



Blyth Valley Times

A Service of the Church for our Local Communities

March 2025

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Issue 3

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RSPB: Great Big Churchyard Birdwatch

The sun shone brightly on the afternoon of our Great Big Churchyard Birdwatch at St Peter's Church in Holton; the birds were tweeting and the churchyard was looking beautiful.

On January 25th, around 30 people popped along to join in a lovely afternoon of activities. We were joined by Brownies, Beavers and Halesworth Swifts.

There was crafting, bird-spotting, cake, tea and coffee, quizzes, bird feeders making and some Swift boxes to explore. We were delighted to see the Buzzard in the churchyard; alongside Robins, Blue Tits, Coal Tits, Pigeons, Collared Doves, Chaffinches and Blackbirds (to name just a few).

It was wonderful to see all ages come together with excitement after Jim spotted the Buzzard's visit. People

gathered, shared binoculars and also chatted with enthusiasm about what we could see.

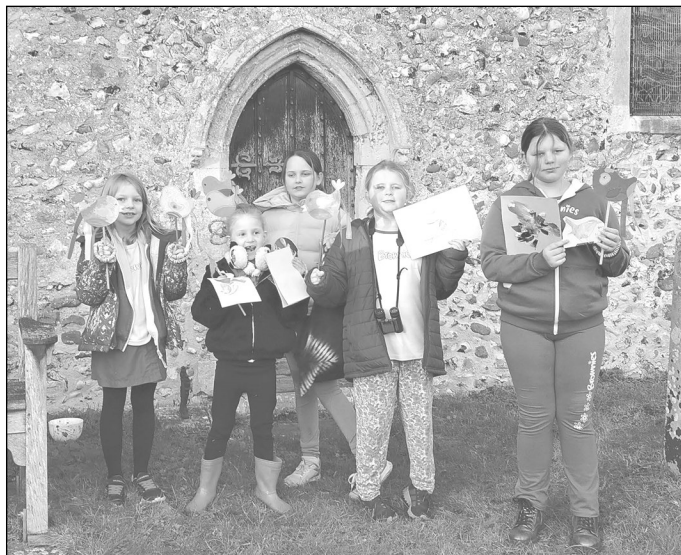
We also had a very eager member of the Beavers who wandered around with his dad and very excitedly tallied down in his notepad any birds that he saw; practising for doing the birdwatch again the next day at home. All generations had fun together taking part in the various bird crafts.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped. We hope to do another Great Big Churchyard Birdwatch in the churchyard in the summer holidays. And, hopefully, the Brownies, Beavers, Scouts and Halesworth Swifts will be able to attend for another fabulous community event.

Pauline Milsted



Making bird feeders - photo by Neri Harris.



Brownies enjoyed birdwatching and crafting at the event.

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St. Mary's Church Halesworth**WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE**

[www.youtube.com/](http://www.youtube.com/@halesworthparish)
[@halesworthparish](https://www.youtube.com/@halesworthparish)

March 2025 Lectionary**Sunday 2nd – Green****Traditional Communion – Quinquagesima**

1 Corinthians 13: 1 – end (KJV)

Luke 18: 31 – 43 (KJV)

Holy Communion – Sunday Next Before Lent

Exodus 34: 29 – end (NRSV)

Luke 9: 28 – 36 (NRSV)

Sunday 9th – Purple**Traditional Communion – First in Lent**

2 Corinthians 6: 1 – 10 (KJV)

Matthew 4: 1 – 11 (KJV)

Holy Communion – First of Lent

Deuteronomy 26: 1 – 11 (NRSV)

Luke 4: 1 – 13 (NRSV)

Sunday 16th – Purple**Traditional Communion – Second in Lent**

1 Thessalonians 4: 1 – 8 (KJV)

Matthew 15: 21 – 28 (KJV)

Holy Communion – Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 15: 1 – 18 (NRSV)

Luke 13: 31 – end (NRSV)

Sunday 23rd – Purple**Traditional Communion – Third in Lent**

Ephesians 5: 1 – 14 (KJV)

Luke 11: 14 – 28 (KJV)

Holy Communion – Third of Lent

Isaiah 55: 1 – 9 (NRSV)

Luke 13: 1 – 9 (NRSV)

Sunday 30th – Purple**Traditional Communion – Fourth in Lent**

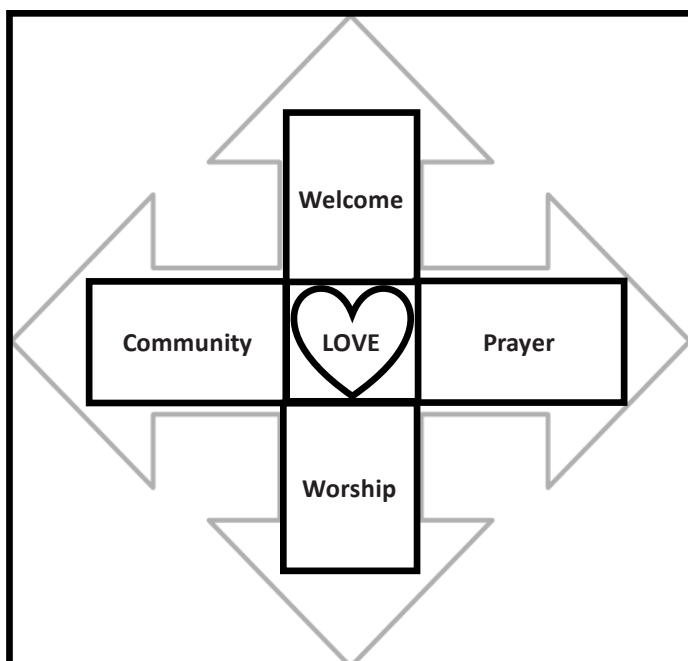
Galatians 4: 21 – end (KJV)

John 6: 1 – 14 (KJV)

Holy Communion – Mothering Sunday

1 Samuel 1: 20 – end (NRSV)

Luke 2: 33 – 35 (NRSV)



Worship in the Blyth Valley in March 2025					
CW – Year C Continuous	2nd Green CW – Next Before Lent BCP – Quinquagesima	9th Purple CW – First of Lent BCP – First in Lent	16th Purple CW – Second of Lent BCP – Second in Lent	23rd Purple CW – Third of Lent BCP – Third in Lent	30th Purple CW – Mothering Sunday BCP – Fourth in Lent
Halesworth St Mary	8am Traditional Communion Dominic 10am Holy Communion (Gini's farewell) Dominic 6pm Evensong Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic 10am Breakfast Church Pauline and Linda	8am Traditional Communion Dominic 10am Iona Worship Jason		8am Traditional Communion Dominic 10am Family Service Jason 6pm Evensong Dominic
St Peter Group					
Holton St Peter		10am Family Communion with Baptism Dominic	6pm Taize Alison A		10am Mothering Sunday David
Wenhaston St Peter		10am Joint service with Methodists at St Peter's	10am Holy Communion Linda	10am Pause for Thought	10am Holy Communion Alison A
Bramfield St Andrew		10am Holy Communion Vic			
Blyford All Saints			10am Wild Church Jim		
Thorington St Peter					10am Morning Prayer Veronica M
St Andrew Grp					
Wissett St Andrew		10am Holy Communion David			10am Mothering Sunday Win
Chediston St Mary					10am Mothering Sunday Linda
Spexhall St Peter			10am Holy Communion Dominic		10am Mothering Sunday PCC led
Linstead St Margaret		10am Matins Malcolm		10am Holy Communion Dominic	
St Michael Grp					
Cookley St Michael			9.30am Traditional Communion Desmond		
Heveningham St Margaret		10am Family Service Alison A			
Huntingfield St Mary					10am Holy Communion Dominic
Walpole St Mary		6pm Evensong Dominic			

Additional Services: 9.30am, Thursdays, Morning Prayer, St Andrew Bramfield.
7pm, 4th, Shrove Tuesday Clipping Service, St Andrew's Wissett, Alison A.
10am, 5th, Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with Ashing, St Mary's Halesworth, Dominic.

Wenhaston Methodist Church

Coles Lane, Wenhaston

Minister: The Revd Martin Keenan

MARCH 2025

- 2nd The Revd Robert Soanes
 9th United Service at St Peter's, 10am
 16th The Revd Martin Keenan, HC
 23rd Mrs Lucy Zukiewicz
 30th The Revd Iain McKillop

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am
(unless stated otherwise)

ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

St Edmund King & Martyr

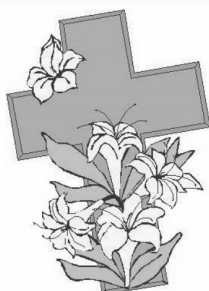
Roman Catholic Church,
 Church Farm Lane, Halesworth

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

MARCH 2025

- Sunday 2nd 11am Gathered Worship. Minister Jon Sermon.
 Communion
- Tuesday 4th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft
 followed by Morning Worship
- Friday 7th 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom
 followed by Coffee Morning
- Sunday 9th 11am Gathered Worship Jo Moreira
 3pm Bramfield Chapel. Minister Jon Sermon
- Tuesday 11th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft
 followed by Morning Worship
- Friday 14th 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom
 followed by Coffee Morning
- Sunday 16th 11am Gathered Worship. Minister Jon Sermon
- Tuesday 18th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft
 followed by Morning Worship
- Friday 21st 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom
 followed by Coffee Morning
- Sunday 23rd 11am Gathered Worship TBA
- Tuesday 25th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft
 followed by Morning Worship
- Friday 28th 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and Zoom
 followed by Coffee Morning
- Sunday 30th 11am Gathered Worship. Minister Jon Sermon

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

Judy Morton: 01502 724572

judy.morton@themortonpartnership.co.uk

Elizabeth Aslett 07710 916737

(for families and children)

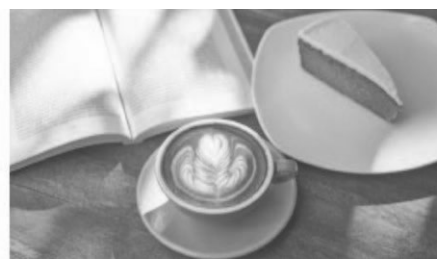
familyhurc@gmail.com



Zoom Meeting ID: 776—044—1926,
 Passcode 811885

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 Canon Alison Alder at:
revalialder@gmail.com

or

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

From the Rector...

This month, the church moves into its second season of reflection and contemplation of the human condition. It is called Lent from the Old English word for spring, possibly related to the idea of lengthening days and extending or slowing notes in a musical movement marked Lento. Its liturgical colour is purple. Its purpose is to prepare for the feast of the resurrection, once one of two main celebrations of the mass during which God was encountered. Some people give things up for the forty days and forty nights and some people take things up. These are equal and opposite valid methods of that self-assessment, self-regulation and self-improvement that the notion that that encounter may inspire.

I don't usually focus on those tabloid expressions of sin, evil and wickedness as a rule. Indeed, I have been taken to task for it in the past. However, as the set readings of our lectionary tend to become more uncomfortable and accusatory in this season I can tend to move in that direction. This is perhaps, most obvious at our Traditional Communion when it is my practice to read the whole ten commandments, not the usual summary of the law - which is much more palatable.

Many of us don't need to be reminded of our regrets, our shortcomings, our bad thoughts and the vast sums that would have accrued in our swear-boxes if we had kept them. It usually doesn't help! However, sometimes, having a diagnosis; having a word for it; can open the door to a conversation, a confession, a cure. Another, problem with words like sin, wickedness and evil is that they are very finger-pointy. They can be much easier to apply to others than ourselves. We may even feel exonerated, and quite good about ourselves as we are able to point out just how bad that other lot are. This too, is not helpful.

The stories of the disciples throughout Jesus's ministry provide an exemplary lesson. Across the years they misunderstand, are impetuous and jealous. As the final hours roll in things do not get better. 'I'll not deny you!' declares the denier. 'Ask him who is the betrayer?' His

best friend is urged. All this during his celebration of the Passover: the holiest Jewish feast celebrating emancipation from oppression. The east window at St Mary's, Halesworth not only has bread and wine on the Europeanised table, but the thirty pieces of silver too!

It should not, therefore, be too much of a surprise to discover some of the evils of our day may be found to occur in our denomination, in our town and villages.

I might include on my list such things as: Domestic abuse, racism, modern day slavery, antagonism towards LGBTQ+ people, child abuse, radicalisation, county lines, exclusion of people with disabilities. (Do call 999 if you are at immediate risk of harm or a crime is being committed.)

One of the things training in all of these areas calls us to be is self-aware and observant. Another thing we are trained to do is to tell someone. Once you do disclose, the structures that are in place to help you or another victim are set in train: safely, securely and discretely.

I (Dominic) am the Safeguarding Lead in our parishes. My number is 07743 554955. Pauline Milsted is the deputy. We work with Annie in the office to continually improve our Joint Council Policy on how we train, monitor, record to make our parishes the sanctuaries we want them to be for all at risk and all victims who we live amongst and who share our buildings and events.

As we look back at the last supper in the last days of Christ before his death, we are reminded that we should reflect on our own shortcomings and challenges. Not only these but also those of the church of which we are a part as well, with all humility and indignation. Let us pray to the wounded life-giver, to be resurrected, that the saints and sinners that make up our denomination and our communities may all share the hope of freedom and justice for which he died and for which we commit to strive.

Dominic



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HALESWORTH & BRAMFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Revd Jon Sermon – Minister

Dear Friends,

At Halesworth URC we have been delighted to have quite a few new people coming to us over the last year or so: Some frequently, others just occasionally. Some local for a long time, others having come to the area from across the country or internationally.

The way our denomination works includes that anyone who engages with the life of the church is one of us. But we do not have a parish structure like Anglicans and Roman Catholic do. What we do have is a formalised membership: Even though engaging with us does – in many real senses – make someone part of the church, there is the option to become a member. This carries both privileges and responsibilities.

It is with great joy that we are receiving five new people into that membership structure. This, however, is only a tiny part of the Church in the big sense. All Christians are part of the Body of Christ! (I know that's stating the obvious).

Denominations, individual churches & ministries etc. are all subsets of the glorious whole. Having recently held the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, let's continue to celebrate the way we are all one, even when our formal structures sometimes appear to give a different message.

Jesus prayed that we would all be one (John 17:21).

Paul writes that we are being built together to become a dwelling where God lives by his Spirit (Ephesians 2:19-21). Peter takes the analogy further: "You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house..." (1 Peter 2: 4-6).

So let's continue praying for each other, for our visible unity and that all of us, as part of the Body of Christ, may shine with His light. And let's celebrate these truths!

Blessings

Jon

Revd Jon Sermon,

**Minister of Halesworth & Bramfield URC
and North Lowestoft URC**



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What has your Team Vicar been up to?

As it has been my final month in work, all I have been doing is sorting, packing and dealing with all the admin that goes with retiring and moving.

Thankfully my energy levels have been better this month, so I am managing, but Felix still has to do the lion's share of the

work. We are having to downsize quite dramatically so there have been some difficult decisions to make about what to keep and what needs to be let go. Like a lot of people, we have inherited all sorts of things which were precious to our loved ones, but we simply do not have the space to keep them. It's very hard to see treasured pieces of furniture and keepsakes go, but go they must.

I have been focusing on my office, which contains the accumulation of everything associated with my working life to date – even before that: I found all my old school reports in one old file. It has been a time for looking back as well as forward, remembering and moving on. I have tried to be ruthless but there's a limit. I want to keep hold of the thread that has brought me this far. Maybe I should start scrapbooking in my retirement!

As for wrapping up my work as Team Vicar, there has not been so much to do. The best thing has been watching things flourish from the sidelines. So many things have started and are already growing as a result of connections made and people turning up feeling called to various aspects of being church. I have simply done prayerfully and faithfully what was asked of me. I don't know why I am still surprised that in some mysterious way we are provided with whatever we need to do God's work.

Sadly, I think the world has made us so fearful, even those of us with faith, that we cannot see beyond ourselves to hope in our all-pervasive God of love. We do not hope in vain – even if things do not work out the way we expect they tend to work out for the best.

It is impossible to name everyone I need to thank for the support and love that I have received since I have been here. It has been so frustrating not to have been able to get around as much as I wanted to and do more of what I was hoping to do, but that wasn't to be. It just remains for me to say goodbye and thank you for having me.

With love and blessings as always

Revd Gini

Taize Workshop and Service

On a blustery, cold and wet winter afternoon about 15 people turned out for the Taize Workshop and 20 people for the evening Taize Service at St Peter's Church in Holton. The theme of the workshop and session was "Towards the Light!" and a lovely service was enjoyed by all.

Taize is a unique style of worship, originating from the Taize community with prayer, meditation and silence at the heart

of the service. With the unique worship of repetitive chants, Psalms and Scriptures that are sung.

Last month, Psalm 27 was shared, beginning with *The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?* Very apt for a winter's night, when many people are struggling with the darkness of the season, or the named Blue January to remember that we have light and salvation in the Lord.

The next Taize Service will be on Sunday 16th March at St Peter's Church, Holton. Workshops 4pm, Service 6pm.

**FOR DETAILS OF SERVICES AND LOCAL EVENTS,
PLEASE VISIT BLYTH VALLEY CHURCHES WEBSITE:
www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk**



There are news items and photos on our
Facebook page too:
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Hollie Sewell
07880005783
Email: Hollsewell@gmail.com



Wilderness Taize Worship



Sunday 16th March 2025

St Peter's Church, Holton

Workshop: 4pm

Service: 6 pm



Everyone is welcome to join us for the Taize Workshop and Service.
Taize is a simple style of worship with reflective silent meditation by
candle light.

Come and step into the wilderness with us, as we explore the theme
together of searching, feeling lost, following paths and leaving
everyday life behind.

My Role as a Children, Family and Youth Worker

As February is my fifth official month of working as the Blyth Valley Churches Children, Family and Youth Worker, I thought it was good timing to reflect on my evolving role.

I regularly still get the question of what is your role what is it that you do for the Blyth Valley Churches and also why do we need a Children, Family and Youth Worker?

As I am sat here completing my 'homework' for the connect course (that will help me to become a licensed children and family worker), I am reading the report 'We are Family'. This report looks at the ever-evolving and developing role of family ministry across denominations in the UK. One of the things the research highlights, which I love is that there are two strands to family ministry; these are:

"Ministry (concerned with matters related to faith and spirituality: prayer, worship, knowledge and understanding of Christian life and practice as well evangelistic activities) and support activities and programmes designed to offer support (practical, emotional, mental, generally related to wellbeing)." (Gail Adcock et al, 2014, p.9).

I feel these words say what we are aiming for and trying to achieve in a much more succinct and elegant way than I can. We are supporting the developing place for children, family and youth within our church through meeting their spiritual, emotional, mental, practical and well-being needs. No small feat – and as we continue to engage with our community, I am sure the journey will be windy; but also take us in many unforeseen directions. Practically at the moment this

includes, one of events such as the RSPB Great Big Churchyard Birdwatch at Holton, family picnics, toy exchanges, continuous groups such as Church Mice Tots, setting up a youth space in St Mary's Church in Halesworth and working with other groups, Starting Rite course for babies and parents to explore the spiritual faith, Eco Warriors at Holton, Halesworth and soon Bramfield with local schools and nurseries, praise parties, breakfast church or the Great Communion Adventure. This isn't an endless list, or even a permanent list, it's growing as our ministry grows and is exciting and interesting.

As we work with families, we need to remember that the 'nuclear' or 'traditional' family of two parents and two children isn't the societal norm any more. We need to challenge our thoughts and ideas, as we work with different families, we may encounter and recognise that God's love and grace is for everyone. And finally, why do we need a Children, Family and Youth Worker, because Jesus came to this world for everyone! That includes the young children, the babes in arms, the awkward youth, the lone parent, the grandparents caring for their grandchildren. We want our churches to be for everyone, to have provision and a welcoming environment for all why make walk through the door. That is why I have been chosen and put here! So that we can put in place facilities, resources that are welcoming, that we can find ways of open our doors to all and that we can make ways to make worship, the bible, and Sundays fully inclusive for the whole family. Whoever you are!

How can you support me?

Prayer is powerful and important, so pray for me, pray for wisdom in what activities to pursue, what things to prioritise, guidance, patience and energy! Pray for the activities, the regular groups, the one off events. If you have time, get involved, come to our monthly prayer group, or see how you can get involved in helping physically. Perhaps you can volunteer at tots once a month, or do the teas and coffees at a family picnic, there are so many ways you can be involved. Or even just smile at me when I am doing a service and feeling a little nervous at the front!

With blessings,

Pauline Milsted

LIFE EVENTS

FROM THE REGISTERS IN FEBRUARY FUNERALS/INTERMENT OF ASHES

Eric Spalding at Halesworth

John Bainer at Halesworth

Olive Meen at Halesworth

Marcia Coward at Waveney Crematorium

Phyllis Hammond at Chediston

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Community Allotment Project



**LAUNCH
EVENT**

**Community
allotment**

Join us at **St Mary's Church in Halesworth**
on **4th March 2025 at 6:30 pm** to learn
about this amazing new project, the
funding we have received, the aims of the
project and how to get involved.

EASTSUFFOLK
COUNCIL

Blyth Valley Churches

We would love to invite everyone, whether you are a community group or an individual, to our launch event for the Community Allotment Project.

Join us at **St Mary's Church in Halesworth on 4th March 2025 at 6.30pm** to learn about this amazing new project, the funding we have received, the aims of the project and how to get involved. There will be a short presentation by Pauline Milsted (Children, Family and Youth Worker), followed by nibbles and refreshments.

This project has been funded by East Suffolk County Council
Through delivering the project, and also through delivering a co-production process, we aim to deliver the following outcomes:

- ❖ A safe space for our young people to gather. (Beneficiaries: young people)
- ❖ To support the well-being of individuals and groups within Halesworth through the project. (Beneficiaries – All that participate in the project).
- ❖ To support children, families and young people to learn about healthy living and food choices. (Children, families and young people in the area).
- ❖ To provide a space for people who may feel socially excluded. (Well-being group, SEND Support Group).
- ❖ To be a collaborative project between different groups within the community. (Everyone!).
- ❖ To co-produce the project alongside key stakeholders.
- ❖ To make a project that is long-term to support and become a central hub for the community of Halesworth. (Everyone!).

Pauline really is passionate that this is a project that is going to support everyone in our community; through a very exciting intergenerational project.



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Citizens Advice National Helpline

0808 208 2138

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 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.

NEWBY BOOKS ON SALE

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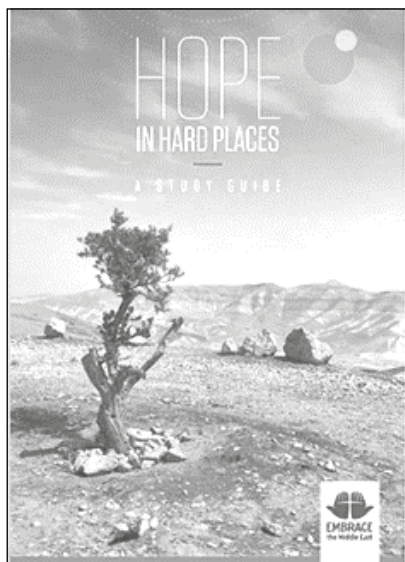
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H

Our Need for Hope in Lent 2025



Lent is a time for reflection and spiritual exploration, either individually or part of a group. The idea of hope seems to feature in several Lent courses this year. It is certainly a theme which strikes a chord with many people who feel the world is a particularly bleak place at the moment. At Breakfast Church in February, the congregation made some beautifully decorated fish in response to the Gospel story that day. The reading from Luke told the story of the fruitless attempts of Peter and others to catch any fish. They had given up hope but followed Jesus's instructions to try again. This time their catch was abundant, far exceeding their expectations. At our service, members of our congregation wrote down on the back of their fish what gives them hope. Our rich "catch" of hope is hanging in a net in St Mary's Church, Halesworth. Feel free to read the hopes we shared.

The Church of England's Lent theme for 2025 is "Living Hope" and it has produced a range of resources on this theme. Jason has a supply of the Church of England "Living Hope" Lent booklet, priced at £2, which has daily reflections for the season. Copies of the booklet are also available from the Team Office in St Mary's Halesworth. Alternatively, the booklets and other related materials can be accessed via the Church of England website: [Living Hope - Resources for Lent 2025 | The Church of England](https://www.churchofengland.org.uk/living-hope-resources-for-lent-2025)

If you would like to be part of a group, there are at least two opportunities for you to join one.

Both groups will be following that Lent course written by Embrace the Middle East "Hope in Hard Places".

- ❖ In person at 4pm on Monday afternoons in Wenhaston, starting on March 10th.
- ❖ Online via Zoom at "Café Church" Tuesday mornings at 10am, starting on Tuesday 11th March.


Please contact me if you would like to join one of these groups: revalialder@gmail.com or 01502 478855.

Revd Canon Alison Alder



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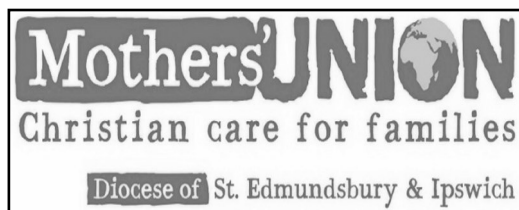
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Give a Gift of Peace this Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday is an emotional day for many people all around the world. Some think of our mothers with love and prayer. Some of us have painful memories. Some remember those who have been like a mother to us.

Let us embrace the opportunity we are blessed with to support and pray for parents all around the world who want a better future for their children.

A **Gift of Peace** can give families worldwide the chance to swap discord and tension to an atmosphere of support and positivity. Mothers' Union, as a global community, can show mothers, fathers and children everywhere that we are thinking of them. We celebrate the honour to stand with new parents and grandparents as they seek guidance to overcome problems and strife, and build peace in their families, communities and countries.

The gift of Peace catalogue is on the Mothers' Union notice board or go to www.makeamothersday.org

Dear Lord,

This Mothering Sunday, we thank You for the gift of peace,
Your perfect, unshakable peace that stills our hearts and minds.

We give thanks for mothers and caregivers,
for their love, patience and the nurture they provide,
Bless them today with a fresh outpouring of Your peace and strength.

May they feel Your presence guiding them as they teach and inspire their children to walk in Your ways,
Becoming peacemakers in their generation.

We also thank You for the Church, our spiritual home,
and the work of the Mothers' Union,
bringing healing and hope to families everywhere. **Amen.**

Stella @ KHG

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

Lady Day Service at the Cathedral Tuesday 25th March at 2pm

The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as Lady Day, is held on March 25th. This has always been a special day for Mothers' Union members. It is the start of a new three year period, when a new Trustee Board, Diocesan Officers, and this year when Branch Leaders will be Commissioned, too. The service will be held in the Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds at 2pm.

It is hoped as many members, partners and friends will come to support the new Diocesan President, Jeanette Appleton, Diocesan Officers and members of the new Trustee Board, Branch Leaders and Branch Contacts, too. It will also be extra special this year as our own Revd Canon Alison Alder will be commissioned as an MU Trustee for the next three years. It would be good to give Alison as much support as we can.

Margaret Goldstone, Margaret Bloomfield and Janet Walkey and we hope, a number of others, will be going. This service is for anyone to attend, whether you are a member of MU or not. Branch banners can be brought to this service, as long as they come with a banner stand. We no longer carry banners in the procession. We hope to stop for lunch on the way, or when we arrive in Bury St Edmunds.

If you would like a lift, do contact Margaret G or myself. The service will be live-streamed via the Cathedral YouTube channel St Edmundsbury Cathedral – YouTube and can be viewed in the days after March 25th.

The service sheet is on the Cathedral website for you to access Services and Resources | St Edmundsbury Cathedral.

Janet Walkey

01986 872594

janetwalkey@hotmail.com

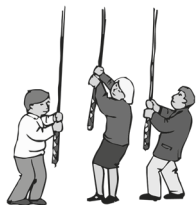
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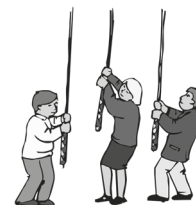
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From the Ringing Chamber



One thing I like about our little band of ringers is that they all aspire to be better at it. Some work particularly hard, doing their homework, learning new methods, and then putting themselves through the purgatory of putting the theory into practice until the fog clears and the crunching turns into decent striking. This month's shining example is Judith who only returned to ringing a couple of years ago, after a long break, but in that time she has rung 19 quarter peals of increasing complexity. Now she has rung Plain Bob "inside" (i.e. doing all the work, not a simplified version) on both 6 bells (at Wissett) and 7 bells (at Southwold) in the space of three days. On top of that she is already working on the next level of "Treble Bob" and "Stedman".

Make the most of this accolade, Judith: you know it will be back to the normal barrage of criticism on Tuesday!

At the entry level our two new recruits have also been working hard to get up to speed. Alex will, by the time you read this, have rung his first rounds, i.e. with other people. He is developing a nice style with good control, and hopefully will go on to become a really useful member of the band, as well as contributing at Rumburgh where he lives. Conor, our newest learner, has got off to a flying start, and is not far behind Alex. Both of them show both good aptitude and attitude and, although many hours of one-to-one (or even two-to-one) are required in the early stages, it will not be long before they actually become useful and we start getting some payback.

At the other end of the scale our plan to ring quarter peals in all the standard "Surprise" methods on 6 bells has had another setback with our failure to complete the supposedly straightforward Bourne Surprise Minor at Wissett. Another attempt is scheduled for this month, but some of the "easier" methods are proving to be tricky nuts to crack.

Sunday ringing has seen us at Heveningham, Wissett and Wenhasston in February, with the usual monthly quarter peal on the first Sunday evening at Halesworth successfully scored by a band ringing well within its capabilities.

PJG



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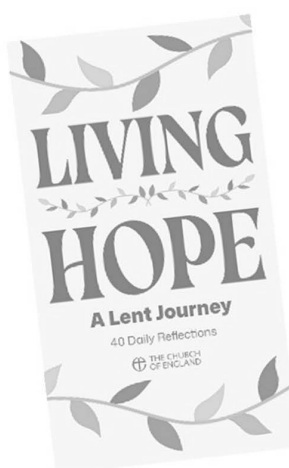
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LIVING HOPE

A Lent Journey



Living Hope invites you to explore the hope God offers us, not wishful thinking, but something real, robust, alive. Each week it considers the idea of hope from a different angle as we journey with Jesus on the road that leads to the cross and beyond, to the transforming hope of Easter Day.

**This book will be used at this years LENT GROUPS,
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ANGEL
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Church Mice Tots

As the winter months have brought a cold chill to the air, we are very grateful to be offered the warm room at the Day Care Centre. This has allowed us to continue to meet in a lovely warm space, play, explore and spend time together.

We continue to welcome new families as we meet every Thursday (term-time) from 11.30am till 1pm.

It is a delight to see the blossoming relationships between parents/carers, but also by the children as they try to negotiate the beginning of making friends! We always try, in our groups, to follow the children's interests, we love the ball pool, and have recently tried some messy play. We did rainbow spaghetti, which is fantastic for our little ones who are starting to move onto solids food and is completely taste safe.

Pauline Milsted



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

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University Choir return in 2025



Last year, I wrote a letter to *BVTimes*, following a visit of the Student Choir of the University of Liberec, in Bohemia, to Halesworth for a concert at St Mary's Church in April.

During its week's stay, the choir visited many schools during the day, and performed concerts in the evenings, mainly in local churches. Its theme last year was the occupation of Bohemia in 1939 by the Germans, and in 1946 by the Russians.

The choir's connection with East Anglia is that their musical director and English teacher is Christopher Muffett, who has strong family links with Southwold. His mother still lives there.

The choir of 27 members, is visiting our area again this year, with a concert in St Mary's Church, Halesworth on Monday 28th April at 6pm. The theme is to be "V E Day" in words and music. As we are also celebrating the 80th Anniversary of V E Day this year, we hope that the choir will add to our own celebrations during this evening.

My wife Fiona and I were so impressed by the concert in St Mary's Church last year, that we also attended their last concert of the week at Sotterley Church.

I can strongly recommend the concert on April 28th to everyone. Admission is free. It will last for slightly over an hour. After the concert, the choir members, average age about 21, are very keen to meet and talk to members of the audience, to improve their English, which already is very good.

Exchanges of people from different countries, especially the young, are to be encouraged, and this year, is very important. Do come!

Bill Pagan



**3rd March 2025
6:30 - 8:30 PM**

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 APCM, 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.

Do get in touch with Dominic (07743 554955. Email: dominic.doble@phonecoop.coop) to find out more. He's waiting for your call!

Voluntary Opportunities across Blyth Valley Churches:

Blyford	Churchwarden	Spexhall	Churchwarden
Bramfield	Churchwarden		Secretary
Chediston	Churchwarden	Thorington	Churchwarden
Cookley	Churchwarden		Secretary
	Secretary	Wenhaston	Churchwarden
	Treasurer	Wissett	Churchwarden
Halesworth	Churchwarden		Treasurer
	Treasurer		
	Project Manager		
	Fundraiser		
Heveningham	Churchwarden		
Holton	Churchwarden		
Huntingfield	Churchwarden		

If you are interested in any of these roles, or in supporting any officers currently serving, please contact Dominic, the Team Rector for an informal discussion.

All Church Councils would benefit from additional contributors.

The Blyth Valley Ministry Team



**The Revd
Dominic Doble**
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*Lead Safeguarding
Officer*

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Associate Priest

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Janet Walkey

01986 872594. Email: janetwalkey@hotmail.com

Blyth Valley Churches

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Blyth Valley Churches Contacts

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Richard Sheldrake: *Treasurer BV Parishes Joint Council*
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Annie Groves: *Administrator Blyth Valley Churches and Clerk to BV Parishes Joint Council*
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Philip Gorrod: *Contact for bell ringers across the Blyth Valley Churches*
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Pauline Milsted: *Children, Family & Youth worker; Communications Officer; Deputy Safeguarding Officer*
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Carolyn Clarke: *BVTimes Magazine Compositor*
Email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

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Chediston	Jo Wareham	07711 066727
Cookley	Jane Evers	01986 785209
Halesworth	Jason Busby	01986 873336
Heveningham	Jeanette Griffin	01986 798280
Holton	John Hewlett Chris Knevett	01986 875913 01986 872467
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Methodist Minister

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The Revd Jon Sermon

URC Minister, Halesworth & Bramfield URC,

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Roman Catholic Priest

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published monthly by

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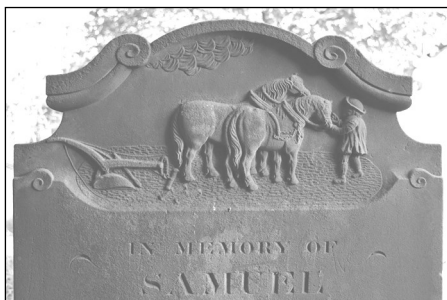


WILD CHURCH BLYFORD

It was cold and wet at the end of January, but wintry weather did not stop Frank Allen and his team from carrying out much needed tree surgery in Blyford churchyard. The trees had not been cut in more than a decade, and their size was causing problems.

On the south side of the church, the shadow cast by trees, hugely overgrown with ivy, was worsening the damp in the church because the walls never fully dried out, even in the summer.

Many graves were overwhelmed by low hanging branches and it is now possible to see one of the most exceptional graves in the churchyard, on the right-hand side, near the gate. This is the grave of Samuel Croft, who died at the age of 21 in 1849; his headstone shows in fine detail a team of two draught horses, a ploughman and his plough.



(Photo: Simon Knott)

Elsewhere in the churchyard, Frank and his team pruned overgrown trees and removed many loads of ivy and dead wood.

The cedar was collapsing under the weight of dead branches and now looks

magnificent (*see photo below*). Frank and his team did a great job, and we strongly recommend a visit to the churchyard to see their work.



We are grateful to Blyford Estate for granting Frank and his crew access to the rear of the churchyard, across estate land. Many thanks also to Rodney Camp who keeps the churchyard neat and tidy by mowing the grass and the paths.

Blyford churchyard is beautiful and peaceful, but at the moment there is nowhere to sit to enjoy it! We are currently seeking grants and donations to install two benches made by a local craftsman. If you can help with this fundraising effort, please get in touch.

Forthcoming Events

Jumble Sale: We are holding a fundraising sale of pre-loved clothes in the church on Saturday 15th March, 11am to 3pm. We shall be in the church on the morning of Saturday 8th March from 10am to 11am to receive donations. Outside that time-slot, you can leave clothes in the church porch (in bags, please).

Work Party: Our first volunteer work party of 2025 will be on Saturday 19th April from 10am to 1pm, with a mid-morning break at the Queen's Head, over the road from the church. Even if you can't lend a hand, call in to say hello if you are passing.

Concert: On Thursday 24th April at 7pm, Blyford Church will be the venue for a Spring Concert with Heartbeat choir and local musicians Karen Thomas and Jane Parker.

Services

Morning services are held at 10am on the third Sunday of the month. All

Saints Blyford is a wild church: we are a congregation that celebrates God in nature. Depending on the weather, part or all of the service may be held in the churchyard. Wrap up warm!

Get in touch

If you would like to know more about All Saints Blyford, please come to an event, join a service, or contact any members of the PCC: Virginia Storey, Charlie Hawkins, John Handley, Martin Clark, Christina Ballinger, or our Team Rector, the Revd Dominic Doble.

Bramfield

Correspondent Alfred Mullett
snowmein@mac.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.



Pat Potts, Memories

The turn of the year saw the passing of Pat Potts, a part of the Bramfield community, and the community around us. The Celebration of Life was held on January 24th at the United Reformed Church. While my direct memories are at best fragmentary as I was still in the states, my parents and our friends all had a fair cornucopia of all the stories of who she was and whose lives she touched. I do remember at the Christmas Fair this year, she was not there, but Paul was, with the whole family, and to see the smiles, and the turkey rolls, them helping make the event a very special time, with what we found out later, is a memory that will stick with me for my time.

One can hope that the memories of who she was and all the lives that were touched in Bramfield, and all the communities around will remain as a communal memory for all of us, and an

inspiration of what each of us can do to make our communities a better place one little thing at a time.

I for one, having also felt the recent losses of ones that were close, would wish to offer Paul and his family a heartfelt thanks and sympathy for sharing their lives with the rest of us through this time. **Alfred Mullett**

It was with great sadness that the village learnt of the death of Pat Potts. She will be badly missed by us all and remembered fondly for all the work she did for the village, especially for the Village Hall and for the United Reformed Church. For many years she was Treasurer of the Village Hall and organised many events. She will be particularly remembered for the Thursday Lunch Club that was much appreciated by some of the older residents. She also organised the Christmas Fair (where her turkey rolls have a special place in many memories) and the Harvest Supper.

Our deepest sympathies go to Paul and the family. **Chris Collins**

Recent Services:

On Sunday 9th February, we had Holy Communion at Bramfield, the Revd Vic conducted the service, and our music was led by Philip at the organ. While our numbers were not large, our voices made the church sing with us. The message that God is there, despite us sometimes forgetting to do the things we should is one to keep close to the heart. If you are in the area on either a Sunday service or for our weekly Thursday morning worship we would love to see any and all who would come.

A thought for the month from my faltering pen:

Any time spent with another being, is always time well spent, it is NEVER a waste. We are there for a purpose, and there to either teach, or learn from the other, or make each other's lives better. Spring is coming, so next month there will be more happening here. **AM**

Chediston

Correspondent Veronica Downing
veronica@veronicadowning.co.uk

COMMUNITY BUS

The Chediston and Linstead Community Bus service to Halesworth runs every Wednesday morning (Market day).

The Market is located in the Market Place in Halesworth offering fresh fish,

fruit and vegetables, bread and much more. Bus pick-up points are: Chediston telephone box at 9.30am, Linstead bus shelter by St Margaret of Antioch at 9.35am, Linstead village hall at 9.40am.

After shopping why not join us for tea and coffee, before the return journey from Halesworth's middle car park, off Saxon's Way, at 11.30am.

Mandy Candler

Cookley

Correspondent Jane Evers
janeeversj@gmail.com

Please put the dates for this year's Country Fair in your diaries; they are Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th June.

Cookley plays a large part in the Fair, so there are lots of opportunities to help whilst enjoying all the activities that are on offer.

Anyone wanting to know more, especially if you are fairly new to the village, please telephone me on 01986 785209 and I shall tell you all about it.

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
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The funeral of Eric Spalding took place on Tuesday 4th February. With hymns including *The Lord's My Shepherd* and *Love Divine*, Psalm 89: 1 – 3 read and organ music from Antonín Dvořák and Henry Walford Davies.

On Friday 7th February many familiar faces from across town gathered as we said farewell to 'the quiet American' John Bainer. *O Lord My God, How Great Thou Art* and *Morning Has Broken* were sung. Dominic read from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 'A time for all things'.

We listened to many pieces of John's favourite music from Fleetwood Mac to Bob Dylan, and Leonard Cohen. May both Eric and John rest in peace and rise in glory.

Did you watch the farewell service to Martin, 11th Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich on the occasion of his retirement back on Sunday 2nd February? If you missed it, you can catch up and watch the service via the Cathedral's YouTube channel. It was a service filled with love, hope, music and votes of thanks. Hymns sung: *Now Thank We All Our God*, then one of my favourite tunes *Coe Fen* sung to *How Shall I Sing That Majesty* and *Love Divine* to the grand Welsh tune *Blaenwern*. The procession left the Cathedral to the magnificent *Choral Improvisation Sur Le Te Deum* by Charles Tournemire, 1870-1939, tr. Maurice Durufle. EPIC! The short version of the Bishop's sermon went like this... "I thank God that I have had the honour and joy of being the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich for

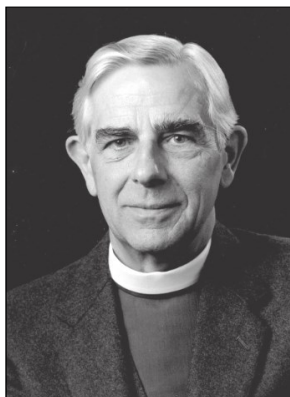


Bishop Martin with his wife, son and daughter, following his farewell service

nearly 10 years and I thank God for each one of you and beseech you to continue to work together in faith and love for the good of this wonderful county". Dean Joe, in his words of thanks, said "So what makes a good Bishop? Good Bishops are parish priests to their dioceses, people and clergy and that is what Martin has been to us these past 10 years". Happy retirement Bishop Martin.

New Electoral Roll for 2025: The Electoral Roll is a list of names and addresses of every person who can vote in the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. It is revised annually, but replaced in its entirety every six years. The current electoral-roll (created in 2019) will be replaced with a brand-new roll this year (2025). WATCH THIS SPACE, the St Mary's electoral roll officer is Jo Thackery, who will be distributing new forms for completion ahead of the annual meeting.

We haven't had a hymn meditation for a while... *Tell Out, My soul, The Greatness Of The Lord* was the most popular hymn written by the late Timothy Dudley-Smith, pictured below.



This hymn was published in over 220 hymn books. Timothy once said "I believe in the future of hymnody because at its best it represents a marriage of truth that hymns are yet musical, melodic, metrical words, by which the word of Christ is carried on wings of song". If you would like a copy of the full hymn meditation, just let me know and I will forward a copy to you.

Finally from me, do keep your diary up to date with all that is coming up at St Mary's. The Friends of St Mary's lunchtime recital season for 2025 begins on Wednesday 12th March, with yours truly on the organ. We welcome the Pakefield Singers back on Saturday 5th April for a concert. The Chediston Art Group return for an Easter Exhibition on April 17th, 18th, 19th and on Monday 28th April the Bohemian

Girls' Choir grace us with beautiful songs and words as they tour Norfolk and Suffolk once again.

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.



HALESWORTH WI

Members joined together in December for our Christmas lunch at the Angel Hotel, which was much enjoyed with good food, noisy chatter and with a rousing chorus of carols, finishing with the 12 days of Christmas, the number of doves and Lords-a-leaping helped by mobile telephone footage, we of course, all remembered the five gold rings.

Our first meeting of 2025 was held on January 17th, when we heard Dani Church, the Southwold ferrywoman, tell us of the history of the Southwold to Walberswick ferry. Dani is the fifth member of the family to carry on the tradition of running the ferry. A ferry was first mentioned in 1236 and it would appear that some sort of method was used to cross the river from then on. We all think of the ferry as one rowing boat, but were surprised to hear of the differing sizes over the years. Steam driven, hand-cranked, chain-driven, pontoon ferries large enough to take carts, horses, cars and even, on one occasion rumour has it, a small elephant. The ferry over the years has transported the Scottish herring girls, soldiers in both wars, some who refused to pay and even the postman from one river bank to the other to deliver the mail. Every ferryman (or woman) has their own dog, which has always proved popular with customers. Now there are now 12 members of staff, all rowers have to have a boat master's licence and adhere to strict rules and regulations. Three young

women are trained and help in holiday times. The ferry runs from April to Christmas and has been mentioned on several television programmes, including *Countryfile*. Their customers range from young to old and have included many famous people. They also now provide an hour long trip up the river, which is also very popular. BP

Heveningham

Correspondent

Jeanette Griffin 01986 798280
stmargarechurch11@gmail.com

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.



We have had a reason to celebrate recently. As you may have seen in recent publications, St Margaret's Church has been awarded the Silver award as part of the A Rocha UK Eco Church scheme. This has been a proud moment for me, as just over a year ago, we struggled to reach Bronze. However, with the dedication and hard work from our PCC and parishioners, we have been able to make changes within the church and we were delighted to be awarded Silver. Part of the process has been to reduce our carbon footprint and to make others aware of changes we can make to become more eco friendly. We will continue to maintain these changes and endeavour to improve on them this year.

Ober the past couple of months we have been very quiet within the church, apart from our monthly services. However, it now seems everything is springing back into life, with the pretty Snowdrops showing their faces along with the daffodils and primroses. There are signs of movement from the bats and I'm sure everything else will start to surface soon. It looks like Spring is just

around the corner. Therefore, I am happy to announce that the Coffee Mornings will start again on March 15th and we will be holding a table sale with gifts for anniversaries, birthdays and Mothers' Day. We have also received many donations of children's books and puzzles and these will also be on sale. Please come along and say 'hi' again.

Dates for your diary

March 9th 10am Family Service
 March 15th 10.30am Coffee Morning and Table Sale
 April 12th 10.30am Coffee Morning
 April 13th 10am Traditional Communion

I look forward to welcoming you all back for our social gatherings and services.

Holton

Correspondent Jill Hewlett
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jill.hewlett1@btinternet.com

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.



Services at St Peter's Church in March

Don't forget to look on page 3 of the *Blyth Valley Times* for the services for the month in St Peter's and in all the churches of the Blyth Valley.

Can I encourage you to worship with our fellow Christians in the villages and at St Mary's Church Halesworth when we haven't got a service in Holton? You will find a warm welcome wherever you go.

March begins with Communion at St Mary's Church, Halesworth on the 2nd and this is an opportunity to not only worship together as a group of churches, but to say "goodbye" and "God speed" to the Revd Gini Williams

as she retires, earlier than she would have hoped, due to ill health. It is also an opportunity to say "thank you" for her ministry among us.

This month we seem to have all sorts of events to advertise which will be happening in the first half of this year, but first up is the **Labyrinth Event** on Monday 3rd March in St Peter's and on the Labyrinth from 2pm until 4pm. The theme for March is "Primrose – harbinger of Spring". I was unable to go to the February meeting which I do regret as I find them very helpful. The theme then was "Beautiful is the Moonrise".

Quiz Night: There is a Quiz night in the Village Hall on Saturday 15th March starting at 7pm for 7.30pm, which will be raising funds for St Peter's Church and the Village Hall. Veronica Mowat is our organiser, along with Alison Cackett from the Village Hall. Tickets will be £5 each, available from the Halesworth Bookshop and from Veronica on 07802 611410. A maximum of six people in a team. The bar will be open, so please buy your drinks as this is the fundraiser for the Village Hall. Bring your own nibbles.

On March 16th, St Peter's will be hosting another **Taize workshop at 4pm and service at 6pm** following on from the successful workshop and service which were held at the end of January. It is a very different style of worship from what we are used to which employs music as an aid to prayer and contemplation. It's worth giving it a try even if you then decide that it is not for you.

St Peter's **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held on Thursday 10th April, 7pm for 7.30pm, in the Church. Come and hear what St Peter's has done during 2024; vote for people to represent you as Parochial Church Council members, as Churchwardens and as a member for us on Joint Council; and lots more.

The Car Boot Sale is on Saturday 3rd May (*provided Chris Knevett has a team of people willing to be on the Paddock by 7.30am!*)

The Car Boot Sale raises in excess of £1000, so is a very important addition to the income of St Peter's. If you feel able to commit to an early start please let Chris know. If there are enough volunteers the Car Boot will go ahead. It would be a great shame if it doesn't happen as it is a great social event in

the calendar of the Church and the village.

On Saturday 5th July, the **Children's Society Coffee Morning and Box Opening** will be held in Church. More details nearer the time.

Saturday and Sunday 12th and 13th July is the **Flower Festival**, with the theme this year "Dances through the Decades", so get your thinking caps on and dust off your ballet pumps!

The PCC is planning to have a **Gift Day** in aid of St Peter's, date to be set.

As you can see there is an awful lot planned, so please put these dates in your diary, on your calendar, or wall chart.

Eco Warriors at St Peter's Church in Holton

Holton churchyard was buzzing with the sound of children and the birds singing their hearts out. We were joined by Nursery and Reception from St Peter's School on February 4th and 6th. This is supporting the children learning about nature and also helping St Peter's Church achieve their Eco Church Award. This month was all about birds as a follow-on from the RSPB Great Big Churchyard Birdwatch and the birds we have already identified and seen.

The children enjoyed making their own bird feeders, in case the birds were hungry this winter. We had a little bird hideout tent, with a range of bird books and binoculars. Reception children did a fantastic pictogram of all of the lovely birds that they saw and applied some fantastic mathematical skills comparing amounts and how many. For example, the bird we saw the most was the Robin. We also enjoyed looking and finding facts out about the birds in a book, for example, a distinctive difference between a Turtle Dove and Collared Dove is that they have a black ring around their neck.

Nursery, particularly, enjoyed making their bird wands and then initiated their own game of hide and seek with their bird wands. It was lovely to watch as they made their little birds peek around the gravestones and tweet and twit twoo. We sang and moved like birds to the song, *Thank You Lord For Birds That Sing!*

We also used the Merlin app to help us identify the birds that we could hear while we had a quiet moment, we heard Robins and Coal Tits.

We cannot wait to welcome the children back again at the beginning of

March for their next Eco Warrior Session.

Pauline Milsted

Huntingfield

Correspondent Sally Clarke
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.



From April, our monthly service will change to the third Sunday in the month, commencing at 11am. This will not be convenient for everyone, but if you are able please come along, a warm welcome awaits you.

If you visit the church other than on a 'Service' day, the door is open from 10.30am to 5.30pm To guide you on your visit, there are guide books and leaflets to purchase, or why not log on to our very own Podcast. This is free and instructions on how to use it are in the church. Perhaps you may prefer a guided tour with our knowledgeable Churchwarden, Emma. For a small donation she will take you around, pointing out areas of interest and showing you some hidden 'gems' To book, call Emma Ward, 01986 785343. If local history is your thing, we invite you to our APCM on Wednesday 26th March at 6pm. Before the meeting in the church, we will have the 'Baptismal' book on display, this dates back to 1870 and is still in use today along with the Village Burial Book. You are welcome to peruse both, they make for fascinating reading.

As always, there are second-hand books to purchase from the back of the church. On Sunday 6th April, 10am - 2pm there will be a Grand Book Sale in Huntingfield Hub. So why not call in to have a browse and a coffee. Finally, Happy Mothers' Day on Sunday 30th March.

Bronze Eco Church Award

St Mary's Huntingfield is the latest of the Blyth Valley Churches to receive an Eco Church Award, being awarded a Bronze award.

Emma Ward, the Churchwarden, shares how achievable it can be for churches to get their bronze award: *"We haven't changed that much; we always do No Mow May. We have sown more wildflowers. We have a bird box. We do regular birdsong walks. We also do a Moth Breakfast in the late summer".*

You can check out upcoming events and dates, on the Blyth Valley Churches website Events page, or in the *BVTimes*. It is wonderful to hear the lovely things that are happening at Huntingfield church and the activities that they are doing as part of their commitment to caring for God's Acre.

Did you know we now have a birdwatch and moth Eco bag? These can be borrowed to support events within the benefice with books, activities and resources/information for all ages. If you would like to borrow these, contact Pauline at: pauline@growingtogetherearlyyears.co.uk

Linstead

Correspondent

Malcolm Heath 01986 785289

www.linstead.suffolk.gov.uk

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE B1123 WHO have been following the progress of our roadworks with bated breath, I am in the happy position of reporting that, to my lay eye, no end is in sight. Works continue at a pace which, if one was in an optimistic frame of mind, could be described as glacial. In fact I think there has been more movement on the glacial moraine at Rockstone, than anywhere else in the valley. I would like at this point to pay tribute to the brave souls who man the barriers each day. With commendable promptitude, they are at their stations before 8am every day and with stoicism and fortitude they defend their barriers against all comers. As barrier-istes, they actually have no connection with the scenes of frantic inactivity that are taking place behind them. They simply man the barricades and deserve our thanks and sympathy. Incidentally, the official estimate for a finish date has been moved (according to a handwritten notice on the 'Road Closed' sign) to 28/02/25. Bearing in mind the

fate of Cassandra, I make no comment on the prediction except, perhaps, 'Dream On!'

WHEN DOES AN INNOVATION MORPH into a tradition? Linstead held its first Big Breakfast in January. The concept was for the village to get together at a time when events were few and days were short. It was decided, in a flash of inspiration, to offer a 'Full English' to the village. As always with a first attempt, the Village Hall Committee wasn't sure if the idea would be popular. Flyers were distributed and the bookings came flying in. 48 breakfasts were cooked and 48 were eaten. We had long tables, reminiscent of the old Harvest Suppers and the event was thoroughly enjoyed. When was the last time you enjoyed black pudding? And a sign of the times, croissants were equally popular! It was hard work and we are so grateful to all who cooked and served and cleared up. I am told that a useful profit was made for Village Hall funds. I do hope that the 'Big Breakfast' does indeed become a tradition.

LINSTEAD WAS DELIGHTED TO HOST A visit from the Rural Coffee Caravan. The caravan (more a minibus) set up an impressive display of the sort of equipment which aids the safety of the elderly and particularly of those living on their own. Not just panic alarms, but also devices for alerting carers if their client had a problem, or for keeping a watch on people, for instance, in their garden, where falls can occur all too easily.

CHEDISTON & LINSTEAD WI MET IN February and heard a talk from PC Amy Yealdham on 'Personal Safety'. She explained the functions of the impressive range of impedimenta that the police carry with them, and told of the developments that have taken place in recent years. Pepper Spray, for instance, has been replaced by a confection which causes less discomfort to the person actually administering the spray. The next meeting of the WI is on March 11th and is their Birthday Lunch. It will be held at the Huntingfield Arms, from 12.30pm. May I, on behalf of us all, wish them many happy returns and hope that their next year is every bit as successful.

NOW AS IS WELL KNOWN, LINSTEAD has, in years gone by, been a veritable hotbed of cerebral ability. The time has come to let our intellects shine forth again and so, please join us for:

**THE GRAND LINSTEAD
QUIZ NIGHT**

**is on Saturday 15th March
at 7pm at Linstead Village Hall.**

Entry Fee £4 per person.
Teams of up to four.
And a prize to the winning team
In aid of Village Hall funds
**Light refreshments provided
but bring your own liquid
brain stimulant.**

**To enter a team, please contact:
Pauline (01986 785347)
or Janet (01986 785289)**

SERVICES IN MARCH COMPRISE Matins on the 9th and Holy Communion on the 23rd.

Please note that we are happy to cater for individual dietary requirements!

Spexhall

Correspondent Keith Noakes
spexhallwoodpecker@gmail.com
*(*Spexhall is thought to be Anglo-Saxon for 'woodpecker')*

**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.




Spring is here!

Woodpecker is SO looking forward to warmer weather. I must be getting old because I think that this winter has seemed particularly very cold and very wet. Anyway, weather is always a good topic for a therapeutic moan. There is so much to moan about in the world at the moment, Woodpecker is looking for any opportunity for a bit of joy.

The application for a grant to repair and restore some of the fabric of St Peter's is in the pipeline: so JOY! These things are never without glitches, but

with our absolutely marvellous Treasurer helping to navigate what is required and a very helpful architect we are in great hands to make the best application we can for grant funding. Building repairs are, as we all know, extremely expensive and we need some sort of grant funding if we are able to do any of the work needed to preserve this lovely ancient building.

We have the Treasurer to thank also for sticking with a plan to pursue our old electricity board for compensation, and in the end the ombudsman was informed. After careful (and patient) work she obtained compensation as well as an additional sum for the delay in its payment. This work takes up her time and energy, and we can't thank her enough.

Lent

Woodpecker likes a bit of a purge in the Spring. A great time to get the nest in order and to prepare for Easter in more spiritual ways. The Ashing Holy Communion on Wed 5th March at St Mary's is a great way to think about my mortality. That always helps to get me focussed on what's important. I'm not here forever (although some say that they feel I have been).

I don't like the idea of having my wings clipped, but have never been to a 'Clipping' service, and Wissett (who like a few traditions) are having their 'usual' service on Shrove Tuesday. Looking forward to a dance around (some) of the church!

There will be a Holy Communion at **St Peter's on Sunday 16th March at 10am**. The purple altar frontal will be on which always means it's time to get down to some serious spiritual business. No alleluias!

On **March 30th, Mothering Sunday, we like to gather at 10am** to think about all that our mothers and carers have done for us. Gratitude is good for the soul. It is a time for the celebration of motherhood today, and a trip down memory lane for those of us who recall the importance of mothers who are no longer with us.

The Village People

No, not the ones at the President of the USA's inauguration, but those who are emerging from their hibernation to arrange some activities for the village in the summer. Watch this space for some exciting new ventures.

Enjoy the daffodils and the spring blossom as it emerges. 700 bulbs were planted around the Village Hall for

Spring. It will be interesting to see how many will emerge, and how many have succumbed to the digging of pesky squirrels. Can't they stick to nuts? May your sap rise to new heights this Spring!

Thorington

Correspondent

Trish Gower 01502 478078
trish@coastal1.plus.com

**St Peter's Church,
Thorington**

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




Thorington is quiet and sleepy still, it is that time of year! Waiting for more snowdrops to appear in the churchyard and then more waiting for Spring flowers, like primroses.

Our PCC meeting was postponed, so there will be updates next month. Everyone is welcome to join us for services as posted on page 3 of *BVTimes*, any queries please ask Trish.

Walpole

Correspondents

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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

The Tractor Day, organised by Arthur Musk, was a huge success with several of our local ladies including our Associate Priest Alison, attempting to drive a straight furrow. The church received a magnificent sum from the event and we are most grateful to Arthur and all his helpers. It was a good day.

I thought I would publish the dates of our fund raising events for 2025 so that folk can put the dates in their diaries.

Mothering Sunday is on March 30th, when there will be Holy Communion and posies for the congregation.

We are serving Easter Teas on Easter Monday 21st April. The Plant Sale is booked for Saturday 17th May. We are providing the teas for the Village Show on August 3rd. The Two St Peter's Quiz will take place on Friday 17th October. There may be other events to be arranged later. If anyone would like to volunteer for any of these events, we would be very pleased.

March Services

(Correct at time of writing)

- 2nd Team Service at Halesworth, 10am
- 9th Joint service with Methodists, St Peter's, 10am
- 16th Holy Communion, 10am
- 23rd Pause for Thought, 10am
- 30th Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday

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.



WENHASTON M U

Christmas cards in February does not seem to be very appropriate, but at our

February meeting we made 240 cards for the prisoners at Highpoint prison, ready for Christmas 2025! It was a very enjoyable afternoon, under the guidance of Sue Norrington who organises the making of these cards for prisoners in the Diocese and we were very grateful to her for coming to our meeting. It was also very rewarding to know that our Christmas cards were being reused in this way.

I should also like to mention that we were extremely pleased to welcome three new members to this meeting!

At our next meeting on March 12th, one of our members, the Revd Margaret Rennard, will lead us with *Thoughts for Lent* and we will be very pleased to welcome anyone who would like to join us for the afternoon. Meeting at the Methodist Chapel at 2.30pm. **Margaret G, 01502 478378**

Wenhaston Walkers

Back to two walks during March.

The first will leave Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am on Tuesday 4th March.

The second walk, led by Ali and David, will take place on Tuesday 18th March, leaving The King's Head, Yoxford IP17 3EX at 10am. Details of lunch will follow.

If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email: ipbigwood@btinternet.com Or telephone 01502 478545.

Heather Phillips

WENHASTON FLOWER CLUB

We didn't meet in February as this month we all enjoyed a social get together for a post Christmas buffet at The Randolph Hotel in Reydon.

We do resume with our regular meetings at Wenhaston Village Hall on Tuesday 4th March at 7.30pm, where we will welcome Wendy Hawkes who will be demonstrating "A Spring Arrangement". The price is still £5 payable on the night, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

For more information please contact Jackie Chenery 01502 478401.

Wissett

Correspondent Mary Pester

01986 835869

marypester@rocketmail.com

Time marches on! How will March come in I wonder?

"In like a Lion out like a Lamb" or "In like a Lamb out like a Lion"?

Let us hope that it is not roaring or pouring in Wissett on Tuesday 4th March at 7pm as that is when we will have our annual service of Clipping. Clip from the old, possibly Anglo Saxon word 'Clyppan' meaning to embrace or clasp. During the service we go outside and, holding hands or maybe each others' outstretched scarves, we show our love for the church by hugging it all the way around the building. Do come so that we can encircle it fully this year.

Afterwards soup and pancakes are served in the Village Hall to complete this happy occasion.

For the weekend of March 15th and 16th, we have a Flower Festival. There will be teas and cakes served and a raffle all to raise money for our much needed repairs to the church building. Hopefully "a host of golden daffodils" and other spring blooms and buds all displayed in jugs! Look out for posters and websites for further information.

Mothering Sunday is the last Sunday of the month, Sunday 30th and our service is at 10am.

We give thanks and celebrate, remember our mothers and all who have mothered us.

There will be a floral gift for mothers after the service and refreshments served as usual. A chance for me to use an interestingly shaped biscuit cutter maybe? A flower, a lamb, a lion or the sun?

March 30th is time to "Spring Forward" as British Summer Time begins, so hopefully we can get outside to frisk and play, (what I call working in the garden) and it will be light until 7pm whatever the weather.

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.



March is an exciting month for Suffolk Libraries!

We begin the month of March by celebrating World Book Day, which falls on Thursday 6th March, so pop into the library to stock up on books and get inspiration for characters to dress up as. Suffolk Libraries Day is on Saturday 22nd March, where we celebrate the important work our libraries do for communities across Suffolk in nurturing children's literacy, tackling isolation and promoting wellbeing. Throughout the month we will be putting on a variety of events and activities to celebrate two very important days of the year, so keep posted on our website and Facebook page!

The Friends of Halesworth Library are starting the World Book Day Celebrations with an afternoon of books, crafts and snacks, organised in cooperation with the Halesworth Bookshop. Join us from 3.30pm, at the library, for an after-school event where all school age children can collect their very own free World Book Day title. Everyone can take the opportunity to browse the books that the library has for junior and young adult readers.

On Thursday 27th March at 2.30pm The Friends of Halesworth Library welcome author Natalie Meg Evans for this month's book talk. Mystery, Murder and Mayhem: The

playful world of crime writing. To celebrate the debut of MURDER AT MERRY BEGGAR'S HALL, Suffolk author Natalie Meg Evans talks in her new guise as mystery writer, Kay Blythe.

If you have little ones at home, join us every Tuesday, 10am-11.30am for our free Rhyme Time & Play session to sing fun songs followed by free play with our toys. We also hold a Time Out group for older people every Wednesday 10am, to make new friends and chat. There are also two sessions of Sociable Sundays on March 9th and 23rd, 10.30am-12.30pm and Board Games Cafe is on March 24th, 2pm-4.30pm, both hosted and run by volunteers of the Friends of Halesworth Library.

You can find advice drop-ins from East Suffolk Council Customer services every Tuesday 10am-4pm and Barclays Bank on Wednesdays 9am-5pm. Citizens Advice have a drop-in every other Tuesday 10am-12pm.

Did you know that the library can deliver books to your home? If you're unable to visit us at the library, one of our volunteers can come to you. Please contact us on 01986 875095 for further information.

Catherine Draper

HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

The committee and volunteers would like to thank everyone who came along to our Jumble Sale at Holton & Blyford Village Hall on Saturday 8th February. We were so pleased to welcome some familiar faces and delighted to see some new ones. We are so grateful for your generosity at our events and the Jumble Sale raised a fantastic £1324.94 for the vital work carried out by Cancer Research UK.

Thank you to Halesworth Co-op for their continued support by providing a hamper for our raffle, which was won by Ms M Pettit. Our 2nd prize was won by committee member Debbie and 3rd prize was won by Mr B Hammond. Congratulations to them and thank you to everyone who took part.

Thank you to everyone who baked the delicious cakes and savouries for our refreshments and to everyone who helped with the marathon task of setting up the jumble sale. Thank you to everyone who donated items for the sale, it wouldn't be possible without you and we are grateful for your support. Our next event is our Big Breakfast In Holton & Blyford Village Hall on March 22nd (please see our advert on page 29). We will be serving a full English breakfast with fruit juice, tea/coffee and toast with jam or marmalade, sausage or bacon baps, beans on toast. We will also have a raffle, cake stall and a gift/Easter stall.

We extend an invitation and warm welcome to everyone and hope you will join us.

It is with much sadness that we have to say that one of our

lovely gentleman volunteers has passed away and we send all our love and sympathy to his family.

We also send our love and positive thoughts to one of our committee members as she begins her cancer treatment.

Please continue to support us as we raise funds for Cancer Research.

For more information please contact Dawn Davis on 01986 873640.

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What is 'The Coat of Hopes'? When is it coming to Suffolk?

The Coat of Hopes is a patchwork coat on an ongoing walking pilgrimage through the UK, hoping to focus people's minds on the climate and ecological emergency.

The coat was created in 2021, to be carried from the south coast of England to Glasgow for the COP26 climate conference. It has been made by and worn and walked by many hundreds of people on a journey on foot of around 1500 miles so far.

All who encounter it are invited to wear it and (whilst the coat song is sung) take a moment to be conscious of themselves at this time, standing in connection with all those who have made or worn the coat before them and with the life and land it has witnessed on its way.

When the coat went through Derbyshire last year this is what appeared on the BBC News website: *Margaret Roberts took part when the walk went through Derbyshire last year and also joined the first journey three years ago. She said "I really love the coat. When you put it on you feel its weight and the weight of the responsibility that you're carrying.*

"Each of the patches represents somebody's hopes and dreams and thoughts and love for the place they come from, and their concern about what will happen in our future climate catastrophe."

Barbara Cunningham, who also walked with the coat in Derbyshire said: "When I heard that the coat was coming I thought this would be a way of talking to people and engaging people's interest in a new and different way.

We've read about the coat - to be with it and wear it is really exciting. There is something empowering about it."




The coat will be in Norwich from February 28th - March 22nd, from March 23rd-26th will be going to Lowestoft, then on April starts its journey to Ipswich, calling at Wrentham on April 7th and Halesworth on April 8th. The full itinerary is on the coat of hopes website.

The organisers welcome people making contact if they would like to walk with the coat or could act as hosts, whether churches or individuals. People are welcome to contribute a new patch, but due to space constraints these must be about the size of a 50p piece (any shape).


The email contact is: yes@coatofhopes.uk and the website address is: <https://www.coatofhopes.uk/>

Or, if you want to contact someone locally, you could speak to Jim Green (jimpiecrust@phonecoop.coop) or Sue Green (suegreen99@hotmail.co.uk).



Enriching music in worship

St Edmundsbury
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A vibrant workshop for all who enjoy
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Saturday 8 March 2025
10am – 4pm

St Mary's Church, Halesworth

From Tallis to Townend – an enthralling musical journey through Christian worship music. Explore a wealth of eclectic styles, from the music of the early church to the vibrant sounds of today's worship. Something for everyone!

Led by Richard Hubbard
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Tickets £10 from stedscathedral.org/inharmony



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2025 LUNCHTIME RECITAL SERIES

WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH 12.30PM

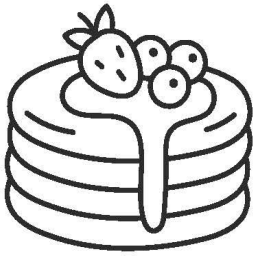
Organ Recital given by Jason Busby



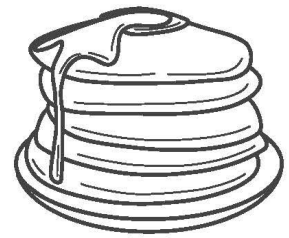


Light refreshments served from 12noon or
bring your own picnic lunch

Free admission with retiring collection for the
Regeneration of St. Mary's Church
Contactless giving available



Kids' Page



What is Shrove Tuesday?

A day of feast and preparation before Lent begins.

At Lent Christians often fast or give something up for 40 days to remember when Jesus went into the desert for 40 days.

Draw your favourite pancake topping!

Why do we eat pancakes?

The tradition of eating pancakes was so that people used up all the ingredients in their cupboard before Lent started.

Pancake Day Word SCRAMBLE

GECS

RFOUL

LKMI

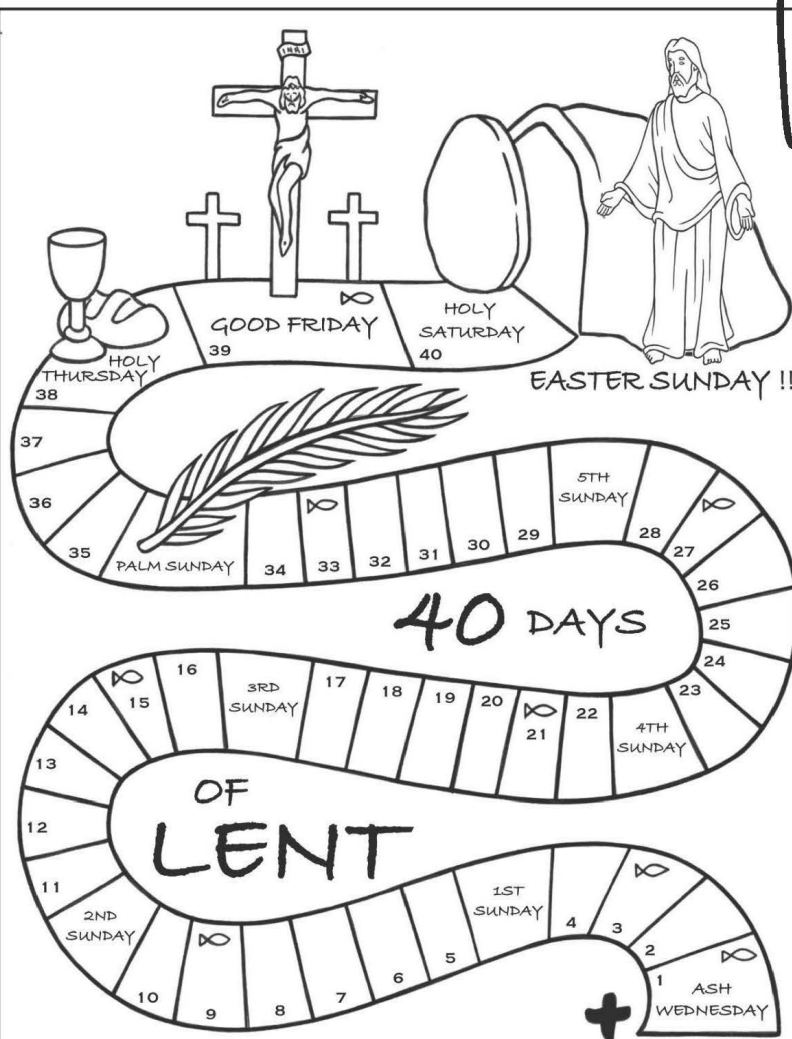
TNEL

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Colour in the days to count them for giving up something this Lent.



MUSIC FOR PASSIONTIDE

Haydn's Stabat Mater

Handel's Messiah

Conductor **Vetta Wise**

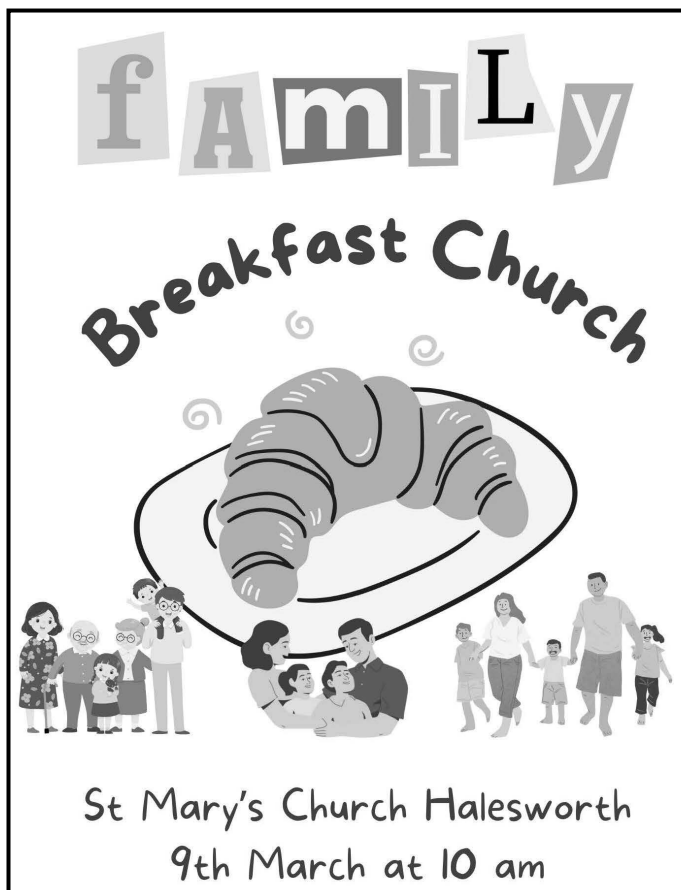
Saturday 5th April 2025 – 7.30pm

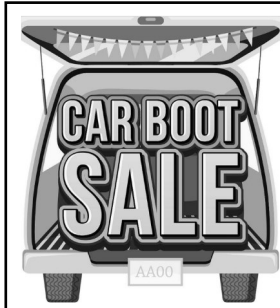
St Mary's Church, Halesworth

Tickets £15

For more information and how to buy tickets see

www.pakefieldsingers.com



**SATURDAY 3rd MAY****10am - 1pm****Holton Church Paddock**

Refreshments. Barbecue

Pitches £6 in advance

£8 on the day

Bookings: 07944 267733**01986 872467****HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH****BIG BREAKFAST****SATURDAY 22nd MARCH, 9.30am - 1pm****HOLTON & BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL,****LODGE ROAD, HOLTON IP19 8RZ****Cake stall, Raffle,****Nearly New Stall**

Special Film Matinee of MRS HENDERSON PRESENTS

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*Please do support us
and enjoy this
biographical musical
comedy-drama film*

WHAT'S ON

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 15th March**11am - 3pm****All Saints Church Blyford****opposite the****Blyford Queen's Head.****Donations Welcome****07786 292 145**

? QUIZ NIGHT ?

Do you have what it takes to be the ultimate quiz champion? Then, gather your friends and join us for Quiz Night at Holton and Blyford Village Hall. This is your chance to show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition.

There will be a fully stocked bar and we ask that people do not bring their own drinks, but feel free to bring your own nibbles. There will also be a raffle on the night.

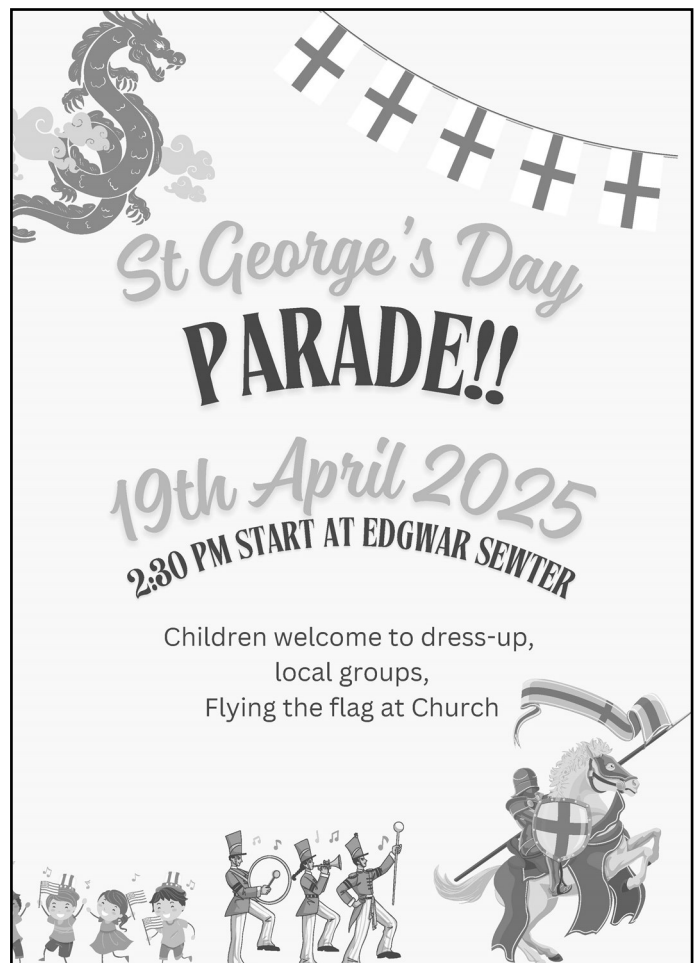
Saturday 15th March 2025

**7 pm for 7:30 pm start
Holton and Blyford Village Hall**

Joint Fundraiser Between Hall and Holton Church**EVERYONE WELCOME**

£5 per person tickets (cash only) can be purchased from Halesworth Bookshop, Alison Cackett, or Veronica Mowat.

All money raised will be in aid of Holton and Blyford Village Hall and St Peter's Church, Holton.





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The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin Halesworth

2025 concert / events highlights

Saturday, 8th March

10am - 4pm

Wednesday, 12 March

12noon for 12.30pm

Saturday, 5th April

7.30pm

Sunday, 13th April

9.45 for 10am

17th, 18th, 19th April

10am-4pm each day

Sunday, 20th April

2.30pm for 3pm

Sunday, 27th April

Time TBC

Monday, 28th April

6pm

Sunday, 18th May

6pm

Sunday, 25th May

3pm

Wednesday, 13th August

12 for 12.30pm

Sunday, 5th October

10am

TBC

(likely in November)

Sunday, 9th November

3pm

A SPECTRUM OF SONG - OPEN TO ALL

A vibrant workshop for all who enjoy singing music for worship
Tickets £10 from www.stedscathedral.org/inharmony

2025 Lunchtime Recital Series opens with an Organ Recital given by Jason Busby

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

PAKEFIELD SINGERS CONCERT

Music for Passiontide from Haydn's Stabat Mater and Handel's Messiah
Tickets £15 from Halesworth Book Shop

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

The procession leaves the library at 9.45am up to St. Mary's
for a 10am Holy Communion Service

CHEDISTON ART EXHIBITION

A three day art exhibition in St. Mary's during Holy Week

ST GEORGE'S DAY PARADE & CIVIC SERVICE

A 2.30pm procession through town from the Library up to St. Mary's
for a 3pm CIVIC SERVICE

INK FESTIVAL QUIZ NIGHT

Watch this space for more details

THE BOHEMIAN GIRLS CHOIR - Free entry, retiring collection

We welcome back to St. Mary's the stunning voices of The Bohemian Choir
under director Jana Konvalinkova

Choral Evensong by Martyn Bagnalls singing group Jubilate

Join us for a special Choral Evensong Service

Come to the Fair

We welcome back Malcolm & Elizabeth of CHANTERS JIGGE for an
afternoon concert - Tickets £10 on the door

CONCERT PIANIST JILL CROSSLAND PERFORMS- FIRST RECITAL APPEARANCE

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

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Join us for a 10am Harvest Festival Service followed by
a community lunch in St. Mary's - EVERYONE IS INVITED

SILENT FILM NIGHT

The Phantom of the Opera - with Tom Horton on the organ
Tickets £10 on the door

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PARADE & SERVICE

Parade leaves Coopers at 2.30pm for a 3pm service followed
by the act of Remembrance round the arboretum

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