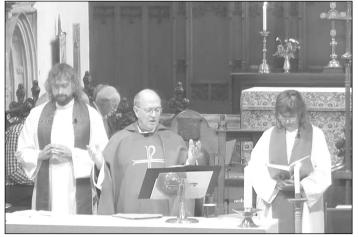
Blyth Valley Times A Service of the Church for our Local Communities

October 2023 Volume 44

lssue 10

£1.00 (where sold)

Bishop Martin visits St Mary's Halesworth



A joy to share in the Holy Communion with +Martin at St Mary's Halesworth on Sunday 17th September. He was pleased to be with us on an 'ordinary' Sunday. His last two visits to Halesworth were for the Revd Dominic Doble's licensing and the Revd Edward Rennard's funeral.

A special service to share communion with our Bishop who spoke to us about forgiveness. To forgive means 'give back'. A new commandment I give unto you to love one another. +Martin said "God calls us to love one another, across the Church and at the heart of our faith is forgiveness, that's why we pray 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us'."



Blyth Valley Times is published monthly by Blyth Valley Churches. To subscribe, with a copy delivered locally through your door - minimum donation £12 a year; or to request a postal subscription (£30 a year), please telephone 01986 875941 or 07752 275328 or email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com Blyford - Bramfield - Chediston - Cookley - Halesworth - Heveningham with Ubbeston - Holton -Huntingfield - Linstead - Spexhall - Thorington - Walpole - Wenhaston - Wissett. www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk

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Blyth Valley Times

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FOR DETAILS OF SERVICES AND LOCAL EVENTS, PLEASE VISIT THE BLYTH VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY

WEBSITE: www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk

There are news items and photos on our

Facebook page:

Find us at: blythvalleychurchessuffolk

October 2023 Lectionary

See below, or when Harvest Festivals occur: Deuteronomy 8: 7 – 18

Luke 12: 16 – 30

Sunday 1st - Seventeenth After Trinity

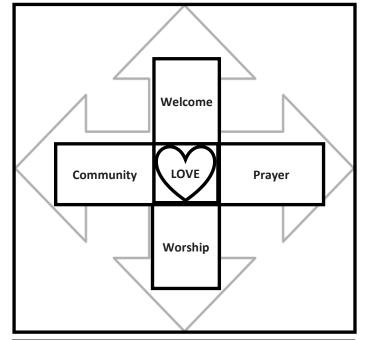
Traditional Communion (KJV) Ephesians 4: 1 – 6 Luke 14: 1 – 11

Holy Communion (NRSV) 2 Timothy 1: 1 – 14 Luke 17: 5 – 10

Sunday 8th - Eighteenth After Trinity

Traditional Communion (KJV) 1 Corinthians 1: 4 – 8 Matthew 22: 34 – end

Holy Communion (NRSV) 2 Timothy 2: 8 – 15 Luke 17: 11 – 19



BVTimes Renewals 2023-24

Please could any *BVTimes* subscribers who have not yet paid their 2023-24 renewals, do so asap.
Payment can be made to your local delivery person or to the BVTM office in St Mary's church Halesworth. (The office is open on Tues and Thurs, 9am - 1pm)
Alternatively, you can pay the fee into the *BVTimes* bank account. Barclays Bank - A/c: Blyth Valley Team Ministry. Account no: 13647579. Sort code: 20-53-06 Magazine delivery to your home, £12 per year.

Sunday 15th - Nineteenth After Trinity

Traditional Communion (KJV) Ephesians 4: 7 - endMatthew 9: 1 - 8

Holy Communion (NRSV) 2 Timothy 3: 14 – 4: 5 Luke 18: 1 – 8

Sunday 22nd - Twentieth After Trinity

Traditional Communion (KJV) Ephesians 5: 15 – 21 Matthew 22: 1 – 14

Holy Communion (NRSV) 2 Timothy 4: 6 – 18 Luke 18: 9 – 14

Sunday 29th - Twenty first After Trinity

Traditional Communion (KJV) Ephesians 6: 10 - 20 John 4: 46 – end

Holy Communion – Bible Sunday (NRSV) Nehemiah 8: 1 – 12 Matthew 24: 30 – 35 October 2023

Blyth Valley Times

CW – Year A	1st – Green	8th – Green	15th – Green	22nd – Green	29th – Green
Continuous	CW & BCP 17th After	CW & BCP 18th After	CW & BCP 19th After	CW & BCP 20th After	CW – Bible BCP 21st After
	8am Traditional Communion Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic	
Halesworth St Mary	10am Harvest Communion Dominic	10am Traditional Communion David	10am Baptism and Family Communion Gini 6pm	10am Iona Worship Jason 6pm	
			Evensong Dominic	Evensong Dominic	
St Peter Group					
Holton St Peter		11am Harvest Festival Gini	10am Iona Worship and Baptism Linda	10am Holy Communion Dominic	
Wenhaston St Peter		10.30am Harvest Festival Alison A	10am Holy Communion Anna	10am Pause for Thought Gini	
Bramfield St Andrew		6pm Harvest Team Evensong Linda			
Blyford All Saints			10am Harvest Festival Alison A		
Thorington St Peter					10am Holy Communior Dominic
St Andrew Group					
Wissett St Andrew		10am Morning Prayer Win	10am Holy Communion David	10am Breakfast Church Alison A	
Chediston St Mary		11am Harvest Festival Dominic		10am Morning Prayer Diana	
Spexhall St Peter				10am Holy Communion Linda	
Linstead St Margaret	6.30pm Harvest Festival Dominic				
St Michael Group					
Cookley St Michael			9.30am Traditional Communion Dominic		
Heveningham St Margaret		4pm Harvest Festival Dominic			
Huntingfield St Mary					
Walpole				10am Morning Prayer David	

10am Holy Communion St Mary's Halesworth

9.30am Morning Prayer St Andrew's Bramfield

Wenhaston Methodist Church Coles Lane, Wenhaston

Minister: The Revd Martin Keenan

OCTOBER 2023

- 1st The Revd Martin Keenan HC
- 8th The Revd Clive Sutcliffe US HF
- 15th The Revd Les Richards
- 22nd The Revd Iain McKillop
- 29th Deacon Linda Kinchenton

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am (unless stated otherwise)

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 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).

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

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

Sunday 1st	11am Gathered Worship & Communion
Tuesday 3rd	10am to 12noon at Lowestoft, followed by
	Morning Worship
Wednesday 4th	2.30pm Elders' Meeting in Church
Friday 6th	9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church
	followed by Coffee Morning
Sunday 8th	11am Gathered Worship
	3pm Worship at Bramfield Chapel
Tuesday 10th	10am to 12 noon at Lowestoft, followed by
	Morning Worship
Friday 13th	9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church
	followed by Coffee Morning
Sunday 15th	11am Gathered Worship
Tuesday 17th	10am to 12noon at Lowestoft, followed by
	Morning Worship
Friday 20th	9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church
	followed by Coffee Morning
Sunday 22nd	11am Gathered Worship
Tuesday 24th	10am to 12 noon at Lowestoft, followed by
	Morning Worship
Friday 27th	9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church
	followed by Coffee Morning
Sunday 29th	11am Gathered Worship
Tuesday 31st	10am to 12 noon at Lowestoft, followed by
	Morning Worship
	lan Carman, 01086 873761

Jon Sermon: 01986 873761 jon@sermons.me.uk

Judy Morton: 01502 724572

judy.morton @them orton partner ship.co.uk



Jo Moreira (for families and children) jomohurc@gmail.com

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 or

The Revd Linda Berry at: revd.linda@huntingfield.uk

From the Rector...

Recently, our second readings in Morning Prayer were from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. These are some verses from chapter 10:

'I myself, Paul, appeal to you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ – I who am humble when face to face with you, but bold towards you when I am away! ... Look at what is before your eyes. If you are confident that you belong to Christ, remind yourself of this, that just as you belong to Christ, so also do we. Now, even if I boast a little too much of our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for tearing you down, I will not be ashamed of it.' (New Revised Standard Version)

A number of his writings have been collected into his letters to the Corinthian church. The first is mainly upbeat and educational as you may expect as sent to a newly formed group wowed by his novelty and strangeness. However, those writings presented as the second letter are much more fractious and address authority, independence and expected behaviour. At this point he has settled into being a travelling preacher-man with congregations across what we now call Turkey, Greece and Italy.

As with any private, public or voluntary organisation running across many sites, when the boss is away we may be grumpy because we feel unimportant, but when they are present we may mumble because we have to toe the corporate line. Then there are other members of the Senior Leadership Team who may muddy the waters with their characters, preferences and allegiances – present or otherwise. This may, understandably, be no less true in multi-parish benefices such as ours at the Blyth Valley.

Here, we have fourteen Parochial Church Councils. Eighty plus years ago, each of which would have had their own full time Church Commissioner funded vicar. Today we share two between us – alongside a number of able, trained and experienced ministers who give their time for free. Not only that but, despite our best efforts, we can generally only pay half to three quarters of what is now being asked of us to sustain their posts. Eighty plus years ago, the town and villages would have been almost entirely Church of England and electoral rolls and numbers standing for the committee and posts on it would have made voting a necessity. Now we are covering about seven Churchwarden vacancies and about the same number of Treasurers. To be properly effective we could really do with doubling the capacity of most of our committees. Do get in touch if you are in a position to help!

To address this centrally our church now funds projects such as Lightwave in this Diocese and training to support clergy. During September I attended a residential Diocesan training event. We were sent a paper beforehand on Qualities and Responsibilities of an Incumbent leader. It included the sentence:

'The Incumbent is the focus for the vision, unity, and transformation of the benefice, discerning and articulating a common vision and determining the theological priorities that underpin a variety of missionary outward focused congregations witnessing and serving all.'

I thought it interesting to compare that with an excerpt from the ordination service which is when people are made priests within our tradition:

'Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent. With their Bishop and fellow ministers, they are to proclaim the word of the Lord and to watch for the signs of God's new creation.'

Whether a more corporate-speak business model or a more organic peaceful pastoral construct resonates with you, we all need to work and pray. As the old adage says: work as if it all depends on you and pray as if it all depends on God. May we be kind to each other as we prioritise and nurture time, skills and energy, paid or unpaid, to maintain our church buildings and the faith they stand for as an engaging, inspiring and challenging presence in our communities.

Dominic



KHG, Town Rooms, The Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8LQ Tel: 0753 4127153

Stella @ KHG

HALESWORTH TOY SHOP

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SERVICES AT ST MARY'S, HALESWORTH

10am Holy Communion, every Wednesday. 8am Traditional Communion, every Sunday. 6pm Evensong, most Sundays.

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY LARDER PROJECT

ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL Church Farm Lane, Halesworth IP19 8SY Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays 10.30-11.30am

HALESWORTH & BRAMFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Revd Jon Sermon – Minister

Dear Friends,

As many of you are aware, I have been on a threemonth sabbatical, much of it spent in Africa. I have visited Zimbabwe and Kenya, as well as an extended stay in Uganda, much longer than is usually possible. And Ruth was able to be there with me for about half the time in Uganda.

There is a huge amount of news to bring – and we are working on setting dates for events to share the experience. We saw God moving powerfully in many situations and the mutual encouragement between British and African Christians was further enhanced.

And now, settling back into the Pastorate (here and Lowestoft) is almost as big a 'culture shock' as was the in depth engagement in Africa.

Although a lot of church activity reduces in the summer period, we had exceptions: a very lively Holiday Bible Club and one of the home groups continued. And the new term has brought the re-launch of toddler groups, Messy Church and breakfasts. Whilst we are still in the process of seeking to recruit a new Children & Family Worker, the volunteer team have stepped up brilliantly!

And we pray a blessing on Jo, who led this work so well for so long, as she has started on her Ordination training.

This autumn, we also have both adult and youth inquirers exploring baptism, so we hope there will be baptisms taking place soon. Home groups are getting fully under way. We have celebrated Harvest and we look forward to an Advent Bible Study series as we continue to support the spiritual growth and development of all we came into contact with.

Blessings

The

United

Church

Reformed

Jon

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





September always feels like a month of new beginnings, and if not beginnings a renewal of efforts on whatever track we find ourselves on. Not surprising as the academic term begins, we regroup after the summer and the weather cools. It's a big one for me this year as my eldest son heads off to start university and my

youngest starts his final year and sixth form college. All over the country children and young people are starting school, college, apprenticeships, university, jobs... it is an emotional time as so many people are getting used to a new reality.

Happily, I have a lot to be getting on with as a vicar – harvest, building a scarecrow for the scarecrow trail, remembrance, Christmas Lights with Santa visiting St Mary's church, Advent and of course Christmas. The Climate Action Conference in St Mary's Church in Halesworth showed just how much is



LIFE EVENTS

FROM THE REGISTERS IN SEPTEMBER

MARRIAGES

Russell Durrell & Lesley Brain at Holton Zaren Templeton & Laura Dickerson at Wenhaston Jake Beaugeard & Stacey Smeaton-Small at Wenhaston Stuart Beckingham & Sharon Warner at Halesworth

FUNERALS/INTERMENT OF ASHES

Evelyn Foster at Halesworth Margaret Rackham at Huntingfield Eric Felgate at Halesworth Kenneth Barnard at Spexhall



SWAN HOUSE & GARDEN Antiques and 21st century decorations and ancient artefacts for the caravan or palace

HOUSE CLEARANCES

Always interested in buying antiques, rugs, textiles, paintings etc. Buying, appraisals and house calls gladly undertaken. Interior design consultation

> Danielle Swanson Tel: 07960 038280 Email: danielleswan@mac.com www.swanhouseandgarden.co.uk

What has your Team Vicar been up to? er always feels like a f new beginnings, and ginnings a renewal of

> wonderful world we have been blessed with. It has been a bit of a topsy-turvy time for me on the health front as I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) in July. I haven't been 'right' for a while so it was not unexpected, but it was still a bit of a shock.

> It is frustrating beyond words but there will be good days and bad days and I must learn to adjust. There have already been some positives. It has given me a better understanding of people who are losing the ability to do what they are used to doing effortlessly and I am slowly becoming a better listener. It has also made me ask for help which is such a challenge for so many of us especially when we are the ones who are used to getting the job done (*dare I add, just the way we like it*). It has already shown me what a blessing it is to receive help as well as to offer it.

Until next time, with love and blessings,

Revd Gini



An Abundance of Voluntary Opportunities to Maintain Local Heritage Assets and Their Community use



We are very blessed to live amongst such talented, caring and creative people. There is not one of our Parochial Church Councils (PCC) who would turn away an offer of a new councillor.

Our tasks are:

- co-operating with the incumbent in promoting the use (mission) of the church*

- looking after the financial affairs of the church including fundraising
- maintaining the church building and its contents

* e.g. for use as public space for worship, exhibitions, swap shops, carols, local produce sales, gigs, plays, community lunches, funerals, meetings, Larder collection points etc...

Each council has three main officers:

Churchwardens who look after the events and maintenance programme of the church. Treasurers who keep accounts and an eye on budgets supporting fundraising. Secretaries do the paperwork for the four or so meetings a year, the key one being the AGM, and support programme planning.

Each parish is an independent charity. Members are voluntary trustees who can sometimes feel inadequate and sometimes inexperienced. You do not need to be religious, though believing in the worth of the building and what it stands for in the broadest of terms does help!

We offer Diocesan and local training and have WhatsApp groups running for day-to-day support, and have monthly or quarterly informal get-togethers depending on the role. A number of our PCCs are either entirely new or their members are now fulfilling the officer roles for the first time.

Church Councils especially keen to hear from potential recruits are Blyford, Chediston, Holton, Thorington and Wenhaston.

> Do get in touch with Dominic to find out more. (07743 554955 – dominic.doble@phonecoop.coop)

> > He's waiting for your call!







HALESWORTH DEMENTIA CARERS' FUND

Charity Football Match

Further to our report in the last edition of the Community News the total raised was £630. We are so grateful to Westhall Charity Football Club for this wonderful sum, and thank them for all their very hard work in supporting us and other local charities.

Sponsored Cycle Ride

This appeal has now closed and we are so grateful to Giles Scoble and Simon Taylor for their incredible feat. As a result of their ride we have been given a magnificent £1,530. A similar sum has been donated to Pancreatic Cancer Action. We thank them for this great donation, and would also like to thank everyone for so generously sponsoring them.

iChameleon Shop

This year was our best ever, raising £1,416. We would like to thank all who helped in the shop, all who donated items for sale, and, of course, all the lovely kind people who came in and bought from us. See you all next year!

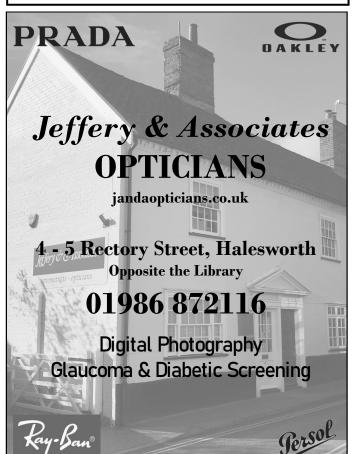


VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE

Can anyone spare one or two

Wednesday mornings (from 10am - 11.30am) each month to come and help us at Waveney Foodbank in St Mary's church Halesworth, please?

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Gill on 07940 221054 or Pauline on 07758 489102



100+ Club

The winning numbers for this month are: 1st: 98, 2nd: 79 and 3rd: 83. Many thanks to all who support our 100+ Club.

Can you help?

HDCF has to raise thousands of pounds very year to keep our services and activities going. If you would like to come and join us then we would be delighted to hear from you.

There are so many ways we can use volunteers, and any help you can give would be so gratefully received.

Our committee meets just once a month, but we have a range of weekly and monthly activities.

We would be particularly pleased to hear from any young people, especially those interested in going into business or care.

Please contact Nikki Sawkins if interested, on 07733668221.

John Wood

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HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

When I woke up on Friday 1st September to see a very wet day, I thought our *Maze by Torchlight* event at The Old Hall Cafe Southwold would be a washout, but far from it, the evening turned out to be beautiful and warm and we had a fantastic time. The staff at The Old Hall were brilliant and we can't thank them enough for hosting this event. The young people who were working that night were so polite and helpful, fetching and carrying for us, they certainly were a credit to themselves and The Old Hall. Thank you to the kitchen ladies too.

Special thanks to Bella and Emily for organising this event and



so very generously donating all the entrance money to us at the Halesworth Branch. Our committee members and volunteers ran some stalls and the fun games were very popular with family members getting very competitive! We would like to thank Lowestoft Lions for lending us their games and John for transporting them.

A big thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed the magical experience.

We have two events being held in October:

Tuesday 3rd, 6.30pm in Wenhaston Village Hall, Wenhaston Flower Club are holding a "Charity Night" for us. You don't have to belong to Flower Club, the night is for everyone, so come and enjoy a cup of tea and delicious cake and a chat with friends and neighbours. Cancer Research Christmas cards will be on sale and there will be various stalls, including Jane Bastow with her wonderful plants, tombola, crafts, cakes etc.

Saturday 14th is our ever popular Jumble Sale in Holton Village Hall from 10am-12pm. We will be serving teas/coffee and as usual delicious cakes. We will have our usual good-as-new clothes, bric-à-brac, books, household linens etc. (See our advert on page 29).

We are very sorry for any inconvenience caused, but all our events are cash only, as we don't have access to a card machine.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and DIARIES

We have a wonderful selection this year and if you are one of Nina's regular customers, she will be selling them again, so please get in touch with her. The cards will also be available at the Jumble Sale and Christmas Fair in November.

For more information on any of the above, please contact Dawn Davis on 01986 873640.

Are you living with a life-changing illness or long-term condition, or are caring for someone who does?

Have you or someone in your family experienced a bereavement?

If so, the Pear Tree Fund can support you.

We offer a wide range of free services from the Pear Tree Centre, our tranquil and welcoming base nestled in the heart of Halesworth.

Services include:

Wellbeing and bereavement support:

- A listening ear, emotional support and counselling
- Complementary therapies
- Activities such as art therapy and cookery for the bereaved
- Nature-based 'elders wellbeing' programme
- Carers' support, including young carers

Information and advice to help you live well in the community:

- Support to understand a diagnosis or health condition
- Social welfare advice: benefits, blue badges and housing etc
- Learn digital skills and access support online

Support groups and talks from local services



We support anyone living in East Suffolk and neighbouring parts of Mid Suffolk and South Norfolk.

Find us at the

Pear Tree Centre, Bungay Road, Halesworth, IP19 8SG call 01986 899655 or email info@peartreefund.org web peartreefund.org

🚯 🔽 @ThePearTreeFund

We also offer telephone, online and home visiting support for those unable to visit the Pear Tree Centre.

Local support when you need it most

FOSM Recital Review - 12th September

Our very own Jason Busby,organist at St Mary's, treated us to an exploration of the stops of the 1853 Hill, Norman & Beard organ. Featuring the music of young talented German composer 25 year old Paul Fey. Jason stumbled across Paul's YouTube channel one day during the Covid lockdowns and has been following and purchasing his releases ever since.

The recital started with a 'Tuba Tune' (or in this case a trumpet Tune due to there being no tuba stop). The audience were given a quick organ lesson explaining the three manuals with a whistle stop tour of the 25 stops all used at some point during the recital. Jason moved onto playing Paul's first organ concerto in four parts, a grand piece with a beautiful largo in the middle using the 4ft flute on the great organ to bring out the solo. One piece which stood out towards the end was a 'Trumpet Voluntary', wow what an exciting piece.

The recital concluded with a piece inspired by the 'Star Spangled Banner' and afterwards Jason told the audience the final chord sequence was FULL organ and wow did the floor vibrate under our feet. Jason had linked a television screen up for the audience to see him but a technical fault meant there was a 20-second delay which certainly mixed things up!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I recently read your article where you mention bullying, here: https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/safeguarding. Thank you for sharing!

I'm a passionate advocate for the awareness of bullying among children. It's always been something I've deeply resented, even more since my kids started going to school.

So, I'm always looking for new resources to stay up-to-date on the issue. I recently found this cyberbullying guide that provides parents and teachers with valuable tips for keeping our kids safe online: https://www.wizcase.com/blog/acomprehensive-cyberbullying-guide-for-parents/

Mia Williams



Despite the age of the organ in St Mary's and the need of an overhaul and a leaking roof over the 'choir organ' the recital was very well received, with just under £300 raised for the restoration.

Thank you Jason. Next month we welcome the beautiful voice of award-winning Katalin Prentice on Wednesday 11th October - another recital certainly not to be missed.



Harvest Festival Service St Mary's Church Halesworth Sunday 1st October 10am Team Worship

Join us for lunch following the service at approx 11.30am - 12noon. Cold meats/salad/potatoes/quiche/coleslaws and pickles. Followed by crumble and custard. Book your seat for your lunch (no charge/donations welcome) Call Jason 07817 863533 Email: halesworthparish@gmail.com



No. 59 Thoroughfare, Halesworth, IP19 8AR 01986 873209

densonsjwllrs@gmail.com www.halesworthtown.co.uk/densons-jewellers

07818 212978



Excerpts from Transformation Now! -September 2023 No 44. www.musuffolk.org.uk Charity No 249726

MUe - The Christmas/Autumn /Winter Catalogue has lots of cards and gifts. Clare Thomas (01473 832808. Email: clare.thomas@btinternet.com) is happy to help you with your order. Halesworth members and friends please note there is a catalogue on the table in St Mary's.

News from our Cathedral Branch. In July and August, members have been able to participate in the Cathedral Summer Fair, a Sea Sunday Service. and a Wave of Prayer Service. The Branch baked scones, biscuits and tray bakes for the Chapter 4 meeting on Thursday 27th July; this gives congregation members time to get together over coffee and cake and listen to a speaker and have a good chat together. The next meeting on September 28th will be a Coffee Morning in aid of funds for Ukraine. All are welcome in the Edmund Room, St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Our summer outing was to Crow's Hall, Debenham on Tuesday 22nd August. The owner of Crow's Hall, Caroline Spurrier, gave us a wonderful talk about the Hall and her family tree.

We need YOU

We have a hardworking team to run Mothers' Union in St Eds and Ips, but we could really do with some extra help, as some Trustees will be coming to the end of their six years of office at the end of 2024. Most of all we rely on the prayerful support of our members. However, could you take on one of the jobs that need to be done? Monica has been looking after Indoor Members for a while and has enjoyed this role but she would now like to pass this on to somebody else. It is a role that can be done at home and needs minimal computer skills. Could you be the one to help us keep in touch with Indoor Members? These members receive



NO BAD FEET Susan Fitch, A.H.C.P.

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Some other jobs could be split to fit in with the time you have available. Please phone DP. Linda on 01728 648772 or VP Jeanette on 01473 311487 if you think you could help.

Rise Up! - Respond Inform Support Empower Unite Prayer

After the Healing Service at the Cathedral at 10.30am on 18th October, our multitalented Treasurer Amanda will be holding a crochet-a-long to teach ladies how to crochet the heart from the Rise Up! 16 Days of Activism MSH Amanda will explain how these website resources. crochet hearts can be used in a church display to highlight the 16 Days of Activism. Please bring a packed lunch and some double knitting yarn, preferably in a shade of purple, lavender etc to match the colour theme of Rise Up! 2023 16 Days of Activism, or in a colour of your choice, and a size 4 or 5 crochet hook. This is a crochet pattern only (no knitting instructions are available - but if you need a knitted heart pattern, there is one on the musuffolk website). This crochet-a-long is not suitable for absolute beginners.

Prayers Lord God, you set captives free, your Spirit searches restlessly for those in despair, that they may find the life you are calling them to. We pray for those who are trafficked and callously put to work here in Suffolk. Look with mercy on those who suffer in this way. May we who are blinded by shallow distractions in our lives, feel the fear of the cornered and be roused to action. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mothers' Union at i-Chameleon 12th – 18th October For the seventh year running, the three MU Branches in Waveney & Blyth Deanery, Halesworth, Wenhaston and Southwold with Reydon, will be in i-Chameleon. We will be joining with members from the other MU Branches in the North Suffolk Area covering at the pop-up-shop for a week. This will be from Thursday 12th to Wednesday 18th October from 10am till 4pm, (but not on Sunday). We will be selling donated items to raise money for various MU projects supporting and empowering families in our Diocese, in the UK and Overseas in countries where there is an MU presence, especially in a number of African countries. No money goes into any Branch funds.

If you are have anything to contribute, we can accept good quality bric-à-brac, china, glass, kitchenware, fabric, wool, jewellery, pictures, books, including children's books, toys, CDs, DVDs, jams, marmalade, and chutneys etc. We shall be setting up later on Wednesday 11th. We would like to have items in advance to be able to price them, even better if you could price them yourselves. Ring me if you are able to bring items to my house, 4 Church View, Holton IP19 8PB, or if you would like me to collect them.

There will be some items for sale from MUe (Mothers' Union Enterprises), greetings cards, Christmas cards, diaries, calendars, Advent calendars, and small gifts, all at reasonable prices. You will also be able to look at a Mothers' Union Gift Guide for Christmas and Autumn/Winter 2023.

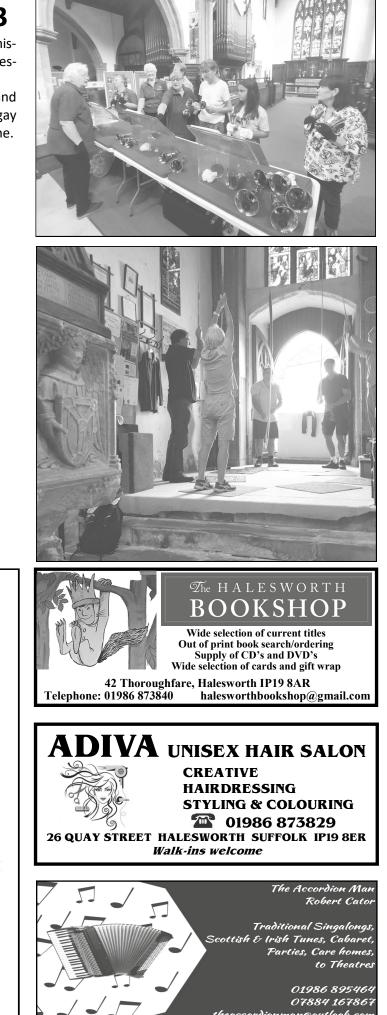
Janet Walkey, Waveney & Blyth MU Leader 01986 872594. Email: janetwalkey@hotmail.com

Halesworth Heritage 2023

A big thank you to the 'Friends of St Mary's' for organising the Heritage Open Day in St Mary's Church Halesworth..

From the Repair Café, guided tours, open tower, hand bells, talks and presentation and a display from Bungay High... oh and plenty of tea and cake! Thanks everyone.





Friends of St Mary's - St Mary The Virgin Church, Halesworth - A little bit of history: 2. The Banking Connection. Georgian Banking – Botany and Malting

Concealed behind the photocopier in the office of St Mary the Virgin, Halesworth, is a memorial plaque for James II Turner (1786-1820) and his first wife Mary Ann. The Turner family of Great Yarmouth in the 18th and early 19th century established both banking and malting businesses in Halesworth, and could trace their roots back to late medieval Mulbarton in Norfolk.

The Turner connection to Halesworth dates from 1782, when James I Turner (1743-1794) opened the Halesworth and Suffolk Bank. Records in Barclays Bank archive indicate that James held a private banking account with John and Henry Gurney, who founded their bank in Norwich in 1775. Not only was he recorded in their first ledger but by 1778, James's balance was the equivalent of approximately £1.5 million in today's terms. Both the Gurneys and Turner held their business accounts with Barclays Bank in London. The Gurney's eventually became a group of banks formed by a series of interlocking partnerships, which in turn became one of the founding banks of Barclays and Company in 1896. (Halesworth branch closed 2018).

John and Henry Gurney sought to inaugurate the first of these interlocking partnerships with James I Turner in 1781; together they founded the Yarmouth and Suffolk Bank, trading from the ground floor of his home on South Quay, Great Yarmouth. Turner was the active and managing partner, extending and opening an office in Halesworth in 1782, and in Bungay in 1783. When James died in 1794 he left a thriving banking and merchant business to his eldest son, Dawson Turner (1775-1858)

Just 19, Dawson left Pembroke College in Cambridge to take over his father's businesses; a 'Titan' intellect and a true polymath he also became a botanist of international renown, a Fellow of the Linnaean Society (FLS) in 1797, and a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) in 1802. In the same year he authored and published the title *A Synopsis of British Fuci* (seaweeds) – he penned in the frontispiece his "thanks to Sir Joseph Banks for the access he gave to his splendid library". He collected the work of such artists as Bellini, Steen, Rubens, Van Dyke and others and developed extensive interests in history and literature.

In 1796 he married Mary Palgrave (1774-1850), a skilled artist, (log onto the National Portrait Gallery to view); eight of their children survived to adulthood, their education owed much to 'Enlightenment' principles. They were tutored in Latin, Greek, French, German and Italian, also history, art and literature. Their drawing master was the artist John Crome

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(1768-1821), who co-founded the Norwich Society of Artists in 1803. Later in 1812, John Sell Cotman (1782-1842) took over this role. Dawson Turner employed Cotman full time – not only as drawing master to his family, but to illustrate his many authored volumes, e.g. *Architectural Antiquities of Norfolk* 1818.

In 1805 another Norwich man, James Edward Smith (1759-1828) who had founded the Linnaean Society, advised a certain 20 year old William Jackson Hooker (1785-1865) to seek advice from Dawson concerning a moss he had found.

Subsequently, Hooker a talented artist, in effect became a protégé of Dawson Turner, sharing his interest in botany. When Dawson and Mary toured Scotland in 1807, Hooker accompanied them – and when Dawson published his four volumes on Fuci in 1808 most of the drawings were done by Hooker.

Dawson also extended his banking operations in 1808, opening offices in Harleston, Eye, Yoxford, Framlingham, Woodbridge, Aldeburgh and Saxmundham. His younger brother James II, by now 22, moved to Halesworth to manage the Halesworth branch and its satellite offices – they were always though under the direct control of the Yarmouth office. In 1809 Dawson, James II, Samuel Paget and William Hooker purchased from the executors of John Woodcock the Bridge Street Maltings. Hooker moved to Halesworth to manage these.

In 1813 Dawson and Mary's eldest child, the beautiful and cultured Maria (1797-1872), became betrothed to William Hooker; 1814 saw the couple travel to Paris in the company of her parents, her sister, Elizabeth, and Charles Lyell. (Dawson's journal of this tour is held in the Norwich Castle Museum.)

They began married life in Halesworth in 1815, and although Maria lived in the town for just five years, four of their children were born here. Their second child Joseph, would eventually follow his father and become the second Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in 1865; there is of course a memorial plaque for Sir William and Sir Joseph Hooker in the inner south aisle of St Mary's.

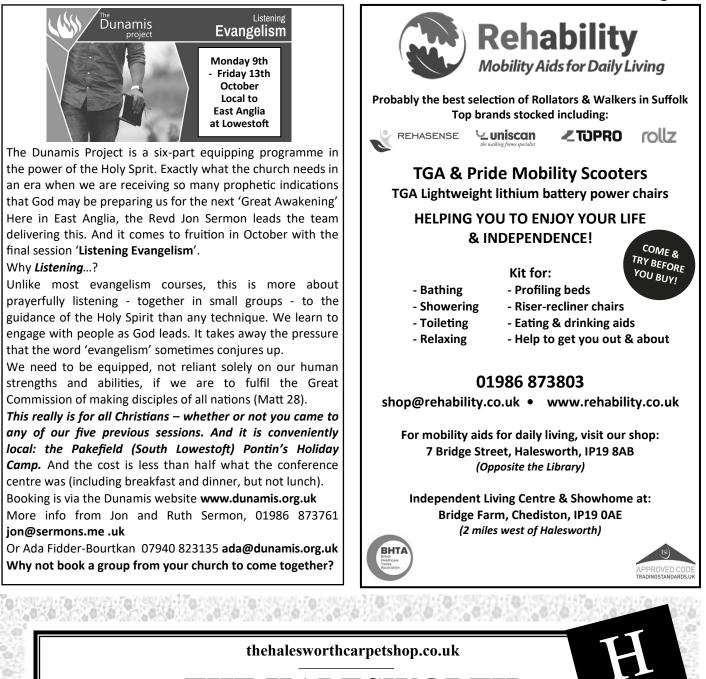
James II Turner died in 1820, the same year that William Hooker and his family moved to Glasgow for him to take up the post of Professor of Botany in the University; they moved again in 1841 to Kew. The Maltings business was sold to another Yarmouth man, Patrick Stead, however, Dawson remained a banking partner of the Gurneys until his death, and what is more, another of Dawson and Mary's illustrious grandchildren, Sir Robert Henry Inglis Palgrave, became one of the founding Directors of the new Barclays and Company in 1896.

A Nony Mouse



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The Blyth Valley Ministry Team



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CHURCHWARDENS

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Bramfield	Jinnie Barham	01986 784254
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Walpole	Ken Allen Lee Hill	01986 784240 07713 450078
Wenhaston	Jonathan Alder	01502 478855
Wissett	Geoffrey Kiddy	01986 873173



By the time this is published we will have held the Heritage Open Weekend, incorporating the Tower Open Day, and hopefully lots of people will have signed up to learn to ring... or not. But I will report fully next time.

There have been a few notable achievements this month with three successful quarter peals. The first of these saw Judith ringing her first since 1997 in the performance of Grandsire Doubles at Wissett. This was a particularly good bit of ringing with NO method mistakes at all throughout the 43 minutes. It was also Erika's first of Grandsire.

We rang another at Wissett the following week with the diminutive Rosie ringing the biggest bell, and this enabled her to pass her Association of Ringing Teachers level 3 before she goes off to university.

Finally, the monthly quarter peal for Evensong at Halesworth on the first Sunday of the month was again Plain Bob Major, this enabling Keith to ring his first with all eight bells involved. Well done to all the firsts!

We did nearly have a death to report following an incident at Wenhaston one Sunday: the rope attached to the spider (the thing that keeps the ropes out of reach) broke, and the heavy wooden spider crashed to the floor from a height of about 20 feet. Fortunately everyone had moved out of the ringing chamber but it gave us all a nasty turn. The Wenhaston spider is a particularly heavy solid one and we may have to consider an alternative as we can't afford to lose any ringers!

PJG

The Team office in St Mary's Church is OPEN on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9am - 1pm. Tel 01986 875941.

On Wednesdays and Fridays, the Team Administrator can be contacted between 9am - 1pm on 07752 275328. Email: office.bvtm@gmail.com

Blyth Valley Times

published monthly by the **Blyth Valley Team Ministry.**

Deadline date for ALL copy for the NOVEMBER edition issue is: <u>WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER</u> Publishing date: Thursday 26th October

Advertising: 01986 875941/07752 275328. Email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

FUNERAL NOTICE

WHEELER - Frances Mavis of Halesworth. Passed away peacefully at home on 9th September 2023, aged 82 years. Beloved and devoted wife of Peter, much-loved mother of Judith, Jeffrey and Josephine and adored grandmother of Alice, Sam, Matthew and James. She will be remembered always and held forever in our hearts.

The funeral service for Frances will be held at Waveney Memorial Park and Crematorium, Ellough on Thursday 28th September at 1pm.

Family flowers only please, but donations if desired, for Diabetes UK may be gifted via the Much Loved online memorial tribute site at:

www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk

ECUMENICAL CLERGY

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News from Town & Villages

Blyford

Correspondent Alison Cackett 01986 874442 acackett@me.com

Blessings to you all.

A great evening was had by all when Roy Tricker visited Blyford All Saints. (See photos below).

He gave us some interesting facts and anecdotes about Blyford church both inside and outside all finished off with refreshments over at the Queen's Head.

Thank you to all who attended and made the evening a success. It was great to see so many people there. Thank you to Virginia Storey for her help in keeping the church clean and decorated with flowers.

The next service at Blyford is on Sunday 15th October, 10am for the Harvest Festival. Hopefully we will see some of you there to celebrate our harvest, all donations will be given to the Foodbank and Community Larder in Halesworth.

Sadly we are currently looking at some major works to the church in the next year or so.

A church has been standing on this site since 1052 and much of the current building is several hundred years old. We have been advised there are issues with woodworm so will be looking to see how we can address this matter. I will be praying that this can be resolved.

Please remember that the church is always available for community events if you should wish to use it. Contact me if you are interested.

Praying for you all.

Bramfield

Correspondent Joanna Wilkinson 07986 217868 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.





Open Garden at Bramfield Hall by kind permission of Sir Simon Robey

We were fortunate to have a very well attended Open Garden at Bramfield Hall on Sunday 3rd September.

Over 200 people joined us and we raised a total of £1767 towards the renovations of the fabric of our parish church St Andrew's.

Many thanks to all the helpers at the Hall, especially Diane and Mark Bond and the PCC.

The gardens were a haven of peace and tranquillity to be enjoyed with cake, tea and coffee and perhaps a book from the stall.

Bibles

From Jinnie Barham:

A descendant of a vicar of Bramfield Church, the Revd Nicholas Simons visited St Andrew's on August 29th.

Lucy Champion was the great, great granddaughter of the Revd Simons and he was vicar of our parish between 1846-1886.

A commemorative plaque is in the church near the Font.

Lucy kindly donated to us his original bible, dated 1615 and also his wife's smaller bible.



We will show them to people on request. Many thanks to Lucy for her kind gift which we will treasure.

Circle 67

From Chris Collins: We're about to start rehearsing our Christmas panto in Bramfield Village Hall.

Oh yes we are!

Dates and venues to be decided so keep your ears to the ground.





October 2023

Harvest Supper in Bramfield Village Hall Friday 6th October, 6.30pm for 7pm Chilli con carne, non-spicy or vegetarian options with baked potato

plus assorted puddings Bring your own drink - water provided. After the meal we will be entertained by our wonderful local trio of Del, Jeremy & Stephen

and there will be a draw. £10 per person, payable on the door, in aid of Bramfield Village Hall / Bridge

Meadow

Book in advance - forms from Bramfield Garage or email info.bvhall@gmail.com

Ride & Stride

From Dawn Munnings:

Bramfield St Andrew's was well attended and saw a good number of visitors. The weather was hot but it didn't deter the riders, some of whom had already visited a great number of our local churches.

Bramfield St Andrew's is always pleased to be involved in this event and visitors to our lovely church are always pleased to see our very rare Rood Screen and the beautiful building itself, with its separate round tower and thatched roof.

Again, we are incredibly grateful to the organisers and volunteers who manned the church to sign the riders' forms and the riders who made the effort on such a warm day. We will update you with the final total raised once it becomes available.

Chediston Correspondent Sally Aldous 01986 873363

Ann and Graeme's visit - 12th/13th August

Everyone in Chediston was so pleased to catch up with Ann and Graeme Williams when they visited Chediston. They held a "Meet & Greet" party in the church room from 3pm-5pm. Unfortunately, I was away that weekend so was unable to be there to see them.

Jack Lillingston

Jack sadly died this summer in France after a long illness. Jack was the muchloved son of Pam and Bob Lillingston from Cookley Grange, husband of Fizzy, father of three and brother to Mary Rose and Clare. He grew up in Chediston and on marrying Fizzy they

Blyth Valley Times

devoted much of their time to Humanitarian work overseas. Our thoughts and condolences go to the family at this very sad time.

"Ride and Stride"

Several cyclists visited St Mary's on Saturday 9th September on a scorching day (30°). Henry Kiddy walked (I don't blame him) and John Parson, once again, cycled. Ever since we have lived here, John and Margaret have cycled. I think John will have participated in every Bike Ride since it began. This year he visited 13 churches - what an achievement! I am sure he would appreciate some extra sponsorship – his telephone number is 01986 875055.

(When your correspondent was sitting in the church no-one visited!). Many thanks to all the sitters who gave up their time to sit in the church and offer refreshments.

The Churchyard

When I wrote last month regarding the churchyard, I failed to thank Johnnie Vaughn from Church Cottages for all his help in tidying up. My apologies Johnnie!

Harvest Festival Sunday 8th October

We look forward to the service at St Mary's at 11am, followed by a harvest lunch in the church school room. The service will be taken by Dominic and all are welcome afterwards to the harvest lunch at noon. Donations for the Community Larder can be brought to church or school room. For further information contact Jo Wareham on 07711 066727.

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 halesworthparish@gmail.com



Have you seen this new image of St Mary's? It was a commission for artist Rebecca Pymar. Rebecca says "It's always a fun challenge doing such historic buildings in my style, trying to choose what to leave in and out when there is so much amazing detail". The image is being used mainly on social media and the YouTube channel we use for live-streaming services/events/ recitals. So do take a look at www. youtube.com/@halesworthparish

Postcards are on sale in church of this great, colourful image. Thank you Rebecca. We have also used this image on a giant birthday card for Olive Meen who turned 100 years old on Friday 15th September. Olive is a stalwart of St Mary's ever since moving into Beech House, just before Covid, Olive came to the All Access Carol Service last year. We wish Olive a very, very happy birthday.

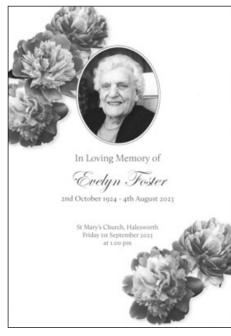
On Saturday 2nd September at St Peter's Holton, I had the privilege to play the organ at the wedding of Russell James Durrell and Lesley Ann Brain.



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Both Russell and Lesley are on the Regeneration Group for St Mary's and helped us at the recent Lammas Bread & Wine Festival. The service was also a first wedding ceremony for the Revd Linda Berry, always a moment to remember. I know Lesley and Russell wish to thank Marjorie and Moyra who did the flowers in church so beautifully. The happy couple left church to the song *Grow Old With Me* by Tom Odell. Congratulations.

On Friday 1st September, the funeral service of Evelyn Foster took place. Hymns sung included *The Day Thou Gavest* and *Abide With Me* with *How Great Thou Art* on exit. The reading was Psalm 127 with the words "for he gives sleep to his beloved". Evelyn spent many, many years as a cleaner at Halesworth Middle School and was very well known by staff, some of which were present at the funeral. May Evelyn rest in peace and rise in glory.



Please see the back page of this issue for details of key dates coming up at St Mary's. The main one being Sunday 1st October, we celebrate Harvest with a 10am service and lunch afterwards. EVERYONE is invited to lunch please let me or Gwen know asap if you wish to join us.

HALESWORTH WI

Our August Indoor Garden Party went with a swing, on a very hot day, the cool of the Rifle Hall was much appreciated. Members enjoyed an opportunity to chat, share lovely food from the buffet table accompanied by non alcoholic punch or cups of tea, the games and quiz were enthusiastically entered into. We all agreed a very

Blyth Valley Times

successful afternoon. We can now look forward to county events in October, a Literary Lunch and an Autumn meeting at High Lodge, Darsham, both with good speakers.

Our next meeting sees us back at the Stables, the Angel Hotel for a cookery demonstration and also the W I Kurling afternoon at the Rifle Hall. **BP**

FoSM 50/50 CLUB

Results of 50/50 draw for September: 1st prize: W Pagan; 2nd prize: A Baldwin; 3rd prize: S Busby.

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.



Heveningham Correspondent Christine Baker c bakerx@yahoo.co.uk

Well September arrived in a blaze of glory and August feels like a distant memory.

We are now looking forward to autumn bringing her beautiful colours and some special services - Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas. Our Harvest Festival supper is on October 8th at 4pm with a buffet and wine served after the service. Please come and join us, it was a lovely sociable event last year.

At the beginning of September, we welcomed the Ride and Striders into the church. Well done to everyone who participated on what was one of the hottest days of the year. It did emphasise that the church really is a lovely place to go to and relax. It was very cool inside and with refreshments on hand, we hope that we were able to help everyone through their journey.

Coming soon: We have a Quiz Night on October 13th, 7pm, at the church. Our local quiz organiser, Linda, will be putting together the questions and there may be a spooky theme due to the date and location. We welcome teams of up to four people at £2 per person. Please register your interest by email or phone and we will provide further details very soon.

Another date for your diary is our Christmas Table sale on November 21st at £10 per table. Again, please register your interest with us.

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-withubbeston

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





Holton Correspondent Jill Hewlett 01986 875913

jill.hewlett1@btinternet.com

Here we are at the end of September, most of the harvest is in, certainly the grain harvest has been gathered and the land either left fallow or ploughed and sown with another crop for next year. As for root crops, I am not sure, some will have been gathered and put in storage, and some will still be waiting in the field. Harvest goes on far longer than in the past and with some crops it seems to be year-round thanks to new varieties and to heated greenhouses! And I haven't even mentioned the harvest of the sea or that provided by all the farm animals!

On that note, St Peter's will be holding its Harvest Festival Service on Sunday 8th October at 11am (please note the change in time), gifts of food etc will be donated to the Community Larder. The Service will be followed by a Harvest lunch in the Village Hall.

You may remember that this was what happened last year, but unfortunately no one from the village who weren't church members, came. However, the Parochial Church Council decided to try again this year, so perhaps we can all try and invite someone along to the

October 2023

October 2023

service and lunch, or just to the lunch. It will be a bring-and-share lunch, so if anyone who would like to attend can bring something to add to the feast, that would be lovely, but if they are unable to do that, their presence is more important and in any case we usually have more than enough food! I foolishly said I would organise the lunch, having forgotten that it was in the village hall last year, so if anyone can help with that, I would be grateful. Also, if anyone who can help with providing suitable food can contact me so that I have some idea of what we will have so that we don't have dozens of hardboiled eggs and little else!

WALKING THE LABYRINTH – TIME FOR REFLECTION

If you haven't come to one of these afternoons, can I encourage you to come along and give it a try. These sessions are open to everyone, you can do as much as you want, you can stay as long or as short a time as you want. The craft is there if you would like to do it, the labyrinth is there to walk and enjoy, there are people to talk to or you can sit quietly in the church, it is up to you.

The next session is on Monday 2nd October, from 2pm until 4pm at St Peter's.

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES

September 9th 2023 was one of the hottest days of the year and one of the hottest ever recorded in the East of England in September! What a day to Ride or Stride!

Jackie and Jim Watts went to Hayling Island, Jackie's old stamping ground, to cycle round the churches there. They had a lovely time, but found that there were not so many churches taking part in the Cycle Ride. However, Jackie was able to visit some of the churches where her father was a priest, and the weekend gave them the opportunity to visit family.

Last month I mentioned that I might go down to Ipswich to visit churches there, and that is what I did. I had a lovely day exploring the centre of Ipswich and finding 13 churches! There were more, but some were not taking part, some were obviously derelict, one was up for sale and some no longer physically existed despite the cross on the map! My 13 successful visits were not all Anglican churches: the Friends' Meeting House was friendly, and the Unitarian Meeting

Blyth Valley Times

House revealed itself down an alley between the shops. Neither were the Anglican churches all similar: St Peter's by the Water is a heritage centre, worth going back to; the River Church is a Café Church where I had coffee and a bun and where they were advertising an Alpha Course. Everywhere had its own character and everywhere made me welcome and offered rest and refreshment. Jackie, Jim and I have raised over

£200, half of which will come back to St Peter's, the other half will help swell the funds of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and enable it to offer grants to those churches who need help with maintaining our beautiful but costly buildings.

Homemade Seville Orange Marmalade

A reminder that I still have a number of jars of marmalade made earlier this year, to sell to anyone in Holton or across the Team. It does have lemons in as well as Seville oranges and it keeps well if you prefer yours more mature.

As prices for all ingredients and replacement lids have gone up, I am suggesting a little increase – 1lb jars £2.50, 8oz jars £1.25 and 12oz jars £1.85 or £1.90. I do not have so many 8oz jars. You can donate more if you would like to. All the money raised will go to St Peter's to help a little with church finances this year.

If you are unable to collect your marmalade I can deliver, just give me a ring.

Janet Walkey 01986 872594 Email: janetwalkey@hotmail.com



Huntingfield

Correspondent Sally Clarke sally.clarke@live.com



Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who came to our Harvest Supper and Harvest Festival. It is such a lovely time of year and so good to celebrate the safe 'gathering in' of another harvest. All harvest donations of food and toiletries have been passed to Halesworth Community Larder.

Our next occasion at Huntingfield is our Pop Chorus concert on Saturday 14th October in the church starting at 6pm. Please join us for a fun evening of 'Hits from across the decades' sung in their usual Pop Chorus energetic and uplifting style. All proceeds to Halesworth *dementia* Carers Fund. £5 on the door, cash or card.

As a PCC, we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our new church merchandise. There is a full colour greetings card of the church aisle with the magnificent painted ceiling shining down. A lovely card to keep or to send.

Two prints by our very own renowned local artist David Gentleman have been used to produce: a) a unique and beautiful Christmas card, available in packs of five and: b) a wallet containing six notelets of two designs from David's prints.

The cards will be available to purchase after the Pop Chorus event and through Emma our Churchwarden.

Finally, I have to finish on a sad note. Recently there have been several incidents of theft at the church. We have therefore had to take the difficult decision to seal up our cash donation box in order to deter the perpetrator.

Page 22

The cash donations we receive go a long way in helping us to maintain the building and pay our parish share. Thankfully we still have the 'contactless' machine, so donations can still be accepted and used for the purpose to which they were intended. The church is open daily from 10.30am to 4.30pm.

Linstead

Correspondent Malcolm Heath 01986 785289

www.linstead.suffolk.gov.uk I AM PLEASED REPORT THAT detectorists are now a respected arm of the archæological community and that Linstead has yielded an intriguing find. Pictured below is a complete late Medieval/post Medieval gold finger ring.



It is currently on display at the Halesworth Museum which is currently running a campaign to raise the £400 necessary for its purchase.

It was found by metal detectorists in Linstead Magna. The hoop is D-shaped in cross-section. Both faces feature crude rendered, inscriptions, seemingly imitating a capitalised Roman script. On the outer face there are two lines of inscription and on the inner a single line. The ring has been distorted with the two inner sides pushed together.

This is the inscription on the ring, outside top, outside bottom and inside. The meaning of the text is unknown. If anyone has any ideas please do let us know.

HHT MAAN OA MAM H NUDUL JI AUNX +XH OtOKOHOH

I suspect that the edge of the inscription has been worn away, but a challenge for the cryptographers amongst you. Next stop; Bletchley Park!

I REMEMBER WRITING ABOUT THE first set of traffic lights to visit Linstead, many years ago. These days, a journey into Halesworth, without encountering a set of (usually peripatetic) traffic lights, is unusual.

Blyth Valley Times

The latest arrivals appear to be protecting Halesworth's answer to the Sahara Desert - perhaps the Camel Centre is opening a Halesworth branch. I have to confess that I am curious as to why all that sand is needed and why it is constantly being rearranged. Sand castles on an industrial scale?

WE HAVE BEEN SURROUNDED THIS year by a sea of delightful pale blue. I know nothing about borage, or the requirements for growing it, but it was a wonderful sight. Whether it is waving wheat or pale blue, farming is often a joy to behold. All the more reason to celebrate the harvest.

THE LINSTEAD HARVEST FESTIVAL will be held on SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER at 6.30pm. We are inviting gifts for the Foodbank

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING, ST Margaret's continues to survive by the skin of its teeth and needs all the help it can get if it is to remain open. If you want your church to survive, please do help us by donating. Gift Aid envelopes will be available, which, if appropriate, gives each donation an added 25%. So please support YOUR very own church.

THE LINSTEAD GIFT DAY SATURDAY 21st OCTOBER from 10am to 4pm. Light refreshments Chat and donating!

CHEDISTON & LINSTEAD WI MET IN September to hear Barbara McElroy give a fascinating talk entitled 'Apples, A Miscellany'. I seem to remember that there are many hundred distinct varieties of apples, but her fascinating talk centred on the myths and lore surrounding the fruit; Golden Apples et al. They meet in October at Linstead Village Hall, on Tuesday 10th October to hear Cathy Selbourne talk about 'A naval hero'. I don't know which one so until then it's a case of "Hello Sailor!" WORKING ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT Christmas will be here before we know it (it always is), put this date in your diaries and come along and support us.

October 2023



SERVICES IN OCTOBER COMPRISE Harvest Festival on the 1st and Holy Communion at 10am on the 22nd.

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.



The Best is Yet to Come

Your Woodpecking correspondent had to meet a copy deadline before the September events at St Peter's have happened, so I had to look into my crystal ball. The **Harvest Folk** concert on the 23rd was absolutely splendid, with great performances from the **Blow-ins**, with the addition of the **Off-Cut Choir** for some of the songs. Our thanks to Phil and Bridget for offering their talent and skill to us, as well as to members of the choir and all those who helped to make the event happen.

September 24th was our **Harvest Festival**, which was (I am sure!) a marvellous occasion.

Service in October Do join us at St Peter's on October 22nd

for Holy Communion at 10am. All are most welcome!

Warm Chancel

By the time you get your copy of the BVTimes it may well be that the chancel heating will have been installed in church. This is the final phase of the electrical work to bring the project of new lighting, heating and cables to a conclusion. The PCC and congregation are indebted to all who gave to the special electrical works fund which made the new heating possible. The electrical company has sent someone to provide us with a new meter box, as the one installed months ago didn't work and was only recently replaced. Perhaps we have had months of free electricity! (We shall see!)

Village Hall News

By the time you receive the *BVTimes* you can be thankful that about nine people from the village have been trained for many hours in how to use a defibrillator! There is one at the Village Hall, and one at the Huntsman and Hounds, so be assured that in case of necessity, there is both a machine and a trained person in the vicinity (of Spexhall that is. I can't speak for anywhere else, so be careful where you go).

There will be the **Village Quiz** night towards the end of November, so that's a Friday night you need to pencil in. The exact Friday is to be decided, so keep at least the last two Fridays in November free for the 'not to be missed' Quiz, as well as the eternal raffle.

Don't forget to hand in items for prizes. Hand back the ones you got last year, which were re-gifted to you the Christmas before from a dear friend in the village! What goes around comes around. Round up your friends (or anyone) for tables of four.

Blyth Valley Times

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

Thorington PCC thank everyone who came to their very successful Artistree event (photos below) and especially thanks to Liam for hosting the event in the barn and surrounding grounds, an idyllic location where art and sculpture merged into the landscape. Artistree was the idea of Viv Burns and follows on from the art exhibitions held at the church a few years ago. There was the usual homemade refreshments, bar and a Silent Auction too.

A few local artists and craftspeople joined with their stalls, all in all a very well attended event. The final amount raised, in excess of £5000, will be published in next month's *BVTimes*.

All are welcome to the usual services at the church, or do just walk around the building and churchyard.

Our joint Quiz Night with Wenhaston is being held on October 20th, call Trish on 01502 478078 for details.

Walpole

Correspondents Lee & Anita Hill 07713 450078 anita.hill2006@gmail.com

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

I do hope you enjoyed our Indian Summer! It was lovely to have a few days in the sun, Margaret G and I spent three of them at a local hotel and had a very pleasant break. October is typically an autumn month with the leaves turning and the fruit ripening. The nights have really began to pull in, too. A mellow time of the year!

The Village Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 8th October at 10.30am, when we will be joined by our Methodist friends. The service will be followed by a lunch in the Village Hall at 12noon. We do hope lots of the village folk will join us for one or both.

The Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride took place on Saturday 9th September. Very many thenks to the stewards who sat in the porch and welcomed the riders and striders. There were not as many this year, probably as it was such a hot day. Also thank you to those who sponsored me. I will publish the result next month.

Friday 20th October is quiz night. I will put forms in the Post Office next week so that teams can be registered. The proceeds will be split between St Peter's Wenhaston and St Peter's Thorington. See poster on page 29 of this issue.

October Services

1st:	Harvest Communion, St Mary's
	Halesworth, 10am
8th:	Harvest Festival and meal,
	Wenhaston, 10.30am
15th:	Holy Communion, St Peter's
	Wenhaston, 10am
22nd:	Pause for Thought, St Peter's
	Wenhaston, 10am
29th:	Holy Communion, 10am,
	St Peter's Thorington





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Wenhaston Walkers

A walk will start from Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am on Tuesday 3rd October.

On Tuesday 17th October, Phil and Virginia will lead a walk starting at 10am from the Dolphin Inn, Thorpeness IP16 4NA.

It is only a small car park at the pub but there is plenty of on-road parking nearby. There is no requirement to book lunch in advance. If you wish to have your name added to the walkers' circulation list, please email: ipbigwood @btinternet.com

Heather Phillips (01502 478545)

WENHASTON FLOWER CLUB

Our September meeting was not as advertised, but we were extremely happy to welcome back Susan Green who stepped in at the last minute.

Susan has visited us many times and it is always a pleasure to see her, this time for a workshop demonstrating how to make a hand tied bouquet.



Susan with her bouquet

Our next meeting on Tuesday 3rd October is our "Charity Night" for the Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research in Wenhaston Village Hall at 6.30 pm. You don't have to belong to flower club the night is for everyone, so come and enjoy a cup of tea and delicious cake and a chat with friends and neighbours.

Cancer Research Christmas cards will be on sale and there will be various stalls, including Jane Bastow with her wonderful plants, tombola, crafts, cakes, raffle etc. Please come along and support the work of this vital charity, every penny raised really will make a difference helping to fund new and better treatments for people receiving a cancer diagnosis.

If you would like to donate cakes, tombola or raffle prizes or for more information please contact Jackie Chenery on 01502 478401.

Blyth Valley Times

WENHASTON M U

Unfortunately, I am having to write this report before our September meeting with the Revd Bill Mahood, but I will include a report of the talk next month.

For our October meeting we are joining with the other Branches in the Deanery for a Songs of Praise in St Peter's Church Wenhaston on Wednesday 11th October at 2pm. Anyone who would like to join us to sing popular hymns will be very welcome, there will be tea and cakes afterwards. Just come along, we will be very pleased to see you.

We continue to remember Daphne in our prayers and we thank God for the joy which she gives us when we visit her. We are pleased that she enjoyed her 90th birthday and the flowers which we sent to her. We are also remembering Jean who is at present in hospital. We send her lots of love and hope that she is soon home again.

A final reminder that we are filling shoeboxes again this year to be taken to Eastern Europe and we will be very grateful for any contributions you may like to give. Just leave them in the porch at Spindleberry, please 01502 478378. Please do 'phone me if you are uncertain as to what items we need for the boxes.

Margaret G (01502 478378)

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.



Wissett

Correspondent Mary Pester 01986 835869

marypester@rocketmail.com

The start of September was a busy time in Wissett, I am writing this in the week after our Harvest Festivities. Cooler outside now, but what a warm weekend it was! The Harvest Festival service was well attended with hearty singing, the church beautifully decorated and a thoughtprovoking sermon from a visiting vicar and Suffolk farmer, the Revd Leon Collyer, who urged us to make connections and think about how our food is produced. "Only Connect" is alway good advice. Leon and his family joined many others after the service in the Village Hall for a very enjoyable Harvest Supper. It was a jolly evening with delicious food, a raffle, good conversation, to share our good gifts.

A very big thank you to all who contributed and gave their time, produce, generous raffle prizes, decorated the church, helped and shared in many ways.

It was so hot the next day for The Suffolk Historic Churches Bike Ride, so there were fewer riders than usual It was very pleasant to sit in the cool of the church to welcome those who ventured out, even in the midday sun.

I thought Team Evensong ending our Harvest Celebrations on the Sunday evening was lovely with beautiful music and singing, a good, thought-provoking sermon as we came out of the church, the sun was setting.

A torch needed in the handbag or pocket in the evenings now with darker evenings, but autumn is a season of mists and mellow fruitfulness with many treats in store and as poor Johnny Keats goes on to tell, "thou hast thy music too." And so will we in Wissett!

A musical treat... on Sunday 2nd October at 3pm there will be a concert of songs in the church by a chamber choir "Voices to Go". They are going to sing songs from Byrd to Britten.

Refreshments of a tea time nature afterwards.

There will be posters and further details and publicity around the village, nearer the date. Please put the date in your diary.

Maybe cleaning the church is not seen as a treat, but it is so much appreciated and I always enjoy the company of my cleaning companion.

The cleaning rota for October:

- 1st: Gill Bailey and Linda Clarke
- 8th: Anne Andrews and Maureen Stoddard
- 15th: Mary Pester and Camilla Prior
- 22nd: Janice Bathgate and Cara Wetmore
- 29th: Nick Evans.

October 2023

comment noting how clean and tidy the church is so thank you to everyone who helps.

Also in the church, by the visitors book, information and so on on the bier, there is a new book, "Kneelers", as some of the kneelers of Wissett church are featured in the book, which I am sure will be of interest to many.

Such needlework is beyond me, (I had E-minus once on my school report!) but I enjoy looking at our church kneelers and the references to everyday life in Wissett. I am not sure when they were made or who by, some departed from

Blyth Valley Times

us now, but their efforts are appreciated.

"Something attempted, something done, has earned a night's repose." as my Grandmother often used to say after a busy day. She would have had to learn the old poem, *The Village Blacksmith* by heart at school I expect. The spreading chestnut trees in the churchyard will be dropping their gorgeous, shiny brown conkers by the time *BVTimes* is published and the ploughed fields will be gleaming like chocolate.

Enjoy the Autumn colours!

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.







Refreshments provided. People will be available if you want someone to talk to after your walk.

For more information contact: Revd Alison Alder at alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk or 01502 478855

Future meetings: Monday 6th November and Monday 4th December



Waveney and Blyth Deanery Environmental Action Group Monday 16th October 2023 Church Room, St Peter's Church, Holton

7.30pm

A meeting for representatives from all churches working to protect God's Creation through environmental projects and Eco-Church Awards.

Agenda

- Reflecting on the "Climate Action Conference" at St Mary's Halesworth 29th September – 1st October.
- 2. Update on progress towards Eco-Church awards and sharing experiences.
- Update on other services and projects within the Waveney and Blyth Deanery and publicising future events.
- 4. Climate change and climate justice.
- How to encourage our churches and congregations to make eco-friendly lifestyle choices, including making working towards the Church of England's aim to become net-zero by 2030.

For more information contact Revd Alison Alder Waveney and Blyth Deanery Environment Champion alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk / 07584 416277



GN OF THE FISH is open: Mondays – Wednesdays 9.30am – 1pm; (Thursdays closed Fridays 9.30am – 1pm; (Saturdays closed). Tel: 07770 465785

"Who dunnit?" – 2

In August's magazine I admitted to my fondness for clerical "whodunnits", particularly those in a historical setting, and quoted Philip Grosset, who's created an invaluable compendium on clerical detectives on the website detecs.org, detailing nearly four hundred clergy-detectives in English literature, and several of these have made it as TV series too. I touched on the moral qualities and knowledge of human nature and character so important to the success (and sometimes failures) of the clergy as searchers after truth. But you will notice that all these characters have another quality which endear them to readers of mysteries and crime, a quality they share with the still popular "golden age of crime" novels: they are all set in the past, way before CCTV and scientific techniques such as DNA analysis helped police procedurals; observation, asking the right questions and having great puzzlesolving abilities were their tools and the reader can engage and perhaps develop their hunch for 'whodunnit" before the holy sleuth reveals all.

Sister Fidelma of Kildaire is **Peter Tremayne's** engaging protagonist in his now quite long series of novels set mostly in 7th century Ireland, the land of saints and scholars, a time when women in society probably had the most rights and protections than at any time since. In her convent Sister Fidelma has trained as an advocate of the Brehon Court, the legal system of the day, and despite her comparative youth is well respected and in demand, it probably helps that she's the sister of the king of Munster too!

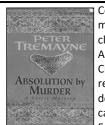
In the first novel **Absolution by Murder**, Sister Fildema is attending the Synod of Whitby (664AD) with the leading churchmen and women of the day to debate the rival merits of the Celtic and Roman Churches. Tempers begin to fray in a most un-Christian way.



Well-equipped workshop at the back of Chinny's car park (27 Norwich Road, Halesworth IP19 8BX)

Telephone 01986 835905 or just call in

For anyone interested in working and socialising around a bench for themselves, others or the community



Conspirators plot an assassination, while mysterious, violent death stalks the shadowy cloisters of the Abbey of St Hilda. When the Abbess Etain, a leading speaker for the Celtic Church, is found murdered suspicion inevitably rests on the Roman faction. The situation deteriorates, civil war seems likely and Fildelma is called on to investigate the murder with Brother Eadulf, of the Roman faction. However, the two

are so unlike that their partnership is described as that of a wolf and a fox - but which is which? The partnership carries on successfully into many of the further adventures in the series.



Revenge of the Stormbringer, published this year, is currently the latest in the series. Summer, AD 672. Princess Gelgéis has arrived in Cashel with her personal bodyguard, a troop of female warriors called the Daughters of the Storm. When one of them is found slain next to the sleeping chamber of the newly married king (Fildelma's brother) and, a short time later, the stewardess of the royal house is poisoned, questions are raised

as to everyone's safety... Fidelma and Eadulf must first explain the 'locked room' mystery of how the attack took place in King Colgu's specially built secure apartment. Then they must interrogate the growing list of suspects - even Enda, the commander of the household guard, who had formed a romantic attachment to the murdered attendant, cannot be ignored...



The unquiet bones, the first chronicle of Hugh de Singleton, surgeon, by Melvin R Starr. I suppose, technically speaking, this well written, wellregarded series is not a clerical "whodunnit". Hugh, the youngest son of a minor 14th century knight, decides *against* a career in the church or at law and trains as a surgeon, however his approach is more overtly Christian in that he frequently prays for guidance and wisdom, and

for the victims of crime, inspired by Christ's words in his precious hand- written copy of John's gospel (John 14, v13-17). He is also a disciple of Wyclif. When human bones are found in Bampton castle cesspit, they are thought to be the remains of the missing suitor of the local lord's sister until Hugh identifies them as female. He is then instructed by the lord to find out who she was and why she met her end, as clearly she was murdered. The bones are identified, the most likely murderer (in the lord's opinion) is sent for trial, only (spoiler alert!) the suspected victim is not dead... A gripping story, with a number of actual 14th century characters appearing. I look forward to more of the series.

Val Jennings







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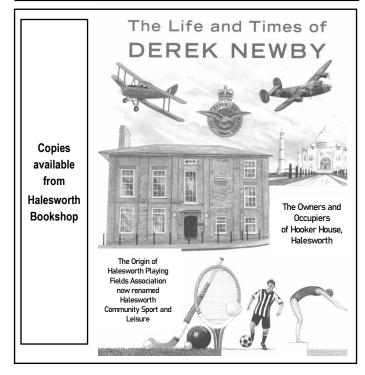
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There are collection places for Foodbank donations in Chediston; St Mary's Church, Halesworth; Halesworth Co-op; Holton; Rumburgh; Spexhall (2); Wenhaston and Wissett.

ADDITIONAL FOODBANK DONATION POINTS

Donations of food for the Foodbank can also be left at Woolnough's Funeral Services 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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Blyth Valley Times



North Suffolk Area Mothers' Union at i-Chameleon

Thursday 12th - Wednesday 18th October

10am - 4pm

ST MARY'S WALPOLE EVENTS

CLASSICAL CHAMBER MUSIC



We are delighted to welcome back internationally acclaimed Korean American Violinist Elly Suh accompanied by the equally internationally acclaimed Japanese Pianist Yuki Negishi Sunday 24th September 2023: 5.00pm St Mary's Church, Walpole IP19 9AU Tickets: £15 in advance only: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ chamber-music-by-acclaimed-violinist-elly-suh-pianistyuki-negishi-tickets-699547845437?aff=oddtdtcreator or contact Anita Hill 07717 503511 anita.hill@gmail.com All proceeds in aid of the St Mary's Restoration Fund. Refreshments Parking in field opposite the Church



Harvest Supper in Bramfield Village Hall Friday 6th October, 6.30pm for 7pm

Chilli con carne, non-spicy or vegetarian options with baked potato plus assorted puddings. Bring your own drink - water provided. Entertainment by Del, Jeremy & Stephen. Draw

> **£10 per person, payable on the door** In aid of Bramfield Village Hall / Bridge Meadow Book in advance at **Bramfield Garage** or email: **info.bvhall@gmail.com**

HARVEST FESTIVAL AND SUPPER



ST MARGARETS CHURCH HEVENINGHAM 8TH OCTOBER 4 PM

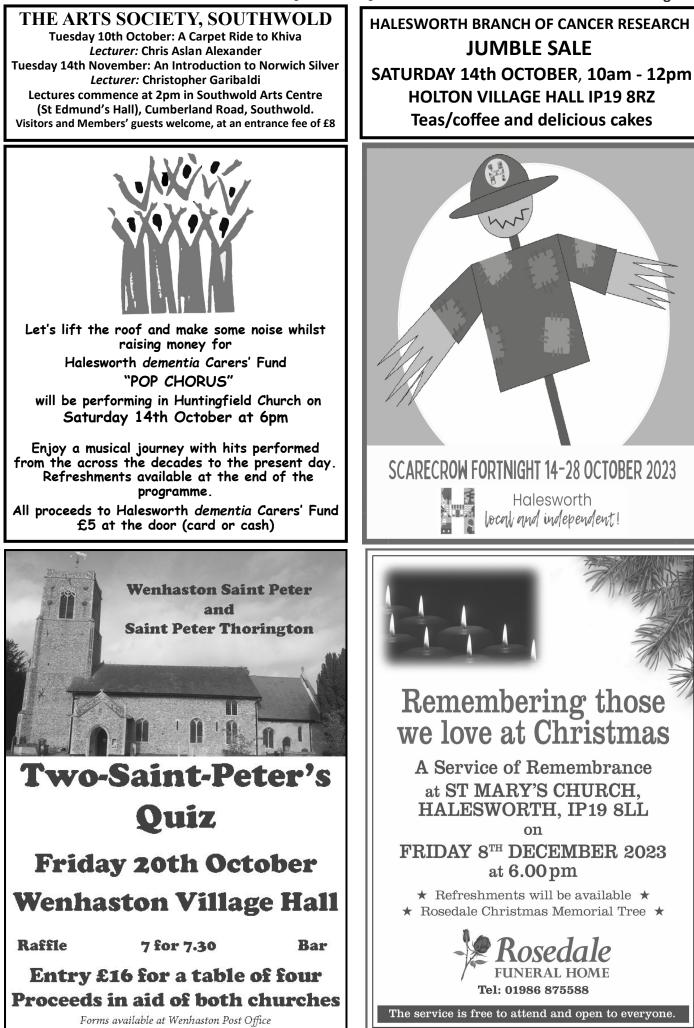
Please bring non perishable food donations to the church for the foodbank. Thank you

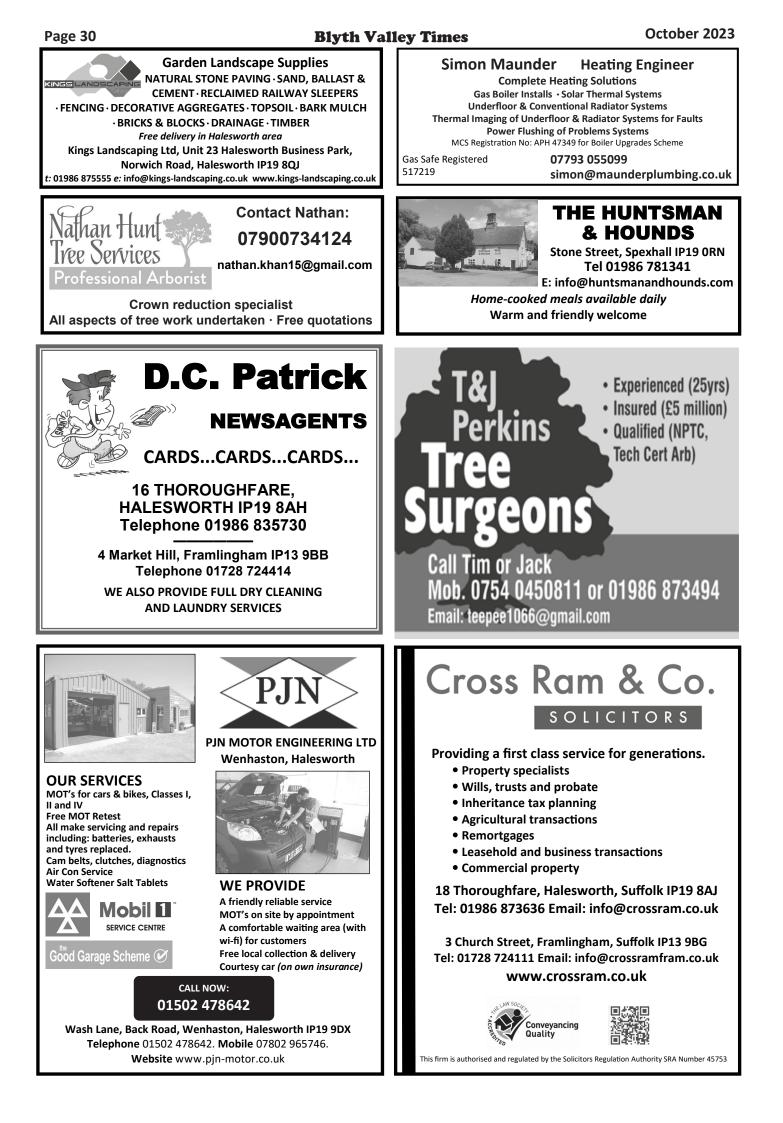
Friends of St Mary's Halesworth

Lunchtime Recital St Mary's Church Halesworth Wednesday 11th October, 12.30pm Picnic lunch available from 12 noon or bring your own



LOVE & DEVOTION An exciting programme of great arias and art songs presented by award-winning soprano Katalin Prentice & Tanya Kirk on piano Retiring collection for the Regeneration of St Mary's Church. (Contactless giving available)





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October 2023



The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin Halesworth 2023 concert / events highlights

Friday 29 September 6.30-9.30pm	CLIMATE ACTION CONFERENCECLIMATEAnother step on our journey to Net Zero!Expert panel discussion / Exhibition showcasing local projectsNOW
Sunday, 1 October 10am	HARVEST FESTIVAL & LUNCH It's that time of year to give thanks for the Harvest. Join us for worship at 10am and stay for lunch afterwards
Wednesday, 11 October 12noon for 12.30pm	LOVE & DEVOTION - join award winning soprano Katalin Prentice A lunchtime recital organised by the Friends of St. Mary's FREE ENTRY / retiring collection / refreshments / bring your own lunch
Thursday, 2 November 6pm	ALL SOULS DAY SERVICE Join us as we commemorate the Faithful Departed
Sunday, 12 November 3pm	Town Remembrance Service A parade through town up to the Library, a service , then we gather around the War Memorial
Saturday, 25 November 10am-1pm	LINSTEAD CHRISTMAS MARKET Once again Linstead takes over St. Mary's for their Christmas Market - Lots to come and see
Worship with us fr	M SERVICE FROM ST. MARY'S NOW AVAILABLE om anywhere in the world - Visit our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@halesworthparish

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