

Wimbish Church Newsletter



June/July 2026



**Wimbish and Debden Parish Churches
Church Services and Events in June/July 2026**

Services subject to change:
please check websites

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19645/

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6275/



All Saints, Wimbish

Sunday 7th June: Trinity 1

9.30 am Village Worship (Coffee served after service)

Sunday 21st June: Trinity 3

10.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 5th July: Trinity 5

3.00 pm Songs of Praise

Sunday 19th July: Trinity 7

10.30 am Holy Communion with Healing

St Mary The Virgin, Debden

Sunday 14th June: Trinity 2

9.00 am Holy Communion

Sunday 28th June: Pentecost

3.00 pm Pimms and Praise

Sunday 12th July: Trinity 6

9.00 am Holy Communion

Sunday 26th July: Trinity 8

9.00 am Parish Praise

Wimbish Parish Church, Off Maple Lane, CB10 2XG

St Paul's Mission Hall, Wimbish Tye Green, CB10 2XE (next to Wimbish School)

Debden Parish Church, Church Lane, CB11 3LD

The copy deadline for the August/September newsletter is 10th July 2026.

wimbishparishmagazine@gmail.com

The views and opinions expressed in articles published in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial committee or of the Wimbish Parochial Church Council (PCC). Editor's decision is final.

Front Cover: Jet Cooper

LETTER FROM THE RECTORY:

If you step into any church regardless of the time of year, you'll notice the altar covered with a beautifully made cloth. It might be red, white, gold, purple, green or even pink —but have you ever wondered why?

Each season of the church's year has its own colour. Over the past few months we've moved from the purple of Lent (which began back in February), to the white or gold of Easter, and then to the white or gold of Ascension Day and the red of Pentecost. With every change of season, the altar frontal changes too. Poor Pete, our churchwarden, has had the unenviable task of swapping them over—and it's not as easy as it looks!

Thankfully for Pete, June brings us into the long “green season” of Ordinary Time. The name might sound uninspiring, but there's nothing ordinary about it. In fact, the colour green is chosen precisely because it speaks of growth—new leaves on the trees, grass shooting up, gardens and allotments bursting into life as they soak up the summer sun. For Christians, green is a reminder of our own spiritual growth: steady, patient, meaningful.

I've always loved that word ordinary. It doesn't mean dull, second-best, or uneventful. It certainly doesn't mean treading water. Ordinary Time reminds us that God is just as present in the everyday as in the great festivals of the year. We meet God in the ordinary tick of life—in conversations with friends and neighbours, in the steady rhythm of worship, and in the quiet acts of kindness that may never be noticed by anyone else. Jesus' ministry was amongst the ordinary – the people of the day with all their worries and concerns and yet there was nothing ordinary about him.

This month is as good a time as any to notice the small things that sustain us. To tend the relationships and responsibilities entrusted to us and to allow God to work in the ordinary corners of our lives.

As a parish, we see God at work—in volunteers who give their time without fuss, in neighbours looking out for one another, in the shared joy of community events, and in our ongoing care for the natural world around us. These are the signs of a living, breathing church, even when the calendar calls the season “ordinary”.

May this month bring you rest, renewal, and the gentle assurance that God walks with you along the everyday paths of June.

With every blessing,

Lynda

A view from the fly on the church wall

Easter is always a busy time for the Church, with different services in a short space of time. An Agape Supper was held on Maundy Thursday, enacting Jesus' Last Supper. I always think that this is an important feast to celebrate, because Jesus broke bread and drank wine with the disciples during supper, which is where our Communion comes from. Also during the Supper, Jesus washed the disciples feet, not only a common and necessary act, but showing Jesus as a servant Messiah. During our Agape Supper, Reverend Lynda washed our hands, which was quite moving, allowing someone else to do something caring and intimate for you.

On Good Friday we held An Hour at the Cross, which was a quiet reflective time, following Jesus' journey to the Cross.

Then the joy of Easter Sunday, where we rejoice at Jesus' resurrection during our Sunday Service.

At the time of writing this, there are two important services to come in this Easter season. Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday. The Ascension Day service celebrates Jesus rising into heaven to be with God. It is a communion service followed by brunch. The Pentecost Service celebrates Jesus giving the disciple the gift of the Holy Spirit. This service will be Pentecost Praise held at Debden. Joyous as Easter is, I'm looking forward to a quieter time for the church. Although our monthly Coffee Mornings and Tea and Chat will be running as usual. Do come and say hello.

Wishing you a warm dryish summer.

Peter
Churchwarden

Worship and Word Prayer Group, St Paul's, Wimbish

This is a short informal time of prayer and reflection around the daily office service of Evening Prayer. We include prayer for each other, the life of the churches, the needs of those from around the world, and of course for those we hold dear. You are welcome to join us, with no expectation to pray aloud.

5.00 - 5.45 pm on Wednesday, 3rd and 17th June, 1st and 15th July

For prayer requests please contact Peter Gray 07901 946440

Wimbish Coffee Mornings

St Paul's Mission Hall



13th June, 11th July

10 to 11.30am

Coffee, tea, soft drinks plus delicious home-made cakes and bakes.

Cake Stall, Produce and Preserves for sale.

We also have a selection of pre-loved items for sale and great prizes in our raffle.

All Welcome!

DEBDEN CHURCH MICE

Church Mice meet monthly on a Thursday from 13.45 - 14.15

Thursday 18th June (held in the church)

Church Mice will be back in September

Ideal for under 5s with parents/grandparents/carers.

For more information please contact Reverend Lynda 01799 796193



TEA AND CHAT AT ST PAUL'S

Meets the first Monday afternoon of the month 2 - 4 pm
Come along to the warm and friendly environment of St Paul's Mission Room for chat, games, puzzles and activities
Refreshments provided.



Monday 1st June - Quiz time
Monday 6th July.

CRAFTERNOON

Do you knit, crochet, or sew?

Why not join others for an afternoon of craft.

Crafternoon meets on the third Monday of the month at St Paul's Mission Hall. 2 - 4pm

Refreshments provided. Contact: Yvonne reynoldsonyoung@gmail.com

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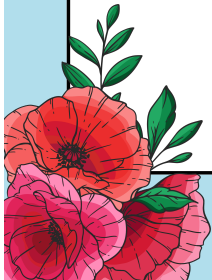
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ARE YOU INTERESTED IN YOUR LOCAL ROYAL BRITISH LEGION?


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Peter Sebbage, 01799 796193 or email:
petermsebbage@gmail.com
















DEBDEN AIRFIELD CIVILIAN EVENTS JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026

 Airfield is out of bounds to the public.

 Noisy Event

Date	Day	Club/Organisation	
Jul/Aug/Sep	Monday Evenings	Walden Tri Snr	
Jul/Aug/Sep	Tuesday Evenings	Cambridge & Coleridge Athletics Club	
Jul/Aug/Sep	Wednesday Evenings	Cambridge & Coleridge Athletics Club/ Walden Cycle	
Jul/Aug/Sep	Thursday Evenings	Saffron Striders	
Jul/Aug/Sep	Friday Afternoons	Community Rehabilitation	
Jul/Aug/Sep	Saturday Mornings	Walden Tri Jnr	
July	Sat & Sun 4th & 5th	Car Chase Heroes	 
July	Sunday 19th	Debden Jet Club	
July	Sat & Sun 25th & 26th	Everyman Racing	 
August	Sunday 2nd	Debden Jet Club	
August	Sunday 2nd	Essex Moths	
August	Tuesday 11th	Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire Police	
September	Sat & Sun 5th & 6th	Everyman Racing	 
September	Sunday 20th	Debden Jet Club	
September	Sunday 27th	Anglia Motor Sport Club	

SONGS OF PRAISE

WIMBISH CHURCH

SUNDAY

5th July 2026

AT 3PM

FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS!



CHOSEN BY YOU!

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST A HYMN THEN PLEASE
CONTACT REVD LYNDA:**

DEBDEN.WIMBISHVICAR@GMAIL.COM OR CALL 01799 796193

**IF YOUR HYMN IS SELECTED THEN IF YOU WISH TO, DO FEEL FREE TO COME
FORWARD AND SAY WHY YOU HAVE CHOSEN THAT PARTICULAR MUSIC (OR LET
REVD LYNDA KNOW AND SHE WILL DO THIS FOR YOU). MAYBE IT WAS FROM
SCHOOL DAYS OR A SPECIAL PERSON OR A MEMORY.....**





Saffron Support

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Services include personal care, medical support, domestic support, accompanied outings, meal preparation, administrative support, young adult care and palliative care.

Saffron Support are looking to recruit **Health Care Support Workers** to work in the Saffron Walden and surrounding areas. Previous experience of working in similar role and environment preferred but not essential as full training will be given. A car driver essential.



For further information, contact us;
tel. 01799 809878 | email. enquiries@saffronsupportltd.co.uk

www.saffronsupportltd.co.uk

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Do feel free to come and have a look around at any time. We are located adjacent to the Spar shop near Carver Barracks.

Telephone 01799 523542 or email bees.busy@yahoo.co.uk

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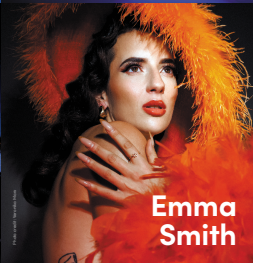
19 June to 12 July 2026
www.thaxtedfestival.co.uk

OperaBeatz!



AUDLEY END
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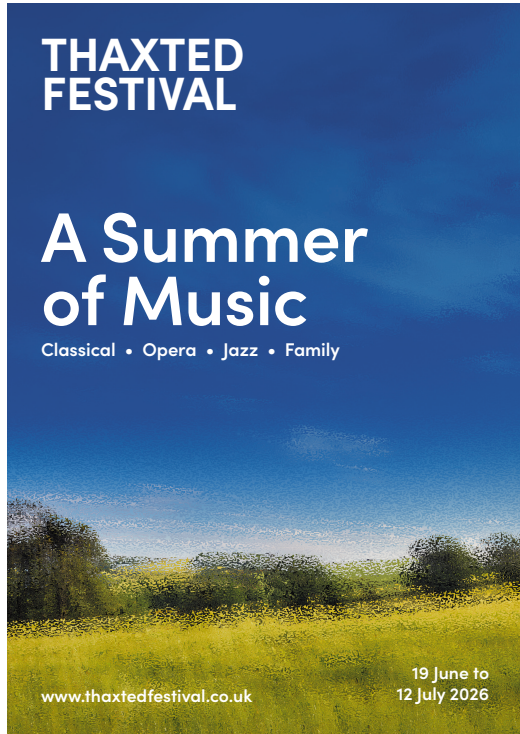
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19 June to
12 July 2026

Welcome to the 40th anniversary of Thaxted Festival — four decades of world-class music in the heart of this historic town, continuing a tradition begun by Gustav Holst in 1916.

This year's programme is bigger and bolder than ever. Celebrate in style at our opening gala with LMP Orchestra, experience Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* with Wild Arts Opera, and enjoy electrifying performances from jazz star Emma Smith and West End Swings from high-energy Sam Every "Little" Big Band. From inspiring chamber music to powerful vocal concerts, we showcase today's finest artists — alongside rising stars you'll be hearing about for years to come.

Beyond the main stage, our much-loved Festival Extras bring us closer than ever: free community events, choir mornings, windmill tours, and brand-new 'Sound Explorers' sensory workshops for babies and toddlers. Bring the whole family! Enjoy Wallace & Gromit: *The Wrong Trousers* with live brass band at Saffron Screen, and our thrilling closing concert of Ultimate Film Music! with Docklands Sinfonia. Plus, don't miss a beatboxing-meets-opera mash-up with OperaBeatz! at Audley End Enchanted Railway — fun for all ages.

General booking opens Monday 16 March at 9.30am. Tickets start from just £10 for under-30s and £5 for under-18s.

Join us this summer — and be part of something unforgettable.

www.thaxtedfestival.co.uk.

In and Around Wimbish

WIMBISH WALKERS

Meets on the second Sunday of the month. Walks in Wimbish, or exploring the surrounding villages. Join us for a walk around some of the local footpaths.

Contact: Penny Browne pennybrowne@hotmail.com

<https://www.wimbish.org.uk/wimbish-walkers.html>

WIMBISH PARISH COUNCIL

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall

<https://www.wimbish.org.uk/wimbish-parish-council-contacts.html>

WIMBISH CHURCH WEBSITE

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19645/>

WIMBISH VILLAGE HALL

Capacity is 120 standing or 80 seated. Cost of Hire: £15.00 per hour, or £75 per day.

Contact: Edward Browne 07974704138.

RADWINTER W.I.

Meets the last Wednesday of the month

Contact: Wendy Rowley 01799 599753

TEA AND CHAT AT ST PAUL'S

Come along to the warm and friendly environment of St Paul's for chat, games, puzzles, activities. **Refreshments provided.**

Meets the first Monday afternoon of the month at St Paul's Mission Hall 2 - 4 pm. All Welcome.

CHAIR BOOGIE CLASSES

Seated activities to music for all abilities. Qualified instructors will guide you through movements at a pace to suit you. Improve your fitness and have fun at the same time.

Every Monday 1.40 pm at Wimbish School, Tye Green, CB10 2XE.

Free to attend. Free refreshments after!

For more information: 07572 114882. active@thetouchpoint.org

DEBDEN BROWNIES

Meets at Debden Village Hall on Wednesdays 5 - 6.30 pm

Contact: Anne Bannister 1stdebdenbrownies@gmail.com



The Hundred Parishes Society

Although the Society is not a religious organisation, we encourage visits to parish churches as they are often the oldest and most interesting building in any community. Inside, you may find images of angels in some form or another. These winged creatures are considered to be messengers of God. They also represent goodness, with a promise of heaven if you live a good life.

Angels in churches are depicted in paintings, on stained-glass windows, suspended from ceilings, carved into corbels that support roof timbers or on poppyheads at the end of pews.

Clavering church displays several angels in its medieval glass windows as well as a series of wooden angels suspended from the rafters - they have feathers all over, including on their legs.

It is easy to miss Clavering's angels, but not those at Furneux Pelham. Their bright colours come from a repaint in the 1960s. Some play a lute and others hold a shield with a family crest, presumably of their sponsor. Furneux Pelham also has a series of angels on windows that were painted in the 19th century by renowned artists William Morris and Edward Byrne-Jones.

Radwinter has a series of stained-glass windows with angels featuring prominently. At Elmton, one peeps out from under the lectern from which the vicar preaches. In Linton, one of the carved poppyheads depicts a scribe resting his book on the wings of an angel.

Some churches have carvings on the corbels that support major roof timbers. Hildersham's chancel has especially colourful decoration, including angels on each of its corbels.

Over the last couple of years, I have given an illustrated talk to many local organisations, taking a peek inside some of our parish churches and including photos of angels in many guises.

Ken McDonald, Secretary



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The Great Escape

Who needs Steve McQueen when we have the real thing on our doorstep?

I was chatting with my neighbour about growing vegetables while our two dogs were “playing” — or at least giving a convincing impression of it. One was intent on shoplifting chewies from my jacket pocket; the other was focused entirely on escape (yes, that E-word).

We had just reached the great rhubarb debate — to force or not to force — when I saw a flash of white vanish through what looked like an impenetrable hedge. But this wasn't our great escapist. Houdini would have been no match. “Where's Peggy?” I asked, only to realise that the flash of white was Peggy's tail disappearing at speed.

Oh no. A shadow of foreboding fell over me at the thought of returning home without a dog attached to the lead I was still clutching. The idea of Peggy rounding up squirrels in the scrub and woodland nearby suggested a very long search ahead. The sight of a paranoid pensioner running, whistling, and calling “Peggy!” must have been quite something — especially when he happens to be married to a vicar.

The relief when she finally reappeared — only after the fun of the chase had been thoroughly exhausted — was immense. Pure joy. All creation could have burst into song as that foreboding shadow lifted. (But please, not a word to my wife.)

That little drama illustrates how many of us choose our own version of freedom — self-reliant, determined to live life our own way — yet often end up in a kind of shell that limits our true potential. It's only when we break free that we discover who we really are and what truly matters.

The real revelation comes when we hear God calling us, and we respond. When we set aside our preoccupations and allow ourselves to be caught up in the love, mercy, and joy God offers. Jesus calls this being “born again”, and the third chapter of John's Gospel explains it far better than I ever could.

If you'd like a copy, I'm very happy to pop one round — just send me an email.

Blessings

Peter Sebbage

Wimbish Bus Information

<https://bustimes.org/localities/wimbish>

Mobile Post Office Van - Carver Barracks Stop

The Finchingfield Mobile Post Office van calls at Broad Oakes Close, Carver Barracks, CB10 2YJ every Tuesday. 11.00am - 11.30pm.

Weddings

If you are dreaming of a wedding that feels personal, prayerful, and rooted in community, the churches of Wimbish and Debden offer a timeless setting for your special day. Surrounded by countryside, history, and the warmth of village life, our churches are places where love is celebrated and blessed.

Why choose a church wedding here?

- A sacred place where your vows are held before God
- Clergy who take time to get to know you and shape a service that reflects your story
- Beautiful, peaceful buildings perfect for photographs and quiet moments
- Music, readings, and traditions that make your ceremony truly yours.
- A welcoming community ready to support you as you begin married life.

To discuss your wedding plans please contact
Revd Lynda on 01799 7996193.

PIMMS & PRAISE!

28TH JUNE 2026 AT 3PM

DEBDEN CHURCH

COME AND ENJOY A RELAXED SUMMER AFTERNOON WITH SOME OF YOUR FAVOURITE HYMNS, MUSIC AND READINGS FOLLOWED BY PIMMS & NIBBLES (SOFT DRINKS ALSO AVAILABLE)

ALL WELCOME

RETIRING COLLECTION IN AID OF THE WORK AND MINISTRY OF DEBDEN CHURCH

Caption Competition Results



“God moves in mysterious ways”

“Together We Are Great: in fellowship, faith, and questionable costumes.”

“Peter said ‘be not afraid’ - but honestly with that wig it's hard not to be.”

“No children or stuffed animals were harmed during the making of this parish production.”

Mrs Pickford has left Wimbish Primary Academy after nearly 4 years to become the Director of Education for another Trust. She will be missed by all at the school. She has worked tirelessly to improve so much: the outdoor environment (mud kitchens, sand pits, playground equipment...); the indoor environment (newly painted walls; new furniture for the classrooms; new resources for the children to use); experiences (whole school beach trips; whole school visit to the pantomime; and so much more.

We held a special assembly for Mrs Pickford on her last day and sang a song all about her. The children then went on a treasure hunt outside to find all of her favourite things and we then finished the celebration eating cakes!

I have been asked by Anglian Learning to take on the role of Interim Executive Headteacher (this means I am the Acting Headteacher of Wimbish Primary Academy and also The Meadow Primary School in Balsham). Like Nichola, I have worked at Wimbish Primary Academy for nearly 4 years but have worked at The Meadow Primary School for nearly 27 years! Starting as a Year 1 Class teacher, working my way through teaching the different year groups, becoming a Deputy Head teacher and now: Interim Headteacher.

Day 1 of being an Interim Headteacher started at 12:01am on a Friday morning patrolling the corridors of Wimbish Primary Academy encouraging some very tired Year 5 pupils from Wimbish Primary Academy and The Meadow School to try and get some sleep in preparation for a day at Grafham Water where there would be sailing, orienteering and team building games. The day before, the whole school had learnt new skills with an army experience afternoon led by a team of soldiers from Carver Barracks. The soldiers started each activity explaining and demonstrating to the pupils what the equipment was used for and why. The pupils particularly enjoyed the Physical Training session which involved completing a rather challenging obstacle course where pupils had to crawl under a rather long and heavy cargo net; balance on benches and then use their elbows to crawl along the ground.

They also had the opportunity to control a £80,000 robot which detects mines and weapons in and on the ground as well as try on protective equipment that is needed when either diffusing bombs under water or on the ground. At the end of the afternoon, the pupils declared it was their best experience ever.



Nicky Butcher
Interim Executive Head



Wildlife Meetings at Carver Barracks Airfield

With Fiona Hutchings

19 Jun

Moths

02 Aug

Moths

17 Oct

Spiders

Anyone interested in attending please contact:
Fiona Hutchings efcmedia2019@gmail.com

People's Emergency Briefing

The UK faces a growing climate and nature emergency. Yet most people have never been fully briefed on what it means for our lives, our economy and our future.

A new film from the National Emergency Briefing sets out the risks facing the nation in a clear and accessible account. Recommended for age 16+ this 50 minute film will be broadcast on the 11th June at Saffron Walden Town Hall at 19.30 Organised by Sustainable Uttlesford.



District Councillor's Report

News from Stewart Luck

I have been in hospital at Addenbrooke's for nearly a month because the new hip I had in November was infected. They gave me a new temporary hip to use while the infection is dealt with by antibiotics. Today I had a review and the clinic have decided to do nothing for 6 weeks and then review the situation. So now I am just about able to walk short distances around home on crutches.

Hopefully in a couple of months the infection will have gone and they can install a new hip. Then I have to "run that in" for 12 weeks. I am not attending meetings but I try to keep involved with Ward business via e mail and phone.

So do get in touch if you need to. It would be nice to chat someone other than my family.

Best wishes
Stewart

ps Reform who now run ECC have written to the Government to challenge the Local Government Reorganisation so I am probably better off at home!"

Shirley Reed

It is with great sadness that we learn of the death of Shirley Reed. She was the wife of the Reverend Roger Reed who was our vicar and the rector of Debden when we were a joint benefice in the late 1970's and 80's

There will be a Service at St Lawrence Church, Winchester at 2 pm on Monday 15th June. It will be Streamed on YouTube and we will confirm the link on the website.

Shirley's ashes will then be interred in Roger's grave in Debden Churchyard on Tuesday 16th June, at 11.00 am.

Shirley left her mark on Wimbish designing and overseeing the making of our beautiful festal frontal the one with the seed on the front. She was a potter and you will see her chalice and paten set in the sanctuary.

She was ahead of her time with flower arranging using hedgerow flowers and a more informal style for her arrangements. She would have approved of Eco Church and not using florist foam!

May she rest in peace.

THE PARISH TEAM

TEAM RECTOR:

Reverent Jeremy Trew: 07707 386238
Email: rector@stmaryssafronwalden.org

TEAM VICAR:

Reverend Lynda Sebbage: 01799 796193
Email: debden.wimbishvicar@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDEN:

Peter Gray: 07901 946440
Email: graypeter936@gmail.com

CHURCHWARDEN EMERITUS:

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TREASURER:

Frances Johnson: 01799 527773

PCC MEMBERS:

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Mary Curtis
Jenny Hare
Karen Hepworth
Linda King: 07722 963409
Jill Kirby
Abigail Magness

SECRETARY:

Pamela Swan

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Lynne Ward-Booth

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Email: wimbishparishmagazine@gmail.com or jillkirby@aol.com

ST PAULS'S BOOKINGS

Janet Swan: 01799 599540

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Jill Kirby : 07933 221533

Magazine Advertising:

¼ page ad – £60 per year

½ page ad – £90 per year

Private small ads and community/charity events are free

Contact: **Frances Johnson 01799 527773**

or: wimbishparishmagazine@gmail.com



Carvings in Wimbish Church

Did you know that there are 13 carvings in the rafters of Wimbish Church. They are as follows:

- man blowing a horn with a rose
- a pomegranate
- an acorn
- 1638
- double rose
- foliage
- flowers
- Green Man
- single rose
- foliage
- fruit
- 1897.