aloo bhaji

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DESSERT: Ice cream, tea or coffee

DRINKS: Apple and orange juice. If you prefer, do bring your own alcoholic drinks.

THE RAFFLE: If you wish, do bring raffle prizes, but in respect of the Islamic traditions of the Bangladeshi people, please no alcohol.



*Visitors on a guided tour of Sibton Abbey ruin during the successful heritage weekend held in July*

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## THEBERTON



### ANIMAL BLESSING

Followed by a Waggy Tail Dog Show and barbecue.

Sunday 13th August at 12 noon

Theberton Church

*Everyone welcome with or without a pet*

*Fun for all the family*

If raining or too hot we will be inside.

---

### HANDBELL RINGING

A small group of villagers have formed a team of handbell ringers. We have people coming from Theberton, Westleton, Middleton, Benhall and Yoxford. We meet twice a month in Theberton Village Hall from 7.30 to 9pm. Not everyone comes every time as we are very flexible. It's good fun and very easy to learn. We have played Christmas carols and tunes like the Skye Boat Song, and there is no need to read music.

We would like to invite you to join us for a **'Have-a-go evening'** on Tuesday 1st or Tuesday 15th August at 7.30pm. Come and join us for a social fun evening.

If you are interested but would like to chat to someone first, call Michael Peters 01728 604345 or email [shazpeters1@gmail.com](mailto:shazpeters1@gmail.com).

*East Suffolk Handbell Ringers*

---

### VINTAGE TEA PARTY

Everyone is warmly invited to a vintage tea party at The Old Rectory, Pretty Road, Theberton in memory of John and Jennifer Raison, on Saturday August 19th from 3.00 to 5.00pm.

Donations for East Anglia's Children's Hospices and St Elizabeth Hospice in association with the Theberton Lionesses. Feel free to dress up!

*Vanessa Raison*

---

### LINE DANCING

Ever fancied trying or returning to Line Dancing? Mixed ability group at Theberton Village Hall on Tuesdays, 2.30 - 4.00 pm. Very social group and newcomers made welcome. Great exercise!

More info. at [marydrew2013@gmail.com](mailto:marydrew2013@gmail.com).



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## SAVE THE DATES

Jumble sale at Theberton Village Hall, Saturday 16th September at 2pm

Macmillan Coffee Day, Saturday 30th September 10-2 Theberton Village Hall...  
more details to follow in September edition.

---

## THEBERTON & EASTBRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

We need your help! Join the Community Council and help our already vibrant villages become even better! As a registered charity, the role of the Community Council is to raise money to maintain Jubilee Hall, a villages-owned community facility, and to provide related recreational and entertaining activities for the good and benefit of the residents of Theberton and Eastbridge.

However, to do this we need the support of a few willing and dedicated individuals, to help manage the facility and assist in running events to raise funding. We are currently looking for a person to take over the role of Community Council Secretary, as the current devoted incumbent has resigned after some thirty years of service in various roles.

So if you have time to spare and are interested in joining an enthusiastic, charitable team by taking up this role or in joining as a committee member, please contact the Community Council Chair, Mr Steve Nicholls, by email [thebertonandeastbridgecc@gmail.com](mailto:thebertonandeastbridgecc@gmail.com) for further details and an invite to the next Community Council meeting.

## WESTLETON

### CLOSURE OF ST PETER'S CHURCH, WESTLETON

Unfortunately, it will be necessary to close the church during August for essential repairs. With this work we will continue to care for this 700-year-old building, enabling it to provide a place of peace, prayer and worship for all. We apologise for any disappointment or inconvenience this may cause.

Our last Sunday service will be on July 30th at 6.30pm after the Wildflower Festival. We will reopen in time for our Harvest Service on August 27th at 9.30am. Please see the list of Sunday services in our sister churches within the benefice where you will be warmly welcomed.

---

### WESTLETON VILLAGE HALL AUGUST 2023

On Saturdays throughout August there will be a **Westleton Wheelbarrow Market** outside the Hall's Foyer 10am-12.30pm. Come along to find lovely local crafts, produce, bric-a-brac, gifts and plants. The Foyer will be open for light refreshments.

A **French conversation group** for all abilities will also be starting on Friday afternoons 2-3pm weekly in the Foyer from Friday 4th August. For further information please contact Sue Evans on [evans.sue-mark@wanadoo.fr](mailto:evans.sue-mark@wanadoo.fr) or call 07946 365632.

We are continuing to have **fun Bingo** monthly in the Foyer! The next session will be 2.30-4.30pm Thursday 17th August. All welcome, no experience or booking in advance required. £5 each to play for small cash prizes, all equipment provided. Refreshments will be available.

Throughout August **Lucia Bartlett** will be exhibiting her beautiful artwork, titled 'Blink!' of wildlife completed in pastels and Japanese ink. Available for viewing and purchase when the Foyer is open 10am-12noon weekdays.

### **Consultation Room:**

We have a pet and human registered **Physiotherapist** Emma Strachan fortnightly (variable days). For further information contact her on 07821 055404. Thursday 10th August 9am-4.30pm we have **Footcare** with Susan from No Bad Feet. To book call her on 07497 371073. **Reflexology** is back on Saturday 19th August 9.30am – 1.30pm. Contact Juliet Overton: 07930 341901 [www.julietoverton.co.uk](http://www.julietoverton.co.uk)

To see our latest timetable of varied activities, events and groups please see our website: [www.westletonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.westletonvillagehall.co.uk) and do join us on Facebook and Instagram. You can also pick up a copy of the monthly 'What's On' in the Foyer. The Foyer is open 10am-12noon every weekday for light refreshments, information and chat with our friendly volunteers.

---

## **WESTLETON WI**

So - no summer frocks in Gill's lovely garden for our afternoon tea because of the gathering storm clouds but instead we gathered in the village hall for a grand afternoon of tea and cake.

The committee did us proud and the tables looked beautiful with fine china and summer posies. Who says we cannot be inventive and rise to the challenge? Thank you so much to everybody who helped.

The topic for next month still needs to be confirmed so watch the notice board and flyers for the surprise.

*Susanne Bennell*

---

## **WESTLETON 100 CLUB WINNERS FOR JULY**

**1st prize:** No 105, Tania Harnor   **2nd prize:** No 88, Debby Turner

**WESTLETON  
WELLBEING WALKS**

Friday 11th August

Potton Hall, Westleton  
and beyond: 75 mins  
walk. 9am, park in the  
designated grassy area.  
Café on site.

Thursday 24th, August

Hinton Five Ways: 1  
hour walk.

10am at Hinton  
crossroads car park on  
the B1125.

Wednesday 6th

September

Middleton Footpaths:  
75 mins walk.

11am at Middleton  
Bell. Please support  
this local business if  
you can.



**St Peter's Church  
Westleton**

**Wildflower Festival**

&

**Westleton Village Hall**

**Craft Fair**

**Sat 29<sup>th</sup> & Sun 30<sup>th</sup> July**  
**12noon to 5.30pm**

**\*Free Entry: Donations welcome\***

***Kids Bug Hunt in the Churchyard !***

**Craft & Plant Stalls &  
Refreshments at the Hall**

The theme for this year's Wildflower Festival is  
the patronages of HRH King Charles III  
that stem from his passions for the environment and arts.

Wander around the medieval church  
admiring the window wildflower displays  
and the flora and fauna in the churchyard.

**Westleton  
Women's Institute**



**VILLAGE  
JUMBLE SALE**

Westleton Village Hall

**Saturday 16th September at 2pm**

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## YOXFORD

### ST PETER'S CHURCH

There are vacancies for the post of churchwarden, and people to join the Parochial Church Council.

If you feel you could serve the church by taking on this important work, please contact Barrie Davis on 01728 598461.

---

### SING OUT!

(Community choir based in Yoxford)

Thank you to all those who came to our summer concert. It was a great success. We managed to raise £539.57 for Pear Tree Cafe at Saxmundham, a cafe run by individuals with learning disabilities and additional needs.

---

### BBC CELEBRITY VISITS YOXWOOD

The group would like to thank all those who have helped and supported us over the years with their time, grants and donations. Particularly Botanica for their trees and shrubs, Michael Gower and Sarah Shinnie (East Suffolk Council), Adnams, Waitrose and others. For more information, please contact Pat or Sandy on 07737 905208.

Joe Swift, well known as a presenter on *Gardeners' World* and other TV programmes, and author of many books and articles on horticulture, visited Yoxwood on a recent trip to Suffolk. This is a letter written after his visit.

*My good friend Pat Wallace took me to see the Yoxford Community Woodland. I thought it was a wonderful, magical place - a gem hidden away in the Suffolk countryside.*

*The team has shown what can be done in few years, turning an open field into a small rich woodland which is full of wildlife, great for biodiversity and a hub for the local community to spend time in together and engage with nature.*

*The Greek proverb springs to mind: "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they will never sit." Nothing personal, Pat! Well, there's plenty of shade there already at the Yoxford Woodland project for all to enjoy.*

*Next time we'll have to fire up that Pizza oven too...*

*All the best, Joe Swift*



Children from Middleton School working on designs to display in St James Church, Dunwich. (See P.17.)



Textile art created by Majyk Scraps. See notice of exhibition on P.14.

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## WRENTHAM CHAPEL

### “Seedtime & Harvest”

Wrentham Chapel’s “Seedtime & Harvest” Caedmon event takes place on **Friday September 22nd at 7pm**. This is part of our regular seasonal celebrations in music, word and song.

The evening’s entertainment is a “bring and share” medley of items contributed by some of those attending. Once again, there will be a light buffet with wine and fruit juice to be enjoyed along with time to chat. There is no charge for this event but we will greatly appreciate any donations towards the work of Christian Aid. For further information, contact Sue on 07771 882738.



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## CHURCH CONTACT LIST

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<b>Rector</b>	Revd Tim Rogers	668951
	<a href="mailto:rector.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com">rector.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com</a>	
	The Rectory, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk IP17 3QA	
<b>Assistant Priests</b>	Revd Susan Warne	668410
	Revd Christine Brooks	688972
<b>Lay Elders</b>	Roger Coates-Smith	667037
	Lesley Davies	561934
	Tina Neal	830237
	Michael Trovell	660218
<b>Benefice Administrator</b>	Lisa Eveleigh	
	<a href="mailto:lisaeveleigh.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com">lisaeveleigh.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Methodist Minister</b>	Revd Saul Tadzaushe	01394 383674
<b>Roman Catholic Priests</b>	Mgr Tony Rogers	07778 221509
	Revd Christopher Smith	01502 723207

### CHURCH WARDENS

<b>Darsham</b>	Shirley Field	668371
<b>Dunwich</b>	Secretary: Angela Abell	648107
<b>Middleton</b>	Rita Pateman	648377
<b>Peasehall</b>	Michael Thickitt	660549
	Michael Trovell	660218
<b>Sibton</b>	Jan Belton	660111
<b>Theberton</b>	Nicholas Cooper	635736
	Simon Ilett	833364
<b>Westleton</b>	Jeremy Branch	648140
<b>Yoxford</b>	Barrie Davis	598461

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