



# Blyth Valley Times

A Service of the Church for our Local Communities

November 2024

Volume 45

Issue 11

£1

(where sold)

## Halesworth Climate Action Conference II

During the weekend of September 27th, 28th and 29th, St Mary's Halesworth played host to the *Halesworth Climate Action Conference II* which was an even greater flourishing of last year's event, with more people attending (farmers, landowners and tillers of land were spied in the audience) and focused content, Land and Food.

It was a huge success, from the exhibition, to the animated panel, with a FULL church on the Friday evening, to the conference itself on the Saturday.

The discussion 'What Next' which followed the morning service on the Sunday, where we welcomed Agricultural Chaplain Graham Miles, was well supported. Graham spoke very passionately about his work which takes him across Suffolk supporting farmers.

THANK YOU to everyone involved and for being flexible in allowing the church to be taken over by Halesworth ASH.

You can catch-up with the Friday panel discussion and the Sunday service by visiting our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/@halesworthparish](http://www.youtube.com/@halesworthparish)

Jason Busby



**Blyth Valley Times is published monthly by Blyth Valley Churches.**

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## St. Mary's Church Halesworth

WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE



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

## November 2024 Lectionary for Traditional and Holy Communion only.

Please refer to the lectionary for other services e.g. Daily Office (Morning Prayer).

### Sunday 3rd

**Traditional Communion (KJV) –  
Twenty-third After Trinity (Green)**

Philippians 3: 17 – end  
Matthew 22: 15 - 22

**Holy Communion (NRSV) –  
All Saints (White or Gold)**

Revelation 21: 1 – 6  
John 11: 32 – 44

### Sunday 10th

**Traditional Communion (KJV) –  
Twenty-fourth After Trinity (Green)**

Colossians 1: 3 – 12  
Matthew 9: 18 – 26

**Holy Communion (NRSV) –  
Remembrance Sunday (Red)**

Hebrews 9: 24 – end  
Mark 1: 14 – 20

### Sunday 17th

**Traditional Communion (KJV) –  
Twenty-fifth After Trinity (Green)**

Romans 13: 1 – 7  
Matthew 8: 23 – end

**Holy Communion (NRSV) –  
Second Before Advent (Red)**

Hebrews 10: 11 – 25  
Mark 13: 1 – 8

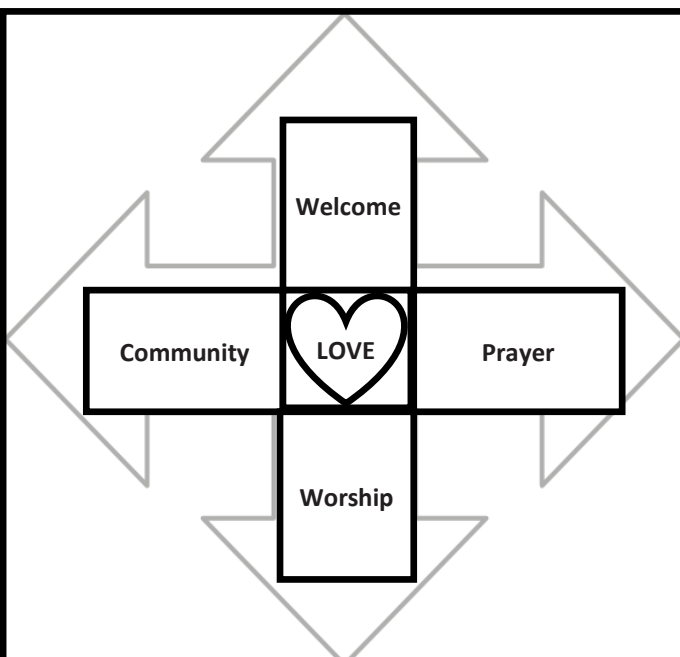
### Sunday 24th

**Traditional Communion (KJV) –  
Next Before Advent (Green)**

Jeremiah 23: 5 – 8  
John 6: 5 – 14

**Holy Communion (NRSV) –  
Christ the King (Red)**

Revelation 1: 4 – 8  
John 18: 33 – 37



Worship in the Blyth Valley in November 2024				
CW – Year B Continuous CW	3rd CW – All Saints White or Gold BCP – 23rd After Trinity Green	10th CW – Remembrance, Red BCP - 24th After Trinity Green	17th CW – Second Before Advent, Red BCP – 25th After Trinity Green	24th CW – Christ the King, Red BCP - Next Before Advent, Green
Halesworth St Mary	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am Holy Communion Dominic  6pm Remembering Loved Ones Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  2.30pm Procession 3pm Remembrance Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am Holy Communion Alison A  6pm Evensong Dominic	8am Traditional Communion Dominic  10am Iona Worship Jason  6pm Evensong Dominic
St Peter Group				
Holton St Peter		10.50am Remembrance Memorial then Church Gini	10am Iona Worship Jim	10am Holy Communion Alison A
Wenhaston St Peter		10.50am Remembrance at Memorial Alison A	10am Holy Communion Linda	10am Pause for Thought Dominic
Bramfield St Andrew		10.50am Remembrance Jason		
Blyford All Saints			10am Wild Church	
Thorington St Peter				10am Morning Prayer Gini
St Andrew Grp				
Wissett St Andrew		10.50am Remembrance Linda	10am Holy Communion Gini	10am Breakfast Church David
Chediston St Mary		10.50am Remembrance Memorial then Church Veronica D		10am Morning Prayer Linda
Spexhall St Peter		10.50am Remembrance then Church Keith		
Linstead St Margaret		10am Remembrance Malcolm		10am Holy Communion Vic
St Michael Grp				
Cookley St Michael			9.30am Traditional Communion Desmond	
Heveningham St Margaret		10.50am Remembrance David		
Huntingfield St Mary		10.50am Remembrance at Village Green Alison C	10am Morning Prayer Dominic	
Walpole St Mary		10.50am Remembrance Vic		

Additional Services: 9.30am Thursdays, Morning Prayer St Andrew's Bramfield.  
6pm Saturday 30th St Andrew's Day St Andrew's Bramfield Dominic.

## Wenhaston Methodist Church

Coles Lane, Wenhaston

Minister: The Revd Martin Keenan

### NOVEMBER 2024

3rd The Revd Iain McKillop  
 10th 10.50am VH Car Park (US)  
 17th The Revd Robert Soanes HC  
 24th Mrs Laura Lawrance-Martin

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am  
*(unless stated otherwise)*

ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

## St Edmund King & Martyr

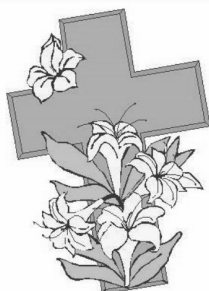
Roman Catholic Church,  
 Church Farm Lane, Halesworth

Father Christopher Smith

Tel: 01502 723207

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

*Please enquire about our Service times and details*



## Morning and Evening Prayer

with the Revd Dominic Doble,  
 from Tuesdays to Saturdays

(Live streamed and later audio on Dominic's  
 YouTube channel).

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 for OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Sunday 27th 11am Gathered Worship  
 Tuesday 29th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at  
 Lowestoft followed by Morning Worship  
 Friday 1st 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and  
 Zoom followed by Coffee Morning  
 Sunday 3rd 11am Gathered Worship with Communion  
 Minister Jon Sermon  
 Tuesday 5th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft  
 followed by Morning Worship  
 Friday 8th 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and  
 Zoom followed by Coffee Morning  
 Sunday 10th 11am "Remembrance Sunday" Gathered  
 Worship. Minister Jon Sermon  
 Tuesday 12th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft  
 followed by Morning Worship  
 Friday 15th 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and  
 Zoom followed by Coffee Morning  
 Sunday 17th 11am Gathered Worship TBA  
 3pm Bramfield Chapel- Harvest Service  
 Minister Jon Sermon  
 Tuesday 19th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at Lowestoft  
 followed by Morning Worship  
 Friday 22nd 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and  
 Zoom followed by Coffee Morning  
 Sunday 24th 11am Gathered Worship TBA  
 Tuesday 26th 10am to 12 noon Coffee morning at  
 Lowestoft followed by Morning Worship  
 2.30pm Elders' Meeting  
 Friday 29th 9.30am Prayer Meeting in the Church and  
 Zoom followed by Coffee Morning

Jon Sermon: 01986 873761 [pastorjonsermon@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjonsermon@gmail.com)

Judy Morton: 01502 724572

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

Elizabeth Aslett 07710 916737 (for families and children)

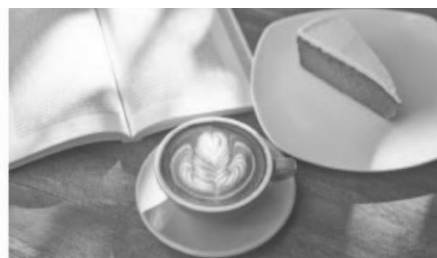
[familyhurc@gmail.com](mailto:familyhurc@gmail.com)



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 Alison Alder at:  
[revalialder@gmail.com](mailto:revalialder@gmail.com)

or

The Revd Linda Berry at:  
[revd.linda@huntingfield.uk](mailto:revd.linda@huntingfield.uk)



## From the Rector...

The Archdeacon of Sudbury, David Jenkins, opened a session of June's Diocesan Synod with a list of the three things that drew him to the Church of England. Alongside the medieval buildings, and Betjeman's poems was Choral Evensong. My first experience of Evensong came as a result of realising one of my life time ambitions as an eight year old. That was joining the church choir. Prior to that moment I had merely attended the 9.30am Prayer Book Communion at Holy Trinity, Cookham, first just with my parents and latterly with my sister. Subsequently, a benefit alongside the pocket money we got for singing at weddings, was singing evensong. A particular joy were the seasonal variations that were employed from time to time for Amens and the like replacing the plagal cadences of Ordinary Time. These added delightful extended twiddly bits of a kind otherwise only experienced annually at Christmas when singing Ding Dong Merrily on High!

So what it is evensong exactly? Well, it is pretty much what it says on the tin. Its singing in the evening. More specifically: singing prayers. Back in the day as Christianity grew and developed within and beyond Judaism, the Jewish habit of praying at morning and evening became a habitual norm in believing households across the middle east, Europe and beyond. As groups of families or singles got together in religious houses or communities, they tended to nurture their collective prayer life. Extra prayer times or hours were added, perhaps at the same sort of time as Islamic rhythms of daily prayer became established. The liturgies, or words, used by these collectives then fed back to the wider public in Christian places. In England, Cranmer concatenated vespers (prayers for the evening) and compline (prayers for completion) as used in Sarum (Salisbury Diocese) to create Evensong in his universal Book of Common Prayer that we still use today. It is because it is two services in one that it seems to start and stop twice, with two Lord's Prayers, two sets of canticles and two lessons or Bible readings. It usually also has room for four hymns and or an anthem. In 2000, the Church of England brought out a modern language version which we call Evening Prayer to avoid confusion.

That may not sound like your bag, but I'd recommend you give it a try. Like eating your greens, it'll do you good! I would say that November is an excellent month to dip your toe in the water of Evensong. With the dark and chill of the nights drawing in, we are in the evening of the year. Those long evenings, give us opportunity to remember friends, colleagues and family who have died. Some of us may be in the evening of our lives and look back to when we were less frail or less frightened. These days one need not be old to be anxious for life as we look at the breakdown of

international law in the middle east and elsewhere, climate breakdown and ecocide. Restoring the ancient habit of prayer can punctuate a rhythm of life with faith, hope and love. It can mark our progress towards death or remission, or sustain recovery, amidst chaos. The traditional language of evensong adds a transcendent, liminal, timeless, quality to words pregnant with the gravitas of the spirituality of closure.

'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation...'

All this presents a real ingredient for a good death. Which in itself is a real ingredient for a good life. Incidentally, we are here, like the Pear Tree Centre and our excellent funeral directors in the town, to help you make the spiritual and practical preparations you and your family may need to be considering at this time.

The one draw back of inviting you now is that we have just finished our tour of the parishes which may begin again in March. I continue to read the service with hymns 6pm most Sundays at St Mary's, Halesworth, though. Like our fifth Sunday Holy Communion it is otherwise peripatetic travelling round our outlying parish communities, but on second Sundays. The tour gives an excellent opportunity to invite friends and neighbours to something slightly special. Something that may remind them of days gone by when their own curate and choir would have, no doubt, sung Sunday by Sunday. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in helping us keep the tradition alive do get in touch. Sadly, our excellent Karen is stepping down from coaching our choir, (thank you, you've been great!). We need someone to take it on. It is not robed. There's no membership fee. We do not audition. We borrow and lend our singers to and from a number of other choirs in and around the town. We are not all card carrying churchgoers. What we are is a friendly bunch who share lifts, a love of singing and what we will of the lives we live at other times.

Good evening. And, God bless!

Dominic

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## HALESWORTH & BRAMFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Rev'd Jon Sermon – Minister

Dear Friends,

Like other churches, we have recently celebrated Harvest. It is so good to remember God's goodness to us in so many ways!

We express gratitude for God's provision of food and the weather conditions needed for the crops. We are also reminded of our call to care for God's wonderful creation - an appropriate emphasis for the Harvest season. Alongside both of these themes, we have also been reflecting on the gifts that enable us, whether musical or artistic talents, practical abilities or indeed, spiritual gifting.

In the URC, as with other denominations, our history has

fallen into a pattern of downplaying or ignoring the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This pattern is typical of church in Western cultures, but I see a huge contrast in the churches of Africa! Whereas we may be struggling to re-capture what our received worldview has diminished – the spiritual side of life, Ugandans, Kenyans and other Africans tend to be far more open: They expect God to be involved in their lives, but often, also other less desirable spiritual influences and powers.

My travels in Uganda over the years have revealed a spiritual openness, too often coupled with a tendency to look in the wrong places for spiritual experience. And this is reflected to some extent more recently in our culture, with the rise of the 'New Age' movement and the continued interest in mediums etc.

Yet many, even in churches, here in the UK seem not to acknowledge spiritual reality at all – perhaps part of the legacy of "Enlightenment" thinking? The Apostle Paul wrote "About spiritual gifts, I do not want you to be ignorant" (1 Corinthians 12:1) in a section where he goes on to list some of the Gifts of the Spirit. (This is one of four occasions he does so, 1 Cor 12: 7-11, then v27-31, Romans 12: 1-11 & Ephesians 4:11-14).

Studying and understanding this teaching, along with the promises Jesus made (especially John 14:15-17, 25-27 & Acts 1:5-8) and the way we see the early church putting this into practice throughout Acts can open us to experience more of what God intends.

One upcoming opportunity to explore this further is through:



The Dunamis ministry, which I and several others from our congregation are involved with, offers on-line ways of accessing the equipping Jesus wants to give His church, including Virtual Upper Room events.

The next one is Thursday 14th November @ 3pm. I am teaching at it. Go to: [www.dunamis.org.uk](http://www.dunamis.org.uk) for details, including a five minute video explaining the Virtual Upper Room. And it is necessary to book to receive an invitation & Zoom link. So checking diaries and registering now is appropriate.

Remembering that the equipping Jesus promised His followers came to fruition as they were gathered in an upper room on the Day of Pentecost, this event helps us connect with that experience and receive refreshing.

Blessings

*Jon*

**Rev'd Jon Sermon,**  
**Minister of Halesworth & Bramfield URC**  
**and North Lowestoft URC**  
*also Chair of Trustees: Romans 1.11 Trust*



### SERVICES AT ST MARY'S, HALESWORTH

10am Holy Communion, every Wednesday.

8am Traditional Communion, every Sunday.

6pm Evensong, most Sundays.

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## What has your Team Vicar been up to?

November already and my retirement, which was feeling far off, is now drawing near at alarming speed. I still have at least three months to go but I am trying to leave things in order and with a strong foundation to be built on in future. But I am making the mistake of thinking I am in

control! I need to do what I can and accept that so much of what I have been involved in starting will be completed by others. Some things will naturally come to a close, some will carry on and grow and new things will be done. We have been in the season of Harvest Festivals where we consider the awesome nature of God's creation, bringing order out of chaos. Holding a Wild Harvest Festival service in Blyford was a first for me, celebrating all the things that we take for granted, gifts freely given - all we have to do is take a little time to notice and be thankful. His ways are not our ways. So as I run around getting exhausted trying to dot all my 'i's and cross all my 't's, I am having to have a little word with myself.

One thing I am sure of is that God is at work in this place and all sorts of things will be happening as we carry on noticing and joining in. This time last year we did not have a regular family service going on, now we have regular services and events throughout the year, too many to mention here. We have been awarded two more grants in addition to the one we received for setting up the Church Mice Tots' Group: one from Halesworth Town Council for

the Youth Space and a large three-year grant which has enabled us to employ Pauline Milsted as a Young People and Families' worker for two days a week over the next three years. You can find out more about Pauline as she has written an article in this edition of *BVTimes*. This is really wonderful news, giving the team the opportunity to invest in our local families and young people. Prayers and volunteers always welcome.

I had the privilege of taking two funerals and baptising four children from the same family in October. It is one of the most fulfilling parts of my role, accompanying people though the most intense times of their lives. It is invariably humbling and always educational. Having been ordained as a priest, it will be possible to continue this ministry into my retirement which makes the decision to retire easier for me. On top of that it is my absolute joy to be preparing four people for confirmation, three of whom will also be baptised. Witnessing how God draws people to Himself in so many different ways is quite extraordinary. It feels like a most excellent retirement gift!

With love and blessings, as always,  
**Revd Gini**

### LIFE EVENTS

#### FROM THE REGISTERS IN OCTOBER

##### BAPTISMS

Jood Danyal, Katie Sabah Danyal, Olivia Sabah Danyal and Athraa Saqat at St Mary's Halesworth.

Kaden Lenni Polley at St Mary's Halesworth

##### FUNERALS/INTERMENT OF ASHES

Susan Everett at Halesworth

Allan Bolderston at Wissett

Joan Crisell at Waveney Memorial Park

Boris Faulconbridge at Wissett

Benjamin Clarke at Cookley



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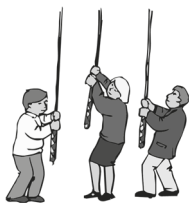


### TOWN REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

*Lest We Forget*

10th November 2024  
 2:30 pm for 3 pm





## From the Ringing Chamber

In this column I often talk about quarter peals we have rung, or failed to ring, but what does that mean? I will try and give a flavour of what I'm talking about!

Just as a recap, historically a peal is defined as the number of possible combinations it is possible to get on seven bells, the eighth bell ringing last every time. One starts with rounds, 12345678, the descending scale, and then, on the command "Go...(name of pattern or "method")", at the next stroke the bells start to change their order, following a predetermined pattern. It might start like this:

12345678  
21436578  
24163758  
42617358  
46271538  
64725138  
67452318

In this example of changes on seven bells, the eighth bell, the tenor, is ringing last every time to provide a bit of stability. None of the other bells stay in the same place for more than (at the most) four "blows" and no bell moves more than one

place in the sequence at each blow, from which you can see that adjacent pairs swap places each time. With seven bells changing, one bell at least has to stay still each time (because 7 is not divisible by 2 – there are just 3 adjacent pairs. Incidentally that is why changes of seven bells are called "Triples").

The maximum number of possible orders is 7! (7 factorial) or  $7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 5,040$ . The first "true" peal of 5,040 different orders was rung in Norwich in 1715. "True" means that no order is repeated: before the Norwich landmark 5,040 rows had been rung, but it had subsequently been discovered that the composition used to achieve this was "false", i.e. there had been a repeat of some of the rows, and consequently some rows had been left out.

It is of course impossible for a listener to tell whether there has been a repeated row, so one relies on the integrity of the ringers not to publish a performance that is false. Publish! Yes, every successful peal, or quarter of a peal, is published on *Bellboard*, <https://bb.ringingworld.co.uk/> which is a great way to find out what your friends have been up to, where and with whom!

A peal takes on average about three hours to complete, and a quarter peal, therefore, about forty-five minutes. It is rare for a peal or quarter to be completed with no mistakes at all, but provided the error is corrected immediately that is deemed to be acceptable. Three hours is a long time to ring non-stop, but forty-five minutes is manageable even for us oldies. Hence we ring quite a few quarter peals ("quarters"). At Wissett recently we were trying to ring a quarter using a pattern ("method") called Netherseale Surprise Minor. "Surprise" is the name given to a category of difficult methods, so quite a challenge. Minor means that six bells were changing places every time. After about 20 minutes there was something of a fracas as people lost concentration, and about a minute later I realised that two bells had swapped places from where they should have been, so called a halt. We'll try again another day.

If you didn't lose a few then the achievement would be purely an endurance issue, and on nice easy bells like Wissett that wouldn't count for much. When we are successful, such as at St Mary's recently, the Bellboard entry looks like this:

On Sunday, 6th October 2024 in 47 minutes

Halesworth, Suffolk, St Mary

Tenor: 18–0–25 in E

1274 Plain Bob Triples

- 1 Judith Raven
- 2 Philip Gorrod (C)
- 3 Erika Clarke
- 4 Chrissie Pickup
- 5 Veronica Downing
- 6 Adrian Edwards
- 7 Peter Lock
- 8 Jonathan Iles

Well done us!

PJG

### Heath's Room

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





# Halesworth Dementia Carers' Fund

## Volunteer Day

On Friday 15th November the HDCF will be holding a Volunteer Day at the Co-op Community Room. It will be run in conjunction with representatives of Halesworth Volunteers. The aim of the afternoon is to talk about what we do, and to talk about ways that you may be to help in volunteering. The afternoon will run from 2pm – 5.30pm. HDCF now runs a series of activities each week. It is also developing a Befriending Scheme. These rely very much on volunteers, so if you are able to help, we would love to see you there.

## Film

On Wednesday 20th November, there will be a special film matinee of *Thelma*, starring June Squibb, Fred Hechinger, Richard Roundtree, Clark Gregg, Parker Posey and Malcolm McDowell at The Cut, Halesworth. Doors open at 1.30pm for 2pm start. Entrance by £5 donation.

## Musical Spectacular

On Saturday 7th December we shall be holding a musical spectacular at Holton & Blyford Village Hall, beginning at

7.30pm. There will be a variety of fabulous music and dancing acts, and it promises to be a great evening. Tickets are £10 and are available from Hetty's Little Copy Shop or by calling 01986 835859.

There will be a bar and grand raffle, and all proceeds will be going to HDCF.

And finally... We are very grateful to everyone who donates to us. Running our respite scheme and activities costs a lot of money. If you would like to donate to us, please note that we are a totally different charity from Diabetes UK and the Pear Tree Fund. Thank you.

John Wood



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

## NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich is pleased to announce that the Revd Alison Alder: Associate Priest at Blyth Valley Benefices, has been appointed as Honorary Canon of the Cathedral Church of St James and St Edmund, Bury St Edmunds in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

Alison's installation will take place at the Cathedral on November 17th at 3.30pm.



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Excerpts from  
Transformation Now  
October 2024. No 57.  
www.musuffolk.org.uk  
Charity No 249726

**Council meeting: Monday 4th November 2024, 10am. Shepherds Drive Baptist Church, Ipswich IP8 3SL.** Guest speaker – Kathryn Anderson, outgoing Provincial President. All members are welcome! This will be the last event for Linda Ginn as our Diocesan President. We will also be thanking the following people for their wonderful service during the last two triennium: Beryl Mee as Diocesan Secretary, Val Jeffreys Trustee and AFIA Rep, Sue Norrington Trustee and Diocesan Members Rep, Sandra Griffiths Trustee and Ipswich Area Rep, and Janice Brett as Worldwide Contact.

**A new approach for the next triennium.** Due to the fact that no-one has come forward for essential roles of Diocesan Treasurer and Diocesan Secretary, Trustees have structured each of these roles so that they can be held as job share arrangement for the next triennium. The Diocesan Treasurer roles will now be shared between Amanda Langan as Diocesan Finance Officer and Rob Shackleton as Diocesan Accounts Officer. Ruth Dennigan has volunteered to be the Diocesan Minute secretary.

**We urgently need to fill the following roles: Diocesan Correspondence Secretary, Worldwide Contact, AFIA rep, Prison Contact, General Trustee.** AFIA is one of the funds that Mothers' Union members value the most and this year families have had much needed breaks thanks to your fund raising. This role could be held by two people from the same branch working together and supporting each other. The new prison chaplain at HMP Highpoint is keen to work with Mothers' Union with several potential projects. We just need someone to be the main contact point and co-ordinator of this work.

The Worldwide Contact is the link person for our worldwide link dioceses and this again could be a role shared between two people. Do you have a prayerful heart for the work overseas?

We are still looking for a General Trustee, ideally from the North Suffolk area.

The Holy Spirit will enable you to fulfill any role you hear God calling you to, if you would just step forward and offer yourself. Please contact Jeanette Appleton for more information and a chat about any of the vacant roles.

**Illiteracy Doesn't Make Sense.** 40 million women around the world can't read and write? Despite today's incredible technology, it doesn't make sense that millions of people are illiterate.

Millions of adults can't register the birth of their child, read a medicine packet, or apply for a job. They are excluded from so much. Illiteracy doesn't make sense! We all agree that access to education for children is a fundamental human right. Yet millions of women missed out on an education.

The UK government's International Women and Girls' Strategy emphasises the importance of girls' education, but it doesn't address educating women. Mothers' Union wants to work with the new government to ensure that they prioritise women's education, regardless of their age.

**Join our Mothers' Union campaign to put women's education on the global agenda.** For more information go to [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org) or visit the Mothers' Union Facebook or Instagram pages.

**Our Mothers' Union Blue Christmas Service** is on our website for you to download and use in your parishes this Christmas. This is a service for those people from whom the Christmas season will not be a time of joy. **The Mothers' Union worldwide theme for 2025: Join In and Join Us!**

Trustees have been considering ways in which we can be more inclusive and enable more people to join our organisation. The option of being a Friend of Mothers' Union was introduced centrally in 2018 and has been taken up by many dioceses as a new way that people can join Mothers' Union, in addition to that of the traditional MU member.

A Friend of Mothers' Union would be open to everyone, regardless of belief or background, who wants to support the work of Mothers' Union. They would pay the same subscription and receive the Mothers' Union prayer dairy and Connected. A Friend of Mothers' Union however would not be able to stand for an officer role or vote, as these roles are currently for Mothers' Union Members only.

At Council in November a proposal will be presented for approval to adopt the concept of Friend of Mothers' Union here is St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

**Teaching Skills to teenagers.** Four Fressingfield branch members spent a Sunday afternoon in September collaborating with the cook@church group of children in our benefice, baking and preparing afternoon tea for invited guests. These included the families of the children, clergy, supporters of cook@church, the archdeacon and a local councillor. It was a great opportunity for intergenerational interaction, as well as a time when the children could learn new baking skills.

**Ideas for branch meetings** Love Matters is a brief guide with questions, to use in parishes or at branch meetings. It explores ways in which we can better understand the challenges facing families today and what we steps we can take to contribute towards a flourishing community. A box of these free booklets will be available at November council for all branches to take.

**16 days of Activism against gender Based violence.** This begins on Nov 25th and continues to Dec 10th. We are asked to hold a one-minute silence at 1.13pm to remember and pray for all those who suffer a from and have suffered from all forms of violence. Invite members of your congregation to join you in this one minute of silence, whether you choose to hold this outside your church or to do this individually at home.

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## THE HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

The amount raised at the *Maize Maze* in August exceeded our expectations and was a fantastic £1703.33. We are as always very grateful to everyone who comes along and supports our fundraising efforts. We must again say a massive thank you to Bella and her team at The Old Hall Cafe.

We are very fortunate that we have recently received donations from both Goosegreen Nursery and Wenhaston Flower Club. Goosegreen plant wholesale nursery opens to the public for three days in September and Mr Malster, the proprietor, chooses a charity each year to receive donations in lieu of an entrance fee. This year we were delighted that he chose the Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research and collected the wonderful amount of £1086.85. On Saturday some of our members "manned" the collecting bucket and we were made so welcome we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. The wonderful and unusual plants that were for sale did rather tempt us. We wish Mr Malster all the very best for his chosen charity next year and would like to thank him for his generosity this year.



*Photo: Dawn Davis, Mr Malster, Maxine, Helen and Sue. Arlette and Shirley did the early morning shift, so sadly not in the photo.*

Wenhaston Flower Club held their Charity Night for us on Tuesday 1st October. As you may recall the weather was terrible, heavy rain for several days, but this didn't deter

everyone. There was a wonderful turnout on the night and a lovely variety of stalls. The Flower Club ladies put on three different craft stalls, Jane Bastow had a lovely display on her plant stall, there were raffles, Tombola, books, jigsaws, bric-à-brac, indoor plants, cakes and we were selling our Cancer Research Christmas Cards. It was a wonderful atmosphere with friends and neighbours catching up over a cup of tea. We would like to say a huge thank you to Jackie and Flower Club for organising this event for us every year. The evening raised a remarkable £1382.25.



*Photo: Jane with her plant stall.*

Our next event is our very popular Christmas Fair on Saturday 23rd November in Holton Village Hall from 10.30am - 2pm. We will be serving tea/coffee and seasonal mince pies and from 11.30am our hot light lunches and delicious desserts.

There will be lovely things on our Christmas stall and the Cancer Research Christmas cards will be on sale as well as all our usual stalls including our popular Tombola and Raffle and Cake stall. We are sorry for the inconvenience but our event is cash only. Thank you all for continuing to support The Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research funding the vital work carried out by Cancer Research UK.

For more information please contact:- Dawn Davis on 01986 873640.



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**07880005783**

**Email: Hollsewell@gmail.com**



# Children, Families and Young People

The term *full steam ahead* feels appropriate for this month. After several months of organising, planning, prayer and filling in funding applications. We are so excited that we have secured the funding for myself to become a part-time children's, family and youth worker for Blyth Valley Churches for the next three years.

To share a little bit about myself, I have worked with children for over 20 years and am a qualified early year's teacher. I am self-employed and have my own early year's consultancy company, working with pre-schools, nurseries and companies to deliver high quality childcare and education in the early years through training, activity sessions - such as story sessions, sensory play, forest school and baby massage. I have previous experience of volunteering as part of children and young people's ministries in my past churches and am looking forward to learning and growing alongside the children, as I take on the role of working more with the church.

September saw the launch of two new groups, our Youth Monday from 6.30pm-8.30pm for 14-18 year olds; and Church Mice Tots from 11.30am to 1pm on a Thursday. Tots

has grown from one person in week one to (in the space of the month) connecting with ten different families. It is a lovely relaxed group with our youngest member being just five weeks old and our oldest four years old.

We have a variety of activities set up each week for the different age groups and it has been amazing to get to know everyone. My highlight of tots so far, was when some members of the congregation joined in singing and dancing, as we all sang our autumn song.

Youth is a bit sporadic at the moment and we are working hard on taking the time to build relationships, our chocolate fountain week was popular and we had six young people come along. In October half term we have several events we are very much looking forward to: 27th - Light Party from 4pm-5:30pm; 28th - Scarecrow Crafts from 12.30pm-2.30pm; 31st - Toy Exchange and Family Picnic from 11.30am - 1 pm.

If you would like to know more about any of the children, families and young people work. Or to volunteer and help in anyway, please email: [pauline@growingtogetherearlyyears.co.uk](mailto:pauline@growingtogetherearlyyears.co.uk) or ring me on 07780 459285.

**Pauline Milsted**



*Singing and dancing to our autumn song we learned.*



*Church Mice Tots Group - Every Thursday 11.30am till 1pm*

**Church Mice Tots Group**

St Mary's Church, Halesworth  
Thursday's 11:30 am - 1 pm  
Term-Time

**Scarecrow Crafts**  
**St Mary's Church**

Monday 28th October 2024  
From 12:30 till 2:30 pm  
Free event!  
Snacks and refreshments available



# FoSM Lunchtime Recital Review by Jason Busby

## "Music is an outburst of the soul"

On Wednesday 9th October, we welcomed back to St Mary's, the young Hungarian soprano Katalin Prentice. Her love of classical music started at an early age with learning the piano for ten years and the violin for four years. She studied as a classical singer with Dr Magdolna Békési Szabadyne at the Béla Bartók conservatoire in Békéscsaba, Hungary from age fourteen until eighteen.

So imagine our delight in welcoming Katalin back. Katalin performed some stunning iconic sacred works. From the energetic melody of Handel's *Let the bright Seraphim*, to a favourite of the opera ladies, Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate* to a

passionate love song by Brahms *Meine Liebe ist Grun*, through to the highlight for me which was Franz Lehar's *Viljalied* from *The Merry Widow* sung in Katalin's native Hungarian. Oh and I can't forget the yodelling! Katalin performed Gioachino Rossini's *La Pastorella dell' Alpi* which imitates yodelling, expertly executed, I must say.

The stories of each piece introduced by local director Vetta Wise gave a thorough insight to the stories behind each piece.


Accompanying Katalin was Tanya Kirk, who has a daily dip in the sea as part of her practice regime. Tanya gave us a couple of piano solos, a highlight being Robert Schumann's *Romance* from Op. 28 no.2 which was a Christmas present to his wife - in fact on Clara's deathbed in 1896 it was the last piece she heard. A beautiful love song so delicately played. Tanya is an exceptional pianist who put our piano through its paces once again. Music most certainly is as Katalin puts it "An outburst of the soul" and gives us such joy to hear. Thank you to everyone who came, to Vetta, Tanya and Katalin. We so look forward to seeing you in 2025 (hopefully!).

On Wednesday 13th November 12noon for 12.30pm the St Mary's Handbell Ringers return. See you then.



L to r: Tanya, Vetta and Katalin.

**WILD CHURCH BLYFORD**  
**Third Sunday of the Month, 10am**  
*A service of prayer, poetry and contemplation*  
 in Blyford Churchyard  
**17th November**



**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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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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**"HALESWORTH STREET and PLACE NAMES"**  
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*Proceeds to Halesworth & District Museum.*

**"MEMORIES & STORIES OF OLD HALESWORTH"**  
 by James W Newby  
 £7.99 available from St Mary's Church.  
*Proceeds to St Mary's Halesworth Regeneration etc.*

**"The LIFE and TIMES of DEREK NEWBY"**  
 £9.99, an autobiography.  
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For more information, see Derek Newby You Tube  
 and [www.newbysofhalesworth.com](http://www.newbysofhalesworth.com)

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## Framlingham, Wickham Market, Kelsale and Yoxford and Villages

### Community Partnership Area Rural Wellbeing Survey

#### What is the reason for this more in-depth survey?

This survey is a follow on from a previous small survey undertaken by East Suffolk Council into any health and wellbeing issues that potentially exist in the Framlingham, Wickham Market, Kelsale and Yoxford and Villages Community Partnership area.

Community Action Suffolk, on behalf of East Suffolk Council, are now conducting a deeper exploration of all those reported challenges and barriers, as well as finding out more about possible solutions. We want to learn more about what they are and how they affect people living locally, together with gathering their ideas and suggested solutions that could help improve things for everyone.

We are speaking directly with local organisations, groups and residents, both through this survey and in-person. We will be

providing a full report to East Suffolk Council, presenting our findings on a village-by-village basis so that they can have better understanding about health and wellbeing needs and provisions in the area, and hear how they can work with you to improve things. Thank you for sharing your views, experiences and opinions with us.

To complete the survey please go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RuralWellbeing>

Or scan the QR code:



## Oak Class from Wenhaston Primary School help to secure the future of local wildlife



Following the second very successful Climate Action Conference in St Mary's Church, Halesworth at the end of September, village environment groups were delighted to work with the pupils of Oak Class to explore ways of protecting and promoting wildlife locally. The morning started in the churchyard, where the children helped to make a splendid bug hotel and two hedgehog home, under the guidance of Alan, Judy and Ann from Wilder Wenhaston. The class were then split into two groups. Aply led by Kate and Alan, one group explored how the Commons Group have worked on Blackheath to create suitable habitats for reptiles and to restore and maintain the sandpit area for a healthy population of sand martins. The other group went with Marie

from Blyth Woods to look at the development of a new space for nature in the village. The children were given maps of the area and worked in groups or individually to think what could be done to encourage a wide range of insect, reptile, bird and mammal life to the area. They then shared their ideas with Ann, Geraldine, Alan and Marie, from Blyth Woods. Who intend to incorporate some of the ideas in their final plans for the plot.

It was a real joy to work with the children and to see them so full of enthusiasm for their local natural environment. As the UK faces a Biodiversity Crisis, there was a feeling of hope and optimism about what we can do to help.

Thank you to all who took part, including Mr Stone and the other school staff who supported the children.

Revd Alison Alder



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## The Blyth Valley Ministry Team



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*Team Rector*

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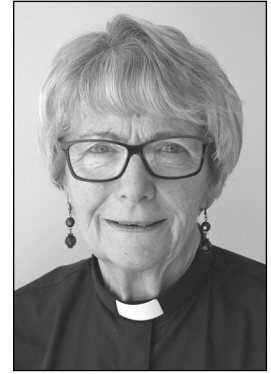
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**The Blyth Valley Churches office in St Mary's  
Church is OPEN on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from  
9am - 1pm. Tel 01986 875941.  
On Wednesdays and Fridays,  
Telephone 07752 275328 (between 9am - 1pm).  
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### Blyth Valley Churches

have joined the "Give a Little" online donation service.  
Details of how you can make a donation to **Blyth Valley  
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## Blyth Valley Churches Contacts

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**Jason Busby:** *Organist Blyth Valley Churches*

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**Philip Gorrod:** *Contact for bell ringers across the Blyth Valley Churches*

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Cookley	Jane Evers	01986 785209
Halesworth	Jason Busby	01986 873336
Heveningham	Jeanette Griffin	01986 798280
Holton	John Hewlett Chris Knevett	01986 875913 01986 872467
Huntingfield	Emma Ward	01986 785343
Linstead	Malcolm Heath	01986 785289
Spexhall	Keith Noakes	07939 527340
Thorington	Mike Gower	01502 478078
Walpole	Ken Allen Lee Hill	07710 779146 07713 450078
Wenhaston	Jonathan Alder	01502 478855
Wissett	Geoffrey Kiddy	01986 873173

### ECUMENICAL CLERGY

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**The Revd Jon Sermon**

*URC Minister, Halesworth & Bramfield URC,*

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Email: pastorjonsermon@gmail.com

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*Roman Catholic Priest*

St Edmund King & Martyr Roman Catholic Church,

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## Blyth Valley Times

published monthly by

Blyth Valley Churches

**Deadline date for ALL copy for the full colour DECEMBER edition issue is:**

**WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER**

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# News from Town & Villages

## Blyford

Secretary John Handley  
johnhandley50@hotmail.com

### STALL ON THE GREEN

*in aid of*

#### BLYFORD CHURCH

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Volunteers welcome! If you can help,  
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## Bramfield

Correspondent  
Alfred Mullet  
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](https://www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk/st-andrews-church-bramfield)  
or you can scan the QR code printed  
here using your mobile device.



### Bramfield Harvest Supper 24 on October 4th

For this year's supper, around 60 guests  
enjoyed a scrumptious meal of sausage  
and bean stew with a baked potato and  
homemade roll and butter. This was  
followed by a selection of delicious  
puddings donated by villagers.

After the meal we were once again  
entertained by our very own trio of Del,  
Jeremy and Stephen. There was even  
dancing!

Very many thanks to everyone who  
came and especially to everyone who  
helped in any way, with particular  
thanks to Del, Jeremy and Stephen.

Chris Collins

### Recent Services

We had an Internment of ashes for the  
family of Geoffrey Fisher on August  
24th. His wife Mary Fisher, and her  
brother John Ayton (both recently  
passed away this year), were placed in  
Mary's parent's grave - Charles and  
Annie Gilbert. We had a little informal  
service officiated by the Revd Bruce  
Wakeling. Mary's uncle had previously  
owned Grove Farm, Bramfield on the  
A144, so she knew the area and  
people well. Bruce's son, Geoff,  
now lives on the land next to Grove  
Farm and Bruce had taken services at  
Bramfield in the past. We wish the  
family well at this time.

We had a small wedding of John and  
Deni on Thursday 12th September  
which was a very joyous affair with the  
Revd Gini. Instead of hymns, we sang  
a popular song - *How sweet it is to be  
loved by uou*. We wish them both well  
in their lives ahead.

Our next services In November:  
Remembrance Sunday Service is to be  
held at 10.50am on Sunday  
10th November, taken by Jason  
Busby.



We celebrate Saint Andrew's Day on  
Saturday 30th November at 6pm,  
taken by the Revd Dominic Doble. We  
will be having food and drink to share  
afterwards. Saint Andrew's at Wissett  
will be joining us for this service.  
We look forward to seeing you all  
then.

Jinnie Barham

### Ceilidh, with live music

Ecotherapy East, a social enterprise  
based in Bramfield, warmly invites you  
to an evening of ceilidh dance and  
music on Saturday 23rd November,  
7.30pm-10pm in Bramfield Village Hall.  
Polkas, hornpipes, reels and jigs. The  
band, Far'n'Away, and their  
experienced dance-caller will steer you  
to safety through a heady mix of  
boisterous folk! Come along and help us  
raise money for our project on the  
Foxtail Meadow we steward in the  
heart of Bramfield.

Buy your tickets in advance at the link  
below to guarantee your place. Extra  
tickets available on the door. Doors  
open at 7pm.

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ceilidh-  
tickets-1006867727477?](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ceilidh-tickets-1006867727477?aff=oddtcreator)

aff=oddtcreator

## Chediston

Correspondent

Sally Aldous 01986 873363

### Ode to Autumn (First four lines)

Seasons of mists and mellow  
fruitfulness

Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun  
Conspiring with him how to load and  
bless

With fruit the vines that round the  
thatch-eves run. J Keats

### Taizé Service – Caring for Creation

This service took place on September  
29th at 6pm and was taken by the Revd  
Alison Alder. Three people played  
musical instruments, with the  
congregation joining in the singing and  
responses. This was in the Taizé  
tradition, no announcements and a long  
silence at one point allowing people to  
think about the words sung and said, to  
pray or to look around. It explored the  
theme of a sustainable future for our  
planet, earth. It was good to see so  
many visitors from the neighbouring  
churches. The service I found very  
soothing and comforting.

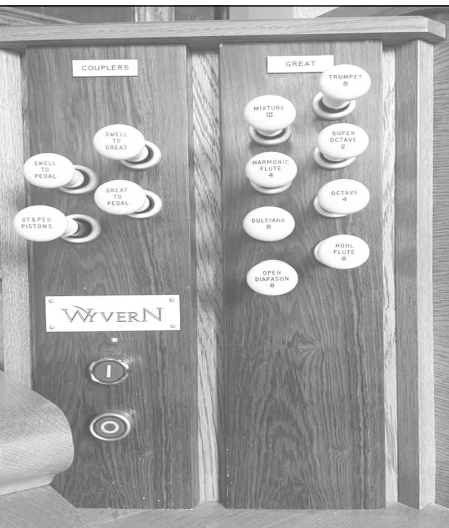
### Chediston Harvest Festival

Celebrated on Sunday 13th October  
and was taken by Dominic. The organ  
had been repaired and Jason played for  
us. This was a real treat to have the  
Copeman Hart organ back (*see later  
notes*), in fact it raised the roof!

The last hymn at this service was particularly appropriate – *Beneath the Suffolk Skies* sung to a well-known tune, but with beautiful words not known to many of us. The church had been exquisitely decorated with flowers and produce. Afterwards, we had a very good lunch in the Church School Room. Food and money donations were given to the Community Larder. Many thanks to everyone who helped with our Harvest Festival of 2024.

**Copeman Hart Organ**

Last month the organ at St Mary's Chediston was upgraded, after approaching Wyvern organs, with a new voicing system. A bespoke speaker cabinet was designed and installed, and a new roll top was also fitted. This organ belonged to the Lloyd Webber family, so it's fitting it has been restored and upgraded for future musicians. Come along to one of our services to hear the beautiful new sound.



**Chediston & Linstead WI**

On Tuesday 8th October we met in Linstead Village Hall and had an extremely interesting talk on "The Commonwealth War Graves Commission". This was accompanied by many slides of war memorials in this country and all over Europe. They maintain War Graves and memorials in more than

23,000 locations in over 150 countries and territories. Intriguingly they even maintain one in Chediston for John Alfred Meadows, who was a gunner in World War I. The date being November 1918 and is situated to the north of St Mary's. If anyone is interested, I have his details. Our next meeting is the AGM.

We are all very sorry to hear that John Parson has been in hospital but is now home and being well looked after by Margaret. He was much missed at our Harvest Festival.

Get well soon John – we miss you.

**Christmas Fair**

This year the Fair will be on Saturday 30th November, from 2pm-4pm in the Church School Room. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Paula Hall on 07450 273125. This is one week earlier than usual, so as not to clash with other Christmas Fairs across BVChurches.

**Cookley**

**Correspondents Jane Evers and Catriona Chase**

**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.



We were thrilled to be able to mark our Patronal Festival in September by welcoming worshippers from across the BVChurches for a Traditional Communion service on the Feast of St Michael & All Angels. Dominic and Margaret Mander were responsible for the beautiful flowers and we were especially grateful to Jason, Karen and the Halesworth choir, who not only led some lusty hymn-singing, but had also battled their way to Cookley on a truly dark and stormy night the week before in order to rehearse! Our thanks to everyone who came to the service – it

was wonderful to see the church so full and we were delighted to meet those who were able to stay and chat afterwards over coffee and home-made cake. All in all, it was a really happy occasion.

**Halesworth**

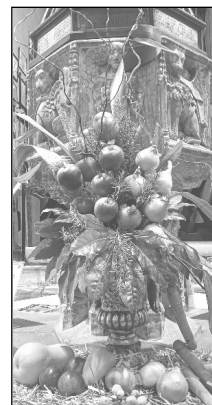
**Correspondent Jason Busby  
01986 873336**

**halesworthparish@gmail.com**

For many years the 'Friends of St Mary's' have run a 50/50 club. Unfortunately, despite exhaustive efforts we have not been able to find anyone to take over the running of the 50/50 club. As a result, following a PCC meeting on October 16th, the decision was taken that the 50/50 club will shut down. Everyone who has invested will be written to, and there will still be a monthly draw over the coming months until the last ball investment finishes. In recent years, Tom Baldwin has been overseeing the running and we express deep gratitude, with thanks to EVERYONE who has supported, invested and run the 50/50 club over the years. Thank you.

Results of the 50/50 draw held on October 1st were as follows: 1st J Busby; 2nd G Woolner, 3rd D Hale.

At the joint service on Sunday 6th October, we celebrated our annual Harvest Thanksgiving together. Thank you to everyone involved from clergy,



musicians, bakers, to everyone who dressed St Mary's so beautifully. We sang *Joy to the world* and, of course, we simply had to sing *We plough the fields and scatter!*

All donations of food & money were given to the Halesworth Community Larder.

On Thursday 10th October, the funeral service for Susan Everett, aged 66, was held in St Mary's. Hymns included *Guide me, O thou great redeemer* and *Jerusalem* were sung. Psalm 139 verses 1-12 was read, beautiful words *If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.* May Susan rest in peace and rise in glory.



Looking ahead as we approach advent and Christmas, we have a string of events, concerts and gigs coming up. Too many to list here so do look through the 'What's On' pages. Just a couple of highlights... in November we welcome my old friend and fellow organist Tom Horton for a first at St Mary's! A silent film night. Friday 15th November, tickets on the door, cash or card payments available. DO JOIN US! Lastly from me this month just a head up, on CHRIST THE KING, Sunday 24th November we will be holding a special 'GIFT DAY'. As you know we have an annual parish share payable to the diocese some £24,000, to date we have paid £14,000 and ever-increasing daily running costs. The PCC will be writing to everyone over the next couple of weeks asking for your continued support.

### 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 listened with interest as Peter explained how the idea for the Air Ambulance came about after the jockey Frankie Dettori's plane crash at Newmarket racecourse. Frankie was flown to hospital in a light airplane getting him to care more quickly. Following this funds were sought and The East Anglia Air Ambulance service was set up and began flying in 2001 during the day only, in 2013 they included flying at night and in 2021 set up flying 24 hours. There are now two new larger helicopters which provide a smoother ride and can take more equipment. Five helicopters cover all of the east of England, Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, based at Cambridge, Norwich and Essex they can reach patients, treat them and get them to hospital more quickly. It is like taking a hospital to the patient as they carry

advanced medical equipment, a doctor and a paramedic. The patient will then be flown to the nearest appropriate hospital for their injuries, burns, critical etc. This may not always be the nearest, the 999 centre to take calls is at Chelmsford. The helicopters are rented with fuel and a pilot. They are a 100% charity and rely on donations, coffee mornings, charity runs etc. Their expenses are £500,000 a month. Peter also encouraged us that if witnessing a heart attack to begin heart compressions immediately as the survival rate is very low following an attack and we should all learn how to use a defibrillator. A very worthwhile charity to support as we know the helicopter has come to our aid in town recently in an emergency.

## Heveningham

Correspondent Jeanette Griffin  
[stmargarechurch11@gmail.com](mailto: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.



Community spirit has been in the air recently as villagers have come together to make our Harvest celebrations a real success. The church has been beautifully decorated with floral and autumnal displays and we had a plentiful supply of food contributions for our Harvest Supper. Our weekend celebrations began with the coffee morning on the Saturday, combined with a produce bring and buy. We had many donations of fruit and baked goods and a good turnout of villagers meeting up for our monthly social event.

On the Sunday, the Revd Vic Hopkins led a delightful, short, Harvest service that was followed by our Harvest Supper. As mentioned, the

community came together and supplied such an amazing assortment of food and with donations of wine from Adnams, we really enjoyed a mighty feast. We had 30 people attend the service on Sunday, so thank you to everyone who contributed to make it a very enjoyable evening.



### Dates for your diary

Nov 10th, 10.50am, Remembrance Service;  
Nov 23rd, 10.30am, Coffee Morning and Christmas table sale;  
Dec 7th, 10.30am, Christmas Craft Fair;  
Dec 8th, 4pm, Christmas Carol Service.

We are also hoping to hold a Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve again this year. This is to be confirmed in due course.

The church is open daily 9.30am until dusk. Local honey is for sale inside the church, including our own church honey.

Please do pop by and pay us a visit.



## Holton

Temporary Correspondent  
Jackie Watts

### 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.



It is lovely to have John and Jill back from America. We all wish John a good recovery from a broken hip.

### Labyrinth

Every first Monday of the month, Holton provides a space for reflection, walking the labyrinth and/or crafting, writing, reading in St Peter's Room. Valerie leads us with a chosen theme, and we share any individual thoughts on the subject. The October theme was *Footprints*. We were invited to read the text material provided and reflect on how we see our footprints leaving an impression as we walk through life.

Here are some Bible verses that Valerie found for our reflection:

Psalm 119:105 'Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.' (NIV)

Proverbs 16:9 'In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.' (NIV)

Psalm 18:36 'You have made wide steps beneath my feet so that I need never slip.' (NLT)

We also looked at several poems including the well-known *Footprints in the Sand* By Mary Stevenson.

We are very grateful to Valerie for her preparations and guidance on the different themes.

The theme for November will be *Shadows*, Monday 4th November, 2pm-4pm.

All are welcome. For more information contact the Revd Alison Alder, email: [revalialder@gmail.com](mailto:revalialder@gmail.com)

### Evensong

Evensong with the choir came to Holton

on October 12th. Some challenging readings made interesting sermon material for Dominic who had us thinking about the different attitudes to war in the Middle East. The Prayer of St Francis was sung as an anthem. *Where there is despair, let there be hope* resonated and stayed with me all evening. A time of fellowship with tea and homemade snacks after the service was very welcome.

Harvest Festival Thanksgiving is after this deadline for reporting, but many thanks in advance for all your donations which will go to the local Foodbank.

### Christmas Fair

The Fair will be held on Saturday 16th November in the Village Hall. See poster on page 27. Items for tombola can be brought to me at 2 Cherrytree Cottages.

Janet would like cakes for her stall please.

Taizé: 6pm, November 24th, Holton St Peter's. (TBC).

Following the Taizé Service at Chediston in September, we hope to continue this type of worship at Holton on the last Sunday of November.

Dot's Coffee Morning in aid of The Pear Tree Fund is on Thursday 12th December, 10am at Holton & Blyford Village Hall.

### HOLTON & BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL TOTE 24/25 SEASON

The start of the new season has brought forward some great winners! Every month The Tote pays out cash prizes of £25, £20, £15, £10 and £5.

The Tote supports the Village Hall and helps to keep it open for use, usually funding around £1,000pa. After all winners are paid. Licensed by East Suffolk Council a percentage has to be paid out and recorded.

Just £12 a year to join – if you'd like to do so, just ring Wendy on 01986 872590 and the joining rate diminishes as the year progresses. So, for example, if you join in November it would be £8 for the remainder of the year's draws – a bargain for a bit of fun and you could be a winner too!

*July results:* Mike Davis, John & Jill Hewlett, Bob & Carol Manning, Wendy Mendham, Eric Rushbrook. *August results:* Pam Francis, Wendy Adams, Rosemary Stephens, Jonathon Strange, Lynn Rogers. *September results:* Shaun & Pippa Bladen, Gaye McDonough, Lou

Solomon, Richard Day, Simon & Maggie Larbey.

Well done to our winners so far this year.

## Huntingfield

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

### St Mary's Church, Huntingfield

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

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



The past month has seen the folk of Huntingfield and beyond come together for a variety of activities.

Firstly there was our second Moth Breakfast in the churchyard. This attracted moths and 26 humans, the latter enjoying delicious bacon rolls and coffee thanks to our churchwarden, Emma Ward.

We have had two 'clear-ups': the churchyard and the village. Both are looking so much tidier and cleaner for the few hands that gave up their time to help. Can we just remind people that disposing of drink cans and bottles as you drive or ride through the country lanes is not acceptable, please take all your rubbish home with you.

Harvest Supper was a great success. 43 people sat down to enjoy a hot, cooked supper. Along with a table quiz, raffle and montage of scenes from around the UK, there was certainly enough for people to talk about. Thanks to everyone who came and supported us.

Our next event in the church is:

*An Afternoon of Delights* on November 2nd at 2pm. Launch of Huntingfield Church history podcast. Demonstration of handbell ringing by St Mary's Team Halesworth. Freshly baked scones served with jam and cream. Tea and coffee.

A free event but donations are always welcome.

This promises to be an interesting and

informative afternoon and we look forward to welcoming you.

On Sunday 10th November at 10.50am we will be holding our Remembrance Day service around the War Memorial. Refreshments afterwards at the pub.

## Linstead

Correspondent

Malcolm Heath 01986 785289

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

I AM MORE AND MORE CONVINCED, as the years go by, that humans were designed to hibernate. Not necessarily to curl up into a ball and hide under a heap of leaves (although that does sound tempting) but at least to acknowledge that winter events have a completely different tenor to those of the summer. "A devastating glimpse of the obvious!" I hear you all cry, and you are right. But winter events have an attraction all of their own, so here we go:

NOW DRIVING BEETLES IS A LOT more skilled than you might think and the younger you are, the better your driving skills. So come along and try your hand at a pre-eminently family occasion.

### THE GREAT Linstead BEETLE DRIVE

will be held on  
Saturday 16th November  
from 7pm.

AT  
Linstead Village Hall

GOOD OLD-FASHIONED  
FAMILY FUN

Jacket potatoes with a variety of toppings - followed by ice cream.

Please contact Pauline Keable (01986 785347) to give us an idea of numbers.

Bring your own liquid refreshment

Tea & coffee provided

Cost: Adults £7.50,  
Children under 12: £2.50.

In aid of Village Hall Funds

THE CHURCH SUPPER EVENING WAS hugely enjoyed and once again, Linstead's unique brand of catering was much appreciated. It was not exactly 'eat as much as you can', more a case of 'here is a table-full of food, we bet you

won't be able to eat it all! And you didn't, well not quite. Here you see the great and good of Linstead (and friends) contemplating the task.



We were well entertained by 'More of us'.



The evening raised just over £500 for church funds so we are, as ever, grateful to all who supported us. CHEDISTON & Linstead WI MET IN October and heard a fascinating lecture from a volunteer from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. He told them something of the history of the Commission and of the work it undertakes. For instance, the help they give to those seeking the graves or memorials of relatives. He told them about the maintenance and incidental work that was involved. As an example; if, as may happen in Northern France, a body is found and identified, it will be interred with full military honours. If the name was listed on one of the memorials as not having a known grave, then the memorial is altered appropriately.

One of my uncles was killed in the war, whilst flying in the RAF. The family thought that he had been lost at sea, but it wasn't until I went on to the War Graves Commission web site, that I discovered that the Germans had recovered his body and that he was interred in one of War Cemeteries at

Brest. I will visit it as soon as I get a chance.

The WI meet next at Linstead Village Hall, on Tuesday 15th November at 2.30pm. They will be holding their Annual General Meeting.

THE SERVICE IN NOVEMBER AT Linstead will be at 10am on the 10th. We will be commemorating Remembrance Sunday. Incidentally, the Linstead War memorial takes the form of a framed and embroidered plaque. The work was carried out by the wife of the then vicar and as such, it is unique.

CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST UPON US with all the challenges that implies. As ever, we seek to provide help, support and sustenance we can:

### Linstead Comes to HALESWORTH THE Linstead MARKET

will be held at:

ST MARY'S CHURCH  
ON  
SATURDAY 23rd  
NOVEMBER

10am to 1pm

Christmas Gifts,  
Food and Decorations  
Raffle  
Seasonal Refreshments

Please do visit and support us. Thank you.

## Spexhall

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

Facebook: St Peter's Spexhall and  
Spexhall Village Hall

Fall, leaves, fall: die, flowers, away;  
Lengthen night and shorten day

Your Woodpecker correspondent finds some things difficult about autumn. It can be a little melancholic, as these opening lines from Emily Bronte's poem *Fall, leaves, fall* seem to convey. The summer has passed and winter is to come. However, it is also a wonderful time for reflection and remembrance of the gift of those who have gone before

us. On November 1st, there is All Saints Day and on the 2nd is All Souls. We also have Remembrance Sunday, which this year is on Sunday 10th November. It is a good time to walk through the churchyard among the fallen leaves. A time to reflect, which brings mourning, for those we have lost. Yet it is also a time to give thanks for the gifts they have given.

### We Will Remember Them

All across the Blyth Valley Churches and at the Town's memorial there will be Acts and Services of Remembrance on **Remembrance Sunday 10th November**. At St Peter's there is a fine war memorial to those who gave their lives in the Great War and the Second World War. In our **Act of Remembrance (we gather at 10.50am on the 10th by the war memorial)** we will remember all those who have died in the armed services and those who are the victims of war at 11am. This will be followed by a short service of confession, thanksgiving and prayer. At this time in world events our thoughts and prayers couldn't be more urgent. Do join us on this very special day.

### Adventus

Woodpecker didn't learn Latin (or much else) at school, but he knows that Adventus means 'the coming' and we have the word Advent as the English equivalent. This is the time when the church prepares for the coming of Christ both at Christmas and in the final revelation. Traditionally there are Advent Carol Services, and some of the loveliest carols belong to this season. On **Advent Sunday, 1st December**, the Aurora Consort led by Vetta Wise will sing a number of beautiful carols and songs in a concert '**Adventus**' at St Peter's at 3pm. Vetta and the singers have very kindly offered this fundraising event for the church and tickets are £5. Please pay on the door, but reserve seats by emailing spexhallwoodpecker@gmail.com or phone 07939527340. The short concert will have an interval for seasonal refreshments. It would be a good time to hear beautiful singing. *Vetta writes:*

'A selection of Advent and Christmas a cappella from 1300 to living composers, mediaeval to modern, with a sprinkling of well-loved and popular seasonal songs! Hassler, Tavener, Pearsall, Poston, Rachmaninov, Tschaikovsky, Ord, Leontovitch and many more, including that well-known composer,

"Anon"! A time to catch up with friends before the Christmas rush!

### Village Quiz Night

At the time of going to press Woodpecker is assuming there may be space left for a table (of up to four) for the famous **Autumn Quiz**. It is on **Friday 29th November at 7pm**. Tickets are £3 each. Please hand in your prizes for the 'raffle of raffles' (endless). All good fun. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Tea and coffee with homemade cake will be available for all. karen1sharman@icloud.com for tickets.

### Christmas is not far away

Woodpecker won't bore you about Christmas (yet) but do put in your diary the Village Carol Service on Sunday 3rd December at 3pm, and Midnight Mass at St Peter's on the 24th (shared with Wissett who have Holy Communion on Christmas morning)

### Every leaf speaks bliss to me

#### Fluttering from the autumn tree

Yes, Emily Bronte's poem rises out of the melancholy, speaking of the joy which human imagination can bring to this season. May you keep warm and cosy by the fire (or ground source heat pump boiler) this autumn.

### 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.



## Thorington

### Correspondent

**Trish Gower 01502 478078**  
[trish@coastal1.plus.com](mailto:trish@coastal1.plus.com)

Thorington PCC look forward to seeing you at our November services as listed on the rota at the front of this issue. Our Carol Service will be held on December 24th at 6.30pm. This is a quiet time of year, but we will soon be planning for next year!

Any queries regarding the church please call me.

### 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.



## Walpole

### Correspondents

**Lee & Anita Hill 07713 450078**  
[anita.hill2006@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:margaret@wrush.plus.com)

Many, many congratulations to the Revd Alison Alder who has been appointed an Honorary Canon of St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Alison works so hard for us all and this is well deserved. We are all so proud of her.

Harvest Festival was very much enjoyed last Sunday, Alison took the service and reminded us that although we have plenty to celebrate, much of the world does not, and also that many farmers in this country are struggling to survive.



The church looked lovely with all the flower arrangements, many thanks to our loyal flower ladies. The schoolchildren had their service the preceding Wednesday and brought along loads of items for the Food Bank and Community Larder. There was wine and cakes after the service with much friendly chatter. The collection was sent to RABI, the farming charity.

Our annual quiz takes place on Friday 25th October. I will report on this next month, and we hope it will have been successful.

In November the Remembrance Service will take place as usual in the Village Hall Car Park and the War Memorial at 10.50am and afterwards in St Peter's Church.

The church is having a Tombola at the Christmas Bazaar in December, and I am collecting items for this, please.

### November Services

- 3rd Team Service Halesworth  
10th Remembrance 10.50am at Village Hall car park  
17th Holy Communion, 10am.  
24th Pause for Thought, 10am.

### SHCT Ride and Stride

Many thanks to James and the Gaze family who took part in this for St Peter's. I was able to send £347 to SHCT, half of which is retained by the charity and half credited to the church.

### 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 Mothers' Union

Our speaker at our October meeting was the Revd Robert Soanes who told us of his work as a chaplain at the James Paget hospital. It was an extremely interesting and informative talk from which, I think, we were all impressed by the amount of time and caring that the chaplains are putting

into their work with both the patients and the staff. Robert, who was known to many of us as a retired minister from the Methodist Chapel in the village, told us that they are on call both day and night and often the need is just for somebody caring to talk to. They willingly respond to requests from all denominations creed and colour and often spend much time with the families of patients. Robert is obviously filling a much needed place in the life of James Paget and it was so rewarding to appreciate how much he cares about the work which he is doing there.

On Tuesday 5th November we are having coffee and cakes at Spindleberry, Narrow Way to raise much needed funds for the work of the Mothers' Union both in this country and worldwide. We invite anyone who would like to join us for a short while between 10.30am and 12.30pm. There will be a few stalls – cakes, bring and buy and a raffle.

Please do think about joining us, we would love to see you!

**Margaret Goldstone**

### Wenhaston Walkers

The first walk in November will leave Wenhaston Village Hall at 10am on Tuesday 5th.

The second walk on Tuesday, 19th will leave The Huntingfield Arms, Huntingfield IP19 0PU at 10am, led by Louise and Andrew. Details of lunch will follow.

If you wish to add your name to the circulation list, please email: [ipbigwood@btinternet.com](mailto:ipbigwood@btinternet.com)

**Heather Phillips (01502 478545)**

### WENHASTON FLOWER CLUB

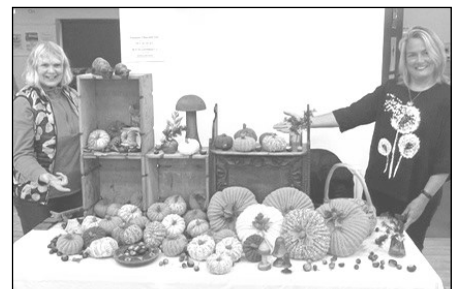
Our meeting on Tuesday 1st October was our annual Charity Night for The Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research. What a night it was, after heavy rain for several days and lots of standing water on the road into Wenhaston we wondered if anyone would come along to support us.

We didn't need to worry, we had a wonderful turnout and a fabulous night with a lovely atmosphere as everyone enjoyed the stalls and caught up with each other over a cup of tea.

We were delighted that Jean was well enough to join us and able to make all the table decorations.

Jane Bastow had a lovely variety of

plants on her plant stall and all the craft stalls were very popular. Cancer Research Christmas cards were available and the other stalls included tombola, cakes, books, jigsaws, bric-à-brac, indoor plants and raffles.



We would like to thank everyone involved on the night and for contributing by baking, running a stall, serving refreshments, donating a raffle/tombola prize or sending a donation and a massive thank you to everyone who braved the weather and help raise a phenomenal £1382.25 for the vital work of Cancer Research.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th November, 7.30pm and as usual in Wenhaston Village Hall, £5 on the night including refreshments.

It will be a Christmas workshop and we welcome back Jenni Baker. The workshop theme is *Candles and Twigs - a Christmas Design*. Details will be available in the newsletter.

For more information please contact Jackie Chenery 01502 478401.

## Wissett

**Correspondent Mary Pester  
01986 835869**

**[marypester@rocketmail.com](mailto:marypester@rocketmail.com)**

As I write so many of the leaves are still green and thick upon the trees. Will there be a frost before the start of November? When I was a little girl I remember wearing woolly gloves as I held my sparkler on Bonfire Night and it was a bright starry night and cold.

On the evening of All Souls' Day, Saturday 2nd November, Wissett

church will be staying open from 5pm until 7pm, with the heating on and softly lit by candles on the window ledges, to offer a special place and time for those that wish to come, to remember, commemorate someone they have lost. As it says in my copy of *Grief Works*, a helpful book on how to cope when someone dies, "we all need to find ways of expressing our grief."

One way is to light a candle. Do come if you wish to light a candle for a departed loved one. The church will be softly lit, quiet and peaceful and you do not need to speak to anyone if you don't want to. If you wish come to the back of the church where we will be serving wine, soft drinks and Soul cakes. "Souling", going round the village singing and praying for souls in exchange for a small, round soul cake in medieval times sounds like the origins of trick or treat to me. I like an excuse

to make a biscuit and these are like a spicy shortbread with currants. I will make lots!

I expect the wooden figures representing those men killed from Wissett during WWI will again be placed around the churchyard and village. Seeing the names and ages, where they lived on each man makes the loss so vivid, how terrible it must have been.

Our Service of Remembrance is at 10.50am on Sunday 10th November.

Our thoughts are with those suffering recent bereavement including the families of Boris Faulconbridge and Allan Bolderston whose funerals will have taken place.

Boris was 92 and had lived in Wissett for many years.

We have Holy Communion on the November 17th and Breakfast Church on the 24th both at 10am, as usual.

We look forward to celebrating St

Andrew's Day this year with St Andrew's in Bramfield at 6pm on Sunday 30th November.

The clocks will have gone back by the time *BVTimes* is printed so hats, gloves, scarves and a torch will be needed in the coat pocket! Stay warm and safe.

**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.




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## Walking the Labyrinth – A Time for Reflection



**Monday 4th November 2024  
St Peter's Church, Holton**

**Theme for reflective craft: Shadows**



**Everyone Welcome**

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

For more information contact Revd Alison Alder at:  
revalialder@gmail.com or 01502 478855.

**Future meetings:**

**Monday 2nd December - Theme "Sparkle"**

**There will be no meeting in January 2025**

**Monday 3rd February 2025**

## What's on at Halesworth Library in November

November sees the return of the Warm Welcome initiative, where all members of the community are welcome to stop by for a hot drink and light snack. The Library will also be offering hygiene products and a Kindness Rack (donations of winter clothing much appreciated!).

If you have little ones at home, join us every Tuesday, 10am-11.30pm 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 over a cup of tea.

On November 14th, we will be joined at 2.30pm by Lucy Jensen to talk about her book *The South Lookout: our Aldeburgh childhoods*. Written with her childhood friend, Liz Lyons, the book tells of growing up in the coastal town during the 1960s and 70s. Please register to attend the talk by speaking to library staff or emailing us at: [friendsofhalesworthlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhalesworthlibrary@gmail.com)

There are two sessions of the regular Sociable Sunday events, hosted by The Friends of Halesworth Library, on November 3rd and 17th, 10.30am-12.30pm, where you can come along and meet new people over a cup of tea! The month is rounded off with Board Games Café, also hosted by The Friends on November 25th, 2pm-4pm, with a wide range of games to play for all ages and abilities.

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, please ask a member of staff for future dates.

Catherine Draper

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Light Party  
St Mary's Church,  
Halesworth  
27th October  
from 4-5:30 pm



31ST OCTOBER  
**TOY EXCHANGE**  
AND FAMILY PICNIC  
11:30 AM TILL 1:00 PM  
ST MARY'S CHURCH HALESWORTH



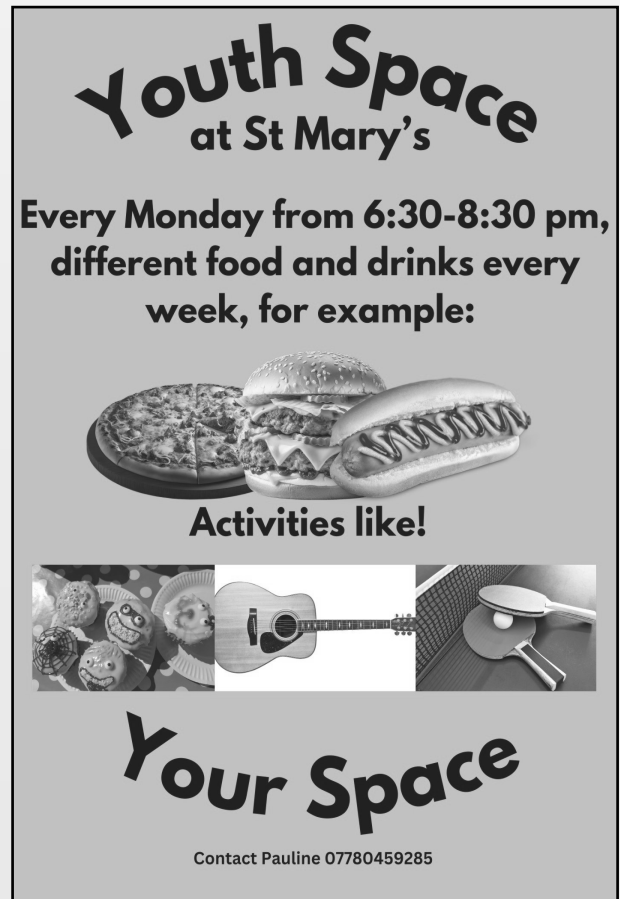
St. Mary's Halesworth  
All Souls Service  
Sunday 3th Nov  
at 6pm  
Remembering the Departed:  
Where we give thanks for  
and remember departed  
loved ones, friends  
and family.



SANTA'S  
GROTTO  
AND  
FESTIVE ACTIVITIES,  
STALLS AND FOOD  
St Mary's Church, Halesworth  
23rd November 2024  
2:30-3:30 pm  
5:30 pm



**Christmas Tree  
Festival**  
St Mary's Church, Halesworth  
**Christmas Carols**  
Saturday 14th December  
2024 - 7th January 2025  
Decorate a tree with a carol of your  
choice. Bring to St Mary's Church on  
Friday 13th December.  
For more details email Jo on:  
joannathackray5@gmail.com



**Youth Space**  
at St Mary's  
Every Monday from 6:30-8:30 pm,  
different food and drinks every  
week, for example:  
Activities like!  
**Your Space**  
Contact Pauline 07780459285

# WHAT'S ON

## HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH CHRISTMAS FAIR

**SATURDAY 23rd NOVEMBER, 10.30am - 2pm**  
**HOLTON & BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL IP19 8RZ**

Tea/coffee and seasonal mince pies.  
Hot light lunches and delicious desserts served from 11.30am.  
Usual stalls, Christmas Gift Stall and  
Cancer Research Christmas Cards.



## Remembering those we love at Christmas

A Service of Remembrance  
at **ST MARY'S CHURCH,**  
**HALESWORTH, IP19 8LL**  
on

**FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024**  
at **6.00 pm**

- ★ Refreshments will be available ★
- ★ Rosedale Christmas Memorial Tree ★

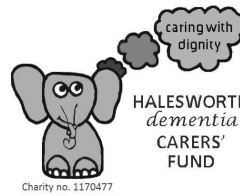
 **Rosedale**  
FUNERAL HOME  
Tel: 01986 875588

The service is free to attend and open to everyone.

## Special Film Matinee of **THELMA**

*Starring June Squibb, Fred Hechinger,  
Richard Roundtree, Clark Gregg, Parker Posey  
and Malcolm McDowell*

**at The Cut, Halesworth**  
**WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER**



Doors open at 1.30pm for  
2pm start.

Entrance by £5 donation  
*Please do support us  
and enjoy this*

*American comedy-drama*

Acclaimed 1923 silent film

## The Hunchback of Notre Dame

With Tom Horton  
on the church organ

**Friday 15 November 7pm**  
**Adults £10 Under 21s £5**  
**St Mary's Church, Halesworth**

Tickets on Eventbrite **NO FEE!**  
Or on the door by cash or card

# ART Exhibition WISSETT Village Hall

**Saturday & Sunday**  
**16-17 November 10am - 4pm**

*Enjoy* **Coffee & Cake**  
and raise money for charity



Nancy Bevington Hetty Van Wijk



Dee Nicholson Kate Mawdsley



*Meet 4 local artists, all welcome*



St Peter's Spexhall  
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Adventus

Advent Carols and Seasonal Songs  
with the Aurora Consort  
Leader Vetta Wise

Sunday 1st December, 3pm

Refreshments available.

Tickets £5.

Book in advance:  
spexhallwoodpecker@gmail.com  
or 07939527340

"Awake Arise"

A Christmas Show For Our Times



Lady Maisery  
with Jimmy Aldridge  
& Sid Goldsmith

St Mary's Church Halesworth

6th December 6.30 for 7.30pm

Tickets: £18 pre 1st October then £20

Book early!



Eventbrite, Halesworth Bookshop  
or call 07572 872512

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CHRISTMAS FAIR  
SATURDAY  
30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
2024

IN: THE OLD SCHOOL ROOM,  
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10am until 1pm

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>  
November

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☆Refreshments☆

☆Stalls☆

☆Raffle☆

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Sun Dec 1 Laxfield Village Hall  
01986 872481

Thur Dec 5 Beccles Public Hall  
01502 770060

Sat Dec 7 The Cut arts centre, Halesworth  
0300 3033 211

7.30pm  
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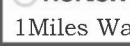
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The people of the Blyth Valley Churches  
warmly invite you to a short service of  
Remembrance and Thanksgiving  
for those who have died.

This will take place on  
**Sunday 3rd November 2024**  
at **St Mary's, Halesworth at 6pm.**

If you would like us to remember someone close to you,  
please let Carolyn in the BVChurches office have their names.  
Every name will be read out, and a candle lit.

Email: [office.bvtm@gmail.com](mailto:office.bvtm@gmail.com)

Blyth Valley Churches office, St Mary's Church, Steeple End, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8LL  
Tel 01986 875941 or 07752 275328

## The Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin Halesworth 2024 concert / events highlights

**Sunday, 10 November**

2.30 for 3pm

**Town Remembrance Service**

Gather at the library for 2.30pm, parade to the Church for a 3pm  
Act of Remembrance concluding in the Arboretum

**Wednesday, 13 November**

12noon for 12.30pm

**St Mary's Handbell Ringers**

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

**Friday, 15 November**

7pm

**Silent Film Night - Hunchback of Notre Dame**

With musical accompaniment on the organ by TOM HORTON  
Tickets £10 on sale nearer the time

**Saturday, 23 November**

**Halesworth Christmas Lights switch-on - SANTAS GROTTTO**

St Mary's will be hosting Santa's grotto once again,  
come enjoy some cake, hot cocoa and the festivities

**Sunday, 24 November**

10am worship

**CHRIST THE KING! SPECIAL GIVING DAY**

An opportunity to make a one-off financial gift to support our mission and ministry.  
Lookout for the special envelopes & letter asking for your support.

**Saturday, 30 November**

10am-12noon

**THE PEAR TREE FUND JUMBLE SALE**

An opportunity to come and support the work of The Pear Tree Fund as they use  
St. Mary's for a jumble / end of season sale! Refreshments available

**LIVE STREAM SERVICE FROM ST. MARY'S AVAILABLE**

Worship with us from anywhere in the world - Visit our YouTube channel



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

