Blyth Valley Times

Church in Community—Community in Church

October 2026 **Harvest** **£1.50** **(where sold)**

Harvest this year has been different. The drought in the summer, after good amounts of rain in the winter and spring, has produced an untypical harvest of crops and yields, and a countryside and fields that burnt to a crisp with the frequent and prolonged heatwaves. Thankfully, rain has now come.

At **Chediston's Harvest Thanksgiving service,** after the first hymn, we have a slot for local Farm Reports, and this year reports came from farm managers and owners of Grange Farm, Chediston Hall, Town Farm and Bridge Farm. The report from Sam Fairs for Grange Farm paints the picture for 2026. Sam writes: "Well, here we are at the end of Harvest 2026. This year's harvest has been particularly early and fast. Unfortunately, however, yields have generally been lower than we would have hoped. There have still been some positives. Our oilseed rape and barley crops performed well, but some of the later-harvested crops, including peas, parsley, borage and sugar beet, have been much more disappointing. As farmers, we are always at the mercy of the weather to some extent. The weather is something none of us can control and, with the increasing challenges and risks involved in farming today, each year brings its own uncertainties. Farming teaches us that, while we can plan, work hard and do everything we can to look after the land and our crops, ultimately there are some things that are beyond our control. So, as we give thanks for the harvest we have gathered this year, we can also look ahead with hope. We hope for kinder weather, better growing conditions and, with a little luck, more favourable results in 2027. Despite the challenges, we remain grateful for what the land has provided and for everyone who has played their part throughout another busy harvest. Thanks to be God."

Harvest theme with a difference – Pharaoh's dreams of abundant harvests followed by famine and planning for the unpredictable and lean times. The scripture reading for Chediston's service came from Genesis 41 and included these verses with Joseph's recommendations: 35 "Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. 36 That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine." We learn from Joseph and Pharaoh about being aware of future needs and how to take action now to mitigate for and cope with the difficult times with sensible planning, organisation, collaboration between individuals, people, communities, countries and governments, so that future difficult times maybe less daunting.



Harvest Loaf, the Cross and text behind the altar that reads 'Lo, I am with you alway'

For us as individuals, whether we volunteer to work with mental health charities, in education, for food banks, community larders, community allotments, parish councils, or even our local church, everyone's contribution to that harvest of community should help us all build resilience for the hard times. Let us all work together to gather food in the good years that are coming, and lay up and put in store for the future lean times, so that our village communities focus on sharing goodwill, neighbourliness and love in caring for each other – which is what Christ and church is about.

Veronica Downing, Elder and Reader-in-training

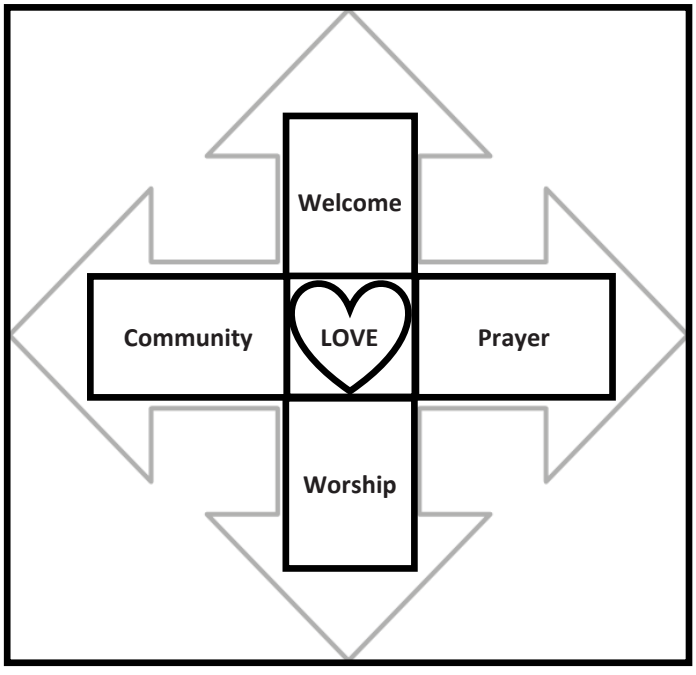
Take a look inside this month's *BVTimes* magazine for local news items and details of services and events happening across the Blyth Valley Churches and further afield.

Blyth Valley Times is published monthly by Blyth Valley Churches.
To subscribe, with a copy delivered locally through your door each month, the minimum donation is £18 a year please.
You can also request a postal subscription, costing £40 a year.
Telephone 01986 875941/07752 275328 or email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com for further details
Blyford - Bramfield - Chediston - Cookley - Halesworth - Heveningham with Ubbeston - Holton - Huntingfield - Linstead - Spexhall - Thorington - Walpole - Wenhaston - Wissett.

Blyth Valley Times Contents

Page 3	Worship in the Blyth Valley in October
Page 4	Service details
Page 5	From the Rector
Page 6	Halesworth and Bramfield URC
Page 7	Curate's Corner, Life Events
Page 8	Halesworth Library, Treasures of our Churches
Page 9	Events
Page 10	From the Ringing Chamber, Safeguarding and Green Tips
Page 11	Welcome to Kinda Elders in the Woods
Page 12	Halesworth Branch Cancer Research, Vocations Series
Page 13	Mothers' Union and events
Pages 14 - 15	News from Pauline Milsted, People's Emergency Briefing Report
Pages 16 - 17	Blyth Valley Churches Contacts
Pages 18 - 24	News from Town & Villages
Page 24	Review of Chanter's Jigge
Page 25	Scarecrow Festival and BVC Websites
Page 26	Concert Review, Halesworth ASH Update
Pages 27 - 29	What's On
Pages 30 - 31	Local businesses
Page 32	More photos from Town and Villages





October Lectionary

Sunday the 4th

Holy Communion – The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Phil. 3. 4b-14 (NRSV)

Matt. 21. 33-end (NRSV)

Traditional Communion – The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)

1 Cor. 1. 4-8 (KJV)

Matt. 22. 34-end (KJV)

Sunday the 11th

Holy Communion – The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Phil. 4. 1-9 (NRSV)

Matt. 22. 1-14 (NRSV)

Traditional Communion – The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Eph. 4. 17-end (KJV)

Matt. 9. 1-8 (KJV)

Sunday the 18th

Holy Communion – Luke the Evangelist (Red)

2 Timothy 4. 5-17 (NRSV)

Luke 10. 1-9 (NRSV)

Traditional Communion – Luke the Evangelist (Red)

2 Timothy 4. 5-15 (KJV)

Luke 10. 1-7 (KJV)

Sunday the 25th

Holy Communion – The Last Sunday after Trinity (Green)

1 Thess. 2. 1-8 (NRSV)

Matt. 22. 34-end (NRSV)

Traditional Communion – The Last Sunday after Trinity (Green)

Eph. 6.10-20 (KJV)

John 4. 46b-end (KJV)

Worship in the Blyth Valley in October 2026				
CW – Year A Continuous New Testament	**4th CW & BP Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**	**11th CW & BCP Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**	**18th CW & BCP Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**	**25th CW Last Sunday after Trinity BCP Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity**
Halesworth St Mary	**8am Traditional Communion** Dominic **10am Holy Communion** Dominic	**8am Traditional Communion** Dominic **10am Breakfast Church** Pauline	**8am Traditional Communion** Dominic **10am Iona Worship** Jason **6pm Evensong** Edmund	**8am Traditional Communion** Dominic **10am Holy Communion** Edmund
St Peter Group				
Holton St Peter		**11am Harvest Festival** Jim	**10am Iona** Chris and Gary Atkins	**10am Holy Communion** Alison **6pm Taize** Linda
Wenhaston St Peter		**10:30am Joint Service at Methodist Chapel**	**10am Holy Communion** Alison	**10am Pause for Thought** PCC
Bramfield St Andrew		**10am Harvest Festival** Dominic		**10am Family Service** Pauline
Blyford All Saints			**10am Wild Church** Jim	
Thorington St Peter			**10am Holy Communion** Edmund	
St Andrew Grp				
Wissett St Andrew		**10am Morning Prayer** Edmund	**10am Holy Communion** Adrian	**6pm Evensong** Edmund
Chediston St Mary		**10am Holy Communion** Vic		**10am Morning Prayer** Veronica D
Spexhall St Peter				**10am Morning Prayer** Linda
Linstead St Margaret	**6:30pm Harvest Festival** Dominic		**10am Matins** Malcolm	
St Michael Grp				
Cookley St Michael			**9.30am Traditional Communion** Dominic	
Heveningham St Margaret		**4pm Harvest Festival** Edmund		
Huntingfield St Mary				**10 am Morning Prayer** Dominic
Walpole St Mary			**10am Morning Prayer** Veronica M	

Additional services this month: 9:30am Tuesdays, Morning Prayer, St Peter's, Spexhall + 10am Wednesdays, Holy Communion, St Mary's, Halesworth + 9:30am Thursdays, Morning Prayer, St Andrew's, Bramfield. Candle Lighting Ceremony 7pm 15th October for Baby Loss Week, at St Mary's, Halesworth.

Wenhaston Methodist Church

Coles Lane, Wenhaston
Minister: The Revd Martin Keenan
27 Meadow Gardens, Beccles, NR34 9PA.
Tel: 07921 540170

4th October Rev. Martin Keenan
11th October Rev I McKillop
18th October Mrs Sue Groome
25th October Rev. Pam Bayliss

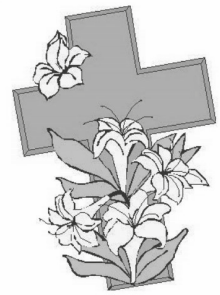
ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am
(unless stated otherwise)
ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

St Edmund King & Martyr

Roman Catholic Church,
Church Farm Lane, Halesworth

Father Christopher Smith

Tel: 01502 723207
Email: Christopher.Smith@rcdea.org.uk
Please enquire about our Service times and details



Morning and Evening Prayer

with the Revd Dominic Doble,
from Tuesdays to Saturdays
(Live streamed and later audio on Dominic's YouTube channel).

From

St Mary's Church, Halesworth

In person, or join via:

8am Morning Prayer
Zoom Meeting ID - 883 5778 9092
Passcode - 607673

6pm Evening Prayer
Zoom Meeting ID - 850 0997 6304
Passcode - 825686

Halesworth & Bramfield URC

Friday 2nd October
9.45am. Prayer meeting in Church, followed by coffee morning.

Sunday 4th October
11.00am. Gathered Worship & Communion - Peter Wagg.

Friday 9th October
9.45am. Prayer meeting in Church, followed by coffee morning.

Sunday 11th October
11.00am. Gathered Worship - Elizabeth Aslett.

Sunday 11th October
3.00 pm. Bramfield - Harvest Thanksgiving.

Friday 16th October
9.45am - Prayer meeting in Church, followed by coffee morning.

Sunday 18th October
11.00am. Gathered Worship - Elinor Rhys-Mathews from the Leprosy Mission.

Friday 23rd October
9.45am. Prayer meeting in Church, followed by coffee morning.

Sunday 25th October
11.00am. Gathered Worship - Richard & Claire Tinkler.

Friday 30th October
9.45am. Prayer meeting in Church, followed by coffee morning.

The United Reformed Church

From the Rector...

I wonder whether you are one of those who would say that Halloween has been taken over by the Americans. Back in the day, I remember apple-bobbing at primary school. No doubt I was dressed in quasi-Harry Potter style, though he hadn't been invented yet! Children from the neighbourhood walked their streets knocking on a few friendly doors 'trick or treating'. They'd have done the same addresses a few months earlier for 'Bob a Job'. A parent, teacher or Brown Owl would read, rehearse or make up a ghost story at a sleepover or camp fire. Later, adolescent experimentation and boundary testing, then as now, might have exposed older youngsters to the edge of otherness. This may have been clandestine viewing of a horror film or operating a Ouija board. This or that may have properly given them the willies. In time they too would have seen their little ones off to the school sleepover carrying a plastic bat or spider.

For a time dressing-up moved away from dressing as avuncular witches, wizards or ghosts. Other, perhaps, actually alarming scapegoats were drawn on as inspiration. Costumes involving straight-jackets, bomb-vests and such, came and went. Was that American influence? Now it seems any dressing up is acceptable. It needn't be fearful, simply atypical. Orange and black food colouring comes to the fore, perhaps derived from pumpkin lanterns' colour palate. Partying continues and families shuffle round the cul-de- sacs for a few days before and after. Maybe the occasional youths succumb to peer pressure and do something overly fearful or just plain stupid to mark the end of autumn half-term. Some sit with the lights off in fear they might be targeted.

One way or another when British Summer Time ends the already fearfully long evenings may bring us face to face with our anxieties. During the summer months a lager, some footie or a spot of gardening might have provided a distraction. Now we realise: the house didn't sell, we are bankrupt, our operation still hasn't happened, we have not left our challenging relationship at home or at work, the spring cleaning still needs to be done! Historically, the English have personified their fears in music, story, effigies. They trounce them by fire-lighting, feasting and frolicking in their face. This, with or without a wise-one, priest or other representative in attendance to focus, bring in, on or up a spiritual element.

In the midst of all this, the church is apt to lose a significant part of its offer in this challenging season. In my view, it is not enough simply to say we don't believe in ghosts, say, or any other aspect of the festivities or partying. Whatever our view, the fantastical elements of this season – like the very real demonstrations in London and Portsmouth – are real expressions of fear, anxiety and otherness. We would do well to acknowledge that. We must be as careful not to exclude other belief systems, through belittling, mocking or outright condemning. Indeed, we'd do well to apologise for the witch hunts that are a sad and disturbing feature of our local heritage. Further, we must not forget that within our traditions there are spiritual aspects to international, communal and personal force, fear and fracture.

Just as our church buildings provide space to step out of the rain, a busy day at the office, or to seek debt advice, so too our traditions and teachings offer a framework to plug that religious aspect in to our personhood. Alongside therapy and medication, many professionals recognise the invaluable contribution made by the acceptance of a higher power. The construct assists many a country, community or person to progress in difficulty. Debate remains open as to what of our spirituality is nature or nurture, projection or external, actual or proxy. Perhaps, in the end that does not matter. What we do know is that the prayer of a righteous person availeth much. And, in the comprehensive and exhaustive presence and expression of God, across the economy, society and environment, there is no more crying nor tears nor pain any more.

If, as we avoid, face or encounter our fears this All Hallows, may the faithful departed pray for us. If you need a break, do pop in to one of our churches. Either for some quiet or for a chat. As the faithful present, we can offer confession but not counselling. We can offer prayer but not prescription. We can offer support but not psychiatry. Then may we all do justice, love mercy and walk humbly together as, and into, the faithful future. **Dominic**


The HALESWORTH BOOKSHOP
Wide selection of current titles
Out of print book search/ordering
Supply of CD's and DVD's
Wide selection of cards and gift wrap
42 Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AR
Telephone: 01986 873840 halesworthbookshop@gmail.com

East Coast Administration Limited

Payroll &
Book Keeping Services
Quickbooks Licences
Meeting Room Available For Hire

Telephone: 01986 872072
Email: karen@eastcoastadministration.co.uk
www.eastcoastadministration.co.uk



"Rosedale really do make an emotional time more bearable and your care and concern shines through all you do."

– from a family we have cared for at Rosedale

Rosedale FUNERAL HOME

We are a family business and promise to provide exceptional care and a truly personal 24 hour service, when you need it most.

www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk Halesworth **01986 875588**

RECOMMENDED GOOD FUNERAL GUIDE 2019

If you are a member of a group or organisation and you would like to share your monthly news, reports or activities with the local community, please email your articles to *Blyth Valley Times:*
blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

HALESWORTH
COMMUNITY LARDER PROJECT
ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL
Church Farm Lane, Halesworth IP19 8SY
Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
10am - 11.30am

HALESWORTH & BRAMFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." (Psalm 18.2).

This August, during a week's holiday in North Wales, Jean and I visited Criccieth Castle. Probably built by the Welsh prince Llywelyn ap Iorwerth in the 1230s, its ownership and outline have changed several times since. On one notable occasion in 1294, whilst under English occupation, the garrison and 41 townsfolk, mostly women and children, successfully withstood a determined Welsh siege. Today, the castle is mostly a ruin, but it still dominates the same rocky outcrop overlooking the town.

Since returning home, I've been thinking about castles a lot, especially so as I've been reflecting on Bible verses concerned with rocks, refuges, fortresses, strongholds and the like. In fact, I was musing on the phrase 'Lead me to the rock that is higher than I' (Psalm 61:2), when reports of the disaster on the Nepal/Tibet border started to appear (August 26th). An immense slab of ice had fallen off a glacier, and dropped 1,200 metres into the valley below. Once there, it then created a stupendous wall of mud that surged along the Trishuli Valley, engulfing or sweeping away everything in its path.

I found myself conflating thoughts of high places and valleys, and even more so after I read about Rajendra Dadabi, the headteacher of Tribhuvan Trishuli Secondary School. A friend upstream phoned him with moments to spare, and with that warning he saved every one of his pupils by ordering them to make for high ground. Nothing can diminish the enormity of this tragedy, but as we reflect on it, I hope we will consider where we could find 'high ground' in a crisis? Whose help would you seek? King David knew he could lean on God. Do you? I hope you feel confident to echo St. Paul's words in Philippians 4. 4-7: '[I] Rejoice in the Lord always, … The Lord is near. [I am not] anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, [I] present [my] requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will [guard/garrison my heart and my mind] in Christ Jesus'.

Many people, I suspect, ignore or disregard Christ's invitation to come and follow him, because they've never yet had reason to take refuge in him. It generally takes a crisis to force people into radically changing their ways. Fortunately, in Rajendra's case, he trusted his friend and acted instantly. I wonder, do you have a friend you would trust like that? Or, turning things around, might you be the friend who makes the call?

'[Our forefathers] all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ.' (1 Cor. 10. 4). 'I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe.' (Psalm 61. 2-3).

Peter Wagg, Elder

Curate's Corner

A short while ago I was asked by an especially wise and learned professor about the techniques used in pastoral care. This person – very secular, but very learned indeed – wanted to know whether there was something to the pastoral care offered by ministers analogous to the techniques available to a psychotherapist. Or, in other words, when a minister offers pastoral care, what do they actually do?

It's an interesting question, because it's not particularly clear that there's a thing that ministers do in offering pastoral care. It's certainly true that ministers distribute communion at home where necessary, that there are particular ways of praying alongside someone for specific situations, and that priests can offer a variety of other rites which may be helpful in a given case. But although these all have a pastoral element to them, they aren't the essence of pastoral care.

Pastoral care really just comes down to one thing, which is to make God's purposes of love known to the person one is with. In order to do this, one needs to be a peculiar kind of creature: a human being who lives in the world and understands the stresses and sorrows of living in the world, but who keeps their treasure in heaven – who spends enough time acquainted with the treasuries of heaven that one can say with authenticity that there really are joys awaiting us in the kingdom of God.

Making the joys of heaven known in the midst of earth's sorrows cannot usually be done with many words. Unlike theologians, ministers are unlikely to articulate elaborate theologies in a pastoral context. Not because we don't think about such things, but because it's very rare that a purely theological account will actually help the people we are with. There is, instead, a lot of listening. When listening we try to offer our complete, utter, and undivided attention to those we are with. We try (and, I admit, sometimes fail) to remember everything that is said to us. We may, perhaps, try to offer a word of common-sense advice, or more often a sentence of scripture that we think might be helpful. But the essence of it is something that is not captured in human language: the making-visible of the invisible glory of God, directed like a laser from one human heart to another.

I'm keenly aware that this explanation risks becoming a set of empty words: a very long-winded way of saying that there is nothing to be said about an activity that occupies a very large chunk of ministry time. What is certainly true is that pastoral care doesn't take very well to quantitative evaluation. It's so individual and so foreign to the values of the world that it will never provide a nice simple set of data that says "so-and-so many hours of pastoral care lead to such-and-such improvements in quality of life". So good pastoral care risks being pushed out of ministry as alternative – more measurable, and therefore more tracible – activities take its place. I implore you, do not let this happen in your Church! Good pastoral care, by good ministers, transforms souls and renews minds with the knowledge and love of God. It does something that no secular agency can do: it gives a heart of flesh to a heartless world.

Edmund

Mistletoe Trees

Locally grown trees with mistletoe, the perfect Christmas present for any garden

Pick your own mistletoe at Christmas in the future

www.mistletoetrees.co.uk

Contact Henry Webber - hwebber@skreensparkfarm.co.uk - 07974170857

LIFE EVENTS

From the Registers

Funerals/Interment of Ashes

Colin Whistlecraft at Cookley
Roger Denny at Halesworth
Robert Cross at Halesworth
Denise Denning at Holton

Marriages

Mann and Fairs at Heveningham
Wiley and Webber at Huntingfield

Waveney foodbank

If you need help from Waveney Foodbank you will need a referral voucher.

Just call one of our partner agencies:
Citizens Advice National Helpline
0808 208 2138
South Norfolk Early Help Hub
01508 533933
Halesworth Volunteers - 01986 875600

There are collection places for Foodbank donations in Chediston; St Mary's Church, Halesworth; Halesworth Co-op; Holton; Rumburgh; Spexhall (2); Wenhaston and Wissett.

ADDITIONAL FOODBANK DONATION POINTS

Donations of food for the Foodbank can also be left at Woolnough's Funeral Services office at the entrance to Halesworth Cemetery on Holton Road and also at Rosedale Funeral Services in the Market Place, Halesworth.
There are collection boxes outside the offices, where produce can be placed.

October at Halesworth Library

October Half Term

We have lots of fun activities planned for your little ones over October half term! Come and join us on Saturdays 24th and 31st between 11:00-12:00 for Lego club and why not drop in from 2:30 onwards for Chess Club? It's suitable for all ages, whether you are a beginner looking to develop your skills or just looking for someone to play against.

On Sundays 25th October and 1st November, we host our Family Fun Time group (10:30-11:30), suitable for the whole family – we have a wide range of games and activities available!

On Tuesday 27th we will be running our regular Wordplay session for under 5s. Bring your little ones down for a mixture of songs, rhymes and soft play! The fun then continues with Lego club, 11:15-12:15. It's free, no need to book in advance!

We have a special event planned on Wednesday 28th (1:00-3:00), when we will be visited by Suffolk Archives who will be hosting a family-friendly Halloween craft, suitable for ages 4-11. Book via TicketSource to secure your place (https://www.ticketsource.com/suffolk-archives/t-oevelxr).

On Friday 30st October we will be hosting our very own spooky craft, taking place between 11:00-12:00. A free event but booking required. Please contact the library to secure your place!

And finally! This month marks the 30th anniversary of Halesworth Library in its current home – thank you to all the staff, volunteers and customers who have contributed to the success of the library – here's to the next 30 years!

Book Talk and Other Activities at Halesworth Library

Painting and Thinking: Mary Newcomb. On Thursday 15th October at 2.30pm we will welcome local artist Tessa Newcomb who will be talking about her mother's life and work. We will be able to see extracts of her working diary which give us insight into her sometimes extraordinary paintings. The talk is free to attend but please book, either by speaking to library staff or emailing us on friendsofhalesworthlibrary@gmail.com.

Why not pop along to a Sociable Sunday session on Sunday 4th and 18th October and meet new people and enjoy good conversation over a cuppa and a cake in the welcoming space of the library? Drop in any time between 10.30am and 12.30pm. We'll be holding a Board Games Cafe on 26th October (2-4.30pm). There are many games to choose from, old and new ones, or bring along your own favourites. There's no need for special skills or knowledge. Join us, and have a relaxing afternoon, meet new friends, enjoy tea and cake! There is a suggested £1 donation to the Friends of Halesworth Library. These events are hosted and run by volunteers from the Friends of Halesworth Library.

Catherine Draper

The Treasures of our Churches

A series in which Edmund explores some of the lesser-known jewels of the Blyth Valley Churches...

You may be aware that a short while ago, a historically significant book was stolen from St Mary's Church, Chediston.

The book in question is a copy of the Paraphrases of Erasmus: a translation of Erasmus' work printed in 1548 and originally intended to be sent to churches across the land of England as part of an effort to increase the standards of preaching throughout the land.

Although they were originally intended to be sent throughout England, they are now comparatively rare. Their true value is, of course, not a monetary value; what makes these books important is that they are a physical connection to the tumultuous years of the English reformation. Artefacts like this are a tangible sign that the parish of today is in a meaningful sense the same parish community that prayed in the same church all those years ago. The fact that Chediston succeeded in holding onto its copy for nearly 500 years, taken together with the volume from 1611 we spoke about last month, also tells us that Chediston took to the literary values of Protestantism with a zeal not found across the rest of our parishes. The loss of a book which speaks of our history in this way really does leave us all the poorer.

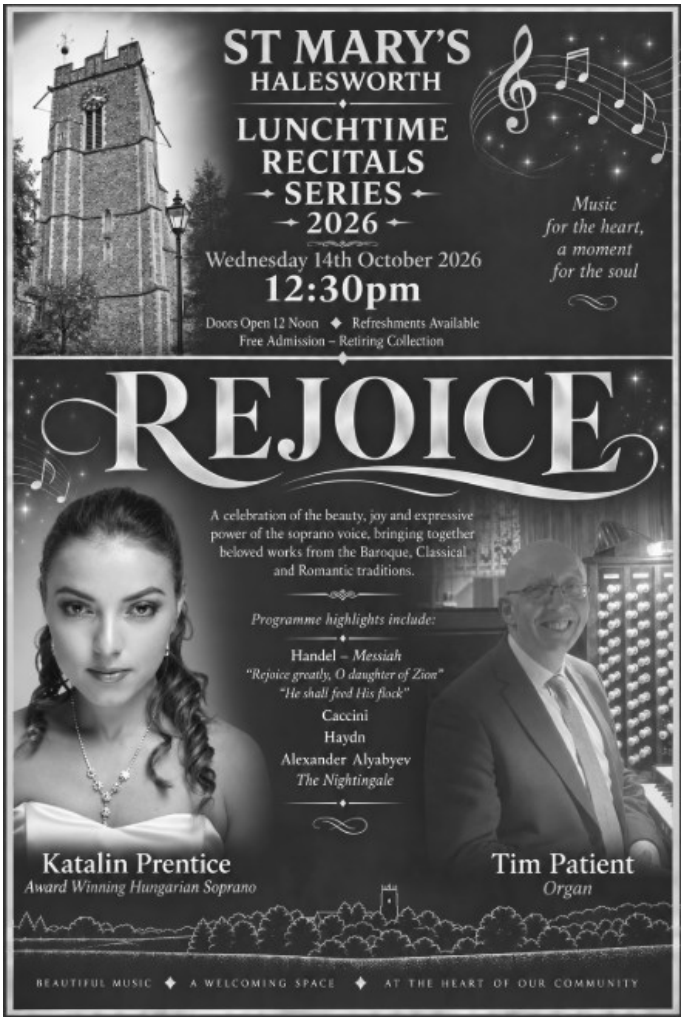
Our hope is that the media attention on this book has made it deeply impractical to sell, and that the party who has taken it will decide to discreetly return it under cover of darkness. Should they do so and later wish to receive our forgiveness, we will, of course, offer forgiveness in the name of Christ and His Church.

Amidst all the media attention there are a few important messages that, alas, didn't quite reach the final cut of the published stories in the news: First, the theft from Chediston appears to be a case of a van coming from elsewhere in the country, performing the crime, and then leaving. There is nothing to suggest that other churches in the area are currently at an elevated risk and there is no need for fear. Secondly, there is indeed an element of risk in leaving a church building open and unattended at all times; however, that is a risk that is very much worth taking. People come into our churches at all times of the day to pray, to seek a moment of peace, or to appreciate the art and heritage of the church. Most of those people don't even sign the visitor's book. If we were to respond to this isolated incident by locking our churches, we would immediately lose over half our total footfall. Most people who enter our churches do not come on Sundays, or during any planned event – most of them just enter the building not quite knowing what they seek but finding something of God anyway.

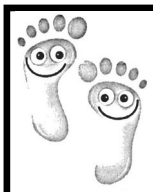
Finally, if you are a member of a PCC and are aware that your church has a particular treasure, then make sure that you have plenty of photographs of the said treasure, as well as a written note of any identifying characteristics (hallmarks, handwriting, etc.), so that if the worst should happen it will be quick and easy to respond. Thefts like this are rare and do not deserve to be worried about, but the best and simplest preparation is to have a small folder somewhere which includes all the information needed to track down an object should it one day go missing.

Please join me in continuing to pray for the safe return of this sacred volume.

Edmund







NO BAD FEET

Susan Fitch, A.H.C.P.

FOOTCARE SPECIALIST PRACTITIONER

Let me help to keep your feet happy and healthy

TREATMENTS AVAILABLE:

DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE, INGROWN TOENAILS
CORNS, VERRUCAS, CALLUSES,
PAINFUL HARD SKIN
THICK NAIL TRIMMING AND FILING
GENERAL FOOT HEALTH CARE
AND FOOT TIDYING

PHONE 01986 872067

MOBILE 07497 371073

I AM AVAILABLE FOR HOME VISITS
BY APPOINTMENT

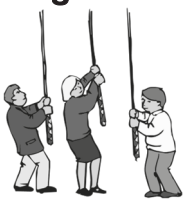
Join us for Harvest

Sunday 11th October

11am service followed by
Harvest Lunch in church



Contact Jill Hewlett 01986 875 913
or Helen Fensom 01986 873 575



From the Ringing Chamber

About 20 years ago, three visiting ringers turned up to ring for the morning service at Halesworth, an elderly couple and their middle-aged but youthful-looking son. Afterwards we asked where they came from. “Somerset” the lady replied on behalf of her and her husband. We looked at the other chap, who turned a pink colour as he replied “Halesworth”. Pete Lock had been hiding away, firstly at Westhall then on Quay Street, ever since moving to East Anglia to work at Sizewell, and had only rung with his parents back in the west country. A quick bit of research on www.pealbase.co.uk elicited that he had rung one peal when living in Bristol 15 years earlier, but had been in hiding ever since.

20 years on from that fateful day we said farewell to Pete at his last practice (at Blythburgh) before he and Sue moved to Wales to be near their daughter and grandchildren. In those 20 years, Pete has, once he got back into the swing, acted as Deputy Tower Captain and Steeplekeeper, including being a member of the Suffolk Guild’s Belfry Advisory Committee. He has rung nearly 200 quarter peals and a handful of peals (including the first on the restored bells at Wissett in 2011). He has been a regular Sunday ringer, and a member of the band aiming to ring quarter peals in all the standard Surprise Minor methods, a task we shall regrettably have to complete without him. Most of all he’s been a really good friend to all the band over two decades and, while we wish him well in his new life in Cardiff, we are going to miss him badly.

Pete’s last quarter peal with us was at Rumburgh, Sandiacre Surprise Minor. We’ve also rung quarter peals before two evening services, Plain Bob Minor at Wissett and Plain Bob Triples at Halesworth, the former a bit “trippy” (lots of little mistakes which upsets the flow) and the latter very respectable. Then, minus Pete but with Michelle ringing the treble, we rang a really good quarter of Rossendale Surprise Minor at Rumburgh.

Sunday morning ringing round the team and Tuesday night practices have been okay, but losing Pete means the quality will inevitably drop, and it will be that much harder to find enough people to ring. The recent 8-bell practice at Halesworth saw us completely reliant on the car load of ringers from Beccles: otherwise there would only have been five of us.

One glimmer of hope is a result from our open session for the Heritage Open Weekend which saw about 20 people queueing up to have a go. As usual we’ll never see most of them again (they all seemed to live in Essex anyway), but one, new to the town, seemed very keen to get involved, so watch this space. We also discovered that Simon (hereinafter called “New Simon”), who is a proper ringer from Hertfordshire, has acquired a holiday home at Holton and aims to join us whenever he is in the locality, and we were very pleased to welcome him to his first practice at Blythburgh a few days after the open day.

PJG

Safeguarding—it’s *everyone’s* responsibility

We are pleased to announce that our new benefice volunteer safeguarding officer is Philip Hays-Nowak. He comes to us with extensive experience in safeguarding matters, and has recently been working with a Catholic Church safeguarding organisation as a director. With a passion for safeguarding, we welcome his knowledge and expertise. Please direct any concerns of a safeguarding nature to Philip. If it’s an emergency situation call 999.



07570 396505
phnsafeguarding@gmail.com

October Green Tips

Green Tip – 4th October If your sewing skills are limited, there are usually good repairers and tailors in your local town who can do more complicated alterations for you at a reasonable price. Again, getting clothes that fit better means that you wear them more. Also, a good invisible mend can extend the life of a garment considerably. Check out your local tailor and give that favourite dress or pair of trousers a new lease of life!

Green Tip – 11th October A good way to save money and the planet is to try to batch bake in your electric or gas oven. It takes a lot of energy to heat an oven up, but relatively little to maintain the temperature. If you can arrange it so that items are baked or cooked one after the other while the oven is hot, then you will save money and release less carbon.

Green Tip – 18th October Another great way to save money and the planet is to make sure that all your electrical devices are shut down at night. This may mean switching them off at the mains, as many stay on stand-by when you switch the device itself off. Stand-by means they are still using electricity.

Green Tip – 25th October Halloween and Guy Fawkes Night are fast approaching and both can mean buying large amounts of plastic toys, masks and costumes for the children. Why not try to cut down on the plastic this year and see what you can recycle and adapt to make the scary costumes? There is lots of advice online. Have a look at https://ethicalbranddirectory.com/how-to-recycle-halloween/ but there are many other sites as well.

Rev. Richard Stainer

VICTOR’S
BARBER SHOP
48b Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AR
Telephone: 01986 899846
Layla and Victor are waiting for you.
Find us on Facebook: Victor’s Barber Shop

Welcome to Kinda Elders in the Woods

Kinda Elders winter term has started. Anyone is welcome to join us - come for a taster or come and stay. Most of us are over the age of 65 and we currently have 2 who are over 90. Elders Wellbeing in the Woods, now in our 6th year, is a highly successful intergenerational project, now well embedded in the Halesworth community. Elders connects people and nature, builds community and resilience and is a joy to behold.

We are continuing our theme of this year, SEEDS. We will collect tree seeds to plant, and plant out the seeds we successfully planted last year onto the land to replace many of the trees that have not survived the drought. We will share our stories. In addition we will plant a DYE garden, growing plants we can use to dye with next year.

We have a pool of resourceful facilitators:

Kally Davidson, an artist and artisan who teaches us weaving, printing, dying etc.
Nicky Sexton, a fellow artist, musician who works with our body too, introducing tapping after our year long teacher, Naomie Rochford, who gave us tai chi under the hornbeams every Thursday.
Rachel Kellett - woodland wizard who sets homework, and gets us involved in woodland husbandry (which has little to do with men, but the care, cultivation, and breeding of crops and animals).

In addition we have the gold-dust help of various Vintage Elders. Here is what one said:

"I have to say that the Forest School has been the most wonderful thing that has happened to me for a very long time. All the things that I thought I had lost forever in my youth, the open air, nature, birds, woods, crafts – spinning, weaving, dying wool with plants, I have now found again, being brought to me by the Forest School. I can't thank you enough.

"Coming to the woods in the beginning I was apprehensive of what I would be able to do. But I was made very welcome and never pushed to over achieve, everything at your own pace. The more we are together the happier we will be! To my shame I have to say being at the woods is the longest time in the week that I am outside in the fresh air, sometimes that was down to the weather but mostly it was there was no incentive to go outside but the woods meet is regular and I know I will meet friends who will inspire me to make more of my time!"

Rachel Kellett

https://kindaelders.com/





Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research

We would like to thank Bella and Will at The Old Hall Cafe and Maze for very generously agreeing to host The Maze by Torchlight event again for us this year on Friday 21st August. This is always such a fun event with our traditional fete style games which everyone enjoys before they open the gates for the maze. The games can become quite competitive so congratulations to all the adults and children who won a prize. We haven't a total raised for the evening as yet, so we will let you know how we got on in the next edition of The Church Magazine.

We also have to say a massive thank you to volunteer Gill for selling books and jigsaws from her house in Dukes Drive. In the 3 years that Gill has been doing this she has raised an amazing £1500. Sadly Gill has decided that she is now stepping down from selling the books so will not be accepting anymore book donations. Thank you to all of Gill's regular customers for supporting Cancer Research. Happily as a valued member of the team, Gill is still volunteering for us at our events.

We also sadly have had to say goodbye to Sophia our Area Manager from Cancer Research UK. Sophia has been looking after us for the last 4 years and she has been a joy to work with; nothing was ever too much trouble and we will miss her. When we first met Sophia we all gathered at committee member Arlette's house so it was only fitting that we should meet there again to say our goodbyes. Thank you Arlette for hosting this. Our gift to Sophia was Catherine's Rose which raises funds for The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity (sadly there isn't a Cancer Research Rose). Dr Clarke our president presented Sophia with her gift and she was delighted.



Our next event is our very popular Jumble Sale on Saturday 17th October in Holton Village Hall from 10am to 12pm. We are always happy to receive good clean saleable items, but we are sorry that unfortunately there are some things we are not allowed to take, these include:-

Electrical items, knives, safety helmets of any kind, child's car seats, cots, knitted toys, large items of furniture.

We will be serving light refreshments of teas/coffees and cake, so please pop in, if just for a cup of tea and some delicious cake, because every penny we raise makes a difference.

Sadly Cancer Research can at the moment only fund 1 in 5 new research projects. You have to wonder what new breakthroughs may have been possible in the 4 that were turned down.

So please friends old and new, continue to come along to our events and have a good time whilst helping us to raise funds for this vital work. Thank you all.

Dawn Davis 01986 873640

Vocations Series

This month we hear Dominic's story…

Christened in Maidenhead as a child, I longed to be eight so I could join Cookham church choir. I was baptised at Letchworth Baptist Church at 16. I received the Holy Spirit whilst praying with African Post-graduate students at Wye Agricultural College. One day aged 29, about the time I was confirmed at St Cedols, Pentir, I was doing a self-employed gardening job in Caernarfon. I emptied the weeds in the wheelbarrow on the compost heap and headed back into the walled garden. On going through the gate I had an Alice in Wonderland moment. I felt the start of a new chapter of a journey to become a Church of England priest.

As an English-speaking Pentecostal, I spoke to the Church in Wales Bangor's Diocesan Director of Ordinands (DDO) or vicar recruiter. Among other comments he made was that I would need to be able to speak Welsh. He said he'd be in touch. He wasn't. Nevertheless, I joined the course for Readers and Clergy. I went to a Ministry Division conference at St Katherine's London. There, it was suggested that I approached the DDO in Canterbury where my mother lived. I started again and began to read recommended books and produce written work.

Then I got a three -year job in Boston with the RSPB. So, started again. I had just got to see the Assistant DDO when the RSPB let me go. After a year back in Wales, I got strategic work on Public Rights of Way (PROW) with Norfolk County Council. Here I got through the local Panel but was not recommended for training at National Bishops Advisory Panel. They thought that the openness, insecurity and honesty I presented over three days of interviews, speaking, role play and observation demonstrated I did not fulfil the then selection criteria. I was advised to lie low for two years.

Aged 37, I found myself managing a PROW team for Cambridgshire County Council. I contacted the Ely DDO. I was fairly fast-tracked through a supportive local Panel and chose to play the national like an interview this time. Realising I was going round again they felt that there must be something in it. So, I received a Leeds BA at Mirfield over two years of residential formation amongst the brethren. My Diocese released me so I sought a Curacy in Exeter. I served my title at Holy Cross Crediton, a rural multi-parish benefice, for four years. Before coming here I was Rector of Watercombe Benefice, Salisbury for seven years; again rural multi-parish. An unannounced declaration of a Pastoral Reorganisation there lead me to apply for this job. Five years on here we are!

Alison Cackett's Memorial Service

12:30pm on Friday 2nd October at Holton Church.

Everyone who knew Alison, or who would simply like to come along and pay their respects, is warmly welcome to attend.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Diocese of St. Edmundsbury & Ipswich

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION
Join us, Join in
Lighting the way for generations to come

Our 150th celebrations and events

The Mary Sumner Day service on 9th August at the cathedral was very well attended with 120 in the cathedral and 280 joining via the live stream. We were blessed to have the European cathedral choir to lead the singing. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship after the service with tea and a magnificent celebration cake. A big thank you to everyone involved in making this service happen, especially our diocesan chaplain Reverend Catherine Forsdike who led the service and trustee Canon Alan Forsdike for his homily. Many branches were also having a special Mary Sumner Day Takeover Service on the same day at their parish churches. At St Mary's Tattingstone members of the Mothers' Union branch had chosen the hymns and readings and led the prayers, as well as giving a talk. So many members of the congregation admitted after the service that they had had no idea of the depth and breadth of the outreach of MU projects. Two people took away information on joining MU. One person commented that she felt MU was going to be a better fit for her than her current membership of the WI, because our work was faith based. Rise-Up posters were taken by several people to go up around the benefice to raise awareness of the issue of domestic abuse and several took up an invitation to find out more about MU at an evening meeting in early September.

£150 challenge

Congratulations to all the branches, groups and MU members who have had their events. We are well on our way to turning the £150 we were given by Mary Sumner House into £1,500. Clare Thomas is running 150 miles this year to raise funds for our £150 challenge. You can support her by visiting the Mothers' Union Just giving page at: Clare Thomas is fundraising for Mothers' Union. St Andrew's MU have recently completed their fund-raising events for the 150th appeal. They had a raffle for a most beautiful patchwork quilt which raised £170 from the £5 seed money which had paid for the Raffle tickets. Their 'all day' summer garden party event and raffle altogether raised £452 and was attended by 70 people - a wonderful opportunity to grow our membership at the same time.

Christmas decorations for HMP Highpoint

Rev Wendy Norris has highlighted that the Chaplaincy Christmas tree decorations are in a sad state. Do you have some good as new decorations you could donate? You can bring them to the cathedral on Prison Sunday which this year is 11th October or to the Autumn Council meeting on 3rd November or make a donation to the prison project fund so that Wendy can ensure that the prison staff and inmates can sing carols round a tree that is resplendent.

Praise and Wholeness service Saturday 17th October

This is a quiet service for mental and physical healing as well as for those of us who have such busy lives, that we need to take time out to refocus and, in the words of the hymn, to 'Be still, for the presence of the Lord is be moving in this place'. The venue for this service is St John the Baptist Caudwell Hall Rd Ipswich IP4 4QE. On a practical note, the church has a large car park with level access to the church and accessible toilets. After the service the usual excellent MU tea and cake will be served giving time for some wonderful fellowship. Put this date in your diary and bring a friend or family member.

2027 Subscriptions

As with all other aspects of our lives the cost of living has increased significantly. The subscription for the central charity remains at £25 in recognition of all the fundraising that our diocese and the other 41 dioceses have undertaken this year as part of the 150th anniversary celebrations. The subscription for our diocese will be £5, making a total of £30. Your subscription covers the cost of supporting the trustee meetings, diocesan services and council meetings and the travel cost and other expenses of diocesan trustees and officers. This means that every single penny raised by all the wonderful fund-raising events goes to our projects and programmes with no deductions. Gift Aid is a scheme that lets UK taxpayers easily supercharge their charity donations. Every time you say 'yes' to Gift Aid, each £1 you give becomes £1.25 for our charity at no extra cost to you.

Prayer points:

- Pray for children and teenagers making a new start as they move up to a new school year and for some a new school, college, university, or their first job.
- Pray for our new CEO of the Mothers' Union.
- Pray for more people to join Mothers' Union

Teddy Bears' Picnic

The St Edmundsbury Cathedral branch of the Mothers' Union, in partnership with the Cathedral Learning Manager and the Children and Families Minister, held a Teddy Bear's Picnic and travelled around the world with craft activities in August. The teddy bears arrived with their small humans who in turn were accompanied by their adults. Nine countries were visited and a special passport was stamped when a craft was completed. The Cathedral café baked teddy bear biscuits ready for icing and eating! A fun time was had by bears, 33 small humans and all the adults, including helpers and staff.

Local Mothers' Union Meetings

Wenhaston Mothers' Union Wednesday 14th October at 2.30pm. 'Working in Conservation in Suffolk'. Alan Miller, Methodist Chapel. Further details from Margaret Goldstone 01502 478378.

Yoxmere Benefice Mothers' Union Thursday 15th October 2.30pm 'Hymns and Pimms'. Led by Lynne Putland, Westleton Church. Further details from Sue Norrington 07913 488670.

Mothers Union Craft, Coffee and Chat Group Thursday 8th October 10am-12noon. Further details from Sue Norrington 07913 488670.

News from Pauline Milsted, BV Churches' Children, Family and Youth Minister

Youth Space—Your Space Update

Youth Space returned on Monday 7th September after a short summer break, and the church was filled once again with the energy and warmth of our young people. Their enthusiasm was unmistakable and they were just as delighted to be back as the leaders were to welcome them.

The group worked together beautifully to prepare a full meal of sausage, mash, gravy, vegetables and Yorkshire puddings. Every young person played a part, whether chopping, stirring or setting the table, and it was a joy to see them cooperating so naturally.

After dinner, we spent time doing crafts, chatting about our summers and sharing how everyone felt about returning to school.

As part of the evening, the young people talked about their hopes for the year ahead. Some of our Year 11s shared their goal of passing GCSE English and Maths, while those just starting high school spoke about wanting to make new friends and settle into their new routines.

One of the most beautiful aspects of Youth Space is the mix of ages (currently from 10 to 15) and the way they support one another. Older ones encourage the younger, younger ones bring fresh excitement, and together they create a community where advice, laughter and everyday life are shared freely.

It is a privilege to witness these young people grow, learn and care for one another, and we look forward to all that this new year will bring.



Companionship Services
Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and surrounding areas
Services Include:
- Social Support
- Housekeeping
- Shopping
- Transportation
- Garden Maintenance
- Emotional Support
- Dementia Support
- General Check-ins
Contact Josh on 07825 604302
Offering friendly, affordable and flexible services to those who need it most!
Fully DBS Certified, Insured and Qualified
HOLISTIC HEALTH By Josh

A Growing Circle of Prayer for Children, Families and Youth Across Blyth Valley

Every month, on the last Thursday at 7pm, a small but dedicated group gathers to pray for the vibrant and ever-growing ministry to children, families and young people across the Blyth Valley churches. It's a gentle, welcoming space where gratitude, hope and faith come together.

The group spends time reflecting on scripture, sharing stories, and bringing the needs of our parishes before God. There is a deep sense of thankfulness for all the ways children and families are already being reached through church activities, and an eagerness to listen for God's guidance as new plans take shape.

As this ministry continues to flourish, the group would love to welcome more people into the circle. Whether you have been involved in children's work for years or simply have a heart for the next generation, your prayers and presence would be a blessing.

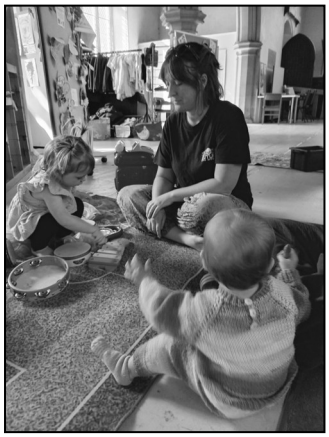
And if you cannot attend in person, the group warmly invites you to join in prayer from home. Three simple prayer points guide their time together:

- Give thanks for every family who has been reached and welcomed through the work of our churches.
- Ask God's guidance over future plans, especially as bids and proposals are prepared for upcoming projects.
- Pray for belonging and love, that everyone who steps into our activities or through our church doors feels embraced, valued and at home.

This ministry is one of the joyful and hopeful parts of our shared life in Blyth Valley. Through prayer, we continue to nurture it, celebrate it and trust God with its future.

A joyful return of Church Mice Tots

After a summer pause, Church Mice Tots has returned for its third year, filling the church once again with the sound of little voices and lively play. There's something special about watching the children step back into the space with newfound confidence—almost as if they're reclaiming their own little kingdom after the bustling family picnics of the holidays. The group's strength has always been its sense of community. Parents and carers show remarkable kindness and support for one another, creating a welcoming environment where everyone feels at home. The children, too, form bonds that are a joy to witness—friendships that grow week by week. As always, new families are greeted with open arms. Each one brings something unique to the Church Mice Tots family, and their presence is a blessing that enriches the group's shared life.



More News from Pauline Milsted

Draw the Verse: House Upon the Rock

This month at Draw the Verse, we explored one of Jesus' most familiar parables—the wise man who built his house upon the rock and the foolish man who built his house upon the sand. It was wonderful to be back together, spending an hour chatting, catching up, and diving into Scripture with our young people. There's something special about gathering around God's Word and seeing where the conversation leads.

One of the joys of Draw the Verse is that we never quite know what our young people are going to bring to the table. Every session takes on a life of its own, and this month certainly kept us on our toes. What began with foundations, storms, and solid rock soon turned into a lively discussion about spirits, talking to the dead, death, and whether heaven or hell exists. Not exactly the direction you'd expect from a parable about building houses, but that's the beauty of honest, curious faith. Our young people ask real questions, and we're grateful for a space where they can do just that.

These conversations remind us why Draw the Verse matters.



It's a place where 11- to 16-year-olds can explore big ideas, wrestle with faith, and discover what it means to build their lives on something solid and true. And it's a privilege to walk alongside them as they do. Draw the Verse meets once a month, on the second Thursday at 6 pm. If you know a young person who might enjoy a welcoming space to talk, question, and grow, we'd love to see them there.



The Harmony Centre
Complementary Health Centre
Therapies, Classes, Workshops, Courses
Walpole Hatch Farm, Halesworth Suffolk IP19 9BB
01986 784500
info@theharmonycentre.com www.theharmonycentre.com
www.facebook.com/theharmonycentre

The People's Emergency Briefing Report

On the evening of Thursday 10th September there was a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing in St Mary's Church, Halesworth. The event was well attended – and there was a real sense of everyone present sharing their concerns together.

Having watched the film, we were encouraged to express how we felt regarding the stark reality of the climate and nature crisis. Words used included; "shocked", "terrified", "depressed", "frustrated" but also "hopeful". For those of you who have yet to see the screening this won't make much sense, but to put these feelings in perspective many of you will already be reflecting on recent events such as the hot summer weather and the wildfires and the impact these are having – particularly on our farming communities.

It felt helpful to recognise how we each reacted as individuals to the film but it was also very good to be able to acknowledge that we are not alone in how we feel, and that the climate and nature crisis is a reality that we need to face together.

Having shared our emotional responses, we then had a discussion to go deeper into the issues and we also watched a video sent by Adrian Ramsey, Member of Parliament for Waveney Valley.

The aim of the film is to encourage us to lobby our MPs to support a televised national emergency briefing – and Adrian Ramsey is already supporting this. This emergency briefing would be led by the Prime Minister and relevant experts (just as the briefing was during Covid), to offer everyone more information on the climate and nature crisis. The rationale behind this is that having better information allows us to develop better resilience in coping at a personal, local and national level.

If you have not yet seen the film, I would encourage you to do so or to take a look at the People's Emergency Briefing website (https://www.nebriefing.org)

Lis Willmet, St Mary's Eco Church Group



The Blyth Valley Ministry Team



The Revd
Dominic Doble
Team Rector
The Rectory,
Highfield Road,
Halesworth, IP19 8SJ

Tel: 01986 948968
Mobile: 07743 554955
Email:
dominic.doble@
phonecoop.coop

(Off duty: Mondays)



The Revd
Linda Berry
Assistant Curate
Old Post Office,
The Street,
Huntingfield,
IP19 0PU
Tel: 01986 798165
Email:
lindaberry@outlook.com

(Off duty: Mon & Tues)



The Revd
Dr Edmund Smith
Assistant Curate

Tel: 07787 615716
Email:
eps31@cantab.ac.uk

(Off duty: Fridays)



Pauline Milsted
Children, Family &
Youth Minister

Tel: 07780 459285
Email:*pauline@growing*
togetherearlyyears.co.uk

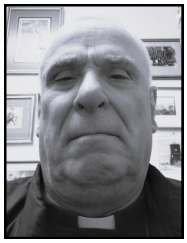
(Off duty: Wednesdays)



The Revd Canon
Alison Alder
Associate Priest
Limited duties only



The Revd Vic Hopkins
Associate Priest
01986 875934
csninefour@btinternet.com



Fr Desmond Banister
Associate Priest
07702 725825
ppasnh@gmail.com



The Revd Canon Adrian Daffern
Associate Priest
adrian.daffern@churchofengland.org

READERS

Veronica Mowat 07802 611410
Email: vmm1151@gmail.com

Jim Green 07742 032536
Email: jimpiecrust@phonecoop.coop

ELDERS

Jason Busby 01986 873336.
Email: jasonbusby@yahoo.co.uk

Veronica Downing 07799 484266
Email: veronica@veronicadowning.co.uk

Malcolm Heath 01986 785289
Email: mlheath@aol.com

Eileen Salmon 07359 438882

Gary Atkins 07981 979551

Chris Atkins 07954 436855
(also the Blyth Valley Times proof-reader)
Email (joint): corg.atkins87@gmail.com

Blyth Valley Churches Contacts

Gary Atkins: Lay Chair BV Churches Joint Council
Tel: 07981 979551
Email: corg.atkins87@gmail.com

Brian May: Treasurer BV Churches Joint Council
Email: treasurer.bvtm@gmail.com

Annie Groves: Administrator BV Churches, Clerk to BVC Joint Council, Communications Officer
Tel: 01986 875941
Email: office.bvtm@gmail.com
Email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

Philip Hays-Nowak, Safeguarding Officer
Tel: 07570 396505
Email: phnsafeguarding@gmail.com

Jason Busby: Organist Blyth Valley Churches
Tel: 01986 873336. Mobile: 07817 863533
Email: jasonbusby@yahoo.co.uk

Philip Gorrod: Contact for bell ringers across the Blyth Valley Churches
Tel: 01986 875354
Email: pjg@hhhh.me.uk

Community Choir Coach—vacant—please contact Annie Groves if you're interested.

ECUMENICAL CLERGY

The Revd Martin Keenan, *Methodist Minister*
27 Meadow Gardens, Beccles NR34 9PA.
Tel: 07921 540170.
Email: martin.keenan@methodist.org.uk

URC Minister Vacant
Halesworth & Bramfield URC,
Quay Street, Halesworth IP19 8EP

Father Christopher Smith, *Roman Catholic Priest*
St Edmund King & Martyr Roman Catholic Church,
Halesworth IP19 8SY. **Tel: 01502 723207**
Email: Christopher.Smith@rcdea.org.uk

Blyth Valley Times

published monthly by
Blyth Valley Churches
Deadline date for ALL copy for the NOVEMBER 2026 issue is:
WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER
Publishing date: Wednesday 28th October
Advertising:
01986 875941
Email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

PARISH	CHURCH WARDEN	CONTACT
Blyford	Charlie Hawkins	charliehawkins100 @gmail.com
Bramfield	Jinnie Barham Alfred Mullett	01986 784254 jinnie.barham@gmail.com snowmein@mac.com
Chediston	Jo Wareham	07711 066727 Joanna@hernehillfarm.co.uk
Cookley	Diane Robinson John Penwarden	07780 732972 dianerobinson1@btinternet.com 07824 333004 penwarden987@btinternet.com
Halesworth	Vacant. Main contact: Jason Busby	01986 873336 jasonbusby@yahoo.co.uk
Heveningham	Jeanette Griffin Sara Lister	01986 798280 Stmargaretchurch 11@gmail.com (shared email)
Holton	Vacant	
Huntingfield	Emma Ward Jenny Blackmore	01986 785343 eward.newallhall@btinternet.com Jleeblackmore@hotmail.com
Linstead	Malcolm Heath Julia Gilbey (deputy)	01986 785289 mlheath@aol.com Please contact Malcolm
Spexhall	Keith Noakes	07939 527340 keith.noakes@gmail.com
Thorington	Mike Gower	01502 478078 mail@lemanassociates.com
Walpole	Ken Allen Lee Hill	07710 779146 kennethrallen@icloud.com 07713 450078 lee.hill2006@gmail.com
Wenhaston	Jonathan Alder	01502 478855 j.m.alder59@gmail.com
Wissett	Geoffrey Kiddy	07881 501858 mail@wissettlodge.co.uk

Church Volunteer Vacancies! We have a range of volunteer vacancies. An interesting and fulfilling role awaits you! Training provided and you don't have to be a practising Christian. Contact Annie (above) for further information.

News from Town & Villages

Blyford

Correspondent Martin Clarke
clarkehk@yahoo.com

Ride and Stride There was a festival atmosphere in the Blyth Valley lanes as people from all walks of life took part in the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride event on September 12th. Here at Blyford HQ we ran our bric-a-brac stall on the green and made a fantastic £215. We had music in the church - recorders in the morning and harp and violin with Karen and Jane in the afternoon which created a magical atmosphere, and with all the Ride and Stride cyclists and walkers there were lots of visitors for John and Christina to show around the church with Christina's new map and history of the church on one side and a description of a visit to the church by Simon Knott, author of the book 'Churches of East Anglia', on the reverse. Meanwhile Martin (that's me) organised a posse of motorcyclists to terrorise the neighbourhood and 'ride' the full fourteen churches. The posse of course was spearheaded by Dominic himself on his Triumph Speed Twin and what an experience it was to visit all of the churches under his care and listen to his passion and knowledge of every single one of them. Photos on the back page.

St Ethelreda's day— Saturday 17th October We are devastated that the Queen's Head pub in Blyford has closed. This beautiful iconic thatched Suffolk pub has been an integral part of village and church life for 500 years and a huge loss to our church as it has been the backbone to many of our social and church events, thanks to the support and generosity of Matt the Landlord. Rumours abound that the pub can be saved and let's hope that the powers that be can dive in and help save the situation. The actual Queen's Head in question might possibly have been that belonging to St Ethelreda aka Aethythryth, or Audrey, who was born around 636 AD, one of the daughters of King Anna of East Anglia. She and her family were devout Christians, living in uncertain times when wars between Christian and pagan kingdoms in England were commonplace.This powerfully independent woman was the foundress and abbess of Ely Priory, and possibly the most important native female saint of medieval England. Here at Blyford we will be commemorating St Etheldreda's day with an open illustrated exhibition in the church all day on October 17th and 18th. Alongside this we will be holding a Water of Life exhibition with a bulb planting ceremony during the day on Saturday.

Bramfield

Correspondent Alfred Mullett
snowmein@mac.com

August/September Activities at Bramfield St Andrew's We ended August with our Family Service presented by Pauline. I would like to put out a sincere invitation if you are a parent with children that wishes to come to a service, this could be your ideal option. The service is shorter, has many ways for adults and young ones to interact and learn from the service. There are activities for busy minds, as well as songs and insights from not only the leader, but from each of us, as we all participate in learning. Please, even if you aren't at Bramfield or Halesworth, if you have the Sunday morning free to come and see, you may find it worth your time, and help your young ones see that church is a place to look forward to.

Morning Prayer at Bramfield St Andrew's – Every Thursday at 9:30am If you are looking for a half an hour of quiet and meditation, please join us for Morning Prayer. It is a quiet time with God, and with our friends.

Halesworth Food Bank Collection Box We have a collection box in the church porch for donations for the Halesworth Food Bank. Any donations of tinned and non-perishable items are gratefully received.

Harvest Celebration Service Sunday 11th October 10am We welcome all who can join us for a celebration of the harvest. A time to be thankful, for all aspects of our lives.

Family Service at Bramfield St Andrews. Sunday 25th October 10am Family Service is shorter and simpler, with activities and interaction for everyone from all ages, from the littles to the elders. All are welcome. Tea and Coffee follow.

Samhain Celebration on Foxtail Meadow Saturday 31st October 10-11:30am A quiet celebration and reflection that focuses on honouring our ancestors, both recent and distant, also recognising the seasonal transitions. Simple land tending follows at 11.30am. Everyone of any religion, or none, is welcome. Further details: ecotherapyeast.info@gmail.com

Fundraising for Bells and Roof We are beginning the process of fundraising for roof and bell tower repairs. These are large projects so please get in touch if you would like to help with donations or want to help with the fund raising. We would gratefully appreciate any help!

PCC Membership We welcome anyone who wishes to join our PCC to help us manage and maintain our beautiful church. Our meetings are every two months. If anyone wishes to help assist us in any way, we would be very grateful. Contact Jinnie on 07780833450. Thank you.

Prayer Noticeboard and Assistance We have a Prayer Noticeboard in the church, so please post your requests. If you need prayer and support, we will do this at our regular Thursday service. We are always here for you. If you know of anyone in need of assistance, please do get in touch as we are always happy to help or get you in contact with someone who can. Tel Jinnie on 01986 784254.

Chediston

Correspondent Veronica Downing
veronica@veronicadowning.co.uk

A lot has happened since the last edition! Chediston has been busy as a community and church.

Chediston Summer Fête The community Summer Fête on August Bank Holiday Saturday was, in spite of the rain, a happy and buzzy event held on the Community Field. People put up their

brollies, donned their waterproofs and came to buy Ash Farm honey, eat the most delicious ice cream made using a professional ice cream maker loaned for the occasion, consume tea and homemade cake, hit coconuts, wield an old bell clapper from the church to guess its weight (13.65 kgs), throw bean bags and go on a treasure hunt. The plant and second-hand books stalls were a great success, so there are now plans afoot for a Chediston flower and produce show in 2027 as part of the next fête. The money raised will purchase a new larger event tent, possibly two, for the village. A big thank you to Kay, Jo and their team for organising such a successful and social event.

Suffolk Historic Churches Stride and Ride 12th September Chediston Church welcomed 23 riders and striders for the annual historic churches 'cycle ride'. Mostly pedal cyclists, but the Revd Dominic and two friends (secret bikers) on their motorbikes toured the benefice. A special note and thanks must go to Chediston's Ed Elford who clocked 23 churches on his bike, raising around £630.00. The money raised is split equally between the Historic Churches Trust and the local church nominated by the cyclist/rider. Thank you to all those who sponsored riders. Thank you too to those who sat in the church porch, checked people in and offered refreshments.

Village Harvest Festival and Lunch 13th September We were delighted to welcome Jason to play the organ for our harvest service which focussed on farming and community. Windows were decorated with produce and activities from our farms, including Town Farm, Ash Farm, Herne Hill, Chediston Hall and Bridge Farm. The Farm Reports are now a regular part of our harvest thanksgiving, which ground us as a rural village, still with farming as a core activity. The lunch, with some amazing home cooking (the 'big pie' was a vast steak and blackberry pie made by Jonathan Carman – excellent shortcrust pastry), was also a chance for new residents to meet neighbours. Thanks to all who brought quiches, apple and blackberry pies, crumble and cake. Food donations have gone to the Community Larder in Halesworth and money donations totalling £170 will go to YANA (You Are Not Alone), a mental health charity providing support to farming and agricultural employers and employees, experiencing poor mental health, in East Anglia.

Commissioning as a Licensed Lay Minister in Training at the Cathedral 13th September On a personal note, there was a special Choral Evensong at St Edmundsbury Cathedral with the Commissioning of Readers in Training and Ordinands, where Bishop Joanne commissioned 3 Readers in Training, of which I was one, and 10 Ordinands. It was lovely to have the support of my husband Graham, Revd Dominic and Pauline (our Children and Young People's Lay Minister) present at the service. Fizz and cake afterwards to see us on our way!

Mental Health First Aider – training through YANA After two solid days (14th and 15th September) of excellent training held at the offices of Wilson Wraight in Fornham All Saints, by the Mental Health First Aiders organisation, I am now certificated as a Mental Health First Aider. This training was sponsored by YANA. As with a First Aider who responds to people with a physical injury or illness, an MHFAider is trained to be aware of the signs of people going through poor mental health episodes that may put themselves or others at risk and to respond and signpost appropriately. This may be someone who is just not coping, due to, for example, anxiety or depression, changed eating or drinking habits, that affect their everyday life, to someone who is contemplating taking their own life. As 'church', we spend a lot of time over safeguarding awareness, but mental health often slips under the radar. As the Blyth Valley team of churches, we can do more to raise awareness of poor mental health in children, young people, working age and the elderly in our rural villages and town communities. **Veronica Downing**

Cookley

Correspondent Kevin Cheshire
kev.cheshire@gmail.com

Services this month A quirk of the calendar means that there has been no service at St Michael and All Angels since the last newsletter. There will, of course, have been one on 20th September by the time this goes to print.

A seemingly never-ending summer has finally given way to some much-needed rain, a cooling of the air and a return to lush green vegetation. Autumn is very much here and our thoughts turn to Harvest. In many villages the harvest itself arrived rather earlier than anticipated this year, and it has been no different in Cookley. As the fields settle into autumn, it is a timely moment to give thanks for what they have produced and for those whose work brings in the harvest.

September also brings Michaelmas, the **Feast of St Michael and All Angels**, on 29th September. As our church bears the name, it seems only right to mark the occasion and remember the many generations who have worshipped within its walls.

Ride and Stride On 12th September, Cookley was a hive of activity as the annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride took place. I rode between all 15 churches in the Blyth Valley benefice with Edward from Huntingfield, taking in some 28 miles of road and track. It was a pleasant day for a cycle through this beautiful part of Suffolk we call home, but it also brought home to me just how varied and impressive our churches are. From medieval bells at Wissett to the Doom at Wenhaston, there are constant reminders of the importance these buildings have held in village life across the centuries. As custodians of these remarkable pieces of our spiritual and civic history, we have a responsibility to preserve them for generations to come, making this annual fundraiser all the more important. It was brilliant to see Cookley raise £465. Thank you to everyone who gave their money, time or support. Photos on the back page.

Advent plans No sooner is summer over than we are looking ahead to Advent and plans for a carol service in Cookley. Thank you to Annie for working her magic with the calendar to find suitable dates for the additional services being planned across our churches. In the next edition, I hope to announce a confirmed date and provide more details for your diaries.

Our next service will be on **18th October**. We do hope to see you there.

Halesworth

Correspondent Jason Busby
01986 873336
halesworthparish@gmail.com

September has certainly been a busy month at St Mary's, welcoming people through our doors for a wide variety of events.

One of the most thought-provoking was our screening of the **People's Emergency Briefing**, focusing on the climate and nature crisis. The film gave us plenty to think about. In the discussion afterwards, words such as shocking, scary and depressing were used, but importantly there was also a real sense of hope and commitment to action. Thank you to everyone who organised and supported the evening.

Our **Heritage Open Day** was another great success, with St Mary's buzzing throughout the day alongside the Produce Market. Visitors had the opportunity to try bellringing, while more than 30 people climbed the tower to see our 200-year-old church clock. I also gave an organ demonstration which turned out to be a rather exclusive event with an audience of two! They did, however, receive the full works!

There was also sad news during September with the death of **Di Pullman**, a stalwart of St Mary's for many years, who died peacefully on 3 September. Di had lived at South Lodge, off the Bramfield Road, since 1961 and was a familiar part of our church family. She supported St Mary's in many ways over the decades and will particularly be remembered for her beautiful flower arrangements, including the pedestals she regularly created in the church porch. Di also enjoyed our annual Burns Nights each January. She will be remembered with great affection. May Di rest in peace and rise in glory.

Looking ahead, on Saturday 3 October at 7.15pm, St Mary's becomes a cinema for our **Silent Film Night**, with the 1925 classic The Phantom of the Opera, starring Lon Chaney. The film will be accompanied by a live improvised pipe-organ soundtrack from Tom Horton – a wonderful opportunity to experience silent film as it was intended. Tickets are £10 on the door.

Then on Wednesday 14 October at 12.30pm, our Lunchtime Recital Series continues as we welcome back the wonderful soprano **Katalin Farsang Prentice.** Admission is free, with a retiring collection.

From films and music to heritage, worship and community, St Mary's continues to be a busy place at the heart of Halesworth. We hope to welcome you through our doors during October. **Jason**

Where the wild flowers grow! (hopefully) After a gap of 6 years, rakes were once again seen on St Mary's churchyard, clearing two patches to give wild flowers a chance. The hay was taken up to Holton community allotment where it was gratefully received; some of it is living a contented life as mulch on the blackcurrants. Special thanks to Jim for the trailer and equipment, to Pedro for passing on his wisdom and Suffolk Wildlife Trust advice, just as special thanks to everyone who came for long or little. One more session is planned, hopefully with the passer by who expressed an interest. Photo on back page. **Jim Green**

HALESWORTH WI REPORT Members had enjoyed the talk and slides by David Naylor, a volunteer at the Minsmere Bird Reserve at our last meeting and were horrified by the devasting fires that took place shortly after this, leading to the destruction of the heath and wildlife.

The next month's meeting followed this year's summer heat wave so we gathered in the Day centre in August to shelter from what we thought would be the unbearable heat only to listen as the rain poured down and the thunder rumbled, but we still managed to enjoy the excellent jam and cream or cream and jam on our scones with a welcome cup of tea. We exercised our brains with one of Pat Miller's fiendish quizzes and had an opportunity to chat and socialise.

Heveningham

Correspondent
Jeanette Griffin
stmargaretchurch11@gmail.com

We've had a really good tidy-up in the church this week, ready for a wedding taking place this weekend. I always find it quite satisfying clearing out old items, and at the moment the church is looking very bare indeed!

That won't last long though, as over the next couple of days it will be filled with flowers, and I can't wait to see it looking beautiful again.

The lovely bare backdrop also gives us a chance to start looking ahead to our next few months. This is the time of year when things start getting a little busier, with some of our bigger services coming up – Harvest, Remembrance and, of course, Christmas.

I particularly love these services as we get to really decorate the church and make it look special. But more importantly, they are a wonderful opportunity to bring the community together, which is what our little church is all about.

So, with some exciting months ahead, here are a few dates for your diary:

Services:

11th October – Harvest Festival 4pm, followed by our Harvest Supper.

8th November – Remembrance Sunday

13th December – Christmas Carol Service 4pm.

Events in October:

9th October – Quiz Night

29th October – Bat Evening for Adults

Please see our poster in 'What's On' for more details, or feel free to contact me directly if you would like any further information.

I'm looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces, and hopefully some new ones too, over the next couple of months.

Holton

Correspondent Jill Hewlett
01986 875913
jill.hewlett1@btinternet.com

"I love to see, when leaves depart,
The clear anatomy arrive,
Winter the paragon of art,
That kills all forms of life and feeling
Save what is pure and will survive."
From "Autumn" by Roy Campbell.
We are well and truly into autumn; the grain harvest is in and many of the fields are already ploughed and sown with next year's crop. It hasn't been a good year for our farmers, but still

we should celebrate the harvest, which is the culmination of all their hard work and to thank them too.

St Peter's Harvest Festival Service is on Sunday 11th October at the later time of 11am followed by a "bring-and-share lunch" in St Peter's Room and overflowing into the church if necessary. Please let Helen Fensom or myself know if you are coming to the lunch and whether you can bring something. We are planning for a cold lunch: cold meats, cheeses, salads, flans and some desserts. Please don't worry if you feel unable to bring anything; just let us know that you are planning to come as we need to have an idea of numbers. As is the custom we would love to have St Peter's full of flowers and all kinds of autumn berries and foliage; please contact Mary Curtis if you can help with that. As usual we will be collecting food and other household items for the food bank which, sadly, is still needed in the Blyth Valley.

I know that most of you won't want to be reminded that Christmas is approaching rapidly! However, St Peter's has an important fund-raising and social event coming up in November! On Saturday 14th November **St Peter's Christmas Fair will be held in the village hall.** If you can help with anything or want to have a stall please contact Dot Booley (01986 872 350) or Helen Knevett (01986 872 467).

On Saturday 12th October Jackie and Jim Watts cycled to 14 different churches as part of the **Ride and Stride** fund-raising day for our wonderful historic churches. Jackie was our only sponsored rider this year. At the time of writing I don't know how much she has raised, but whatever sum it is half will come to St Peter's. A big thank you to Jackie for being our organiser for Ride and Stride and for raising a substantial amount over the years.

The Children's Society Box Opening and Coffee Morning which was on Saturday 19th September will be reported on in November.

Walking the Labyrinth – A time for Reflection is on Monday 5th October 2pm-4 in St Peter's Room and on the paddock. The theme for October is "Autumn Medley" and we have been asked to think of what autumn means to us and to bring something to illustrate that idea.

SHCT

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust have supported us with grants for repair work at Holton Church in the past. The annual Ride and Stride is a continual link with the Trust, while the money raised is shared with them. So, thank you for your sponsorship which will help any future need for a grant to keep our lovely church in good repair. Big thanks to our welcomers at Holton – Pat, John, Linda and Jill. We had 20 visiting riders and 1 driver/strider. Being a rider myself, I know how good it is to be welcomed at each church. We couldn't have asked for a better day (photo on the back page). Sunshine all the way, except the wind was very strong and I have to say I did more striding this year, especially up the hills. Our aim was to visit 10 churches between 9am and 5pm but we actually did 14, in a big loop from Holton. Our ride took us as far as Holy Trinity Church in Middleton, another gem in the Suffolk countryside. We spent some time there and discovered that the 1950s were a difficult period for the church, when a fire destroyed the entire chancel. There was also an interesting story about the Lych Gate which was part of a memorial to a soldier who died in1914. The gate was originally in Belgium where the soldier fell but was brought to Middleton in 1956 by the incumbent who was found to be a relative of the soldier. Worth a visit. Also, there is a good pub opposite!! To date we have raised £160. There is still time to donate to SHCT through Ride and Stride. Contact Jackie: 07944267733.

Huntingfield

Correspondent Sally Clarke
sally.clarke@live.com

Many thanks to Jenny Blackmore who led us in **Iona Worship** last month. The service was most interesting and informative, backed up with a beautiful selection of hymns and psalms which all helped to capture the feel and beauty of Iona. We will be looking to have another Iona worship in 2027. Maybe our new Team Vicar Alex Firman would be happy to come along and talk to us about his experiences with the Iona Community? We are very much looking forward to welcoming him here.

As this summer draws to a close so we celebrated **Harvest Festival,** another constant in the church calendar, accompanied by great hymns too. Many thanks if you came along to the service and contributed to our harvest gifts which as always will be passed on to the Community Larder. Straight after our Harvest service we hosted our annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning** in the church and churchyard. Every year we are encouraged to 'do our bit' People are always most generous in their money donations and donations of cake. The amount raised will be reported next month. There is still time to book a seat at our **HARVEST SUPPER**. A two course homecooked supper for £15 pp (children under 12 eat for free) held at Huntingfield Hub on Saturday 3rd Oct at 6.30pm. Pay on the door but book a seat with Emma 01986 785343. Everyone across the Blyth Valley is welcome - it would be lovely to see you.

Linstead

Correspondent
Malcolm Heath 01986 785289
www.linstead.suffolk.gov.uk

I HAVE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY Ivan Pavlov achieved the international plaudits for what was, in essence, systematic animal cruelty. It has long been considered probable that Russian foreign policy has been based on Pavlovian principles, but what worries me is that the Powers that Be are carrying out similar experiments on us. Power cuts that are announced but may or may not happen, road closures that may or may not actually happen. At the risk of being dubbed a conspiracy theorist, one cannot but wonder what is going on out there.

LINSTEAD VILLAGE HALL HELD ITS third film night with a screening of **'The Devil Wears Prada 2'**. It was very well attended and much enjoyed. We are currently canvassing suggestions for future screenings and the village hall committee would welcome your ideas.

The date of the next Film Night is Saturday, October 24th, the title to be announced.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING completely different. It used to be called 'Housey-Housey' but I am assured that it is now called **Bingo.** Whatever it is called, it is great fun and the next Village Hall event will be an evening of Bingo.



THE SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES cycle ride was well supported. Not only was the church manned but we had three riders participating. We are so grateful, not only to our intrepid cyclists but to those who looked after them. I hope to report on the outcome next time.

AS WE SLIDE INTO THE SEASON OF Mists and Mellow Fruitfulness, it is time to give thanks for the **harvest** and for all those who struggled with one of the most challenging summers on record. Please do join us.

THE LINSTEAD HARVEST FESTIVAL

To be held on

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th

At 6.30 p.m.

Contributions are invited of non-perishable foods to go to the food-bank.

CHEDISTON & LINSTEAD W.I. MET IN September and heard Kevin Pearson give a most interesting talk about the work of Suffolk Accident Rescue Service. They meet next on 13th October The intriguing title is: "Food, Glorious Food— The seafarers who brought us a whole new palette!"

THERE HAS BEEN A STACCATO OF chain saw activity recently and, very gradually, Chapel Farm has been emerging, from its surrounding cocoon of forestry, like the castle of the Sleeping Beauty. We have forgotten what a (potentially) impressive house it is. It gets a mention in Pevsner and is eminently worthy of a long-overdue restoration. Although we are in the next village, it has been a privilege to look across the road and watch its renaissance.

IF ALL GOES TO PLAN, THE START OF the **redecoration of the interior** of our church will commence in October. This will probably mean that services will be held in the Village Hall until the work is completed. I will make sure that notices are posted on the church notice-board as well as at the Village Hall. We are very grateful to the Village Hall Committee for allowing us to use the hall during the disruption.

APART FROM OUR HARVEST celebration, there will be a service of **Matins** on the 18th October, at 10.00 am.

Spexhall

Correspondent Keith Noakes

spexhallwoodpecker@gmail.com

*(*Spexhall is thought to be Anglo-Saxon for 'woodpecker')*

Facebook: St Peter's Spexhall and Spexhall Village Hall

Winter Plumage I am sure all readers of the BVT, being very sensible, are getting their winter mohair jumpers out and checking for moth damage. Your Woodpecker correspondent is starting to look resplendent in his winter plumage. It won't be long before the winter winds will be whipping through our George Flag on the tower, so make the most of any warmer October days and enjoy the autumn leaves in the churchyard (feel free to rake a few up if you like!).

What a Wonderful Wedding Summer may start to seem a distant memory, but as I recall the lovely wedding of Rachel and Oscar as Spexhall on the 15th of August how my heart warms with delight. It was not a day without incident: the organ couldn't be repaired (despite a censing with steam attempting to loosen the stops), and Lily the Old Rectory cat refusing to be upstaged. The love and joy of the day shone through, and the couple loved the unexpected moments. As the sun set on a beautiful scene on the hall field even this old bird's eyes welled up. Wishing the couple every happiness in their married life together. Amazing grace indeed!

A Diamond Wedding Woodpecker has had news from another Spexhall creature, a certain 'Waspy Woods', that a very special anniversary was celebrated last month. On 24th September 1966, Adrian Prime married Barbara Woods at St Peter's Church, and so this year we are very pleased to congratulate the couple on 60 years of married life together! We hope you had a marvellous celebration. How time flies! Photo on the back page.

Services at St Peter's This month's Service will be Morning Prayer on the 25th at 10am. Everyone is welcome to join us. Be assured of a warm welcome, and do stop for refreshments too if you can. You may also like to note that on Sunday 1st November we will have a time of quiet reflection and prayer remembering our loved ones: friends and family who have gone before us. 3pm-3.30pm. (All Soul's Day follows on November 2nd). On Sunday 8th November we will have the Act of Remembrance followed by a service in Church, starting at 10.50am. November is the month of remembrance.

Village Events The Village Party and Fundraiser was tremendous. Thanks to all who came and gave. We raised £2800 which has very generously been match funded. We really hope that we can make the re-leading of the tower and re-slating of the nave a reality in the very near future. Those winter winds will then find it difficult to get in. Keep warm!

Save the Date! Wreath making was such great fun last year that we hope to repeat it! Sunday 6th December. Nicolar has very kindly agreed to lead it again. Look for the poster to book!

Thorington

Correspondent
Trish Gower 01502 478078
trish@coastal1.plus.com

The **PCC thank all those** who came and supported us on 15th August; we had a great turnout! And thanks to all who helped the week before to prepare, and numerous friends and followers on the day, especially Liz and Liam for such generous contributions and donations. An amazing £1700 was raised which really helps us pay our contributions to the Diocese and local Team Ministry. The location was blessed in sunshine and it was wonderful to see so many children running around the churchyard enjoying the poet Steph Feeney and then the Phoenix Brass Band! All went really well. **Please note services will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 10am** but are always published in the magazine and via the website. Look forward to seeing you all before long and again from all our PCC, THANK YOU!

Walpole

Correspondents Lee & Anita Hill
07713 450078
anita.hill2006@gmail.com

See website 'A Church Near You' Walpole, for updates.

Wenhaston

Correspondent
Margaret Bloomfield
01502 478502
margaret@wrush.plus.com

We are now in the season of Harvest Festivals. I am not sure what kind of harvest there has been this year! I suppose that the crops that thrive in hot dry weather have done well, while the ones that needed rain may have failed or had reduced success. It must be a huge headache for our farmers and our hearts go out to them.

Wenhaston's Harvest Festival is on Sunday 27th September at 4pm followed by afternoon tea. We hope lots of people will come and join us in saying thank you for all our blessings.

The **Big Quiz** was great fun. There were a good number of teams and lots of laughter. The Church Team came 4th so that wasn't too bad. The Village Hall and the Church shared the profits and we are most grateful for the £200 we received.

Many thanks to all who helped with the **SHCT Ride and Stride.** To the stewards who manned the church throughout the day, those who cycled, walked or drove to the churches and were sponsored by our generous people. I will report on the results next month. The churches who take part receive half of the proceeds and the rest goes to the SHCT who give grants to churches for their repairs etc. We have in recent years and this year received two grants, one for the chancel roof repairs and one towards the conservation of our famous Doom painting.

Wenhaston Mother's Union Report
At our September meeting we welcomed Dani from the Halesworth Peartree Centre who brought us up to date with the groups and activities that take place regularly at the centre. I think that we were all surprised at all the varying and helpful support which is available to the people of Halesworth and the surrounding villages. We are indeed extremely lucky to have this facility. Thank you Dani for such an informative talk. The members decided at the meeting that we will fill shoe boxes again this Christmas for both children and elderly people in Ukraine and other such countries and these will be sent through Link to Hope. If anyone would like to contribute items for these boxes they can always be left in the porch at Spindleberry. Cash donations are also very welcome and then we can purchase suitable items. We shall be very grateful if you feel able to help in this way. Our next Meeting will be on Wednesday 14th October when we will be pleased to welcome Alan Miller from Wilder Wenhaston as our speaker, his subject will be 'Working in Conservation in Suffolk'.

WENHASTON FLOWER CLUB After our summer break we returned to our usual venue in Wenhaston Village Hall for our September meeting. The meeting was a first for the club as we welcomed Richard Holmes who demonstrated the Japanese art of flower arranging called Ikebana which means "The way of flowers". It is a very precise minimalist way of flower arranging and the three main flower stems arranged at different heights represent Heaven, People and Earth. Richard was very entertaining as he completed several beautiful arrangements and everyone had a very enjoyable evening. Photo on the back page. Our next meeting is our Charity Night on Tuesday 6th October 6pm in Wenhaston Village Hall where we raise funds for The Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research. This is open to everyone, not just flower club members, so please spread the word. It will be the same format as last year with a demonstration this time by Jenny. The ticket price of £10 includes a plate of food and tea/coffee. Wine will be available to purchase by the glass. Tickets are selling very quickly. There will be a raffle, Cancer Research merchandise stall, hand made cards and a "craft stall". If you have any crafting hobbies and would like to donate something for the craft stall we would be extremely grateful. It doesn't just have to be knitting, or crocheting; it can be jam or pickle making, felting, painting, or little floral wreaths etc. If you like baking, it could be pretty little bags of flapjack, millionaires shortbread, fudge etc or 4 little cup cakes in a box. If you have brand new unwanted gifts that you would like to donate that would be perfect. Please contact Jackie Chenery or Jane Walker. Please come and support our event as every penny spent really does make a difference. We apologise but the stalls will be cash only. Tickets are available from Jackie, Jane at Wenhaston Post Office, and Jane Walker. For more information please contact :-
Jackie Chenery 01502 478401 or Jane Walker 07884030509.

Wenhaston Walkers Our first walk in October will be on Tuesday 6th setting off at 10am from Wenhaston Village Hall. On Tuesday 20th October, Nicky will lead the walk from The Angel, 39 High Street, Wangford NR34 8RL starting out at 10am; lunch details to be notified. If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email ipbigwood@btinternet.com

Wissett

Correspondent Mary Pester

01986 835869

marypester@rocketmail.com

Everything is so green now that we have had rain and I spotted toadstools in a fairy ring and mushrooms popping up in the village field. Amazing that re-growth of grass.

It is with sadness that we heard in Wissett of the death of **Margaret Long** who had been ill for some time. I know many of you will remember George, Margaret and Lottie from when they lived in Wissett. Our love and sympathy to George and all the family at this difficult time.

The **Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support,** in the Village Hall on the 11th of September, raised £375! Thank you to everyone who came, who helped and to Kath Witherby who organised it.

That same evening was our **Harvest Festival** in the church which was gloriously decorated for the service. Thank you to all who took part and prepared for this. Our collection from the service was for the charity, "Water Aid" and £155 was raised.

The next day was **Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Bike Ride.** We hope to have a organiser for this next year so we will be back on the list but we were still able to welcome riders .

Locking the church that evening I noticed that a thoughtful person had picked out all the embroidered kneelers that referenced some aspect of farming and placed them on the ledge of each pew, adding to the display. Apple trees for the many that flourished in Wissett once, cattle and sheep, wheat and barley, tractors and the old plough.

I have been reading Ronald Blythe's essay on Harvest in his book, "The Circling Year", where he writes;

"Harvest like all Church Festivals, is poignant with what has gone and eloquent with what we still possess."

Everything changes but what remains is hopefully our gratitude and appreciation of all the good gifts around us and each other.

Now, what next? On Saturday the 3rd of October there will be the monthly **Coffee Morning in the Village Hall** in aid of the upkeep of both our church and our hall. There will be coffee, cakes and companionship and hopefully some tables of things for sale as well.

The old part of the village hall was once a church school from 1845, with some interruptions and changes until 1908, so there was a connection between and church and school. I think there are some scratched marks made by children on the old brick by the path. I will go and look.

I hope we will continue to connect with, help and support each other as the circling year turns in October.

Review of Chanter's Jigge

St Mary's Halesworth were delighted to welcome The Chanter's Jigge in September. If I might be permitted to jest then, over the course of their performance, this joy was turned to mild horror as the pious and godly congregation so gathered were led into gossiping about the gentry and slander of their social betters. This innocent gathering was further incited towards risqué dances, raucous behaviour (not least merrymaking in the churchyard during times of divine service), indulgence in "malt worms", and were even advised to keep their instruments in tune by storing them in a "well-used bed"! The Chanter's Jigge specialise in the performance of historic music that might otherwise go completely unperformed and, on this occasion, they offered us a window into the popular music of Elizabethan England. The sacred music of this period is well recorded and used in cathedrals across the country, but the popular music is performed only rarely.

The people of Elizabethan England were people, not fundamentally different from the people of today. The music they played and enjoyed for themselves was not entirely godly: it was music of mockery, celebration, drunken festivity, and – not infrequently – music about sexuality. That is something that shouldn't surprise us too much: human beings have always been human beings. But it is something that nonetheless does surprise us when it comes to history. What the Chanter's Jigge were able to do so expertly was to bring to life the fundamental humanity behind music from some 500 years ago, and show how in its time and place it was a cause for scandal in just the same way that popular music now can be seen as scandalous.

The Chanter's Jigge consists of Malcolm and Elizabeth, who proved to be both experts on a variety of historical instruments, and passionate historians leading us through the context of the music with the grace and gentleness one normally finds in the kind of wise old professor who no longer needs to try and impress anyone with cleverness but only wishes to communicate the subject with clarity and emotional vividness. It was a true joy to be with them for their mildly riotous and thoroughly entertaining performance. If a repeat performance is advertised in the future, then it is not to be missed! **Edmund**

NEWBY BOOKS ON SALE

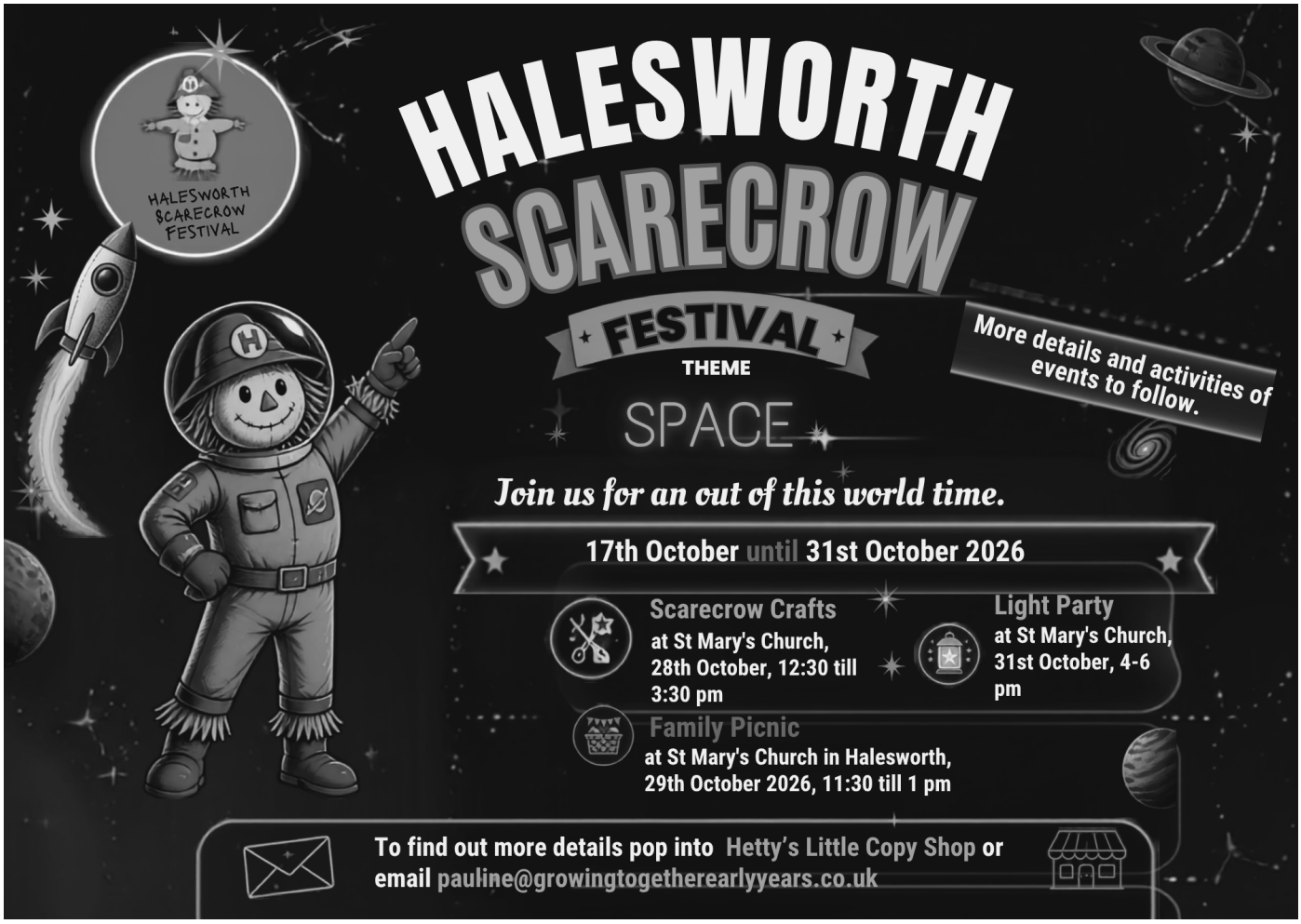
"THE CENTURY I SAW" by Donald Newby
£9.99 from Halesworth & District Museum, and Halesworth Bookshop. ***Proceeds to local charities.***

"HALESWORTH STREET and PLACE NAMES" by Derek Newby
£6.99 from Halesworth & District Museum, Halesworth Bookshop and Heathside Stores Wenhaston.
Proceeds to Halesworth & District Museum.

"MEMORIES & STORIES OF OLD HALESWORTH"
by James W Newby
£7.99 available from St Mary's Church.
Proceeds to St Mary's Halesworth Regeneration etc.

"The LIFE and TIMES of DEREK NEWBY"
£9.99, an autobiography.
Proceeds to local charities and EA Air Ambulance.

For more information, see Derek Newby You Tube and www.newbysofhalesworth.com



Blyth Valley Churches Websites

Just a reminder that our old Blyth Valley Churches website is not now in use, and in its place are the new formats for each church and our benefice, updated regularly.

Please use the links opposite to find out more. Some churches also have their own Facebook pages (as well as the main BVC benefice page), so do connect with us on the socials too for another perspective.

We hope you find the new website format clear and accessible. Historical information and more photos will be added soon.

Any queries or comments please to the office: office.bvtm@gmail.com

Benefice: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/33-028CH/

Halesworth: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2252/

Holton: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2255/

Wenhaston: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2262/

Bramfield: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2263/

Blyford: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2256/

Thorington: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2261/

Wissett: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2349/

Chediston: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2254/

Spexhall: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2257/

Cookley: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2251/

Heveningham: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2250/

Huntingfield: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/1946/

Walpole: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2258/

Linstead: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2253/

Halesworth Lunchtime Concert Review

During September, St Mary's Halesworth were delighted to welcome Evan Ruth and Jonathan Rutherford, who performed for us a carefully curated programme consisting of Vaughan Williams, Francis Poulenc, and recently-composed music by Christopher Upton.

Evan's choice of music was entirely rooted in musical settings of poems by A.E. Housman – a classicist of the late 19th century who was trying to use the agricultural life of Shropshire as a backdrop for exploring the nature of English identity. Instead of hearing Housman's words directly, we heard them as set to music by Vaughan Williams and Chris Upton, and as performed by Evan – a combination which jointly suggests a countryside landscape so steeped in history that one cannot turn in any direction without finding echoes of beautiful and horrifying events from times past.

If one had to hone the review of Evan's musicianship down to a single sentence, it would be this: Evan was able to fully express the voice of a spirit trapped between earth and heaven, one who is horribly lonely yet persists in offering dire warnings to the living, and Evan was able to do all this whilst still making the performance beautiful.

On this occasion we were also joined by Jonathan Rutherford – a composer who also lends his talents to us as an pianist and accompanist. Jonathan performed for us a Poulenc's Villageoises: a series of very short windows into the inner life of the French countryside. Joanthan's performance strongly suggested to us that, although the dances of the countryside villages are upbeat, perhaps all has not been well in these villages and the festivity of the dances serves more as a way of coping with an underlying sorrow.

We were treated to one final joy, which is that the composer of several of the pieces being performed was actually with us for the occasion. Christopher Upton is a local composer and musician, who has also set a number of Housman's poems to music, including some of those also set to music by Vaughan Williams. As a general rule, I might suggest that Upton's settings are rather less melodramatic than those of Vaughan Williams and are instead more personal. For example: with Upton's setting of 'Is my Team Ploughing' the emphasis was less on the anguish of a spirit trapped between this world and the next, and more on the loneliness of a spirit who still retains their humanity and has become increasingly isolated and sorrowful as – year by year – the plough passes over the field where they were buried.

The community of St Mary's Halesworth extend their thanks to Evan, to Jonathan, and to Christopher, for a wonderful and carefully curated concert. We sincerely hope that they will consider performing for us again in the future.

Edmund

Halesworth ASH Update

HASH has much to look forward over the coming months, having been targeted for support by the Centre for Sustainable Energy and East Suffolk Council in a project which assists local groups with resources, guidance and tools to accelerate local green energy projects. Engagement with this new initiative will be kick-started at Halesworth ASH's 4th annual autumn event, to be held at Halesworth's St Mary's Church over the weekend of 25/26th September with a focus on energy in the context of the community, alongside an exploration of the natural resources we are so fortunate to have on our doorstep, which - besides bringing us joy - can also help us to sequester carbon.

Our area's first "Future Energy Landscapes" workshop, to be held at Westhall Village Hall on Saturday morning, will take a deep-dive into the question of energy provision, focusing on Community Energy. This is a great opportunity for people in the Halesworth area to explore collectively what opportunities there are for locally generated green energy, managed by - and the benefits staying within - the community. Setting the scene for the weekend's events, Professor Peter Hobson will open on Friday evening at St Mary's with a wide-ranging and engaging talk "Energy, life and indispensable biodiversity", waking us up, shaking us up, providing both framework and inspiration. Followed by drinks and light refreshments, this is a great opportunity to be inspired and share your ideas, questions, thoughts with others in a sociable gathering after the talk.

Community energy helps to reduce our carbon emissions and the natural world helps us to sequester carbon; after the community energy workshop in the morning, Saturday afternoon offers a further range of workshops at the church - supported by Halesworth Town Council - to explore what natural assets we benefit from locally, including land use, water, trees and hedgerows, fauna, open spaces, community energy and land, biodiversity and food. Finally, with some blue-sky thinking, what can we collectively do to maximise the benefits these offer - both for sequestering carbon but, equally important, to help improve our own quality of life and offer hope for the generations that follow; who doesn't love to see a hedgehog snuffling about in the garden - after all, hedgehog highways, bug hotels and wildflower meadows are just some of the wonderful biodiversity initiatives across our local schools. With food for thought from this weekend, our Education Officer, Caroline Chapman, will take the findings - Energy and Biodiversity - into our local schools. All education resources are shared by the nationwide network, Our Schools Our World, and with the Suffolk Sustainable Schools Network.

The weekend's events are free to attend; tickets should be booked in advance via the Halesworth ASH website www.halesworthash.com. Please note that numbers for the Future Energy Landscapes Workshop in Westhall are limited to 30 and the workshop is only available to those who have pre-booked.

Kim Hoare

WHAT'S ON

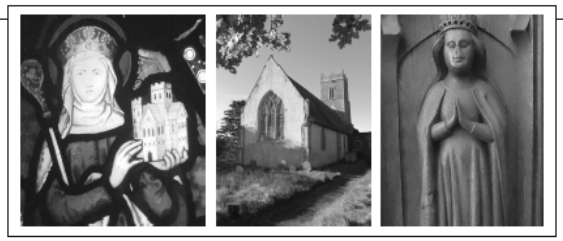
Tea and Toast

Every Monday Morning 9 – 10 am.
Term-time only!
Do the school run and drop in for a chat & breakfast!
Activities for under 5's or come alone – everyone's welcome!

Starting on 7th September 2026



All Saints Church, Blyford



All Saints Church, Blyford

ST ETHELDREDA'S DAY

Saturday 17 October 2026

11AM–3PM FREE ENTRY

Commemorating a Suffolk saint, a medieval queen and the founder of Ely Abbey

Spring bulb planting in the churchyard ~ Live music ~ Water of life art exhibit



Autumn EVENTS

at St Margaret's Church

9th October
Quiz Night ?
- Teams of 4 people £2.50 PP
- Bring Refreshments
- Raffle
- 7.00pm start

12th October
Harvest Festival and Supper
4pm start
Join us for this lovely service and Supper after.

29th October
Old Bats Evening
Join us for an evening learning more about the Heveningham bats.
Wine and refreshments available.

5th December
Christmas Craft Market
Bespoke crafts, cards and gifts.
£5 per table

Everyone is very welcome!

Contact
stmargaretchurch11@gmail.com | 01986 798280

Taizé



A Service of Music Meditation and Prayer

Sunday 25th October

6pm

St Peter's Holton

Anyone who would like to join the music preparation would be very welcome at 4pm.

WHAT'S ON

Local produce and crafts

From local growers and makers

HALESWORTH PRODUCE MARKET

EST.2003

ST. MARY'S HALESWORTH
9am - 1pm

FEB 14th
MAR 14th
APR 11th
MAY 9th
JUN 13th
JUL 11th
AUG 8th
SEP 12th
OCT 10th
NOV 14th
DEC 12th





HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 17th October 10am-12pm

Holton Village Hall, Lodge Road, IP19 8RZ

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Tea, coffee and delicious cakes!
Bric-a-brac, books, toys, ladies, men's, children's clothes etc.

Wissett Village Hall

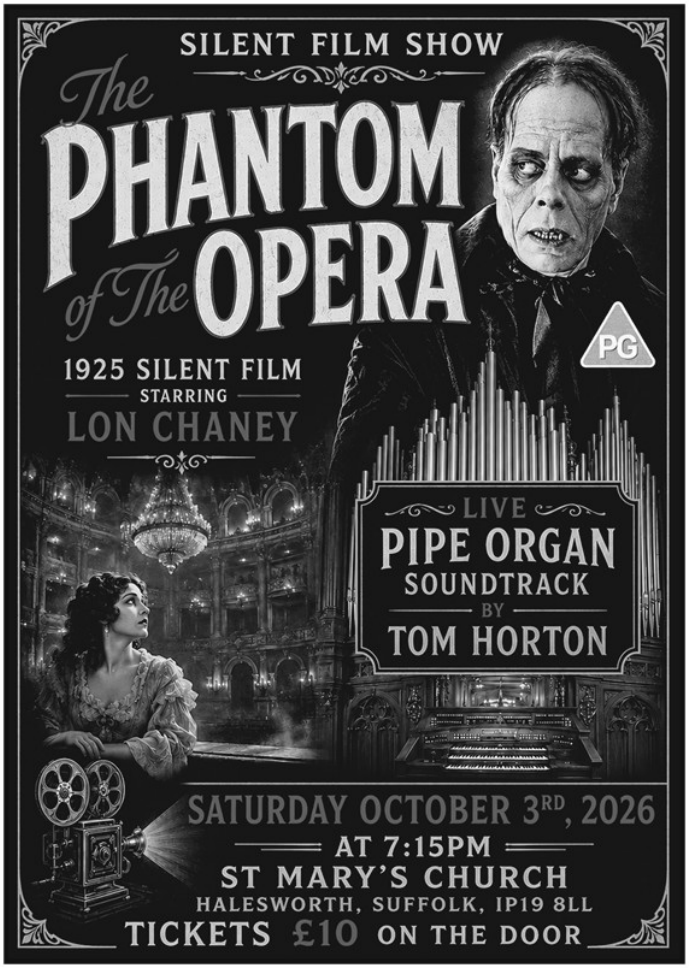
Fitted kitchen, crockery/cutlery and chairs/tables for 50 people, fully licensed, soft lighting option, excellent heating, free WiFi, projector and screen.

For more information and to book go to:
www.wissettvillagehall.org.uk



WHAT'S ON





Walking the Labyrinth
A Time for Reflection



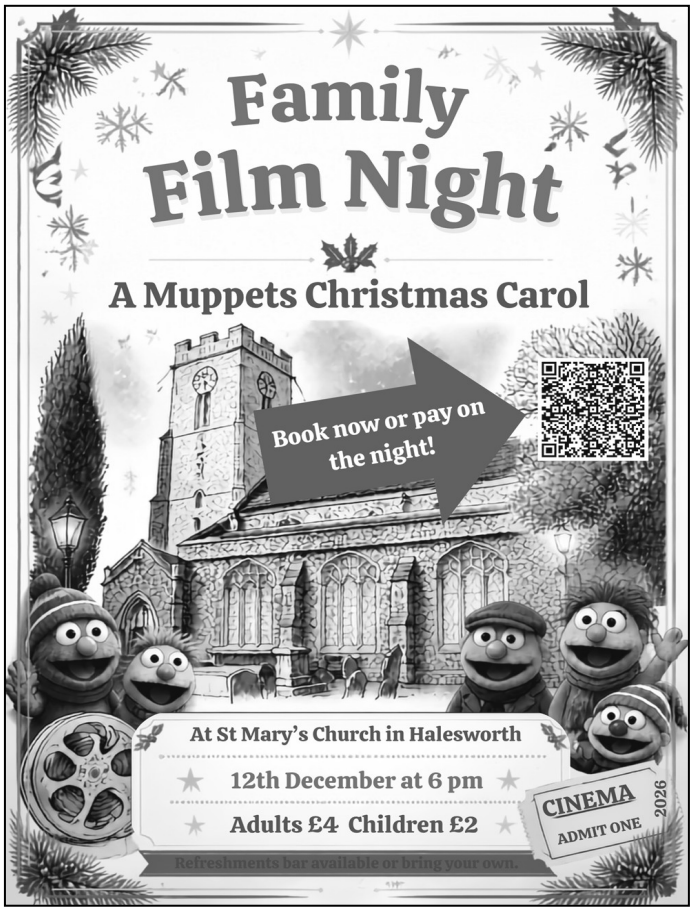
Monday 5th October 2026 2 - 4pm
St Peter's Church, Holton



"An Autumn Medley"

Everyone welcome
Time to be still, read, walk, pray, reflect, with craft resources offered and refreshments provided.

Future meetings:
Monday 2nd November, 7th December



Garden Landscape Supplies
NATURAL STONE PAVING · SAND, BALLAST & CEMENT · RECLAIMED RAILWAY SLEEPERS · FENCING · DECORATIVE AGGREGATES · TOPSOIL · BARK MULCH · BRICKS & BLOCKS · DRAINAGE · TIMBER
Free delivery in Halesworth area
Kings Landscaping Ltd, Unit 23 Halesworth Business Park, Norwich Road, Halesworth IP19 8QJ
t: 01986 875555 *e:* info@kings-landscaping.co.uk www.kings-landscaping.co.uk

SlimmingWorld
feel real good
TUESDAYS
Halesworth Day Centre
The Old Courthouse
London Road, Halesworth, IP19 8LW
9.30am, 5.30pm & 7pm
Call Bev on 07912 849995



Ian Poole Decorating
Painting, Tiling, Wallpapering
Hand-painted kitchens & furniture
T: 07952022436 Reliable & Insured
E: decor@ipooledecorator.co.uk



THE HUNTSMAN & HOUNDS
Stone Street, Spexhall IP19 0RN
Tel 01986 781341
E: info@huntsmanandhounds.com
Home-cooked meals available daily, Take-aways available.
(Closed Thursdays)
Large Beer garden, Patio area and Pond in an ideal setting.
Warm and friendly welcome



D.C. Patrick
NEWSAGENTS
We deliver 7 days a week
CARDS...CARDS...CARDS...
16 THOROUGHFARE, HALESWORTH IP19 8AH
Telephone 01986 835730
4 Market Hill, Framlingham IP13 9BB
Telephone 01728 724414
WE ALSO PROVIDE FULL DRY CLEANING AND LAUNDRY SERVICES

T&J Perkins Tree Surgeons
• Experienced (25yrs)
• Insured (£5 million)
• Qualified (NPTC, Tech Cert Arb)
Call Tim or Jack
Mob. 0754 0450811 or 01986 873494
Email: teepee1066@gmail.com

PJN
PJN Motor Engineering LTD
GET A FREE TYRE HEALTH CHECK TODAY
Look out for our January tyre offers



Heading Into 2026: We have been expanding with a new light commercial vehicle building. We will have a brand new tyre bay supplying Envoy Tyres and a variety of other brands.
We Provide: A friendly reliable service with onsite MOT's by appointment, servicing, tyres and general repairs. Relax in our all new waiting area and enjoy our free barista coffee & tea.



M.O.T. TESTING STATION
Call now 01502 478642
ENVOY
Our team looks forward to seeing you in the New Year
Unit 1 Wash Lane, Wenhaston, Halesworth, IP199DX
www.pjn-motor.co.uk paul@pjn-motor.co.uk

J Macs Grass Cutting
Suffolk Costal
Joshua Mac
07368692409
joshuamacgardening2022@outlook.com
Gardener
Saxmundham
Suffolk ip17

HMS Footcare
Hollsewell@gmail.com
Hollie Sewell
Foot Health Practitioner
07880005783

AWD GOLDSMITH

Specialist in engagement and wedding rings
12 Bridge Street, Halesworth, IP19 8AQ
0759 7771083
Tuesday & Wednesday 9am to 6pm;
Friday by appointment; Saturday 9am to 4pm

M F W Services
T: 01986-888070
W: mfw-services.co.uk
h-mail.uk Your local low-cost email service



Our Desktop PCs are built to order and your specification.
Laptops available to order.
USB Pen Drives, Cables, etc. in stock
Computer repairs, sales & services for the home & small business
1 Miles Ward Court, Market Place, Halesworth IP19 8AY

ALLEN'S BUTCHERS

Good Quality Meat and Meat Products
at Competitive Prices
2 MARKET PLACE, HALESWORTH
Tel: 01986 872132

Hetty's LITTLE Copy Shop
FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS AND MORE....
59, Thoroughfare, Halesworth, IP19 8AR
01986 873400 | print@mycopyshop.co.uk | www.hettyslittlecopyshop.co.uk

St Peter's Room, Holton

A room within the church
Equipped with tea and coffee facilities.
Washing up area/toilet.
Suitable for small meetings/music groups/daytime and evening availability.
Bookings: 07501 973682

TOWNSEND ELECTRICAL

DOMESTIC
COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL
SECURITY

Electrical Safety Register
NICEIC APPROVED CONTRACTOR
Broadway Drive, Norwich Rd, Halesworth
T: 01986 875397
E: info@townsend-electrical.co.uk
www.townsend-electrical.co.uk
TRUST MARK Government Endorsed Standards www.trustmark.org.uk
NICEIC DOMESTIC INSTALLER

HOLTON & BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL
CHARITY NUMBER 291379

Holton and Blyford Village Hall
A well-appointed hall with stage,
large grounds and car park
License available, if required
Competitive rates
For further details please contact:
07923 063399
holtonandblyfordvillagehall@gmail.com

The Rumburgh Buck



REAL ALES, REAL FOOD, REAL PUB
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
FOOD SERVED DAILY 12pm - 2pm & 5pm - 8pm
Mill Road, Rumburgh,
Halesworth IP19 0NT
Tel: 01986 785257
www.rumburghbuck.co.uk

SPEXHALL VILLAGE HALL

Ideal venue for Parties and Meetings
Rural location near Spexhall Church
Car park & outside space Refurbished accessible toilets
Well equipped kitchen Capacity 60 people
Call: Ruth Walker 07772 823645
Email: spexhallvh@gmail.com



Holton Trading Post and J.A.K. Furniture Services

*** We have a 1000ft² showroom of furniture**
*** We buy and sell second-hand and country furniture**
*** Undertake house and shed clearances**
*** Strip furniture and doors * Repair and polish furniture**
*** Paint furniture and doors**
*** We can also make furniture from reclaim & much more!**
Come and have a look!
Units 9 & 10, The Old Airfield Site,
Holton, Halesworth, IP19 8NH
Telephone Justin on:
01986 874277 or 07767 861401
Opening Times: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5.30pm
Saturday: 9am - 2pm

PODIATRY SERVICES

- **Fungal Nail Infections, and our laser treatment for them**
- **Corns, Calluses and Cracked Heels**
- **Diabetic footcare**
- **Nail Care, Thickened Nails, and Discoloured Nails**
- **Ingrowing Toenails and Nail Surgery**
- **Verrucae Needling Treatment**
- **Swift Verrucae Treatment**
- **Wilde-Pedique Treatment**
- **Vascular Assessment**
- **Children's Foot Problems**

ANGEL PODIATRY
43 Thorougfare, Halesworth
IP19 8AR
01986 874531
reception@angelpodiatry.com
www.angelpodiatry.com
Online bookings welcome

More Photos from Town & Villages


Haymaking at Halesworth (p.20)


Kevin celebrating Ride and Stride (p.19)

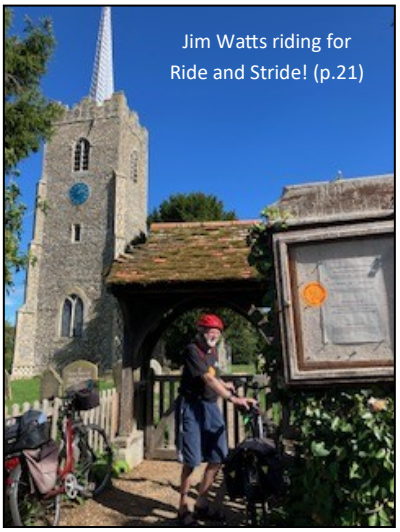

Bramfield's Fete (p.18)


Bramfield's Fete (p.18)




Barbara Woods and Adrian Prime on their wedding day, 24th September, 1966 (p.22)


Bramfield's Fete (p.18)


Jim Watts riding for Ride and Stride! (p.21)


Tortoise Time at Bramfield's Fete (p.18)


BVC Bikers! (p.18)


Wenhaston Flower Club (p.23)


Cookley porch looking beautiful!


The Happy Couple at Spexhall (p.22)