

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE BENEFICE



The Yoxmere Fisherman

Local residents show opposition to (yet) more tree felling. See Page 17.

October 2025

CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2025

Sunday, 5th October ~ 16th Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Peasenhall Benefice Service
with Holy Communion

Sunday, 12th October ~ 17th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Theberton Taizé & Harvest Festival
9.30am Westleton Harvest Festival
9.30am Yoxford Holy Communion
10.00am Darsham Morning Prayer
11.00am Dunwich Harvest Festival
11.00am Middleton Harvest Festival
11.00am Peasenhall Morning Prayer

Sunday, 19th October ~ 18th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Theberton Morning Praise
9.30am Westleton Holy Communion
9.30am Yoxford family@church & Harvest Festival
11.00am Darsham Harvest Festival & Holy Communion
11.00am Peasenhall Holy Communion (BCP)
6.00pm Sibton Holy Communion

Sunday, 26th October ~ Last Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Theberton Holy Communion
9.30am Westleton Informal Worship
9.30am Yoxford Morning Prayer
11.00am Dunwich Morning Prayer
11.00am Middleton Holy Communion
11.00am Peasenhall Morning Worship
with the Methodist Chapel
3.30pm Darsham Evensong

Saturday, 1st November ~ All Souls'

3.00pm Westleton All Souls' Service

Sunday, 2nd November ~ 4th Sunday before Advent

10.00am Middleton Benefice Service
with Holy Communion

Wednesdays at Yoxford ~ 10.00am Holy Communion

LECTIONARY

*5th October Trinity 16
Green*

Lamentations 1.1-6
Canticle: Lamentations
3.19-26 or
2 Timothy 1.1-14
Luke 17.5-10

*12th October Trinity 17
Green*

Jeremiah 29.1, 4-7
2 Timothy 2.8-15
Luke 17.11-19

*19th October Trinity 18
Green*

Jeremiah 31.27-34
2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5
Luke 18.1-8

*26 October Bible Sunday
Green*

Isaiah 45.22-25
Romans 15.1-6
Luke 4.16-24

Thanks to Nigel Smith for the cover photo this month.



Invasion Literature

At some point in my younger life, I read *The War of the Worlds* by H. G. Wells. I don't remember much about it except that, as a Guildfordian, an alien invasion of Woking was very amusing.

In my early twenties I also read *The Riddle of the Sands* by Erskine Childers. In this prototype spy novel two Englishmen spend a holiday navigating the labyrinthine coast of Frisia by sailing boat, and in the process discover that Germany has been amassing tugboats and transports, hidden amongst the shifting tidal waterways, for an invasion of Britain. *The Riddle of the Sands* was written about five years after *The War of the Worlds*.

There's also *The Thirty-Nine Steps* by John Buchan. That story involves a German spy ring, determined to uncover Britain's naval defence plans.

And all these stories owe their existence ultimately to a story you've never heard of: *The Battle of Dorking*, an 1871 novella by George Tomkyns Chesney. This latter novel was the inspiration for some forty years of *invasion literature* — speculative fiction about Britain being invaded. Dorking being only twelve miles from where I grew up, I am as amused by Chesney's idea as I am with H. G. Wells. But apparently the story caught the public imagination; serialised in a magazine, it was reprinted multiple times, eventually sparking a running joke that any minor scrape or bruise was attributed to having been suffered at the battle of Dorking.

The pre-Jeeves-and-Wooster P. G. Wodehouse (born in Guildford!) got in on the act too with *The Swoop!* - a spoof of the whole genre, in which Britain is invaded by nine different forces simultaneously, unnoticed because everyone is too engrossed in the Test Match (I sympathise), but the country is saved by a Boy Scout named Clarence.

I dived down this rabbit hole of curiosity because I've been reading an excellent biography of Wodehouse by Robert McCrum. Robert is one of the writers appearing at the inaugural Peasenhall Literary Festival between 25th and 26th October, and I'm going to be interviewing him. McCrum has been editor-in-chief of Faber & Faber, literary editor of the *Observer*, and now writes fiction and non-fiction. He has published two memoirs, following a massive stroke thirty years ago, an investigation and history of Shakespeare, and his most recent work covers the history of the penalty kick, which was devised by his ancestor, Willie McCrum. I can't wait to meet him.

Blessings, Tim.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Marriages

Jamie Danny Roberto Smith and Calei Elizabeth Smith at Holy Trinity, Middleton, on Saturday 2nd August.

Conor Brendan Jones and Alexia Daisy Fenn at St Peter's, Yoxford, on Saturday 23rd August.

Funerals

Patricia Turner, aged 84 years, at Holy Trinity, Middleton, on Thursday 7th August.

Charlie George Lennon Morphey, aged 23 years, at St Peter's, Yoxford, on Friday 15th August.

REVD SUSAN WARNE

At our benefice service in Yoxford on September 7th we celebrated the minstry of the Revd Susan Warne. Susan has been at the heart of worship here for over fifty years. She will be much missed, having now retired from active ministry. Revd Tim presented Susan with an engraved glass bowl, a pot plant, a book, a card, and a cheque, which represented the high regard in which she was held by all the parishioners of the Yoxmere Benefice.

Lynne Putland



"I would like to sincerely thank all those who contributed so generously to the events of September 7th. I found the whole day overwhelming!" Revd Susan

ALL SOULS' SERVICE —3PM, SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER AT ST PETER'S WESTLETON

Wherever you live in the benefice you are warmly invited to this gentle service in which we remember our loved ones who have died, thanking God for their lives, and praying for God's comfort in our loss. Here you are welcome to light candles to remember those you have lost, and we read out the names of those who have died in the last year. All are welcome and there will be light refreshments after the service. Please contact me if you wish to add a name to to be read out that I may not already have.

Revd Tim Rogers

family@church

Sunday 19th October 9.30am
Yoxford Church



Yoxford Harvest Festival

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Thursday 16th October

‘Church in the Middle of a Field’

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Westleton Church
2.30pm

All Welcome

For further information please phone
Sue Norrington 07913 488670
or Jennifer Clough 01728 648597

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

SUBMISSIONS should be sent by the 14th of the preceeding month, and preferably by email to yoxmerefisherman@gmail.com

For details of advertising please email: yoxmereadvertisers@gmail.com

The *Yoxmere Fisherman* is non-profit-making and delivered free to every home in the benefice. We are grateful for donations to support the magazine by one of these methods:

- Bank transfer to: Yoxmere Administrators, sort code 30 99 50, account number 79464368.
- Sending a cheque made out to The Yoxmere Administrators at 1 Fordley Hall Cottages, Fordley Road, Middleton, Saxmundham, IP17 3LT.

VIRTUAL FISHERMAN

The current edition and a few months of previous issues can be found at <https://www.westletonparishcouncil.gov.uk/church/yoxmere-fisherman/>



Scripture

I said, in this short column in August, that the Bible is more literature than rules, and more history than a handbook to ethics. This makes the Bible a sometimes frustrating friend in the quest for good ethics. Let me explain.

The first five books of the Bible, from Genesis to Deuteronomy, are called the Torah, or the books of the law. They contain the first commandment (do not murder, Genesis 9) given to Noah, and the ten commandments

given to Moses (Exodus 20). There are lots of laws in Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy, but these are often rules about sacrifice, and ‘boundary marking’ which marked out the Israelites as a distinct people. But there is also lots of story here too: Creation, Joseph in Egypt, Moses and the Exodus, and so on. It becomes apparent that the rules must always be read in the context of the people, in their story, and vice versa. Later Biblical stories give us a set of good guys, bad guys, and not-quite-sure-where-they-stand guys. It is quite naive to use them as role models, or to think that the Bible requires that of us! Instead, the Bible’s writers expect us to read the stories as literature, form opinions about the protagonists, and debate them with others. The Bible has multiple authors, who visibly reflect different perspectives on God, on humanity, and on various ethical questions.

The pharisees, who held significant influence during Jesus’ day, were a party who wanted to pin down the detail of biblical rules ever more clearly. If you were to tithe a tenth, then they wanted you to tithe the herbs in your garden. If you aren’t supposed to work on the sabbath, they wanted a decision on what constituted work. So, cooking a meal was work, walking more than two-thirds of a mile was work, etc.

Jesus argued against this legalistic exactitude — understanding that the spirit of the original laws is more important than adding hundreds of pages of refinement. For example, Deuteronomy 22:8 demands that there should be a parapet around your roof, lest anyone fall. But understanding the heart of this command leads you to recognise the importance of health and safety in all sorts of areas of life!

What we think Jesus means is of course not universally agreed upon, and this leads us to different traditions — histories of reading Jesus and the Bible one way or another... and debating this with others! We’ll have a think about tradition next time.

Blessings, Tim

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next meetings will be on Monday 6th October and Monday 3rd November at 2pm in Westleton Village Hall Foyer.

This 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 the Revd Tim Rogers, or feel free to just turn up.



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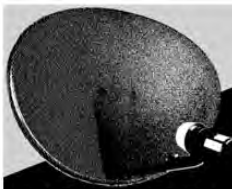
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DARSHAM

ALL SAINTS CHURCHYARD TIDY

As we have a visit from Suffolk Wildlife on 8th October to advise on how best to keep our churchyard, we have decided to postpone the tidy until afterwards so we can take heed of any advice we are given. We want to ensure we keep our bronze Eco Church award.

Watch this space for a new date. Thank you.

Lesley Blackburn

DARSHAM VILLAGE FETE

The fete on 9th August was a truly village affair on a glorious sunny Saturday afternoon. The Parish Council organised a superb raffle, All Saints Church served a vast array of cakes, sausage rolls and teas and coffees, the Fox public house ran a splendid bar and I believe ran out of Pimms. DASH Astro were able to show off, literally, their sun scopes.

Village residents ran the book stall, the “Made in Darsham” stall and the ever-popular plants and produce stalls. And the Village Hall committee together with family and friends put on the rest: bottle tombola, fun dog show, BBQ, and traditional summer games including skittles and welly wanging.

Special thanks must also go to those local businesses - Emmerdale Farm Shop and Fordley Moor Boarding Kennels - for their extremely generous donations of sausages and burgers for the BBQ and the fantastic prizes for the dog show. Thanks, too, to Richard Butler who cut the grass prior to the event with no charge.

It was lovely to see so many people enjoying their day, chatting with friends, and of course supporting the event. Funds raised will be shared between the Village Hall and All Saints Church, no doubt to help with the upkeep of both.

Jill Edwards

WHAT'S ON AT DARSHAM VILLAGE HALL – OCTOBER 2025

Classes & Clubs

Sequence Dancing – every Tues. from 1:00pm (contact Carol 01986 784642)

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

Seated Exercise – every Thurs. 11:00am to 12:00pm (contact Maria 07999 848655)

Yoga – every Fri. 10.30 to 11.30am (contact Debbie - lifeforceyoga.co.uk)

Table Tennis – every Thurs. 7:00pm to 9:00pm (contact Alan Holland 01728 668451)

Carpet Bowls – Every Fri. 2.30pm (contact Chris Fox (07725725008)

Baby Sensory Group – Every Tue. 9:30 -10:30 and 11:00 to 12:00 (contact Megan Mayes 07521 318146)

Crafty Club – Mon. 6th - 9.30am (contact Heather Ballantine 07860 278955)

Home Education Group – Wed. 9:00am (contact Rebecca Coe) (**Not 8th**)

Dash Astro – Sun. 5th Meeting, 19th Observing (contact Chris Mead - 07736 160577)

Textile Temptations – Wed. 8th at 10:00am (contact Sally Goodacre on 07900 522577)

Events and Meetings

Coffee Morning – Sat. 11th at 10:00am

Film Night – Sat. 11th at 7:00pm (see page 11)

Darsham Litter Pick – Sun 12th October 10:00am

Harvest Festival Lunch – Sun. 12th October 12 for 12:30pm

Parish Council Meeting – Tue. 14th 7:00pm

Watercolour Classes – Mon. 15th at 9:30am to 12:30pm (contact Colin on 07528 515214)

Majyk Scraps Exhibition – Sat. 27th 10am - 5pm and 28th 10am - 4pm

Future Events

Race Night – Sat 15th November 7:00pm. This is a limited only event. For tickets, cost £2.50 per person, please email phil@darshamvillagehall.net

Fund Raising

Darsham Village Hall is now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online at any of over 8,000 retailers, at no extra cost to yourself! We'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE. You can find the link at the What's On page on the Darsham Village Hall Web site.

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Darsham Village Hall Management Committee will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 21st October at 6.30pm. All village residents are invited to attend.

Presented at the meeting will be the chair's report on the previous twelve months' activities, plans for the coming year, and the annual financial report. Nominations for elected members of DVHMC can be made by permanent residents of the village, using the relevant nomination form, with individuals being both nominated and seconded. We would welcome new members to the committee.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Jill Edwards or Heather Ballantine by request, or via email request to info@darshamvillagehall.net, or downloaded from the Village Hall website. Any such nominations must be in the hands of either Jill Edwards or Heather Ballantine at least 14 days before the AGM (i.e. before Tuesday 7th October) either given personally or deposited in the Village Hall post box. Should the number of nominations exceed vacancies, election will be by ballot.

Jill Edwards and Heather Ballantine

DARSHAM FILM CLUB SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER - *Black Bag*

Who doesn't enjoy a good spy story? We are sure this thriller will hit the mark. NCSC agent George Woodhouse (played by Michael Fassbender) is given a challenging assignment - to find the mole in the agency! Problem is that his five suspects include four colleagues and his wife, Kathryn St Jean (played by Cate Blanchett).

Tickets £5, available on the door (card reader available). Bar and refreshments as usual. Doors open from 6.30pm, film at 7pm. Any questions, please contact Anne 01728 668270 or 07852 237389.

Anne Mcphail

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 2ND SEPTEMBER

Sizewell hopes to complete and tie in the Northern Park & Ride and Yoxford roundabouts in late October/early November, subject to weather.

32,750 vehicles entered the village from the A12 during August 2025. Information continues to be gathered to present for the proposed 20mph limit in the village.

Sizewell representatives have been invited to attend the October PC meeting to deliver an update and there will be 15 minutes for a Q & A. This will be held in the village hall at 6.30pm on 14th October, and will be followed by the PC meeting.

The village litter pick will be held on 12th October at 10am at the village hall. Please come along and help keep our village tidy.

Jasmine Backhouse, Chair Darsham PC

RIDE & STRIDE SUCCESS!

We'd like to thank everyone in Darsham who contributed so generously to our Ride & Stride fundraising event this year. At the time of writing, not all the pledges are in, but we have received over £1,500. This is a record for Darsham.

Half of the money collected goes to Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and half to All Saints' Church.

For anyone who has not yet had the chance to donate, we are still accepting contributions, so please pass them on to any of our gallant riders – Michael Shipp, Graham Sapsed, Ian and Erika Hutchinson or Ria Beaumont.

Clive Beaumont (local organiser)

PANTO LIVESTREAM – *Beauty and the Beast*

We are once again proud to present a LIVESTREAM of this year's pantomime from the New Wolsey Theatre in Ipswich. *Beauty and the Beast* will be showing in the Village Hall on Monday 29th December at 2.00 (doors open at 1.30). Tickets will be £5 and available from Anne Mcphail 07852 237389 and Becky Butler 07826 553065. A great afternoon for kids and adults alike!

DUNWICH

St James Church, Flower Festival



Dunwich children brought some stunning posies to the flower festival whose theme “We Love This Place” celebrated the different natural landscapes in and around the village.

NATIONAL TRUST DUNWICH HEATH

If you've ever visited Dunwich Heath and beach, you'll know just how much we love dogs. That's why we're so delighted to be a part of the National Trust's Pooch Passport scheme this autumn and winter.

Between 1st September 2025 and 28th February 2026 you can pick up a passport and collect stamps from participating places on your days out – and once you’ve collected six, you’ll receive a special treat from our partners at Forthglade. Snap a selfie with our frame beside Coastguard Cottages when you visit, and tag us on Instagram at [@ntdunwichheath](https://www.instagram.com/ntdunwichheath).

Autumn is one of our favourite times of year and we’re starting to see signs of the seasons changing. Soon we expect to see more of the leaves changing colour and weird and wonderful fungi appearing on the woodland floor.

October half-term also isn’t far away, and this year we’ve got a bumper line-up of events to keep you busy, including:

Walk With Us, 18th October, 10-11.30am

Rediscover nature and walk your way to better wellbeing on one of our free, volunteer-led group walks. Coastguard Cottages tea-room will be open for refreshments afterwards.



Halloween Crafts, 25th, 26th, 28th and 30th October, various times

Celebrate spooky season with us and get creative in Heath Barn where we’ll be making crafts inspired by nature.

Little Ranger Witch Walk, 26th October, 11am-12pm

Bring your little explorers along to Dunwich Heath and enjoy a short, guided walk with one of our rangers – Halloween-style! You’ll find out all about the bugs, birds and other wildlife that call the heath and woodland home.

Halloween on the Heath, 31st October, various times

Find out all about the ghosts and ghouls said to haunt this incredible landscape. Enjoy spooky stories before setting off on our illuminated trail inspired by nature, and see if you can solve all the clues before darkness descends over the heath.



Photography workshops, 8th November, various times

Join professional photographer Phil Morley and explore Dunwich Heath through the lens of your camera. Phil will be sharing his top tips across two workshops, focusing on either landscape or close-up photography. You could even make a day of it and try out both.

To find out more, and book, visit our website at: nationaltrust.org.uk/dunwich-heath



DUNWICH MUSEUM & COMMUNITY HERITAGE CENTRE

Dunwich Museum is open daily from 11.30 – 4.30. Keep an eye out for updates on events at www.dunwichmuseum.org.uk/events.

Saturday October 18th, 6.30pm - The Woodwoses and Wildmen of Suffolk

Matt Salusbury, author of *Mystery Animals of Suffolk* and Chair of the Trustees of Dunwich Museum, describes the strange figures of Woodwose (or Wildmen) carved on the fonts, porches, and towers of numerous churches in Suffolk, but rare outside the county.

This event will be online! Please email us at chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org.uk and get your free ticket at on our Eventbrite page by searching for Dunwich Museum or The Woodwoses and Wildmen of Suffolk.

Saturday October 25th, Dunwich Community Heritage Centre AGM, 3pm

We will be holding our first AGM on Saturday October 25th in the Dunwich Reading Room.

Join us and learn about what has been happening with the DCHC and get involved in our future by becoming a member. Support your local museum and community hall for £10 a year. Email us at membership@dunwichmuseum.org.uk if you are interested.

Sunday October 26th – Leaf Printing Workshop, 12-3pm

Learn the art of gel printing with leaves in this artist-led workshop. This can get messy, so please wear clothes you don't mind getting a bit dirty. Open to adults and children of 6-plus. Book a place by emailing chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org.uk. Adults £10, children £3.

Friday October 31st – Halloween Activity, 12-4pm

Join us for a day of fun decorating biscuits and carving turnips. Feel free to come in your Halloween costume! Free to all ages, donations welcome.

Friday October 31st – All Hallows Ghost Walk, 6pm

Bring lanterns and dress in costume and come along on a ghostly walk around Dunwich. Follow 13th century nun, Sister Luke, on her ancient journey to Greyfriars and listen to the ghostly tales from around Dunwich. Free to all ages, donations welcome.



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MIDDLETON

HOLY TRINITY MIDDLETON

Holy Trinity PCC is delighted to have the church clock looking so beautiful after years of gradually losing its bright colours, and all thanks go to Ashley Brown and his son Tom.



We are truly grateful to them both for all they have done to restore the clock face to its former glory. They have both enhanced the tower of our beautiful church and revived something for the whole village to enjoy and admire as we look up to check the time. Thank you.

Rita Pateman, Church warden

MIDDLETON AUTUMN FAIR

Saturday 4th October, 12 noon - 3pm on the Bell Inn meadow

A celebration of food and music with stalls, soup and stew, games for everyone, conker competition, welly wanging, pumpkins, autumn hat making and apple pie competition.

Music from the Random Blues Band.

Would you like to enter the apple pie competition? For details email middleton.community.council@gmail.com.

MIDDLETON WI NEWS



In July we enjoyed our annual garden party. It was held in the lovely garden of our president Rita. Members and guests enjoyed a buffet of delicious food (prepared by the members) and a glass or two of Pimm's. A perfect way to spend a summer afternoon. There was no meeting in August but the WI had a stall at the Middleton village fete. Members contributed lots of goodies such as cakes, scones, preserves, home grown vegetables, fruits, plants and flowers. People came to visit and buy. By the end of the fete we had sold everything! Needless to say, we were very pleased with that. Our October meeting will be held in the afternoon at 2:30pm on the 15th. Members voted for a change to afternoons during the dark evening months. The speaker will be Barbara McElroy on "Apples: A Miscellany". All are welcome to attend.

Lynne Venn

FOLK IN THE GARDEN 2025 (third time lucky with the weather!) raising funds for Bowel Cancer UK at Manor House Garden.

THANK YOU: to all the volunteers for helping so enthusiastically; for the loan of community assets, and to the multi-talented musicians and singers - making it possible for a fabulous audience (bringing an amazing variety of cakes!) to enjoy a wonderful afternoon of live music in the garden. Even our resident swallows joined in by circling at just the right moment - everything coming together to create a beautiful community fully enjoying life together (even a talking dog!) on a warm summer's day.

We are over the moon to have been able to raise a jaw-dropping £4,024 - all of which we were able to Gift Aid, so in fact Bowel Cancer UK get to receive a phenomenal £5,030. Thank you to the huge generosity of every single one of you who supported this event in every way, shape and form.

Mandy & Steve Beaumont

SAVE THE B1125 OAKS

Sizewell C were planning to remove six of the eight mature oaks on the right-hand side of the B1125 as you head towards the B1122 (plus of course the lone remaining oak on the junction itself). Middleton villagers were notified of this work and, not being prepared to accept the apparently needless destruction of these trees, went into action. There was a live BBC Radio Suffolk interview, subsequently picked up by EADT, which resulted in the hastily arranged

photoshoot of as many locals as could be mustered at short notice (shown on our cover this month).

It turns out the situation is rather more complicated than 'just' the removal of mature oaks - because of SZC's plans to build two new bits of road at the end of the B1125, changing the road layout there altogether; making the B1125 run straight onto the new relief road as well as adding a new bit of the B1122 to come in closer to the oaks (bound to exacerbate the current rat-run down the B1125!). Sadly, I don't have great news to report at present although it is confirmed that two of the oaks can be saved - but I continue to press all parties.

We may need to call another photoshoot for the media to cover this story further.

If you would like to be involved in any protest about this action, please let me have your email address (mobilemandy@me.com). Similarly – email me for maps of the proposed road changes. Please make sure everyone knows what is planned here - it affects the whole parish - and if anyone should have any personal media contacts, speak to them about whether they might cover this story further. We need to make it as difficult as possible for SZC to remove any of these oaks!

Mandy Beaumont

REIKO FUJISAWA PIANO CONCERT

Holy Trinity Church, Middleton,
2pm Sunday 23rd November



We are delighted that Reiko Fujisawa has agreed to return for her third concert at Holy Trinity, at **2pm on Sunday November 23rd**. Reiko is an internationally renowned concert pianist (see www.reikofujisawa.com) and both her previous concerts have been huge successes in front of a (very) full church. Details of the programme will follow in due course and the concert will last around one hour.

The ticket price of £17.50 is set simply to cover costs (not least hiring and moving a Steinway piano – and once again we are hugely grateful to Middleton's own Graham Cooke for offering to tune it!). These can be reserved by emailing Paul Taylor (from The Old Post Office in Middleton) on taylspaul@gmail.com. Tickets will be allocated on a strictly first-come-first-served basis, so if you want to be sure of reserving a place, do contact Paul asap.

***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 has broadcast on BBC Radio 3. Her recordings include an acclaimed CD of music by Bach, Beethoven and Schubert, which The Arts Desk found “irresistible”, and her recording of Bach’s Goldberg Variations was described as an “unpretentious, clean and refreshing performance with a refined dignity”.*

PILATES FOR BONE HEALTH

Body Control Pilates teacher Victoria Hayden will be hosting a taster session for Pilates specifically aimed at clients with osteopenia and osteoporosis on Friday 3rd October at 12noon at Middleton Village Hall. Twelve places are available at £11.50 per person.

Exercising in the correct way can help increase bone density and reduce the risk of falls and subsequent bone breakage. This class may seem as if it is aimed at the more mature client, but with one in three women and one in twelve men now being diagnosed with bone fragility, it is becoming more common in the younger generations. Women who enter the menopause early or need a hysterectomy before age forty-five, along with patients taking steroids long-term, would also benefit.

Victoria has nearly twenty years of teaching experience and holds the highest Body Control Pilates qualification in bone health.

To find out more or to register your interest, please contact Victoria on 07713 277176 or email : victoriahaydenpilates@gmail.com

PEASENHALL

ASSEMBLY HALL. WHAT’S ON IN OCTOBER.

Pop up Café is held the first Wednesday of the month – 1st October 10am – 12pm. Hosted by the wonderful Weavers Team of Sara and Beth. Tea, coffee and cake along with lots of chat and a very warm welcome.

Pilates Class. Every Thursday 9.45-10.45am (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th October). Suitable for all abilities. For more information, please contact Emma on 07914 535448 or email pilatesbodyharmony@aol.com

Peasenhall Picture Palace 3rd October

The next Film Club we will be showing is *Penguin Letters*, a 2024 dramedy starring Steve Coogan about an Englishman who rescues a penguin on an oil-slicked beach in 1970s Argentina during a military coup.



Doors open at 7pm. Bar and raffle. Please subscribe to our mailing list: peasenhallpicturepalacefilmclub@gmail.com

Craft Club will be on the **6th and 20th of October at 2-4pm**. If you are interested in knitting, crochet, any type of needlework, crafts, painting or drawing, why not come along and join us. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided with plenty of friendly chat. No need to book. £3 per session. Please email Jane with any queries – theassemblyhall19@gmail.com

Clubercise is held every Tuesday at 6-7pm (7th, 14th, 21st October). To book or for more information, contact Eileen on 07813 854255 or email Zumba-Eileen@hotmail.co.uk

Peasenhall Literary Festival Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th October



The inaugural Peasenhall Literary Festival will take place at The Assembly Hall on Saturday and Sunday, 25th and 26th October. This is a not-for-profit event, in aid of St. Michael's Church so do please come and support us.

It features a terrific mix of novelists and biographers – some local – talking about their writing. Expect to be intrigued, stimulated and inspired. Refreshments will be available, and the licensed bar will be open.

For more information, author biographies and a schedule, please visit our website www.peasenhall-litfest.co.uk or find us on Facebook. Tickets for an individual event or for a day pass are available from Eventbrite, The Peasenhall Post Office and on the door.

Pop-up Pub Friday 31st October 7-11pm

Come along for to our Halloween Special! By popular demand, the Butcher Brothers will be back playing live music and there will be hot food available.



Licensed bar with very competitive prices. Please come along and join us. Halloween attire encouraged but not essential!

PEASENHALL LITTER-PICK

This will take place on Saturday 4th October.

If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Zoe Horlock on 01728 660435 or at colinhorlock54@gmail.com.



SIBTON

OPTICS: 'MUSIC FOR THE SOUL' AT SIBTON CHURCH (IP17 2NB)

Saturday 11th October 7.00 - 10.00pm.

A night with Optics - Motown, funk, soul. Upbeat rhythm, repetitive grooves to keep you dancing, and emotional intensity with gospel-influenced vocals. Light show, bar with beers, soft drinks and wine). Food by Cheryl's Suffolk Catering.

Tickets: Cash only please - Adults £15, under18s (*must be accompanied by an adult*) £5. Tickets on sale at the door, or at the Weavers Tearoom Peasenhall, the Peasenhall General Stores, and on Eventbrite. There is ample free parking on the church's car park at IP17 2LX.

Organised by the Friends of St Peter's Sibton (reg.charity Nr.1063822). More information at <https://www.sibtonstpeter.com>.

FRIENDS OF SIBTON ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Friends of St Peter's will hold their AGM on 29th October in the church at 10.30am. There will be news about what has been happening, and it is just possible that we will be able to announce more definite news about what is to come. Come along and see! You will be most welcome.

Andrew Campbell

THEBERTON



THEBERTON LIONESSES

The Lionesses held a very successful Summer Ceilidh at Darsham Village Hall at the end of August. The Hosepipe Band are a fabulous bunch of local musicians and the caller, Phil, certainly put the audience through their paces. The Scottish-themed food was enjoyed by all with many compliments. We were very well supported by friends and neighbours who generously bought raffle tickets and brought along raffle prizes, including a rucksack picnic set and a Scottish afternoon-tea hamper. We are delighted to report that we raised £2,000 profit, sending £1,000 to both EACH and St Elizabeth Hospice. This brings our total raised for these two charities to £11,400.

We are holding our Bring Your Bakes and Afternoon Tea on May 16th 2026 at Theberton's Jubilee Hall and have started plans for the Tamla Motown Disco to be on November 2026 at Darsham Village Hall. If you are interested in either of these events please contact us via Suzi Cooper on 01728 635736 or email thebertonlionesses@yahoo.com.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

This is being held at Theberton Village Hall on Saturday 4th October, 10am until 1pm. Please come along and support this event if you can.



JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 18th October 11am - 1pm at Theberton Village Hall. Books, toys and bric-a-brac, as well as refreshments, a raffle and tombola. Come and have a rummage. In aid of hall funds.



For more information on both these events – contact Sally Ginger on 07394 968139.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This year's Christmas Tree Festival will be held in Theberton Church on Saturday 6th December 11.00am - 4.00pm, and Sunday 7th December 11.00am - 3.00pm. There will also be a Christmas Bazaar in the village hall on the same days.

This festival has become part of our Christmas in Theberton and we hope you will all come along to see this magical display of decorated trees.



For information about providing a tree please contact Joan on 01728 830710.

Joan Harvey

WESTLETON

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Notice of Church Closure

Due to essential maintenance work, the church, churchyard and the footpath will be closed during November. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and will endeavour to keep the footpath and churchyard open, but there will times when access is not possible due to health and safety concerns.

Worship services will be held in our sister churches throughout the benefice. Details will be in the November *Fisherman*. Thank you for your understanding.

St Peter's PCC

Contd. /

Harvest Festival

The church's **Harvest Festival** will take place on **Sunday 12th October**.

We will be collecting tins, packets, etc. of dry goods, to be given to Leiston Foodbank. We invite anyone who would like to donate items to bring them to the church and join us for coffee/ tea on **Saturday 11th October between 10 and 11am**. Fruit, vegetables and other items for decorating the church will also be very welcome.

Churchyard Harebell Cut

To keep wildflowers growing in the churchyard we need to cut and rake the wild areas. Following the cut and rake in early September, please join us for the cut to preserve the precious harebells on Saturday 4th October, 9.30 - 12noon. Bring your own equipment and wear appropriate clothing. Refreshments provided.

Joyce Burtenshaw

Westleton Wildflower Festival Meeting

Members of the church and the village hall are planning a meeting to consider the date and arrangements for next year's Wildflower Festival and village hall events. If you have been involved or would like to be involved in any way, please join us in church at 6pm on Tuesday

28th October for a glass of wine and the opportunity to share ideas.

St Peter's PCC

TALLIS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Sunday 26 October, 3.00pm | St Peter's Church, Westleton

Conductor: Michael Coleby | Soloist: George Strivens (Horn)

Overture, Don Giovanni, K. 527 – W. A. Mozart

Horn Concerto No. 2 in E flat major – R. Strauss

Symphony No. 1 in C minor, Op. 11 – F. Mendelssohn

Admission by programme, £15 at the door
(cashless payments accepted).

Any changes to concert arrangements will be posted on our website

www.tco.org.uk

WESTLETON VILLAGE HALL

On **Saturday 4th** our popular **Community/Wheelbarrow Market** will be in the Foyer and outside (autumn weather permitting) 10am - 12.30pm. Local and home baked produce, honey and eggs, and end-of-season home-grown fruit and vegetables, as well as bric-a-brac stalls. Refreshments available as usual.

On the same evening **Film Night** is back for Autumn with *Juror #2*, a 2024 American legal thriller, co-produced by Clint Eastwood and starring Nicholas Hoult. Doors and the bar open at 7pm, tickets available only at the door.

Sunday 12th October, we will have the ever-popular **Flea Market** in the hall 10am - 3pm. Collectables, vintage and good quality items. Admission only 50p, under 16s free. Light refreshments in the Foyer.

Other Events

Art in the Foyer - October - we are looking forward to a stunning display of original work from Westleton Camera Club. Come along and view during the Foyer open hours.

Foyer: please join us for coffee, tea etc. and a chat. Open weekdays daily 10am – 12pm. The **Chess and Coffee Group** also runs on a Wednesday from here.

Tech Table: The ‘Tech Team’ will continue to run on a Tuesday as a drop-in session in the Foyer 9.30am – 12.00.

Hairdressing: Hannah Cutting from Travelling Salon visits on a Tuesday - 10am - 12.30pm. To book or chat about your requirements, contact her on 07856 517925 or email: travellingsalonsuffolk@gmail.com

Footcare with Susan - will be back in November. To book an appointment - phone:- 01986 872067 or 07497 371073. Email: susan@nobadfeet.co.uk

Reflexology is back on **Saturday 25th October**. New hours are 9.30am – 12.30pm. Contact Juliet Overton on 07930 341901 or www.julietoverton.co.uk.

We can also offer pet and human registered **Physiotherapist - Emma Strachan** (variable days). Contact her on 07821 055404.

Save the Date

Our annual Craft Fair and Switch-On of Christmas Lights

Saturday 29th November 2-5pm

over a dozen stalls selling beautiful local handmade crafts and produce, as well as mulled wine, mince pies and other refreshments.

The Christmas tree lights will be switched on at 4.30pm.

Still Taking Books Please! The hall will be holding its very popular Book Sale on 1st and 2nd November, and we welcome donations of any type of book in good condition. Any books can be left at the hall with the Centre Manager or can be collected if you cannot transport. Thank you in advance.

WESTLETON WI



We were so fortunate that Ivor Murrell stepped in at the last moment due to our planned speaker being indisposed. Local villager Ivor is Suffolk's last surviving traditional floor maltster, now retired. He brought along some of the tools of his trade and these together with his wonderful PowerPoint presentation, made for a very informative and interesting evening.

Ivor started his career working for British Sugar, eventually becoming their chief trouble shooter. He then trained to become a maltster at J. Gough & Sons in Bury St Edmunds. He became so proficient at his job that he was sent to Iran to set up a malt factory there. Malt is the basic product that beer is made from, and whisky too.

In 1860 there were over 10,000 floor maltings in England, but by 2012, there were only 12 left. Suffolk's last working floor maltings closed in September 1973. Interestingly, we all live close to the first pneumatic maltings, when the movement of grains across the malting floors was mechanised. This was in Halesworth, in the building that is now The Cut Arts Centre. We also have Snape Maltings not far away. Thank you, Ivor.

Mary Lamb is our October speaker and she will inform us about her skills as a copper foil glassworker. New members always welcome. *Monica Osborn*

Westleton WI Jumble Sale

A big thank you to all members and non-members who donated and came along to support the recent WI Jumble Sale in Westleton.

We gratefully received a huge amount of donations and a much enjoyable day was had by all! *Rachel Normoyle*

WESTLETON COMMON EVENTS

The next **Working Party** is **Saturday 18th October** from 10.30am to about 12.30pm. Everyone welcome; many hands make light work!

The next **Nature Walk** is on **Saturday 1st November** from 10.30 to about 12 noon.

For these events, please meet by the main Common Noticeboard near the green storage container in the car park to the right at the top of Mill Street.

WESTLETON GARDENERS – OPEN TO ALL

Our first meeting for this season is on Tuesday 21st October in Westleton Village Hall at 7.30pm. Anne Tweedle, a member of Suffolk Plant Heritage, will be giving a talk on 'Engleheart Daffodils'. Anne holds some of the national collection of daffodils bred by the Reverend Engleheart. Bulbs will be on sale also.

We are a small friendly club with no annual membership subscription but a 'pay on the door' system with the fee at £4 each, so all are welcome. Doors open at 7.15pm and there will be refreshments and time to chat.

WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL

After many years of service, Ian Haines, the Parish Council's clerk, has decided to hang up his boots. Ian has served the council with extraordinary dedication, diligence and professionalism for which we are indebted, and we wish him the very best for the future. Ian will be replaced by Lou Rayment who starts working with the council in September and, as clerk to Rendlesham Parish Council, arrives with a wealth of experience.

The council is to hold a meeting in the Village Hall Foyer on Monday October 6th at 7.30pm for everyone who is interested in taking a plot on the proposed allotment. We look forward to a lively discussion on how it is to be set up and managed.

Please see the Parish Council website for a report on 6th August Sizewell C Northern Transport Forum.

The Planning Inspectorate has again had to re-open its registration for interested parties for the examination of the Sea Link project. This has further delayed the start of the next stage of the examination.

The next Parish Council Surgery will be on Monday November 24th, 10.30 - 11.30am in the Village Hall Foyer. This is an opportunity for residents to raise concerns/ask questions to the Parish Council. Please go to the Westleton Website or the notice board by the village shop to read minutes of Parish Council meetings.

Andrew Turner, Chair, Westleton Parish Council

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR AUGUST

1st prize £50, No. 80 Debby Turner; 2nd prize £25, No. 153 John and Debbie Shepherd.

100 CLUB WINNERS FOR SEPTEMBER

1st prize No. 158 Ian Fitzgerald; 2nd prize No. 68 Francesca Bartlett.

PROJECT UPDATE

OCTOBER 2025

Welcome to the latest round up of construction activity at Sizewell C.

We are pleased to announce our SMS alert service is now live, the community can now sign up to receive works tracker updates via SMS as well as email. Subscribe to the Sizewell C Works Tracker at [szcworkstracker.co.uk](https://www.szcworkstracker.co.uk). Track Sizewell C Projects and get alerts for new activities via the login button.

Firstly, thank you for your patience as we work hard to get new infrastructure in place, such as park and ride facilities to bus our workers into site and improvements such as the A12 two village bypass and Sizewell Link Road. We are sorry for the inconvenience this is causing and will work to complete these essential projects as quickly as possible whilst providing updates to communities so you can plan your journeys. With this in mind, the Sizewell C works tracker and One Network Causeway [one.network](https://www.one.network) are guides to works in the area and the new subscription service through our works tracker will also help with transport plans around the county.

We are working across the county and wider East Anglian region to improve Sizewell C related road signs, which includes removing

temporary signs and replacing with permanent road signs. This will ensure contract drivers are taking the correct routes. Closer to site, we are also replacing temporary road signs along the B1122 with permanent speed reduction and camera signs.

As part of our accommodation strategy, we announced at the last Northern Transport Forum that we have acquired part of the Darsham High Lodge site which will provide accommodation for our workforce. High Lodge benefits from being closely located to the Darsham Railway Station and the Northern Park and Ride site. A bus service will be available for workers to transport from High Lodge to site, keeping cars off the road.

We have started to build a widened and improved layby on the A12 to assist police escorting our wide load HGVs. Working closely with Suffolk County Council, we have closed one of the lanes of the dual carriageway. This is to ensure traffic flow and not create a bottleneck along the dual carriageway by ensuring a consistent one lane traffic flow from Woodbridge. This also ensures road safety for road users and workers, and Suffolk County Council will also be undertaking maintenance work during this time. The traffic management will be in place until December.

VISIT THE WORKS
TRACKER SITE



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YOXFORD

ST PETER'S CHURCH

A highspot in September was the **benefice service** on the 7th, celebrating Susan Warne's many years in ministry. (See Page 4). Special thanks go to Sara Hone for baking a wonderful cake for the occasion.

Our **harvest festival** will be at family@church on Sunday October 19th when we will be collecting non-perishables for the local food bank.

Our **midweek communion service** is led by Revd Tim on Wednesdays at 10am, followed by coffee and chat. If you would like a quiet reflective service, please join us.

"Pebbles" - our play-and-stay group for little ones and parents /carers - is held in church on Wednesdays from 11am to 12noon with refreshments. An ideal way to meet up with others with young children in a relaxed space. We would love to see you there.

Also we now have a **book corner**. Come in and have a browse! Donations from book sales are all going to our organ fund.

Lynne Putland



'A Love Letter to East Suffolk'

PHOTOGRAPHY TALK

Yoxford Village Hall

Thursday 9th October, 7pm. Free entry.

Other village hall dates will be announced soon – look out for posters.

www.thesuffolkproject.co.uk



I'm Richard Allenby-Pratt and I've been recording rural life for 'The Suffolk Project' for the last eight years. Please join me for one of my village hall talks celebrating what I've seen and learned so far. I'll also be introducing my new oral histories initiative, recording the impacts of changes along the Suffolk coast. In collaboration with the Long Shop Museum, Leiston, and kindly sponsored by East Suffolk councillors.

YOXFORD ADVENT WINDOWS

We would like to revive the Advent Calendar Windows that so delightfully brightened Yoxford the first winter we moved to the village. It is planned that one festive house/shop-front illuminated window would be 'revealed' each day between December 1st and 24th, and remain lit until 1st January. We will include a game for the children to participate in, and intend to organise a viewing night with drinks at the pub. Please see the poster in Horners' window for further details. It would be great to light up the village this Christmas!



One of the previous displays

If you would like to join in, please contact me for further details.

Mary Wolley 01728 688149 axon.mary@gmail.com

YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL – WHAT'S ON

Meet Up Tuesday Group - Tuesdays – 11:00am – 12:00pm

Table Tennis – Tuesdays – 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Outreach Post Office Mobile Van - Wednesdays - 9:15am – 10:15am

Art Classes – Thursdays – 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Youth Club - Thursdays – 6:00pm to 8:00pm - 11-18 year olds

Parish Council – first Thursday of the month - 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Community Film Nights Yoxflicks – monthly – dates published separately

Community Pub Night (licensed bar) – last Friday of the month 6:00pm – 11:00pm

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

Hall and Marquee Hire – to book, contact Hazel Wheeler on 07748 784909.

Sing Out (Community Choir)

You are always welcome to join your Local Community Choir. We are called Sing Out! We meet every Wednesday during term time 7.00pm at St Peter's Church, Yoxford. We sing a wide range of songs from choral and pop to musicals. Whether you read music or not, all are welcome. Especially if you are a man!

For more information contact us at.

Email: singoutyoxford@gmail.com Website: singoutyoxford.co.uk

Yoxford History Group presents

YOXFORD AT WORK

Saturday 11th October

11am – 4pm

Yoxford Village Hall

Come and find out about our tailors,
thatchers, bakers, dressmakers,
wheelwrights, drapers, harness makers,
clock & watchmakers, photographers,
farmers and lots more!!!!

Tea and cakes



YOXFORD FIRE ENGINE 1925

CRAFT AND CHARITIES FAIR

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, LEISTON (IP16 4HG)

Saturday 1st November 10am - 2pm.

The church will be filled with stalls selling a wide variety of hand-made goods and unique gifts. Raffle for church funds and delicious home-made refreshments. Admission free, plenty of parking.

UPDATE FROM JENNY RIDDELL-CARPENTER MP

Over the past few months, I've been working with colleagues in Parliament to take a closer look at how national policy reflects life in rural areas. Too often, decisions made in Westminster are shaped by the needs of towns and cities, and don't always reflect the reality of living in rural places like Suffolk Coastal.

To help change that, I've helped to establish - and now chair - a new group in Parliament: the Labour Rural Research Group. This group brings together Labour MPs who represent rural or semi-rural areas, and aims to ensure rural communities are properly understood and reflected in national policy. As I said in my recent *East Anglian Daily Times* opinion piece, successive governments – of all political persuasions, and for many decades – have had a 'rural blind spot' and they've failed to grasp the realities of rural Britain, and the challenges of delivering public services or driving investment into our rural communities.

Our first report, *Understanding Rural Britain*, published in August and available on my website, draws on the views and experiences of over 1,400 people living in rural parts of England, Scotland and Wales. It highlighted some important concerns - including the lack of opportunities for young people, and the sense that many feel they have to move away from rural areas in order to get on and succeed in life.

As someone who grew up here and moved away, only to return in my late 30s, this resonates with me deeply. I know we need to do more to create (and sustain) opportunities for young people in places like Suffolk Coastal and Suffolk as a whole.

Our next area of work will explore rural poverty and how we best tackle it, and I'll be working with local and national partners to make sure our experiences here in Suffolk Coastal are properly heard and understood.

As ever, if you need support, get in touch via the details below.

Email: jenny.riddellcarpenter.mp@parliament.uk

Telephone: 01394 330260

Website: www.jennyforsuffolkcoastal.org

WOODBIDGE CHRISTMAS COLLECTORS & FLEA MARKET FAIR

Sunday 7th December 9.40am to 4pm Admission Free

Woodbridge Community Hall, Station Road

To book call Jenny Seager on 07788 942051

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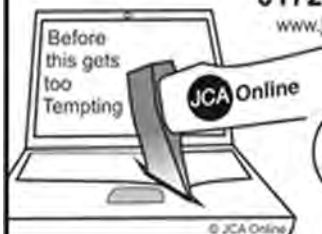
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