## Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield NEWS

### Spring 2025 Issue No. 68



# Service and repairs to all cars, light commercial and 4x4s Specialists in vehicle diagnostics Free local collection and delivery Courtesy car available Prompt attention assured Competitive rates

### (01379) 384689

Open 8.00am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, 8am-noon Saturdays Barley Hall, Laxfield Road, Stradbroke, IP21 5NQ on the B1117 - 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile outside Stradbroke, towards Laxfield ■ LOCAL GOVERNMENT: There are plans to "fix" local Government with "simpler and more effective structures and a reduction in unnecessary layers of bureaucracy".

There are two elements: The creation of a new Strategic Authority covering both Norfolk and Suffolk, headed up by a single elected mayor. It will be responsible for strategic areas such as transport infrastructure, skills, economic development, health improvement, housing and blue light services (police and fire).

In Suffolk the County Council and all the local/District Councils will be abolished and replaced with one or two or three larger Councils responsible for delivering all local government services in their area. Town and Parish Councils will not be affected.

We are not allowed to vote on these proposals but are invited to give our views. Consultation ends 13 April: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution-consultation

Suffolk County Council is responsible for: education, all social care, highways, Fire service, trading standards, libraries, community safety, registering births, culture etc.

Local councils, eg Mid Suffolk, are responsible for: planning and building control, rubbish collection, recycling, Council Tax and Business Rates, Council Housing, Housing Benefits, licencing (taxis, drinks etc), grants, environmental protection etc.

A big thank you to all our deliverers, contributors and advertisers & in particular Jan for tech support & Midge Gibbons for proofreading. Any errors are mine. *Mike Ager* 

If you would like to advertise or contribute to the magazine or have an event or organisation you would like featured contact editor: Mike Ager on mike@gn.apc.org or 01379 678835 at Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 70U.



Deadlines for adverts & editorial: Spring issue (Mar, April & May) Final deadline February 14

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

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

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



Printed by Seale Print, The Quadrangle Centre, The Drift, Nacton Road, Ipswich, IP3 9QR. 01473 276010, www.pjprint.com.

Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield News was founded in 2008 by Evelyn Adey and Mike Ager.

# Walking in search of autumn wildlife ...

ur autumn walks in search of birdlife were less rewarding than usual but the exercise was good for us. However, Arkengarthdale in the Yorkshire Dales in September did show us a beautiful and lesser-known songbird, the dipper. Why does it constantly do it? It could be that the dipping is a means of communication over the noisy river water where it can dive and swim for up to 30 seconds. "Isn't Nature a wonderful thing" says my old friend Doc Goodge and it certainly applies to the dipper which has denser bones to counteract buoyancy when feeding underwater. The photo of the kestrel in the sun was not here in Suffolk but again in the Dales, we disturbed it picking at a dead rabbit and it perched for a photograph while we passed.

More successful was the Waveney Bird Club's autumn walk from Winterton to Horsey, an area aptly described by one member as the coast that time forgot. It was a good stroll over pockmarked dunes resembling a moonscape and I regretted being too slow to see the common cranes spotted by some of the group. We saw a few stonechats which favour the eastern coastal areas in winter, the male pictured here being a real little show-off, and breeding grey seals were abundant on the shoreline.

On another day at Blakeney we resisted the well-known common seal attraction and headed inland to explore a little chalk stream called the River Glaven which had been featured on the enjoyable TV programme



#### Wash Farm - Wildlife

#### Trevor Edwards' latest Wash Farm Wildlife

"Gone Fishing". Thwarted on a footpath blocked by the owner of the large house of Bayfield Estate, we briefly enjoyed a beechwood walk where we came across a WW2 legacy, an Alan Williams Turret, which I had never heard of and was described as a mobile metal pillbox for machine gun or anti-aircraft fire. Now only 30 remain because post-war metal salvage accounted for many more which had helped guard the airfields. After enjoying the lovely rolling Norfolk views, the beer at the Wiveton Bell finished the day very well. It is a great part of the world despite having more Chelsea tractors than farm tractors but if you do visit this pub then please heed the warning of a road sign which says simply "Slow You Down".

It was the middle of December and driving through the village I saw both Graham and Caroline on their ride-on mowers, a prompt to put aside thoughts of Christmas and get on with the same task at home. This new winter chore comes with the same unseasonal show of primroses in flower and although spring activity doesn't show itself till the days lengthen, I heard the distinctive Great Tit call of "teecher-teecher" in the



This page: a Dales kestrel waiting in the sun & a male stonechat on display at Winterton Marshes. Facing page: the river-loving dipper.

middle of January. The well-hidden nest of the yellowhammer can be easily seen in wintertime, and I found an old one on Cranley Green, wellbuilt of woven grass and placed low in brambles where field meets hedge. *Continued on page 4.* 

#### WILDLIFE - WASH FARM



#### Continued from page 3.

Here we limit the bushwhacker cutting in order to leave an untidy field margin for this colourful farmland bird. Nearby I disturbed a woodcock which, unusually for a wader, it is found inland in woods and damp ditches and not on the coast. Why this beautiful secretive wader became a gamebird is a mystery to me though not many got shot thank goodness. On a farm shoot, the host would declare the rules for the day which would state no ground game (ie no hares and rabbits for safety reasons) and often say ... and my wife would prefer you not to shoot a woodcock ... thus ensuring the booted and suited blokes without exception fell into line.

Two of Grandmothers' sayings, "An Apple a day keeps the doctor Away" and "Waste not Want not" come to mind when the grandchildren raid the fruit bowl and then watch me with a "what on earth" look as I retrieve the core from the rubbish bin to feed to the

HAN INDOOR & PLUS PR WINDOW & PRESS

HANDYMAN INDOOR & OUTDOOR JOBS PLUS PROFESSIONAL WINDOW CLEANING & PRESSURE WASHING

0787 6512815 or 0784 7874999 mpcook123@outlook.com www.cookspressurewashing.co.uk Domestic, Agricultural, & Commercial Pressure Washing & Window Cleaning

#### Wash Farm - Wildlife



birds. A frosty February is the bird's hungry month and the small fry of robin, chaffinch and wren all take a ringside seat as three blackbirds fight over the unexpected bonus. Caroline Southgate who is the daughter of farming friends near Attleborough is a keen amateur photographer and captured this bluetit on a frosted shrub. We are hoping for a good Barn Owl year with good sightings being reported by Duncan and Zara at Toll Barn and Oli Knowland at nearby Denham. Oli is excited to see the return to Grove Farm because for years

This page: a blackbird enjoys a winter snack and a yellowhammer nest. Facing page: winter scene by Caroline Southgate and the Alan Williams Turret provides a brief resting place.

his box had been taken over by jackdaws and he had cleared out the twigs to give the barn owl a chance. During courtship the male barn owl feeds the female, no doubt desperate to impress and not unlike to us when dining out with our wife-to-be.

### **Optimal Heating**

Father & Son Team With over 30 years experience

**Specialist Heating Engineers** Oil, Natural Gas & LPG Servicing and Repairs



Tel: 01728 628687 Mobile: 07806 660399



#### WILDLIFE - COLNET CONSERVATION

# Mud, mud, glorious

Hello Everyone and a very Happy New Year. We've had a very muddy Winter here at Colnet Conservation! All the rain has made the meadows extremely boggy and our many walks have involved a lot of sliding and squelching! As you can see however, we do like a bit of mud and one of Arthur's recent forest school sessions really put Mum's washing machine to the test! We also like exploring all of the footprints in the mud around our pathways. A



bit like when we've had a good fall of snow - it's great to see what animals have been out and about during the night, leaving their marks for us to find. On one of our most used pathways, we have set up our motion camera again to try and catch some of the animals on film. Hopefully, we will have some interesting sightings to report in the next newsletter.

In January, we took part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. We had a few great birds to add to our report, including a kestrel, both great spotted and Green

#### **COLNET CONSERVATION - WILDLIFE**

# **mud** ....

woodpeckers and a huge flock of redwing, which landed in the ash above the back pond. We did notice though, that our flocks of chaffinches, greenfinches, and goldfinches are so much smaller than they used to be. When we first moved here in 2010, during the Winter we would see brambling, siskin and bullfinches at our feeders, along with flocks of 50+ chaffinches, 20+ greenfinches and a similar number of goldfinches. The ground would also be covered in blackbirds and fieldfare, but this is now very different.

The decline in our wild birds is a great cause for concern. We noticed on the lead-up to Christmas, that we weren't really seeing any blackbirds at all. Overall, their numbers have decreased by 18% UK-wide since the 1970s due to multiple factors including habitat loss. This is reflected in the fall in numbers of many wild birds and again this is due to habitat loss and the removal of vital linked hedgerows and trees between remaining habitats. Also, tidier gardens and heavily flailed hedgerows and verges mean natural food sources like invertebrates, hedgerow fruits and berries, and seeds from plants such as thistles, are not available. It is important to feed our wild birds, but it is also extremely important to leave wild areas and verges to provide them with a natural, varied food supply. Sunflower hearts and suet balls for example, should be more of a 'top-up', than a main source of food. Continued on page 8 Edward in the frost on the meadow & muddy Arthur..

#### WILDLIFE - COLNET CONSERVATION

#### Continued from page 7

Last Spring, we noticed our Kestrels looking at a potential nesting site in our front woods, quite near the house. We decided this year to provide them with another box nearby, just to give them a bit more choice. We had a hunt

around for wood that we could use to make a box and came across a wooden drawer from an old desk – one that used to be for drop-files. We had a measure-up and a think about what we could do to alter it and managed to transform it into a good-looking Kestrel box! The front of the drawer became the back. we halved the size of the original back to make the new front, added a bit of strength to the bottom and cut a new top with an

<image>

overhang. A couple of coats of weather treatment, a bit of plastic to protect the roof and the all-important stick at the entrance and we were ready to put it up! The stick is used as a perch for food passes between the male and female during courting and feeding the young, and then it becomes a 'gym' for the young once they start to exercise their wings up to fledging. We are really pleased with how it has turned out and that we've managed to upcycle something into what will hopefully be a successful nest-site. We will keep you updated as to whether it proves popular!

Évery Spring, we listen for the first

sound of the Chiffchaff. Usually, it's around the 20th March and we always mark it on the calendar. On a recent walk however, we did actually hear a Chiffchaff making it's more subtle call of a 'peep' as it hunted for insects in the branches. This one was likely to have over-wintered, which some do, rather than migrating with the majority. It was lovely to hear and we really look forward to hearing

the more common 'chiff-chaff' call when it's cousins arrive from across the seas and it joins them in their quirky Springtime call.

We hope you have enjoyed reading our latest article.

Have a lovely Spring Everyone,

From Henry, Arthur & Edward, Colnet Conservation (sarahcolnet@outlook.com)

### Fleurs Artisan Florist & Greengrocer



### Something to celebrate ... Mother's Day Sunday March 30

Arrangements 
Bouquets
Garlands
Hand-tied & aqua pack
gift-boxed bouquets

Greengrocery orders for collection, email us and we can forward our list by return.

Please order early to avoid disappointment.

For opening times please visit our www.fleursartisan.co.uk



Fleurs Artisan Florist & Greengrocer, 6 Church Street, Eye www.fleursartisan.co.uk, 01379 831083, fleursartisan@btconnect.com



#### Ian's Private Hire

For all your taxi needs

Local/Long journeys Days/Nights out Airports/Cruise terminals

www.iansprivatehire.com iansprivatehire@gmail.com Phone: 07825 001270



#### WILDLIFE - NEW REEDING WOODS GROUP

# **Spring is**

The winter sun was shining as I walked through the woods in early January. The ground was water logged and the pond full. The sound of water running in the ditches brought to mind the weather saying "February fill dyke". Crab apples, now all fallen from the trees, lay in pools of water throughout the meadow by the pond. After the dry summer I tried to be grateful for the wet and mud. Looking up at the winter branches bare against the sky changes your perspective.

The alder was looking stunning with its deep purple male catkins and smaller red female catkins. Last year's cones were still hanging and the new buds were starting to show purple and pointed on the twigs. The hazels also had silvery green catkins standing out at the edge of the ride. The white papery bark of the silver birch caught my eye. At ground level the mosses are thriving around the base of the trees, enjoying the damp and shady conditions. Higher up on the branches, lichens we're catching the sun and adding colour to the edges of the path.

A squirrel was busy in the oak at the entrance to the meadow but would not stay still for a photo. The sloes are going over but some rose hips still showed red in the hedge. A brambling flew into the woods from the adjoining field, distinguished from a chaffinch by its bright white rump.

**10** Spring 2025

#### **New Reeding Woods Group - Wildlife**

# arriving...

In the bare branches it is easier to spot last years' nests, some still looking neat and tidy though damp. Hopefully the bird boxes will be used this year.

Walking in the meadow always lifts my spirits and I hope that it will be enjoyed by all who visit this year.
Winter should be on its way out and spring arriving when you read this
If you are interested in joining the New Reeding Woods Group and getting hands on experience of improving our local environment and enjoying outdoor activities, please contact our secretary Peny Conway on 07495 875299.

000 Finance An alder with catkins and last year's cones.



Wood Flooring Amtico Karndean Carpets Sisal Runners

Contact us today to transform your space







Visit our new showroom -19 Church Street, Eye, IP23 7BD

> T: 01379 870190 E: info@eyeflooring.co.uk W: www.eyeflooring.co.uk



#### HORHAM OLD SCHOOL

# **Festive successes ...**

e were delighted with the popularity of our Christmas opening. A good crowd enjoyed the festive gathering and there was an abundance of good cheer in the bar! We are planning to open again on Christmas day this year, but you don't have to wait that long, the bar is open every Sunday from noon. Our Christmas raffle was probably the biggest ever; many thanks to everyone who contributed and put together the lovely prizes, as well of course to



all who bought tickets. We hope all the lucky winners have enjoyed their prizes!

Our next raffle will be at Easter, we are accepting contributions. Do keep an eye on the display near the bar.

The Old School musicians delighted with their Christmas performance; it is lovely to hear the traditional tunes and songs in our building setting the mood for the season.

The Wednesday coffee mornings continue to be popular, and during the recent cold dark weeks The Old School has provided a

#### HORHAM OLD SCHOOL



plants. If you are green fingered and would like to help us, or have some surplus plants, we will be very pleased to hear from you. Please see someone at coffee morning on Wednesdays

warm and cosy refuge for a get together and chat. Thank you to the volunteers who make the lovely cakes and savouries and to those who serve the really good coffee and tea and, of course, to all those who wash up!

This year we are planning to tidy up the garden and are hoping for some volunteers and donations of or at the bar on Sunday.

• Coffee mornings every Wednesday 10.30am-noon.

• The Bar is open every Sunday noon-5pm.

• The Old School is available for hire (ring Pip on 07305108698).

Horham and Athelington Village Hall Committee



Electrician 07756 204 354

Horham Suffolk danlamb@live.co.uk 01379 384 889

#### HORHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

# Bar meals are back ...

The Membership Night on Friday, 31st. January saw members gather together to pay their membership, and look forward to winning the lottery!

Maryann and family organised a Pudding Party on Saturday, 8th. February, a delicious sweet-fest. Angela and Sadie are resuming Bar Meals on Saturday 22nd. February. Here's to the resumption of the best lasagne in the village!

Up and coming events include an Open Mic Night on Saturday 8th March and John Kirkum Quiz night on Saturday 26th April (£6 per person, teams of four,





Denmark House, 1 & 2a Carmel Works Park Road, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4AS Tel: 07879 776175 (24hr)



includes snack. Book and pay by April 19th on 07775672220). On Saturday 14th. June there's "BBC" in Horham (Bygones, Beer and Crafts) and on Saturday 12th July there will be a car boot/scrap collection.

Our thanks to all bar staff and gardeners and the maintenance department. Looking forward to the longer days and the events in the summer months.

We're all thankful that David and Irene continue to open the shop on a Friday and Saturday morning since Post Office closed - no papers, cash only!

Margaret Streeter, for Horham & Athelington Community Council

#### See our customer reviews at

www.susanwhymark.co.uk Email: susan@susanwhymark.co.uk

# **STUMP GRINDING**

#### Call Tony on 07949608243 for a quote



Also Mini Diggers, Dumpers, Rollers etc for hire. Based in Denham.

### Paul Durrant & Son Ltd Carpentry Services

#### MANY ASPECTS OF CARPENTRY

- Kitchen fitting
- Fitted wardrobes
- Storage solutions
- Window & door replacements
- Timber-framed sheds & home offices

Office: 01379 678485 Email: pauldurrantandsonbuilders@gmail.com or johndurrant75@gmail.com

#### GARDENING WITH ANDY



## There's a

For those of you that are willing to brave the weather, if it allows, there is still plenty to do in the garden. From getting all the fallen leaves and twigs off the lawn, to dead heading roses, cutting back herbaceous perennials by half ... the list goes on!

After a dreadful wet winter we can now finally look forward to, hopefully, a glorious spring and the colours it brings.

If it is in the form of bulbs, herbaceous plants or shrubs,

#### YOUR RELIABLE LOCAL PLUMBER



Anglian Water Approved

#### Mark Jardine

**Plumbing & Heating** 



- All Household Plumbing, Large or Small
- Full Bathroom Installation
- Domestic Heating, Radiators, Pumps etc.
- Water Softeners
- All Work Anglian Water Certified
- Free Estimates & Fully Insured
- 24 Hour Emergency Call Out

#### Tel: 01728 628291 Mob: 07854 924 801 Email: mgjardine@btinternet.com

16 Spring 2025



### GARDENING WITH ANDY spring in my step!

they are to be enjoyed in all their glory.

Favourites of mine are the large pom-pom head allium bulbs, the herbaceous foxglove that is a biennial and will selfseed and the viburnum tinus shrub with it small fragrant pink and white flowers.

But preference is a personal thing and there are many spring plants to choose from yourself.

Dare I say it - it may be time to dust down the mower from the shed and get it ready for the first lawn-cut tidy of the year. If like me you just drained the old petrol out and put it away it may benefit from an oil and spark plug change and some fresh new petrol. Also, if the old mower blade cannot be resharpened and balanced, replace with a brand new blade. Then hopefully, once this has all has been undertaken and without too many arm and shoulder wrenching pulls, it will fire first time!

If we are going to undertake the first cut it might be a good time to re-edge the borders as well, as over the course of time you can loose that clean line. You may have to run a string line/straight board and lightly cut away an inch or two of lawn on straight borders with your trusty half-moon edging iron. For curved beds or borders I tend to do by eye, but you can use a hose pipe. Pin it down to shape and hope it won't contort while edging.

Hopefully, we will only be getting light frosts and definitely no snow from now on! So it should be safe to cut down all previous season's flower stems to ground level and watch the new shoots emerge. Cover emerging shoots with compost and either leave on top as a mulch for the worms to do their magic or alternatively lightly till in after several weeks, being extra careful to avoid emerging shoots of herbaceous plants and bulbs.

Well that's left you all a few things to be getting on with in the next couple of weeks! *Andy* 

#### LOCAL HISTORY

### **Heading for northern mills**

Regular readers may remember the article a couple of years ago about the Jackson family emigrating from Redlingfield to America in the 1830s. It would seem that they were not the only people trying to leave Suffolk for a better life elsewhere. In 1836 the French family from Horham moved to hopefully find a better future in the cotton mills of Yorkshire.

I came across this story purely by accident while I was searching for information on the Rowe family of Horham Mill for another article in this magazine. I had 'googled' Horham Mill and Google came up with a website with the words 'Horham' and 'Mill' both included. This was a website produced by Gillian Waters charting the history of her ancestors from Horham and Athelington to the cotton mills in Yorkshire and beyond.

In the 1830s agriculture was in a state of depression and jobs were difficult to get. Also in this part of Suffolk a lot of hemp had been grown for weaving hemp cloth (the water mill on the Waveney at Syleham near Harleston was a textile mill and not a corn mill). In that period good agricultural land in this part of the country was often advertised for sale as 'good hemp land'. The industrialisation of spinning and weaving in the north of England would have produced cheaper cloth and lead to the decline of the textile industry in Suffolk. It is possible that the French family may have already been employed in the textile industry and were attracted to better wages in the north making use of the skills that they had.

The Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 had made life much more difficult for the poor and unemployed and made Work Houses much worse places to be.

The problem was that farming was in a state of depression, and with farmers being the people who were paying the Poor Rates there was an incentive for the guardians of the parish to sponsor families to move to somewhere else where they could get work. This would have of course involved spending money in the short term on transport, but would then remove all costs of supporting families of paupers in the long term. By July 1836, 184 families with 1,416 members had been removed from Suffolk to the cotton mills in the north. One of those families was James and Elizabeth French and their five sons who travelled to Cragg Vale, Errington, Yorkshire in April 1836.

The transport of paupers from London to the north was organised by the Poor Law Commission. It is possible that the Frenchs and other families from this area were transported by carrier's wagons to join one of the canal boats that departed for the north from the Paddington Basin every evening except Sunday.

#### LOCAL HISTORY



They then faced five days in cramped conditions living on the provisions that they had brought with them for the journey, until they arrived at Mytholmrovd on the Rochdale Canal.

Soon after their long journey they were interviewed by Mr Murgatroyd, the agent for the Poor Law Commissioners at Manchester and provided with jobs.

In the Poor Law Annual Report of 1836 there is an extract from a letter written by James and Elizabeth French, now employed by Messrs. Greenwood & Brothers of Mytholmroyd Bridge, near Halifax: addressed to Mr. John Pettet, grocer and draper of Athelington near Eye, Suffolk. 20th April 1836.

"We are all well, thank God for it. We have all according to the agreement. We have met with no disappointments. There is no fear of work here if it be contracted for, and by reason of contracts you will be sure of work; but if you come of your own heads perhaps you will not happen of a master. Men's wages run from 10s. to 25s. per week, and such as shoemakers, carpenters and tailors are scarce in the country. We have a house quite as large as yours; and, dear father, we are not disappointed. Here is a good living for the working hands, and the work agrees very well with all our families"

It is probable that this letter was written

on behalf of James and Elizabeth. Mr Murgatroyd's intention would have been to show the benefits of the migration scheme in his report to the Poor Law Commissioners in 1836, and the letter may have been solicited from the French family with this in mind.

By 1844 the family had moved to Bury in Lancashire and their sons married there and started their own families. They must have found conditions reasonably comfortable because by 1861 James' brother Robert moved from Horham to Bury in Lancashire with his wife, six sons and one daughter. On the 1851 census for Horham, Robert and his six sons we're all recorded as working as farm labourers, so it was probably the promise of higher wages in the north rather than lack of employment that caused them to move.

If you want ro discover more about the French family, this is the link to the superbly researched web page www.bgwaters.co.uk/French3.htm *Stephen Ling* 

#### **Red Feather Club**

# **Big 2025 ahead for the**

The 95th BGHA is looking forward to an exciting 2025 season with what is shaping up to be the busiest year ever at the Red Feather Club.

As well as the usual trio of dances with big-name acts arranged by Andy Garner - in April there's The Biscuit Town Band, in June Cody Lee and in September David Broad and the Meanwood Valley Stompers - there are also two charity dances, one for the 96th Bomb Group during their Victory in Japan Reunion and

one during the 95th's own Victory in Europe themed reunion.

There are a host of major visits planned including three Masters of the Air tours from The National WWII Museum in New Orleans and large groups from both abroad and the UK. The monthly open days should continue to be a massive draw with



live music and food trucks organised by Robin Satwick. Americana Day on Sunday 29th June will see the best of America on offer with food, music, re-

enactors and everything from Harleys to hotrods.

But the highlight will surely be the 95th Bomb

• The Red Feather Club Museum at Coldhams Hill, Denham, IP21 5DG, is run by the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association (Charity No: 1119769). Visit: www.95thbg-horham.com. Contact: enquiries@95thbg-horham.com.



# **Red Feather Club ...**

Group Heritage Association reunion in the UK along with the 80th Anniversary of VE Day in May. Our American friends will get to visit the Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial, the Royal Estate Sandringham and King's Lynn, go on a military vehicle run to Parham Airfield and experience a 1940s-style street party. Mike Ager

#### **RED FEATHER CLUB EVENTS 2025**

Saturday 15 March Charity Swing Dance - fundraiser for Norfolk & Norwich Hospital & Priscilla Bacon Lodge with DJs Andy Av8 & The Baker Boy. Sunday 30 March Open Day. Saturday 26 April Dance -

The Biscuit Band & Guest DJ Rob Be Bop.

Sunday 27 April **Open Day.** Thursday 8 May-Tuesday 13 May **Reunion.** 

Sunday 25 May Open Day.

Saturday 28 June Dance -Dance with Cody Lee & guest DJ Jive Bomber. Sunday 29 June Americana Day.

Sunday 27 July **Open Day.** Sunday 31 August **Open Day.** Saturday 27 September **Dance** 

- David Broad & the Meanwood Valley Stompers.

Sunday 28 September **Open Day.** 

Saturday 25 October Redlingfield Dance -

fundraiser for Redlingfield with DJs AndyAV8 & more.

Sunday 26 October **Open Day.** Friday 5 December **Carol Service.** 

• Public Open Days 10am-4pm the last Sunday of the Month from 30th March to 26th October.







### HOME & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

#### SOME OF OUR SERVICES

- General Building
- · All aspects of carpentry
- 1st and 2nd fix
- Kitchen fitting
- Roof works and repairs
- · Facia boards and soffit
- Guttering
- Plastering
- · Floor and wall tiling
- · General home improvements
- Fencing
- Fence repair
- Shed repair
- Decking
- Patios
- Shed base, building and fitting
- · Grass cutting
- Hedge cutting

#### **Contact us**



Jwhomeandgarden@outlook.com Meadiehomeandgarden@outlook.com

07432708966 07760928790

homeandgardenmaintenance.co.uk



#### WILBY SCHOOL

#### WILBY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL:

As usual life at Wilby school has been busy and rather wonderful!

We finished the Autumn term with a variety of musical and dramatic performances including our Christmas Music afternoon featuring festive brass, cello and singing. Our carol Service on December 20th was also very well attended by members of the school community. All year groups from YR to Y6 attended the pantomime in Diss Cornhall and had a wonderful time – oh yes they did!

Our Friends of School ran a fabulous Christmas Fair – raising over £1.200 for school funds. The children have been busy too! We have raised an incredible £1,100 for the New Hope Orphanage and Oakridge Primary School in Mombasa, Kenva. Wilby has been working closely with the charity HandinHand who support them for a number of years. Earlier in the Autumn term Wilby school was delighted to welcome Anne Chege who founded the New Hope Charity in Kenya. The children were inspired by Anne's story. She started this 20 years ago and has provided a home and education for over 1.000 children. Her story began with taking in just one orphan into her home and then over the years it expanded to over 100. Anne guit her job at Barclays Bank and with her husband they began New Hope Children's Centre - Uplands, Kenya.

The school council members asked Anne what she would like them to fund raise for and she said the children in the primary school have never had a school trip. In response to this the children decided to organise their sponsored



silence to raise funds.

The Spring Term began with the school setting up their new Eco Council and Sam Oldfield from the Suffolk Waste Management Team came in and worked with the council and led workshops with all classes focussing on food waste. The council has agreed that one of their first actions will be to educate the school community about the importance of birds and local wildlife, to get the children making bird feeders. All took part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Owl Class have been busy visiting and being visited by the staff and residents of Hartismere Place. Their workshop on Dementia had a huge impact on the children and they feel privileged to be able to work with the wonderful residents of the nursing home.

The children have got so many trips booked this term including topic-related trips to Norwich castle, Orford Castle, the Houses of Parliament and the Science Museum.

Never a dull moment!

Mrs Wiseman (Headteacher Wilby CE Primary School)

#### WHAT'S ON

#### Wednesday 5 March

**Redlingfield Coffee Morning:** Hidcote Lodge, 10am-noon.

**Redlingfield & Occold WI:** Occold Village Hall, 7.30pm, games night and social.

#### Saturday 8 March

Open Mic Night: Horham CC.

#### Sunday 9 March

**The Suffolk Savoyards Concert:** Castle Community Rooms, Framlingham.

#### Friday 14 March

**The Ciderhouse Rebellion:** Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm, £14.

#### Saturday 15 March

**Charity Swing Dance:** Red Feather Club (RFC), in aid of the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital & Priscilla Bacon Hospice Charity.. **We Free Spirits:** 5-piece jazz band, The Bank Eye, doors 7pm/start 7.30pm, £10.

Tuesday 25 March Horham & Athelington Parish Council: Horham CC, 7.30pm.

#### Saturday 29 March

**Sam Śweeney:** Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm, £18.

#### Sunday 30 March

Open Day: RFC, 10am-4pm.

Wednesday 2 April

Redlingfield Coffee Caravan: 10am-noon. Redlingfield & Occold WI: Occold Village Hall, 'Master Mason Hawes of Occold'. Redlingfield Doorstep Green Evening Tidy: 4-8pm.

#### Saturday 5 April,

*Take afternoon tea with Southolt Village:* Southolt Village Hall, 2-4.30pm.

#### Friday 11 April

**Eastern Angles production of 'Sophia:** Debenham Sports & Leisure Centre. **Niepold Cutting:** Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm, £17.

#### Saturday 19 April

Redlingfield Doorstep Green weekend tidy.



### The Daily Care Agency

High Banks, Athelington Road, Horham, Eye IP21 5EH (Open Monday to Friday 09.00-17.00 – closed Bank Holidays) Tel: **01379 388438** Mobile: **07977 075301** E-mail: office@thedailycareagency.co.uk

#### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME EXTRA CARE AND SUPPORT TO HELP YOU REMAIN INDEPENDENT WITHIN YOUR OWN HOME AND COMMUNITY?

THE DAILY CARE AGENCY IS A SMALL PRIVATELY OWNED DOMICILIARY AGENCY THAT TAKES PRIDE IN HAVING THE TIME TO CARE AND OFFER INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT TO OUR CLIENTS

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT 01379 388438

#### ARE YOU A CARER? – WE REGULARLY RECRUIT FOR LOCAL CARERS TO JOIN OUR TEAM

The Daily Care Agency is registered and therefore licensed to provide services by the Care Quality Commission. Provider ID 1-101723169

#### What's On

Sunday 20 April **Redlingfield Ditch Day.** Sunday 20 & Monday 21 April Easter Steam Gala weekend: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway (MSLR). Saturday 26 April John Kirkum Quiz Night: Horham CC. Dance - Biscuit Town Swing Band: RFC Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 April East Anglian Game & Country Fair: Euston Estate. Sunday 27 April Open Day: RFC, 10am-4pm. Wednesday 7 May Redlingfield Coffee Caravan: 10am-noon. Redlingfield & Occold WI: Occold. Thursday 8 May 80th Anniversary of VE Day. Thursday 8 May-Tuesday 13 May Reunion: RFC. Monday 12 May Talk by Philippa Langley MBE: Wingfield Church. 7pm. Saturday 17 May Pub on the Green: Doorstep Green, 6pmmidnight. Sunday 18 May Summer Concert: Eye Town Hall, Eye Bach Choir, 3.30pm. Friday 23-Monday 26 May Framlingham Galafest. Sunday 25 & Monday 26 May Spring Plant Fair with Artisan Market: Helmingham Hall. Middy in the 1940s: MSLR.

Wednesday 28 May **Redlingfield Village/Parish Meeting:** Horham CC, 8pm. Wednesday 28 & Thursday 29 May Suffolk Show. Sunday 1 June The Middy Model Railway Show: MSLR. Wednesday 4 June Redlingfield Coffee Caravan: 10am-noon. Saturday 7 June Pub on the Green: Doorstep Green, 6pmmidnight. Sunday 8 June Steam Railway Day: MSLR. Saturday 14 June BBC in Horham: Horham CC, Bygones, Beer and Crafts. Sunday 15 June J.S. & Lockerbillies: Helmingham Hall. Suffolk Vehicle Enthusiasts Club: MSI R. Saturday 21 June Suffolk Day. Sundav 22 June **East Anglian Practical Classics Club visit:** MSLR. Saturday 28 June Dance - Cody Lee: Red Feather Club. Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 June Heveningham Hall Country Fair. Sundav 29 June Americana Day: RFC, 10am-4pm. Jax & Co: Helmingham Hall. Vintage Bus Day: MSLR.

● Eye Cinema - Eye Community Centre, advance tickets from The Handyman. To reserve tickets call Kit Brinkley on 07947 414 968 ● Bank Arts Centre www.thebankeye.org

- Helmingham Hall Gardens www.helmingham.com
- Mid-Suffolk Light Railway www.mslr.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, 7 for 7.30 pm www.stradbrokeonline.org.uk

Wingfield Barns www.wingfieldbarns.com tickets via www.wegottickets.com

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### HAVILLAND (HAV) WILKINS (27 MAR 1951 - 24 NOV 2024). BY SADIE AND AMIE ...

Dad was born at Rouse Hall, Clopton to the late Hav and Joan Wilkins. Both him and his younger brother, Godfrey grew up in Debenham and attended the village schools. When dad left Debenham High, he went on to study A Levels at Suffolk College in Ipswich where he continued to develop his love of woodwork.

During his time at college in Ipswich, he met mum who he married in 1971. Shortly after, they moved to Abingdon in Oxfordshire where he trained to be a teacher at Culham College, part of Oxford University. In 1974, they returned to Debenham, moving to Horham two years later.

Upon his arrival back in Debenham, he began teaching Design and Technology at Bacton Middle School (Bacton Modern School), having worked as a technician in between his studies at Suffolk College.

As many of you know, dad loved being a teacher and found his home from home at Bacton Middle, where he spent his whole teaching career. The workshop was his domain, although he also taught maths and history amongst other subjects. I was always in awe of him when myself, mum and Amie went to school events such as summer fayres, where the pupils designed items to sell as part of the 'Enterprise' project he ran each year. He was really in his element; passing on his love of woodcraft and design to generations of pupils who held him in such high regard. This has been evident in the wonderful messages we have

received over the last few weeks from pupils he taught and colleagues who worked alongside him.

Bacton Middle School has had a longlasting impact on me for another reason; little did I know that I would end up marrying one of dad's former pupils. Fortunately for me, Nigel wasn't frightened off when he realised who his future father-in-law was.

Four years after moving to Horham mum and dad were blessed with two

daughters who kept him on his toes! His love of teaching rubbed off on both of us, Sadie and I are now teachers working in small village primary schools.

I have many wonderful memories of dad ... here are a few that I'd like to share with you. Dad would never go anywhere without a pencil tucked behind his ear in

case he needed to draw or write something down. He had an eclectic taste in music, and I shall always remember him listening to Jeff Wayne's *War of the Worlds* through his headphones with the volume turned up and him humming away to the music with his eyes closed.

When I was in my teens, dad, mum and I were keen bell-ringers, and every year we would attend a bell-ringing outing with our fellow bell-ringers. On this particular occasion, the weather was very cold and icy so we decided to set off in good time. We took a packed lunch with us, in a cool box which dad had put behind the driver's seat of the car. As our house was on a slight bend, I saw dad out onto the road. I then opened the door behind the driver's seat and noticed the cool box. So I shut the door with the intention of walking around the back of the car and getting into the other side. When I was halfway round the car, dad drove off leaving me standing in the middle of the road! I didn't know whether to laugh or cry as I watched him drive off into the distance thinking: he's going to notice I'm not there surely! It took a good few minutes for him to realise, by which time I had decided to go inside and wait for him. Apparently, so Sadie says, I wasn't in a very good mood at the time - but I can laugh about it now!

Dad was always happy with what he had and not materialistic. He was always reflective. Back in the summer dad and I were chatting and I commented that him and mum had had a couple of rubbish years and that I hoped things would improve soon. Dad's response was "well yes, we have had a couple of tough years, but the way I look at it is that we've had lots of lovely years before that".

Dad went out of his way to help other people and causes he believed in. Both him and mum have always been heavily involved in village life. Dad helped to transport the community centre building from North London back in the late 70s/early 80s. He was known for holding 'kipper nights' and, later on, fish and chip nights, which were enjoyed by many. In the 80s, he was instrumental in helping to organise summer country fayres.

For over 40 years he sat on the parish council and served as chairman for roughly 20 years. After he retired, dad volunteered for the Mid Suffolk Light Railway in Brockford. He not only servied food and drinks to customers (under mum's guidance!) on steam days but also redesigned the tea room and helped transform a railway carriage into a bar.

So many people know dad because of his love for woodwork; he ran an evening class at Bacton Middle for over 40 years. Along with friends and past students, he then helped to set up a community workshop at Blacks Farm in Bacton. The workshop soon became a group of likeminded people who shared dad's vision for making things out of not only wood but metal and other materials. We feel incredibly humbled and pleased to know that dad's legacy of craftsmanship will live on at the community workshop.

Dad was proud of his family and was thrilled by the arrival of his grandsons, Reece and then Elliot. Both share dad's love of trains and have enjoyed many happy hours running *Lady Angela*, his miniature steam train, along the rail line he built in the garden.

There is so much more to say about dad. He was also a keen gardener, chocolate-lover (Dairy Milk), enthusiastic viewer of traditional British comedy programmes and an avid reader. Dad, you have left us with so many wonderful memories; we will always love you and miss you more than words can say.



#### IN MEMORIAM

#### EDWARD JAMES "TED" HARVEY (06/09/1936 - 21/10/2024). BY DAPHNE ...

Ted was born at Rose cottage, Athelington Road, Horham. He was the youngest of nine children of Alice and Albert Harvey. His love of farming began as a young child. Ted would come over to Oak farm, just over the road, every Saturday and help harness the Suffolk Punch "Scot". He was only eight years old or so at the time and had to stand on steps to reach, with his only instructions from his father being to "stay away from their back legs!"

His first job, after leaving Stradbroke school at 15 years old was at Frenches Garage in Eye, biking there daily. He did have a six-month stint of National Service but was discharged after a knee injury in training. From there he went to work at Bloomfields agricultural engineers in Debenham travelling on a motorbike. Ted's love of farming continued and in 1963 he started working for Robert and John Davy at Grove Farm, Athelington. He worked for them for over 30 years and later for the Havers at Athelington Hall.

At the same time Ted and I also ran a small pig breeding business, moving from our first home, Hillview, Athelington (now The Old Manse) to a bigger property to expand this business. That bigger property was Oak Farm where he used to come to as a child. Ted worked very hard with tow jobs.

We married in 1965 and were blessed with the arrival of Jane in 1966, to be followed in later years by Paul, Mark and Ruth.

All our married life we kept a large fruit and vegetable garden which supplied

> COME JOIN AND SHARE WITH OTHER LADIES FOR A DAY OF TEACHING, SINGING & FRIENDSHIP

#### 10AM TO 3PM SATURDAY 15TH MARCH 2025 HORHAM BAPTIST CHURCH,

LADIES DAY

£10 PER PERSON LUNCH & REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

#### WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME NAY DAWSON TO TEACH, INSPIRE & ENCOURAGE USFROM GOD'S WORD

Nay lives in Southampton and has written stories for kids that raise curiosity about Jesus, and she is also the author of She Needs – Women Flourishing in the Church. Nay is the founder of Passion for Evangelism – a network of creative, public female evangelists, is a Trustee for the Cowrie Scholarship Foundation, which raises funds for disadvantaged Black British students, and a trustee for Friends International.

#### FOR MORE INFO OR TO BOOK YOUR PLACE WWW.HORHAMBAPTIST.ORG.UK/FLOURISH



28 Spring 2025

#### IN MEMORIAM

nearly all our family needs. Ted cut the acre of grass, trimmed the hedges and shrubs and did the grounds work himself.

During his lifetime Ted owned six cars. A Vauxhall Victor with his brother Arthur and then a Morris Minor pickup truck and then he developed his love for Fords! He bought a Cortina estate in 1968. He was very pleased

with it and none too happy when Paul and Mark burnt out all the electrics in it. Other Fords followed up to the Mondeo today.

Ted and I ferried the family to scouts and guides over the years and later to work places until they could drive.

All his life Ted took an interest in the farming year. He particularly enjoyed taking Ruth to Cransford Hall one harvest time where the Foster brothers of Badingham had grown crops of corn for thatching. To see this harvested in the old-fashioned way with stooks across the field was quite a picture of a bygone era.

When the family were young a highlight of the year was an annual day out to the seaside at Lowestoft. The children loved it. We always had fish chips and got the children those hand windmills and treated them to ice creams.

Ted was a great husband and father. Our children have many happy memories of their childhood with Ted's love and patience! One evening in the early hours the boys had handbrake turned Paul's car into a ditch. Ted took a tow rope to pull it out with pithy comments on the standard of driving on a straight road!

Ted would use his skills to help the



children when they were married in whatever way he could. He helped our daughter Jane and Richard, her husband, when they bought their old run-down house with-overgrown garden in Pakefield. The front of the house was covered in thick brambles, and I told Ted to be careful as we cleared them, to not sever the BT cable, only for

me to do so instead, to Ted's amusement,

Ted enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, Lizzie, Joshua and Daniel. Lizzie spent a lot of time with us when she was young. Ted would read her bedtime stories. He read to his grandsons Josh and Dan too.

Ted always supported my work for St Marys, attending events with me and services all his life. He was christened at the church as a baby, we married there and finally his funeral and burial were in the church yard, that he helped to cut through the years.



#### **Redlingfield & Occold WI**

■ **REDLINGFIELD & OCCOLD WI:** Our group finished 2024 with a very enjoyable Christmas meal.

In January 2025, member Julia Lindon gave a thoroughly inspiring talk based on her and her husband Alex's cycling challenge - North Sea to the Alps. Their niece Sophie, who lives in Switzerland, was diagnosed with kidney cancer and successfully treated. Julia and Alex wanted to raise money for children with cancer in the UK. They were not experienced cyclists, but prepared well with local routes and advice from the cycling shop in Diss. Then they set off with all their luggage in just two panniers!

Their route was the Euro Velo 15 from Hook of Holland to Basel and the Alps. They cycled out of Occold in April 2024 and from Harwich they took the night ferry to Schoonhoven. Even though the weather was poor they enjoyed cycling beside the famous windmills in Holland. 'King's Day' was very busy with people celebrating the 'bank holiday.

On day 3 they completed 100km and crossed into Germany at Arnhem. They enjoyed seeing storks on nesting platforms and medieval fortresses on the way to Dusseldorf. They continue through Cologne, with its famous cathedral, to Bonn, where they had a rest day.

Cycling through the Rhine gorge was beautiful with its vineyards, castles and cathedrals. As they cycled into France the weather was terrible and Julia visited the EU parliament in Strasbourg covered in mud! The next day, however, the sky was blue. The weather continued to improve as they entered Switzerland. By the time



**30** Spring 2025

#### **Redlingfield & Occold WI**

they reached the Alps it was hot and they had raised £3,000.

In February, author Natalie Meg Evans described her journey from a childhood passion for writing to success as a published author 30 years later. Her mum encouraged her early promise, but sadly, her father was killed in a road accident in 1967: this trauma is reflected in many of Natalie's novels as the heroines experience intense drama. However, there is always an uplifting ending.

Natalie was thwarted by agents and a particularly harsh critique, but didn't give up. She moved to Suffolk 17 years ago and entered writing competitions, winning the Harry Bowling prize for unpublished writers in 2014. She now has 11 published novels, with more to come.

# the Merine Momen

Sadly, Natalie's mum didn't live to witness her success.

Our next meeting on 5th March is a games night and social. On 2nd April

we welcome Dave Steward, who will give some historical insight into our village with his talk 'Master Mason Hawes of Occold'. On May 7th we will discuss the new WI Resolution, thinking about how we can help promoting a worthy cause.

We usually meet on the first Wednesday of the month in Occold Village Hall at 7.30pm. If you would like more information please contact Sara Hampson (President) on 01379 678868, or just come along to a meeting. We look forward to welcoming you. **Gill Chapman** 



#### HORHAM & ATHELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL & NEWS

#### HORHAM & ATHELINGTON PARISH

**COUNCIL:** It seems to have been a quiet time since the last newsletter, for me, at least. We appeared to avoid the worst of the weather this season (at the moment) and it always feels like we should be in hibernation.

However, there are changes coming in many parts of our area, one way or another, in the future. There appear to be large changes to local government in the offing, although nobody knows what this maybe. The local elections have been cancelled in May to be replaced by who knows what! We could end up with a Mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk, Suffolk or The East. I'm sure it will be better and cheaper. Or not.

More issues with road signage have been reported on the council website and await a response. The white lines in The Street by Farm Close were repainted and I noticed that they are wearing off already. Wonderful. We are still awaiting a possible source of finance and if it happens we would like to have large 30mph roundels on the road at the entry roads to the village. Once paid for the council will apply and maintain them.

We are still working on trying to get grants for a playground/fitness area in the village. We'll hopefully be in a position to apply for grants in the next finance season.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on the 25th March 2025 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre - one and all welcome. If you have an issue it can always be raised then.

We, as always, have vacancies for anyone who may wish to be on the Parish Council. We have six meetings a year and a hand in trying to help the community and its projects.

Finally another sad farewell to someone who was another asset to the community. Hav Wilkins. RIP.

#### Andy Black

■ MOBILE LIBRARY: Leiston Mobile Library visits Horham and Redlingfield every four weeks on a Friday. The library stops at Horham Church 11.55am-12.15pm and in Redlingfield at the Post Box 12.25-12.40pm. It will visit on Friday March 14, April 11, May 9, June 6, July 4, August 1 & 29, September 26, October 24, November 21 and December 19. For details visit www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/mobile-library-route/leistonmobile-library-route-5

■ **'TAKE AFTERNOON TEA WITH SOUTHOLT VILLAGE':** 'You are invited to afternoon tea in Southolt Village Hall (next to the church) on Saturday 5th April. Join with friends and family for afternoon tea (2-4.30pm). There will be home made cakes, scones and sandwiches. Donations £4 per person, under 5s free. Blue Badge parking on site. Further information: Gill Richardson 01728627916 or Maureen Flannery 01728628094.

#### Maureen Flannery

■ **OOPS:** Apologies to Adrian Gooderham who I managed to call Goodyear in our last issue and Philip Leeder who I aged by five years. Also to Horham Baptists for leaving their logo floating around on a page. Sorry. *Mike Ager* 

■ **FATHER CHRISTMAS:** Father Christmas visited Horham and Athelington on Christmas morning, raising a total of £590 for charity. Thank you. **Mother Christmas** 



### You're Welcome!

We're a small Church, with a big heart, serving a Great God

www.jubileebaptist.co.uk email: jubileebaptist@occold.com



Sundays 10.45am in the Chapel or Village Hall, Occold, Eye, IP23 7PL

🍯 @jubilee\_baptist

www.facebook.com/JubileeBaptist1





We'd love to see you ... why not give us a look? ©

For any information not online or any questions please contact Rob 07504 927399

Giving glory to God and helping everyone have a strong relationship with Jesus

#### **Redlingfield News**

#### REDLINGFIELD VILLAGE MEETING:

County councillor Henry Lloyd and District councillor Lucy Elkin attended the February 5th parish meeting. **Household Help:** Suffolk Community Foundation has given us a further £1,000 Household Support Fund grant to be distributed by the end of March 2025. Lucy said MSDC's Financial Inclusion Team are able to help those living in social housing. **Redlingfield Swing Dance:** Chair Adrian Smith formally thanked the Red Feather Club for hosting the Redlingfield Swing Dance which raised more than £1,000 for the Doorstep Green and for agreeing to host a dance again this year. Funds raised from ticket sales in October 2025 will go to support Redlingfield village. **Flooding:** Landowners are asked to check their ditches and waterways and to look for opportunities to create (or re-



instate) holding ponds on their land that could be used to hold rain/flood water and slow its progress into the centre of the village, thus reducing the risk of flooding homes. On the Doorstep Green we are obtaining advice in relation to tree planting and the creation of temporary (or permanent holding ponds). Environment Agency project manager Helen George is interested in talking to landowners about what can be done to ease flooding: bunds. holding ponds etc. Some measures on farmland would attract funding from stewardship schemes. **River Waveney Trust** catchment resilience officer Ed King was due to visit

Redlingfield to look at starting a flood management project with us. The Ghost Ponds project in Norfolk could be replicated locally. Lucy said a Ditch Day (clearing out and mapping the ditches) had been a great success in Occold. The ideal time to do this is in autumn but it was agreed that the village could do this on Sunday 20th April (originally set for a Doorstep Green tidy).

**BBQ:** Glenn Miller has cooked for the Pub on the Green BBQs for several years but is now stepping down. Chair Adrian Smith thanked him for all his hard work, dedication and excellent cooking over the years. Will Kerry has volunteered whenever available.

#### VILLAGE EVENTS IN 2025 – VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS VERY WELCOME!

**Redlingfield Village/Parish Meeting AGM:** Horham Community Centre, Wed 28 May, 8pm.

Redlingfield Summer Fayre: Sat 5July 2pm on. Redlingfield Village Swing Dance at the Red Feather Club: Sat 25 October 7pm till late! Pubs on the Green (6pm-midnight, Doorstep Green): Sat 17 May, 7 June, 2 August, 6 September & 4 October .

**Doorstep Green Tidies:** Wed 16 April, 4pm onwards & Sat 19 April, 10am onwards. **Ditch Day:** Sun 20 April, 10am onwards.

**Coffee Caravan:** Restarts on Wed 2 April and first Wednesday of the month from 10am till 12 noon on the village triangle from 2 April till 1 October.

• A date is to be arranged for the Annual Fun Dog Show. Holding a fundraising metal detecting event is being looked into by Drew Abbott.



Specialist in all types of paving and hard landscaping

Driveways, patios, ornamental garden walls, drainage solutions and fencing

Family run business with more than 30 years of on-the-job experience

Fast friendly professional Fully insured and all work guaranteed

Call Mark for a friendly visit with a free quotation 01379 677027 or mobile 07768636618 www.underoneroof.me

#### **DISTRICT COUNCIL - LUCY'S NEWS**



Lucy Elkin (District Councillor for Eye, Occold and Redlingfield). 07928 512590, lucy.elkin@midsuffolk.gov.uk www.facebook.com/CllrLucy/

#### **SOLAR FARM NEWS**

You may have seen in the news that the company EcoPower Suffolk Ltd (part of Econergy International), has announced plans for a 600-hectare solar farm in our area. The proposed project includes fields near Occold, Eye, Brome, Yaxley, Gislingham and Mellis.

Because of the project's size, the government will have the final say on whether the project goes ahead (not the District Council planning department).

The company has set up a website with more information, including a map of the proposed project area, and a timeline: https://ecopowersuffolk.com/ourproposals/

According to the website, initial public consultation events will be held in March, with a second round of more formal consultations in the Autumn. Dates for these should be listed on the website. You can contact the company by email, phone or freepost to be kept up-to-date.

There are a number of large solar projects coming forward in East Anglia. A key reason is that the national grid infrastructure is being upgraded in our area, with substations that can take connections from solar as well as offshore wind farms (including the substation at Yaxley).

We also have a lot of flat land - and higher levels of sunshine compared with some parts of the country. These factors have encouraged power companies to

#### 01728 628233



**Cheeky Porker Hog Roast** Our Hog roasts can be tailored to any occasion feeding between 60-250 people. Slow cooked here for 10+ hours, just wait until you try our crackling!





#### Log Cabin Holidays

Are you looking to get away but don't want to travel too far? Come and enjoy a well earned break in a luxury lodge with your own private hot tub nestled away in the tranquil countryside at Athelington Hall.

Athelington Hall Horham Eye Suffolk IP21 5EJ info@logcabinholidays.co.uk

#### **DISTRICT COUNCIL - LUCY'S NEWS**

look for suitable land near connection points into the grid.

The District Council's view is that we'd prefer national planning rules to be changed to require solar on more roofs so we'd need less on farmland. We also feel that the very best agricultural land should be avoided wherever possible. However, given the growing need for renewable energy, it's likely some of these large-scale projects will be needed as well.

Having solar panels in fields nearby will obviously be a big change if it goes ahead. It's important that the company does as much as possible to reduce the visual impact – through planting new hedges, for example.

The project will also have to carry out ecological studies to understand the potential impact on local wildlife. Studies of other solar farms have shown they can be better for wildlife compared to intensive agriculture – due to factors such as the planting of new hedgerows, and creation of meadow grasslands.. Some solar farms do also include areas of food production (such as grazing for sheep around the panels).

While we go through this consultation process, we will all have opportunities to feed back our questions and concerns. Please do let me know what you think – and do give your feedback to EcoPower solar.

> See you soon, Lucy

■ For District Council issues, please contact me and I will try my best to help. For news and updates, find me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ CllrLucy



mice/rats and bed bugs found in UK homes are on the rise. As Local Authorities are cutting back on free pest control services. We are here to offer you a service at the right price.

Call us to discuss your pests on 07809226109. www.safeandsoundhygieneandpestcontrol.co.uk

#### **CHURCH NEWS**

#### THE MOMENT TO WAKE FROM SLEEP

"It is now the moment for you to wake from sleep" says St Paul in the letter to the Romans. The days are getting longer and spring really is on the way. It's a time of renewal for nature and we can make it a time of renewal for ourselves as well, through the discipline of Lent looking forward to the resurrection of our Lord at Easter.

We will be preparing for Lent with a Quiet Afternoon at Hoxne on Saturday 1st March and starting things off with a benefice service of Holy Communion with Ashing at Denham at 7.30pm on Ash Wednesday (5th March) – everyone is, of course, very welcome at both of these.

During Lent we will also be holding a special Lent Study Group, replacing our usual Bible Study and meeting on Tuesdays 18th and 25th March and 1st April. For more details, just get in touch.

Easter is late this year: Good Friday is on 18th April and we will have a special service at Horham at 11.15am. Then the celebrations begin with the Service of Light at Denham at 7.30pm on Easter Eve (Saturday 19th) and continue with Holy Communion at Horham at 11.15am on Easter Day (Sunday 20th), followed by Songs of Praise at Athelington at 6pm.



**Rev Canon Eleanor Goodison, Priest in Charge, Hoxne Benefice** 07876 143579 eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

For the youngsters there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at 4pm on Easter Day at J's meadow, Syleham.

Later on, in May, we have a special service at 11am on Sunday 11th May at Horham for the 95th Bomb Group reunion. Not to be missed.

It's a time of change in the Church of England nationally as a new Archbishop of Canterbury is sought and also here in Suffolk as Bishop Martin has now retired. We pray for him as he begins a new phase of his ministry. Bishop Graeme Knowles will be our acting Bishop until a new diocesan Bishop is appointed. Meanwhile we look forward with hopefulness to the new things which God will bring forth.

One way we renew ourselves is by growing younger, not individually perhaps, but as a church family, through our activities for children and young people. We are currently looking for new volunteers to help with these, and for a new part-time paid Youth Worker. If you or anyone you know would be interested to get involved, please do get in touch.

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

■ HORHAM PARISH NOTICES: Havilland 'Hav' Wilkins, 73 years, funeral service, December 12th.

**EXHUMING RICHARD III:** On Monday 12th May at 7pm at Wingfield Church, there will be a talk by Philippa Langley MBE, famous for her role in the discovery and exhumation of Richard III's body from the car park in Leicester. £10 per head suggested donation.Drinks and nibbles after the talk.

#### Mobile Hairdresser and Hair Extension Specialist In Horham and surrounding areas





#### Available weekdays between 9am and 3pm

Woman's, men's and children's haircuts and colouring services. 15 years experience and previous salon owner.

#### Cutting:

Wash, cut & blow-dry - £25 Wash & blow-dry - £15 Children under 12 - £10

**Colour** (all prices include wash, cut & blow dry): Half head foils - £65 Full head foils - £85 Toner - £10 after colouring service

Men's from £12

#### Hair Extensions

Natural looking, real hair extensions for clients wanting fuller, thicker or longer hair. High quality, durable hair lasting 12-18 months, fitted with inconspicuous Nano-bonds.

#### **Prices:**

Full head hair extensions, including fitting, shaping and styling - From £300 for added length and thickness.

Maintenance from £30

Free consultation and colour match.

Take a look at my Facebook page: @HairByChloeJThomas for more examples of my work.

Chloe Thomas 07584 062280 White House Cottage Horham



#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

#### Planned church services March to May 2025

Fridays: Compline at 6pm on Zoom.

#### **Saturday 1st March**

2.30pm Quiet Afternoon.

#### Sunday 2nd March Sunday next before Lent

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Athelington; 11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield; 4pm Messy Church, Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall.

Wednesday 5th March Ash Wednesday

7pm CW Holy Communion, Denham.

#### Friday 7th March

10 for 10.30am World Day of Prayer service, **Hoxne**.

#### Sunday 9th March First Sunday of Lent

9.30 am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield; 9.30 for 10am Café Church, Hoxne.

#### Sunday 16th March Second Sunday of Lent

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne; 11.15am BCP Holy Communion, Horham; 6pm Evensong, Wingfield

#### Sunday 23rd March Third Sunday of Lent

9.30am BCP Holy Communion, **Syleham;** 11am CW Holy Communion, **Denham**; 4pm All Age service, **Hoxne**.

#### Sunday 30th March Mothering Sunday

11am Benefice Holy Communion, Syleham. Sunday 6th April Fifth Sunday of Lent

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Athelington; 11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield; 4pm Messy Church, Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall

#### Sunday 13th April Palm Sunday

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield; 9.30 for 10am Café Church.

#### Monday 14th April

6pm Compline, St Edmund Chapel, Hoxne.

#### **Tuesday 15th April**

6pm Compline, St Edmund Chapel.

#### Wednesday 16th April

6pm Compline, St Edmund Chapel.

#### Friday 18th April Good Friday

11.15am Good Friday service, Horham.

#### Saturday 19th April Easter Eve

7.30pm Service of Light, Denham.

#### Sunday 20th April Easter Day

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield; 11.15am BCP Holy Communion, Horham; 4pm Easter Egg hunt, J's meadow; 6pm Easter Songs of Praise, Athelington.

#### Sunday 27th April Second Sunday of Easter

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

#### Sunday 4th May Third Sunday of Easter

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Athelington; 11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield; 4pm Messy Church, TBA.

#### Sunday 11th May Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield; 9.30 for 10am Café Church, Hoxne.

#### Sunday 18th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne; 11.15am BCP Holy Communion, Horham; 6pm Evensong, Wingfield.

#### Sunday 25th May Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am BCP Holy Communion, Syleham; 11am CW Holy Communion, Denham; 4pm All Age service, Hoxne.

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

amman Dravari **CW** Common Wa



17 Church Street, Eye - Tel: 01379 870155 Web:- dunnettbutcher.co.uk

Beef, Pork, Lamb & Poultry from local Farms ♦ Home Made Sausages our Speciality ♦

#### For the B.B.Q all home made

Lamb Grillsticks Marinated in a Variety of Flavours Beef, Pork, Chicken & Lamb Kebabs Marinated Belly Pork & Pork Ribs Beef, Pork, Lamb, Chicken & Venison Burgers

#### EYE SALON HAIR+BEAUTY

#### We've moved!

We are now at The Hexagon, Broad Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AF.

Eye Salon is a friendly hair and beauty salon that has been trading for more than seven years.

Our fully trained team uses well-known, trusted brands and we all have a passion for hair and beauty.

With our large range of hair and beauty services we can adjust to suit our clients' individual needs, whatever style or age.

To book an appointment call us on 01379 871 996 or visit our website to book online! www.eye-salon.co.uk



