

# Blyth Valley Times

A Service of the Church for our Local Communities

April 2023

Volume 44

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## New-born Lambs at Bridge Farm

The day before Liz and Dominic came to see the lambs at Bridge Farm, our second set of triplets arrived, with a bit of help.

Liz is holding the dinky day-old ram lamb triplet, who has a couple of bigger sisters, and Dominic has one of these ewe lambs.

Liz described holding the little lamb as "Lamb Therapy", remarking on the ears of the Norfolk Horn lambs which stick out horizontally and noting how soft the wool on a lamb is.

Working with sheep and the business of lambing helps in understanding the analogies that Jesus often used with shepherding and the Good Shepherd looking after his flock of sheep. The little lamb maybe small, but he is very feisty and mum is looking after all three lambs well without supplementary feeding of the lambs.

**Veronica Downing**

## EASTER GREETINGS



*Narcissus photos by Chris Wheeler  
www.larkimages.co.uk*

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## APRIL 2023 Lectionary

These selections are for Holy Communion (Common Worship). Epistle and Gospel for Traditional Communion (Book of Common Prayer) may be found in the book itself. These and others may be found at <https://almanac.oremus.org/> or in printed copies of the Common Revised Lectionary.

### Sunday 2nd – Palm Sunday (Red)

Matthew 21: 1 – 11 (NRSV)

Matthew 26: 14 – 27: end (NRSV)

### Sunday 9th – Easter (White or Gold)

Acts 10: 34 – 43 (NRSV)

Matthew 28: 1 - 10(NRSV)

### Sunday 16th – Second of Easter (White or Gold)

Acts 2: 14a, 22 – 32 (NRSV)

John 20: 19 – end

### Sunday 23rd – Third of Easter (White or Gold)

Acts 2: 14a, 36 – 41 (NRSV)

Luke 24: 13 – 35 (NRSV)

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 for Service details and local events etc.



There are current news items and photos on  
 our Facebook page, too:  
 Find us at: [blythvalleychurchessuffolk](https://www.facebook.com/blythvalleychurchessuffolk)

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## ST MARY'S LILIES



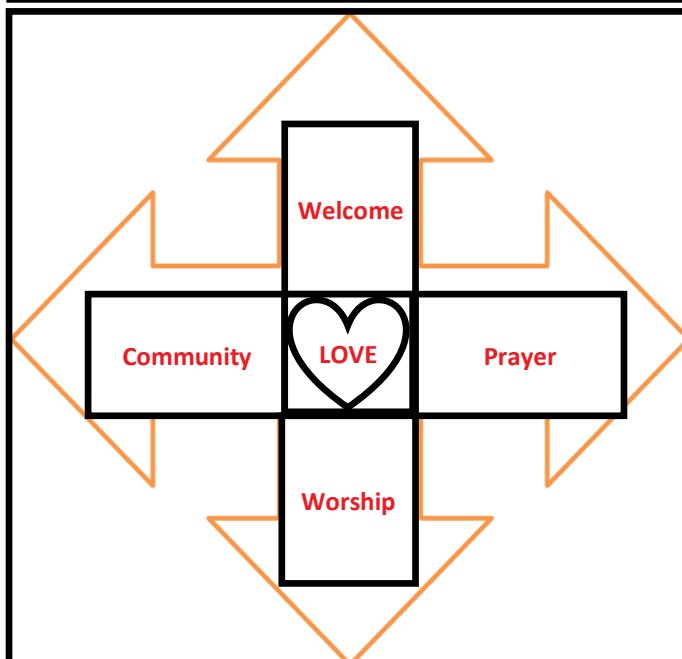
Once again, St Mary's Church Halesworth is continuing the tradition of displaying lilies at Eastertide, and our flower arrangers would greatly appreciate donations of £5 towards the cost of flowers.

Please see John Ball with any contributions. Thank you.

## LIFE EVENTS

### FROM THE REGISTERS IN MARCH FUNERALS/INTERMENT OF ASHES

Charles Henry Fickling at St Faith's Norwich  
 John Colin Yeomans at Halesworth  
 Patrick Lewis Donaghy at Wenhaston  
 Benjamin Patrick Henry at Huntingfield  
 Sheila Joan Clifford at Linstead



## From the Rector...

April opens half way through Passiontide with Holy Week, the first Sunday of which is Palm Sunday. We begin our main service of Holy Communion on that day with a procession along the Thoroughfare from the library. This presents us with the opportunity to celebrate that God is here and in charge. Even if that is not overly obvious just yet we are jubilant that everything will be sorted out. Then - even before we get to the breaking of bread - we hear the reading of Jesus' betrayal, mock trial, torturous death and burial. That was not how we thought it was going to work out, is it?

How can that be good news? One reaction to that question is that because the greatest story ever told is the God-man going through that, then the injustice, hurt and exclusion of our time and experience are held, have purpose and will be redeemed or resolved. If you are a Christian, that will happen under God's covenant with us, in Jesus and through the Spirit as we worship, walk and witness together. If you believe something else, then your faith will have its own avenues and structures to sustain the hope embedded in the truth in this story.

Another reaction is that we now know that from the start the community of individuals that make up the church's neighbourhoods and peoples had their failings. Even then we were prone to get things wrong, change our minds, not realise the implications of our faith, miss God's methodology, not believe in our hearts what we said with our mouths. Whether or not God exists as an external personal entity, if we have the words to describe the fundamental source; the concept is clearly very real for very many over a very long time. We are faced with a global historical phenomenon.

As we gather for Palm Sunday this year there will be those for whom February's Church of England General Synod did not go far enough on Same Sex Marriage. There will be others for whom it went too far. Our denomination calls the process Living in Love and Faith. Just like the Palm Sunday service the issues cause celebration and pain. Some seek to honour God by holding their view, whilst others are hurt by it. It may be a short lived commotion on the media stage on the one hand, but on the other there has, arguably, been a fundamental shift.

It is my hope and prayer that with my role as Cure of Souls, I can hold and provide space for all the creative conflict that will arise from this decision across the Blyth Valley. First, we should all recognise that there is in our church no one view. Second, that we are all biblical Christians. Third that wherever anyone looks for support of their view they will find it. After the reformation the Church of England decided to base its thinking on scripture, tradition and reason. I would add that as we approach each of these arenas for guidance, we do so prayerfully as we will not find the truth unless God's Wisdom, or Spirit, reveals it to us. We need to recognise, as Gini does having sat through the debates at Synod, that there are many diverse contradictory valid views within each of these evangelical, catholic and liberal strands of Anglicanism. Each is life-changing, compelling and non-negotiable.

It is worth remembering that in the first part of the last century the church was in the vanguard of those seeking the decriminalisation of homosexuality (the word had only recently been coined). It is for many a good thing that the language in the papers put to General Synod were more generous in spirit as they addressed these matters than they have been. Nevertheless, there are both gay and straight who are practising or celibate, agnostic, lay and clergy, barren or fruitful, who will be agonising profoundly, even as they celebrate Easter. Let us all accept the hard truth that we are a complex, mixed-up muddle of joy and injustice. Then, pray, cast ourselves into the wounded open hands of the life giver who overcame all this for us, for all things and for all time in His name on the tree of life.

Dominic

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## Worship in the Blyth Valley in April 2023

CW – Year A	2nd Red BCP - CW – Palm Sunday	9th White or Gold BCP - CW – Easter Day	16th White BCP - CW – Easter 2	23rd White BCP - CW – Easter 3 St George's Day	30th White BCP - CW – Easter 4
Halesworth St Mary*	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am TEAM Holy Communion  6pm Evensong Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am Holy Communion Dominic  6pm Evensong Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Gini  10am Traditional Holy Communion Linda  6pm Evensong Gini	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am Iona Worship Diana  6pm Evensong Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am TEAM Holy Communion  6pm Evensong Dominic
<b>St Peter Group</b>					
Holton St Peter		10am Holy Communion Bill	10am Iona Worship Gini	10am Holy Communion Linda	
Wenhaston St Peter		10am Holy Communion Alison A		10am Pause for Thought Vic	
Bramfield St Andrew*			10am Holy Communion Alison A		
Blyford All Saints			10am Morning Prayer Alison C		
Thornington St Peter				10am Morning Prayer Alison A	
<b>St Andrew Group</b>					
Wissett St Andrew		10am Holy Communion Linda	10am Morning Prayer David	10am Breakfast Church Geoffrey	
Chediston St Mary		8am Holy Communion Gini		10am Morning Prayer Veronica	
Spexhall St Peter		10am Holy Communion David	10am Morning Prayer Keith		
Linstead St Margaret		10am Matins Malcolm		10am Holy Communion Dominic	
<b>St Michael Group</b>					
Cookley St Michael			9.30am Traditional Communion Jonathan		
Heveningham St Margaret		10am Holy Communion Gini			
Huntingfield St Mary		10am Holy Communion Vic			
Walpole St Mary				10am Holy Communion Gini	

**Worship in the Blyth Valley in April 2023 - continued**

**\* Regular Weekday Services**

- Daily:** 8am Morning Prayer in St Mary's Church Halesworth and on Facebook
- Daily:** 6pm Evening Prayer in St Mary's Church Halesworth and on Facebook
- Weekly:** Tuesday 10am Café Church on Zoom
- Weekly:** Wednesday 10am Holy Communion in St Mary's Church, Halesworth
- Weekly:** Thursday 9.30am Morning Prayer in St Andrew's Church, Bramfield

**Community services**

- St Peter's Labyrinth and Reflection:** First Monday, 2pm
- Beech House:** Monthly
- Highfield:** Two per month

**Additional services in Holy Week:**

**6th April: Maundy Thursday:** 6pm, St Mary Halesworth, Dominic

- 7th April: Good Friday:** 9.30am: Service of Reflection, St Mary Chediston, Veronica.
- 10am: Stations of the Cross, St Peter Wissett, Gini.
- 10.30am start: St Edmund's RC Church,  
Walking the Way of the Cross, Churches Together.
- 2pm: Last hour at the Cross, St Peter Holton.
- 2pm: Reflection, St Peter Wenhaston, Linda and Alison.
- 8.30pm: TEAM Tenebrae, St Peter Spexhall, David.

**8th April: Easter Eve:** 8pm: TEAM Service, incl Lighting of Paschal Candles, St Mary Halesworth, Dominic.

**Café Church Tuesdays!**

Café Church is held on a TUESDAY morning at 10am, via Zoom.



*For login details of how to join, or to be added to the mailing list, please email:*

**The Revd Alison Alder at:**  
[alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk)  
 or  
**The Revd Linda Berry at:**  
[revd.linda@huntingfield.uk](mailto:revd.linda@huntingfield.uk)



*The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end*

Join us for Compline live on Facebook @ 9.30pm.

Search:- blythvalleychurchessuffolk

Mondays - Alison

Wednesdays and Fridays - Linda

Saturdays and Sundays - Jason

[www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer](http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer)

## Wenhaston Methodist Church

Minister: The Revd Martin Keenan

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am

- April 2nd: Palm Sunday  
The Revd Iain McKillop
- April 9th: Easter Sunday  
The Revd Robin Searles  
HC
- April 16th: The Revd Pam Bayliss
- April 23rd: Laura Lawrance-Martin
- April 30th: Julie Warren

ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

## St Edmund King & Martyr Roman Catholic Church, Church Farm Lane, Halesworth

Father Christopher Smith

Tel: 01502 723207

Email: [Christopher.Smith@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:Christopher.Smith@rcdea.org.uk)

Please enquire about our Service times and details



### Morning and Evening Prayer

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

From  
St Mary's Church, Halesworth

In person, or join via:  
8am Morning Prayer  
Zoom Meeting ID - 883 5778 9092  
Passcode - 607673

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

## Halesworth & Bramfield URC

Minister: Revd Jon Sermon

Gathered worship **Sundays 11am** – (10.30am for refreshments). Usually also on Zoom

**Lent Bible Studies:** Mondays 10.30am- 12pm @ Lowestoft (and Zoom)

**Tuesday lunchtimes:** 30 minute worship @ 12.30pm (@ Lowestoft and usually also on Zoom)

**Messy Church** Tuesdays after school, alternate weeks.  
**Every Friday:** Prayer meeting @ 9.45am  
**Note:** Returning to the building after Easter. Also on Zoom



Specific include:

- Sun 2nd April** 11am Gathered worship incl. Communion (and Zoom) (Revd Jon Sermon) *Palm Sunday*
- Mon 3rd April** 10.30am-12noon **Lent Bible Study** session 5. **Lowestoft (and Zoom)**
- Thurs 6th April** 7.30pm **Maundy Thursday Communion**
- Fri 7th April** **Good Friday March of Witness** 10.30am start @ St Edmund's RC and service in church @ 11.30am.
- Sun 9th April** **EASTER Sunday** 11am Gathered worship (and Zoom)
- Fri 14th April** 9.45am **Prayer Meeting (gathered and Zoom)**. 10.30am **Coffee**
- Sun 16th April** 11am Gathered worship (and Zoom) **3pm Healing Service @ Lowestoft**
- Fri 21st April** 9.45am **Prayer Meeting (gathered and Zoom)**. 10.30am **Coffee**
- Sat 22nd April** 9.30am **Messy Breakfast**
- Sun 23rd April** 11am Gathered worship (**NO Zoom**)
- Wed 26th April** 7.30pm Home group
- Fri 28th April** 9.45am **Prayer Meeting (gathered and Zoom)**. 10.30am **Coffee**
- Sun 30th April** 11am Gathered worship (and Zoom)

Jon Sermon: 01986 873761 [jon@sermons.me.uk](mailto:jon@sermons.me.uk)

Judy Morton: 01502 724572

[judy.morton@themortonpartnership.co.uk](mailto:judy.morton@themortonpartnership.co.uk)

Jo Moreira (for families and children)

[jomohurc@gmail.com](mailto:jomohurc@gmail.com)

Zoom Meeting ID:

776 – 044 – 1926,

Passcode: 811885



## SERVICES AT ST MARY'S HALESWORTH

10am Holy Communion every Wednesday  
8am Traditional Communion every Sunday  
6pm Evensong every Sunday

# What is the Pastoral Ministry Group and what is it up to?

The Pastoral Ministry Group (PMG) is a group of people from across the Blyth Valley Team who meet once a month to learn and develop their skills in pastoral care. The group consists of people who have been involved in pastoral care in the past or are currently supporting people. Some of the group completed a training course with the Revd Jane Held. However, anyone who is involved in visiting or supporting someone in their community is welcome to attend.

We are hoping the Blyth Valley Team will adopt a simple three level model for Pastoral Support:

Level 1 – The ordinary informal support that goes on all the time in our congregations and communities: visiting people, phoning people, giving lifts, shopping etc.

Level 2 – More targeted support at a time of difficulty e.g. illness, bereavement, losing independence. This level of support is likely to include spiritual support including Home Communion, prayer or bible reading. It is usually carried out by a member of the PMG or with some level of clergy support. It may be part of a wider package of support in partnership with other organisations.

Level 3 – Clergy support - Sensitive complex issues, funeral visiting before and in the weeks following the service, if appropriate., individual confession, issues around healing, deliverance, exorcism.

The PMG is currently working on the following:

1. Updating training for taking Home Communion to people.
2. Producing an information leaflet for our congregations to support people who are giving informal support.
3. Exploring different safeguarding issues connected to pastoral care.
4. Encouraging all our parishes to keep a simple record of who is visiting who to avoid overlooking people and to be able to step in if a visitor is taken ill themselves.

We meet on the third Monday of every month at 3.30pm at St Peter’s Church Room, Holton and would welcome anyone who feels they would benefit from joining the group (including men, as we’re all female at the moment!)

For more information, please feel free to contact me.

Revd Alison

**Home Communion**

**Are you unable to get to church services?  
Would you or someone you know like to  
have Home Communion on a regular basis?  
If so, please contact Revd Alison to arrange.**

St Mary’s Church, Halesworth

*Welcome Wednesdays*

**NEW from 19<sup>th</sup> April  
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## HALESWORTH & BRAMFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Revd Jon Sermon – Minister

Dear Friends,

As this is published, Easter will be almost upon us...

Those who adopt spiritual disciplines or aspects of self-denial during Lent may well be counting the days: I have a friend who would give up chocolate for Lent every year. Her interpretation was that she could break her 'chocolate fast' as soon as she had been to worship on Easter Sunday. She would phone me and ask to join with our church's sunrise service. The moment it finished she'd be passing out cream eggs!

If any of you have similar thoughts, you'd be welcome to join the ecumenical sunrise service at Lowestoft : I am the preacher this year.

As we transition from Lent to Easter, the mood of celebration takes hold. Good Friday marks perhaps the 'darkest day' in human history. As the Son of God, God the Son, was brutally executed! Even so, we call it 'good'. Why?

I suppose the fact that such tragedy led to forgiveness, sealed in resurrection – and the invitation to new birth (as Jesus explained to Nicodemus, John ch 3) – gives us the reason.

Some years ago, when we were host to an Alpha group of mostly teenagers, one of the young lads suggested singing alternative words to the Bee Gees' hit "Tragedy" with lines including:

*Tragedy, when Jesus Christ was crucified*

*Tragedy, the cruellest torture of all time*

But also a refrain of "Victory, when Jesus Christ was crucified" in verse bringing out what the sacrifice of Jesus has achieved.

If we can really appreciate what this actually means for us, we have cause to celebrate indeed!

Blessings

*Jon*

(Revd Jon Sermon,  
Minister of Halesworth & Bramfield URC  
& North Lowestoft URC)



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## Walk of Witness 2023

A walk of witness through Halesworth marking the events of Good Friday 7th April. Starting at St Edmund's RC Church 10.30am. Finishing at Halesworth URC Church for a joint service of worship at 11.30am.

Stations of the Cross	Location
1 & 2	Roman Catholic Church car park
3 & 4	St Mary's outside the tower
5	Market Square
6	War memorial
7	Thoroughfare outside The Angel
8 & 9	Outside Cooper's
10	Outside Library
11	Outside World Land Trust
12	Outside park
13	Outside URC
14	Inside URC
Hymn – There is a Green Hill Far Away Prayers	
15	Final Station -The hope of Easter



**Romans 1.11 Trust** is a small, UK based charity fostering mutual encouragement between the UK and Africa. The Chair of Trustees is Rev Jon Sermon, the local URC minister here in Halesworth (me).

Our work is currently centred on Uganda where we support church based schools and orphanages, partner with local churches and development projects and run a training scheme for pastors.



Here, I was presenting certificates at a previous graduation at Wanyange, Jinja in the Eastern part of Uganda. Our child sponsorship schemes result in contact with an identified child but funding for pastor training - without such

a link – has always proved less attractive. Yet the need is growing: there is a Government move which threatens forced closure of churches if the Pastor cannot demonstrate a level of training. At the same time, the Gospel is advancing, new believers are constantly being added (as in Acts 2:47), churches are being planted and people are being called to lead but cannot access training.

To help Boost the funding to keep training viable, we are launching 'Boost 100'. It is the generosity of ordinary folk, seeing this need that makes such provision possible. Our prayer is that 100 (individuals or congregations/ organisations) will make a 3-year commitment of £10/month to boost the training. They receive certificates with our logo, and a photograph.

My visit to Uganda this year will include mentoring sessions with the current student pastors in three centres across the country. (I am also going to Zimbabwe and Kenya for mutual encouragement). Anyone wanting to know more about Boost 100, or any aspect of our work, please get in touch.

**Revd Jon Sermon**



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worship



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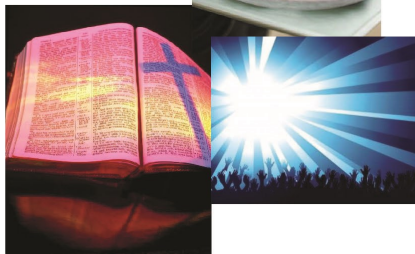
We need an enthusiastic person to be employed,  
part time (16 hours a week) to share with Minister  
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Applications by 28 April for  
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September 2023. The post  
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requirement that the individual is  
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Contact Rev Jon Sermon

01986 873761 or  
07906157959

jon@sermons.me.uk



## SCHOOLREADERS NEEDED!

National literacy charity  
Schoolreaders is looking for  
volunteers to provide one-to-  
one reading support in  
selected primary schools in  
Halesworth and the  
surrounding areas.



This support has been proven  
to help children's reading  
fluency, comprehension, self-  
esteem and enjoyment, providing a crucial supplement to  
classroom teaching. Volunteering usually takes 1-2 hours per  
week in term time and volunteers are asked to commit to a  
minimum of one academic year.

Jane Whitbread, founder comments: "Poor reading skills  
makes reading instructions, understanding a medicine label,  
accessing information over the internet, or even filling out a  
job application difficult or impossible. Literacy opens doors,  
helps learning and brings new opportunities."

"Volunteering through us is so simple yet so enriching. Adults  
can give back to their local community, and make a  
difference to children's lives. 98% of our volunteers reported  
a positive impact on their wellbeing through volunteering  
with us."

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We offer a wide range of free services from the  
Pear Tree Centre, our tranquil and welcoming base  
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## St Mary's Church, Halesworth Help us fill the Church with Flowers over the Coronation Weekend

**Saturday 6th May – Monday 8th May 2023**

**Celebrate! Remember! Contemplate!  
Refresh!**

We invite you to join us as we take this opportunity to gladden hearts and lighten minds, by decorating the aisles, tricking out the nave and filling St Mary's with flowers over the weekend of the Coronation of King Charles III.

Please join us with an arrangement from your business, group, organisation or interest. These can be placed in the church on Friday 5th May from 9.30am through to 5pm. Arrangements should be able to be placed on a table; if you wish a pedestal arrangement, please supply the pedestal.

We do hope to hear from you, and to see your arrangement in St Mary's over the Coronation weekend. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jenny Janes  
Friends of St Mary's Church, Halesworth  
jenny.janes@btinternet.com  
Tel: 01986 87492 (answerphone)

## INTERMENT OF ASHES

There will be an interment of ashes service for **Thelma Mullett** on **Friday 21st April** at **2.30pm** at **Bramfield St Andrew's Church**.

Friends and acquaintances of Thelma and Charles are warmly invited.



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## HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

The Committee and Volunteers would like to thank everyone who came along to our Jumble Sale in February. It was a lovely start to the new year of fundraising events to see so many familiar faces and lots of new ones as well. Your fantastic support raised a magnificent £913.24, we are so very grateful to you all.

If you enjoyed this Jumble Sale (and the tea and cake) we will be having another one on October 14th. The Halesworth Co-op very generously provided a beautiful food hamper for the raffle which raised £126 and was won by a delighted Diane from Holton.

Thank you everyone who made cakes for us and to the menfolk who moved mountains of jumble and put out tables and chairs. We are so lucky at Cancer Research as we have a wonderful team of volunteers, thank you to all of you. Welcome to three new ladies, Valerie, Jenny and Jackie, we hope you enjoyed the Jumble Sale and will continue to help at the events.

Thank you to Spectra for sponsoring our events again this year, it is greatly appreciated and so very kind of you. Please continue to visit Gill, 19 Dukes Drive for a lovely selection of books and jigsaws (weather permitting).

When Margaret decided to retire from the committee, in

true Margaret style, she said she didn't want a fuss but we couldn't let Margaret retire without doing something, so with Phyllis's help, myself, Debbie our Treasurer and Maxine our Secretary surprised Margaret when we met her and Phyllis at The Old Hall Cafe in Reydon. The committee and volunteers contributed to a gift of flowers and vouchers to say thank you to Margaret for all her years of service to Cancer Research. Margaret will still come along to our events when she can for a cup of tea and a chat and we will all miss her presence and experience on the committee. Thank you Margaret.



Dawn Davis, Chair 01986 873640

On behalf of the Committee Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research UK

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## Friends of St Mary's - St Mary The Virgin Church Halesworth

### - A little bit of history: Monuments of all shapes and sizes - Part 7

Not immediately seen as a monument, perhaps, are the chantry chapels in many a church, not least St Mary's. Dr Judith Middleton-Stewart (d.2010), historian, described them as follows: "A chantry was an earthly endowment contracted for a spiritual benefit. At its most basic level, a chantry carried the implicit obligation of intercessory prayers to be said by a priest for the soul of the founder, in return for endowment."\*

The derivation of the word is from Old French 'chanter' and Latin 'cantare' (to sing). Established during pre-Reformation mediaeval England, those able to, would endow a sum of money to employ a priest to sing, or chant, a stipulated number of services as part of the deceased's atonement for sins committed whilst alive.

The doctrine on which chantries were founded was swept away when Parliament passed The Chantry Act in 1545 during the Reformation in England, initiated by King Henry VIII. This defined chantries as representing misapplied funds and misappropriated lands. The Act provided that all chantries and their properties would thenceforth belong to the King for as long as he should live. This was followed by the Chantries Act of 1547 which abolished the remaining chantries and confiscated their assets. This latter act was specifically aimed to stop the last remaining institutions that were dedicated to praying for the dead.

In St Mary's we see the north transept, the oldest part of the mediaeval build, more obvious before the Victorian addition of the outer north aisle. Here was formerly the chantry chapel of St Anne, dating from earlier than 1469, and strongly associated with the guilds in the town. According to Christian apocryphal tradition, Anne was the mother of Mary and the maternal grandmother of Jesus. Saint Anne is patroness of unmarried women, housewives, women in labour or who want to be pregnant, grandmothers, mothers and educators; also of horseback riders, cabinet-makers and miners, the latter arising from the mediaeval comparison between Mary and Christ and the precious metals silver and gold.

The chapel was endowed by Edward Mylls and Robert Randolph with lands which produced a rent of £4 12s (£4.60p) per annum. The

north transept chapel was added after the vestry was built, but obliterated by C19 work. This chapel is thought to have been dedicated to St Anne in which Piggot's chantry and a communal obituary were celebrated. Two guilds also celebrated in St Mary's Church, that of St John the Baptist which had its own chapel and that of St Antony and St Eligius (St Loy in the vernacular).

Behind the organ is a space, originally the Lady Chapel, erected by the Argentein family in the perpendicular style. As this architectural style came in after 1350 it is not certain whether to attribute the build to John Argentein (1318-1383) or William (1350-1419). However, it could be significant that William and Margery, his wife, were first entombed there, before later being moved to the St Loy Chapel (now the Lady Chapel). The 1602 *Chorography of Suffolk* tells us "He layeth pictured in brasse in complet Armour treading upon a Lyon about his neck a collar of SS", the latter signifying his allegiance to the Royal House of Lancaster. William made his will in Halesworth in 1417 and left £5 for the repair of the church.

The Lady Chapel, formerly known as the St Loy, or St Loye Chapel, is where the Guild of that name had their altar in the C15. A plaque to the memory of James and Fanny Jane Parry and dated 1920 calls it the chapel of St Louis. However, St Loy would have been more appropriate to a late medieval English market town as he was invoked to cure sick horses and is the patron of blacksmiths, farmers, farriers, labourers, saddlers, veterinarians and wheelwrights, amongst others. On the floor are the Ledger Stones of Sir William Argentein and his wife (moved here when the organ was installed).

These chantry chapels seem imbued with the presence of many a person over hundreds of years of quiet contemplation:

"This is the nourishing room for a soul to prosper...

...[and] Allows them to pray to find grace and equanimity,

And to recognize the interconnectedness of all..." Je'free Y

Jenny Janes

\* Middleton-Stewart, Judith. (1991) *Singing for Souls in Suffolk 1300-1548*. Suffolk Review, New Series 16, Spring 1991, pp 1-19.

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Jason Busby writes: We begin the first FOSM recital review of 2023 on a solemn note. Shirley Smith died suddenly back in February. For several years Shirley had been attending and writing the reviews for FOSM recitals. From the many tributes to Shirley I have read online, Shirley has been described as a powerful presence, her warmth, enthusiasm, her love of Baroque transposition for her was unalloyed joy. Shirley was a kind, gentle lady who had a passion for music, she will be greatly missed. One tribute reads "off on her next great adventure but taking so much love with her, rest well Shirley". We thank Shirley for her support and time she gave to events at St Mary's. May Shirley rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Back in December I gave the last recital of 2022, as a tribute to Shirley, we publish her final review...

"It was worth waiting an extra week (owing to the excessive cold on the scheduled date) to hear Jason Busby's uplifting organ recital on December 21st. After being greeted with carols as we took our places, we heard Philip Stopford's meditative music for the song *Do Not Be Afraid* and the *Carol of the Bells*, a joyous piece by the young German composer, Paul Fey. The cleverly arranged programme then gave the audience a chance to sing familiar carols, each of which was followed by a prelude based on the same carol. Noel Rawsthorne's prelude gave us music woven round on *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*; the plainsong melody *Of The Father's Love Begotten* formed the basis of Stanley Vann's prelude *Divinum Mysterium*; another gentle prelude by Noel Rawsthorne followed the audience's singing of *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*. The tune *Forest Green*, a folk melody collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams, was used for the singing of *O Little Town Of Bethlehem*, but the corresponding prelude by Paul Fey also referenced the alternative tune by H Walford Davies. The recital concluded with *O Come All Ye Faithful* and the prelude by Richard Lloyd on *Adeste Fideles* (the original Latin words of the carol).

Not only did the audience enjoy the opportunity to hear and sing these well-known carols and the use of them made by 20th century composers but they were also able to learn about the organ which Jason was playing. He explained the use of the three keyboards and 'stops' or voices which the different sounds produce; he even moved the camera (which had enabled us to see him on a screen as he performed) so that we could see how the pedal organ worked, illustrating this with a reprise of the *Carol of the Bells*. This recital was a fittingly exhilarating finale to this year's series organised by the Friends of St Mary's. We look forward to a similarly varied selection of musical performance in 2023".

**Shirley Smith**

### 8TH MARCH REVIEW

by Jason Busby

I was thrilled that the Laxfield All Saints Singers came to Halesworth and opened the 2023 FOSM Recital Series on March 8th. Chris Cliff, director of the singers and organist at All Saints Laxfield (for decades!) is in fact the person responsible for my organ playing. Chris was my piano teacher from age 7 through to my teens seeing me gain my grade 5 piano with the associated board of the royal school of music. You will also recognise Chris and her husband Frank (who sang bass) as they have accompanied the Team Choir at the town choir service on Viola and Cello in recent years. The All Saints Singers for over forty years have sung at Church Festivals and local events raising money for good causes with their concerts. The recital was a blend of song and reflection given by Linda Sherman. I particularly enjoyed the story of Thomas Weelkes, composer of a piece called *Tomorrow is the marriage day* which the choir sang. The career of Thomas Weelkes is punctuated both with celebrated artistic achievement and personal hardship. His music is regarded as the most innovative and experimental of all the English madrigalists, yet his inability to secure stable or reputable patronage and his reputation as a belligerent alcoholic even saw him dismissed from Chichester Cathedral as organist! The recital began with the beautiful words of *Psalms 23* sung to *Brother James' Air* arranged by Gordon Jacobs. Moving onto a piece which was sung as a three part round called *Now I see thy looks were feigned* by Thomas Ford. The other highlight of the recital was a little bit of Gilbert & Sullivan *Oh, rapture* from the *Gondoliers* sung by Soprano and Tenor Julie Theaker and Steve Holmes. A much enjoyed recital by the 32 people who came and supported them. THANK YOU TO THE ALL SAINTS SINGERS.



The next recital is on Wednesday 12th April, 12.30pm, given by The Kirkley Trio, we will see you then.

*Joy Sewell*

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# Waveney and Blyth Deanery Environment Action Plan



The Waveney and Blyth Deanery now has an Environmental Action Plan and a group of representatives from different parishes and churches across the deanery to help implement the plan.

## Why should churches be taking action?

The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ. We can see this when Christians demonstrate these five 'marks' of mission:

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers.
- To respond to human need by loving service.
- To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

The following two quotations help us understand how action to protect the environment should be a fundamental part of our Christian faith in the 21st century:

1. It is human behaviour that is at the heart of the problem. Christian values and our Christian faith offer an alternative way to live which cares for both humanity and the natural world: "I used to think the top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, eco system collapse and climate change. I thought that with 30 years good science we could address those problems. But I was wrong. The top environmental problems are **selfishness, greed and apathy** – and to deal with those we need a spiritual and cultural transformation – and we scientists don't know how to do that." **Gus Speth, American environmental lawyer and Dean of Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.**
2. "Spirituality is the integration of our beliefs, values and actions. It draws on the wisdom accumulated in a religion and culture. Christian spirituality is shaped by Scripture, tradition and reason, and is made active through thought and prayer. Spirituality is at the heart of individuals and communities. It motivates us, addresses questions of

what we truly want for ourselves and for one another, and holds us to account... **faith and spirituality are important resources to mobilise people in response to climate change and the care of God's creation**".

"Sleepers Wake – Getting Serious About Climate Change"  
**Bishop Nicholas Holtam, retired Bishop of Salisbury and former church of England lead on environmental concern**

The scale of the challenge that faces us can seem overwhelming. Here's what we CAN do:

Churches are already doing a lot and our worship regularly addresses protecting God's creation and climate injustice. One thing we can all do is to think about how we can involve our communities in what we are doing.

1. Reduce the harmful impact of our own lives and the life of our church on the environment. Some examples of this:
  - Make adjustments to our own lives that will reduce our carbon footprint and limit negative impacts on the environment. This can include promoting organisations that help reuse things rather than throwing them away, switching (if we can afford it) to products which are "environmentally friendly" or use recycled materials.
  - Sign up for the Eco-Church Award scheme and publicise this in your community. Better still, get people outside the church to help.
  - Calculate your church's carbon footprint. The Church of England is aiming for Net Carbon Zero by 2030 (ambitious) and has plenty of information on its website.
2. Encourage our communities to engage with God's creation so that they want to protect it. Some ideas are:
  - Provide opportunities for the community to engage with nature locally: nature survey/children's activities in the churchyard.
  - Display in church information about encouraging wildlife/wildflowers in their own gardens.
3. Campaign for Climate Justice. Encourage congregations and the local community to support the campaigning work of charities such as Christian Aid, as well as raising money for them.

If you would like to discuss what your church could be doing, please contact me.

Revd Alison Alder  
 14.3.23



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Thorington	Mike Gower	01502 478078
Walpole	Ken Allen Lee Hill	01986 784240 07713 450078
Wenhaston	Jonathan Alder	01502 478855
Wissett	Geoffrey Kiddy Nick Evans	01986 873173 01986 872372



**GOTCHA!**

27th April 1983 was a very important date! A young man called Jason was born. Over the past years he has been called on numerous occasions to undertake a number of tasks due to his many talents.

A husband, daddy, son, grandson, brother... oh yes, churchwarden, horologist, bell ringer, flag raiser, IT consultant, organist, dad taxi, *BVTimes* correspondent, carer (as his career), and not forgetting one-time chorister with the Wenhaston Boys' Choir. It's usually "Jason will do it!"

We are all immensely proud of you and very thankful for your help and fellowship. Enjoy your big day and remember, life begins at this age, and it used to be said that "Phyllosan fortifies the over 40's" (*I think you can still buy it!*).

Love from all at St Mary's and the Team  
— not forgetting the obstinate dinosaur! xx

**ECUMENICAL CLERGY**

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**Blyth Valley Times**

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**Advertising: 01986 875941/07752 275328.**

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**Blyth Valley Team Ministry**

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service. Details of how you can make a donation to **BVTM** are on our website: [https://](https://www.blythvalleychurches.co.uk)

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**Your donation goes towards the work of the BVTM across the Team**



**The Team office in St Mary's Church is OPEN on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9am - 1pm.**

**Tel 01986 875941.**

**On Wednesdays and Fridays, from 9am - 1pm, the Team Administrator can be contacted on: 07752 275328.**

**Or via email: [office.bvtm@gmail.com](mailto:office.bvtm@gmail.com)**

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# News from Town & Villages

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## Bramfield

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joanna.wilkinson6@gmail.com

### St Andrew's Church, Bramfield

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-andrews-church-bramfield> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



### CONCERT

A Concert is being held in Bramfield Village Hall on Saturday 22nd April, from 7pm - 10.30pm. Del, Jeremy and Stephen with guests. Classics from the 50s, 60s. Licensed bar. Sausage-in-a-bun. Draw.

Tickets £8 in advance from:  
[ticketsource.co.uk/bramfield-village-hall](https://ticketsource.co.uk/bramfield-village-hall)

or Bramfield Garage. £9 on the night. (limited numbers).

Raising money for the Village Hall and the new Village Meadow.

### Bridge Meadow Community Area

A steering group comprising five people from the village has now been established to oversee fundraising and project management. The Village Hall (Charity 304710) will assume ownership and governance of Bridge Meadow when sufficient funds are raised to conclude its purchase, holding it in perpetuity for the benefit of the village.

At a recent village meeting residents told the steering group what they wanted from a new community area. Villagers expressed their views on various features including fencing, landscaping, recreational facilities, and the type and frequency of events.

The emerging vision the community has defined is exciting and clear. Wild flower and wildlife areas, fruit trees for a small community orchard, bird and bat boxes, children's and adult's exercise and play equipment, benches and green space for games, goalposts for 5-a-side football and a basketball net. Desired events include village picnics and fetes, a school sports day for the village school and a range of seasonal events including Christmas carols and Morris dancing in the warmer months.

The proposals have been met with excitement and enthusiasm across the community, resulting in offers of help with all aspects of the project; such as free labour for fencing, tree planting and landscaping, as well as administration, planning, design and ongoing maintenance.

For those of you who were unable to get to the meeting, we will be circulating another survey for you to have the same opportunity to have your say.

If you would like further information please contact Fiona Ryder or Jane Edwards at [bramfieldvillagegreen@gmail.com](mailto:bramfieldvillagegreen@gmail.com) or phone Jane Edwards on 01986 784393.

Jane Edwards

### Chat at the Church

Tuesday 18th April, 10am to 12pm. Free tea, coffee and cake.

Need a reason to get out and make contact with others now that Spring is here?

Come and join us at our beautiful church of St Andrew's, Bramfield, with or without your crochet, crafting, drawing, embroidery, knitting or mending, to chat about what matters to you as members of this community.

If you need a lift to the church or wish to know more, please contact Mike on 07960 005232.

Joanna Wilkinson

## Chediston

Correspondent

Sally Aldous 01986 873363  
[www.chediston.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.chediston.suffolk.gov.uk)

### Donation to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake fund

Chediston PCC has donated £500 through a collection after church which raised £200, and from our general funds and individual donations to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) Turkey-Syria Earthquake appeal.

DEC Aid is getting through to survivors, despite the challenges of working in the affected region. 14 DEC charities and their local partners are working with locally-led relief efforts to provide medical treatment, shelter, winter survival kits and ensuring people have food and clean water.

For further information go to <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal>

On Sunday 12th March we were very fortunate that Dominic came to take our service at Chediston. His sermon was thought-provoking, he had a captive audience of five and lovely well-known hymns were sung. He stayed for a chat afterwards and enjoyed Joanna's delicious flapjacks.

### Maggie Pepper

We learned from Simon Pepper that Maggie died on March 13th, peacefully with her family around her. Maggie lived at Nunsmere on the B1123 in Chediston until moving away to be nearer her family about 10 years ago. Maggie was an amazing lady with her work as a specialist teacher with disadvantaged children in our part of Suffolk, a super neighbour over the road from us, always ready to help, and above all, an inspirational Christian and lay minister. When we first moved to Chediston in 2002, she was running a very successful church club, named The Mini-Chedders, for the youngsters in our village.

Some of us did lose contact with her over her several moves in recent years. Nevertheless, there have always been things to remind us of Maggie, including the wonderful applique banners that she and Mary Joel made

for St Mary's Halesworth, and which are still in use and every time I look up and see them, I remember Maggie. Maggie led the service of rededication of Chediston's newly restored bells.



She was an active member of Chediston PCC and wanted to see the church used more widely as a community asset. She would have liked all the pews to have been removed and the space used more flexibly – a modern thinker!

Maggie always appeared undaunted by things that happened in her life – not least with her health, and her ability to overcome such obstacles was phenomenal. Her patience and firmness, directness and willingness to undertake challenges were an example to all.

Thank you, Maggie, for all that you gave to the people around you. May you rest in peace and rise in glory. **Veronica** *Maggie came back and stayed with me twice and we met up again with my sister and brother-in-law in Buckingham. Not many people knew she also used to work at Bramfield House School with the boys there getting the benefit of her teaching and care.* **SA**

### Chediston Linstead WI

On Tuesday 2st February we all went on an outing to Sudbury to enjoy the Gainsborough exhibition. We much enjoyed seeing his and some of John Constable's works all housed in the home of the late Thomas Gainsborough. There was also some beautiful furniture to admire, not to mention a celebrated restaurant looking out onto a very pretty garden. Many thanks to Vicky for organising this for us.

Our birthday lunch held on March 14th was at the Huntingfield Arms. Thanks to

Heather Vincent for organising a delicious meal. Our next meeting is on April 11th when our speaker will be Chris Turland speaking on canal art.

We look forward to Easter – see service times on Page 4. Hopefully all the daffodils will be in bloom by then together with other spring flowers.

### Easter – advanced notice of services

Our services over the Easter weekend will include a Service of Reflection on the Crucifixion on Good Friday at 9.30am and Holy Communion taken by the Revd Gini at 8am on Easter Sunday. There will not be a 10am service this year, as there are not enough clergy to go round the benefice mid-morning. For those that come to celebrate the Risen Lord early in the morning – there will be Easter Eggs! There are other services in the benefice at 10am including St Andrew's Wissett and St Mary's Halesworth.

Loads of fun community events will have taken place in March, from the Linstead Beetle Drive to the Chediston Quiz Night (with fish and chips) to the wonderful Mothering Sunday service at Chediston Church, followed by a visit to see the lambs at Bridge Farm.

### Annual Litterpick

There's still time to help clean up our villages and join our Annual Chediston and Linstead Litterpick.

By the end of the first week of March, six bags of rubbish, including car parts had already been collected from the side of our roads. Just half an hour spent, in your own time, collecting litter from our verges or ditches could make a big difference.

If you would like to join the team and make a difference, please contact Jo Wareham (07711 066727) who has litter pickers, hoops and bags for CHEDISTON or Janet Heath (785289) who has litter pickers, hoops and bags for LINSTAD.

When you have filled your bags, please bring them to Dormy House, Linstead and the Council will collect them from there on March 28th. Please help to keep our villages clean and litter free.

Thank you.

### CORONATION - ADVANCE NOTICE

Chediston celebrations for the Coronation on Bank Holiday Monday 8th May are being planned.

There will be a photographic exhibition and flowers in the church entitled *Under Suffolk Skies*, along with music and bells. Detailed programme to follow. **VD**

## Cookley

### St Michael & All Angels Church, Cookley

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-michael-and-all-angels-cookley> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



## Halesworth

Correspondent Jason Busby  
01986 873336

This morning what did you wake up to? In the UK, we might be waking up to lighter mornings and warmer days, but families across the country are waking up to cold homes and empty stomachs as we face the greatest cost of living crisis we have known in our lifetimes. And because of this they wake up with fear. Further afield, people are waking up to horrors they never imagined possible. Ukrainians are continually awakened by the noises of war, and the sickening reality of terror. They wake up to mortal fear. The people of Turkey and Syria are grappling with disease in the camps following the devastating earthquake. But one thought I hold close to me daily is this... "It is exactly when we place ourselves into God's hands we realise that his infinite mercy - his ability to transform any dead end into a turning point is freedom". The news may be a daily cycle of doom and gloom presently but we have so much to look forward to give thanks for.

For all services from Palm Sunday, during Holy Week and Easter Sunday see *BVTimes*, pages 4 and 5.

Looking ahead to April, we welcome The Kirkley Trio on Wed 12th for the FoSM lunchtime recital 12pm for

12.30pm. On Saturday 15th April The Pakefield Singers will fill the Church with glorious sound once again with Opera Favourites with Tim Patient once again on the organ. Tickets are £12.50 available from The Halesworth Bookshop or on the door. On Wednesday 31st, everyone is invited to the next Community Lunch.

On Wednesday 3rd May, 7.30pm do join us in St Mary's for the Annual Team meeting, an opportunity to reflect on this past year and to hear what is happening across the team for 2023-2024.

Look out for the posters, but just a heads up on Coronation Day, Saturday 6th May, you can join us in St Mary's and watch the service on the BIG SCREEN all together.

with clotted cream etc etc, timings are tbc.

The Church of England has produced a book of daily prayers for the Coronation of King Charles III. Beginning on Easter Sunday – the booklet offers a prayer, a short reading and reflection on a different theme each day. It is designed to help individuals to pray for the King, to pray for our nation, the commonwealth and learn more about the rich symbolism of the Coronation



lives be to your glory, and in the name of your Son who died so that failure would never be the end. Amen.”

**St Mary's Church,  
Halesworth**

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-marys-church-halesworth> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.





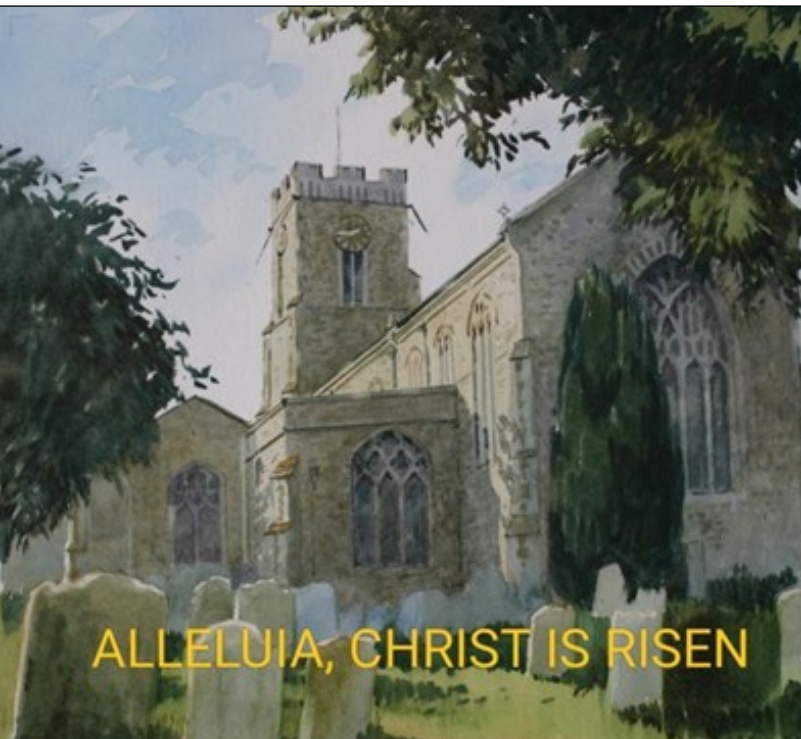

I have completed a test run, the sound will come through the main system, we will serve sandwiches, cakes, scones

Service and lastly to reflect on Jesus, the Servant King. I have about 30 copies spare, they cost just £1 each, if you would like a copy do get in touch.

As I write this, it is not long now until Easter Day. On this joyful day, as we finally stand in the light – rather than the shadow – the cross is the answer to all our failures. In the cross Jesus overcame sin, death, hell and all the sin and failure that exists in our world and our hearts. This is the truth that means that God is able to deal with all our failure, because God alone has never, ever failed. ALLELUIA! Christ is risen! Let us pray "Lord who is with us every step of the journey, in our despair and our delight, in our failures and our successes, may each moment of our

**HALESWORTH WI**

Wayne Burns, manager of the Leiston Cinema entertained us with his talk entitled "Spilling the Popcorn". Leiston Cinema is the oldest in Suffolk, built in 1914 in four months at the cost of just over £3000. The cinema proved extremely popular from the very beginning, it has had its up and downs over the years with competition from Aldeburgh cinema when it opened in 1919 and the coming of television. Better times were had when the talkies and films in colour came out. The war years also brought in the crowds with Pathé news and Leiston Airfield with 7000 airmen nearby. Since then the cinema has been bought by the council



St Margaret's Heveningham

and received a grant when Sizewell was being built. The Leiston Cinema Support club has, over the years, worked hard to raise thousands to upgrade the equipment, seats and the facilities, including the very smart toilets!

Members were reminded of upcoming events, the SEF AGM at Trinity Park and the County Quiz at Darsham, the birthday lunch in May and the next kurling afternoon at the Rifle Hall.

### ST MARY'S HALESWORTH 50/50 CLUB

Results of the March 2023, 50/50 draw were: 1st Y Eady; 2nd R O'Leary 3rd S Busby.

## Heveningham

Correspondent Christine Baker  
c\_bakerx@yahoo.co.uk

### St Margaret's Church, Heveningham

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-margaret-heveningham-with-ubbeston>

or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



Our church has been having a Spring clean, and more is to come thanks to the kind donation from the Heveningham Hall Country Fair Trust, so we will sometime this year be having a deep clean inside the church.

We have also set up a small library of books after we were lucky to resource two bookcases locally. Anyone is welcome to come in and pick up a book and hopefully leave a donation which will all go towards the upkeep of the church. We are also hoping for donations of your surplus books and jigsaw puzzles to build up our supply.

If anyone just needs five minutes peace and quiet there will be light refreshments for people as well, inside the church. Our next service is on

Easter Sunday which will be at 10am. All are welcome.

## Holton

Correspondent Jill Hewlett  
01986 875913

[jillhewlett1@btinternet.com](mailto:jillhewlett1@btinternet.com)

Here we are at the beginning of April celebrating Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week, soon it will be Good Friday and then Easter Sunday. It is a journey through anticipation, sorrow and joy, encompassing all of our Christian belief and life, which not only tells of our lives with its times of expectation, sadness and joy. How wonderful it would be if all the world were celebrating with us in peace and the certain knowledge of God's love for us all.

Please see pages 4 and 5 of *BVTimes* for details of the Easter services.

### Mothering Sunday

On Sunday 19th March we celebrated Mothering Sunday with the Revd Gini leading our Iona worship. Posies were handed out to everyone to acknowledge the part that mothers have played in all our lives and the mothering that we have received and given within our own families and from our church family.

We carried on the fellowship after the service had ended with coffee and oat biscuits made by Dot.

### Subscriptions for *BVTimes* are due in May

On behalf of Holton Church I would like to say a big thank you to all the magazine distributors in Holton: Gill, Pat, Dot, Jill, Diane and Lisa, for delivering every month and collecting the annual payments. We now have the option of paying online by bank transfer. Our delivery team will also collect cash or cheque if you prefer. We ask that if you pay online, to let your delivery person know.

Please find payment details on page 2 of this issue.

Jackie Watts

### SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

St Peter's Church will be holding its ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on Thursday 20th April at 7pm for 7.30pm

in the Church. Please do come along to hear what has been going on during the year, to vote for the Wardens and PCC members, and to air your views on the way forward.

If you wish to be part of the PCC please speak to Chris Knevett before the meeting.

THE CAR BOOT SALE will be held on Saturday 29th April on Holton Church Paddock from 10am (although the Booters tend to start arriving soon after 7am!) until c. 1pm. Boot spaces will cost £6 if booked in advance or £7.50 on the day. If you wish to book a space please phone on either 01986 835752 or 01986 872467.

We will be having a refreshment tent, a barbecue, raffle and Church stall as usual, so if you can help in any way please phone Mary Curtis on 01986 874622 or email: [marycurtis312@gmail.com](mailto:marycurtis312@gmail.com).

THE FLOWER FESTIVAL will be held on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd July and the theme this year is OUR VILLAGE: PAST AND PRESENT. Having had a word with Dot just to clarify what this might mean, it covers all the things that have happened in the village; so that could be The Boys' Brigade, Sunday School, national celebrations such as The Queen's Jubilee and that could be Queen Victoria or Queen Elizabeth II, the work of the blacksmith, the pub, so just about anything that happened or happens in the village. So, get the little grey cells working!

And just to finish and as the sun streams in on this March afternoon I wonder what the weather in April will be like after a very mixed March? As Flanders and Swann sang *April brings the sweet Spring showers, on and on for hours and hours!* We shall see.

### Homemade Marmalade 2023

I have made several lots of Seville Orange marmalade again this year, and have a number of jars to sell to anyone in Holton or across the Blyth Valley Team. I know a number of folk who particularly like marmalade on toast as part of their breakfast! The marmalade does have lemons in as well as Seville oranges and keeps well, if you prefer yours more mature.

Prices for everything have gone up lately, especially sugar. I am suggesting 1lb jars at £2.50, 12oz at £1.60 and 8oz

at £1.25. I don't have many 8oz jars. You can, of course, donate more if you would like to. All the money raised will go to St Peter's Treasurer to help a little with the Church's finances.

If you are unable to collect your marmalade, I can deliver.

**Janet Walkey**  
01986 872594  
janetwalkey@hotmail.com

### HOLTON & BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL

We are busy planning our two events in June. The Holton Open Gardens on Saturday 3rd June and Sunday 4th June. It's going to be so nice to see visitors again, having not held the Open Gardens for some years.

Gardeners are busy planning displays and all we need is the right weather, whatever that is!

The usual format is maps are available at the Village Hall for a fee, and tea/coffee and cakes are there too – either to fortify prior to visiting the gardens or to recover later!

On Fathers Day – June 18th, we are delighted to be running our Classic Car Day again after a two year gap. Stalls both inside and outside the Village Hall, an Art Exhibition by the Chediston Art Group, barbecue and kitchen open for light lunches and cream teas, disco and, of course, the bar will be open, as will the ice cream van.

If you have a classic car/tractor, van, bus or any vehicle of interest, just bring it along for all to admire. It's free entry - we just ask for a donation, as the whole event is to keep the Hall open and running for our communities.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in July and we are looking for people of all ages to come and join our merry band who run the Hall. Just ring Wendy on 01986 872590 for a chat first!

### HOLTON & BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL TOTE

Winners in February: Mary Kimber/ Sophie Strong £25, Valerie Sawyer £15; Rob Garner £10, Martina Calver £5.

Winners in March: Hazel Gibson £25, Gill Johnson £15, Colin White £10, Florence Kernohan £5.

Well done to all our winners!

### St Peter's Church,

### Holton

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-peters-church-holton> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



## Huntingfield

**Correspondent Sally Clarke**

[sally.clarke@live.com](mailto:sally.clarke@live.com)

### St Mary's Church,

### Huntingfield

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-marys-church-huntingfield> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



The month of March has been a busy one here in Huntingfield. In response to the terrible consequences of the earthquake in Turkey the church and village community came together to hold a fund-raising coffee morning at the Hub. The people came from far and wide, bringing cakes and raffle prizes. A lot of coffee was drunk and cakes eaten which resulted in a staggering total of £935 donated to DEC. Our thanks go to everyone who came and supported this event.

On March 11th, the PCC held a 'Souper Saturday', this was to raise awareness of the Halesworth Community Larder. The lunch was free but people could donate food or toiletry items in exchange for a choice of five different homemade soups and bread rolls. At the end of a fun and 'chatty' lunch we had two large boxes of groceries, two bags of toiletries and

£105 to give to the Community Larder. Oh, the most popular soup... Leek & Potato and least favourite... Carrot & Coriander.

In April there are two events for your diaries; Tuesday 11th April there is a 'Bug Safari' taking place in the churchyard. So far 20 children aged between 5 - 12 have signed up to search for bugs and creepy crawlies. There will also be a nest building competition and a 'creature quiz' in the church. If you have a little person who would like to get involved please contact Charlie at [huntingfieldkidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:huntingfieldkidsclub@gmail.com)

Finally if you enjoy more gentle activities, please join us on St George's Day, April 23rd from 2pm for tea and cake and a 'bring and buy sale' at the church. A warm welcome awaits you.

## Linstead

**Correspondent**

**Malcolm Heath 01986 785289**

[www.linstead.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.linstead.suffolk.gov.uk)

THE FRENCH CALLED IT STORM Claudio and, apart from the fact that the wind was rather gusty, I think we missed the worst. I was 'phoned, in my capacity as churchwarden, with the preamble: "I don't want you to worry because the church is perfectly unharmed". It transpired that Storm Claudio had brought down a tree, but had not caused any damage in the process. It's a funny thing but in spite of having surveys done and spent several thousands of pounds over recent years, sorting out threatening-looking trees, there are still surprises. The only problem with this one was that it had effectively cut off the northern part of the graveyard. As ever, the village rose to the occasion. Chainsaws were revved up and the tree reduced to firewood in a few short hours. As ever, we are so grateful to all who took part.

THE FUNERAL OF DAVID METHERELL took place and it was a tribute to Cecilia and Duncan's organisational skills. The village marquees were erected in the churchyard and a shuttle bus was laid on to carry mourners between the car park, the church and the village hall. I found the music of particular interest. A generous amount of Handel together a range of other composers and performers, including Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Jussi Björling and Acker Bilk. It was a mark of the respect in which he was held that over 130 people

attended. He will be greatly missed both in the village and the wider community.

CHEDISTON & LINSTEAD WI MET IN March for its annual birthday luncheon. Members went to the Huntingfield Arms and had a jolly good time. They meet next at Linstead Village Hall, on Tuesday 11th March, at 2.30pm. The speaker is Chris Turlan and he will be talking about Canal Art. As one who takes narrow boat holidays from time to time, I think this will be a fascinating topic; it seems to me that this tradition is alive and well.

THE ANNUAL BEETLE DRIVE TOOK place in March and, as usual, although no beetles were harmed by their experiences, the dice took quite a hammering. This is a quintessentially family event. If you can cast a die and stop it rolling in short order, you can play. The beetles, one has to admit, are almost peripheral to the enjoyment. I mention this because the although attendance was good, it could have been better. Covid casts a long shadow. Our compère was Jeremy Leicester who was a superb as ever.

Not only were there jokers to play but also Boris's, a sort of anti-joker which halves your score, totally counter-intuitive!

As you can see, from the below photos, Beetle Driving is thirsty work, something you need to bear in mind if you join us next year, which I hope you will. The winning team was the Fentons and the Leicesters, who look surprised at what was a close run race.



THE CORONATION IS APPROACHING. Naturally Linstead will be getting involved. On Coronation Day we will

meet up in the evening for the lighting of the beacon, we will enjoy, (absolutely free) fizz, we will cut the Coronation Cake and propose the Loyal Toast.

On Saturday 17th June we will hold our Summer Barbecue and be entertained by: More of us', Will Oldham's Jazz, Soul & Blues Band.

The summer of excitement will continue with our annual Village Fête, also at the Village Hall, on Saturday, 5th August.

NATURALLY, LINSTEAD MUST LOOK her best for all this and preparations have started early with the Great Linstead Litter Pick. Our teams have roamed the verges and got a reasonable haul of debris. The worst item in the rogues' gallery was a large piece of carpet which had been thoroughly basted in good quality topsoil, before being left at the roadside. The icing on the cake, as it were, was a small (no doubt defunct) electric fire which had with great care, been dumped in the entrance of the church crossroads bus shelter. It was as if the dumpers were attempting to provide, for waiting schoolchildren, a few creature comforts, almost thoughtful, if it wasn't yet more litter.

However it is, amazing to relate, a significantly less quantity than in previous years, perhaps only half as much. Is this a breakthrough? Have



the Great Unwashed bought a bar of soap? Only time will tell but our thanks are due to all those in both Chediston & Linstead who took part.

OUR SERVICES IN APRIL COMPRISE Matins on Easter Day (April 9th) and Holy Communion on the 23rd, both are at 10am.

**FLOWERS & CLEANING**

9th Mrs P Keable & Mr D Keable  
With help for Easter Day  
23rd Help required.

**Spexhall**

**Correspondent Keith Noakes**  
**spexhallwoodpecker@gmail.com**  
**Facebook: St Peter's Spexhall and Spexhall Village Hall**

**St Peter's Church, Spexhall**  
has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.  
Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-peters-church-spexhall>  
or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.




**'April is the Cruellest Month'**

I know T S Eliot ('The Wasteland') is so 'profound' and all that, but at this moment your Woodpecker is more inclined to go with the Romantic poets and is more comfortable with Wordsworth's 'a host, of golden daffodils' ('I wandered lonely as a cloud') when thinking of Spring and all it brings to us. In April, do visit the churchyard. Some daffodils may (possibly) still be in flower, and the primroses at the east end of the church



are always glorious. A perfect place to sit awhile on 'Dennis' bench', listen to the birds, and leave the restless world. 'Our hearts are restless until they rest in You', as Augustine said. Most of the Team's churchyards offer a place to see and hear nature, and to give comfort as we see spring brings life to our plants and animals. Our aim is to make our churchyards a place where nature can be experienced in all its glory. Some may even get a certificate (Rocha Silver here, but maybe going for Gold??).

### 'Father forgive them, for they know not what they do'

These words, spoken as the first of the last seven words (sentences) spoken by Jesus are read at our **Good Friday Tenebrae Service at 8.30pm (7th April)**. It is a perfect time on this special day to reflect on our lives, our society and the world, and where we might play a part in putting right the things that are wrong. Do think of joining us. All are most welcome.

### 'Thine be the Glory'

What is your favourite Easter hymn? Many would say the hymn to Handel's tune, but perhaps you like another? Woodpecker will be on his branch listening to the fine Easter hymns sung out at St Peter's on **Easter Sunday, with Holy Communion at 10am on April 9th (Easter Day)**. Do join in the chorus. Easter bonnets have become something of a tradition at St Peter's, with few to beat a certain former churchwarden's efforts (by 'few' we mean 'none'!). Your woodpecker has his best plumage in spring (It's supposed to be to attract a mate, but in these inclusive times, that's a bit limiting). A new flag of St George will be flying from the flagpole, a sign of pride in the New Life Easter proclaims.

### Diary Date

Don't you just yearn for another date in your diary for a committee meeting? I know. I long for them! The Annual Parish Council Meeting is on **Tuesday 2nd May at 7.30pm**. This is an open meeting for anyone in the parish to attend and hear what is going on in Spexhall, both in church and village. Woodpecker is hoping that some of the Parish Council (the non-religious one!) might decide to come along and tell us what they think. It's not all about God you know... (although it is...).

### The Village People

Woodpecker has heard tell of a wine tasting evening. Honestly, I almost fell

off my perch on hearing that they might actually organise something. It may be the weekend when the king gets crowned, but watch this space for more news. Spittoons are always available on such occasions, but strangely have remained empty at previous wine tastings. The attendees all look very jolly when they leave, though. Tickets will be as rare as woodpecker's teeth, so be sure to snap yours up as soon as the event is (eventually) organised.

*(PS As a point of clarity, your correspondent is Woodpecker because 'Spexhall' is Anglo-Saxon for 'woodpecker'. I know, I've been around a long time!)*

## Thorington

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

Everyone is welcome to our Open Afternoon on April 1st (mad hats are not compulsory!) from 2pm-4.30pm. It is a chance to see the splendid church and churchyard, meet the PCC and local neighbours, so a warm welcome to everyone.

There will be tea, coffee and home made cakes... no charge... it is a chance for everyone to put forward any ideas on how to use our listed Grade I building for future events, this is our community asset so do use it! I will report back next month, and may see you at our service at the end of April - check this magazine for details please. Spring is coming, we think!

## Walpole

**Correspondents Lee & Anita Hill**  
**07713 450078**

### St Mary's Church, Walpole

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-marys-church-walpole> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



## Wenhaston

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

### St Peter's Church, Wenhaston

has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-peters-church-wenhaston> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.



What diverse weather we have been having of late! On Friday I was caught in a heavy snow storm, wind blowing and a covering of snow. I went into the Co-op to shop and when I returned to my car, the snow had all vanished! Thank goodness the snowdrops and daffodils withstand all of this, and aren't they lovely this year!

We will give posies to the congregation on Mothering Sunday, and look forward to Alison's licensing the following Sunday. Easter is fast approaching, and the list for Easter Lilies is in the church. We suggest a donation of £4 for lilies in memory of your loved ones. These will be used to decorate the church for Easter and on Easter Monday we will be serving Easter Teas from 3pm to about 5pm. We hope lots of you will come to see the flowers and partake of tea and cake.

### April Services

2nd	Team Service, Halesworth 10am.
9th	Easter Sunday, Holy Communion, 10am.
16th	Services at Blyford, Bramfield and Holton, 10am.
23rd	Pause for Thought, 10am.
30th	Team Service, Halesworth, 10am.

### WENHASTON MOTHERS' UNION

It was good to be back with everyone at the March meeting. We had an interesting meeting when we welcomed Deb Johnson from the



Lighthouse Women's Refuge in Ipswich. Her talk was titled "Domestic Abuse is Everybody's Business". I think that she made us all think more seriously about domestic abuse and all that can and does happen.

Those now supported through the Lighthouse Refuge are both women and children and after the initial reception at the Lighthouse they are found suitable accommodation well away from the Suffolk area for their own safety. They are then provided with everything they need from clothes, food etc as in many cases they will have fled to the Refuge without anything. There is a 20% increase of people needing Refuge on previous years and figures show that one in three women and one in six men are affected in their lifetime.

In the next few months our Branch hopes to provide bags containing some of the necessary items i.e. toiletries etc. which they need on arrival at the Refuge. These will then be taken to Ipswich.

It was good to have some of the Halesworth members joining us at the Meeting and we are very pleased to have them with us. **Margaret G**

### Wenhaston Walking Group

Our first walk in April, on Tuesday 4th, will leave Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am. The second will start at 10am on Tuesday 18th leaving from the Five Bells, Southwold Road, Wrentham NR34 7JF. A lunch menu will be circulated in advance. If you wish to have your name added to the walkers' circulation list please email: [ipbigwood@btinternet.com](mailto:ipbigwood@btinternet.com) **Heather Phillips (01502 478545)**

### WENHASTON FLOWER CLUB

Our meeting on Tuesday 7th March was a demonstration by Jenni Baker, not



only did she produce four beautiful arrangements but she kept us entertained with very lively stories about the four times she has entered Chelsea Flower Show. The meeting was very well attended and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 4th April, 7.30pm, in Wenhaston Village Hall.

This will be a workshop with Roger Woolnough entitled "Spring Design". You will need: A straight sided container 10cm diameter x 20cms high (glass/ plastic/tin can be square or round); enough straight sticks (20/30) to cover around the outside of the container 2/3cms taller than the containers height (willow/Cornus/sycamore); piece of bark height of the container; two strong rubber bands to go around the container; raffia/string/ribbon to cover the rubber bands; bunch of ten tulips or daffodils; three tall decorative twigs; scissors/scateurs; table covering.

Please come along even if you don't want to make the arrangement as the evening is always such fun. The price per meeting is still only £5 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Everyone is welcome.

Any raffle prizes or items for the sales table would be gratefully received.

## Wissett

**Correspondent Nick Evans**

**01986 872372**

**[nickandmaggie@btinternet.com](mailto:nickandmaggie@btinternet.com)**

Around the end of February we learned from our beleaguered impartial national broadcaster that the Northern Lights had come down as far as Suffolk, but were disappointed not to hear of any Wissett sightings. Then stormy and wintry March came on quite dramatically, though in the event not as extreme as some very partial newspapers had predicted in their welter of doom and gloom. On the bright side, the rain arrived just in time to spare us from getting out the hoses on to the garden.

The church was full on February 17th for the inspiring funeral of Jill Howlett, who died in Beech House at the age of 90. John and Jill bought Hill House Farm in 1956, coming from Bruisyard; the farm is now run by their son Andrew and Mairi his wife, with a

third generation coming on, in one of the few farms still going here.

The following week, on Shrove Tuesday, the church was happily clipped with success ensured by the simple expedient of reducing the circuit to the north and south doors and round the tower. Mary Pester gave us first class soup, and then there was a very good team supply of pancakes, in the comfortably filled village hall.

Next day the Tilstons' depictions of the Stations of the Cross came out of their quarters in the vestry and deployed to their places on the walls of the church, ready for the 10am service on Good Friday, 7th April. The rota on page 3 confirms our communion celebration on Easter Day (9th) at 10am.

The PCC met recently and fixed the Annual Parochial Church Meeting complex for 7.30pm on Thursday 4th May.

While this might appear to be merely a fascinating ritual of establishment bureaucracy for enthusiasts only, in fact we have an informal atmosphere, conducted over wine like most business in Wissett. Everyone in the village is entitled to come and let us know what they would like from the church, and you would be truly welcome.

Leaping ahead into May, we are planning an evening of words and music reflecting the Coronation at 6pm on Sunday 7th May in the church, with drinks and refreshments. The next day brings another of our great plant sales in the hall.

Your correspondent is beginning to feel that the wells of inspiration are running dry, and he is thrilled to announce that Mary Pester will be taking over writing the Wissett column next month.

### St Andrew's Church, Wissett


has joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.

Details of how you can make a donation are on our website: <https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-andrews-church-wissett> or you can scan the QR code printed here using your mobile device.

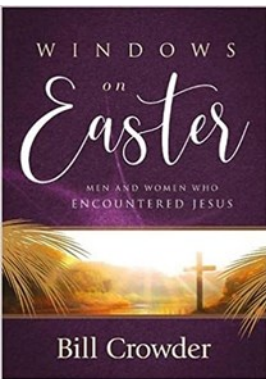


 <h1 style="margin: 0;">SIGN OF THE FISH</h1> <p style="font-size: small; color: red;">books cards refreshments</p>	<p>Telephone: <b>07770 465 785</b></p>
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**The Sign of the Fish is open Monday – Wednesday 9.30am – 1pm; (Thursday closed); Friday 9.30am – 1pm; Saturday closed**

	<p><b>Alleluia, Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed, we reply each Easter as Christians have for 2000 years.</b></p>
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When this magazine comes out it will still be Lent, coming up to Holy Week, and we may not be feeling very joyful, we may have lost that joyful anticipation over the years, with the pressures of modern life and, maybe, with the over familiarity of the Easter story.



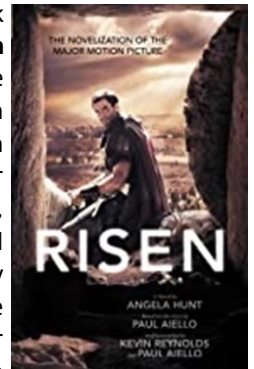
**Bill Crowder**, the author of **Windows on Easter** writes he has 'a great fear of the kind of over-familiarity that can jade us and cause us to lose the wonder of the mystery of God. If this can be true of the Christmas story it is ten times that for the events of the Saviour's passion. Those moments that opened eternity for the undeserving ... must never be allowed to grow stale'. So he opens seven windows:

surprise, sin, significance, sorrow, strength, scripture and our own, giving the reader a view through to the different perspectives of eyewitnesses of the events around that very first Easter. Interesting, thought-provoking, even challenging and life transforming, this is also quick and easy to read at only 124 pages long.

This little book has been around for a few years and sadly is not available to purchase in print form in English, but it is still

obtainable in English from 'you know who' as an e-book for screen or Kindle.

I'm currently enjoying another book that's been around a little while, **Risen** by **Angela Hunt**: perhaps you saw the film starring Joseph Fiennes, Tim Felton (years ago he played Draco Malfoy in the Harry Potter series) and Peter Firth? Both book and film are a brave, well researched and largely successful attempt to tell the resurrection story from an alien point of view. The protagonist is a Roman senior officer charged by Pilate with ensuring the body of the controversial Yeshua is not stolen for political ends. When it goes missing his job, career, and even his life are on the line, he must hunt it down, and time is of the essence. Suffice it to say the hunt is successful and life changing.



In their very different ways both these books bring an immediacy to the Resurrection story.

May you be blessed with a Happy Easter.

*Val Jennings*

For Sign of the Fish

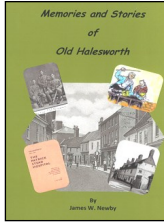
	<p><i>The Accordion Man</i> <b>Robert Cator</b></p> <p><i>Traditional Singalongs, Scottish &amp; Irish Tunes, Cabaret, Parties, Care homes, to Theatres</i></p> <p>01986 895464 07884 167867 theaccordionman@outlook.com</p>
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**South Norfolk Early Help Hub  
01508 533933**

**Halesworth Volunteers  
01986 875600**

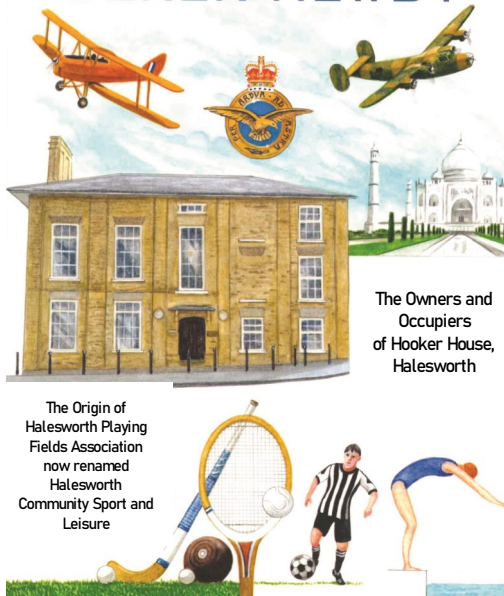
There are collection places for Foodbank  
donations in Chediston, St Mary's Church  
Halesworth, Halesworth Co-op, Holton,  
Rumburgh, Spexhall (2), Wenhaston and Wissett.

**ADDITIONAL FOODBANK  
DONATION POINTS**

Donations of food for the Foodbank can also be left at  
Woolnough's Funeral Service's office at the entrance to  
Halesworth Cemetery on Holton Road and also at  
Rosedale Funeral Services in the Market Place,  
Halesworth.

There are collection boxes outside the offices where  
produce can be placed.

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## WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA



*Friends of St Mary's · Halesworth*  
*Arms of The Argentines · Mediaeval Benefactors*

### Lunchtime Recital

St Mary's Church, Halesworth

*Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 12.30pm*

Picnic Lunch available from 12 noon  
or bring your own



*'Baroque Jewels' with The Kirkley Trio*



Retiring collection for the Regeneration of St Mary's Church  
(contactless giving available)

**THE ARTS SOCIETY, SOUTHWOLD**  
Tuesday 11th April: Basingstoke and its contribution to World Culture. *Lecturer: Rupert Willoughby*  
Tuesday 9th May: The Anatomy of a Masterpiece: Bathers at Asnières. *Lecturer: Steven Barrett*  
Lectures commence at 2pm in Southwold Arts Centre (St Edmund's Hall), Cumberland Road, Southwold.  
Visitors and Members' guests welcome, at an entrance fee of £8

## CAR BOOT SALE

**Church Paddock, Holton**

**Saturday 29th April**  
**10am**

Bookings: £6 in advance  
£7.50 on the day

**Telephone:**

**01986 835752 or 01986 872467**

Refreshments, Barbecue, Raffle,  
Church Stall

*In aid of St Peter's Church, Holton*

**St Peter's Church**  
**Thorington PCC**



## Open Afternoon

**Saturday 1st April**  
**2pm - 4.30pm**

Do come and join us for delicious  
homemade cakes and tea

*Everyone welcome to visit and bring your ideas  
for the future of the church*

**The Annual Parochial Church Council meeting  
will be held in the Church at 3.30pm**

*All enquiries phone Trish 07776077860*

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Conductor Janette Ruocco

**3pm**

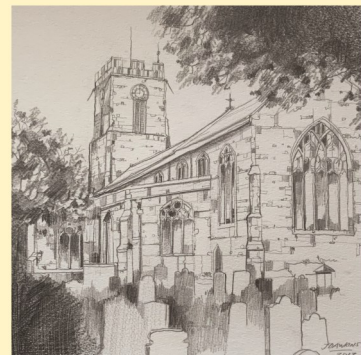
**Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2023**

St Mary's Church, Steeple End, Halesworth IP19 8LL

English anthems by Byrd, Purcell, Taverner & Tallis  
John Rutter *Childhood Lyrics*  
*spirituals* by Halloran, La Rue Pittman, Smith Moore  
settings of Shakespeare texts by Olson, Ruocco, Wood

**Free admission with a retiring collection**

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TO GO TO CHURCH  
THIS EASTER**



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**\*Open 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> April 2023. 10am till 4pm.**

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# The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin Halesworth

## 2023 confirmed dates, more to follow.....

**Wednesday 12 April**  
12noon for 12.30pm

RECITAL BY THE KIRKLEY TRIO  
A lunchtime recital organised by the Friends of St. Mary's  
FREE ENTRY / retiring collection / refreshments / bring your own lunch



**Saturday 15 April**  
7.30pm

THE PAKEFIELD SINGERS RETURN TO ST MARY'S  
OPERA FAVOURITES - Popular choruses and solos from the world of opera  
With Tim Patient on the organ. Tickets £12.50 on the door



**Wednesday 26 April**  
12.30-2pm

COMMUNITY LUNCH  
Everyone is welcome to join us for lunch  
[www.halesworthvolunteers.org](http://www.halesworthvolunteers.org)



**Wednesday 3 May**  
7.30pm

ANNUAL TEAM MEETING  
The Blyth Valley Team Ministry comes together for the Annual Team Meeting

**Saturday 6 May**  
Timings TBC

WATCH LIVE ON THE BIG SCREEN  
Join us in St Mary's as we watch the spectacle, splendour  
& all the pageantry of the coronation service



**Saturday 7 May**  
Timings TBC

SINGING VOICES AT THE READY  
Come and sing as we celebrate the Coronation with a special  
Songs of Praise service led by The Team Choir



**Wednesday 10 May**  
12noon for 12.30pm

RECITAL BY VERONICA DOWNING & WENDY SLANEY  
A lunchtime recital organised by the Friends of St. Mary's  
FREE ENTRY / retiring collection / refreshments / bring your own lunch



**Saturday 13 May**  
ALL DAY

HALESWORTH & SOUTHWOLD NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY  
COMMUNITY OPEN DAY



**Sunday 14 May**  
3pm-4pm

NOTA BENE - A cappella chamber choir  
We welcome the singers of NOTA BENE to St. Mary's for a  
concert under director Janette Ruocco



**Friday 8 Sept**  
7pm

BOHEMIAN CHOIR RETURN TO ST MARY'S  
We are thrilled to welcome back the girls choir of  
THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF LIBEREC, CZECH REPUBLIC



**Sat & Sun 16 / 17 September**  
OPEN ALL WEEKEND

HALESWORTH HERITAGE OPEN WEEKEND  
Watch this space for more details  
[www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)



**Wednesday 18 Oct**  
7pm

LADY MAISERY CONCERT - Funded by Halesworth Arts Festival  
We welcome to Halesworth a trio with the "most exquisite vocal  
harmony on the English folk scene"



For more details about any of our concerts or events,  
or if you wish to hire St. Mary's for your concert, meeting, event get in touch via...

[www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk](http://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk)

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