



EastBergholt

parish magazine

October 2025

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION DRAWS CLOSER

In a previous article I wrote about the government's changes to the whole way local government works. In brief:

- A number of powers will be devolved to local regions, each governed by a mayor. We will be electing our mayor in the spring of 2026.
- The councils in our current two-tier system (county and district) must merge to form unitary councils.

The County Council told us right from the start that we need one council for the whole of Suffolk. The District Councils started by asking us whether there should be one, two or three unitary councils for Suffolk. Both consultations heard overwhelmingly from Suffolk people that "local" really does mean local, with two or three councils required.

The Parish Council debated the matter and also came to the unanimous conclusion that having a single Suffolk council would not help East Bergholt. Our current experience with the County Council on matters such as highways and special education needs is that its officers listen neither to us nor to our hard-working County Councillor.

The Parish Council therefore voted unanimously to say "no" to the idea of a One Suffolk unitary council.

Babergh District Council, however, has helped a number of local initiatives and its members support the idea of multiple unitary councils, although they are split on whether two or three councils would balance the rural and urban areas best.

The recommendations going to government from the councils, due by 26th September, are as follows:

- The County Council will recommend One Suffolk, a council which would be twice as big and powerful (and remote) as the county council currently is. One Suffolk would cover more than 760,000 people, managing all the services that both tiers of councils currently manage, with perhaps 120 councillors. We would lose our local village councillor representation.
- The combined District Councils will recommend three Suffolk councils, with approximately 255,000 population and perhaps 90 councillors per council. East Bergholt would fall into the greater Ipswich area, along with Hadleigh, the Shotley peninsula, greater Ipswich and Felixstowe. If there are 90 councillors it is probable we could retain our own councillor.

The Parish Council commend the second option (three councils) to you. We believe it is more likely that we can represent your views effectively to a smaller council with more time to listen to your proposals. A decision by government is expected in 2026. - *Joan Miller, chair, East Bergholt Parish Council*

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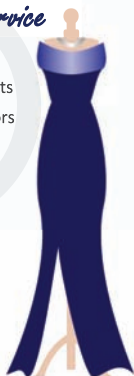
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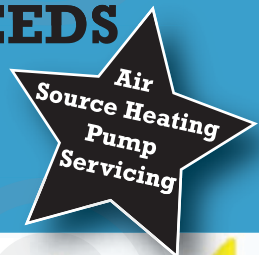


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ST MARY'S CHURCH, EAST BERGHOLT

The Street, East Bergholt, Suffolk CO7 6TA

Rector: Rev Chris Willis revchris@constablebenefice.org

Benefice website: www.ConstableCountryChurches.co.uk

Facebook: stmaryseastbergholt

YouTube: Constable Country Churches

CONSTABLE CHURCHES MOTHERS' UNION



Thank you to everyone who came to help us make Christmas cards for the prisoners at Highpoint, Warren Hill and Hollesley Bay prisons. Please make a note to put the Christmas cards you receive this year into our collection box in the church porch in January, so that we can use them to make next year's cards for prisoners.

The trend nowadays is not to send as many cards as people once did, due to the rising cost of postage. But we still have the same number of inmates in our prisons that we would like to give a Christmas card to - especially as we know that our card is often the only one that they receive.

This month we will be enjoying a time of songs of praise, as we sing our favourite hymns on Thursday 11th September at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt.

All our meetings are open to anyone and everyone. - *Mothers' Union committee: Janet Ball, Jenny Chapman, Chris Jacobs, Grace Wallis and Wendy Withers*

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Five churches are holding a Harvest Thanksgiving Service on Sunday 24th October at 2.30pm at Holy Family Church, Brantham. All are welcome at this event, which also involves Brantham's Methodist Church, the village's St Michael and All Angels, St Mary's in Tattingstone, and St Mary's in East Bergholt. The five churches meet three times a year.

Light refreshments and tea or coffee will be available after the service. Holy Family Church is at the top of Brantham Hill on the A137 (postcode CO11 1TB) and there is a car park available opposite the church. You are welcome to join us in thanking God for the fruits of the harvest and all who help to produce and provide the food we eat.



ST MARY'S CHURCH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Please join the Church Preservation Society for their AGM on Wednesday 12th November at 7.00pm in St Mary's Church, East Bergholt. All welcome. - *Debbie Tuppen*



St Mary's Baby & Toddler Group

Every Friday during term-time:

9:30am to 11:30am

We're a relaxed and fun play group that meets in the West End meeting room of St Mary's Church, East Bergholt (door opposite the war memorial) for informal play, tasty snack time, coffee, tea and chat.

For more information, please contact either

Liz Digby (07557 569192 - liz.digby@btopenworld.com)

or Gill Rattray (gillrattray@yahoo.co.uk)

September

5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

October

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

November

7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

December

5th

12th - Christmas party
(between 11am and 1pm)



CHURCH NEWS

Tabletop sale

We would like to thank everyone who supported the tabletop sale - as a seller or purchaser. It was a busy day at St Mary's, with participants at the Ride and Stride making stops at the church, which was also one of four on the route of the Pilgrimage of Song. Refreshments were available and Fiddlers Elbow played live music throughout the day.

Public information exhibition

Between Saturday 13th September and Sunday 21st September there was a chance to look at the proposed plans for the internal reorganisation of the church in the next phase of the Lottery project. This public exhibition provided the opportunity to give feedback before the plans are submitted to the diocese for its approval. The plans are then presented to the Lottery committee for the next phase of the bid.

Griff Rhys Jones

A special gala performance by Griff Rhys Jones will be held on Friday 10th October at the Assembly Room of the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook, to raise funds for three local charities: St Mary's Church in East Bergholt, Stutton Primary School's nature project, and the Home Farm Trust. Proceeds will be divided equally. Tickets are available directly from the Royal Hospital School for £30 each at www.trybooking.com/uk/FDNI.

Thanks to Griff's support, each charity was also given eight tickets to sell with an exclusive opportunity to attend a private meet-and-greet with Griff after the performance. At St Mary's, we offered two pairs of tickets to the highest bidders (all proceeds going to the restoration fund). Closed bids were opened on 26th September.

Men's breakfast

Thank you to everyone who attended the September men's breakfast. Our speaker was Andrew Meyer, talking most interestingly and informatively about his experiences as a magistrate. Our speaker in November will be Phil Bigley, who is a trustee of Hostage International, which supports those who have been taken hostage around the world and their families. Phil works closely with Terry Waite. To book a place and reserve your bacon buttie, please email stmarysevents@gmail.com.

Christmas tree display

St Mary's Church hopes to hold a Christmas tree display to coincide with village celebrations at the beginning of December. If your family or business would like to decorate a tree and display it in church on 6th-7th December, please contact Jackie Reeves or Fiona Trott for more details. (Contact information inside the front cover of this magazine, under *Churchwardens*.) - Fiona Trott

East Bergholt Parish Magazine **VACANCY FOR DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR**

After six years our distribution coordinator is leaving for a well-earned retirement and we are now looking to replace her.

This is a voluntary role. The main duties involve:

- Monthly sorting of the magazine delivery from the printers into piles of the correct numbers needed for each distributor, and printing labels for each distributor. This takes about two hours each month in East Bergholt parish church.
- Notifying the distribution team that the magazines are ready to collect.
- Coordination of distributors to ensure that all areas of the village are covered.
- Arrangements for holiday and sickness cover.
- Attending committee meetings (typically two or three per year).

If you think this role may be for you, please contact Marion (01206 298634, theralphs@gmail.com) or Barnaby (barnaby.page@gmail.com) for an informal chat.

Volunteer distributors also needed

We are also in need of people to join the distribution team, particularly to cover illness and holidays on an ad hoc basis. This takes about one hour per month on foot around the village. Please contact Marion (01206 298634, theralphs@gmail.com) if you are interested.





St Mary's, East Bergholt



St Michael's, Brantham



St Mary's, Bentley



St Mary's, Tattingstone

October 2025

ST MARY'S, EAST BERGHOLT

Wednesday 1st

09.30 BCP Service

Sunday 5th

08.00 BCP Service

[10.30 Connect Service \(this month at Brantham\)](#)

Sunday 12th

10.00 Morning Worship with Communion

16.00 family@church

18.30 The Gathering (Informal Worship)

Sunday 19th

08.00 BCP Service

10.00 Morning Worship with Communion

Sunday 26th

10.00 Morning Worship

18.30 The Gathering (Informal Worship)

ST MICHAEL'S, BRANTHAM

Sunday 5th

[10.30 Connect Service](#)

Sunday 12th

10.30 Morning Worship with Communion

Sunday 19th

10.30 Morning Worship with Communion

Sunday 26th

10.30 Morning Worship

16.00 Family at Church

ST MARY'S, BENTLEY

Sunday 5th

[10.30 Connect Service \(this month at Brantham\)](#)

Sunday 12th

10.00 Morning Worship with Communion

Sunday 19th

10.00 Morning Worship

Sunday 26th

10.00 Morning Worship with Communion

ST MARY'S, TATTINGSTONE

Owing to building work, there will be no services at St Mary's, Tattingstone during October.

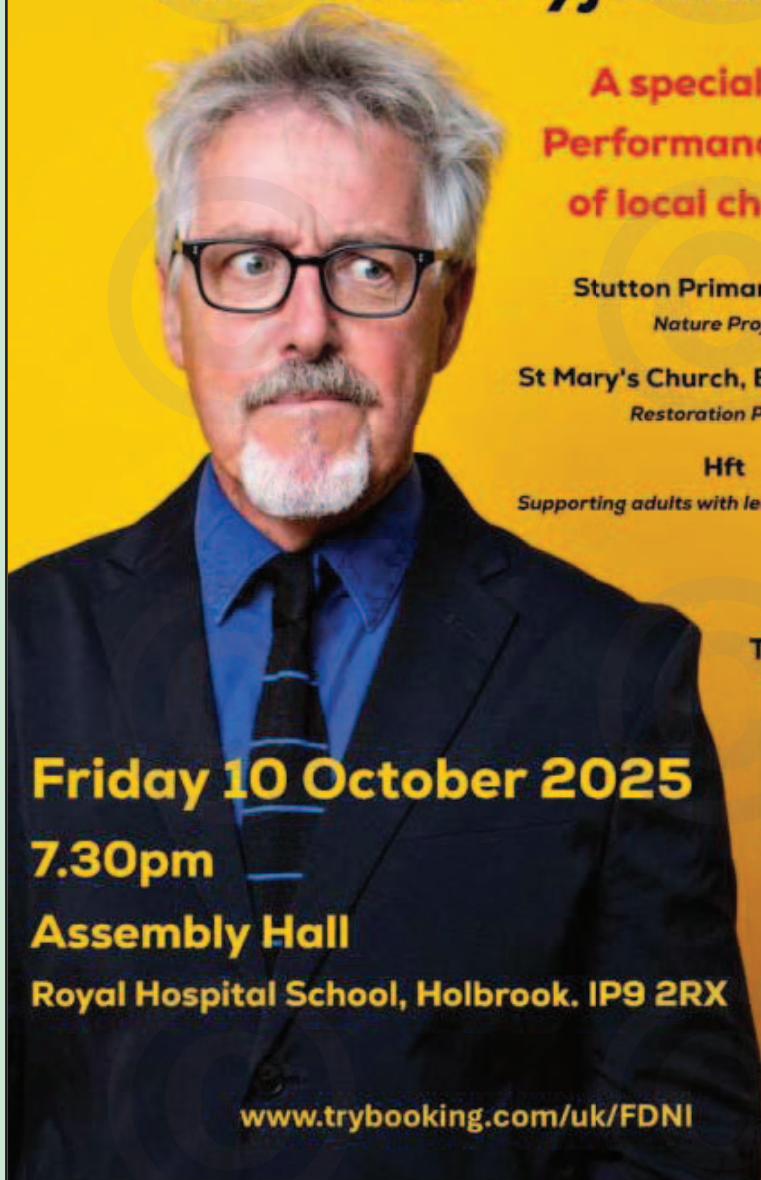
We warmly invite you to join with one of the other parishes for worship during this time.

We look forward to seeing you back at St Mary's when the new toilet and kitchen have been completed.

Thank you for your understanding.

Griff Rhys Jones

The Cat's Pyjamas



**A special Gala
Performance in aid
of local charities**

Stutton Primary School
Nature Project

St Mary's Church, East Bergholt
Restoration Project

Hft
Supporting adults with learning disabilities

Friday 10 October 2025

7.30pm

Assembly Hall

Royal Hospital School, Holbrook. IP9 2RX

Tickets: £30



www.trybooking.com/uk/FDNI

LOCAL CHURCHES

ST MARK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

St Mark's, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0QQ
Holy Family Church, Ipswich Road, Brantham CO11 1TB
Parish priest: Rev Fr Luke Goymour
The Presbytery, 180 Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0QQ
Tel: 01473 684963 Email: revgoymour@gmail.com

What is God's plan for your life?

It may be only in later life that we wonder whether we've actually followed the path that God had mapped out for us. That great theologian and saint John Henry Newman wrote: "God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission; I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next."

In these troubled times we can, at least, apply the basic teachings of Christianity to our daily lives. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus keeps it simple: love God and love our neighbour as ourselves. Even if we aren't clear about God's plan for our lives, we can be sure that observance of these principles is central to our Christian mission.

Weekday and Sunday masses and devotions

Please note that Sunday mass times will change from October. Details have not been finalised at the time of writing. Please consult noticeboards and the parish website at stmarksparish.org.uk for the new times.

Saturday	5.30pm St Mark's vigil mass with confessions from 5.00pm
Sunday	see note above about new Sunday mass times at Holy Family, Brantham and St Mark's, Ipswich
Tuesday	10.00am Holy Family mass with Eucharistic Adoration at 9.20am
Wednesday	9.30am St. Mark's
Friday	12.15pm St Mark's mass with Eucharistic Adoration from 11.40am

Father Luke's Sunday sermons are available at anchor.fm/fr-luke-goymour.
The next Alpha course begins on 12th November; details are on the parish website.

The sick and housebound

Please let Father Luke know of anyone who is ill at home, housebound or in hospital, so that they may receive appropriate pastoral care; he can be contacted on 01473 684963. If you or a family member are in hospital you can also contact the Catholic lay chaplain to Ipswich Hospital at hospitalchaplain@stmarksparish.org.uk. - Kathy Pollard



BRANTHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Rev Steve Mann (minister)

8 Roundridge Road, Capel St Mary IP9 2UG

Tel: 01473 311178

Email: irmaminister@methodistic.org.uk

Dear Nathan from Holbrook (although I doubt that's your real name)...

Do you remember me? You rang a few weeks ago with an incredibly well-crafted story about needing money, and needing it so fast that it had to be done by bank transfer into your personal account without our having the chance to meet.

Full marks for your effort. You'd even researched where I'd been as a minister before coming here, and weaved that into your account.

There were so many red flags, but I gave you the money in spite of them, feeling that if I was going to be wrong, I would rather it was on the side of being generous than through being cynical.

I pray that will always be the case and that you have not weakened that instinct in me, because guess what: when I visited the address you gave me, you weren't there, nor had you ever been.

I thought that was the last I'd hear from you but then, yesterday, you rang again, only this time you'd become Scott from Brantham. Same accent; similar sob story. Did you slowly realise we had spoken before? You rang off abruptly when I said we would definitely need to meet.

Please put the money to good use. It was freely given and in full awareness that you could be a con man. But please, also, stop! It's a bad way to make a living, and the double whammy is that you're stealing not just from me but from those who, in hard times, really do need help.

Do you know the story of *Les Misérables*? If not, go check it out. There's a guy in there who willingly gives away precious candlesticks in the hope of turning a thief into a better man. It worked. I pray my money may have the same effect upon you, too.

Sunday services (at 11.00am unless otherwise stated)

5th October	Colin Westren
12th October	Rev Paul Howes with Holy Communion
19th October, 2.30pm	Rev Steve Mann
26th October	Local Arrangement with Holy Communion

Coffee morning: Saturday 25th October, 10.30am-12.00 noon. - Steve Mann

CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS

EAST BERGHOLT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (founded 1895)

eastbergholthorticulturalsociety.onesuffolk.net
ebhs.horti@gmail.com • find us on Facebook and Instagram

THE ANNUAL SHOW



At the end of August we had our Annual Show, which this year was one of the best ever. Despite the dry summer our members still entered some amazing exhibits, especially in the flower classes. Vegetable and fruit exhibits were, according to our judges, of a good standard and the cookery division was very popular - cakes and pastries all looked delicious.

The floral art exhibits were truly breathtaking and some very clever handicraft exhibitors demonstrated their skills in that division. Thank you to all those who took part, as without you we simply would not have a show, and congratulations to all our cup-winners.



Thank you also to the WI ladies who served tea and cake all afternoon, and to those of you who came to look round - the hall was packed for the prize-giving.

If you didn't enter this year or come along, do pop next year's date in the diary: Saturday 5th September. It really is a village afternoon not to be missed.

2025 winners

Harris Challenge Bowl, winner of Division I, Vegetables and Fruit - Steve Feeney

Worth Challenge Cup, winner of Division II, Flowers - Kate Stannett

Kathleen McBride Challenge Cup for Floral Art - Rosie Skeet

Sydney Cripps Memorial Trophy for Best Floral Exhibit - Rosie Skeet

Ladies' Challenge Cup for Cookery - Viv Szitasi

Keith Alcoe Men's Cookery Cup for a cake made by a man - Cuthbert Eley

President's Cup for Handicraft - Heather Cleaver

Secretary's Cup for Photography - Rosie Skeet

Dines Cup for children aged 12 to 16 - Kate Bolton

Holman Cup for children aged 8 to 11 - Robin Peirson
Stroud Cup for children aged 5 to 7 - Florence Fisher
Lavender Hall Kindergarten Cup for children aged up to 4 - Dorothy King
Best Child Exhibit - Robin Peirson
Cleaver Dahlia Trophy - Rosie Skeet
Best in Show Silver Salver - Sarah Coan
Banksian Shield and Medal for the most points in Div I and II - Kate Stannett
Best-Kept Allotment - Ray and Rosie Skeet



Society Store: We have now closed until the spring, but if you require anything over the winter do give Steve a call on 07801 090780.

Our AGM will be held on Friday 14th November at 7.00pm at the Lambe School. All members are welcome. Membership information is available via email.

Your contact details: Members, do you receive our emails? If you don't, please email us your details at ebhs.horti@gmail.com so we can keep you up to date on all things Horti.
- Louise Kemp, show secretary

Gardening tips for October

October already. Days are shortening and summer sunshine is slipping away. Time in our gardens is less, but there is still plenty to do putting our gardens to bed for winter. For weeks now, leaves and acorns have been falling. Keep raking - it's good exercise! The rain we had, at last, in early September will probably mean lots of weeds germinating too.

If you haven't bought bulbs for inside and out, don't delay. Plant daffodils, tulips and alliums for a spring display. Protect them from squirrels; they stock up on food for winter and bulbs are a "delicacy". Small-mesh chicken wire will provide protection until foliage appears.

Plant up winter tubs, containers and baskets with plants of your choice. Garden centres are full of suggestions. Shorter daffodils such as Tete-a-Tete and Jetfire are best. Sweet peas can be sown in frames, greenhouses or pots on a sunny windowsill. Now is an ideal time to plant or move trees and shrubs. Hedges can be planted too.

Deadhead late-flowering herbaceous plants. Toward the end of the month, roses can be reduced in height to prevent wind rock. Check all fence posts are secure, and it's a good idea now to protect outside taps against freezing up.

On the veg plot, broad beans can be sown, and also garlic bulbs. Remaining tomatoes may ripen; if not, try making some chutney. Remove straw around strawberry plants to increase ventilation and cut back old foliage to encourage new growth. Cut back raspberry canes **too**. Lawns may need mowing with cutters slightly raised. Perhaps some of the grass could do with a top dressing of John Innes No. 3 loam-based compost.

Gosh, this year has sped by. With all its challenges, I hope you have enjoyed summer in your gardens. Perhaps you are planning some changes for next year, or resting on your laurels? One last thing: birds. - *Janet Alcoe*

EAST BERGHOLT UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB



Fixtures for October

First Team, SIL Premier Division: 4th, Grundisburgh, A; 11th, Wickham Market, A; 25th, Leiston St Margarets, H.

Reserves, SIL Division Two: 4th, Saxmundham Sports Res, H, Reserve Cup; 11th, Wenhaston Utd, H; 25th, Framlingham Town A, A.

A Team, SIL Division Five: 4th, Coldham Hall, A; 11th, Bacton Utd 89 A, A; 18th, Brooks Hall Rovers Res, H; 25th, AFC Kesgrave A, A, Divisional Cup.

League fixtures are available at fulltime.thefa.com. Select *Suffolk & Ipswich League*. Fixtures are subject to change.

The last month: The First Team kicked off their season in very encouraging style. Everyone else is now underway too.

Sponsorship: We would like to thank our sponsors. LIP Plumbing & Heating is our new kit sponsor this season. We would also like to thank all the player sponsors.

If you would like to sponsor the club in some capacity we would be delighted to hear from you. Club strips, dugouts, banners and boards on matchdays all offer potential exposure for your business while supporting a local organisation.

Juniors: If you are interested in participating please contact Lee Partridge (bunter.partridge@googlemail.com).

Joining us: We are always on the lookout for people who can help the club as a committee member, whether it be on the playing side or just in the background.

We are also looking for new players. EBUFC is a community club with very strong village traditions. The majority of the players either live in, or have links to, the village. For anyone over 16 who is interested in playing, we train on Wednesday evenings at the High School. The teams cover a range of abilities, so if you want to play again just come along and give it a go. - *Steve Butcher, secretary, stevebutcher55@btinternet.com*

EAST BERGHOLT CRICKET CLUB



The long, hot summer continued into the month of August and some good cricket was played at Gandish Road and on the grounds of Suffolk and Essex - sadly, not always by us!

There were some good individual performances, but on too many occasions all of the adult sides let good positions slide when the opposition was about to wave the white flag.

A classic example of this was when the 1st XI was inserted by league leaders Halstead. They must have been kicking themselves when we were 170-1 with 20 overs to go. The fact that we ended up at 244 all out speaks volumes. We started well by taking early wickets, but half-chances were grounded and Halstead romped home. Many lessons will have been learned.

With two games remaining at the time of writing, the 1st XI is in 5th spot in Div 1, which is a fine achievement in our first season back in the top flight; the 2nd XI is 7th in Div 6 and the Sunday XI is in 6th.

The main highlights in August were twofold. The first came on Friday 22nd when our spanking new set of four artificial nets was opened by former Essex player and former Red Lion manager Ray East. He quipped that they would now be the envy of every other club in Suffolk.

The dream has been a long time in coming to reality, and we must not forget all the hard work undertaken by club captain John Hambrook, who has nursed this project from infancy to completion.

We would like to thank both Babergh District Council and East Bergholt Parish Council for their unwavering support, and acknowledge the generous donations made by many people associated with the club. These new nets are just the first part of our plan to make East Bergholt Cricket Club one of the leading clubs in Suffolk, where young and old(er) can flourish, socialise and fulfil their dreams.

The second highlight came in the form of a successful Cricket and Music Festival held over the bank holiday weekend. All who attended spoke very highly of the quality of the food, the general ambience and the excellent music and dancing.

The cricket was also excellent, with two spectacular matches. In the Friday match the club chased down the Gents of Suffolk's massive score of 278 with three wickets in hand. In the Sunday match the Coastal Kings just managed to defeat a SAFFA XI by a single run. Much merriment all round...

I would like to salute the best of the individual performances in August:

Will Harris (2nd) - 116 v Kesgrave

Jonny Barran (2nd) - 107* v Kesgrave; 5-27 v The Real Oddies

Nathan Philpot (2nd) - 88* v Stowupland; 63 v West Mersea
Nikhil Thokala (1st) - 80 v Gentlemen of Suffolk
Callum Woolston (1st) - 71 v Worlington
James Platt (1st) - 65 v Halstead
Toby Toombs (1st) - 60 v Worlington
Vyom Ravle (Sun XI) - 53* v The Real Oddies
Jonathan Crowther (Sun XI) - 50* v The Real Oddies
James Baker (1st) - 50 v Maldon

There will be a brief round-up next month to finish off the season. We must say a huge thank you to all our generous sponsors, most notably The Red Lion and Palmer and Partners.

We would also like to thank all the parents, the junior players, the ladies' team, those who have come to watch and enjoy a quiet drink at the bar, and those who supported the Pram Race and the shenanigans afterwards. We are a happy, fun and inclusive club and we very much look forward to seeing you next year. - *Howard Holdsworth, club secretary*

EAST BERGHOLT TENNIS CLUB



Well, what a summer it has been! Just as the temperatures soared so did the performance of our ladies' and men's doubles teams, who were rewarded with promotion for next season.

Both our mixed doubles teams also performed solidly and will remain in their respective divisions for next year. Congratulations to all our players.

Our head coach Matthew has also been making the most of the summer sun, running children's summer camps with a record number of 180 participants. Matt also put together a fun coaching day for eight children from the Candles Down Syndrome group. We hope this leads to greater awareness and club inclusion for people with disabilities.

Saturday 6th September saw our Club Championships Finals Day. With ten games played during the course of the day, spectators were not only basking in the sun but were also rewarded with some fabulous tennis. Our Friends of the Club were also busy baking and hosting a homemade refreshments stall to ensure energy levels remained high.

The Parish Council project to provide East Bergholt Tennis Club with new facilities is drawing ever closer to completion. We will be holding an opening event in due course to celebrate this amazing development; photos to follow in the next edition of the magazine.

Our thanks again to the Parish Council and Sports Council for facilitating this opportunity. It's perfect timing for giving us shelter during the winter months, when rain frequently stops play. - *East Bergholt Tennis Club*

EAST BERGHOLT BOWLS CLUB

Hopefully, by the time you read this we're all back safe and sound after our Eastbourne trip, and the outdoor green has been closed for the winter.



As you all **probably know**, during the summer holidays there was a fire at the primary school. You may have read in my last article that the school was going to be our new venue for carpet bowls, but as a result of the fire all our mats and equipment had to be collected (they are now being stored in my garage!) until the school returned.

We will find out if we can still use the school as planned; if not, we may have to find a temporary hall, but we hope all will be fine. We are booking home/away league games in anticipation.

The social side of the bowls club is still ongoing, with a fish-and-chip supper for members and friends held at the end of September. Our coffee mornings in the Lambe School start once a month on a Saturday in October. If you see our sign on the pavement pop in for a tea or coffee, a piece of homemade cake and a catch-up with friends.

Take care, everyone. I'll keep you informed about carpet bowls in case you wish to give it a try. - Terri Catchpole, terrircatchpole@me.com

EAST BERGHOLT WI

At our September meeting Penny Simmonds gave us an insight into reflexology.

She took us through the many roles she has experienced in her life, starting off as a nurse, then working as a midwife, moving on to be a health visitor among other roles, and now working as a reflexologist.

She then showed us a map of a hand and a foot and explained the different parts of the body that each area of these covers.

Penny encouraged us to practise massaging different areas of our hands and fingers while she moved among us offering support.

Earlier in the year we had been given some sunflower seeds to grow and were asked to take photos of the flowering plants. These were displayed at our meeting and Val Simper's sunflower was deemed the tallest. Val received a garden wind chime for her efforts.



Later in September our members enjoyed a visit to Benton End Flower Farm, where they were given a guided tour around the flowering areas and the opportunity to take home a few flowers of their choice.

Our next meeting is on 1st October at 7.30pm at the Constable Hall, when we will be celebrating our 107th birthday with the Colneis Singers and a hot buffet.

For further information please contact our president Tina Hurley on 01206 298223 or Gill Rattray on 01206 298380, visit our website at eastbergholtwi.wordpress.com or check out our Facebook page. - *Gill Rattray*

EAST BERGHOLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

EBCC Monthly Puzzle Social Group: Do you enjoy crosswords, number puzzles, logic puzzles, quizzes? Everyone is welcome at this new group funded by the East Bergholt Community Council, meeting in the Benneworth Lounge (rear entrance of the Constable Hall) on Tuesday 21st October from 10.00am to 12.00 noon.

EBCC Pensioners' Christmas Lunch: The EBCC Pensioners' Christmas Lunch will be on Saturday 7th December, at the Constable Hall. To book your place please call Sandra Rowson on 01206 299109. - *Judith Adolphus*

U3A

U3A
learn, laugh, live
stour valley

Across the country U3A members are meeting new people, learning, staying active, and having fun later in life. It's local, social, friendly, low-cost and open to all.

We have more than 40 interest groups, including walking (from strollers to 5+ milers), theatre trips, garden visits, art appreciation, curry club, international dining, science group, languages, keep fit, pickleball, overseas travel...there's something for everyone. If we don't have a group you are interested in, you are welcome to start one up. Membership costs only £15 a year.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month, 10.00am-12.00 noon, at the Lambe School, Gaston Street, East Bergholt. Come along, meet some members, hear more about us and decide whether you'd like to join.

Monthly lectures are held on the second Wednesday at 2.15pm in the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TP. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4. On 8th October, Lieutenant Colonel Ed Rankin will talk about the Colchester Garrison, which he commands. On 12th November award-winning photographer Roger Hance will return to talk and show his photos of British landscapes. For more information and contact details please visit www.u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley. - *Pat Chandler*

OCTOBER CONCERTS IN EAST BERGHOLT

SUNDAY 5th OCTOBER, 4.00pm
at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt CO7 6TG



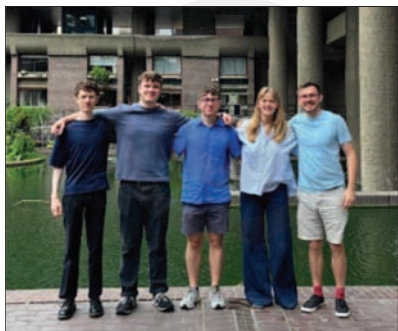
Fibonacci Quartet

Haydn String Quartet Op. 33 No. 44 in Bb major
Janáček String Quartet No. 2, "Intimate Letters"
Beethoven String Quartet No. 14, Op. 131

The Fibonacci Quartet is one of Europe's leading young string quartets. They have already made a name for themselves at home in the UK and abroad as prolific competition winners. The quartet is a resident ensemble at the Escuela Superior de Musica Reina Sofia in Madrid with Günter Pichler, and at the Dutch String Quartet Academy with Marc Danel. They have been selected as concert artists by YCAT and the Countess of Munster Musical Trust.

Generously supported by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust.

SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER, 4.00pm
at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt CO7 6TG



Heron Brass Quintet

Lutoslawski Mini Overture
Richard Bissill Divertimento
Bruckner Christus Factus Est (arr. Sztankov)
Derek Bourgeois Sonata for Brass Quintet
Stanford The Blue Bird

Formed in 2021, Heron Brass is a London-based brass ensemble who first began playing together while students at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama. The group come from a range of musical and international backgrounds, from Catalonia to Watford, and enjoy performing an equally wide variety of brass ensemble music.

For more information and tickets online visit www.svam.org. Tickets are also available from Grier & Partners in East Bergholt; from Doreen Weatherall on 01206 298426 or svamtickets@btinternet.com; and on the door. - Birte Kelly

MANNINGTREE & DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



In September we shared images from our summer challenge to take four photographs using four different photographic techniques. We also had a field trip to Felixstowe taking sunset images, and a competition - Close-Up/Macro.

October sessions are as follows:

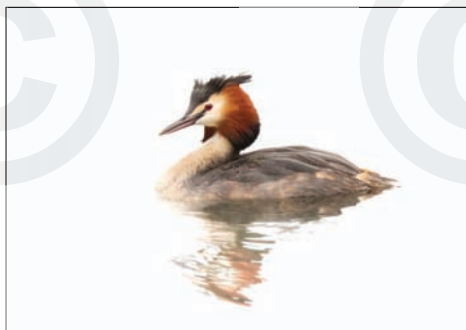
9th October: talk by Daniel Bridge: *Abstract and Minimalism*.

12th October: field trip to Alresford Creek.

23rd October: print competition - Open Mono.

30th October: talk by Roy Essery: *A Photographic Immersion in Havana*.

This month's featured image by Ian Parker was the winner of a recent Facebook Challenge.



We are a small group of photography enthusiasts with a wide range of photographic experience and knowledge. The club aims to provide a friendly environment for members to enjoy the development of their photographic skills through a variety of activities in the company of like-minded individuals.

If you have an interest in photography, at whatever level, you would be most welcome at M&DPS. We meet at Mistley Village Hall, on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Thursdays of the month between September and May at 7.30pm.

Our website at e-voice.org.uk/manningtreeanddistrictphotographicsociety has information about membership and activities together with competition results, photo albums and further club information.

Our 2025-2026 programme should be on the website by the time you read this article. Our public Manningtree Photographic Club Facebook page also features club news and activities.

For further information please contact our secretary Pat Ainger on 01206 231242 or email madps@post.com. - Katharine Showell

EAST BERGHOLT CINEMA

at the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt
Films start at 8.00pm, doors and ticket desk open at 7.30pm

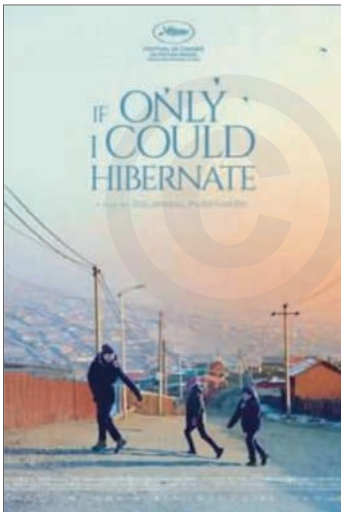


Friday 3rd October

Mr. Burton (12A, 2 hrs 4 mins)

In the Welsh town of Port Talbot, in 1942, Richard Jenkins (Harry Lawtey) lives as a wayward schoolboy, caught between the pressures of his struggling family, a devastating war, and his own ambitions. However, a new opportunity arises when Richard's natural talent for drama catches the attention of his teacher, Philip Burton (BAFTA winner Toby Jones).

The young man thrives thanks to Philip's strict tutelage and the guidance of kindly landlady Ma Smith (Academy Award nominee Lesley Manville). But as the acting world comes within Richard's reach, the burden of his past risks holding him back forever...



Friday 7th November

If Only I Could Hibernate (12A, 1 hr 38 mins)

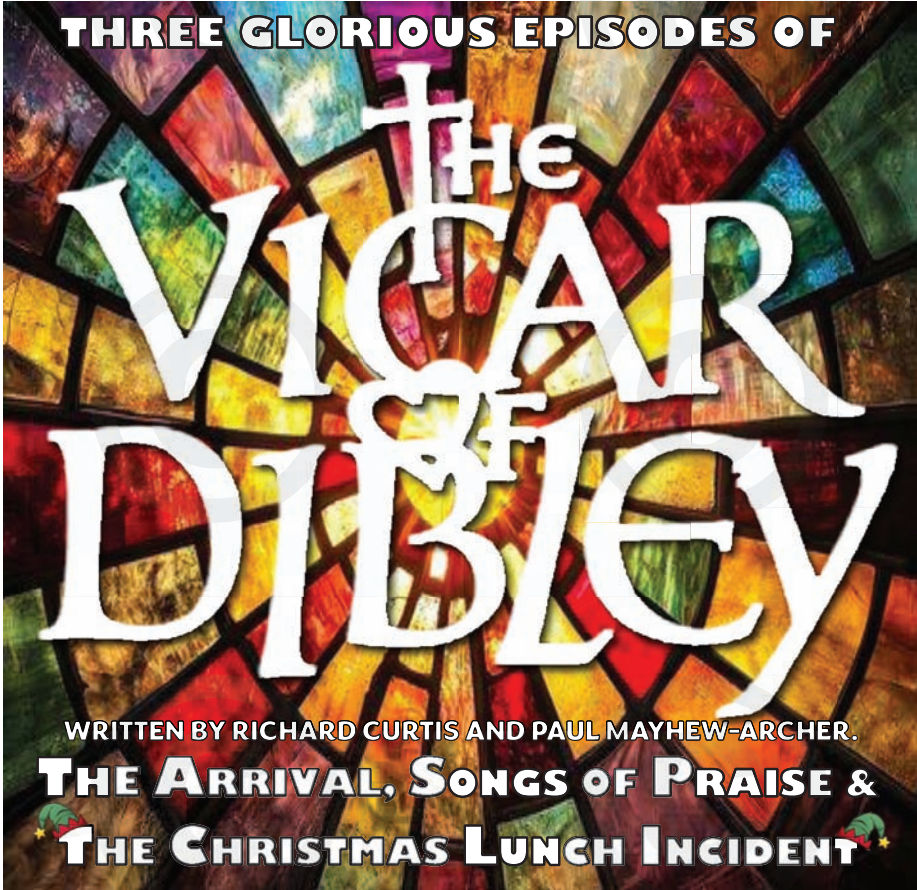
Ulzii, a teenager from a poor neighbourhood in the Mongolian capital Ulaanbaatar, is determined to win a science competition to get a scholarship. His illiterate mother finds a job in the countryside, leaving him and his brother and sister in the middle of winter. Ulzii wanders around at night looking for things to burn for heat while preparing for the national competition.

"A wonder, a carefully textured portrait of a young man dreaming of more for himself and his family." - *Variety*

Tickets for all films are available in advance from Grier & Partners in East Bergholt or can be reserved with Noelleen on 01206 299774. We highly recommend that you buy a ticket in advance as seating capacity is limited. There is a bar at film showings, as well as tea and coffee and ice creams. - *The EB Cinema Team*

EAST BERGHOLT DRAMATIC SOCIETY
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27TH, 28TH & 29TH NOVEMBER 2025

THURS & FRI - 7.30pm SAT - 2.30pm (NO EVENING SHOW)

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RICHARD CURTIS AND PAUL MAYHEW-ARCHER. PRODUCED BY TIGER ASPECT PRODUCTIONS

LOCAL ISSUES & OPINIONS

KEEP YOUR EAST BERGHOLT CHURCH OPEN



The local congregation of St Mary's Church is entirely responsible for insurance, running costs and upkeep. The Church of England does not contribute towards any expenses or costs.

The church is reliant on donations and fundraising to survive, and has been unable to meet its financial obligations for several years. We are grateful to the local

people who give generously of their time and money to support the church that is in the heart of this community.

We are currently looking for support in the following areas:

- Refreshments after services.
- Flower arranging.
- Bible reading.
- Setting up for services.
- Assisting during services.
- Help at fundraising events.

Please contact the treasurer, Lesley Cherry, on lesley.cherry@hotmail.co.uk if you can help in any of these areas. If you wish to make a one-off donation or set up a small monthly contribution, we would also be delighted to hear from you.

Many community events are based at St Mary's. There is currently a toddler group meeting on a Friday morning, and a men's breakfast club on one Saturday morning each month. Mothers' Union meets regularly and the choir rehearses on a Friday afternoon. East Bergholt schools and nursery use the church for services. Concerts take place throughout the year, some organised by the Stour Valley Arts and Music (SVAM) group, with the church fundraising team arranging others. This is in addition to regular worship, weddings and funerals.

If you would like information on any of the groups mentioned feel free to contact me on the email address above. Together we are the church. - *Lesley Cherry*

UPDATE FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCIL



Councillor Sallie Davies

Recycling small electricals: It is not a good idea to put small electrical items into the black bin, because they can be recycled if they cannot be repaired. Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have launched a new recycling scheme for electrical items.

New pink recycling bins can found in the two districts for electrical items like kettles, mobile phones, tablets, and anything smaller than a four-slice toaster.

Babergh has six bins; our nearest is at Magdalen Road car park in Hadleigh. There is also one in Manningtree Library.

New plan for housing Babergh's homeless: As of March 2025, Babergh and Mid Suffolk councils were housing a total of 158 households in emergency accommodation, including women and children fleeing domestic abuse and vulnerable adults with complex needs who might otherwise be sleeping rough.

Temporary housing is a short-term measure which allows our housing team to find long-term accommodation. Babergh is good at preventing homelessness but there are always emergencies.

The cost of this temporary accommodation has risen hugely. Demand for temporary accommodation has increased in Babergh by 69% between the 2020-2021 financial year and 2024-2025. This has led to both councils increasingly relying on B&B and hotel accommodation, costing in the region of £70,000 each month.

The situation is unsustainable, so Babergh and Mid Suffolk cabinets have decided to invest in 30 new properties for each district over the next few years, to be used for temporary emergency accommodation. In the long term this will cut the costs of accommodation and will provide better-quality housing.

Anyone who is worried about becoming homeless should contact our Housing Solutions Team on 0300 123 4000 (option 3). - *Sallie Davies, Babergh District Council councillor for East Bergholt, Sallie.davies@babergh.gov.uk*

UPDATE FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

At our September meeting we welcomed Henry Fairbanks, director of acquisitions and wholesale for The Chestnut Group, who outlined plans for **The Red Lion** and answered residents' questions. Chestnut, which operates pubs, hotels, a wine company and a

brewery across East Anglia, has purchased the pub, the land to the rear, and the car park. Henry, who lives locally, said the group has been warmly received and thanked the village for its support.

Responding to feedback, Chestnut has reinstated the pub's original name, reopened the right-hand bar as a true public bar (no bookings), and confirmed it will remain dog-friendly. An experienced general manager is in post and local staff have been recruited. Food will develop gradually, and further plans include the possibility of bedrooms at the rear of the site. A tipi will be added this winter to increase dining space.

The car park will remain leased to the Parish Council. Chestnut confirmed that any future planning applications for the rear land would be for bedrooms only.

The Council has received concerns about proposed **EV charge points at Foxhall Fields**, especially given limited parking. Current EV owners there already have private chargers. While supporting the principle of more charging infrastructure, we believe community input is essential. We have contacted Suffolk County Council and County Councillor Hall to request consultation before any decisions are made, and will update residents.

Speeding remains a concern in parts of the village. To raise awareness, we are launching a campaign following successful local examples, where schoolchildren design "Don't Speed" posters. Thanks to support from Grier & Partners, these will be printed on estate agent-style boards. We invite residents and businesses to display a board; to take part, please email Louise at assistant.clerk@eastbergholtpc.co.uk.

The Council has also approved, in principle, the use of the **central village car park** for a **Christmas Market on Saturday 6th December**. This event will replace the parade and market usually held at Gandish Road, which is not taking place this year. - *Nicki Reed*

DAAPHNE GLEN IS 102



Daphne Glen was 102 years old on 15th September, and may be the oldest person in the village now. She has lived here since 1953, although she was born and bred in Grays, Essex, where her dad Tom Hutson was chair of Thurrock Council in the 1960s.

She still manages to go upstairs to bed, albeit late...any time from 2.00am to 4.00am...and then reads! She is pictured at her 101st birthday with another villager, Adi Lavender. - *Kev Glen*

UPDATE FROM PC KATE



Once again, the clocks are almost ready to go back, the days are much shorter and the nights are so much longer.

We should be carrying out regular vehicle maintenance anyway, but how often can you honestly say you check your vehicle over? Now is the time to have a look and make sure your lights are all functioning correctly, as they will be on more often than not in these dark months.

Check your tyres are legal; again, it's bound to be wetter and icier in the months ahead. Leaves can also be incredibly slippery. Deer activity increases in the autumn, so those of us who drive rurally must make sure we keep alert.

Last winter we saw an increase in shed and garage burglaries. Let's try to prevent this happening again. Make sure your locks are substantial, and consider cameras or motion-activated lights.

Please remember to check in with your neighbours to make sure they are OK.

31st October is Halloween. Whether you agree with it or not, it is here every year and for the most part, the dressing-up and trick-or-treating is all in good spirits. However, there are some that want to ruin it for everyone else and cause a bit of bother.

I don't think it's a written rule anywhere, but if you are happy to have visitors knock at your door, leave out a pumpkin. And if your children are going trick-or-treating, please ask them to only knock on doors with a pumpkin and to be respectful. If people leave bowls of sweets out, don't be rude; just take one, and remember manners.

sniff.nylon.suits. If you have a smartphone I encourage you to download the *what3words* app. Geography, directions and distances are not my strong point, and this app has come in incredibly useful.

It maps the whole world into a grid of 3m x 3m squares, with each square identified by three words. For example, I'm currently sitting at my desk at Hadleigh Police Station, and the three words linked to where I am are *sniff.nylon.suits*.



The emergency services now use this tool all the time. Anyone calling 999 can tell the operator the three words for their location, and help can be sent. - PC Katie Jarrett

CONSTABLE COUNTRY MEDICAL PRACTICE

In today's rapidly evolving healthcare system, it's essential to remember that your local medical practice may not always be the first point of contact for every health issue.

Please remember the other agencies available that might be more suited to address your specific needs, ensuring you receive the most appropriate care and advice. And with the vastly expanding catchment area of the Constable Country Medical Practice, never has this been more important.

As we approach the autumn months, it's also crucial to stay informed about the upcoming COVID-19 and flu vaccination schedules. We have secured dates, times, and venues for October to ensure everyone gets the necessary protection.

Just a reminder: who is eligible for these vaccinations? Individuals aged 65 and over, those with long-term health conditions, pregnant women, residents of care homes, primary carers for older or disabled individuals, those receiving a carer's allowance, and anyone living with someone with a weakened immune system. We will be sending out the details in due course to all those who qualify. - *Melanie Hodgkins*



FARMING MATTERS

The following are extracts from a monthly newsletter focusing on issues of rural life and farming of relevance to the work of the Church of England in this diocese. For more details please contact Brian Chester at bc@bcnewslink.com or call 01379 669157.

UK agriculture has traditionally been a male-dominated sector, with farm succession often favouring sons over daughters. However, the non-profit Succession Alliance says this is now changing as women increasingly assume pivotal roles, not only as supportive family members but also as primary decision-makers.

Defra says the risk from avian influenza continues to rise, particularly in coastal counties such as Norfolk and Suffolk which are on bird migration routes, and parts of the country with a significant game-bird industry.

Pig and poultry industry representatives have rejected claims made by The Wildlife Trusts that the sectors are having a negative impact on the countryside, water quality and pollution, reports *Farmers Weekly*.

When contacting an advertiser please mention that you found them in the East Bergholt Parish Magazine!

Services or products purchased from the advertisers in this magazine are at the risk of the individual.



A poster for 'The Pumpkin Patch East Bergholt' featuring a background of pumpkins. At the top center is a logo of a pumpkin above the text 'THE PUMPKIN PATCH EAST BERGHOLT'. Below this is the main headline 'PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKINS!' in large, bold, black letters. Underneath is the schedule: 'FRI 10TH TO SUN 12TH OCT & FRI 17TH TO SUN 19TH OCT' and 'FRI 24TH TO FRI 31ST OCT - OPEN EVERY DAY IN ½ TERM 10AM TILL 4PM'. Below the schedule is the location: 'FIND US: HADLEIGH ROAD, OPPOSITE ELM ROAD & THE PRIMARY SCHOOL!'. At the bottom is the contact information: 'FOR MORE INFO FOLLOW OUR PUMPKIN POSTS' with Facebook and Instagram icons, and 'OR VISIT: WWW.THEPUMPKINPATCHEASTBERGHOLT.CO.UK'. A diagonal banner in the top right corner says 'FREE PARKING & NO BOOKING' with a small pumpkin icon.

THE PUMPKIN PATCH
EAST BERGHOLT

PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKINS!

FRI 10TH TO SUN 12TH OCT & FRI 17TH TO SUN 19TH OCT
FRI 24TH TO FRI 31ST OCT - OPEN EVERY DAY IN ½ TERM
10AM TILL 4PM

FIND US: HADLEIGH ROAD, OPPOSITE ELM ROAD & THE PRIMARY SCHOOL!

FOR MORE INFO FOLLOW OUR PUMPKIN POSTS  
OR VISIT: WWW.THEPUMPKINPATCHEASTBERGHOLT.CO.UK

FREE PARKING & NO BOOKING



THE RED LION EAST BERGHOLT

Acoustic Fridays

Every Friday from 8pm

Join us every Friday for live music, great food and good company. Each week we'll invite a new artist, so you can sit back for plates and pints to kickstart your weekend.

Quiz Nights

Starting monthly from Sunday 28th September

Gather your team and get ready to test your knowledge at our monthly quiz night on the last Sunday of each month. Teams of up to 6 welcome. The quiz starts at 7pm and we recommend booking a table if you would like to order food.

For upcoming events and more, head over to our website:
theredlioneastbergholt.co.uk/events

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SJP Approved 14/10/2024

Senior Partner Practice

St James's Place



COVER PHOTO

We are always looking for photos of seasonal events, interesting scenes, or flora and fauna of East Bergholt for the cover of our magazine. We are keen on receiving pictures of the village's architecture and heritage, as well as nature scenes. If you have taken a suitable photo, please send it to barnaby.page@gmail.com for consideration. It should be in .jpg format, at the highest resolution possible, accompanied by a brief description and the photographer's name. This month's cover image is by Richard Kevern.

MAGAZINE EDITOR - Barnaby Page - email: barnaby.page@gmail.com

EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS - email: eb.parish.magazine@gmail.com, or items can be placed in the Magazine Box in St Mary's Church. Deadline for copy is the 5th of the month previous to each issue, earlier at Christmas.

ADVERTISING - email ebpm.adverts@gmail.com

DISTRIBUTION - delivered to approx. 1,400 homes.

Queries: Marion & Peter Ralph, 01206 298634, theralphs@gmail.com

St Mary's church information: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2067

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Produced for East Bergholt PCC by Juniper House of Print: sarah@jhprint.co.uk

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, EAST BERGHOLT

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MAGAZINE

Please see back page for contact details.

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Jeanette Appleton, jeanetteappleton@hotmail.com/07768 418942

Treasurer: Rob Shackleton

MUSIC

Director of music and choir leader:

Martin Huggett, 01206 395927/07713 411367

OPEN THE BOOK

Ruth Bull, 01206 298733

TODDLER GROUP

Liz Digby, 01473 312281

Are you planning an event in East Bergholt? Please put details of your event in the village diary, which is kept at the Post Office. This will benefit village life by helping to avoid unnecessary clashes so that we can all support one another.



Benefice website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2067/
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