

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE BENEFICE



*The Yoxmere  
Fisherman*

**June 2024**

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE 2024

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### Sunday 2nd June ~ Trinity 1

10.00am Sibton Benefice Holy Communion

### Sunday 9th June ~ Trinity 2

9.30am Yoxford Holy Communion

9.30am Theberton Taizé

11.00am Darsham Morning Praise

11.00am Dunwich Holy Communion

11.00am Peasenhall Morning Worship

6.30pm Westleton Informal Worship

### Sunday 16th June ~ Trinity 3

9.30am Yoxford family@church

9.30am Westleton Holy Communion

9.30am Theberton Morning Praise

11.00am Peasenhall Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00am Middleton Morning Prayer

6.00pm Darsham Evensong

### Sunday 23rd June ~ Trinity 4

9.30am Yoxford Morning Prayer

9.30am Westleton Informal Worship

9.30am Theberton Holy Communion

11.00am Peasenhall Morning Worship  
with the Methodist Chapel

11.00am Middleton Holy Communion

11.00am Dunwich Morning Prayer

11.00am Darsham Holy Communion

6.00pm Sibton Holy Communion

### Sunday 30th June ~ Trinity 5

10.00am Dunwich Benefice Service with Holy  
Communion and the  
Leiston Town Pastors

Every Wednesday

10.00am Yoxford Holy Communion

### LECTIONARY

*2nd June, green*

1 Samuel 3.1-10 [11-20]

2 Corinthians 4.5-12

Mark 2.23 – 3.6

*9th June, green*

1 Samuel 8.4-11 [12-15]

2 Corinthians 4.13 – 5.1

Mark 3.20-35

*16th June, green*

1 Samuel 15.34 – 16.13

2 Corinthians 5.6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 4.26-34

*23rd June, green*

1 Samuel 17.57 – 18.5,  
10-16

2 Corinthians 6.1-13

Mark 4.35-41

*30th June, green*

2 Samuel 1.1, 17-27

2 Corinthians 8.7-15

Mark 5.21-43

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*Thanks to Twm Wade of Suffolk Branch Butterfly Conservation for the cover photo.*

## RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

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What's the biggest way your life can change under normal circumstances? Getting married? Moving house? Changing job? Surely, bigger than those is having a baby. Did you paint the nursery? Did the birth go well? How *exhausted* are you? Do you have parents nearby to give you a break occasionally, or is it all down to you?

Everyone has a story. But also, more than ever, parenting a small one can be a difficult, isolating experience. The world has changed, we are busier than ever, and often mums end up lovingly, happily, but exhaustedly dealing with a little human being who poses them new challenges every day with too little support. It is really easy for mums (especially) of under-4s to feel and be isolated. We have so much social media, we've never been more connected, and yet we've never had less real contact with people going through the same stages as us. And — social media presents such a distorted view of the world. There's so much bragging and fishing for 'likes'. It is hard to gain an undistorted view through social media.

And then there's the unhealthy dose of paranoia which seems to accompany parenting. Is my child performing as he/she should? Walking, gurgling, talking at the right time? Are my choices being judged by others? Do they judge that *my* choices judge *them*? (We can overthink it sometimes, can't we?)

More than anything, you just need people around who get you and where you're at at this moment in life. Who understand your hopes and dreams for your child, but also understand when it seems too much of a struggle even to get dressed in the morning. All of this is why we've started **Pebbles@St Peters**. It's from 11am to 12noon every Wednesday at Yoxford church. You can come with your under-4s, have a cup of coffee (did you know how much you would rely on coffee to see you through?), and meet real people, who won't judge, and who know what it's like. Meanwhile we've got a safe environment and a good range of toys (different toys are always good). It might be just what you and your little one need, and we'd love to see you. *All blessings, Tim*

See *Lynette Halpin's account on P.28 of starting Pebbles*.

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### REVD CHRISTINE BROOKS

In April, Christine decided to retire completely from ministry in the Yoxmere Benefice, after problems with mobility and balance had become gradually worse. She has been faithfully serving us for ten years since her retirement from full-time ministry, and we are so grateful for her service, care and prayer over these years. We wish Christine all blessings for the future. *Revd Tim*

**Thursday 20th June**  
**Clergy Wellbeing**

Diocesan President Linda Ginn

Westleton Church

2.30pm

All Welcome

Contact Sue Norrington 660280 or  
Jennifer Clough 648597  
for more information

North Suffolk Area Mothers' Union

**Quiet Day**

Finding Prayer through a Window,  
a Tapestry and a Poem.

Led by Revd. Andrew Vessey  
St. Peter's Church, Wenhaston  
IP19 9EG

Wednesday 26th June,  
10am - 3pm

Bring a packed lunch.  
Drinks will be provided

Contact Sue Norrington 01728  
660280 to book your place

All Welcome

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

The next meetings will be on Monday 3rd June and Monday 1st July in Westleton Village Hall Foyer.

This is 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 Rogers, or feel free to just turn up.

***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.achurchnearlyou.com](http://www.achurchnearlyou.com)

**SUBMISSIONS** should be sent by the 14th of the preceding 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/>



**family@church**

Sunday 16th June 9.30am  
Yoxford Church

The Fruit of the Spirit - Kindness



YOXMERE  
BENEFICE

An informal family-friendly service for  
the young and the not so young



Above right Some of the sensational foxgloves flowering in profusion on Westleton Common

Below Darsham's domestic goddesses who gave the villagers a lovely lunch for the Celebration of Spring in May: Jean, Irene, Shirley, Jasmine, and Ria





### What can we say about God?

Last month I suggested that we think about theology as the analysis of the story of the Bible, and the story we find ourselves in, working in similar ways to how we might analyse a great novel or play.

‘Theology’ simply means study of God. So what are the first things that we can say?

The first thing the Bible says is ‘In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.’ It’s a pretty straightforward statement. But in the context of the

ancient Middle East it was already a big deal. For a start, it was more normal to believe in a pantheon of gods than a single God. Secondly, those creation myths were often violent. The *Enuma Elish* from Babylon told how the god Marduk killed the goddess Tiamat, and created the world from her dismembered parts. This implied a world of cosmic struggle, setting up violence as normative and creation as an evil by-product of the enemy.

The Bible’s creation story suggests, by contrast, that a single, all-powerful God created the world deliberately and peacefully, that it was wholly good, and that humankind was the best bit of creation. This was undeniably a radically more positive view of creation than Babylon’s creation myth.

The role of humankind in such stories is radically different, too. Israel’s neighbours saw themselves as slaves to the gods, put there only to serve. Genesis frames human beings as companions of God, who walks in the garden of Eden with them. They are ‘high priests’ in the temple of creation itself — a highly honoured position.

Further, we can already attribute personal qualities to God, such as love, faithfulness, goodness, justice and gentleness — qualities that the Bible then continues to argue for as we read on. This personal nature is very important: God is not ‘it’; God is not ‘the Force’. Consequently, God needs pronouns that suggest personhood. We have traditionally referred to God with male pronouns — ‘he’, ‘him’, ‘his’. But we can’t really talk of God as male, because God is not a sexual being — he is not like the highly sexualised pantheon of the Greeks! The further we look, the more we see that God doesn’t really have characteristics that are more male than female at all. Jesus may have been a man, but he behaved better than male stereotypes — or female for that matter. He embodied the virtues that anyone could aspire to.

In the first few centuries AD theologians got quite exercised about whether God could suffer (many argued that he was *impassible*, that is that he could *not* suffer). Why did they think this?

As Christianity spread, it first went from Israel into the Greek-speaking part of the Roman Empire, a world highly influenced by philosophers such as Plato. Plato's thought was dominated by the concept of perfection. To be perfect was to be unchanging and self-sufficient. Suffering, however, meant that something outside of oneself had caused change. Consequently, to suffer was to be imperfect (according to Plato). The Jewish writer Philo of Alexandria took up this argument, and then greatly influenced early Christian thinkers. The echoes of this thought continued through history such that Anselm, who wrote at the end of the 11th century, was still arguing that God was not compassionate, because that would mean God suffering with us, even though we *experienced* God as compassionate!

This view has been overturned in more recent centuries — firstly by questioning whether Greek philosophy had been too influential (it had); and secondly, by looking to the crucifixion of Jesus, in which it is foundational not only that Jesus died on the cross, but that he suffered. And if one part of the Trinity suffers, all suffer. I find Anselm's understanding both alien and horrendous — a cautionary lesson in how even the deepest and most faithful people might eagerly bark up the wrong tree!

Now, if God is 'Almighty', can God make something so heavy that he can't lift it? That's quite a silly question, really, so how about asking whether God can sin? Or if God could stop the world's wars? That's trickier. If God doesn't sin (which Christianity would argue) it is not because he *couldn't* but because he *wouldn't*. This implies that God is 'self-limiting'. He has set the rules by which he will engage with the world and how he will not. God created us with freedom, and having done so he appears not then to act to limit human freedom — even if that freedom is being used evilly, and to damage the freedom of others. If God were to intervene directly to stop evil, the consequences would be profound. Having set such a precedent he would have to do that repeatedly. Would we then have free will? And what would happen to our human integrity, or moral compass? God seems to value our free will very highly, and so limits his own action.

This is just the briefest beginning to thinking about God's nature. For Christians it is extended much further when we think about the nature of Jesus Christ.

*Blessings, Tim*

## FROM THE REGISTERS

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### Marriage

On Saturday 4th May, Andrew King to Rachel Kinton at St Peter's, Yoxford.

### Funerals

Dorothy Esther Franklin, aged 89 years, on 1st May, at Seven Hills Crematorium.

A Service of Thanksgiving for Rosemary Stewart, aged 92 years, on 28th May at St Michael's, Peasenhall.

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### WARNING: "CLIP FOR CASH" SCAMS

Please be aware of a new menace locally – so-called "clip for cash" scams where someone brushes your car or throws an object and claims you broke their wing mirror or something similar. They then angrily demand cash.

This happened recently to one local resident, who understandably wishes to remain anonymous. Her car was clipped at high speed by a black BMW on Pretty Road towards Saxmundham. The male driver and his female accomplice then turned round and blocked her car and demanded money for an alleged broken wing mirror, forced her to drive to Sax and the female accomplice marched her to a cash machine. Police were informed but claimed there was nothing they could do despite significant CCTV availability.

If you have experienced anything similar, please let others know - maybe the police might eventually be persuaded to do something.

*Jonathan Birt*

### Could this be You?

We are urgently seeking a new administrator to manage the advertising for the *Yoxmere Fisherman*.

- £11.44/hour plus expenses
- Variable work loads through the year that will average to about 4 hours a week.
- You should be: well organised, a good communicator, with experience in the usual office software.
- All enquires to Revd Tim Rogers:  
01728 668951 or [rector.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com](mailto:rector.yoxmereclergy@gmail.com)





# DARSHAM

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Our “Celebration of Spring and Songs of Praise” has come and gone. On a lovely spring day, we gathered in the church for a service with some really good singing, poems, prayers and a talk. Then at the village hall we were joined by more villagers for a lovely meal. We had many helpers which made it all very friendly (see photo on P. 5). Thanks to all who made this such a good occasion. A collection was taken to help defray the costs, then the surplus was sent to the East Anglian Children’s Hospice. Thank you to all who contributed in any way. *Roger Coates Smith*

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**3rd August at**  
**All Saints Church**  
Church open all day



*Refreshments available*

*Children’s activities*

More details to follow....

Also we are planning some further events later on in the year.

*Lesley Blackburn*

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## DARSHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### OPEN SUMMER SHOW

Village Hall

**20th July 2024**

Viewing from 2.45pm.

*All Welcome - Refreshments available*

Schedules available from the boxes outside the Village Hall and “Springfields”.

Also available from the website at:-

[www.darsham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.darsham.onesuffolk.net)

Clubs/Horticultural Society

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3rd Prize: £25 Mr A. Shipp

## **100 CLUB WINNERS FOR APRIL**

1st Prize: £100 Mrs M. Flower 2nd Prize: £50 Mr C. Gallington  
3rd Prize: £25 Mr M. Venmore-Rowland

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## **WHAT'S ON AT DARSHAM VILLAGE HALL – JUNE 2024**

### **Classes & Clubs**

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

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

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

Yoga – every Fri. 10.30-11.30am (Debbie 07906 346545)

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

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

Baby Sensory Group – Every Tues. 9.30 -10.30am and 11am-12pm (Megan Mayes  
– 07521 318146)

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

Darsham Pétanque – Every Tuesday 4:30pm (Ron Clark 07423 399406)

### **Events and Meetings**

- Coffee Morning – Sat. 8th at 10am hosted by the Carpet Bowls and Horticultural
- Parish Council Meeting – Tue. 11th at 7pm
- Textile Temptations – Wed. 12th at 10am (Sally Goodacre 07900 522577)
- Writers' Group – Mon. 25th at 2pm (Russell 07496 096056)
- Watercolour Classes – Mon. 25th 9.30am-12.30pm (Colin 07528 515214).
- Walking Market – Sun. 23rd 10am to 2.00pm (DVH Committee  
[info@darshamvillagehall.net](mailto:info@darshamvillagehall.net))
- Diss Guitar Ensemble – Sun. 30th at 3.00pm. Tickets £5 per person (Anne Mcphail 01728 668270 or pay on the door)
- Showcase of Suffolk Authors Book Fair – Sat. 29th 10.00am to 4.00pm

### **Forthcoming events**

10th August - Village Fete - stalls, refreshments, raffle, tombola

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## **DARSHAM ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL**

This was held on 14th of May which was well attended. Various village organisations attended and wine and canapés were enjoyed. Many thanks to Budgen for their kind donations of wine for the meeting.

County and district counsellors, Richard Smith and Paul Ashton, gave their reports.

The PC chair Jasmine Backhouse gave her report covering the last year's activities of the council.

There then followed the PC Annual General Meeting.

Jasmine Backhouse was re-elected as chair, and Diane Taylor was elected as vice chair.

The planning application for the village play area at the village hall was unanimously approved at the East Suffolk Council planning committee.

Also, the proposed 110 houses south of Darsham station were approved at the East Suffolk County planning committee with a split vote and casting vote by the chairman. Grateful thanks were also expressed to Richard Green who has resigned from the council due to his impending move to Framlingham.

The next parish council meeting will be held on 11th June at Darsham Village Hall.

*Cllr Jasmine Backhouse, Chair*

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## DUNWICH

### ST JAMES CHURCH

Place in your diaries these dates! On the weekend of August 3rd, 4th and 5th we will be holding our annual flower festival. Come along and enjoy flowers, organ music, plants, teas, books and delicious cakes. More information in next month's Fisherman.

*Christine Palmer*

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### NEWS FROM DUNWICH HEATH

Summer is well and truly here, and the sun is bringing out the wildlife wonderfully. The heath is full of the scratchy song of dartford warblers, or the click of the stonechats. With almost every step you can hear lizards scurrying for cover in the vegetation, and there are dozens of sand martins soaring overhead. There are larger patches of green growth amongst the heather this year, so the heath's recovery seems to be continuing and, weather permitting, we'll get an improved floral display this year... Fingers crossed!

This month we've got a few things on before the holidays starting next month. With the eightieth anniversary of the D-Day landings this year, to mark the day

we have a walking tour on June 8th, delving into the wartime history of Dunwich Heath and its little-known role in the success of Operation Overlord. On the nature side of events, the pond dipping and bug basement sessions are continuing fortnightly at weekends, where you can discover the smaller wildlife that lives on site; our Nightjar Walks are on the 6th, 13th and 27th, searching for those fascinating birds in the twilight; and we have our next live session with the Belle Heathers in the tea-room on the 22nd. There is more information about all those events and many more on our website, and the booking links, so do give them a look.

Looking ahead to the summer holidays, we are involved in the National Trust's Summer of Play once again. With activities and games ranging from den building to giant jenga, and wild art to a cloud watching area, plus a fun and interactive look at the effect of the sea and wind on the cliffs, there's a whole host of things to get up to with the kids over the holidays. We look forward to seeing you soon!

*Daniel Payne*

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## **DUNWICH MUSEUM**

Dunwich Museum is open daily from 11.30 – 4.30. Visit us and learn about the city lost to the sea. Our special exhibition this year is on Pilgrimage and features some unique pilgrim badges.



We run activities throughout the summer, so keep an eye out for our events and check our website for updates at [www.dunwichmuseum.org.uk/events](http://www.dunwichmuseum.org.uk/events).

Support Dunwich Museum and our local community by joining the Dunwich Community Heritage Centre for £10 a year. Email us at [membership@dunwichmuseum.org.uk](mailto:membership@dunwichmuseum.org.uk).

We are grateful to the National Lottery for their support and offer players a free Dunwich Museum pencil if they can show us proof of purchase.

### **June 1st- 9th, D-Day Event**

An exhibition to commemorate 80 years since D-Day will run all week and encourage visitors to learn about Dunwich during WWII.

On **June 6th**, we will be collaborating with National Trust Dunwich Heath and Bawdsey Radar Museum on a D-Day event. Pick up one of our museum passports at any of the three sites and get them stamped to get free entry and parking. Dunwich Museum will continue to stamp the passports throughout the week and will offer a free pencil to visitors with the passport after the 6th.



## Saturday July 6th, Dunwich Summer Sale

Do you want a table at our summer sale? Crafts, collectables, and bric-a-brac tables welcome. If you want to be one of our craft folks and vendors, please let us know.

Please send applications for both events to Sarah at [chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org.uk](mailto:chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org.uk)

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## MIDDLETON

### Save the date

#### Middleton Open Gardens

1st and 2nd June

Looking forward to welcoming new and returning visitors to our annual open gardens in Middleton; natural, formal, cottage, wildlife, courtyard, and gardens in progress, with people coming back time and again to see the development through to completion.

Funding raising for Holy Trinity Church, Middleton, also supporting Suffolk Mind and Project40seven(Leiston)

MIDDLETON OPEN GARDENS



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## MIDDLETON WI NEWS

At our April meeting our President Lynda introduced Linda Ginn to give her talk “It made a difference to that one” about a trip to Kenya with the charity “Uzima in our Hands”. Uzima is the Swahili word for life and hope. The charity supports vulnerable children in rural Kenya with education, food and basic healthcare, and took fourteen cases filled with clothes, books, medicines and toys to distribute to the children. To get to schools and homes scattered around a vast area, they travelled on the back of motorbikes called “picky-pickies” over rough tracks, footpaths and no paths. Linda said she held on to the driver as best she could! The children were happy to line up and greet them but Linda said she felt a bit uncomfortable when giving out the clothes and toys. At some schools, only the children with sponsors in England received gifts. At the schools many of the pupils had health issues, and cerebral palsy was common because of the lack of pre- and post-maternity care. There are social workers who visit these children at home. Whether it was a thatched hut or a larger dwelling

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with a metal corrugated roof, Linda loved the warmth and generous hospitality the people showed them.

Apart from helping the children, the charity is also involved with the “Five Talents Project” which advises local people how to form savings groups, take out loans and build their own businesses. Linda saw three success stories: a man who set up a roadside shop selling everything the locals need, a woman who set up a brick-making business using the local clay pits and is now employing others and a man who set up a picky-picky bike rental shop. Linda was impressed by this scheme with the people helping themselves to achieve a more secure life. Her trip to Kenya and what she experienced made her realise we should all stretch our wings! We thanked Linda for her inspiring talk.

Our next meeting will be on 15th May at 7.15pm. Our speaker will be Claire Sullivan on “Contemporary Hemporary” - working hemp in a traditional way. All welcome.

*Lynne Venn*

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## PEASENHALL

### **PEASENHALL ASSEMBLY HALL**

It is starting to look as if summer is finally going to arrive. The swifts have been spotted outside the hall too. We have some great events for you over the next month.

**Film Night - Friday 7th June - *Next Goal Wins*** - Doors open at 7pm, film starts 7.30. Story of the American Samoa soccer team, who suffered the worst loss in World Cup history, losing to Australia 31-0 in 2001.

Entry is by donation, booking not necessary. The bar will be open and there will be a raffle.

### **Peasehall Assembly Hall AGM - Monday 10th June 7:00pm**

This is open to the whole community, hall users, potential users.

This is your opportunity to come along and say what you like, what you don't like, meet the team behind the events you love. Bring some new ideas or even become a volunteer.

### **Makers' Market - Saturday 15th June - 10am until 3pm - Entry is FREE**

Our Makers' Market was so well received in November that we are hosting a half-yearly one too! Come along and support local crafts people. Of course there will be tea, coffee and cake also hot dogs and bacon rolls.

**Pop-Up Pub - Friday 28th June** - Doors open at 7.30pm. There will be the usual games and cards available. Bring your neighbour or come along and have a chat to someone new. All are welcome. Entry is FREE.

**Friday 7th July Film Club** is *Wicked Little Letters* - be sure to save the date, you won't want to miss it!

As always we couldn't host these events without the support of YOU the community. All proceeds from the events go towards the upkeep and improvement of your community space. We are a Registered Charity 304808.

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## **PEASENHALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Would you like to become more active?

**Fit Villages** (East Suffolk County Council) is offering funding to set up a fitness class in Peasenhall. If there is a fitness class you would like to be part of, please let us know by completing a short questionnaire. You can either do this online at <https://www.activesuffolk.org/forms/view/peasenhall> or pick up a paper copy at Peasenhall General Store.



Previously popular activities have included Pilates, yoga, chair-based exercise, dance, keep fit and low-impact circuits, but we are open to new ideas and welcome your suggestions.

This is an opportunity to get active locally, try something new and meet up with friends. All ages and abilities are welcome.

## **First Aid Course**

The Parish Council in conjunction with East Suffolk County Council Enabling Fund has agreed to help fund a first aid course for Peasenhall residents. This will be an all-day course delivered by East Anglian Medical Care, and participants will be awarded a nationally recognised First Aid qualification on completion. All areas of first aid will be covered including CPR, use of the defib, burns, choking, fractures and wounds. A date has not been set yet, but it could be at a weekend if required. A maximum of twelve people can be accommodated on the course which will be heavily subsidised. This is a great opportunity to learn and feel confident in delivering first aid to family and the wider community.



If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Jane Collins on 07767 167968 or [jane.collins23@gmail.com](mailto:jane.collins23@gmail.com)

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Friday 12th July from 10.30 – 4.00pm will be available for mounting works. (At the church, drop-off times will have to be allocated – please contact 07496 373579. Once exhibition materials have been offloaded, parking is available all day beyond the churchyard.)

Refreshments and toilets are available at the church and at the abbey ruin.

**This exhibition is being widely promoted. Early booking is therefore advised as we anticipate high demand by participating artists and crafts people. Sibton church is well known as an excellent venue for its community events.**

*Andrew Campbell*

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## THEBERTON



### SUMMER FUN DAY

**Saturday 15th June, 12noon - 4pm**  
**at the Village Hall Theberton**



Craft stalls, games to play, including bowling, coconut shy, beanbag throw, raffle, tombola, and a variety of refreshments on offer.

*Ample parking close by.*

For more information contact Sally on 01728 832386.

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### TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC & PARACHUTE JUMP

Come and join us on the 29th June at St Peter's Church, as we celebrate St Peter's Day, for the inaugural "Teddies from the Tower" jump. Bring your own Teddy Bear's picnic to enjoy together!

Design a parachute for your favourite brave bear for a jump from the tower! Register your bear from 2pm; parachuting begins at 3pm. Meanwhile there will be music, a bar, and refreshments. Bears and owners of all ages welcome. In aid of the Tower Fund.

Contact Nick Ward for information: [nickjward@gmail.com](mailto:nickjward@gmail.com)



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## WESTLETON

St Peter's Church, Westleton / Westleton Gardeners

### Garden Trail 2024

**Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June, 12.00-5.30pm**

There will be lots of interesting gardens open, including several for the first time.

The churchyard will be showcasing **wildflower walks** and running **bug hunts** on Sunday.

Refreshments and a plant stall are available at the Village Hall.

Programmes cost £5 per person and obtainable from the Village Hall (covers both days).

Accompanied children under 16 free.

All proceeds go to charities.



The **Wheelbarrow/Community Market** is back in the foyer on Saturday June 1st from 10am-12:30pm. Come along to find lovely local produce, bric-a-brac, gifts, crafts and more! Refreshments available. Later that evening at 7pm for 7:30pm the **Film Club** is showing *One Life*, a 2023 biographical film based on the true story of a British humanitarian in WW2. Tickets are £5 each and available on the door.

The **Hall AGM** will be on Thursday 6th June at 5pm: this is your opportunity to catch up with the latest developments and let us have your ideas for the future. On Saturday 29th June there will be the **Ingram Courtyard** inauguration. Details TBC; please see posters at the Hall nearer the time.

On Friday 14th June RSPB Minsmere's Visitor Experience Officer Ian Barthorpe will be giving a fascinating talk and photographic extravaganza on the **Wildlife of Brazil**, specifically Mato Grosso, where he travelled recently to discover its birds, mammals and more. Tickets are £5 on the door and in advance, available from the Westleton Shop and the Hall's Foyer when open. 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Bar and light refreshments will be available and the funds raised will go towards the RSPB and for Hall maintenance.

On Sunday 23rd June the Hall will be holding a **Summer BBQ**, 5pm-8pm. All welcome, vegetarian and vegan options will be available. £10 for BBQ food and

salad, plus ice cream, with music and a bar available. Tickets will be available in advance from early June in the above venues. So we know how many to cater for please purchase in advance, however you can also pay on the door on the day.

**3D4ALL update:** John writes: “The inaugural meeting in April of Westleton’s new group for sculpture and three-dimensional art was very well attended. There was a huge array of talent, experience, and enthusiasm among us including ceramics, glass, woodwork, silversmithing, stone carving, and more. At a second meeting in May we shared our ideas on our first theme, ‘Flight’. If you make, craft, sculpt, or are interested in what we are doing, please join us for our next meeting in June, and please feel free to bring along your work, and anything from your process that you would like to share. Please see the Westleton Village Hall listings for the date and time. Further info from John at [wvsculpt@gmail.com](mailto:wvsculpt@gmail.com)”

**Elemental Earthdance** classes are held twice a week in the main hall (Tuesdays 5:45-6:45pm and most Saturdays 9:30-10:30am), and now with a new relaxing meditation session on the last Tuesday of the month, instead of dance. Come and be refreshed with Jen’s inspiring classes: <https://elemental.earthdance.uk/>

This month the **Westleton Camera Club** will be exhibiting their stunning photographs in the Foyer in June. Open for viewings and sales 10am-12noon weekdays.

**Carpet bowls** this month will be on **Sunday 23rd (not 16th)** from 2-4pm. £2 per person, as a drop-in rate. Refreshments in the foyer half way through. No experience needed – all are welcome.

The **Parish Council** will be running its monthly drop-in surgery session in the Foyer (this month on Monday 24th 10:30-11:30am). Two members of the Parish Council will be available to hear residents’ views and answer their questions. Do pop in for a chat and coffee.

We will be repeating the very popular **Art for All** sale this autumn in the hall. Barbara Buckley - organiser - says “This time it will be in aid of the much loved and valued village hall, to allow us to continue to provide such great support to our village. I will be collecting any art donations from now on and they can be old masters, landscapes, modern prints, or any item of artistic interest. I am happy to collect in person or for them to be dropped off at Mulberry, Darsham Road by prior arrangement. A diverse artistic exhibition plus any *object d’art* is our hope, to allow everyone to find something to enhance their homes and lives. My number is 07930 876732.”

**Consultation Room:** We have a pet and human registered **Physiotherapist** Emma Strachan fortnightly (variable days). Contact her to book on 07821 055404. Linda Freeman will be **hairstyling** in the Consultation Room on Monday 3rd. Call



07765 971774 to book. **Reflexology** is back on Saturday 29th 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 **events page** on our website: [www.westletonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.westletonvillagehall.co.uk) and join us on Facebook and Instagram. You can also pick up a copy of the monthly What's On in the Foyer, view it at the inside and outside hall notice boards. For more information or to go on our mailing list contact Annie - Centre Manager on 01728 648354 or email [centremanager@westletonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:centremanager@westletonvillagehall.co.uk)

*The Foyer is open 10am-12noon every weekday for light refreshments, information and chat with our friendly volunteers. The Chess and Coffee Group runs on Wednesday mornings. For more information please contact Annie above.*

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## **WESTLETON WI**

At our May meeting we were pleased to welcome Steve Magnall, CEO and owner of The Two Magpies.



We were treated to a detailed business presentation of the company's journey from one shop/cafe in Southwold to the present nine shops/cafes, two production centres and a baking school in Darsham. It was a fascinating explanation of the rationale behind the decisions and the costs, ever increasing, incurred in hand making products from mostly local but particularly high-quality ingredients. Steve spoke with such passion for his vision of expanding further that we shall watch this space.....

We were very fortunate that Steve left us with an array of products that we included in our raffle and everyone had a tasty reminder of the evening!

Next month is a Ukelele Evening.

---

## **WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL**

As there was no Westleton Parish Council (WPC) update in the May *Fisherman*, this text provides details of the past two months' developments.

I hope you are all now aware that there is a strong possibility that EDF will pay for Average Speed Cameras to be installed on the B1125 to prevent speeding in the village. WPC presented this news and its views on the previously presented traffic calming measures during the Parish Council Annual meeting on 30 April. We then invited you to give your views (via a consultation in early May) on the measures you would still want in the scenario that cameras are installed. Many thanks to all who participated – your views will be presented to the next B1125 Working Group meeting on 11 June.

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As previously noted, with the ending of the Barrel Fair, the WPC has taken a decision to hold a summer fete for villagers. We have chosen Saturday 10th August for a picnic with games and entertainment on the playing field. WPC will need help to stage the fete and welcomes all volunteers – if you would like to help, please contact Ian Haines, the Parish Clerk, on [westletonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:westletonclerk@gmail.com).

You may be aware that National Grid has proposed a number of on-shore cabling projects in East Suffolk. Each of these presents the threat of more energy infrastructure and traffic impacts in the area. WPC has been making its views known through the various NG consultations over recent years – notably to express concern about the cumulative impact of all of these projects and Sizewell C on the area. NG has just published a study which largely rejects the alternative and less intrusive option of off-shore cabling. The background and the study itself can be found on the National Grid website. National Grid has also recently published the results of its 2023 consultation on the Lionlink interconnector cabling project where they state they favour either the Southwold and Reydon or the Walberswick landing options with the 26m high converter station being located just to the east of Saxmundham. Each of these options would result in cabling being laid around the north and west side of Westleton.

Many thanks to all of you who completed the Housing Needs Survey. The results are being analysed by Community Action Suffolk and will be used by Orwell Housing for its planning application for a small plot of affordable housing in the village. Timescales are not yet known but it will be as soon as possible.

After many years of work, John Bebbington will stand down as Secretary of the Commons Group at the end of the year. WPC expresses our sincere thanks for all he has done. This does mean that there is a vacancy for the post. Please contact Ian Haines, the Parish Clerk, on [westletonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:westletonclerk@gmail.com) if you are interested in taking on the job.

The June Parish Council surgery in the Village Hall will be on Monday 24 June - 10.30-11.30. Please do feel free to attend to ask questions or raise matters with Councillors.

*Andrew Turner,  
Chair, Westleton Parish Council*

---

## **100 CLUB**

18 First prize: Timothy Gilbert

136 Second prize: Joyce Willsher

## WESTLETON WELLBEING WALKS

Do come along to our lovely summer walks planned for you free of charge.

**Monday 10 June** 10.45am A circular walk through Snape Reedbeds. Meet at The Plough & Sail Inn, Snape Bridge IP17 1SR, 2.5 miles, 60 mins, Grade 4

**Friday 21 June** 7pm Dunwich, Greyfriars Wood and Dunwich Heath. Meet at Flora Tea Rooms, Dunwich beach IP17 3EN, 3.3 miles, 90 mins, Grade 5

**Wednesday 3 July** 10.30am Hogs Grove forest tracks and paths. Meet at Forestry England Hogs Grove Car Park, Dunwich IP17 3DZ. 2.85 miles, 80 mins, Grade 4

**Tuesday 23 July** 10.30am Walking Westleton Heath. Meet at Westleton Village Hall IP17 3AD. 3.5 miles, 75 mins, Grade 4

**Tuesday 30 July** 11.30am Middleton Footpaths and quiet lanes. Meet at The Middleton Bell Inn Car Park, IP17 3NN. 2.8 miles, 75 mins, Grade 4

**Monday 5 August** 11am The Woodland Butterfly, Westleton Heath. Meet at Westleton Heath Nature Reserve Car Park, Dunwich Road IP17 3AU\* 2.5 miles, 60 mins, Grade 4

**Monday 19 August** 11am Quarry, Fen and Wood. Meet at Westleton Heath Nature Reserve Car Park, Dunwich Road IP17 3AU\* 3.2 miles, 90 mins, Grade 5

**Monday 2 September** 11.30am Walking Westleton Woods. Meet on Mill Road, Westleton \*\* 1.65 miles, 45 mins, Grade 4

More walks can be found online: <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/suffolk>

\*From Westleton take the Dunwich Road for 1 mile to the Reserve Car Park which can be found on your left.

\*\* From Westleton Village Stores travel up Bakers Lane/Mill Road for 0.7 miles past national speed limit signs. Watch for where the hedgerows/trees on the right-hand side finish, turn right and park on the field edge.

## YOXFORD

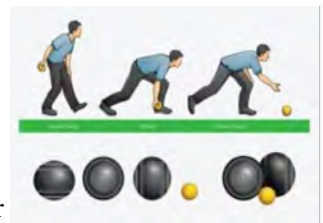
### YOXFORD BOWLS CLUB

Do you fancy trying your hand at lawn bowls?

Our season runs from late April 2024 until September.

The bowls rink is just around the corner in Yoxford, opposite the Village Hall. If you would like to have a go, please ring either Margie (668570) or David (648225) for more information. Bowls are available for you to use.

Also have a look at our website - [www.yoxfordbowlsclub.com](http://www.yoxfordbowlsclub.com)





## PEBBLES @ ST PETER'S

Every Wednesday during term time 11am-12noon.

Pebbles is a stay-and-play group for children under 4 and their carers. Refreshments will be available for adults.

Suggested donation of 50p per family.

Hey, I'm Lynette, new to village life here in Yoxford, I'm a wife, a mum (to young adults in their twenties) and a soon-to-be grandparent. I love meeting parents and have a real heart for family life and community support.

I've had a few emotionally demanding roles over the years - primary school teacher, family support worker and more recently a youth mentor - but none of these have been as challenging as raising kids!! As a family we have moved and lived all over the world, and when our kids were little, unfortunately we were never in close proximity to our wider family. This is when parent and toddler groups were my lifeline! Meeting with other mums who were at times tired, struggling and anxious just like me was a massive comfort - also the joys and laughs parenting brings were great to share too!

I promised myself that, if I could, I would always support such groups, and when I moved to the village last year and discovered there wasn't a parent and toddler group locally I made it my mission to start one.

I don't have all the answers and there are things I definitely would have done differently in hindsight, BUT if I can be a listening ear, an encourager, a friend to share your highs and lows, then I see that as an honour and a blessing.

We would love to meet you and your little ones at our group Pebbles @ St Peter's - we promise a cuppa, lovely toys and warm welcome.

*Lynette Halpin*

### NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME GARDEN OPEN FOR CHARITY



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## YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL – WHAT’S ON

Meet Up Tuesday Group - Tuesdays – 11.00am–12.00pm

Meet Up Lunch Group – last Tuesday of every month

Outreach Post Office Mobile Van - Wednesdays - 9.15am–10.15am

Art Classes – Thursdays – 2.00pm–4.00pm

Youth Club - Thursdays – 6.00pm-8.00pm - 11-18 year olds

Parish Council – first Thursday of the month - 7.00pm-9.00pm

Boules/Pétanque Pistes – available for community use, no need to book.

Tennis Courts – to book, contact Laura Greenberg on 07867 521697

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## 'SING OUT' COMMUNITY CHOIR

Thank You everybody for supporting 'Sing Out' community choir over the years. With your help we have managed to raise thousands of pounds for charity. The choir, after a difficult few years following Covid, has now built its numbers up and feels positive for the future. We are very proud to have reached our tenth anniversary. For this year's concert on 13th July in St Peter's, Yoxford at 7.30pm we will be revisiting some of our favourites and some new material. From 'Laudamus Te' by Karl Jenkins to Bob Dylan's 'To Make You Feel My Love' - just two of our new songs. Variety is what we aim for!

We hope to see you there to mark this special occasion. If you can't make that date we will be performing again at St Peter's, Wenhaston on July 20th at 7.30pm. Thanks again.

**SING OUT!**  
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---

## SONGS, SONNETS AND SUCHLIKE AT WRENTHAM CHAPEL

Wrentham Chapel's next Caedmon evening will be held on Wednesday 19th June at 7pm. Celebrate a Suffolk Summer Solstice with this evening of "Bring and Share" music, word and song. A light buffet with wine and fruit juice will be served in the interval. There is no charge but donations towards the upkeep of the chapel will be much appreciated. For further details, contact Sue Hardy on 07771 882738.

---

## STOP SIZEWELL C

URGENT, TAKE ACTION! We now know the identity of six companies that are engaged in discussions with the government about the possibility of investing in Sizewell C. Despite some of these companies telling us it is "early days" and that they have not yet made a decision whether or not to take a stake, a media report suggests that final bids are expected to be submitted by the end of June. Please help to deter them by writing to them all via our campaign platform [www.action.stopsizewellc.org](http://www.action.stopsizewellc.org), pointing out the risks of investing. We don't expect everyone to personalise their messages but the option is there if you wish, or you can simply send the email we have pre-written. Thank you for your support. The companies are: USS, Centrica, Schroder, Equitix, Amber Infrastructure, United Arab Emirates.

*Alison Downes*

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