

# PARISH PUMP

No 376

parish.pump@gmail.com

August 2024

## The Poslingford Olympic Scarecrows by the kids!



We at the Parish Pump are very grateful to Malcolm, Stella and Annie who have generously paid for the colour front page of this paper edition. Thank you! Also thanks to Heather for the pictures.

## People of Poslingford - please see our splendid front page

As we head towards the Paris Olympics, villagers joined together with straw, tights, imagination, creativity, laughter,  
The Poslingford Olympic Scarecrows came to life.  
A variety of sports from gymnastics to fencing, archery to equestrian are on display in the village. It has been noted that vehicle speed has decreased as people slow down to view the amazing scarecrows!  
Many thanks to **Malcolm & Stella Gregg and Annie Jones** for paying for them to be displayed in this month's edition.  
Donations for the Community Pantry were gratefully received and taken to the Church in Clare



# BECKY COOPER

designs

CURTAINS ♥ BLINDS ♥ SHUTTERS ♥ INTERIORS

Handmade curtains, roman blinds,  
pelmet, cushions, lampshades  
Made to measure shutters & blinds  
Motorisation  
All soft furnishings handmade in our  
own workshop  
Free home visits, design and advice  
Professional measuring and fitting  
service  
Local family business  
Helping you choose the right product  
for you, your family and your home  
07506 844889  
[www.beckycooperdesigns.co.uk](http://www.beckycooperdesigns.co.uk)  
[beckycooperdesigns@gmail.com](mailto:beckycooperdesigns@gmail.com)



**Well-presented office to rent in central Haverhill**  
**Suitable for professional use as an office, studio or workshop.**



**Super-fast broadband**  
**Good natural light**  
**Letting term: negotiable & flexible.**  
**Please call 01440 708063 to arrange a viewing or for additional information.**

## Rector's Ramblings – August 2024 - PRIESTED



### Priested!

On Saturday 29th June, I was Ordained Priest in St Edmundsbury Cathedral. It was such a wonderful occasion and I had been looking forward to it with growing anticipation for some time. The sheer joy of seeing how excited everyone was: my family, friends, training incumbent, parishioners and others in my cohort was powerful and infectious! Friends asked me if I was nervous, I wasn't really, I was just very happy. A strange but comforting sense of peace had grown in me over recent weeks and at the pre-Ordination retreat, confirming that this was the right road ahead.

It was very moving seeing so many familiar faces in the congregation on the day. Some people had travelled a long way to be there for me, one coming down from Durham. It was particularly touching that so many church wardens and parishioners from the Stour Valley Benefice came to support me too. I managed to keep my composure throughout despite how emotional the experience was. Our excellent Ordination address was given by **The Reverend Dr Katherine Grieb** (*Director of the Centre for Anglican Communion Studies at Virginia Theological Seminary in the United States*) and **Bishop Martin's** words did draw a few tears as it hit me

I was joined by quite a few people for drinks at the Dog & Partridge afterwards where I sat in the sunshine sipping some bubbles and pinching myself thinking, "tomorrow I will preside my first Holy Communion at Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Clare...WOW!!"



Despite the process of discernment, selection, training and Ordination taking several years, a part of me still doesn't believe it's happened. What a privilege it is.



this was his last time presiding an Ordination as he's retiring! I was amazed at the sheer number of people who wanted to talk to me afterwards, I was given the 'heads-up' that some people might kneel and ask for 'a blessing from the new Priest' but, when it happened, it was a surprise and such a joy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported me on this journey. Thank you for your knowledge, advice, support, kindness, endless cups of tea and welcoming smiles, most of all, thank-you for praying for me – I'm so grateful and can't wait for this

## Monthly Rainfall 2023/2024

2024	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June						
Nick Burton- Stradishall	55	115	45	64	96	15						
Tina Lee- Stradishall	57	119	47	87	91	19						
Sam Slater- Stansfield	51	129	55	60	114	19						
Rod Taylor- Stansfield	59	121	59	68	99	23						
Jay Gridley-Hundon	71	128	57	74	104	21						
Victoria Pakenham - Fenstead End	53	132	59	62	106	21						
Elaine Plumpton Great Saxham	54	129	66	69	78	23						

2023	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Nick Burton- Stradishall	42	5.5	95	51	66	19.5	94	56	70	170	88	75
Tina Lee- Stradishall	50	1	75	57	75	22	93	55	68	168	88	69
Sam Slater- Stansfield	36	4.5	111	69	49	22	94	55	73	181	108	80
Rod Taylor- Stansfield	54	6	105	63	46	19	94	62	66	180	95	90
Jay Gridley-Hundon	40	4	111	60	56	24	84	69	66	187	96	89
Victoria Pakenham - Fenstead End	45.5	5.5	93	54.5	36	19.5	92.2	60	73.8	186.8	88	79.4
Elaine Plumpton - Great Saxham	60	4	114	62	65	28	70	63	49	172	85	94



# EXPERT FOOTCARE

AVAILABLE IN WITHERSFIELD, CB9 7SE

FREE ONSITE PARKING AVAILABLE



## ALL ASPECTS OF FOOTCARE COVERED INCLUDING:

- Nail trimming
- Cracked heels
- Corns
- Callus
- Fungal & thickened nails
- Ingrowing toenails
- Athlete's foot
- Verruca's

01440 421 798  
 rosehillfoothealth@yahoo.com  
 www.rosehillfoothealth.co.uk

Book your appointment!



## Gorgeous Bee Orchids in Denston



Tank Replacement Specialists  
 Plastic & Steel Tanks  
 Base Construction  
 Tank Removal/ Disposal Service  
 Oil Boiler Servicing & Breakdowns  
 Heating Oil Supplier  
 DBS (CRB) Checked & Fully Insured

**01440 820267**

info@suffolk oilsolutions.co.uk



**£** We Sell HEATING OIL email us for competitive daily price

Proud members of **Checkatrade.com**  
 Where reputation matters

Registered Heating Business



### Prices for advertising in this magazine

#### INSIDE PAGES

	Price for the period		Price per issue
	12 months	6 months	individual advert
Eighth page	£90	£50	£ 10
Quarter page	£ 185	£100	£ 20
Half page	£275	£150	£ 35

#### BACK PAGE

	Price for the period		Price per issue
	12 months	6 months	individual advert
Eighth page	£ 165	£ 90	£ 20
Quarter page	£255	£ 140	£ 30
Half page	£ 420	£ 230	£ 45

Front page or full page adverts are only considered in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Editor. The rate is subject to negotiation.

## What's Important to You in Stansfield?

Footpaths certainly are!

*“Overgrown in places and a big increase in dog fouling along some of the most popular footpaths around Stansfield”*. These are comments made recently by several Stansfield residents to the Parish Council. Walkers would like to remind dog owners to take bags to collect their pet's excrement from the footpaths and verges, and to use the bins provided in the village rather than dropping full bags on the verges. Because this is what happened recently on the stretch between High Street and Lower Street where four bags were retrieved and placed in the nearby special bin by a community-minded resident. Meanwhile some walkers say they are now keeping their eyes peeled for the perpetrators.

This very wet spring has brought forth unusually lush growth which made walking more difficult on some of the paths. Ensuring the footpaths are kept clear of overgrowth and obstructions is



### Stansfield's new bin

the responsibility of **Suffolk County Council (SCC)\***. They should clear paths especially where they cross a road verge and can act to ensure landowners clear the paths in some places, particularly where they go across a field. Cllr Slater is working to try to clarify responsibilities. Residents can report footpath problems to SCC\* and/or landowners. The Parish Council (PC) also reports problems when they are identified to them but has no power to enforce action. Also, the PC does not have any personnel or equipment to tackle any clearances, or any funds for this. Community-minded volunteers, though, as well as Parish Councillors Ball and Slater, have helped clear some areas, which is welcomed by walkers. *\*Suffolk County Council have an easy-to-use Reporting Tool:*

[highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)  
**Summer Fun Event, August 17<sup>th</sup>**. This village event is scheduled for **Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>** at the Village Hall. The PC plan to run a **BBQ** and to have a **Council Corner** where residents can raise any village matters with councillors and give their thoughts and ideas. The Village Hall are planning to run a bar, and Good Neighbours volunteers plan to serve coffee, teas and cake. Full details of all the fun competitions and events will be on a flyer to be circulated to each household. Anyone who would like to help with this event, or who wishes to raise any village matters please contact the **Chairman, Rex Barnes** at [rexstansfieldsoc@gmail.com](mailto:rexstansfieldsoc@gmail.com) or 07778 058425. The clerk to Stansfield PC is **Annie Lines** at [stansfieldpc@outlook.com](mailto:stansfieldpc@outlook.com).

## Wickhambrook Farmers' Market



With your continued support we returned in the Spring and since then the second Sunday monthly.  
**Thank you Martin**



*From planning to completion and everything in between*



New builds



Period Restoration & Listed Buildings



Extensions



Extensions



Extensions



Outbuildings



Bespoke Work



Landscaping



Alterations

07900 843329 / 01440 423783  
[robertcharlesharrington@gmail.com](mailto:robertcharlesharrington@gmail.com)  
[www.robharringtonbuilding.co.uk](http://www.robharringtonbuilding.co.uk)

Wickhambrook, Suffolk

## Magnificent Poslingford - aren't we lucky?






### The Bansfield Benefice



The Bansfield Benefice is the collective name for the Parishes of Cowlinge, Denston, Lidgate, Ousden, Stansfield, Stradishall and Wickhambrook in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, Suffolk, United Kingdom.

### Services for August 2024

<https://www.bansfieldbenefice.org.uk/services/>

Date	Time	Church	Details
03 Aug	10:30 am	Benefice Hall   (Next to Wickhambrook church)	Monthly Traidcraft Coffee morning (10:30 am until noon)
04 Aug	10:00 am	Wickhambrook (Tenth Sunday after Trinity   HC)	Celebrant: <b>Revd Eve Bell</b> Organist: [ ] Liturgical colour: ● Proper 13
11 Aug	10:00 am	Ousden (Eleventh Sunday after Trinity   HC)	Celebrant: <b>Revd Eve Bell</b> Organist: [DO] Liturgical colour: ● Proper 14
18 Aug	10:00 am	Stradishall  (Twelfth Sunday after Trinity   HC)	Celebrant: <b>Revd Eve Bell</b> Organist: [KI] Liturgical colour: ● Proper 15
25 Aug	10:00 am	Stansfield (Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity   HC)	Celebrant: <b>Revd Eve Bell</b> Organist: [ ] Liturgical colour: ● Proper 16

Year B



We have Traidcraft themed coffee mornings which are held on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 am until noon in the Benefice Hall next to Wickhambrook church. Please come along to enjoy a coffee or tea and biscuit, some conversation and the opportunity to buy Traidcraft items.

HC = Holy Communion; CW = Common Worship Order One; BCP = Book of Common Prayer;  
SOP = Songs of Praise; MP = Morning Prayer; CWOT = Common Worship Order Two  
[Organist's initials]  
Elder; PB = Paul Bevan



## LAVENHAM LITERARY FESTIVAL Fri 1- Sun 3 Nov 2024

Lavenham Village Hall CO10 9QT  
The eighth Lavenham Literary Festival will take place from Friday 1 to Sunday 3 November 2024. Guest speaker at the Literary Dinner at the Swan Hotel is *Private Eye* satirist and author **Craig**



Sheila Hancock

**Brown. Alan Johnson**, former politician and best-selling author is in conversation with Suffolk's own Lesley Dolphin, and **Patrick Barkham** will introduce us to the biography of his friend and naturalist, *The Wildlife of Roger Deakin*. The much-loved actor **Sheila Hancock** will talk about her memoir *Old Rage*. Foodies and Radio 4 fans will enjoy **Dr Annie Gray's** history of the British High Street, while **Tracy Borman** will take us *Behind Closed Doors at the Royal Palaces*. A festival first – a session for football fans! **Ashley Hickson-Lovence's** award-winning *Your Show* is about the Premier League's first black referee. Two more firsts – introducing **Jyoti Patel's** debut novel *The Things That We Lost* and **Hilary Taylor's** *Sea Defences*. **Louis de Bernieres**, author of the hugely popular *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* will talk to broadcaster **Martha Kearney** about his latest novel *Light over Liskeard*. And two eminent Shakespeare experts, the theatre director **Bill Alexander** and the distinguished actor **Dame Janet Suzman**, will be discussing Bill's book *Exploring Shakespeare – a Director's Notes from the Rehearsal Room*. Tickets for all these events will be on sale from 30<sup>th</sup> August from **The Apex, Bury St. Edmund**. Further information from [www.lavenhamliteraryfestival.co.uk](http://www.lavenhamliteraryfestival.co.uk)

# Country Cooking with Louise Mackrill *A glut of beans??*



There are many wonderful ways to cook beans if your garden is overflowing with them at this time of year ...

## Runner bean ratatouille

400g runner beans topped, tailed and stringed  
3 tbsp olive oil



1 onion, diced  
6 large tomatoes, skinned  
1 tbsp sugar  
1 bay leaf  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
3 sprigs thyme  
Slice the beans diagonally into long strips. Heat the oil in a pan, add the onions and sweat until translucent & soft. Add the beans, tomatoes, garlic, sugar & herbs. Cover & simmer for about 30 minutes until the beans are soft and the sauce is thick. Serve with crusty bread.

## Spiced mixed beans with lovage

Look no further than the magnificent cookbook, Plenty, from my favourite chef, Yotam Ottolenghi. It is packed full of many different & exciting ideas for cooking with vegetables. The recipe below is a



wonderfully aromatic curry-like delicacy which is perfect on its own, with some wild rice or even better served alongside some lamb straight off the BBQ. If

you can't find lovage substitute with coriander or tarragon but be sure to use sparingly.  
3 tbsp olive oil  
1 onion, finely chopped 2 garlic cloves, chopped  
2 tsp tomato puree  
½ tsp each ground cumin, turmeric & coriander  
1 tsp each ground ginger & cardamom  
400g can chopped tomatoes & juice 1 tsp caster sugar  
600g mixed beans such as sugar snaps, runners (sliced), broads, French beans (sliced)  
2 tbsp chopped lovage Salt & black pepper  
Sauté the onion in the oil for a few minutes, add the garlic for another minute, then the tomato puree, spices, season well and continue cooking & stirring for another minute or two. Then add the tomatoes, sugar and all the beans, stir well and simmer gently for 15 – 20 minutes until just cooked through but still crunchy. Stir in the lovage just before serving.

## Greek green bean salad



200g fresh green beans, trimmed & halved 1 chopped red pepper  
2 chopped tomatoes  
4 tbsp crumbled feta  
Boil the green beans for 3 or 4 minutes, then immediately submerge in ice cold water to stop the cooking process. Mix the beans with the red pepper & tomatoes.  
Whisk together a Greek style dressing as follows:  
3 tbsp extra virgin Greek olive oil  
1 tbsp white wine vinegar  
1 clove garlic, crushed  
½ tsp fresh parsley & oregano mixed  
¼ tsp Dijon mustard  
Salt & pepper Toss the bean salad in the dressing and top with crumbled feta & black olives if you like.



## refinedblinds

A bespoke service for all domestic blinds throughout Suffolk.

Makers and installers of a wide range of window blinds, from Venetian to Roman, Vertical to Wooden.

01284 388 779

[refinedblinds.co.uk](http://refinedblinds.co.uk)

## Memories are Golden

Open

Monday–Thursday 09.30–2pm

The Old Parkway School, Unity Offices, Park Road, Haverhill, CB9 7YD

Memories are Golden specialises in offering day care services to individuals living with dementia and suffering from heart conditions, diabetes, and other long-term physical challenges.

We also support people in their journey towards combating loneliness and isolation from families, friends, and their community.

Our Community Hub provides a safe space to socialise and build friendships, as well as providing meaningful activities, entertainment, and social events, to improve well-being. We also provide a 2 course nutritious meal every day.

£55 per day

We are accredited with Suffolk County Council who can commission service users to attend the hub if they meet criteria

We offer a taster day FOC – If you would like to book a visit please call Kelly on 07538920731  
Email: [enquiries@memoriesaregolden.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@memoriesaregolden.co.uk)  
Website: [www.memoriesaregolden.co.uk](http://www.memoriesaregolden.co.uk)



## Jeff Fellows -wine bargains

In the never-ending quest for affordable wines, it always helps to watch out

for deals on offer from retailers.

All the following selections are less than £8 per bottle and will provide a warm glow on drinking at such a reasonable price.

ALDI. Baron Amarillo Rueda Verdejo. A white wine glugger but at £3.99 (from £5.99) it is difficult to miss.

The red to go for is their Toscana Rosso. Based on the Sangiovese grape which always has that dry finish to it. Pasta ragu's with this. 14%.

ASDA. The Extra Special Viognier is a treat. Think citrus fruits and vanilla. The latter part vinified in Oak casks. As a white it would be ideally suited to Roast Chicken, and soft white cheeses. 12.4%.

Their Rioja Crianza would also be on the list for those enjoying lamb dishes. 14%. LIDL. Pinot Gris from Gisborne, NZ, is the white here. This grape always produces aromatic wines which are fruity. Hint of dryness. Prawns to accompany. Another choice for lamb is the Bordeaux Superieur '17. A few years age have helped this one mature and become softer. Black fruit notes and dry finish. £13.5% SAINSBURY'S. Taste the difference Pinot Grigio from Northern Italy offers peach and citrus tones. 13%. Salads and grilled fish.

La Vieille Ferme Red. Wine in a box from the always consistent family Perrin. This is a blend of Rhone grapes. Full bodied and to accompany hearty dishes. Which, with the weather remaining somewhat less than par, we'll soon be having. This is a 1.5l box but the price per bottle is still within the price limit. They also do a white and Rose boxes.



TESCO. Finest Pinot Grigio. Also, from N. Italy. More apple taste to this bottle. Once again Salads and grilled fish. 12.5% Prestige de Calvet, Côtes du Rhône Villages. Another Rhône grape blend offering spicy red fruit hints. Quite intense. Rustic dishes and cheese. 14%. WAITROSE. A Rose this time, just in case the temperature should ever go up again, La Carisa Rosa Pinot Grigio. Red berries are the prominent feature of this one. Light, refreshing. As with all of the white wines must be chilled to 10'. 12.5% Luis P Edwards Malbec. From Chile. Think stewed fruits, Damsons, plums and a hint of Black pepper. Grilled meats are a natural for this one. 13%.  
**best, Jeff**

## FRESH FISH • SMOKED FISH • SHELL FISH



☎ 01787 377768  
07971 811947

### WEDNESDAY

Willow Tree Farm Shop  
9am-1pm

### THURSDAY

Coggeshall 7.30am-12.30pm  
Long Melford 2.30pm-5pm

### FRIDAY

Clare Market Hill 8am-10am  
Lavenham Market Place 11am-1pm  
Depden 2-4pm



## Clare Community Food Bank

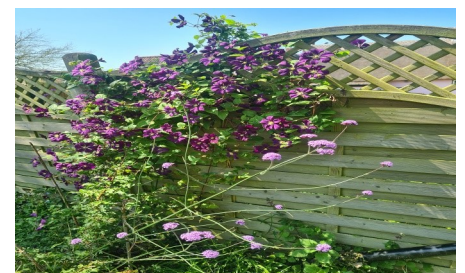
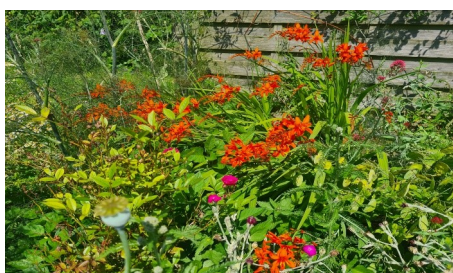
Free food at the Community  
Pantry in Clare Parish  
Church

07456 863 555

[www.boomerangspetfoodbank.co.uk/](http://www.boomerangspetfoodbank.co.uk/)



You can donate to our  
pantry by following this link  
[www.tinyurl.com/Clare  
Community Pantry](http://www.tinyurl.com/ClareCommunityPantry)





**C·L·A·S·P**  
CLARE LIAISON & SUPPORT PROJECT

## ***We are looking for volunteers***



Volunteering can fit around your other commitments - most of our volunteers offer a few hours a month

**Wide variety of roles available – local to Clare**  
drivers and assistants needed for our minibus support for our shopping trips to Haverhill

support for our Wednesday Lunch Club (cooking, washing up, serving refreshments, socialising with our clients)

CAR-AID drivers give lifts to medical appointments monthly fundraising sales in Town Hall

**Without volunteers, we'd be a nation without a soul**

Visit [www.clasp-clare.co.uk](http://www.clasp-clare.co.uk) for more information

### **Stella Byrne – Vice-Chair and Publicity Officer for CLASP.**

Our friend Stella has recently taken over as publicity officer from John Webb. The following is a short summary so readers of Parish Pump can get to know her

I moved to Clare from Kent in February 2021 after retiring from 40 years as a primary school teacher and Headteacher – a career I loved.

I was interested in looking for volunteering opportunities and, after seeing a poster in the window of the Co-op, I contacted **Sue Packer** to offer to help out at the Wednesday Lunch Club run by CLASP in Clare



Community Centre. This has turned into a weekly role where I help with shopping, food preparation and clearing up as required. I have really enjoyed the opportunity to get to know some of local residents who attend each week as well as the other volunteers who give their time so cheerfully and create such a welcoming and friendly environment each week.

It is lovely to hear memories from those attending – several of them attended school in the building where we host the lunches. I have also heard reminiscences of meeting royalty and pop stars from the past as well as stories about life in Clare. I particularly enjoy our celebration of special events in the calendar; creating and serving themed menus, and having additional decorations, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the King's Coronation as well as Christmas and Easter.

**I would highly recommend volunteering with CLASP** – there are many different roles available and time commitment can be matched to your availability. You will be assured of a very warm and grateful welcome.

**If you need transport to hospital or medical services please contact John Webb on 07724698283**

## **Stradishall Church—the continuation of a rescue mission**



The big task this month is the continuation of brightening the whole church. This means painstakingly refreshing the walls with classic white limewash in the time old fashion.

Unfortunately it is a slow process because there are a lot of walls but it is getting there. One of the most dramatic changes has been the bell tower. For unknown reasons the wall paint work was in a terrible condition including a lot surface crumbling of the plaster, but classic lime putty and the aforementioned lime wash has

come to the rescue. It actually looks quite smart if you don't examine it too closely! The completed parts of the main church are the south and west walls of the nave and all of the chancel. So just the north wall to do now. A good side effect is that the whitening of the plaster has made the ancient wall paintings stand out well.





## Wickhambrook Local History Society News – May 2024

The members enjoyed visiting **Pakenham Watermill** and **Thelnetham Windmill** on a beautiful July day. We were warmly welcomed by volunteers at both venues and given comprehensive tours of both mills. Highlight of the day for those who climbed the windmill was to be standing under the cap as the sails turned and the machinery was set in motion. There has been a mill at Pakenham since before the Norman Conquest. If you are looking for a trip with children this summer, both of these venues would entertain and excite them.

Dorothy Anderson



## Gatehouse Charity: NHS Mindfulness Course

**FREE ONLINE MINDFULNESS COURSE FOR OVER 65s**  
Led by a Clinical Psychologist



Dear friends,  
**Are you over 65 or a caregiver?** Join our specially designed online mindfulness course, led by a clinical psychologist, and experience transformative benefits from the comfort of your home. Mindfulness has been found to.

- **Reduce Stress & Improve Mood**
- **Boost Memory & Attention:** Particularly helpful for those in early stages of dementia or with mild cognitive impairment.
- **Be effective in reducing the discomfort of chronic pain.**
- **Help prevent burnout.**
- **Convenient & Engaging:** 1-hour weekly sessions via Zoom over 6 weeks, complete with a coffee break and optional extended practice.

**Course Dates:**  
Various start dates in May/June 2024  
Places are free but limited to 15 per course, therefore early booking is recommended to guarantee your spot.  
Bookings can be made via our website: [www.the-mindful-life.com](http://www.the-mindful-life.com) by clicking on the 'apply now' button or email [raechel@mindfullife.uk](mailto:raechel@mindfullife.uk) with any queries

MINDFULNESS HAS BEEN SHOWN TO:

- ✓ Improve sleep
- ✓ Ease stress and improve resilience
- ✓ Combat feelings of loneliness
- ✓ Improve memory and attention
- ✓ Reduce low mood and anxiety
- ✓ Help relieve chronic pain
- ✓ Promote relaxation



To apply, visit [www.the-mindful-life.com](http://www.the-mindful-life.com) and click the 'Apply Now' button, or scan the QR Code



SCAN ME WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA

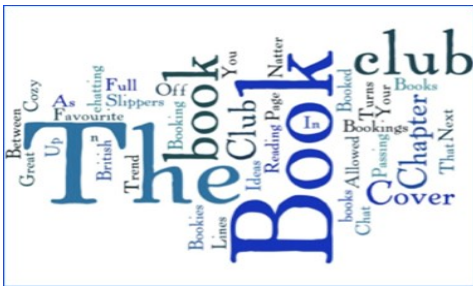
## Delightful coincidence in Stradishall churchyard

Hello Dr Thompson,

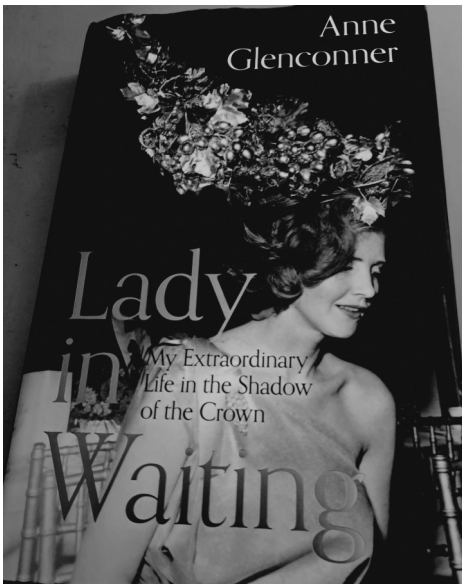
My sister and I met you at the church a few weeks ago while we were looking for the grave of Elizabeth Bowyer our great great grandmother. We are so grateful to you for helping us in our search that day to find it. I returned today and planted a small rosebush and hope that mother nature will take care of the watering. I noticed that the hedge line had been trimmed as you had mentioned and the grave markers cleaned a little to make them more legible thank you. Unfortunately I was unable to find the other headstone for Mr Bowyer but we are so thrilled to have found one of them.

We are so grateful to you for taking the time that day to help us. My father has traced many generations of Bowyers to Stradishall and I know they were married and buried at the church. I return to the States tomorrow but will be back again next summer to do some more research on my family.

Thank you again, Gillian Gates <[gillgates1@yahoo.com](mailto:gillgates1@yahoo.com)>



Even those who had thought they would probably not be interested in a trawl through Anne Glenconner's privileged world of the British aristocracy found her memoir 'Lady in Waiting – an Extraordinary Life in the Shadow of the Crown' a surprisingly compelling read. We were all drawn to her accessible conversational style of writing and agreed it was very entertaining, appealing as it did to the voyeuristic in each of us! Glenconner's family crest is an ostrich swallowing a horseshoe – denoting 'we can digest anything'. Indeed, the theme of stoicism and 'just get on with it' is one which runs throughout the book and is a particular coping style which sees her through the worst of times. However, it is



not an attitude which promotes change and so the old traditions are carried on – making a 'good' marriage to a wealthy titled husband, children brought up by nannies then sent to boarding school, subservience to husband and reverence to rank, to name a few. Lady Glenconner certainly led an extraordinary life but always she is constrained by the mores of her class and of other people – her parents, her husband, Princess Margaret, to whom she was lady in waiting for over 30 years. We thought that by writing this book she has at last created her own independence and for the first time it is she who is the centre of attention. Born in 1932 to the future Earl and Lady Leicester, she was 'the greatest disappointment' because she was a girl. Her female status meant that she would not inherit the Earldom or Holkham estate or anything in it. The expectation was that she would marry well. At 23 she married



## Harris & Harris Books (NEW PREMISES)

- Two floors of new and old books for readers of all ages
- Fast ordering service
- Books posted worldwide
- Gift certificates available
- Email for bookshop events and newsletter

Colin Tennant, to-be Baron Glenconner, extremely rich, 'very much part of "the Princess Margaret Set"' and future owner of Mustique, which he turns into a luxurious playground for the rich and famous. Colin's behaviour could be truly awful but in his upper-class world he was often indulged and passed off as 'eccentric'. To just accept and 'get on with it' when dealing with her abusive and narcissistic husband was anathema to us but she persevered for 54 years until his death in 2010. His last act of 'eccentricity' was to disinherit his family and leave his entire estate to an employee! Glenconner's life is one of huge extravagance and glamour but there is also dreadful personal tragedy. Outlandish amounts of money were spent on making the parties in Mustique legendary and their houses 'the most stylish in London'. This makes for very titillating reading but there is a lack of any serious thought or deliberation given to their position of privilege and entitlement which angered some of our readers. There is more depth of reflection when she openly shares the difficult times living with her eldest son's issues with addiction and the distress following her second son's diagnosis of AIDS. Both die young and she nurses a third son after a near fatal motorbike accident. With respect to bringing up her children she admits to the emotionally distant style of parenting typical of her ilk and concedes to only really grasping there are other, 'more fulfilling' ways of approaching motherhood, when it was too late, and her children had grown up.

For the Royal watchers amongst us there were some intriguing details and anecdotes about various members of the Royal family and of course, as Lady in Waiting and friend to Princess Margaret, she was right there with all the ups and downs until the bitter end. As Maid of Honour at the coronation of Elizabeth II she is well placed to put a personal touch on things describing how the to-be queen turns to her entourage and says, 'Ready girls?' before they all disappear into the Abbey and how she herself almost faints 'in front of the entire British Empire'. After being a bit caustic (but very politely so!) about Princess Diana, she acknowledges that when her son died from complications of AIDS, unlike a lot of people who were distancing themselves from her, the princess 'wasn't afraid to confront the situation head-on' and when it came to dealing with her son's death 'she got it right'. The book offers some fascinating 'reveals' into high society and times gone by and whilst a modern reader might struggle with the elitism and sexism, let alone the emotional repression, it has to be read with a view to the social and historical context of place and time. After some discussion we decided that since we all found it an engaging and interesting read, we should award 4 stars out of 5! Next time we are back to fiction with **The Forgotten Bookshop in Paris by Daisy Wood**. If you would like to join us please contact [annedennis1@live.co.uk](mailto:annedennis1@live.co.uk) or 07557357362

With over 15 years' experience  
let us take care of your themed  
parties, DJ, music and events

Call Dan on  
07812 134 267

# A1 CARS

SUFFOLK (LTD)

24 hour taxi and  
Executive Service  
Airport Transfers

[book@a1cars.co.uk](mailto:book@a1cars.co.uk)

[www.a1cars.co.uk](http://www.a1cars.co.uk)

01284 766 777

Try our new app  
Search A1 Cars Suffolk on the App Store or Play Store

## Setting The Record Straight – Learning About The History Of Refugees In Suffolk

Stansfield Village Hall committee would like to offer sincere thanks to all those who supported our events to mark 'Refugee Week' on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. We were particularly delighted to welcome Martin Simmonds, communications officer from the Ipswich based charity 'Suffolk Refugee Support' (SRS). The audience attending was so engaged in Martin's talk and eager to ask questions that we had to rush him to the station at Bury St Edmunds afterwards, where he just about caught his train. The subject of refugees and asylum seekers is often fraught with misunderstanding and misinformation, so it was a breath of fresh air to be offered some clarity and context around this important issue. People fleeing from persecution, conflict and catastrophe have always been with us with evidence of their long term integration all around us. Huguenots fleeing to England from religious persecution from the 1500s to the 1700s had a significant influence on the weaving industry and there were local settlements in Sudbury, Long Melford, Shimpling and Hawkedon. Martin showed how a shared perception of a common threat can have a positive effect on acceptance of refugees. When boat loads of **Belgian refugees arrived at Southwold harbour on Oct 15**



negative feeling towards refugees. When Basque refugee children arrived in the UK following the bombing of Guernica in April 1937, certain newspapers sent reporters to record instances of misbehaviour from clearly traumatised children. We were also treated to some healthy myth-busting. Figures show that, contrary to popular misconception, people from distressed regions don't generally leave and make long difficult and dangerous journeys to the UK just to capitalise on our standard of living. 69% of refugees worldwide choose to stay close to home in neighbouring countries – for example, Jordan hosts 1.3 million refugees from Syria. And far from being overrun with asylum seekers the UK currently ranks 20th in Europe

1914, the Mayor of Southwold wrote: "There was great excitement about these poor people and we thought it might be our fate later". However, at times less scrupulous agendas can lead to significant effort being made to promote

in terms of asylum applications per head of population (in 2023 Germany had 5 times as many asylum applications as the UK, France and Spain nearly 3 times as many, and Italy twice as many). SRS is an a-political organisation which runs a range of services. These include an advice service, English language classes, employment support and training, refugee resettlement casework, Women and families work, youth work, an international women's group, health and sports activities and a sewing group. In 2023 the charity directly supported more than 1500 people, 112 people learned English through ESOL classes, and 96 people were successfully supported to secure employment. We are pleased to report that our audience contributed £100 to support the work of SRS when a collection box was passed round after Martin's talk. You can find out more about the charity by visiting [suffolkrefugee.org.uk](http://suffolkrefugee.org.uk). If you would like a free copy of SRS fascinating publication 'Refugee Stories' contact [friends@stansfieldvillage.org.uk](mailto:friends@stansfieldvillage.org.uk)

## Smallholding by Portia Brown

Fingers crossed for a drier forecast after another very wet month. In between showers, thankfully we have been able to harvest some hay for winter feed for the animals. That should be a wrap for lambing 2024, after 4 months. The matriarch of the flock has had a lovely Dutch spotted ewe lamb.



We have been super busy delivering our lamb, hogget, mutton and beef boxes locally this month after a short break whilst I was lambing. We sell our meat locally pre ordered roughly monthly. Our lambs have had their 1st health check and have been wormed and fly treated along with fly treating the ewes. Flies are a big



problem to sheep in the spring and summer months. Shearing and fly treating is essential for sheep welfare. Blowfly strike in sheep is when blue bottle flies lay eggs in the sheep's fleece. These eggs



hatch into maggots within around 8 hours and feast on the sheep's skin which if left can quickly become fatal.

The cattle are all very happy out at grass and our bull has covered all the cows, which means we will start calving around Christmas. The farm is looking wonderful with the wildflower strips in full bloom along with the linseed. The bees have been busy with lots of activity around the hives. Harvest is only around the corner now, our busiest time of year. **Portia Brown**

**Your Local Handyman Service**

- Professional Painter & Decorator •
- General Handyman •
- Flat pack assembly •
- Garden Maintenance •
- Removals and clearance •

We are time served and professional.  
Offering a friendly, reliable & efficient service

Contact us today on 07812 134267

**Your handyman is Dan**

## An account of the restoration of Denston War Memorial.



At the November 2019 Remembrance Day Service in Denston the condition of the WM was such that the village decided that it should be restored to its original state. The WM was dedicated in December 1921. Thus began an interesting journey. The leading organisation on restoring these

monuments is **War Memorial Trust (WMT)**. Through all of this project I have followed WMT's guidance and instruction. They have been very supportive throughout this project. Firstly, WMT required an application for a grant to help cover part of the costs. With that in mind the process began. Finding stonemasons to carry out the works began. Local firms did not apply and eventually a firm from Rendlesham, and one from Cambridge submitted tenders. At the same time an Architect familiar with this field had to draw up the work specification, using WMT's very specific instruction on how to carry out such works. Mr Orchard of Whitworth's, Fornham St Genevieve wrote up the spec. The WM is a Grade II listed building and so I had to get approval from West Suffolk Council for the works. Claire Johnson at WS advised us that planning consent would not be required. WMT made clear their approach. It was to try to restore the WM to a condition that made it as near to its original state as possible, and not to make it look brand new. The reasoning is that if the inscriptions were all recut this would make any further restorations much more difficult. I was also advised to visit Historic England's site for further research. Subsequently I was asked to find out if anyone owned the WM. Cue weeks trying to establish this, including visits to Suffolk Archives. Then I was asked to find out who owned the land on which the WM is situated. Once again weeks and months ensued without a result. I now have a Certificate from Land Registry indicating that there is no known owner of the land. The Parish Meeting then had to decide which of the tenders to accept. Mr S Wix of Rendlesham was chosen. Prior to the works beginning Mr Wix had to complete a form for WMT stating that he knew, and accepted, their clear instructions on the procedures they required him to follow. Work started in 07/23 with the cleaning of the WMT. The weather intervened and completion was delayed. Painting of the inscriptions is not recommended when the stone is wet. In 06/24 Mr Wix's team returned and finished the painting. I then had to fill in a Completion Report for WMT, and accompanied that with photos of the WMT, and all of the inscriptions. This has now been accepted by WMT and they have agreed that the funds will be forthcoming. Although it has taken over four and a half years it has been an interesting exercise. The proper procedures were followed and virtually everyone I contacted about this project offered support, and advice, which was most welcome. Now that the WM has been restored, we, the people of Denston, trust that future generations will continue to preserve it. **Jeff Fellows**

**The glorious photographs are on page 15.**

*theDenston 550*  
**The Festival Weekend**

Friday 13th September – Sunday 15th September

The celebration of 550 years in the life of St Nicholas' Church, Denston, reaches a crescendo with a memorable weekend of events in one of Suffolk's most beautiful and historic churches.

**Friday 13th September 6pm – 7.30pm**

A **Drinks Reception** in St Nicholas' Church, Denston, to mark the opening of *Music Through The Ages*, a unique floral interpretation of six centuries of church music, as well as a fascinating **Exhibition** tracing the history of the building.

**Entry:** Please let [misshbradfield@gmail.com](mailto:misshbradfield@gmail.com) know in advance if you can come. £10 per person (on the door). Wine & Cheese.

**Saturday 14th September 10am – 5pm, Sunday 15th September 10am – 3pm**

The spectacular *Music Through The Ages Flower Festival* is open over both Saturday and Sunday.

**Entry:** Discretionary donation. Tea, coffee & cake at the church (£4 per person).

**Sunday 15th September 4pm**

A beautiful **Choral Evensong** in St Nicholas' with members of Cambridge Renaissance Voices.

The service will be led by Bishop Martin, Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich, and the Reverend Eve Bell. All welcome.

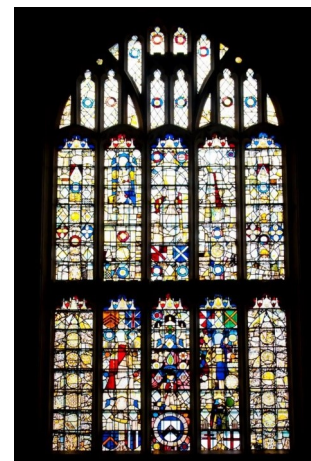
**Sunday 8th September 9am – Sunday 15th September 4pm**

A **Silent Auction**. An on-line auction of high-quality lots: holiday houses, sporting and national events, golf, art, and others.

Bidding opens at 9.00am on Sunday 8th September and closes at 4.00pm on Sunday 15th September. Registration from Sunday 1st September.

We would be delighted if you would like to participate in some or all of these events. All proceeds raised by *theDenston 550* are in aid of St Nicholas' Church, Denston, to help a tiny rural community cherish a magnificent Grade 1-listed Suffolk church for future generations.

Any enquiries, please contact Camilla Hamilton: [camillahamilton@btinternet.com](mailto:camillahamilton@btinternet.com) or 07867 598145



**1474 – 2024**  
*theDenston 550*

*The Festival Weekend*  
*Friday 13th September –*  
*Sunday 15th September*



# The Glorious restoration of Denston War Memorial.



Please see John Fellows's account of the Denston war memorial *on page thirteen*



## Wickhambrook Parish Council News



Hello, I hope you are all keeping safe and well. July has been a busy month with both the Estates Committee and a parish council meeting. We also had a stand at the Wickhambrook Fete and Flower Show (a fantastic event!) which we used to showcase our volunteering opportunities – we're looking to recruit to the following roles:

- Litter picking (one morning, three or four times a year)
- Cemetery tidy mornings (monthly—March to November)
- Community Speedwatch (we need at least six volunteers to get this started)
- Road Safety Working Group—meeting three to four times a year
- Flooding issues volunteer team
- Become a councillor—we currently have a vacancy for one councillor
- Footpaths volunteers –reporting to the footpaths officer
- Specific projects such as helping to clean play equipment

You can do as little or as much as you like —we value every contribution, and every little bit helps us help our community! You can use the QR code to request more information about volunteering with the parish council. You can find draft minutes of our [July Estates Meeting](#). Our next meetings will be:



Estates Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> September; and  
Parish Council – 26<sup>th</sup> September

Both held in the Pavilion, Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre. If there is anything you would like the parish council to consider at a future meeting, [please do get in touch with me](#)

Over the summer we'll be carrying out a consultation on our Grounds Specification, specifically looking at opportunities to develop wildlife areas on parish council land – look out for a note from your clerk in early August! Do feel free to forward this message on to neighbours, friends and family in the parish and ask them to get in touch with me at [parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk) if they would like to be included in our e-newsletter mailing list!



**STANSFIELD**  
**Parish Council**  
*Working with our local community*



***Do you have a bicycle, scooter or a hat that you could decorate? Could you design a flag for, or write a short story or poem about, your village?  
Bake a cake, grow fruit or veg?  
Arrange some flowers?***

### **Summer Fun in Stansfield, Saturday afternoon, August 17<sup>th</sup> will offer lots of fun events with lovely prizes!**

Welly wanging, and egg and spoon races are planned, as well as a BBQ (*free for village residents*) and an Ice Cream Van in attendance, all at the Village Hall, 1 to 4pm. Teas, coffee, soft drinks and cakes will be served by Good Neighbour Scheme volunteers, and Village Hall supporters plan to run a bar and music. Parish Councillors will be on hand to take in ideas and comments on anything to do with the village. Please save this date...full details will be posted later and a flyer, with competition entries details, will be delivered to each household. Contact : 07827 128511.

***Entries to be delivered to the Village Hall between 12 noon and 1.30pm on the day, clearly marked with the Class they are to be entered in and with the entrant's full name and contact number. Judging at 2pm.***

- 1: Design a Flag for Stansfield (painting or drawing)
- 2: Best short story or poem with a Stansfield theme
- 3: Best decorated Hat
- 4: Best decorated bicycle, scooter or other conveyance
- 5: Best decorated cake
- 6: Flowers in a Jam Jar
- 7: Flowers in a most unusual household

- object
- 8: Floral arrangement smaller than 2 inches wide/high
  - 9a): Garden flower arrangement under 8 years
  - 9b): Wild hedgerow arrangement 8-16 years
  - 10: Best basket of home-grown produce

#### **Stansfield Olympics events:**

*(Events weather permitting) Entries to be taken on the day*  
**Welly Wanging** (*from around 2pm till 3pm*)  
**Egg and Spoon Race** (*to take place about 3pm, maybe divided into age groups if enough entries*)

#### **Prizes:**

**Best in Show:** Rosette and Perpetual Challenge Trophy and Chairman of the Parish Council £25 prize  
**Reserve Best:** Rosette and £10  
Rosettes and cash or other prizes\* to all winners  
*\*Other Prizes to include: Family Cream Tea. Cinema Stansfield vouchers. Chocolate Hamper. Book Voucher*  
**Prize giving: 3.45pm.**

Monthly trips made: historical easy reference summary

**47-62-29-37-38-34 Year 2024 to date = 247 total, 41.2 average Bookings as at 6<sup>th</sup>. July month to date – 28**

The number of trips made in the 2023 year, at 389, was **42%** more than made in 2022.

The current monthly average of 41.2 trips is **27%** higher than the 2023 level (32.4 trips).

After the **very busy** January (47 trips), followed by the **explosion** in February (62 trips), March **imploded** (29 trips). April with 37 trips experienced a 50% increase over April last year, whereas May (38 trips), was marginally down on May last year. June trips (34) were lower than May, and also lower than June 2023.

As will be seen from the Statistics Summary above, the demand for our service continues to grow. However, the difficulty in finding volunteers has continued. We have drivers taking extended holidays or having other commitments. Nevertheless, we have always managed to provide the service required, despite demands sometimes changing at short notice due to hospital rearrangements. **It is important to note that in Q2 2024 we used 30 drivers during the 3 months, virtually our whole available complement.** Some good news. We have three new drivers. Rebecca Hall, Patrick Holmes and Sally Anne Doyle-Caddick who all joined us in June.

Once again can I please urge all our volunteer drivers to try to identify and encourage any potential new persons to join our drivers' pool.

**I REPEAT.** Although having a pool of over thirty volunteers, some of whom have limited availability, driver resource still continues to be a problem given the very significant increase in client demand this year. Clearly, we still need to attract more drivers in order to provide the level of service to which we aspire, and our community requires, particularly now that demand is increasing.

**The ongoing interesting CarAid Statistic** - In the last 75 months, since April 2018 when I took over, CarAid has helped 241 different clients, making 1,640 trips. **John Webb 6th. July 2024**

**CAR AID - STATISTICS**

2024	Journeys	Clients	Where to	Drivers	Mileage £	Cancels
January	47	26	14	21	531.75	4
February	62	36	21	22	805.45	4
March	29	21	9	16	383.85	6
<b>First Quarter Total</b>	<b>138</b>				<b>1,721.05</b>	<b>14</b>
April	37	28	9	23	536.40	7
May	38	29	12	16	543.95	2
June	34	27	12	23	521.60	5
<b>Second Quarter Total</b>	<b>109</b>				<b>1,601.95</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Year 2024 to date Total</b>	<b>247</b>				<b>3,323.00</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Year 2024 Month to date Average</b>	<b>41.2</b>		<b>Months</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>553.83</b>	

**CLEMENTS  
CHIMNEY  
SERVICES**

07810 616 837  
clementschimneyservices@outlook.com

**Denston Village Hall 100 Club June Quiz night**

**Tim Reay-Glover £20**  
**Mr & Mrs Turner £10**  
**Jeff Fellows £ 5**  
**STEFAN, TREASURER Denston Village Hall 01440 820675**

**PLEASE NOTE**

**We send an electronic version of our magazine to about 400 people. If anyone in the villages does not receive the Pump or if you know anyone who would like to have it, please message us with their email address. I will ensure you will be put on the list. Kind regards, Peter**

**[parish.pump@gmail.com](mailto:parish.pump@gmail.com)**

**Wickhambrook WI At The Races!**

A group of **Wickhambrook WI members** enjoyed a day at the races on Thursday 11th July. It being “Ladies Day” we were suitably decked out in our finest outfits complete with headgear. The racing was preceded by a picnic in the car park where members had provided quiche, sausage rolls, pasta salad followed by strawberries and cream. Picnic packed away we headed for the racecourse to study the form for the day. Betting was intense and one member successfully won on four out of six races going home with a sizeable pot of money!



**Wendy Mansfield**

**SUFFOLK LIBRARIES**    **WHERE I BELONG**




# CINÈ CLAIR

Where your library becomes your cinema.

## Coming Soon...



**25 Jul**



**29 Aug**



**26 Sep**

**Brought to you by The Friends of Clare Library.**  
**Doors open 6:30pm & show starts 7pm.**  
**All proceeds help to nurture children's literacy, support vulnerable people and promote wellbeing.**

By donating to Suffolk Libraries you can help us fund crucial additional services that reduce social, digital and rural isolation in our communities. For details visit [www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/donate](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/donate)  
HMRC charity number: XT15478

**Afternoon Tea at Stradishall UPDATE**



Sadly, the **Anima et Musica** duo have had to cancel their recital, which was planned for August 10<sup>th</sup>. **BUT – YOU ARE STILL WARMLY INVITED** to

partake of tea and cake in the peaceful setting of a country churchyard (or country church if raining). This will be an occasion for the people of Stradishall to meet friends and neighbours and welcome any newcomers to the village. (Passersby and visitors are very welcome!). Please also take a look inside the church, to catch up on the work that is being carried out to help rejuvenate this lovely old building. All funds will go towards this initiative. **Do join us – 2.30 to 4.30pm Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August**

**Village BBQ in aid of All Saints Church, Stansfield**  
**On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July**  
**At Laurel Bank Farmhouse, Assington Green, Stansfield CO10 8LY 11 am Garden Church Service (optional)**  
**12.15 pm Full BBQ & desserts**  
**BAR**  
**Tickets available from Louise Cairns Mackrill**  
**01284 789279**  
[louise.mackrill@gmail.com](mailto:louise.mackrill@gmail.com)  
**BAR & RAFFLE**  
**£15 pp (under 10 yrs £5)**  
**Proceeds to All Saints Church, Stansfield**

## PARISH COUNCILS - WHO'S WHO in YOUR VILLAGE?

Parish Council	Chair	Vice Chair	Clerks
<b>Denston</b>	Jeff Fellows <a href="mailto:jefffellows.crown@gmail.com">jefffellows.crown@gmail.com</a> 01440 820 310	N/A	Jeff Fellows
<b>Hawkedon/ Thurston End</b>	Rotating	Rotating	David Jarrold <a href="mailto:dmj1800@icloud.com">dmj1800@icloud.com</a>
<b>Poslingford</b>	Martin England <a href="mailto:poslingfordddd@outlook.com">poslingfordddd@outlook.com</a> 07814 246 204	Marc Allison <a href="mailto:marc@theallisons.co.uk">marc@theallisons.co.uk</a>	Chris Turner 07814246204
<b>Stansfield/ Assington Green</b>	Rex Barnes <a href="mailto:rexstansfieldsoc@gmail.com">rexstansfieldsoc@gmail.com</a> 07778 058425 <a href="http://www.stansfield.onesuffolk.net">www.stansfield.onesuffolk.net</a>	Andrew Pallett <a href="mailto:andrew.pallett.spc@btinternet.com">andrew.pallett.spc@btinternet.com</a> 01284 789434	Annie Lines <a href="mailto:stansfieldpc@outlook.com">stansfieldpc@outlook.com</a>
<b>Stradishall</b>	Ian Hutchinson <a href="mailto:stradishallparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk">stradishallparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk</a> uk 07970717116	Robert Deeks 07940548407	Joanna Kirk <a href="mailto:stradishallparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk">stradishallparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk</a> uk 077946851198
<b>Clare</b>	Rob Eyre <a href="mailto:rob.eyre@clare-suffolk.co.uk">rob.eyre@clare-suffolk.co.uk</a> 01787 277 559	Paul Bishop <a href="mailto:paul.bishop@clare-suffolk.co.uk">paul.bishop@clare-suffolk.co.uk</a> ,	Davina Neale <a href="mailto:clerk@clare-suffolk.co.uk">clerk@clare-suffolk.co.uk</a>
<b>Cowlinge</b>	Linda Aston <a href="mailto:lindaaston555@gmail.com">lindaaston555@gmail.com</a>	Jane Nesham	John Barnett 01440 783 903
<b>Wickhambrook</b>	Mike Lavelle <a href="mailto:mike.lavelle@wickhambrook.org.uk">mike.lavelle@wickhambrook.org.uk</a>	Paul Couzens 07713 740 984 <a href="mailto:paul.couzens@wickhambrook.org.uk">paul.couzens@wickhambrook.org.uk</a>	Hilary Workman 07508 039 810 <a href="mailto:parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk">parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk</a>

### West Suffolk District Councillors

West Suffolk District Councillor for **Denston, Stansfield, Hawkedon, Brockley, Wickhambrook, Stradishall, Clare, Hundon, Cavendish, Stoke by Clare, Kedington and others**

Bobby Bennett [bobbybennet@suffolk.couk](mailto:bobbybennet@suffolk.couk)

West Suffolk District Councillor for **Whepstead Wickhambrook Denston, Stansfield, Brockley, and Hawkedon**

Sarah Pugh [Sarah.pugh@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.pugh@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

West Suffolk District Council for **Clare, Kedington & Hundon ward** Cllr Nick Clarke -

[nick.clarke@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:nick.clarke@westsuffolk.gov.uk) Cllr Marion Rushbrook

[marion.rushbrook@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:marion.rushbrook@westsuffolk.gov.uk) Cllr Karen

Richardson [karen.richardson@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:karen.richardson@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

# M Jordan

Painter & Decorator

Wallpapering.  
Interior & Exterior.  
Domestic & Commercial.  
Free Estimates & Advice.  
Fully Insured. References Available.

07510 842442 - 01638 815226

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





Cinema in  
Stansfield  
presents...

"ONE OF THE FINEST FILMS ABOUT INNOCENCE EVER MADE"  
—CINEMA LONDON, JUNE 2014





A FILM BY GIUSEPPE TORNATORE

JACQUES PERRIN  
PHILIPPE NOIRET  
LEOPOLDO TRISTE

## cinema PARADISO

TICKETS  
**£6**

Limited seats available  
Advance booking only



Friday 16th August

Stansfield Village Hall

Hall Lane, Lower Street, Stansfield, CO10 8LW

Doors 7pm | Film 7.30pm | Licensed bar

To book visit: [ticketsource.co.uk/stansfield-village-hall](http://ticketsource.co.uk/stansfield-village-hall)  
Assistance/enquiries: [friends@stansfieldvillage.org.uk](mailto:friends@stansfieldvillage.org.uk) or call 01284 789192

Registered Charity 304939

12A

Generously supported by Local Authorities and our principle funders:







Please recycle me

# David Pryke Motor Repairs Limited



**FOUR WHEEL ALIGNMENT  
DIAGNOSTICS  
TYRES AND BATTERIES  
CLASS 4 MOTs  
ALL MECHANICAL REPAIRS  
AIR CONDITIONING**

Unit D Townsend Bridewell Street  
Clare Suffolk CO10 8QD  
Tel/Fax 01787278016  
[www.davidprykemotorrepairs.co.uk](http://www.davidprykemotorrepairs.co.uk)  
Email: davidpryke@aol.com

**National Bell ringers in Stradishall  
"Molly Week 2024"**



**The beautiful bells  
of Stradishall  
church rang out  
over West Suffolk  
on 10th of May**

## Dear Dr Thompson

You may recall giving your card to one of the ringers who rang a quarter peal at Stradishall on Wednesday the 10th of July, and asking if we could provide something written about our bell ringing group. As the organiser of this year's holiday, which was given the above nickname in honour of the usual organiser, **Molly Waterson**, I'm happy to oblige. I hope therefore that what follows may be of some interest.

Originally the idea for these annual events came from a group of ringers in the West Country, in particular in the city of Bath. Year on year, though, they have "picked up" like-minded devotees in the various areas that they have visited. At first they were weekend breaks, but the formula worked so well that they evolved into week long holidays. The idea was simple. Every year a different area of the country would be chosen, and self-

catering accommodation booked for around twenty people. Churches would be approached, with plenty of notice, for permission for the group to visit.

Typically, we ring at seven or eight towers in a full day's ringing, although no individual ringer is scheduled to attend more than half of these. At each church we attempt a "quarter peal".

A quarter peal is a set length, typically of 1,260 changes, or blows of each bell, and the success of each attempt is by no means a foregone conclusion. Ropes can break, clappers fall out, or, most often, quarters can be lost because one or more of the ringers loses their place in the complex pattern of the changes. Hence each successful performance is an achievement.

What makes us come back each year for these weeklong ringing extravaganzas? For me, it's a number of things.

Firstly, we visit many, varied and often beautiful parts of the country. (Bell ringing as we practise it is essentially an English thing.) No two churches are the same, and ringers generally get to see parts of those churches that are not

## Stradishall Parish Council News

A meeting of Stradishall Parish Council took place on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024. The meeting was attended by **District Councillors Marion Rushbrooke, Karen Richardson and Nick Clarke, County Councillor Bobby Bennett** and 6 members of the public. The last few months have been fairly quiet due to the pre-election period with little to report from Suffolk County Council or West Suffolk Council. No reports were presented at the meeting.

### Speeding along The Street.

District Councillors Marion Rushbrooke, Karen Richardson and Nick Clarke have pledged £300 each from their locality budgets towards the cost of a new Vehicle Activated Sign. County Councillor Bobby Bennett has also agreed to put some money towards it but was unable to confirm the amount until after the elections on 4<sup>th</sup> July. The Parish Council is hoping to be in a position to order the new VAS by the end of July.

### Planning

Stradishall Parish Council has been notified about a planning application on the old cold store site off Edmunds Hill in Stradishall. The proposal is to demolish the cold store and build eight dwellings including two bungalows and two semi-detached houses. Although the site is outside the existing housing settlement boundary councillors felt that the removal of the cold store and the provision of new homes would be an improvement to the area. Councillors also supported the mix of housing including bungalows and semi-detached properties. The only concern was that there is no safe pedestrian route connecting the new properties to village amenities such as the church, playing field and bus stops in Stradishall. The only pedestrian route is along the B1063 which is a busy road with no footway. These concerns have been included in the Parish Council's response to this application.

### Stradishall Playing field

The purchase of the access track to the playing field has now completed. The Parish Council is waiting for confirmation that the purchase has been registered with the land registry. Councillors also discussed repairs to the pavilion on the playing field and some of the play equipment. The Parish Council is in the process of finding possible contractors and quotes for the work. **Joanne Kirk**

normally accessible, often preserving features, and an undefinable atmosphere of past times, that have been tidied or restored away in the main part of the building.

Secondly, there is a world of difference between good and bad ringing, and the annual "Molly Week" tends very much to be an oasis of excellence in the desert of the weekly service we give to our local churches. Finally, the communal parts of the cottage accommodation provide a social hub for us, where the beer and the conversation flow freely. Some of us only see each other once a year on these quarter peal weeks.

This year we enjoyed the beautiful surroundings of Suffolk and North Essex. We're already looking forward eagerly to next year's visit to the rural parts of Bedfordshire and the counties that adjoin. As on our week in Northamptonshire three years ago, we confidently expect to discover hidden beauties in the towns, villages and countryside of a part of England that is rarely thought of as a holiday destination. With best wishes  
**Alan Pink**

# OLD GOAT BREWERY

**FINE ALES, BREWED ON THE PREMISES**

WINE, SPIRITS & SOFT DRINKS ALSO AVAILABLE

**COME AND TRY OUR DELICIOUS,  
FRESHLY BREWED BEERS,  
INCLUDING LIMITED SEASONALS.**

**FOOD VANS, MOST WEEKENDS,  
PLEASE ENQUIRE OR CHECK OUR  
FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM/WEBSITE.**

**NEW FOR 2024:  
PUB QUIZ EVERY THIRD THURSDAY**

**WWW.OLDGOATBEER.COM**

**THE COMPASSES  
HIGH ST,  
STANSFIELD  
SUDBURY. CO10 8LN**



**TAPROOM HOURS:  
FRI: 4PM – 10PM  
SAT: 3PM – 10PM  
SUN: 3PM – 7PM**

**01284 789009**



# RED KITE TILING

Floor and Wall Tiling Specialist

## Do you need tiling work done?

Based locally to Wickhambrook, and covering the West Suffolk area, Red Kite Tiling provides Ceramic, Porcelain & Natural Stone floor and wall tiling services.

If you have tiling requirements you would like to discuss, including small jobs or repairs, please get in touch for a **FREE** no obligation consultation and estimate.


**Reliable, friendly and responsive service. Fully insured**

**07833 794570**

**info@redkitetiling.co.uk www.redkitetiling.co.uk**



## Who is who in our local church benefices?

BENEFACTICE	CHURCH (Parish)	RECTOR	CONTACT	ELDERS AND OFFICIALS
 <b>BANSFIELD</b>	<b>COWLINGE</b>	<b>The Revd Eve Bell</b>	<b>07815441304</b>	<b>Dr Paul Bevan</b>
	<b>DENSTON</b>			
	<b>LIDGATE</b>			
	<b>OUSDEN</b>			
	<b>STANSFIELD</b>			
	<b>STRADISHALL</b>			
	<b>(Assington Green)</b>			
<b>WICKHAMBROOK</b>				
<b>STOUR VALLEY</b>	<b>CLARE</b>	<b>The Revd Mark Woodrow</b>	<b>01787277515</b>	<b>The Revd Dr Karen Smith</b>
	<b>POSLINGFORD</b>			
<b>SUFFOLK HEIGHTS</b>	<b>HAWKEDON</b>	<b>The Revd Clive Fairclough</b>	<b>01284 615828</b>	<b>Mrs Heather Phillips Mr David Taylor</b>
<b>SUFFOLK HEIGHTS</b>	<b>(Thurston End)</b>	<b>As Hawkedon</b>	<b>As Hawkedon</b>	<b>As Hawkedon</b>



## Martin Kinna

# Oh! How I wish I had written that

Dear Readers, this article takes some reading but please persevere. As with all Martin's articles its content is fascinating

Moving house is exhausting and over a long period too. One of the chores is unpacking boxes and finding new places for... well let's just call it "Stuff". However, one task that soon becomes a pleasure is getting the books out of their cardboard boxes hoarded from deliveries of wine or grabbed at supermarkets.

At first you may think this is a quick and easy task but then, of course, you get distracted. It is fatal to open a book for then you risk going down the rabbit hole of memory, when you have read the book before or possibly you get brought to a sudden jolt by something new or at least you had forgotten. Here is an example I came across just the other day in the introductory pages of **Carla Carlisle's "A Thousand Acres"**, a delightful collection of her writings for Country Life: She quotes this in the Introduction to her book:

**"The country is the real thing, the substantial thing, the eternal thing; it is the thing to watch over, and care for; and be loyal to, institutions are extraneous to it, they are its mere clothing, and clothing can wear out, become ragged, cease to be comfortable, cease to protect the body from winter, disease and death.**

**Mark Twain**

Oh! How I wish I had written that! Maybe I should send it to the desk of Ed Milliband as he takes control of our acres and threatens countless and not very efficient "energy solution wallahs" to grub up our hedgerows, destroy wayside flowers which become rarer each year and destroy the habitat of nesting birds, insects and tiny creatures. What we have here all round us in our small villages and towns is some of the most beautiful countryside on earth. What a joy! What a gift! What a responsibility!! We have the duty to try to understand it, to help it to flourish, to tidy it up even if it is only by picking up the discarded wrapper or drink tin. It is our duty to introduce our children to it that they may enjoy it and let it become their future happiness too. It follows that by nurturing what we love about living here is also kept alive by nurturing our different communities. If we should be able to learn the names of the flowers, birds and trees that surround us then surely, we should know the names of our neighbours also.

Do we know all the names of the people in our street? I fear that in my short street of thirteen homes I do not, and I have had a property in my village for fifty years. Perhaps that is shameful.

But I certainly do know well more than half the village and these days it is not surprising that the majority are in-comers or as some describe us, "blow ins". And thank goodness I do because it was to this group we had to turn when a choir master friend in San Diego suggested we might like to host his choir, **Stellarum**, of sixteen singers. I think if you scratch the surface of most villages and ask for help you will find it. On this occasion we found it in abundance. **The Big Ask** this time was "Are you prepared to take one, two or three Americans we have never met into your homes and give them bed and breakfast and perhaps the odd snack for seven whole days?" " ! If you remember your Latin, there are two ways of asking a question. One when you expect the answer No! And the other expecting the answer Yes! I am glad we did not have to ask in Latin. I do not remember if there is a way of asking when one does not know what answer to expect, but it came immediately from eight neighbours, and they united unreservedly by saying YES!

Of course there were reservations: - "provided they don't mind dust and chaos , we've got builders in" or "As long as they don't smoke, we've got Thatch" or "I don't have showers only baths" and so with that immediate back up we shone the Green Light to California, plane tickets were booked, and plans laid. The Choir wanted to sing and we of course wanted to hear them, as well as to raise money for our Church Fabric Funds as this too is part of looking after our countryside and our communities. It was finally agreed the choir would give a short burst of song in the garden of Gainsborough's House, sing at Morning Prayer in Rede, give a concert as part of the celebration of the 550th Anniversary of St Nicholas in Denston, conduct and sing the wonderfully evocative evening **Service of Compline at St Mary, Hawkedon** (one of the choir members was ordained and conducted the service charmingly), be the featured choir at Evensong in Bury Cathedral where they also gave a special Lunch Time Concert the following day. As if that was not all they sang at the Royal Chapel, Windsor the day after they arrived jet lagged and exhausted. Quite a full programme I am sure you will agree. Church Funds were enhanced, and the imaginative programmes attracted good audiences and congregations. They were a privilege to hear, and it turned out they were a delight to meet. Trans-Atlantic friendships were forged and many happy memories created, (we told them to find

the smallest pub in Britain and they did!) Our hosts were generous, thoughtful and kind, going to many lengths to ensure each choir member was happy and enjoying the best of times with us. There was even a special Fourth of July party at The Italian Terrace where, of course **Stellarum** gave us Amazing Grace and Over the Rainbow among other American songs. It was a rare sight to see them perform in the special outdoor arena there. So it was a time of great hospitality, late nights and laughter, of bonding and friendship, not just for our visitors but amongst ourselves and perhaps among the benefits we received above all it was the bringing together of our own communities that was the biggest. It showed what a few telephone calls and emails can achieve. Our tiny Parishes contain so many people of goodwill and given a call on our willingness to participate can achieve so much real joy. Most grateful thanks to all who came to hear the choir, and especially to their lovely, friendly, tireless hosts. It is a season for such goings on. In Clare the fine church hosted the choir from Trinity College, Cambridge who produced a Great Wall of sound. That was part of a programme of **Music in Country Churches** and that organisation is worth looking at on Google. So all in all the past month was full of happiness and in the very best way full of friendship, community and countryside. What better reasons could we have for living here?

Martin Kinna



Day lilies in the evening sunlight



'Bear's breeches' I don't know why!!



# Mary's page

**Mary Cleaver**

**Address:** 6 Signet Court, Swann Lane Cambridge CB5 8LA **Telephone:** 01223 792331 **Email:** [cambs@oslers.co.uk](mailto:cambs@oslers.co.uk)

**Mary Cleaver**  
Partner - Duty Solicitor and Higher Courts Advocate  
[Oslers Solicitors](http://www.oslers.co.uk)

Lawyer Type: • Solicitor

Years Qualified: 25

Unfortunately work got the better of her so there is no Mary Article this month

**Rural Coffee Caravan**  
Making a difference to rural communities throughout Suffolk

*Come and share a pot of tea, our welcome is warm and our friendship free!*

We'll be visiting  
Stansfield Village Hall  
Hall Lane, Lower Street, CO10 8LW

**Rural coffee caravan returns to Spring and Summer hours**

We would like you to have the opportunity for some company and a catch up with your neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and cake. We bring a great source of information along with the free refreshments. We look forward to seeing you.  
All Welcome!

Information on board  
"come in for a chat..."

[www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk](http://www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk) tel: 01379 855 338

Rural Coffee Caravan is a registered charity No 1187672

**CLARE LIAISON AND SUPPORT PROJECT**  
(Charity No. 1029710)  
**2024 FUNDRAISING TABLE SALES**

CLARE TOWN HALL, 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.  
On the following Saturdays  
August 17\*  
October 19\*  
November 16\*

\*Dates coincide with Clare Market  
**FOR INFORMATION AND TABLE BOOKINGS.**  
TEL. 07980 948167  
email: [fundraising@clasp-clare.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@clasp-clare.co.uk)

**TABLES £9 (+ Tombola Prize Donation) Double table £15**  
Tables are provided size: 6' x 2'

**DOORS OPEN TO TABLE HOLDERS 8.45 am.**  
**REFRESHMENTS and TOMBOLA in Aid of CLASP**  
Doors open to table holders 8.45am  
For information and table bookings  
07724 698 283  
[ek1000@btinternet.com](mailto:ek1000@btinternet.com)  
**REFRESHMENTS and TOMBOLA**  
Charity No. 1029710

**Advertise your Business**

Not only will you appear in over 700 copies of the Parish Pump, hand delivered to all homes in **Stradishall, Stansfield, Hawkedon, Thurston End, Poslingford, Assington Green and Denston.** (also available in Clare, Cowlinge and Wickhambrook) you will also be included in our online edition, landing in over 400 email inboxes.

- Special rates for front or back page adverts
- We can help with your advert design.
- To discuss your advertising requirements, contact;

**Peter Thompson**  
e: [parish.pump@gmail.com](mailto:parish.pump@gmail.com) or please ring 07711689171

**could you foster?**

**nexus fostering**  
we urgently need carers in Suffolk

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Visit us at [www.nexusfostering.co.uk](http://www.nexusfostering.co.uk)  
Call us on 01603 951 405

## Wickhambrook Summer Fete - glorious success. See over for the lovely photos

Our D-Day themed Fete was opened by Sarah Pugh. We had perfect weather all afternoon. There were 20 stalls ranging from Tombolas, Face Painting, Children's games, Gin, Honey products, Local Wine, Promotional stalls and various Craft stalls. In the Arena there were displays from the Haverhill Fire and Ice Majorettes and Hundon Ballet Shoe Workshop dancers and Children's sports. During the afternoon there were 2 Punch and Judy shows and the Newmarket Band played 40's music. Both were enjoyed by young and old. The Dog Show was well supported and the final for this was held in the arena to choose the overall best Dog. Our local Fire Engine was once again kept busy with children wanting to sit inside. Thanks lads for giving up your time to attend. We also had the Circus Workshop and several Bouncy Castles. The Nurse Williams Cup which is a race anyone can enter was won by Connor Bradley.

The Classic Car and Military display was well supported this year with so many vehicles we had to provide a bigger space to accommodate it. A very popular part of our Fete. This year Jeff Claydon brought along 2 big tractors, a seed drill and straw harrow. It was great fun seeing these being brought in and a little MG following behind.

Thank you to Ousden Fox who provided our bar and to Haverhill Lions who once again did a splendid job of running our BBQ for us. The WI provided Tea and Cake in the WI Hall and Jon Hinds did a fantastic job as our MC for the day. Our Grand Raffle had 16 prizes and thank you to everyone who donated prizes; these are really appreciated. Our Bottle Tombola and the Wheelbarrow of Booze is mainly made up from bottles collected within the village. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this.

The Raffle, Tombola, Bar and BBQ are our main fundraisers that help pay for the day. Once our final figures are worked out we hold back an amount to run next year's fete and anything left over is put aside for Wickhambrook organisations to come forward with a request for us to donate to a project that they might need help with. Figures will be published soon. Last year we helped the village school with Phonic books.

Thanks must go to our sponsors this year, Claydons, Parish Council, Suffolk Oil Solutions, Iain Head Plumbing and Sarah Pugh.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up, put out advertising boards, clear up, help run a stall or anything else. We really couldn't do it without you.

On behalf of the Fete Committee thanks again to everyone who helped put this great day together. All being well we will see you again on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Deirdre Smith. Chairperson.

**Chimney Matters**

Town and Country



Professional Chimney Sweeping

Fully Insured

Mobile : 07767 864127

Phone: 01284 789663

www.chimneymatters.co.uk

Volunteer Drivers Needed

the VOLUNTARY NETWORK

connecting Communities rural transport

If you enjoy driving and have some spare time, you may be just the person we are looking for to support Connecting Communities. Connecting Communities is a transport service that helps people to access local services.

Last year we provided over 30,000 passenger journeys, many were made possible through the support of volunteer drivers. Volunteer car drivers use their own vehicles to help with various journeys, largely to attend medical appointments. Expenses are paid at 45p per mile. We will support your enhanced DBS check and MiDAS training.

We are looking for new volunteers to add to our team. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please call 01638 664304.

This set up is similar to CLASP both apply to their own geographical area. If you live in the Clare area please phone John Webb at 07724698283

Parish Pump  
COPY DEADLINE

All contributors & advertisers to submit  
copy no later than  
the 21st of the month. PLEASE!

# CARS WANTED PETROL OR DIESEL



## CASH PAID

WITH OR WITHOUT MOT  
CARS, ESTATE CARS, 4X4s,  
TRUCKS, VANS

### ALL MOTORCYCLES WANTED

# Darren 01376 326163

# Wickhambrook's wonderful Summer Fete

From these photos you can see that it was a brilliant success



# Problem Page

with Carol Reay-Glover



CAROL is a trained counsellor living locally who can offer advice on personal problems, such as relationships, divorce, child issues, employment, depression - or general worries. Email her in complete confidence at [carolreay1@icloud.com](mailto:carolreay1@icloud.com)

Dear Carol

I am in the middle of a complicated situation with my partner and her ex. She was married for over ten years and they had two children. They broke up because he was a jealous and difficult man. Two years after their split I met my partner. She is lovely - gentle, kind, clever and hard working. The kids are now ten and twelve. Two lovely girls. The problem is that my partner and I want to move in together. But her ex is making a hell of a fuss. He says on no account is a stepfather living with his girls. He says terrible things with no grounds and ends up so confusing and upsetting her that she doesn't know what to do. I try to be sympathetic and patient, but I don't think he's being fair. I think it's his way of stopping her truly moving on. Should I just accept the situation, or should I fight it?  
D

Dear D,

This is a difficult situation. Overall, I think it's important that you and your partner stay aligned and don't allow her ex to drive any wedge between you. You don't say whether they are divorced or not and what the terms of their separation are regarding the children. The aim here must be firstly to ensure that the children are prioritised and then for the two of you to be in agreement and to stay reasonable in the face of what sounds like a less than reasonable challenge. I feel the answer lies in the grey area between acceptance and fighting the situation; reaching agreement with your partner as to what you both want and then putting the case forward for this in a calm and reasonable manner. Perhaps the terms of her divorce/separation can help? You could even consider consulting a mediator. Mediation is a very effective method of dealing with these kinds of issues and it's very affordable too. It is legitimate for you both to be free to plan your lives moving forward. It's also vital the children feel safe, secure, heard, seen and unburdened by any of this. I do hope you resolve this amicably D. Carol

## SAN DIEGO CHOIR RAISES THE ROOF IN DENSTON CHURCH!



*Andrew Wilson, whose composition 'The Lord Builds the House' was written especially for Stellarum to sing at the celebrations.*

week-long tour of East Anglia, offered to sing in our beautiful church. Their programme was an exquisite mixture of sacred music, popular favourites and, excitingly, three new works composed especially for the **550<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Nicholas' church**. It was a very special evening – and the singing couldn't have been bettered!

Approximately £2,000 was raised. This will be shared equally between the churches of St Nicholas, Denston, and St Mary, Hawkedon.

Thank you **Stellarum!** And thank you everyone who supported the evening, and those who worked so hard to make it such a success.

The next event in the Denston 550 celebrations is a **Flower Festival and Exhibition** in the church over the weekend of **September 14 and 15**. All welcome – please don't miss it!



*Andrew Wilson, whose composition 'The Lord Builds the House' was written especially for Stellarum to sing at the celebrations.*



### *The San Diego choir*

What a night! On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the audience in Denston's packed church was treated to another top-quality concert, the first since the pandemic.

We were incredibly lucky that **Stellarum**, an amateur choir from San Diego, on a

*After the concert, drinks, canapes, and plenty of evening sunshine!*



## Horticultural Society outing to Westley Waterless

On 26<sup>th</sup> June we had a special treat visiting two very different gardens in **Westley Waterless**. The first was a garden designed to grow flowers to be used by florists, with plastic growing tunnels and frames. Florists have fashions to meet and modern roses' colours are soft and subtle with names like Blue Moon. Larkspur and sweet peas were particularly beautiful. Varieties of all flowers were chosen also for their scent. Diana Hall showed us round her garden and told us about the competitive Dutch Spring flowers, which are produced for far less than English producers, as the Dutch government subsidises heating and other costs. Then we walked to Lucy Crosby's Garden which was a delight, with a newly developed vegetable garden at the front and extensive back with different areas and decking round a pond, with seats for relaxation, roses and trees with an area for caged birds and a hidden hammock. A colossal mill wheel had been turned into a tabletop with chairs round. Having spent time looking round and discovering different areas of the garden, we were treated to warm drinks and delicious cakes, which Lucy had made the evening before.



# treeworx

est 2005

NPTC QUALIFIED



All aspects of tree surgery undertaken, fully insured and to British standards 3998.

- Crown reductions
- Crown thinning & lifting
- Felling & removal
- Fruit tree pruning
- Hedge work

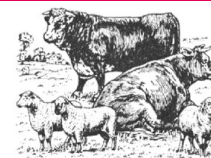
To discuss your requirements and for a free no obligation quote please call:

**CLARE BASED**  
**07796 848928**  
 tree\_worx@yahoo.com



## J.R. HUMPHREY & SONS

YOUR LOCAL FAMILY BUTCHER



Always a fine selection of meats, cheeses, dairy products, poultry and smoked hams

5, Market Hill, Clare, Suffolk.  
 Telephone 01787-277294



**Stansfield**  
**Good Neighbours**

### FREE HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST

Stansfield now has a friendly team of volunteers to help with a range of small tasks

Collecting shopping or prescriptions.  
 Minor household tasks. Help with pets.  
 Driving to medical/dental appointments.  
 Computer, TV and phone support.  
 Emergency meals. One-off garden tasks.  
 Form filling/letter writing. Call or visit for a chat.

**07827 128511**

stansfieldgoodneighbours@outlook.com

## JQ ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Professional and Reliable Registered Electrician

For Free Quotations

Call John 07502161882

Email: [johnquinnelectrical@gmail.com](mailto:johnquinnelectrical@gmail.com)

Happy beginnings, Happy futures.



# Happy Days Childcare



- Accept golden tickets for two year olds.
- Offer up to 30 hours funding for preschool children.
  - Open 7am – 6.30pm.
  - Dedicated baby room with own garden.
- Wrap around and holiday care for children aged up to 11 years.
  - Fresh, home cooked meals daily.

Based at Stradishall, we are a set in a rural location on convenient commuter routes to Haverhill, Newmarket, Clare and Bury St Edmunds.

**01440 820 027**

[debbie@happy-days-childcare.co.uk](mailto:debbie@happy-days-childcare.co.uk)

1, Lancaster Way, Stradishall. CB8 9YD.

## B Z Alexander Ltd Chartered Accountants

For all your business requirements including:

**Accounting**

**Self assessment tax returns**

**Bookkeeping**

**Payroll**

**Initial consultation FREE OF CHARGE**

**Contact Stefan Bransby-Zachary FCA**

**Located in Denston**

**Tel: 01440 820 675**

**Email: [stefan@bzalexander.co.uk](mailto:stefan@bzalexander.co.uk)**

## J.A.P. Architects

Market Hill, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NN

**T: 01787 279490**

E: [enquiries@japarchitects.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@japarchitects.co.uk)

W: [www.japarchitects.co.uk](http://www.japarchitects.co.uk)



Established in 1965 J.A.P Architects is an award winning chartered practice.

Our services range from feasibility stage and project conception through to design and detailing, building regulations and, if required, contract administration.

We offer a free first-stage consultation to establish the scope of our client's requirements



## WATSONS PLANTS

Watsons Plants is bursting with a beautiful array of perennial plants. The quality of our plants is second to none and we are confident they will be thriving in your garden for years to come. We have a substantial choice of quality shrubs and garden plants at hugely competitive prices.

For the discerning gardener or enthusiastic beginner, we have something for everyone.

[enquiries@watsonsplants.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@watsonsplants.co.uk)

[watsonsplants.co.uk](http://watsonsplants.co.uk)

Watsons Plants Ltd, Bury Road, Depden, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP29 4BU

Louise Watson 07952 638016

Chris Watson 07941 640560

