

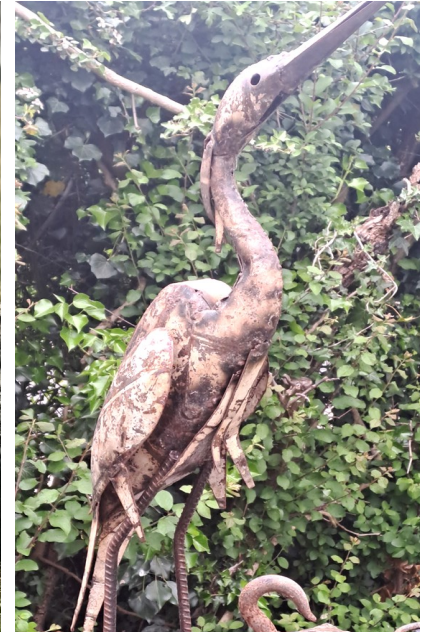
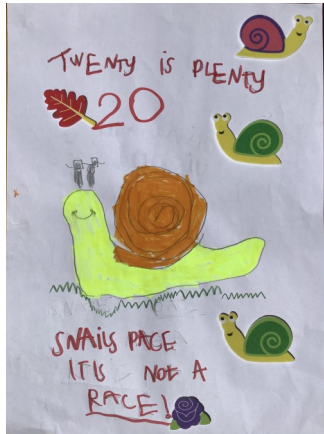
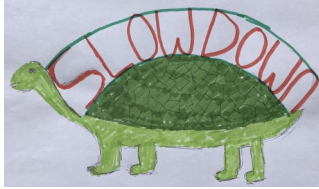
PARISH PUMP

No 385

parish.pump@gmail.com

June 2025

We are so lucky that Suffolk is so interesting!



LIVE THEATRE AT THE GREEN ARENA

PYKARDS HALL, REDE

Saturday 19th July at 7.30pm

Sunday 20th July at 3pm

The Tower Theatre (London) presents

Shakespeare
is Love.
THE PLAY

TOWER
THEATRE

London's leading community theatre group

A heartwarming and witty version of the hugely successful film. Following a successful London run, this entertaining production will again be brought to joyful life at the open air Green Arena by a 23 strong company of actors and musicians.

TICKETS £20 (UNDER 18s £10 ON SUNDAY)

Available from the Tower Theatre

Visit the website below or view via the QR code

<https://www.towertheatre.org.uk/shakespeare/>

Please confirm your booking by emailing:

greenarenaevents@gmail.com

Entry details, T&Cs and queries by return.



In support of



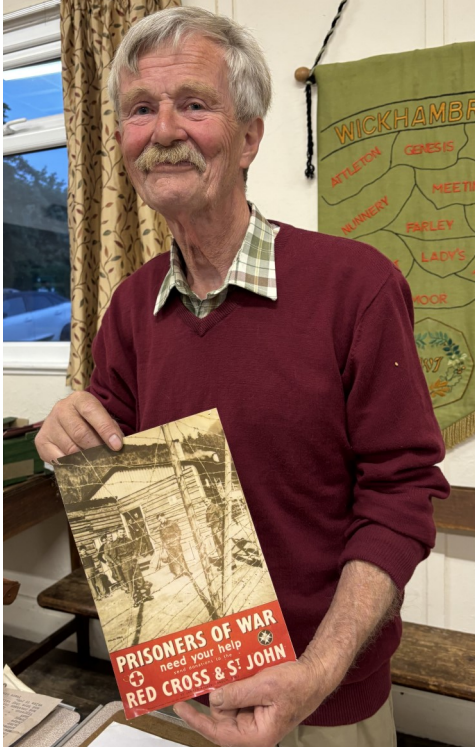
and other local charities.

We sincerely thank J.R. Humphreys (Clare Butchers) for kindly sponsoring the colour pages this month which we think makes the Parish Pump special

Wickenbrook Local History Society News May 2025

We had a very entertaining evening with **Owen Thompson**, a historian from Norfolk who bought a St John's Ambulance uniform at a car boot sale and became involved in re-enactments of World War 2.

He started to collect memorabilia and now has a fascinating collection of artefacts to show. His talk was about the parcels sent



to prisoners in Europe. During the two World Wars, St John's and the Red Cross joined together with other charitable organisations. 'Red Cross parcels' as they came to be known, were a large part of the lives of these prisoners whose meagre diet, laid down by the Geneva Convention, was not enough to promote a healthy life. Nutritionists worked out what men and women would need and the



weekly parcels contained such things as tinned vegetables, margarine, tinned fish, jam, biscuits, margarine, cocoa and Marmite. The organisation also took charge of next-of-kin parcels, where relatives could send clothing, soap and cigarettes. The parcels had to be opened and checked by the Red Cross volunteers as they could not contain anything that might be useful for an escape attempt! Later in the war, books and teaching materials were sent so that these young men and women could study and take exams to help them back into civilian life. Members thoroughly enjoyed seeing Owen Thompson's collection and talking to him about the items.

This was our final talk before our summer outings, to Cherry Hinton in June and Easton Lodge in July. A commemoration of VJ Day will be held in the village on Sunday 17th August. **Dorothy Anderson**

CLARE & SUDBURY PROBUS CLUB We are a Businessmen's Club seeking new members! Are you a retired professional or businessman and would like to join our monthly club in the convivial atmosphere of the Bull Hotel, Long Melford? We also organize outings of interest and special social lunches for members and their partners. Our members come from a wide range of occupations including accountancy, engineering, legal, finance, local government, medical, property development, retail and transport. The cost of membership is £20 plus an annual subscription of £25 Lunch meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month with a guest speaker. For further information contact our secretary Tel 0724 309738

SERVICES INCLUDE

Chimney Sweeping
Stoves Installed
Chimney Pots
Bird Guards

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

ClementsChimneySweeps@outlook.com
07810 616837

TARTS IN THE CHURCH!

A midsummer's morning treat for £3.50 (children free)
Come and join us for coffee and cake (tea and squash also available)
Stradishall Church

From 10.30am Saturday 21st June.



Curate's Chronicles – June 2025 (New Life)



As I was out walking across some fields in Kedington, the lightness of Spring made me stop and breathe and really take in the view and the warm air around me. Everything felt new, including me! I realised how much God had carried me through the cold winter months.

I could hear birdsong; I could see daffodil bulbs unfolding. The lighter mornings and the longer days and even a touch of warmth in the air around me.

Song of Solomon 2.11-13 says: “Look, the winter is past, and the rains are over and gone. The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come, and the cooing of turtledoves fills the air. The fig trees are forming young fruit, and the fragrant grapevines are blossoming. Rise up, my darling! Come away with me, my fair one!” Let us each thank the Lord for this new day that is unfolding around us. So, let’s make sure to notice the signs of new life and dance with joy in our hearts that God is with us, telling us to follow him on a new adventure.

Father, we thank you for being a beacon of light and keeping us safe in times of

darkness. Help us to leave the winter behind us and step forward with you. This is a season full of hope, as new life emerges from the natural world around us. Let us fall deeper in love with you, as we draw closer to your heart and keep our focus on you alone. Let us take hold of each new day with open eyes and hearts. Help us to be fruitful and grow stronger in our faith, embracing all that is ahead. Despite our challenges and times of difficulties, let us look to you for guidance through the mist. Amen.



The Revd Dr Karen Smith

Your editor—a very lucky man!!

Many of you already know that I managed to roll Carol’s car on the way to Clare. Fortunately I survived but the car did not. I am really, really grateful to everyone who have given me their help and good wishes especially the **Fire Brigade, the Police and members of the public** who called these services I was very well looked after by the staff at West Suffolk Hospital who decided I need a pacemaker. This is now fitted. I can’t drive for at least 6 months but this is a small price to pay for my good luck. **Peter**

DO YOU LIVE NEAR STRADISHALL CHURCH OR WALK YOUR DOG NEARBY??

We are looking for people who are able/willing to join our key holder rota. We endeavour to keep this peaceful historic building open all year round, during daylight hours. Our rota is very flexible, and well-behaved dogs are always welcome in the church – so if you live nearby, or if you regularly pass the church as a dog walker, and feel you could help, please email parish.pump@gmail.com or ring 07708899579. Thank you.



**Parish Pump
COPY DEADLINE**
All contributors & advertisers to submit copy no later than the 21st of the month - **PREFERABLY BY THE 15th PLEASE!**

Monthly rainfall inches 2024/2025

2025	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Nick Burton- Stradishall	55	31.5	11	22								
Tina Lee- Stradishall	45	32	9	25								
Sam Slater- Stansfield	46	30	5	23								
Rod Taylor- Stansfield	64	35	13	25								
Jay Gridley-Hundon	59	26	11	21								
Victoria Pakenham -Fenstead End	73	33	8	21								
Elaine Plumpton - Great Saxham	63	42	6	23								

2024	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Nick Burton- Stradishall	55	115	45	64	96	15	94	14	99	58	47	42.5
Tina Lee- Stradishall	57	119	47	87	91	19	93	16	98	68	31	38
Sam Slater- Stansfield	51	129	55	60	114	19	85	15	76	55	33	63
Rod Taylor- Stansfield	59	121	59	68	99	23	88	16	80	73	42	51
Jay Gridley-Hundon	71	128	57	74	104	21	93	16	108	71	39	39
Victoria Pakenham -Fenstead End	53	132	59	62	106	21	90	16.5	88	38	39	79
Elaine Plumpton Great Saxham	54	129	66	69	78	23	90	16	99.6	52	43	53

**TOP CAMBRIDGE CHOIR RETURNS TO DENSTON
on July 5th**

Everyone in Denston Church last September for the Flower Festival's Evensong will remember the choir and the glorious singing. It was decided on the spot that they should be invited back to give us a summer concert. The choir was the **Cambridge Renaissance Voices**, led by acclaimed choir director **Rupert Preston Bell**. On Saturday 5th July they will return to Denston with a programme taken from the Song of Songs, King Solomon's poetic meditation on love and desire. Join us to bask in the most sensuous language in the Bible, set to the sublime music of four leading Spanish composers and sung by one of the country's finest choirs in one of Suffolk's most historic and beautiful churches. It promises to be a very special evening indeed. As always, the event will feature Denston's famous hospitality! Wine and canapés will be served after the hour-long concert. And, weather permitting, concertgoers will have the opportunity to explore **Rosemary Macaire's** beautiful garden across the road from the church, designed for her by leading garden designer **Xa Tollemache**. **Tickets cost £20 from Camilla Hamilton, 01440 820761 camillahamilton@btinternet.com** All proceeds are for the fabric of St Nicholas' Church, Denston.

**St Nicholas' Church, Denston
6.30pm on Saturday, 5th July 2025**

Cambridge Renaissance Voices

'Arise, My Love'

***Music of the Spanish Renaissance
From the Song of Songs and for the Virgin Mary***



Tickets £20, to include a glass of wine and canapés
Apply to Camilla Hamilton
camillahamilton@btinternet.com 01440 820761

Art and Flowers at Rede

Rede Village is pleased to announce that their popular **Art and Flower Festival** is taking place for the third time. The event is a fundraiser for All Saints Church, Rede, and is held every other year. This year it is on Saturday 31st May and Sunday 1st June, 11am to 4pm. Although Rede is a small village, it punches above its weight with its diary of events and the village hall is like the Tardis – it's amazing how many paintings were displayed at the last exhibition. With artists, both professional and amateur, from a fairly wide area, there will be a varied display of work with prices to suit all pockets, including ceramics and glassware. A display of summer flowers is planned for **All Saints Church**, along with paintings from the **Little Teapots Preschool at Chedburgh**. Together with teas on the green, a plant stall and raffle, it all makes for a very enjoyable time for visitors. The usual weather proviso, all will be under cover if wet. For further information contact **Jackie Pratten**, email : jackiepratten@icloud.com, phone 01284 850078. Rede Village Hall and Green IP29 4BE



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@suffolkoilsolutions.co.uk



£ We Sell HEATING OIL email us for competitive daily price



Registered Heating Business



J.A.P. Architects

Market Hill, Clare, Suffolk CO10 8NN
T: 01787 279490
E: enquiries@japarchitects.co.uk
W: 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

April Farming by Portia Brown Everybody should say aaah!!



M Jordan
 Painter & Decorator
 Wallpapering.
 Interior & Exterior.
 Domestic & Commercial.
 Free Estimates & Advice.
 Fully Insured. References Available.

07510 842442 - 01638 815226
jordandecorating@gmail.com

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

IP29 4BE

REDE

IP29 4BE

ART FESTIVAL **with Summer Flowers**

Saturday 31st May, Sunday 1st June, 11am to 4pm

Art Exhibition in Rede Village Hall
Summer Flowers in All Saints' Church

Teas on the green • Plant stall • Raffle

Artworks are by professional and amateur artists and are for sale

IN AID OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, REDE

SAVE THE DATE

**WICKHAMBROOK SUMMER FETE AND FLOWER
SHOW**

**SATURDAY 12TH JULY 2025
FROM 1PM – 5PM**

**CAR SHOW, DOG SHOW, INFLATABLES, VARIOUS
CRAFT**

**STALLS AND ATTRACTIONS, BBQ, BEER TENT,
GRAND**

RAFFLE AND MUCH MORE.

BRING THE FAMILY ALONG FOR A FUN FILLED DAY

WICKHAMBROOK SUMMER FETE COMMITTEE

After a very successful Summer Fete last year, with a substantial amount of money raised, the Wickhambrook Summer Fete Committee are in a position to offer funding to the village organisations who may require funding for any new projects, new equipment etc.

For more information or apply for funding please contact **Maggie Elers** on
email: maggielers@hotmail.co.uk Telephone: 01440 820559

Country Cooking with Louise Mackrill

Get the skewers ready, it's time to barbecue

Most men seem to enjoy messing about with the barbecue, children love cooking their own food and even guests do not mind having a go, in fact it all seems to get rather competitive at our house. There is nothing quite like the smell of charcoal smoke on a summer evening, to me it spells relaxation and enjoyment and, as the cook of the house, the decision to have a barbecue is more than welcome for the chances are that the major part of the cooking will be unloaded onto someone else!

Kebabs Cooking on a skewer is really easy and the potential for variety is enormous. Any kind of food can be used so this is particularly good for carnivores, pescatarians & vegetarians. Any kind of skewer can be used too, think outside the wooden skewer box and try threading onto rosemary sticks, or lemongrass. Most meat needs tenderising by marinating first. Remember to bring the meat up to room temperature before cooking if you marinate in a fridge and also remember if you are using wooden skewers to soak them in water for 30 minutes.

Sauce Always have a barbecue sauce on the side. Make a large batch of this easy



sauce to freeze. 4 oz ketchup, 2 tbsp dark brown soft sugar
2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce, 1 tbsp cider vinegar

A dash of hot sauce (I use Tabasco) 1 garlic clove crushed
¼ tsp mustard powder
¼ tsp salt
Simmer everything together & serving alongside your favourite barbecue foods.

Lamb & pepper kebabs

1 ½ lb fillet end of leg of lamb, boned, cut into chunks
4 onions, quartered 2 or 3 red & green peppers, de-seeded, cut into pieces
Juice of 1 lemon
Cooking oil
Marinate the lamb in the lemon juice & oil for an hour then thread onto skewers,



alternating with the onion & pepper, season well. Cook on the barbecue 10 -15 mins, turning & basting during cooking.

Vegetable kebabs

Sticky colourful kebabs which will brighten up the barbecue

Cherry tomatoes
Courgettes, cut into chunks
Red, yellow & orange peppers, cut into pieces
Mushrooms 1 tbsp clear honey
1 tbsp grainy mustard
Mix the honey & mustard together. Thread the vegetables onto skewers, cook on the barbecue, basting with the honey & mustard, and again just a few minutes before serving.

Tandoori chicken kebabs

150ml natural yoghurt
3 tbsp tandoori paste
1 tsp lemon juice 4 chicken breast fillets or 8 boned thighs, cut into cubes
2 onions, quartered Mix the yoghurt, tandoori paste & removed lemon juice

together, add the chicken pie marinade for 1 hour or more. onto skewers alternating with the onions. Cook on the barbecue 10 – 15 mins, baste & turn along the way.



Concertina mackerel fillet skewers

6 fresh mackerel fillets, all bones, Zest & juice of 1 lemon
2 tbsp fresh oregano, chopped 2 tbsp olive oil Mix the lemon juice, zest, oregano, & olive oil together & marinate the mackerel fillets for an hour, then thread onto skewers concertina style &



cook for 10 – 15 mins on the barbecue, baste & turn along the way.

Just when all the main cooking has been done the barbecue seems to be at the perfect temperature! This is when I like to pop on something sweet to finish with, letting it gently cook whilst enjoying the main course. Save your takeaway foil trays for this. **Boozy bananas**

Juice of 4 freshly squeezed oranges
6 bananas, peeled & sliced
3 tbsp unsalted butter
3 tbsp light brown sugar
1 tbsp brandy or liqueur
Put the ingredients into a tin foil tray, cover with double foil. Sit on the warm bbq to cook whilst you are enjoying your kebabs. When ready, open up the foil to reveal sweet sticky bananas. Lavish with chilled coconut cream & you will be transported to another place!

THE GLORIOUS WORKS

A Choral Celebration of Shakespeare, Creation, Love and Nature

Including works by Joseph Haydn • John Wilbye • Thomas Morley • Robert Lucas Pearsall • Thomas Vautour • Orlando Gibbons • Ralph Vaughan Williams • Matyas Seiber.

Martyn Bagnall, Music Director

The Abbot
Consort
of Voices

Dan Soper, Accompanist



7 JUNE 2025 • 7:30pm

St Margaret of Antioch Church
Newmarket Road
Cowlinge, CB8 9QA

Free Entry

A retiring collection will be taken
in aid of Church Funds

Cowlinge church celebrates in chocolate, and looks forward to Concert 3 in our music series

Easter Monday was the day of the grand Easter-egg Hunt at Cowlinge church, delighting children, parents and grandparents. Three different hunts had been organised, for children of different ages, and the church, the churchyard and the village saw a considerable amount of eager activity for the prizes, all chocolate eggs in varying sizes. Our Hunt's fame is spreading: we welcomed families from as far away as Newmarket and distant villages. Who knows where next. Our warmest thanks go to Waitrose in Newmarket, whose generosity in donating Easter eggs to the cause helped us immensely in our quest to raise awareness of the very real need of the church for funds for its restoration. And so to our next music concert, where the focus will be voices. The fine acoustic in the church elevates the singing voice, and we are anticipating that the sound of the visiting **Abbot Consort of Voices**, already known for their glorious singing, will be even more lovely, supported by the church building itself. Please do come and join us on **Saturday, 7th June** for drinks at 7.00pm for the concert at 7.30pm for what promises to be a special evening. **The Cowlinge Church Companions**



AP TREES

- Pruning • Felling • Crown Reducing
- Stump Grinding • Hedge Trimming



- Friendly and professional company covering all aspects of arboriculture
- Fully qualified and competent arborists
- Work to BS3998 - British Standard for Tree Works

M: 07932 647071

E: info@ap-trees.com W: www.ap-trees.com



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.

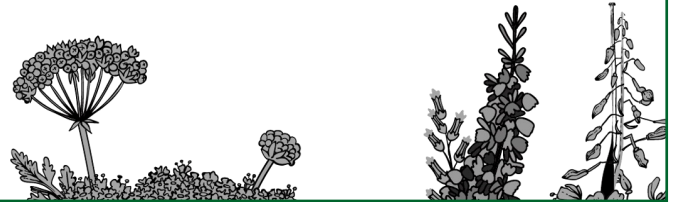
enquiries@watsonsplants.co.uk

watsonsplants.co.uk

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

Louise Watson 07952 638016

Chris Watson 07941 640560



A1CARS

SUFFOLK (LTD)

**24 hour taxi and
Executive Service
Airport Transfers**

book@a1cars.co.uk

www.a1cars.co.uk

01284 766 777



Try our new app

Search A1 Cars Suffolk on the App Store or Play Store



The Annual Meeting of Stradishall Parish Council took place on 12th May 2025. Ian

Hutchinson was re-elected as Chairman and Ed Hollingsworth was elected as vice-chairman.

Finance and the Annual Audit for 2024-2025 were the main items on the agenda. The Council approved the accounts and supporting documentation for the audit which has been published on the parish council's website at <https://stradishallparishcouncil.gov.uk/finance/financial-information-2024-25/>

Speeding update

Suffolk Police carry out regular speed checks in Stradishall. Nine people were caught speeding last month. There are on average 1,000 vehicle movements a day through Stradishall village. Speeds of up to 60mph have been recorded but the feeling is that the new Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) have been effective on the whole. The volunteers are still hoping to deploy the VAS on the Street opposite the properties in St Margaret's Place but the pole Suffolk County Council installed now has a bend warning sign on it and there is not enough space to employ the VAS and the solar panel that comes with it.

Annual Parish Meeting

Stradishall's Annual Parish Meeting also took place on 12th May. This was a village meeting and an opportunity for residents to meet parish councillors and other local government representatives. County Councillor Bobby Bennett and District Councillors Marion Rushbrook and Karen Richardson attended along with Peter Thompson from Stradishall Church and a volunteer from the VAS Management group.

All the reports from the Annual Parish Meeting are available on the Parish Council's website at <https://stradishallparishcouncil.gov.uk/about-us/annual-parish-meeting/annual-parish-meeting-2025/>

County Council report

Bobby Bennett spoke about the following issues:

Pothole repairs have increased by 34%. SCC has purchased a new gritting fleet. They have received 7.3 million funding for improving electric vehicle charging points.

They are trying to improve air quality by encouraging vehicles not to idle especially outside schools, hospitals and in town centres.

Adult and social care takes up a large

amount of SCC funding, She thanked the voluntary groups that support this sector. SCC is supporting families through its Strong Families Partnership.

Suffolk is one of the poorest funded counties for education.

Local Government reorganisation will move to a unitary model. SCC has proposed one unitary council, district councils have put alternative proposals forward.

Devolution will see the formation of a combined mayoral authority with Suffolk and Norfolk.

She says the pavilion roof looks great. The Parish Council thanked her for providing locality budget towards the project.

She was able to visit HMP Highpoint. She will pass on comments that there should be more community engagement with the parish. Councillors said that the prison had agreed to turn down the lights at the prison a few years ago. This happened for a few months but they have now been turned up again and are very bright.

Highways concerns take up a lot of her time. She is here to help whenever she can and residents are very welcome to contact her if they have any queries or concerns.

District Councillors' Report

Marion Rushbrook spoke about the following:

Their Locality funding for 2024/25 was all spent. They are waiting to find out what the budget for 2025-26 will. They opposed increases in pavement licences, trading licences and parking charges but lost by 3 votes.

Stradishall Church Report

Church Warden Peter Thompson presented his report. He has been involved in a lot of work to improve St Margaret's Church.



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



Highpoint Estate Residents Association (HERA) update

Louise Latache gave an update. The committee is working hard to improve the roads on the estate and are always looking for volunteers to help out. A fish and chip van visits the estate on Wednesday evenings and is proving very popular.

Chairman's report

Ian Hutchinson thanked all the people who support Stradishall Parish Council and the community, in particular his fellow councillors, the clerk, County Councillor Bobby Bennett and District Councillors Marion Rushbrook, Karen Richardson and Nick Clarke. He also thanked Louise Latache and HERA for their work on the Highpoint Estate, Peter Thompson and volunteers for their work at the church, Adrian Lee and volunteers for their work on the cricket pavilion and the VAS volunteers.

Financial Report

The clerk presented Stradishall Parish Council's Financial Report.

Joanne Kirk

The Mindful Life Group

The UK's only not-for-profit dedicated to older adult mental health

6-Week Online Programs - Places are Limited

Mindfulness for Older Adults Who Care

Starting on Tuesday 3rd June 2025

2:00-3:00pm

FREE to Essex residents



Visit our website
www.the-mindful-life.com
to find out more and apply

We are a Clinical Psychology led organisation and aim to provide robust interventions to support good mental health and reduce dementia risk.

I hope you don't mind me following up from a previous email regarding our courses at The Mindful Life Group. I wanted to get in touch to highlight that we have spaces available on our upcoming June Older Adult Carers course available for Suffolk residents.

We have been funded by Essex County Council to offer our Mindfulness for Older Adults who Care programme for free to older adults in the Suffolk and Essex areas. We have had really good feedback from participants, and know that it improves carers' wellbeing and sleep, as well as reducing loneliness, low mood, stress, anxiety and chronic pain. The next program starts June 3rd, 2-3pm and is designed by a chartered clinical psychologist who specialises in older adult mental health. To join the course, please fill in the following application form https://openss.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b90BWhcMwRH5nfw

If you think this would be a beneficial course for some of your members, would you be willing to circulate this email so that any carers who attend your services are aware of it?

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
Website: www.memoriesaregolden.co.uk

Services at Hawkedon St Mary in June



Dates for services at Hawkedon St Mary's in June:
Sunday, 8th at 9am. BCP Holy Communion
Sunday, 22nd at 11am. Morning Prayer
Sunday 29th at 10.30. Benefice Holy Communion

Also: Friday, 20 June at 6pm at Hawkedon Village Hall
A SPARKLING EVENING of fizz and finery, gems and jewels
Illustrated talk by master craftsman **Andrew Prince** who designs and makes jewellery worn by the stars! Tickets are £25 each, to include fizz and refreshments, Last few tickets so hurry and book soon from **Heather Phillips**. 01284 789 250 or 07774 275656
htapr@dircon.co.uk

OTHER MINDFULNESS COURSES see last month's edition of Parish Pump

Our **Mind Cog Programme** is designed for older adults with Mild Cognitive Diagnosis to improve memory and overall brain health. MCI is recognised as a risk factor for dementia and from a psychological point of view is a 'window of opportunity' to improve cognitive functioning. Despite this, access to support and information for MCI patients and their families is very limited. Our Mind Cog Programme has been developed by Clinical Psychologists to address this and is based on a combination of current research evidence and best practice guidelines.

We also have the **Mindfulness for Older Adults who Care**, a programme tailored to the needs of carers to support mental health, relaxation, wellbeing and foster community. This programme is for people who care for a friend or family member or have done previously. We know that current or previous caregiving can deplete the people who provide it, and this course has been designed to support older adults, wherever they are in the caregiving journey.

All courses are 6 weeks long, are accessed online and are completely free of charge
Our **Mind Cog Programme** is designed for older adults with Mild Cognitive Diagnosis to improve memory and overall brain health. MCI is recognised as a risk factor for dementia and from a psychological point of view is a 'window of opportunity' to improve cognitive functioning. Despite this, access to support and information for MCI patients and their families is very limited. Our Mind Cog Programme has been developed by Clinical Psychologists to address this and is based on a combination of current research evidence and best practice guidelines.

We also have the **Mindfulness for Older Adults who Care**, this is a programme tailored to the needs of carers to support mental health, relaxation, wellbeing and foster community. Our Mindfulness for Older Adults who Care, is for people who care for a friend or family member or have done previously. We know that current or previous caregiving can deplete the people who provide it, and this course has been designed to support older adults, wherever they are in the care giving journey.

All courses are 6 weeks long, are accessed online and are completely free of charge

A tour of wines with Jeff Webb

Having said you would like photo's and the like for the newsletter is this any good? That is me visiting old, and new, friends on the Route des Grands Crus in Burgundy. A short list of some of the wines I drank on this visit, A Sancerre with dinner first evening. A carafe of Vire Clesse next day.

Local Fondant as an aperitif and then a 1er Cru Fixin with dinner at my sister's. More Fondant and Fixin(Burgundy) at my other sister's. Local white wine with filets de perch at Rolle. Off to Bordeaux to meet an Aussie friend of mine. Pessac-Leognan with dinner. A carafe of Blaye wine in a local restaurant. A haut Medoc, Chateau Victoria with lunch in Bordeaux. Return to Geneva. A glass of Rose at Divonne market. Lunch with Fondant and a Gevrey Chambertin '19 Pierre Gelin Return journey. A Mercurey with dinner first evening. A Gewürztraminer with dinner and a half bottle of Claret with Cheese.



HT Young's Fish Ltd 07880 777967



Helen and Ellie

We are excited and fortunate enough to have taken over from Turners We are a sister brand of Young's Fish Ltd. established in 1981 with second generation fish mongers and a passion for providing a variety of the

freshest quality fish and best service possible. Our trading days will remain the same as follows:

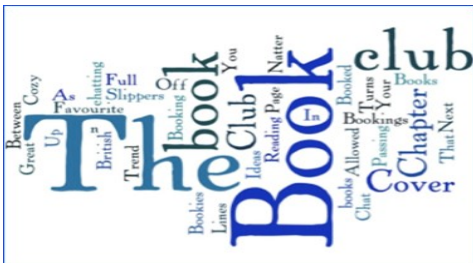
- Wednesday - Willow Tree farm shop 9-1pm**
- Thursday - Coggeshall Market Hill 7-12pm**
- **Long Melford 1:30-4pm**
- Friday - Clare market 7:30-10am**
- **Lavenham 11-1pm**
- **Depden 2-4pm**

Hi everyone, every month I nearly always need a few photos to fill final white spaces. So if you have any you would like to share please send them to parish.pump@gmail.com

WIND
GOOD TIMES

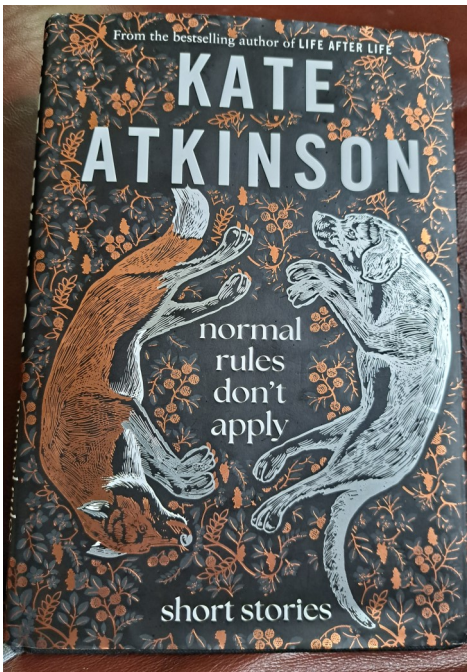
With over 15 years' experience let us take care of your themed parties, DJ, music and events

Call Dan on 07812 134 267



A collection of Short Stories by Kate Atkinson. *Normal rules don't apply*

It is unusual for book club to read a collection of short stories and *Normal Rules Don't Apply*, by **Kate Atkinson**, proved a thought-provoking choice. Eleven interconnected tales cross a multitude of genres from science fiction to romance and fairy tales to crime, to name a few. Whilst we all agreed they were well crafted by an incredible writer, being cast into parallel universes where nothing is as it seems was definitely not for everyone. However, a willingness to lean into all the



weirdness and unpredictability could be rewarded by a treat for the imagination and a lot of fun. There was some debate as to how well the stories 'hang together' as a whole. They were written over a number of years and there were those who felt it was a bit of a hotchpotch, and the interconnections were loosely done. Nevertheless, we found it very entertaining to spot the point where the stories intersect, where certain names and characters reappear, including 'Greenacres', a popular soap opera, the 'Great North- South Divide', a talking racehorse, a talking dog and an enchanted apple munching princess who wanders throughout the pages in search of a way back to her Queendom! There is also a disturbing recurrence of a bell ringing and the smell of violets which we come to learn is announcing the end of the world is nigh.



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

Others argued that a closer reading reveals a deeper thematic cohesion between the stories. The collection opens with 'The Void', which depicts an apocalyptic scenario where Darkness falls every day in 5-minute intervals and everyone outside dies. Thereafter, the theme of emptiness weaves a course throughout the stories – empty lives, empty cradles, empty marriages. They are populated by people who live 'only on the fringes of other peoples' lives'. There is Franklin who appears in several chapters 'brought up without centre or purpose' ... 'a man of straw, blown around on the winds of change'. A fairytale Queen who yearns for a baby as did Mandy, now a lonely spirit flitting around in the after world, whose entire passionless married life 'had been about as mundane as a Marks and Spencer voucher'. Motherhood is another central theme – neglectful mothers, indulgent mothers, absent mothers, grieving mothers, even 'virgin' mothers. The characters are quirky and offbeat, but it is easy to relate to their foibles and follies. With some we felt a much deeper resonance than with others: the unbounded grief of a little girl's mother whose 'scream, an awful primitive sound (such) that they had never heard anywhere before' and kind generous Pamela 'one of the good ones' whose children neither see nor care about her feelings and how 'her insides felt ripped open' by their carelessness. Humour and tragedy are often closely intertwined making it difficult to know whether to laugh or cry – or both. We are very much in the realm of 'what if?' and we thought the author makes deliberate moves to destabilise and challenge the reader. In an early story we hear about Ted, Franklins affable but roguish stepfather who disappears without trace, except for a neat pile of clothes by Lake Windermere. Could it be that he is reincarnated as Ted, a Teddy Bear, in a later story? We come to learn that anything is possible in these alternative worlds where nothing obeys normal rules. At one point our discussion became rather discombobulated and was straying off-piste and someone rather astutely observed that this could be a reflection of

the book's mandate of 'normal rules don't apply' – another longer- standing member quipped that no, we were always like this! The nearest we get to an explanation of what is going on in this book is in the penultimate story where we find Kitty, the sister of God, attempting to make the world 'over and over again in a futile attempt to get it right'. It was not enough for some who, having really enjoyed the authors previous books, felt disappointed, even cheated, by, as Franklin would put it, 'a text based on non-linear dynamics, a Borgesian exploration of parallel worlds!' That said, there were many who enjoyed how these stories are imbued with great wit and razor -sharp social observations making for some very funny moments. There was such a mixed bag of opinions about this unusual book it was difficult to decide on a rating, so we decided that taking the group average of 3 stars was a fair award! Next time in book club we are reading *Mr Wilder and Me* by Jonathan Coe and if you would like to join us please contact annedennis1@live.co.uk or 07557357362



Advertise your Business

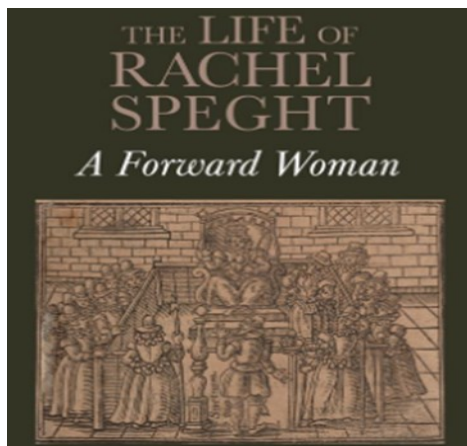
Not only will you appear in over 700 copies of the Parish Pump, hand delivered to all homes in **Stradishall, Stansfield, Hawkedon, Thurston End, Poslingford, Assington Green and Denston.** (also available in **Clare, Cowlinge and Wickhambrook**) you will also be included in our online edition, landing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

- Special rates for front or back page

Peter Thompson
e: parish.pump@gmail.com or please ring 07711689171

History in Stradishall

The following is an article by **Professor Helen M. Stringer**, sent **Robert Helliwell**, as a result of a promise she made when she visited St Margaret's some time ago. Her book "**The Life of Rachel Speght**" chronicles the story of the wife of Stradishall's notorious rector, William Procter. Archaeologists and local historians



have uncovered much about the local history the church has witnessed over the centuries, but we may be sure that many stories remain untold. A new book, published in March 2025 by Liverpool University Press, reveals, for example, the previously untold story of a remarkable Stradishall woman. *The Life of Rachel Speght: A Forward*

Woman tells the story of Rachel Speght, a young woman from London, who came to live in Stradishall in 1631. Parishioners at the time would simply have known her as Mistress Procter, the wife of the new rector, William Procter. They probably knew little of her controversial past – as Rachel Speght, a celebrated writer and one of the most notorious women in Jacobean London. She was, in the parlance of the time, a ‘forward woman.’

What had Rachel done to earn her this soubriquet? A clergyman's daughter from Cheapside, she had leapt into the public eye when she published a book at the age of just 19 years. For a woman to publish a book on any topic was, in 1617, highly unusual. But Rachel's book was doubly shocking because of its controversial content and combative style. Entitled ‘A Muzzle for Melastomus (or Blackmouth),’ it was a spirited defence of women against a scurrilous attack written by an old soldier called Joseph Swetnam and published to supplement the crumbling finances of his failing sword-fencing school. Rachel's book dragged her into the spotlight of publicity. Coinciding as it did with a sensational cause célèbre (known as the Overbury Scandal), involving adultery, sorcery and murder by women in the highest society, it provoked the sort of media frenzy – complete with ‘trolling’ – that 21st-century readers would find only too familiar.

By the time Rachel arrived in Stradishall, the sensation of her book had subsided.

She seemed destined to live out the rest of her days in quiet domesticity. Her years as the minister's wife would not, however, be completely uneventful. In 1644, in the midst of the Civil War, William Procter, was deprived of his living as a suspected Royalist supporter. He and his wife, with their three children, lost their home and most of their income virtually overnight. Rachel Procter, the battle-hardened polemicist of earlier years, did not take this attack quietly. In 1646, she was accused by the local authorities of ‘raising faction’ against the new minister, John Pindar, and ordered to desist.

Only a threat of banishment sufficed to silence her. Rachel's last years were spent in the misery and turmoil of war, sequestration and privation. Her writings, however, lived on after her death and, in the last 40 years, have earned her a growing reputation as one of the most important female writers of her day. *The Life*, which draws on research carried out by Jane Helliwell and other local historians among an array of sources, traces her life-story, from her Cheapside childhood to her battles in Stradishall parish politics. Almost 400 years after her death, it celebrates a woman who – as the first Englishwoman to publish a defence of women under her own name – was a true pioneer and one of the colourful personalities in Stradishall church's long history.

Professor Helen M. Stringer

Louise Mackrill writes: My Mum, **Sara Dennis** of Stansfield, celebrates her 93rd birthday on 7th June.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
MUM !!**



Jeff Fellows wines



Now that it appears that Summer is on the way we naturally look forward to drinking lighter, refreshing wines to accompany the salads and meals that we eat at this time of year, quite often al fresco. So that naturally leads us to the next step of our journey exploring the different types of wines we drink, namely Rose. Traditionally made in Provence and N Spain these wines are made from red grapes where the contact time with the juice and skins is kept short, thereby producing Rose, not red, wine. The usual grape is Grenache. The colour ranges from Pale to nearly Orange/Red. The nose is citrus, cherries and berries. The palate is dry but acidic. Flavours range through straw and raspberry, grapefruit with a hint of tartness. These wines are ideally suited to foods typically eaten in the Mediterranean; in addition the acidity balances the commonly used salad dressings, Aoili and the like. There is also a very pale Rose called Vin

Gris. Drink these asap. Rose “blush” wines made their appearance in the US in the 1980's. Made from Zinfandel grapes. They are much sweeter than the wines described here.

It is no surprise that Waitrose have an extensive selection of these wines. Here are three, Mirabeau Rose Provence, with dry berry flavours 13% £12 (from£17) La Vieille Ferme Rose, a perennial in these columns. A quaffer, 12.5% £8.75 Mirabeau en Provence. Again, dry with berry hints. 13% £14 There is also Whispering Angel. Which at 13% and £22.50 is overpriced and for much better value Aldi have a Sud de France a value option at £6.99 However, the go-to bottle is to be found at Lidl. This is Monalie, Cotes de Provence, Rose '23. This is a wine which is dry and has juicy notes of spicy red fruit with the necessary acidity to stop it being flabby. It is an example of how Rose should be as well as being good value. Note the slightly unusual bottle. 13% £9.99. A bottle which looks remarkably like the Monalie is Miraval. This is the Rose wine produced from the estate owned by A Jolie and Brad Pitt. The wine is actually made by the Perrin family in the Rhone valley, see above. Majestic have this bottle at £20, or £17 each /6 bottles and 13%.

The Sudbury Society was formally registered as a charity early in 1973,

Andrew Phillips was one of its founding members and longtime President and after his death the Society decided to institute an annual Andrew Phillips Memorial Lecture. The first took place in 2024 and was given by Sir Stuart Etherington. **About Us** :The Society is a [registered charity No. 265228](#) with some 270 members. **Our broad objectives are:**

1. To stimulate local interest and pride in our attractive and historic market town.
2. To encourage the very highest standard of planning and architecture in the construction of new buildings and in the renovation of existing structures.

To protect, develop and improve the many features of historic or public interest.

The Society hosts a series of events throughout the year with interesting speakers and other social opportunities. Events over the last year have included author Ian Collins on 'Blythe Spirit', his new biography of Ronald Blythe, and Stephen Astley former curator at Sir John Soane's Museum in London on 'Robert Adam'.

We take a particular interest in the built environment through our diligent Planning Committee and keep a weather eye out for inappropriate developments or heritage buildings at risk. The Society aims to be a critical friend and to work with others on keeping and improving the special character of our market town. For some years we have kept a thorough register of Heritage at Risk buildings: we are delighted to note that a number of these are no longer at risk although there will be others taking their place and the register is currently being updated. Separately the Society keeps a watch on other interesting and quirky buildings in our town and these are usefully listed in Sudbury, Suffolk: the Unlisted Heritage - A Visual Celebration of Sudbury's Unlisted Architectural Legacy by **Davd Burnett** (published 2002).

Sudbury is strong in the arts with the nationally important Gainsborough's House Museum redevelopment supported early on by the Society, the Arts Centre at St Peter's and the vibrant Quay Theatre.



The
Sudbury
Society

THE ANDREW PHILLIPS MEMORIAL LECTURE

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING WITH

SIR TERRY WAITE KCMG CBE

'SURVIVAL IN SOLITUDE'

THURSDAY

29th May 2025

7:00PM (DOORS 6:30PM)

AT SUDBURY ARTS CENTRE

ST PETER'S

MARKET HILL

SUDBURY CO10 2EA

TICKETS IN ADVANCE £10 (+BOOKING FEE)

ONLINE FROM [SUDBURYARTSCENTRE.COM/WHATS-ON](https://www.sudburyartscentre.com/whats-on)

OR AT THE VENUE (WEDS TO SUN 10:30 - 3PM)

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

Stansfield Parish Council, Good Neighbour Volunteers

&
Village Hall Committee

invite you to

Save the date for

**Summer Fun
in Stansfield**

**Sunday 20th July
1 - 4pm**

**Stansfield Village Hall
& Playing Field**

Competitions for all ages

BBQ - Licensed Bar

Tea - Coffee - Cakes - Soft Drinks

Consult a Councillor: give your views about the village

Registered Charity 304939



We are looking for volunteers

Visit www.clasp-clare.co.uk for more information

Wickhambrook WI celebrates VE Day

To celebrate VE Day 80 Years Wickhambrook WI held an event at their WI hall on 8th May 2025. A vintage Land Rover was parked outside the hall and members enjoyed posing in and

indeed on the bonnet! The hall itself was decorated with flags and bunting for a truly celebratory atmosphere. The event was supported by WI members and people from the village in general. Some members had decided to dress the part in

1940's outfits along with the odd "soldier" in uniform. The day was topped off with a traditional meal of fish and chips which was enjoyed by all.



Wickhambrook Local History Society News – April 2025 Former Ugandan Asians grateful for the support and help they received in Suffolk over 50 years ago

About 50 Asian families travelled across the country to the former RAF Stradishall site, now Highpoint Prison South.

They came for a small ceremony, unveiling a bench, trees and an information board, telling of their eviction from Uganda by Idi Amin over 50 years ago, when over three thousand passed through Stradishall in six months, on their way to new homes and jobs all over this country. The ceremony was to recall the welcome and support Suffolk gave them and thank them for the care they were shown at such a traumatic time in their lives. The memorial is a lasting thank you, their "blue plaque", positioned

opposite the Prison Visitors' Centre, where we hope it will be made good use of, as a place to rest and recover.



<https://www.itv.com/watch/news/ugandans-who-fled-conflict-over-50-years-ago-remember-west-suffolks-warm-welcome/gdcnrkc>

This is a link to the Anglia programme and will be a permanent fixture. Natalie would be very pleased if we share it widely **Ruth**

Even more wine drunk by Jeff Fellows in France



A short list of some of the wines I drank on this visit, A Sancerre with dinner first

evening. Riz de veau A carafe of Vire Clesse next day. Caesar Salad Local Fondant as an aperitif and then a 1er Cru Fixin with dinner at my sister's. Raclette More Fondant and Fixin (Burgundy) at my other sister's. Swiss Cheese Local white wine with filets de perch at Rolle. Off to Bordeaux to meet an Aussie friend of mine. Pessac-Leognan with dinner. A carafe of Blaye wine in a local restaurant. Tuna salad A haut Medoc, Chateau Victoria with lunch in Bordeaux. Squid, black pudding. *[I confused the photos but the wines do look good don't they? Peter]*





ROB HARRINGTON
— BUILDING CONTRACTOR —

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

www.robharringtonbuilding.co.uk

Wickhambrook, Suffolk

Wickhambrook and District Garden Club

This is a new class in the **Flower, Vegetable and Craft Show**, to be held in Wickhambrook Memorial Hall on Saturday July 12th, when the results will be announced and a special cup awarded. Residents of Wickhambrook, Stradishall and Denston may enter. The gardens will be judged by members of local garden clubs in this area.

To enter your garden, please email Polly at pollypuxley@aol.com or text 07588811069

Cottage Garden Cup



The sad passing away of longtime Stradishall resident Neil Hoddinott

We are very sad to report the passing of Neil Hoddinott. Neil had lived in Stradishall village for 51 years with his brother Clive. Neil was 82 years old and worked with his brother in Suffolk as plasterers. Their work was of renowned quality. The funeral took place at West Suffolk Crematorium on Friday 21st of March and was attended by many Suffolk residents. Neil will be greatly missed by all those who knew him. We at Parish Pump wish Clive the best for the future.



Chimney Matters

Town and Country



Professional Chimney Sweeping

Fully Insured

Mobile : 07767 864127

Phone: 01284 789663

www.chimneymatters.co.uk

Spring into Action opportunities for everyone in Stansfield!

Stansfield Village Hall News – June 2025

Cinema in Stansfield see page 26

As our contribution to *Refugee Week*, Cinema in Stansfield will be showing offbeat comedy **'Fremont'** on 20th June (*World Refugee Day*).

This warm-hearted and thoughtful drama follows Donya, a lonely former Afghan translator for the U.S. government, who has found refuge in Fremont, California, but begins to look for more from life. When she's promoted to writing the fortunes at her job at a Chinese fortune cookie factory in the city, Donya's loneliness and longing inspire her to send a special message out to the world in a cookie.

"An utter delight" **Wendy Ide, The Observer**

Doors 7pm, Film 7.30 pm. Licensed Bar, Hearing loop. Suggested donation £5 on the door.

Refugee Week is the world's largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our audience poll at the Village Coffee Morning in April. All the films on offer were suggested by regular members of the

'Cinema in Stansfield' audience so we are happy to be able to say that the three winning titles have truly been selected by the community. 1st place went to the Spike Lee comedy **'Black Klansman'**, starring John David Washington and Adam Driver. Two titles tied for 2nd/3rd place: **'Compartment No.6'** and **'Leon'**. All three films will be shown over the coming months.

Stansfield Plant Sale

On Saturday 17th May, the sun shone down on Stansfield Plant Sale with its



tables laden with pots of flowers and vegetables for the garden, houseplants, trees, delicious pastries and cakes, as well as a cornucopia of raffle prizes. A steady flow of locals kept the event buzzing,



**STANSFIELD
Parish Council**

Working with our local community

many staying for something to eat and drink and spending time chatting with friends and neighbours. "Super opportunity to catch up with friends as well as to stock up the garden!", "Had a lovely coffee, then a glass of wine and the sun was shining—what more can you ask for", "Fab afternoon, lovely to see

everyone" were some of the comments received from villagers. Thanks to all who supported the plant sale either by coming along and buying something, or by donating plants, cakes or raffle prizes, and all

those that helped the Village Hall committee run the event on the day. The event raised over £460 towards keeping your Village Hall going. Thank you!

PARISH COUNCILS - WHO'S WHO in YOUR VILLAGE?

Parish Council	Chair	Vice Chair	Clerks
Denston	Jeff Fellows jefffellows.crown@gmail.com 01440 820 310	N/A	Jeff Fellows
Hawkedon/ Thurston End	Rotating	Rotating	David Jarrold dmj1800@icloud.com
Poslingford	Martin England martin.england@poslingford-pc.gov.uk 01787 278413	Marc Allison marc.allison@poslingford-pc.gov.uk 07958337282	Chris Turner clerk@poslingford-pc.gov.uk 07814246204
Stansfield/ Assington Green	Rex Barnes rexstansfieldsoc@gmail.com 07778 058425 www.stansfield.onesuffolk.net	Andrew Pallett andrew.pallett.spc@btintern.et.com 01284 789434	Annie Lines stansfieldpc@outlook.com
Stradishall	Ian Hutchinson stradishallparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk 07970717116	Robert Deeks 07940548407	Joanne Kirk clerk@stradishallparishcouncil.gov.uk 07880686069
Clare	Rob Eyre rob.eyre@clare-suffolk.co.uk 01787 277 559	Paul Bishop paul.bishop@clare-suffolk.co.uk	Davina Neale clerk@clare-suffolk.co.uk
Cowlinge	Linda Aston lindaaston555@gmail.com	Jane Nesham	John Barnett 01440 783 903
Wickhambrook	Mike Lavelle mike.lavelle@wickhambrook.org.uk	Paul Couzens 07713 740 984 paul.couzens@wickhambrook.org.uk	Hilary Workman 07508 039 810 parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk



CAR AID REPORT - April 2025 ,CLASP Committee Meeting Thursday 8th May 2025



CLASP Committee Meeting Thursday 8th. May 2025

Monthly trips made historical easy
reference summary:-

17-24-30-14-28-22-24-18-29-21-
24 Total Year 2022 = 273 c/w
237 in 2021

32-32-42-24-41-48-31-26-21-25-35-
32 Year 2023 total = 389 total,
32.4 average

47-62-29-37-38-34-46-33-27-37-31-
23 Year 2024 total = 444 total,
37.0 average

20-24-29-37 Year 2025 to
date = 110 total, 27.5 average
Bookings taken as at 3rd. May
month to date – 7

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

The number of trips made in 2024 at
444 was higher by 14% than 2023.

The demand for our service in
January and February totalling 44
trips was significantly less than the
same months in the previous two
years. It was noticeable that there
were a number of trips cancelled by
the medical destinations.

Demand returned to “normal” in
March and April, with 29 trips being
made in March which coincidentally
was the same number as those made
in March last year, and 37 trips in
April which coincidentally was the
same as April last year.

Despite the low demand in the first
two months this year, it can be seen
from the Statistics Summaries above
that the underlying demand for our
service continues to grow
significantly.

However, the difficulty in finding
volunteer drivers continues. Reminder
- Our recent and final appeal for
volunteer drivers in the Hundon
Herald sadly had a nil response, and
so we have now stopped providing
CLASP CarAid for Hundon and
Ridgewell. We also have had no
response following our appeal for
drivers included in the CLASP leaflet
circulated to all homes in Clare.

Nevertheless, we have always
managed to provide the service
required for other locations, despite
demands sometimes arising or
changing at short notice.

It is important to
note that in the last
3 quarters, we used
30 drivers during
each quarter,
virtually our whole
available
complement. This
reconfirms the need
to recruit more
volunteer drivers.

Sadly one of our
drivers, Peter
Thompson, was
recently involved in
a car accident which
will put him out of
action for at least six
months. We have
also lost the services
for medical reasons
of Nix Macpherson
until the end of June.
I would like to thank
Rob Eyre for taking
over CarAid
organisation
responsibility during
the twelve days I was
away on holiday
during the month. I
know that he enjoyed
some interesting
challenges, with one
particular “client” in
particular who
continues to be a
continuing sad case.
I note that Rob has
now left the UK for New Zealand for
an extended period – I hope that this
was not as a need for recovery time
from his CarAid duties.

**The ongoing relevant CarAid
Statistic** - In the 85 months, since April
2018 when I took over, CarAid has 259
different clients, making 1,947 trips
averaging 23 per month.

John Webb 3rd. May 2025

Dear Drivers,
Attached is the CarAid Report
presented to the CLASP Committee
yesterday evening.

I have also attached a notice of the
forthcoming CLASP AGM. (Please
note meeting was held on 22 May)

Please make every effort to attend,
since this meeting will see an important
change of management personnel at the
top of CLASP. Mike Arnold (Chair)

BECKY COOPER
designs

CURTAINS ♥ BLINDS ♥ SHUTTERS ♥ INTERIORS

**Handmade curtains, roman blinds,
pelmetts, 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
beckycooperdesigns@gmail.com**

and Sue Packer (Senior Centre Manager) are
both standing down after many years of
exemplary commitment and service, and we
should all be there, if we can, to show our
appreciation for their efforts.

FYI I have just started my eighth year as
CarAid Organiser, and have told the
Committee that now is the time to actively
begin a search to find my replacement. This
reflects my desire to spend more time
travelling while I, hopefully, have “years in
hand”. It also recognises that, given my age,
the “years in hand” may not be many.

**IF YOU WOULD BE PREPARED TO
TAKE ON THIS ROLE, OR KNOW OF
SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE
INTERESTED, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.**

Music in country churches - Wickhambrook All Saints

I must confess that until this year I had not heard of the charity "Music in country churches" (MICC).

MICC has arranged outstanding concerts in many country churches since 1989 and made donations of more than £600,000 to the churches that have hosted its concerts. **His Majesty the King** is their Patron and has taken a keen interest in the Charity and the causes it supports - attending many of the concerts.

For more information about this charity please see <https://musicincountrychurches.org.uk/about-us/>. Wickhambrook All Saints is therefore very pleased to announce that

they will be hosting an MICC event on Thursday 12th June at 6:30pm. The concert promises to be an amazing evening with the music being performed by Fiori Musicali - <https://fiori-musicali.com/>.

Fiori, showcasing some of today's finest specialist musicians, was founded in 1983 and are one of the UK's principal providers of classical and early music concerts outside London. Fiori's passion is to bring to life the music of the past, making it accessible to all. Tickets for the concert at **Wickhambrook All Saints** on Thursday the 12th of June at 6:30pm can be obtained from <https://musicincountrychurches.org.uk/tickets/>. We hope to see you there to enjoy the music and support both MICC and All Saints. **from Paul Bevan**

THE MYSTERY OF MICHEL LERPINIÈRE

In the April and May editions of the Pump we included articles about the unexplained appearance of a carved box containing the ashes of **Michel Lerpinière** at Stradishall Church.

We still remain mystified by how the ashes came to be left at the Church but, as reported in the May edition, our local supersleuths of **Robert Helliwell** and **Terence and Val Hurst** were able to provide details of Michel himself.

Since the publication of the article we have been made aware that the list of local supersleuths was larger than initially reported. We also must thank **Elaine and David Poole** and **Adrian and Tina Lee** for their excellent help.

What do you know about Pacemakers?

As some of you know I had to have a pacemaker fitted recently. As I know very little about them I asked the fantastic team at West Suffolk Cardiac unit to give me a rundown.

My thanks to Anna Clapton for the following.

A pacemaker is a small device implanted under the skin below the collar bone. It helps to prevent slow heart rates, by stimulating the heart's electrical system when it needs it.

It prevents patients from feeling dizzy or blacking out due to a slow heart rate. A pacemaker system consists of one or two leads and a generator.

A small incision 5-6cm long is made just under the collar bone and the leads are fed through a vein into the heart. The leads are connected to the generator which includes a battery and the pacemaker circuitry. The generator sits under the skin, often on the left side just under the collar bone.

The pacemaker implant procedure is performed in a cardiac catheterisation lab under local anaesthetic and sedation by a team made up of doctors, nurses, a radiographer and a cardiac physiologist.

The doctor performs the procedure, supported by one nurse passing them equipment. The second nurse helps to support and check the patient throughout the procedure.

The radiographer takes the x-ray images which help the doctor to access the vein and guide the leads into place. The cardiac physiologist assesses the measurements on the leads to ensure they are secured and working well.

They also set up the pacemaker with the settings which are tailored for each patient.

Most patients go home the same day after a short period of monitoring post procedure. Patients are reviewed in pacemaker clinic a few weeks later to make sure that everything is working well.

Anna Clapton



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

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
Email: davidpryke@aol.com**

The Bansfield Benefice



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 June 2025 **DRAFT**

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

Date	Time	Church	Details
01 Jun	10:00 am	Lidgate (Seventh Sunday of Easter HC)	Celebrant: Revd Eve Bell Organist: [DC] Liturgical colour: ☺
08 Jun	10:00 am	Denston (Pentecost HC)	Celebrant: Revd Eve Bell Organist: [KJ] Liturgical colour: ☹
15 Jun	10:00 am	Wickhambrook (Trinity Sunday HC)	Celebrant: Revd Barbara Sherlock Organist: [J] Liturgical colour: ☺
22 Jun	10:00 am	Stradishall 🛎 (First Sunday after Trinity HC)	Celebrant: Revd Eve Bell Organist: [DM] Liturgical colour: ☺ Proper 7
29 Jun	10:00 am	Stansfield (Second Sunday after Trinity HC)	Celebrant: Revd Eve Bell Organist: [DM] Liturgical colour: ☺ Proper 8

Year C

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)
Cleric: PB = Paul Bevan

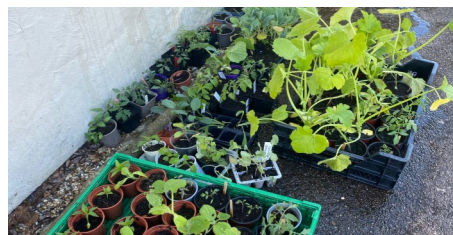


Please check the Benefice website for changes each week

People of Poslingford Blooming Success at the Plant and Seed Swap

Villagers were warmly welcomed to the Church by a wonderfully full table of plants, generously donated by the kind people of Poslingford.

From vibrant courgettes to elegant peonies, there was something for everyone—and plenty of friendly conversation too. With a cuppa in hand, it was a real pleasure to hear the exchange of gardening tips and expertise. No doubt, we all left with a few new ideas to try at home. The Community Pantry also saw great support on the day and will be thoughtfully distributed by Mark. Any remaining plants didn't go to waste—they were passed along to Stansfield to help stock their upcoming plant sale. Thanks Heather



Lidgate Church Farm Walk



Lidgate will be holding their Farm Walk on May 31st @ 10am Adults £6 children £2 the same as last year, well behaved dogs on leads welcome. Light refreshments in church afterwards.
Thanks Janet



**No Grass too tall give us a call
T: 07717781497**

E: josh.barrett24@outlook.com



Lawyer Type: • Solicitor Years
Qualified: 25 years

Mary's
page

Mary
Cleaver

Address: 6 Signet Court, Swann Lane, Cambridge CB5 8LA .
Telephone: 01223 792331 Email: cambs@oslers.co.uk

When Criminal Allegations and Child Contact Collide: Navigating Parallel Proceedings in Family Law

In family law, the welfare of the child is paramount. But what happens when a parent stands accused of a serious criminal offence—such as actual bodily harm (ABH)—while simultaneously seeking contact with their children through the family courts? This scenario raises complex legal questions, particularly when the criminal process is ongoing, and no conviction has been secured.

At the heart of this dilemma lies the **difference in legal standards** between criminal and family courts. In a criminal trial, the burden of proof is high: the prosecution must prove the defendant's guilt **beyond reasonable doubt**. This protects the rights of the accused and prevents unjust convictions. However, in the family court, the standard of proof is the **balance of probabilities**—a significantly lower threshold. This means that even if a criminal court has not (yet) convicted a parent, a family judge may still find, on the evidence, that the alleged behaviour more likely than not occurred. In cases involving serious allegations of domestic abuse or violence, such as ABH, the family court may decide to hold a **fact-finding hearing**. This hearing determines whether certain disputed incidents took place, such as physical assaults or patterns of coercive control. Fact-finding hearings are not automatic but are ordered where

allegations are serious and material to the issue of child safety or welfare.

The **purpose** of a fact-finding hearing is not to impose criminal punishment, but to enable the court to make informed decisions about child arrangements. The court must assess whether the accused parent poses a risk to the child or the other parent, and whether direct contact would be safe and appropriate.

Crucially, the family court does **not need to wait** for the outcome of a criminal trial before making these determinations. The proceedings are independent, and the family court has a duty to avoid delay, especially where the child's well-being is at stake. However, coordination between jurisdictions is vital. If the alleged perpetrator is likely to invoke their **right to silence** in the criminal case, they may choose not to give evidence in the family proceedings, which can affect the court's assessment of the facts.

The implications for contact can be profound. If the court finds that the father did cause ABH, this may result in **supervised contact, indirect contact only**, or, in some cases, **no contact at all**—depending on the severity of the harm and the ongoing risk to the child. Conversely, if the allegations are not proven on the balance of probabilities, the court may allow more extensive contact, provided it is in the child's best interests.

This intersection of criminal law and family law is fraught with complexity. It demands careful judicial handling, robust evidence-gathering, and a sensitive balancing of rights—particularly when the stakes involve not only the liberty of the accused but the safety and emotional security of a child.

Mary

**Denston Village Hall 100
Club Quiz night
STEFAN, TREASURER
Denston Village Hall
01440 820675**

**This is the May 2025 draw for
the 100 club**

**The Denston Village Hall 100
club winners for May 2025 are:**

-
- 1 Mick Corsby £20**
- 2 Selina Hopkins £10**
- 3 Stefan Bransby-Zachary £5**

Thanks Stefan

A SPARKLING EVENING OF FIZZ AND FINERY, GEMS AND JEWELS!

**FRIDAY, 20 JUNE 2025
6pm at Hawkedon Village Hall**

An illustrated talk by master craftsman Andrew Prince
who designs and makes jewellery worn by the stars, with
many pieces made specially for the Downton Abbey cast.



Tickets are limited, to reserve your place contact
Heather Phillips by email htapr@dircon.co.uk
or by calling 01284 789 250/07774 275656.

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, LIVE MUSIC

PUB QUIZ EVERY 3RD THURSDAY

**NEW FOR 2025:
OPEN MIC - EVERY 1ST THURSDAY
FROM MARCH**

WWW.OLDGOATBEER.COM

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



01284 789009

**WINTER HOURS:
FRI: 4:30PM - 10PM
SAT: 4PM - 10PM
SUN: 4PM - 7PM**

Refined Blinds & Shutters

We create bespoke blinds that are tailored to fit your windows

With a wide range of products there will be the right blind for your home

01284 388 779

info@refinedblinds.co.uk

refinedblindsandshutters.co.uk

Who is who in our local church benefices?

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

Delphic's Puzzle Time

Puzzle Time

Puzzle 2

Andy is 30

George is 23

And Patrick is 17



What's David's favourite vegetable?

A *Delphic's Quest* prize pen will be awarded to a randomly drawn correct entry each month. To enter, please submit your answer to delphicsquest@gmail.com (feedback also welcome.) The closing date for submissions is 16th June.

Answer to Puzzle 1: Denston

[Margaret, Mary, Margaret, Peter & Paul and Nicholas are the saints associated with the village churches.]

**Yours
to win!**



Many thanks to Delphic for this intriguing puzzle and for kindly, and most generously, arranging for the unique **Delphic's Quest Prize Pen**. Good luck!

West Suffolk District Councillors

Wickhambrook Wednesday Walking Group

West Suffolk District Councillor for Denston, Stansfield, Hawkedon, Brockley, Wickhambrook, Stradishall, Clare, Hundon, Cavendish, Stoke by Clare, Kedington and others Bobby Bennett
bobby.bennet@suffolk.co.uk

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

Sarah Pugh sarah.pugh@westsuffolk.gov.uk

West Suffolk District Council for Clare, Kedington & Hundon ward

Cllr Nick Clarke -

nick.clarke@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Cllr Marion Rushbrook

marion.rushbrook@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Cllr Karen Richardson

karen.richardson@westsuffolk.gov.uk





STANSFIELD Parish Council

Working with our local community

Want to Help Save a Life? Volunteer needed!

Stansfield is fortunate to have its own Defibrillator ...sited on the outside of our Village Hall.

Could you spare half an hour a month to check it is working? You would have the satisfaction of knowing you could help save someone's life. Stansfield Parish Council (SPC), who provided the defibrillator for the community to use in an emergency, are looking for someone to help. This only involves looking it over each month and reporting back on line. Andrew and Jan Pallett were thanked at the May meeting of SPC for doing this job for nearly two years and will happily show any volunteer how to do it. Please ring Andrew on **01284 789434** A leaflet on how the defibrillator can be accessed has been issued to every household in Stansfield, but if you would like another copy please ask the clerk at: stansfieldpc@outlook.com. Here is a brief extract:

If someone collapsed from a suspected heart attack, what would you do? First make sure you are not in danger Speak to or tap the person to see if they respond Shout for help Dial 999 to call an ambulance, give your name and ask for the code for access to the defibrillator at the Village Hall, postcode CO108LW.

Speeding Some of these colourful posters will soon adorn poles in Stansfield. Aimed at deterring speeding through the village and lanes around, they are the product of hard work by about a dozen youngsters (plus Ben aged 33!!) at the Village Coffee

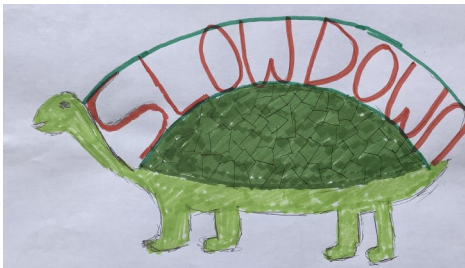
efforts on ideas and concerns voiced by residents and were making steady progress, he said. Alongside formal opportunities like the council meetings, they had created some informal opportunities to collect community views and had held three events in the past year. The coffee morning in April, the wildlife event in autumn which raised around £245 for Suffolk Wildlife Trust, and summer **Fun Day** in August which is to be repeated on **July 20th this year**. "It was pleasing to see so many children and to have a chance to meet up with friends and neighbours and greet some of the newer residents too," he added. A Community Engagement Policy for the Parish Council, which will set out the ways the council will seek ideas and concerns, is in skeleton form and out for comment with interested residents. If you would like to see it and help shape it, please tell the Clerk, **A.Lines** stansfieldpc@outlook.com

The clerk along with councillors is working to improve the website to make it more accessible and easy to use. The PC is still open to nominations for the list of Assets of Community Value – things like the old water pumps, the telephone booth, views from footpaths, the pub and the village hall that are not listed buildings but are valued by the community. If anyone wishes to include any other item please let the clerk know Not all things

Morning held at the end of April. Around 40 signatures were also collected for a petition to Parliament, organised by our local MP, **Nick Timothy**, with the aim of giving more powers to parishes to take action against speeding and intimidating driving.

Steady progress: review of 2024-25 The Parish Council's main responsibility is to work in the interests of the community and to find ways to improve our quality of life and to care for our beautiful historic environment, said **Rex Barnes**, Chairman, at the Council's AGM in May. They were aiming to focus

can be recorded in this way and we will work towards a viable list during the coming year. In all of this work the PC is mindful of the need to keep costs to the residents to a minimum. So, generous sponsors and volunteers, not least the Good Neighbour Scheme, were thanked for their help in this aim. Also thanked were the Village Hall Committee and Dolly and Derek Adams for putting on so many interesting events at the VH for all to enjoy, and the representatives at West Suffolk Council, Sarah Pugh, and at Suffolk County Council, Bobby Bennett, for their support during the past year. Next **Parish Council Meeting** is Wednesday **September 10th 7pm** at the Village Hall. **Village Fun Day**, including the infamous egg and spoon races, is **Sunday July 20th at the Village Hall**.



OBITUARY David Gregory who used to live at the Old School House in Denston and had many friend in Denston and the surrounding villages had recently died. His funeral will be at 12pm at Denston Church on Friday 28th June .



STANSFIELD Parish Council

Working with our local community

Happy beginnings, Happy futures.



Happy Days Childcare



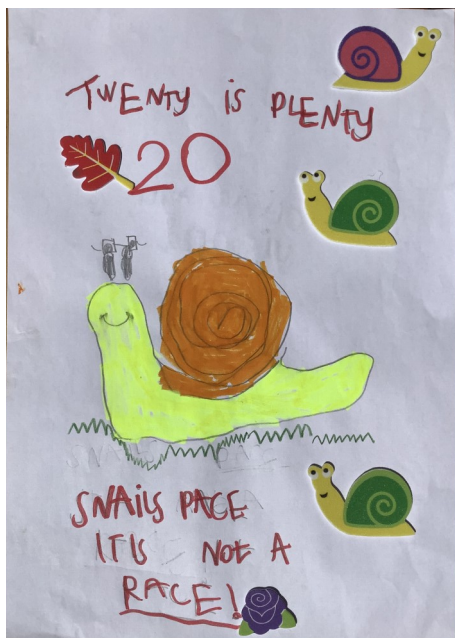
- Accept golden tickets for two year olds.
- Offer up to 30 hours funding for preschool children.
 - Open 7am – 6.30pm.
 - Dedicated baby room with own garden.
- Wrap around and holiday care for children aged up to 11 years.
- Fresh, home cooked meals daily.

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

1, Lancaster Way, Stradishall. CB8 9YD.





What a month it was this time round. Unexpected summer suddenly appeared to warm hearts, spirits and make us chase around our gardens with watering cans. Newly planted trees can be very thirsty, and vegetables need looking after against late frosts and Spring Drought. And all this time a growing excitement about the anniversary of Victory in Europe eighty years ago.

There were some very poignant broadcasts on both radio and television and perhaps the young were able to understand a little more clearly just what the fuss is all about. To understand this helps one understand what it means to be British or at least to live in this country and it also puts the Monarchy into perspective.

In our little village we had a double celebration - not just the VE Day commemorative lunch but also the twenty fifth anniversary of our smart Village Hall. It seems incredible it is such an age and shows little sign of hosting so many Jumble Sales, Quiz Nights, Harvest Suppers, Wakes and Wedding Feasts to say nothing of theatre performances .

This month there is a talk on the incredible craft of producing jewellery for such shows as Downton Abbey - by the local craftsman from Long Melford who actually does it ! We are so lucky to have a venue that gives us these opportunities. But back to the VE Day lunch: we all sat under a host of baby Union Jacks at one long table with many arrangements of spring flowers. Quiches and salads were the main fare but there were also many different delicious puddings to choose from. These events are always fun and this one especially so as we all seemed to be emerging from our winter chrysalises. Of course, wine flowed and then somebody pointed out that I was probably the only person in the Hall who actually

remembered the original VE Day Celebrations, and it was possibly true. Of course, I got up totally unprepared to say a few words about it and found myself ambling down memory lane and getting increasingly emotional. It wasn't just that my family, neighbours, and schoolteachers who had brought me up during the days of war were all dead now. They had made their best efforts to see I was safe and as unaffected as possible by the war as it developed in suburban South London. But it was that the memory of them came so sharply into focus and, as I spoke, I became once again that little boy, noisy and unafraid who happily spent the required times in air raid shelters both in and outside the house, who would stand with relatives for what seemed like hours to get a loaf of bread or groceries, who peered into deep craters in the roads created by bombs just the night before. I had an extravagant collection of shrapnel and was always eager to go into the garden first thing in the morning to pick up small shards of bombs that had exploded just a few hours earlier. I remember some were still too hot to hold. I also remember helping to pin up the blackout curtains each night and being quiet when we heard Winston Churchill on the radio. When the sirens went off I used to race our Battersea Dogs Home mongrel to the Morrison Shelter in the dining room. He always got there first. Dad was in the Army so he did not feature much but the man next door kept an eye on us all and it was his boots we heard crunching on the gravel the night of a terrible Blitz and at the time of the war when it was believed the Germans would be parachuting in. That was a frightening time, and I had my Mickey Mouse gas mask ready to hand and my sister was in an enclosed cradle into which one pumped air. I had looked for my little medal two

days before. Not a real one, of course, but a little tin thing on a red, white and blue ribbon which the Mayor of Croydon had given all us small children for being so brave. And then I thought of Ukraine, of Gaza and all those places round the world where families are trying to bring up children, innocent, tiny, guileless under circumstances even worse. I did not cry in the Blitz, but I was petrified by the fireworks and bands, the noise, the lights on VE Day itself. Let us hope it can be the same for them as they eventually come out of only too real a war.

On a much brighter note we also have something happening in the local area which is going to be great fun. At Pykards Hall in Rede there is soon to be a wonderful theatre production of the play Shakespeare in Love. It is advertised in these pages and will take place on Saturday 19th July and Sunday 20th. Profits will go to Medecins Sans Frontiers. I know it is wonderful because I saw it twice in London. It is taking place at this very special venue on the road out of Rede in the direction of Hawkedon. If you have never seen this venue I should tell you it is very special. An Amphitheatre created within a field and surrounded by trees so the show which, of course is played in full Elizabethan dress, will look wonderful there. You can bring a picnic, and watch the music, the dancing and the sword fights in a magical setting. A warning though, it would be best to book now as seats are limited.

As we slide out of an extraordinary May, a month in which Spring seemed to explode as Cowslips gave way to Sheep's Parsley and candle laden Chestnut Trees ringed the fields, may June bring you all the joys we get from living in this wonderful part of the Free World.

Glorious May Martin

Tractors I have owned. At one time they were an essential part of my life. Peter



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

Dear Carol,

My father died some time ago and my mother re-married pretty quickly. It was hard when she did that but all has always been amicable and we have tried hard to welcome her husband into the family. Although my father died when my children were younger they are grown up now and have their own lives. My mother has started to tell my sister and me that she wants to leave everything in her will to her second husband. I hope this does not come across as grasping but what is tricky is that my father told us as he was dying that he was leaving everything to mum knowing she would of course pass everything on to us. So, in a way it's his inheritance too. My sister and I don't know what to do. We would never fall out about these kinds of things. But it's all feeling very difficult, and we do not know what to do for the best.

Please help! G

Dear G,

This does sound like it's a difficult and sensitive situation. Inheritance is always fraught. Then you mix in feelings of loss and loyalty and it's a tricky mix. In this case it sounds as though your mother is dropping this into the conversation. So in other words she wants you to know about her current thinking. She could have gone off quietly and changed her will but she is choosing to mention it to you and your sister; to hint to you both. I suggest you take advantage of this and talk to your mother. I would avoid a one-time, big, dramatic conversation but aim to have a few unthreatening chats. Talk everything through with your sister first so you know where you both stand, then chat to your mum. From what you have written you have a reasonable point of view. Aim not just to tell your mother what you think and feel but also to hear her point of view. Why has she been changing her mind? What concerns does she have? Could she be worried about her second husband's wellbeing if she were to die first? Aim to give everything an airing before trying to reach solutions.

I am hopeful, if everyone hears all points of view, an agreement can be reached. It may involve some compromise from all parties but reached in a consensual way. I wish you luck with this G.

Carol

Cinema in Stansfield presents...

"An invitation to fall head-over-heels in love"
Screen

"Delightfully warm and comically offbeat"
The Playlist

Refugee Week

FREMONT

12A

Friday 20th June
Stansfield Village Hall
Hall Lane, Lower Street, Stansfield, CO10 8LW
Doors 7pm | Film 7.30pm | Licensed bar
Suggested Donation £5 on Door

Enquiries: friends@stansfieldvillage.org.uk or call 01284 789192
Registered Charity 304639

MUSIC IN COUNTRY CHURCHES

Wickhambrook All Saints - 12 June 2025 at 6:30pm
FIORI MUSICALI and friends will play THE TRUMPET WILL SOUND
Music by Clarke, Handel and JS Bach
Tickets: <https://musicincountrychurches.org.uk/tickets/>
Refreshments will be available.



Clare Community Food Bank

Free food at the Community
Pantry in Clare Parish
Church

07456 863 555

www.boomerangspetfoodbank.co.uk/



Repair of Stradishall Pavillion roof



The Parish Council and the residents of Stradishall are most grateful to their County and District Councillors who most generously arranged for the funds for the repair.

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

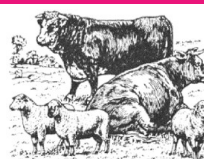
To discuss your requirements and for a free no obligation quote please call:

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



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.

Stansfield
Good Neighbours

07827 128511

stansfieldgoodneighbours@outlook.com

JQ ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Professional and Reliable Registered
Electrician

For Free Quotations

Call John 07502161882

Email: johnquinnelectrical@gmail.com

THOMAS BEDWIN

Documentary Wedding Photography



Photographs to relive your wedding day over and over

www.tjbedwin.com

MTP LANDSCAPES & GARDEN MAINTENANCE LIMITED

Maintain-Transform-Perfection

All Aspects of Landscaping and Garden Maintenance

(CONTACT US TODAY)

MOBILE: 07920152095

WEBSITE: mtplandscapes.co.uk

EMAIL: morganparsons177@gmail.com

LOGS FOR SALE

Crate of Hardwood £100.00 each. Crate of Soft wood £85.00 each.



Please call Brad on 07775591799 to arrange collection/delivery. Based in Wickhambrook

Suffolk Trade Centre - "the best in motoring and customer care"



**Servicing -All makes and models
MOT's Car Sales**

Cars bought for cash.

Finance available.

Web Site:

www.suffolktradecentre.co.uk

Special offer Quote SuffMOT for a £10 discount off your MOT fee.

Telephone 01440 820994

e mail: suffolktradecentre@gmail.com



Prestige Insulation

Insulation specialists offering all aspects of

insulation services from Domestic and Commercial clients throughout the UK
prestige-insulation.co.uk

Contact **07391 604547**