

***Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield* NEWS**



**AUTUMN 2021
Issue No. 54**

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No-one from Horham or Athelington has, as yet, come forward to offer Evelyn Adey help with distributing the magazine in the villages. Evelyn has been here since the start, in fact it was her idea back in 2008 to do the mag, and she really needs some help now. Please contact her on evelyn.adey@btinternet.com or 01728 628428 if you can help out in Horham and/or Athelington. She really would like a hand organising the distribution of the mag.

It is great to see everywhere in Horham opening up again and Horham shop getting well-deserved recognition with an award. In Redlingfield, we've been lucky enough to be set up to hold events outdoors so we've had plenty happening on the Doorstep Green. Our vibrant Parochial Church Council has also held events on the Doorstep Green and in the church and has plenty more planned. All we can hope for is a continuation of the move back to normality in this strange pandemic-hit world.

In this issue we have Dean Parkin's joyous Suffolk Heart poem which filled Radio Suffolk on and around Suffolk Day in June. I just couldn't resist sharing it with you all. *Mike Ager*

MEMORIAL SERVICE

3pm Saturday 2nd October 2021, Stradbroke Church
In loving memory of David Henry Johnson
Formerly of Horham Post Office.

David sadly passed away on 9th April 2020 but, with COVID affecting us all, the family haven't been able to arrange a service in his memory.

Beryl his loving wife of over 60 years and children Kevin, Catherine & Gillian, would like to announce that a memorial to celebrate his life, has been arranged for Saturday 2nd October 2021, for 3pm at Stradbroke Church, with the wake immediately afterwards.

If you knew David, the family would love to see you on the day.

●●● Thank you to Neville Butcher for the lovely front-page picture ●●●

Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield News cannot be held responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised in the magazine. This disclaimer is inserted purely for legal/technical reasons and can in no way be construed as implying criticism of any supplier of goods or services.

Contact editors: Evelyn Adey on evelyn.adey@btinternet.com or 01728 628428 at Ivy House Barn, Southolt Road, Athelington, IP21 5EL; or Mike Ager on mike@gn.apc.org or 01379 678835 at Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 7QU.

We aim to produce four full-colour issues a year, coming out at the end of February, May, August and November.

Deadlines for adverts & editorial:

Spring issue (covering Mar, April & May) **Final deadline February 14**

Summer issue (covering June, July & Aug) **Final deadline May 14**

Autumn issue (covering Sept, Oct & Nov) **Final deadline August 14**

Winter issue (covering Dec, Jan & Feb) **Final deadline November 14**

Watching wildlife from the of a seat tractor

Trevor Edwards' latest slice of Wash Farm Wildlife

WITH PLENTY OF TIME for some lockdown reading, I discovered the following quotation ...

"It was a bad year for everyone, London was stricken by a deadly fever known as the plague, and the disease, which was spread by fleas from infected rats, was passed on rapidly in crowds. But his year was one of the worst and more than one in ten Londoners died. In plague years the authorities closed the theatres as a precaution and they weren't allowed to reopen till deaths fell to fewer than 50 for three weeks running"...

You could say that the more times change, the more they stay the same. The year was 1593 and a young

playwright and poet, Will Shakespeare, finding no work in old London town, had to take to the road and tour the country by horse and cart. At that time, the theatre was hugely popular, a ribald, noisy entertainment for the benefit of all whether rich or poor, and people congregated there as much as in the pub and the church.

William Blake, writing 200 years later, commented that he enjoyed the church and the pub equally although it was warmer in the pub and the conversation better.

Some of us, though a fast-declining number, can remember when Redlingfield had both. The importance of these two strands of English life are interwoven in this excellent prayer on a pub wall in Langdale End in Yorkshire;

*Our lager
Which art in barrels
Hallowed be thy drink
Thy will be drunk
On earth as it is at sea
Give us this day our foamy head
And forgive us our spillages
As we forgive those who spill against us
And lead us not to incarceration
But deliver us from hangovers
For thine is the beer, the bitter and the lager
For ever and ever
Barmen*



FEATURES & NEWS

This smart male spotted flycatcher (top right) rests on a garden chair while his partner (middle) broods warily under a beam of the house. This beautiful turtle dove (bottom) posed on the wires by Maria Ford's house on August 7th having been first recorded by Rick Waters earlier in the year. This young Buzzard (facing page) was ringed in Caroline's wood in June this summer.

With the grain harvest and straw baling under way, wildlife watching from the tractor seat is a lovely diversion and here in our patch, with one exception, this is a good year for all our favourites.

Spotted flycatchers, swallows and turtle doves have all fledged and the hares have prospered.

Cranley Green came up trumps last month with a red kite circling above the baler for a couple of hours, the first one I had seen in the village since 2013 though the species is very common in the Midlands and West Country. It was mobbed by some locals, first a buzzard and then a pair of kestrels but with a twitch of its forked tail it turned the sparring round and chased the kestrels out of sight. The exception to the list of regulars is field mice and I've seen fewer of those than usual which may go some way to explaining the lack of breeding in one of our barn owl boxes.

continued on p4



FEATURES & NEWS

continued from p3

Don't mention this to Australian farmers in New South Wales who are overwhelmed by a plague of mice. After years of drought, rains have provided perfect conditions for mice to breed five hundredfold from one female and the farming world has been overrun. The result is damage to grain stores, the insides of tractors, cars and fridges, even walls of houses are destroyed by the locust-like millions and the local penitentiary was shut down as mice destroyed the fabric of the jailhouse. Those who were "doing bird" then had to be moved, an expression in Cockney rhyming slang meaning time spent in prison. It comes from "bird-lime" via "doing time" when bird-lime was a cruel way of snaring wild birds with a sticky glue.

WHICH IS THE MOST COMMON garden bird in England is a very common question. I guessed chaffinch but that was wrong, the official RSPB answer is the wren, one of Europe's

The wren builds a brilliant domed nest though with this clever use of safety goggles in the workshop, the roof is hardly necessary.



smallest birds and instantly recognised by its cheeky upturned tail and glorious trill. It is a true skulker, which is why it is not the first answer most people think of when asked the question of the most numerous



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2020 was a year with very few good memories but this 5am August dawn was a good one.

species. Hiding in the undergrowth where it feeds, it is seldom seen above two metres from the ground but what a loud voice, delivering a speedy song like a miniature opera singer.

Though not very social, it eschews solitary habits to cluster together in scores to maintain warmth on cold winter nights.

We are happy to see it in the workshop where in the past it has nested in an old pair of safety goggles.

AS THE EDITORIAL DEADLINE approaches in mid-August, here is a reminder of the beautiful weather of exactly twelve months ago, a 5am dawn photograph over Southolt.

Harvest is a little later than usual and after the mixed wet and cool weather of recent weeks a warm spell would be welcome for both farmers and the school holiday season.

Mustn't grumble though as Terry Wogan used to say. ***Trevor Edwards***



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FEATURES & NEWS

Horham's Old School is back in business

WE ARE OPEN!
It has been so lovely to see you again! We fired up our ovens, dusted down our cake tins and have been whipping up wonderfully delicious cakes that we are serving with coffee on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am to noon.

The bar has also been very busy, open from 8pm on Tuesday evenings and noon on Sundays. We are welcoming returning regulars and new members.

The weather has been kind to us and it has been really lovely to use the garden and enjoy the company of friends in the sunshine.

Sadly the end of lockdown has signalled the return of the window smashing vandals; two window panes were broken within two weeks of opening.

It really is sad, and hard to understand, why the only daytime meeting place for village residents is plagued by such senseless, mindless vandalism.

These crimes are directed at all the volunteers and all the users of our



A warm Old School welcome.

building; those of you who asked for daytime activities and the people who work so hard to make them possible.

Of course the police are involved again, are working behind the scenes and will of course be pleased to receive any information that you may have about these events.

Despite this unpleasantness we are upbeat about the future. Welcome back!

*Horham and Athelington
Village Hall Management
Committee*

■ REDLINGFIELD VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATOR:

The defibrillator in the old telephone box on the triangle in the centre of the village should now be operational. It was due to be inaugurated by Ian Winter at a ceremony during the 1st September visit of the Coffee Caravan. The generosity of many villagers in response to his appeal raised enough money to install the defibrillator donated to us by the East Anglian Ambulance Service and to keep it operational for many years. It was installed in partnership with the Heartbeat Community Trust charity. The charity will provide villagers with training, information and guidance on its use and the maintenance and safety of the machine.

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Colnet

HELLO EVERYONE! WE have had some very exciting wildlife experiences since our last article.

One evening, we put our coats and wellies on with our pyjamas and went for an explore in our garden. Just out in the field were three Red Deer stags! We had seen lots of footprints around, but seeing the deer properly and close-up was amazing.

We have also had a lovely time watching our Spotted Flycatchers breeding and have been feeding them live mealworms which they take back to the nest. They have had two successful broods this year, so we are really pleased.

We have two pairs of Bullfinches which have been bringing their young to the sunflower hearts just outside the kitchen window so we've had lovely, close views of them too. One of the adult males only has one eye, so it is amazing that he has been able to survive and successfully breed this year.

Top: Henry, Edward & Arthur (left to right). Left: Arthur and Henry with the latest Colnet Conservation Board.

Conservation . . .

Thank you to everyone that has stopped to read our notice board. We also hope that you have enjoyed our Wildflower Island outside our house. It has been very popular with lots of insects and has had many different flowers including Pyramidal Orchids, Ox-Eye Daisies, Fox and Cubs, Knapweed, Bird's-foot Trefoil and Tufted Vetch.

We have had lots of lovely feedback about our notice board and conservation efforts, including a wonderful letter from Sir David Attenborough! We are also very excited to be included in both the next Suffolk Wildlife Trust Magazine and

**Arthur's
Barn
Owl
Print.**



The Barn Owl Trust Magazine.

We hope you like our photos and pictures and look forward to writing our next update for you.

Henry & Arthur



A Red Deer stag and a Spotted Flycatcher.

■ **PROJECT OAK TREE!** We started a project in Spring as we noticed that this year seemed to be a really good year for young oak trees emerging, so we decided to plant some up in pots to help them grow to a good size as they often get eaten. We will be planting some at ours and some will be planted in Athelington Wood, but we do have about 100, so if anybody would like one, please let us know!

Henry & Arthur

Orchids are flourishing

POUND LANE Wood meadow is growing well, even with some rather odd weather experienced this year.

A dry April was succeeded by a cool, damp May; a hot spell in early June gave haymakers a good chance but cooler, damper conditions have returned.

Trees stressed by the long dry and hot summer last year are however,

finding conditions more to their liking and are recovering well, canopies dark with chlorophyll. Late Lammas shooting (second growth spurt) on some oaks is visible as a haze of red, green and yellow. Ash is in places recovering from previous dieback events.

The meadow has not yet been cut, so we are now hoping for dry weather at the end of July or August. This late

cutting will allow wild flowers to bloom and then set seed.

Yellow-rattle has done especially well this year, which will certainly help the meadow to develop. Yellow-rattle is an annual plant which is parasitic and feeds off the roots of the meadow grasses. This reduces the vigour of the coarser plants and grasses, allowing the more demanding meadow flowers to become

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established and to spread.

The weather pattern seems to have encouraged Bee Orchids to prosper in several new places and they have done well on the meadow. Bee Orchids offer a colourful, intricate and beautifully shaped flower, closely resembling a female bee. Although designed to encourage males to pollinate them, sadly the bee species needed to do this is not actually present in the UK! These plants are entirely self-pollinated here, although this has not prevented a relative abundance this year.

The lovely crimson Pyramidal Orchids have also bloomed on the meadow this year.

Reports and observations locally indicate both these orchids are appearing in gardens and verges – in greater profusion than of late – and in new sites, which is all very encouraging.

Orchid seeds are very small and consequently contain very little in the way of food for the developing plant. The orchid seedlings cannot grow on their own as a result; instead they rely on fungi present in the soil to provide the food they need to develop. This symbiotic relationship means orchids will only flourish in areas containing the fungi they require.

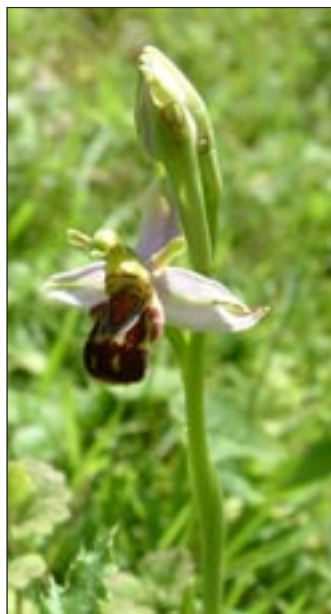
Whilst the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions mean we have not undertaken any group activity at the time of writing, we should have started to meet up by the time you read this.

If you are interested in joining us and getting hands on experience of helping improve our local environment and enjoying outdoor activity, please contact our secretary Penny Conway on 07495 875299.

Penny Conway



A lovely crimson Pyramidal Orchid and a Bee Orchid.



Get on your bike for your

SUFFOLK HISTORIC Churches Trust annual sponsored ride is on Saturday 11th September, adapting as necessary for whatever Covid-19 guidelines advice is on the day.

The Ride and Stride's sister event, the Pedal and Drive for vintage and classic cars, will also be held on the same day. This year, on the day, not all churches may be open for Ride and Stride, and churches that usually offer

refreshments may decide not to do so, but riders and walkers can log the name of the church visited themselves, if it's unattended.

Visit shct.org.uk for more information.

If you would like sponsorship forms, more information or want to know who you can sponsor contact: Colin Palmer, for St Peter's Athelington on 01728 628747;

Daphne Harvey, for St Mary's Horham, on 01379 384216; or Pauline Abbott for St Andrew's Redlingfield,



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church

on 01379 678253 or
07483271534.

The money raised by each participant is shared equally between the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and the place of worship nominated by the cyclist. It is the main source of income to SHCT.

The annual fundraising event for Suffolk's church buildings raised more than £150,000 last year despite the pandemic. St Mary's in Horham raised £261 while Redlingfield raised what is probably a record £555.

Mike Ager

■ HORHAM VILLAGE HALL TRUST AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

It is very good to see the community centre bar opening on Friday nights as the Covid-19 restrictions have lifted, members only for the time being; thank you Rod. Thanks to Hav and Angela Wilkins, in advance, for the return of Friday Fish and Chip nights in September. The grounds and building have been kept in good order by Charlie, David and Angela, and we look forward to preparing a calendar of events. Maryann Cartwright, Gary Coles and Kerina Jane have stepped down as Trustees. The 2020 and 2021 AGM will be after March, 2022. Tim Debenhan, Chairman, Hav Wilkins (Vice Chairman HCC), Karen Alderton (Bookings), David Whatling (Parish Church rep.) Bill Craig (Parish Council), Neil Cartwright, Rod Tyrrell (Licensee), Steven Havers, Don and Wendy Moyes, Margaret Streeter, Chairman HCC, Sec/Treas HVHT. Angela is Sec/Treas of the Community Council. Thank you for your patience and see you all soon.

Margaret Streeter



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Suffolk Heroes Award ...

MP DR DAN POULTER joined Suffolk County Councillor Peter Gould to award Horham shop's David and Irene Spall certificates to celebrate their work in caring for the community throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

Despite being in the vulnerable category David and Irene kept Horham Stores and Post Office open, making sure residents of Horham and surrounding villages could shop.

David and Irene were nominated by Suffolk County Council Leader, Matthew Hicks, as part of the first Suffolk MPs Suffolk Heroes Awards.

David thanked Tracey Sleaf and Sheila Hawes for all their work in the

shop saying "we wouldn't have been able to carry on without them".

Dr Poulter said "The Covid-19 pandemic has been the most incredibly difficult time for so many of us, but it has also brought out the very best in our Suffolk communities and highlighted the incredible lengths that people are prepared to go to in helping others.

"Mr and Mrs Spall have been incredible in rising to this challenge and I am delighted to have had the opportunity to present their certificates in person and to thank them for all they have done to help others during the pandemic. They have touched many lives and made a big difference



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'Exemplary behaviour'



From left, are Cllr Peter Gould, Dr Dan Poulter, David and Irene Spall and Tracey Sleep, who works in the shop.

during the most difficult months of the pandemic.”

Peter Gould added “I was delighted to be invited by Dan to attend the presentation of the award and to have the privilege of meeting David and Irene Spall. Their natural modesty and obvious determination to serve their

community was inspiring. While we were there every customer who arrived at the shop told us how much they deserved the award and how much they had relied on the service. They have touched many lives and made a big difference during the most difficult months of the pandemic.” **Mike Ager**

CHANGES TO OFFENSIVE WEAPONS

LAW: Changes to legislation brought about by the Offensive Weapons Act 2019, mean that from July 14th 2021 it has become an offence to possess certain items such as knuckledusters, throwing stars and zombie knives, even in private. Other sections of the act include an updated definition of flick knives to reflect changes in weapon designs, and the banning of private possession of flick knives and gravity knives. The National Police Chiefs Council has produced a video (available on You Tube) explaining the new law. Search for 'Offensive Weapons Act 2019'.



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Tortoises and hares show The Way Ahead in Eye

THE THIRD ART sculpture trail in Eye has been brightening up the town this summer with 26 large, beautifully decorated, tortoises and hares and 16 miniatures.

Visitors can walk the trail around the town until Friday 10th September. After that the sculptures will go to The Oaksmere for an auction, raising money for the Blossom Charity. The sculptures will be sold by Clarke & Simpson, at The Oaksmere, Eye, at 7pm on Thursday 16th September in a live and online auction. Tickets for the auction are now available either via Dream On, by e-mailing Clare Jackson (clare@dream-on.co.uk) or on Eventbrite. They are £15 per person to



include a welcome drink and light buffet.

Among the highlights on the trail are the *AstraZenecHare* created by artist Karen Turner on the corner of Castleton Way and Haygate and *Harey Potter* by Amanda Church at Homestart.

The trail is designed to represent The Way Ahead as we navigate our way out of the pandemic. Each of the sculptures have been

sponsored by local businesses.

Following their sponsorship, these businesses have sought to collaborate with an array of talented artists, all of which have volunteered countless hours of their time designing and decorating these glorious sculptures.

The sculptures are dotted across the



Top, the hares and tortoises lined up before being placed around Eye. Left, some of the volunteers after placing a hare at Eye Town Hall. Far left, Harey Potter.

town – you'll find some of them parading through the motte-and-bailey castle, the magnificent church of St Peter & St Paul, the community centre and the gardens of local residents. You can find each sculpture's exact locations on a map you can get online at www.eyesculpturetrail.co.uk and in Dream On, Eye Co-ops, CafeEye and the library.

The Blossom Charity helps men and women in Suffolk with their confidence so that they can make long lasting changes to their lives, this is done through coaching and workshops.

Mike Ager

■ **ALL GO AT ST ANDREWS:** The good people at Redlingfield's St Andrews church have been busy with a couple of events in the last few months and more planned. In June the church had its windows decorated on the theme of lockdown and last month they had a car boot sale. Sadly, the car boot sale was hit by rain so organisers are hoping the sun will shine on their upcoming dog show, scarecrow walk and produce show. All the events run by the PCC (Parochial Church Council) are to raise funds for St Andrews. The Fun Village Dog Show is on Redlingfield's Doorstep Green on Sunday 5th September with gates opening at 9.30am and the first class 10am. The bar will be open from noon. There will be rosettes for all entries and the classes are: best rescue, best puppy (under 1 year), best young handler (under 12 years), best veteran (over 10 years), scruffiest, waggiest tail, best female, best male, dog with the best trick and dog the judge would like to take home. The Scarecrow Walk is on Sunday 19th September from 11am. The Produce Show on the Doorstep Green is on Sunday 3rd October. The show will be followed by open-air Harvest Festival service. Both the walk and produce show should be fun for all the family and the Doorstep Green's pop-up pub will be open. For more information contact Alison Smith on 07817207462. Details of events should also be available on www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk closer to the dates.

Mike Ager

WHAT'S PROBABLY ON

Friday 3 September *Three Inch Fools present Romeo and Juliet* Framlingham Castle, 7-9pm. Tickets online via Eventbrite.

Friday-Sunday 3-5 September *Maverick Festival Easton Farm Park*, tickets details www.maverickfestival.co.uk. Family-friendly celebration of American roots on six stages, indoors & out, with over 40 artists from US, Canada, Australia, UK & beyond.

Saturday 4 September

Deb-Fest 2021 Debenham Sports and Leisure Centre, 1-10pm. This year's version of Debenham Street Fayre. Live music, attractions & market stalls.

Three Inch Fools present The Merry Wives of Windsor Framlingham Castle, 7-9pm. Tickets online via Eventbrite.

Saturday & Sunday 4 & 5 September *Mid-Suffolk Light Railway Country Railway Gala.*

Saturday & Sunday 4/5 & 11/12 September *Harleston & Waveney Art Trail: Rosemary Elliott From Figurative to Abstract Retrospective 2011- 2021* Studio 4 Wingfield Barns, 10am-5pm. www.hwat.org.uk

Sunday 5 September

Redlingfield Dog Show Doorstep Green.

Garden Party with Fyne Winds Quintet Wingfield Barns, 3pm. £14 with cream tea or £10 concert only.

Friday 10 September *Bingo Night* Debenham Sports and Leisure Centre, doors 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm. £1 a round. Bar, raffle & bonus rounds.

Saturday 11 September

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Annual Ride & Stride and Pedal & Drive.

Bollywood Night Debenham Sports and Leisure Centre, 7pm on. £25 (01728 861703 or 07415 959913).

Mosaic Workshop Wingfield Barns, 10am-5pm. £66 per person.

Friday-Sunday 10-12 September

Harvest Festival and Flower Festival St Mary's Church Worlingworth. Friday evening from 5pm, organ music & celtic prayer 6.30pm. Saturday & Sunday 10am-4.30pm.

Sunday 12 September *Steam Railway Day and BMW Bike Club* Mid-Suffolk Light Railway.

Wednesday 15 September *The Keeper's Daughter presents The Time Machine* Wingfield Barns, 7pm. £10 adult, £6 child.

Thursday 16 September *Stradbroke Cinema* Stradbroke Community Centre Ammonite (15).

Saturday 18 September *Redlingfield Pub on the Green* Doorstep Green, 6pm-midnight.

Sunday 19 September

Redlingfield Scarecrow Walk from 11am. Including Harvest Festival.

Autumn Plant Fair with Artisan Market Helmingham Hall Gardens, 10am-4pm. Adults £8, children 15 & under free.

American Car Show Stonham Barns, 10am-4pm. Tickets on gate. Adults £10, under 12s free.

Saturday 25 September *Jacob & Drinkwater* Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm. Tickets £12.

Saturday 25 September-Sunday 26 September *Annual East Anglian Game and Country Fair* Euston Hall.

Swedefest Truck Show Stonham Barns, 9am-late Saturday, 9am-4pm Sunday.

-
- **The Bank Eye** www.thebankeye.org ● **Helmingham Hall Gardens** www.helmingham.com
 - **Mid-Suffolk Light Railway** www.msrlr.org.uk ● **Redlingfield** www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk
 - **Stonham Barns** www.stonhambarns.co.uk ● **Suffolk Owl Sanctuary** www.owl-help.org.uk
 - **Stradbroke Cinema** Stradbroke Community Centre, 7pm for 7.30 pm.
 - **Wingfield Barns** www.wingfieldbarns.com tickets via www.wegotickets.com

Tickets on gate £5 (weekend wristband), children under 16 free.

Sunday 3 October

Redlingfield Produce Produce Show with Harvest Festival Doorstep Green.

Variety Show and Dinner The Bank, Eye, 7.30pm. An evening of music, magic & comedy with Liz Monroe. £22 for two-course meal & entertainment.

Wednesday 6 October Redlingfield Coffee

Caravan Doorstep Green, 10am-noon.

Saturday 9 October The National Country

Show Live Norfolk 2021 Norfolk Showground, New Costessey, 10am-5pm.

Friday 15 October Bingo Night Debenham

Sports and Leisure Centre, doors 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm. £1 a round. Bar, raffle & bonus rounds.

Saturday 16 October Bof! Workshop and

Dance Wingfield Barns. Workshop only £5.

Concert/Dance only £12. Workshop &

Concert/Dance £15.

Sunday 17 October India Electric Co. Wingfield

Barns, 7.30pm. £14.

Thursday 21 October Stradbroke Cinema

Supernova (15).

Saturday 23rd October-Sunday 31st October

Autumn Gardens and Halloween Treasure

Hunt Helmingham Hall Gardens, noon-4pm.

Adults £5, children 3-15 £3.50, under 3s free!

Sunday 24 October The Wind In The Willows

musical adaptation Wingfield Barns. 7.30pm. £12.

Tuesday 26 October-Saturday 31 October

Suffolk Owl Sanctuary Halloween Hoot!

10am-5pm.

Friday 5 November Open Space Theatre

Company presents A View From The Bridge

by Arthur Miller Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm.

£12/£9.50 concessions.

Saturday 6 November Gigsprinter Wingfield

Barns, 7.30pm. £18.

Thursday 11 November Reg Meuross Wingfield

Barns, 7.30pm. £15.

Thursday 18 November Stradbroke Cinema

The Last Bus (12A).

Friday 19 November

Wreath Laying Redlingfield B-17 memorial.

Friday 19 November-Sunday 19th December

Illuminated Garden Trail Helmingham Hall Gardens.

Please check that events are going ahead before setting out

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Nearly normal at school

THE SUMMER TERM AT WILBY SCHOOL has felt much more ‘normal’ once more. Although we have continued to operate our ‘bubbles’ system, staggered drop-off and collection times and continued rigorous hygiene procedures, the children managed to enjoy many summer term activities that they usually engage in.



Although our Year 6 pupils were unable to do their usual trip to London and they didn’t get to do their trip to the Peak District, they did enjoy a fun-filled activity day at Thorpe Woodlands, we had a fantastic pizza and games night and a perfect leavers’ assembly. Along with challenge days at Thorpe woodlands, all classes took part in sports day and Owl Class produced a brilliant version of the musical *Ye-Ha!*

So, it was a busy end to term with much to celebrate and be proud of. Once again our amazing school community has made very much the best out of what has been a difficult year and we look forward, positively, to the new year ahead.

Mrs Wiseman (Headteacher)

■ REDLINGFIELD PARISH MEETING: As of Monday 23rd August Ian Winter resigned as chair of Redlingfield Parish Meeting. A Special Parish Meeting was held on 24th August, at Horham Community Centre, to elect a new chair. There were 36 people present of whom 33 were Redlingfield residents. Midge Gibbons was elected by 27 votes for with four abstentions. Her contact details are midgegibbons@gmail.com and 01379 678169. On behalf of the Parish, Midge thanked Ian Winter for his defibrillator fund-raising efforts as well as all the donors. Which was applauded. The final figures are being put together but more than £3,300 has been donated – of which £2,150 has been spent getting the defibrillator running and installed in the phone box. Ian will continue to co-ordinate the defibrillator’s weekly checks and seminar activities. Katie Abbott asked the meeting to thank Janet Norman-Philips & Mike Ager for their generosity and hard work, over a number of years, for the village, and they were given a round of applause.

Janet Norman-Philips

■ BIBLE STUDY GROUP: Our regular Bible Study Group returns on Tuesdays for the autumn and will continue to meet fortnightly at 7.30 pm via Zoom, with meetings on 7th and 21st September, 5th and 19th October and 2nd, 16th and 30th November. Sessions last no more than one hour. We have a new theme of ‘conflict’ (following up our theme of peace). Each session is self-contained, so do join in when you can. If you don’t receive the Zoom link, just get in touch with Revd Eleanor to be added to the list.

Revd Eleanor Goodison Associate Priest, Hoxne Benefice 07876 143579
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Red Feather Club opening

BY THE TIME YOU READ this the Red Feather Club Museum in Horham should be back in business.

The former WW2 NCOs' club and other buildings, which have been faithfully restored, keep alive the memory of the US forces who called Horham home in the 1940s.

The museum, operated and managed by registered charity the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association, is due to relaunch its open days on Sunday 26 September (please check on the 95th's or Redlingfield website before setting out). It usually has public open days on the last Sunday of

the month (10am to 4pm) from May through to October along with dances, film shows and talks as well as hosting visits from the families of the personnel who served at the air base and other groups.

The 95th was the only Eighth Air Force Group to be awarded three Distinguished Unit Citations. The third for bombing Berlin on 4 March 1944, the first time the German capital had been bombed by USAAF.

I hope the RFC gets back in full swing as soon as it can as it really comes to life on the dance nights it usually holds throughout the year.

Mike Ager



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■ **PLANNING: AWAITING DECISION:** Plan to use land for stationing of three shepherd's huts for use as holiday lets at **Rookery Farm, Rookery Lane, Redlingfield, IP23 7QP** (No: DC/21/03405); application for Outline Planning Permission (some matters reserved, access to be considered) for the erection of four dwellings with access on **land north of The Street, Horham**, (No: DC/21/03609); plan to demolish existing agricultural barn and erect a one-and-a-half storey dwelling on **land east of Horham Road, Athelington**, and change of use from agricultural land (No: DC/21/02359); plan to convert attached garage to additional living accommodation and extension of parking area within front garden at **The Gables, The Street, Horham, IP21 5DX** (No: DC/21/03729); details submitted, following Outline Approval DC/17/04943 Town and Country Planning, on the appearance, layout and scale for the erection of seven dwellings and new vehicular access on **land south east of Dragon House, Worlingworth Road, Horham**, (No: DC/21/01338).
GRANTED: Plan to construct new access to **Mill Farm, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 7QU** (Application. No: DC/21/02567); plan to erect single storey extensions and cart lodge at **Springfield, Worlingworth Road, Horham, IP21 5EF** (No: DC/21/03579).

Planning information from Midsuffolk District Council
<https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>



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How was it for you?

HAVING BEEN ONE OF numerous victims of the madness that engulfed our world in 2020, the European Football Championships took place a year late. The most significant fact from it is that after 55 years England made a final in international football in 2021.

It can be seen as an achievement, not if you are Scottish, Welsh, Italian, French or German of course, but it was if you consider yourself English or an English football fan.

Of course England were helped by a draw that guaranteed home advantage in the group stage and semi finals and final if they got there, but make it to the final they did. Football partially united us for a short time but whether it made an important intervention to our lives in bad times is a matter of debate. A lot

of things have come out of it that seem to have intensified the disunity of the people in England it looked to unite.

I was sad to hear somebody say they took their England flag down after the group stages as they had heard of some locals being offended. The abuse online the three players who missed penalties against Italy received also show a disunited country.

It went beyond the desire for a scapegoat to the blame culture we do so well.

The problem is English nationalism promotes an approach that excludes people who look or think differently.

Every political party championing English nationalism is of the same centre to far right spectrum. England fans don't always help themselves win hearts and minds of the uncommitted as they boo or try to drown out the other national anthems. Poor behaviour and attitude in recent history has not helped to play down the hostility towards England's football team from other supporters. Forgiving and forgetting is a hard skill to master.

Having said that we had a tournament. A vocal minority of people wanted it called off on the second day when Danish midfielder Christian Eriksen suffered heart failure on the pitch against Finland. Mercifully he was stabilised and pulled through.

continued on p26



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continued from p24

The fact the game concluded after a two hour delay was criticised by many, particularly when the outsiders Finland won one-nil.

I would mark the tournament as being an average six out of ten.

The refereeing and use of VAR wasn't as good as commentators, reporters and apologists tried to suggest.

After a decent first round of group games officials seemed to revert to what they know, inconsistency with cards and only using VAR to punish players and teams rather than overrule harsh or borderline interpretations by their on-field colleagues.

Until the cop out phrases 'clear and obvious error' and 'subjective call' are scrapped VAR will not be fit for purpose.

They came up with the multiple venue system as no-one was prepared to host the 2020 finals before Covid-19 had evolved out of bats or wherever. It would have worked better with freedom to travel.

At least teams like Wales, who had to travel all around Europe to play in partisan environments, would have had a fairer level of support.

It's even more apt that England's failure from the penalty spot was the difference between being one of the 23 ultimate losers like Scotland, France and Germany, rather than being a winner.

Given the disappointments that England have suffered in the past it seemed right in a strange way that the wait for success goes on.

My initial list of England frustration

from 1968 was over twenty matches long. It's not that comprehensive. I've probably missed some out but they are just those I remember.

Here are the top five in chronological order:

■ **1973 v Poland at Wembley Stadium:**

This cost Alf Ramsay his job. An inspired goalkeeper, one defensive error, and we were left to enjoy Scotland's general misfortune the next summer.

■ **1986 v Argentina in Mexico City:**
'The Hand of God'. I didn't know he was a little, stocky South American called Diego. (Am I able to refer to God with a male pronoun these days?)

■ **1996 v Germany at Wembley Stadium:**

Inevitable end to a great tournament with a penalty defeat. Football came home, looked around, but decided it was happier back in Central Europe.

■ **1998 v Argentina in Saint Etienne:**

Beckham's soft red card, one of the worst refereeing performances I've seen by Kim Milton Nielsen and a lot of happy people in France seeing a certain element of our fan base returning home.

■ **2018 v Croatia in Moscow:**

This was just so frustrating, early Trippier goal, enough chances to lead by four at half time. Only ever going to be a defeat once Croatia decided to start playing.

However, the most important thing though is we had a European Championships to watch. We are not back to normal but sometimes you can dream.

Ian Crane



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SUFFOLK #DAY



Suffolk Heart

I.

I've got a Suffolk Heart
like the Suffolk Punch it's strong
and however far it travels
it beats to a Suffolk song

I live the Suffolk dream
far away from city crowds
motorway free, glad to
be head up in the clouds

I reach across the Orwell
with a wide-eyed Suffolk view
flat county, full landscape
tall skies and so much blue

First to see the sunrise
with Gulliver turning still
I like to watch the sunset
from Ed's castle on the hill

It's all sloightly on the huh
but that'll hatter dew
no airs and graces, friendly faces
Suffolk we heart you!

II.

We're singalong a'Suffolk
our festivals are the best
in party mood at Latitude
foot-tapping at FolkEast

I'm a soprano at The Maltings
in a choir performing Britten
I'm twitching in the reedbeds
for the booming of the bittarn

We're under starters orders
and They're Off! down the Rowley Mile
Let's make a noise for the Tractor Boys
in Portman Road true style

There's new life on the waterfront
a third crossing for a river
A skyline drawn from history
lighthouse, mill and tower

We're crinkle-crankle Suffolk
timber-framed with twisty lanes
We're free-range homegrown Suffolk
with handmade roadside signs

I have to stop and ask
(my Sat Nav hasn't a clue)
'Know the way to Hollesley Bay?'
Yis, thank yer kindly I dew

III.

Roll up for Suffolk Show-time!
Red Poll beef, Blythburgh pork
farm shops fresh with fruit and veg
gate to plate and field to fork

I'm picture postcard Suffolk
seaside huts, gulls and chips
I'm busy port-side Suffolk
all cranes and passing ships

The best beaches, out of reach-ness
off the beaten track
The most easterly well-kept secret
First timer? You'll be back!

They say we're silly Suffolk
and thas a rum ole dew
If we're on the way to nowhere
must be where you're headed to

So, larn yerself some Suffolk
take the slow road to unwind
Hold yew hard, calm yew down
find the Suffolk state of mind

Author
Dean Parkin

NOT NEGLECTING TO MEET TOGETHER

THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

enjoins us to “consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another”.

Some people will say that they can worship God quite well enough on their own, but they miss out on the stimulus and encouragement of coming together as the body of Christ.

For nearly 18 months we have been often forced to neglect to meet together, but that has now changed.

Most of our services are back in church. Café Church met for the first time since lockdown in Hoxne church in August and will meet again on Sunday 12th September.

Messy Church returns to Syleham Village Hall on Sunday 5th September. And we have a packed programme of other face-to-face activities throughout September with which to encourage one another.



Revd Eleanor Goodison
Associate Priest, Hoxne
Benefice 07876 143579

eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

Why not come along, for example, to our new early evening sessions in our local pubs to discuss those tricky questions about God and the church? Or take part in one of our Harvest celebrations, some happening this month and some in October.

If you are not able for any reason to meet face to face, we still have our weekly Compline service on Zoom (6pm on Fridays) and we will continue to live stream a service most Sundays on facebook.com/WingfieldChurch.

Our Bible Study group, which returns this month, will also continue to meet on Zoom. One way or another, stay in touch with your fellow Christians and provoke each other to love and good deeds!

NB: For those who would like it and who cannot get to church, home communion is now available again. Please contact me if you would like a visit.

■ **PLEASE NOTE:** Revd Eleanor and Revd John will be away from Thursday 30th September to Monday 4th October for a family wedding in London.

■ **HARVEST SERVICES:** Athelington: 11am Sunday 19th September; Horham: 11.15 am Sunday 17th October; Redlingfield: as part of Produce Show on Sunday 3rd October.

■ **ANNUAL SERVICE OF MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING:** Our annual Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving for those we have lost will be held on Saturday 30th October at 4pm at Hoxne church. The service will be especially poignant this year as we remember all those who have died as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

■ **REMEMBRANCE:** Services will be held for Remembrance Sunday (14th November) at 10.45am in Redlingfield and at 3pm in Horham.

■ **ENQUIRIES:** Daphne Harvey, St Mary, Horham (384216) or David Spall (384239); Colin Palmer, St Peter, Athelington (01728 628747); Hazel Abbott, St Andrew, Redlingfield (678217).

CHURCH SERVICES:

Planned church services in September/October/November. Some services in church are also live streamed or uploaded to facebook.com/WingfieldChurch

Every Saturday & Sunday: CW Morning Prayer at 8am on facebook.com/WingfieldChurch.

Every Friday: Compline at 6pm on Zoom. For a Zoom invitation, please e-mail eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

Sunday 5th September**Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

11am CW Holy Communion, **Wingfield**;
4pm Messy Church in **Syleham Village Hall**.

Sunday 12th September**Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

9.30am CW Holy Communion,
Redlingfield; 9.30am Café Church, **Hoxne**.

Sunday 19th September**Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

11am Harvest Service, **Athelington**
(followed by refreshments); 11.15am BCP
Holy Communion, **Horham**; 6pm
Evensong, **Wingfield**.

Sunday 26th September**St Michael and All Angels**

11am Benefice Holy Communion,
Wingfield Revd Michael Womack to
preach (followed by reception); 4pm All
Age Service for Michaelmas, **Hoxne**: wear
your angel wings!

Sunday 3rd October**Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**

Outdoor Harvest Service in **Redlingfield**
as part of Produce Show (time to be
confirmed); 11am CW Holy Communion,
Wingfield; 4pm Messy Church in **Syleham Village Hall**.

Sunday 10th October**Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**

9.30 am CW Holy Communion,
Redlingfield; 9.30am Café Church, **Hoxne**.

Sunday 17th October**Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**

11.15am Harvest Service, **Horham**; 6pm
Evensong, **Wingfield**.

Sunday 24th October**Last Sunday after Trinity**

11am CW Holy Communion, **Denham**;
4pm All Age service, **Hoxne**.

Saturday 30th October

4pm Service of Memorial and
Thanksgiving, **Hoxne**.

Sunday 31st October All Saints

11am Benefice Service, **Horham**.

Sunday 7th November**Third Sunday before Advent**

11am CW Holy Communion, **Wingfield**;
4pm Messy Church in **Syleham Village Hall**.

Sunday 14th November**Remembrance Sunday**

10.45am Remembrance service,
Redlingfield; 3pm Remembrance service,
Horham.

Sunday 21st November**Christ the King**

11.15am BCP Holy Communion, **Horham**;
6pm Evensong, **Wingfield**.

Sunday 28th November**Advent Sunday**

11am CW Holy Communion, **Denham**;
4pm Advent Service, **Athelington**.

Abbreviations: BCP – Book of Common
Prayer CW – Common Worship.



AS I SIT TO WRITE THIS article, it seems apposite to reflect upon how the Covid-19 pandemic has changed all of our lives and no one would

doubt that it has been an incredibly difficult and challenging time for all of us, but it has also brought us together.

Here in Suffolk we have a proud track record of coming together in our communities to help those in need and to support each other, so I would personally like to thank all of you for your efforts and resilience during this difficult time.

As we now begin to look forward, I am hopeful that we are now coming through the worst and I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible in person once again over the coming weeks and months.

I'm especially looking forward to getting out and about to enjoy the range of local events that are starting to pop up, not to mention stocking up on our fabulous local produce.

I am particularly enthusiastic about the marvellous food and drink offering we have here and my weekends at home in Suffolk are often spent at local markets and events. I always buy my food and drink locally, where I can, to support our local businesses wherever possible.

It never ceases to amaze me the sheer diversity that we have right here on our door step – from locally produced cheeses and meats, to cordials, cider, beer and wine, and sauces, preserves and pickles, all grown, packaged and produced so creatively right in Suffolk.

The success of these businesses is vital to our strong rural economy and I think we all have a part to play in ensuring that we think local and buy local whenever we can. There is so much great work going on here already to educate our children and young people on the importance of not only eating well – a healthy and balanced diet, but also eating locally and seasonally.

This is vitally important in reducing the number of miles our food travels before it reaches our plate and of course, fresh produce that's in season always tastes so much better.


With the harvest season upon us, it's vital that we all continue to do our best to buy local and support local produce. I am a great supporter of our local farmers and regularly meet with the NFU and the farming community.

I will continue to do my very best to support our hardworking farmers here in Suffolk and wish them all a fruitful and plentiful harvest.

Dr Dan Poulter, MP, I hold regular constituency advice surgeries to help people who have problems. If you think that I may be able to help you, contact 01728 685148, or email me via www.drdanielpoulter.com. For more information please visit www.drdanielpoulter.com

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