

May 2019

Volume 40

Issue 5

£1.00

Minimum Donation



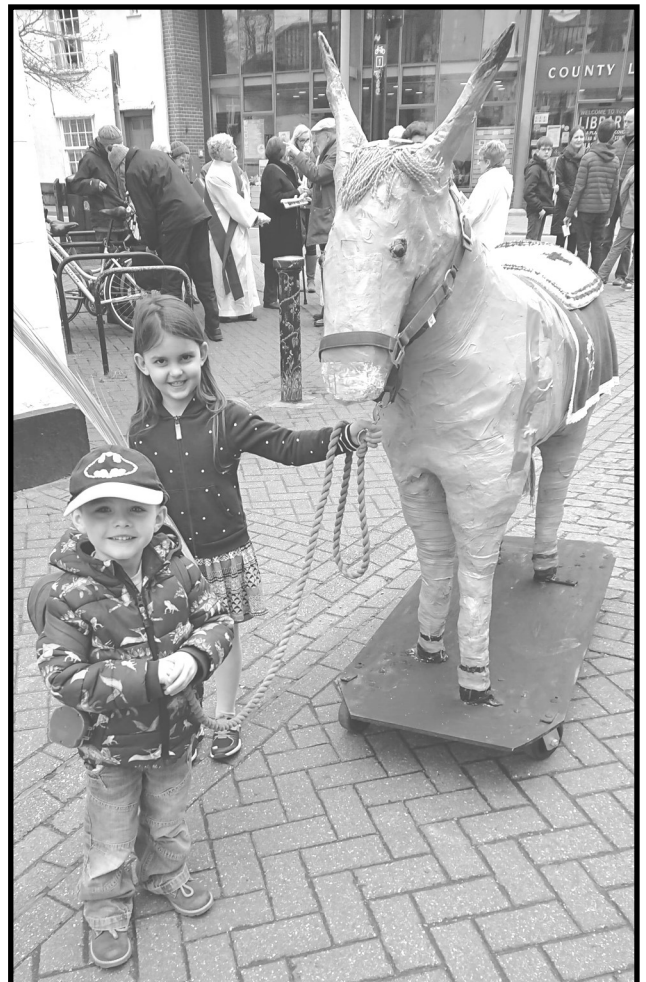
HALESWORTH'S PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

The annual Halesworth Palm Sunday procession took place this year on Sunday 14th April. There was a blessing of the palms, before the procession moved through Halesworth's Thoroughfare, finishing at St Mary's Church, Halesworth for Sunday worship. For further details about the procession, please read the Revd Jane Held's article on page 5 of this edition.

(Our thanks to Charlotte O'Leary for the photographs).

**Blyth Valley Times is published monthly by the
Blyth Valley Team Ministry.**
**To subscribe, with a copy delivered locally through
your door - (minimum donation £12 a year);
or to request a postal subscription (£26 a year),
please telephone 01986 875941
or email: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com**

***Blyford - Bramfield - Chediston - Halesworth -
Holton - Linstead - Spexhall - Thorington -
Walpole - Wenhaston - Wissett
and in association with Heveningham and Huntingfield
www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk***



Team Calendar - May

Sat 4	10:00	Car Boot Sale, St Peter's Church Paddock, Holton
Mon 6	10:00	Great Mediaeval Trail, Halesworth
Mon 6	10:00	Plant Sale, Wissett
Tue 7	10:00	Traidcraft Day, St Edmunds RC Church
Tue 7	19:30	Wenhaston Flower Club, Church Room
Wed 8	10:00	Blyth Valley Parkinson's Coffee Morning, Wenhaston Village Hall
Wed 8	12:30	FOSM Lunchtime Recital, St Mary's, Halesworth
Wed 8	14:30	Wenhaston MU, Church Room
Thur 9	19:00	Talk by Bill Mahood, Wissett
Fri 10	12:00	Pop-in Parlour, Holton
Sat 11	10:00	Christian Aid Walk, Huntingfield
Sat 11	10:30	Cancer Research Spring Fair, Holton Village Hall
Sat 11	15:30	Anam Cora, Thorington
Sun 12 to Sat 18		Christian Aid Week
Sun 12	17:30	Christian Aid Tea & Service, Holton
Tue 14	14:00	Southwold Arts Society Lecture
Tue 14	14:30	Chediston & Linstead WI, Linstead Village Hall
Sat 18	10:30	Plant Sale, St Peter's, Wenhaston
Sun 19	10:00	Bring & Buy, All Saints, Blyford
Wed 22	10:30	Christian Aid Coffee Morning, IP19 8HW
Sat 25	15:00	Explore 2! Spexhall Village Hall
Sun 26	14:30	Rogation Walk, Wissett to Spexhall

Blyth Valley Times Contents

Pages 3 & 4	Blyth Valley Worship
Page 5	Moving from behind the Curate's spectacles to up front
Page 6	News from our Sister Churches
Page 7	"Pause for Thought"
Page 7	Worship and Service Patterns
Page 8	Christian Aid Week. St Mary's Receipts
Page 9	From the Ringing Chamber. Great News
Page 10	Mothers' Union
Page 10	News from our Local School
Page 11	Regeneration update
Page 11	New Cut Choir. Pear Tree Fund
Page 11	Hearts and Hymns
Pages 12 & 13	What's On in the Area
Page 14	Mrs Dawn Elizabeth Leggett
Page 15	A Concert for John Stevenson OBE
Page 16 & 17	BVTM Contacts
Page 17	Halesworth & District Museum
Page 18	Sign of the Fish
Page 19	BVT Information/Halesworth Foodbank
Pages 20 - 26	News from Town & Villages
Page 28	Friends of St Mary's, Halesworth
Page 29	William Beeston Coyte
Page 32	Rogation Walk. Volunteers Week

News about Edward

I am delighted to let you know that Edward is back home, and is very, very slowly recovering from his major illness. He is still too frail to have visitors or receive emails or phone calls and he is looking at a long convalescence, but he is on the mend. He asked me to thank everyone for all the lovely cards, wishes and prayers for his recovery.

Jane

Team Worship - Better Together

Sunday 5th May:

10:00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth

Sunday 12th May:

18:30 Team Evensong at Holton

Sunday 2nd June:

10:00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth

Sunday Readings

5 May, Easter 3

Acts 9.1-6
Psalm 30
Revelation 5.11-end
John 21.1-19

26 May, Easter 6

Acts 16.9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21.10,22-22.5
John 14.23-29

12 May, Easter 4

Acts 9.36-end
Psalm 23
Revelation 7.9-end
John 10.22-30

2 June, Easter 7

Acts 16.16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22.12-14,
16-17,20-end
John 17.1-20-end

19 May, Easter 5

Acts 11.1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21.1-6
John 13.31-35

9 June, Whit Sunday

Acts 2.1-21
Psalm 104.26-36, 37b
Romans 8.14-17
John 14.8-17

Weekday Services & Related Events

EVERY MONDAY & TUESDAY (STARTING MAY)

09:00 Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel, St Mary's, Halesworth.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

10:00 Midweek Eucharist at Halesworth.

10:30 Church Café in St Mary's, Halesworth for all - including those just passing!

10:30 Foodbank, St Mary's, Halesworth.

10:45 Church Mice for parents and pre-school children - all-age outside term-time.

ALL WELCOME.

EVERY THURSDAY

09:00 Morning Prayer (BCP) at Bramfield.

EVERY FRIDAY

09:00 Morning Prayer at St Peter's, Holton.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 16 FOR CONTACT DETAILS

All our weekday services are Team services, and everyone across the Team and beyond is most welcome to attend. This goes for Sundays too.

Sunday Worship in the Blyth Valley in May

Year C TRACK 2	Date: 5th May Sunday: Easter 3 TEAM service COLOUR: White	Date: 12th May Sunday: Easter 4 COLOUR: White	Date: 19th May Sunday: Easter 5 COLOUR: White	Date: 26th May Sunday: Easter 6 COLOUR: White	Date: 2nd June Sunday: Easter 7 TEAM service COLOUR: White
BLYFORD ALL SAINTS	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	09.30 to Wenhaston	09.30 Eucharist by ext Jane	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
BRAMFIELD ST ANDREW	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	11.15 Eucharist with Wenhaston Vic 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	11.15 Eucharist (BCP) by ext Jane	Services available across the Team	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
CHEDISTON ST MARY	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	9.30 Morning Worship Veronica 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	09.30 Eucharist at Linstead	09.30 Morning worship John H	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth 17.30 Doug Cady Memorial Service Vic
HALESWORTH ST MARY	10.00 Team Eucharist C and P Bill , D Linda	08.00 Eucharist (BCP) Vic 10.00 Late Breakfast Church Alison A 14.30 Baptism Jane 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	09.30 Morning Worship Win	08.00 Eucharist (BCP) David 09.30 Parish Eucharist David	10.00 Team Eucharist C David P Jane D Win 3.00 Volunteers Service Win and Jane
HOLTON ST PETER	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	18.30 Team Evensong and Christian Aid Commissioning Service Bill	11.15 Iona Morning Worship Alison A	11.15 Parish Eucharist Bill	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
LINSTEAD ST MARGARET	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	09.30 Morning Prayer (BCP) Linda 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	09.30 Eucharist with Chediston tbc	09.30 Morning Worship Diana	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
SPEXHALL ST PETER	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	09.30 Eucharist at Wissett 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	11.15 to Iona Morning Worship	14.30 Rogation from Wissett to Spexhall Jane	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
THORINGTON ST PETER	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	Services across the Team			10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
WENHASTON ST PETER	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	11.15 Eucharist at Bramfield 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	09.30 Morning Prayer Jane	11.15 Pause for Thought with coffee Alison A	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
WISSETT ST ANDREW	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	09.30 Parish Eucharist with Spexhall, Jane by ext 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	09.30 Morning Worship Linda	14.30 Rogation from Wissett to Spexhall Jane	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
HEVENINGHAM ST MARGARET	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	Services available across the Team 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	Services available across the Team	09.30 Eucharist (BCP) Vic	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
HUNTINGFIELD ST MARY	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth	09.30 Eucharist (BCP) Michael R 18.30 Team Evensong at Holton	Services available across the Team	Services available across the Team	10.00 Team Eucharist at Halesworth
HIGHFIELD				11.15 Eucharist	

United Reformed Church Halesworth and Bramfield

Minister: The Revd Jon Sermon

MAY 2019

SUNDAY 5th	10.30am	WELCOME PRAISE
	11.00am	Morning Communion ~ Minister Jon Sermon
	6.30pm	Evening Service ~ Mr Peter Wagg
TUESDAY 7th	6.30pm	ELDERS' MEETING
CHRISTIAN AID WEEK ~ 12th to 18th May 2019		
SUNDAY 12th	10.30am	WELCOME PRAISE
	11.00am	Morning Service ~ The Revd Don Nichols
	3.00pm	BRAMFIELD ~ Minister Jon Sermon
	6.30pm	NO EVENING SERVICE at URC
Joint Churches Christian Aid Service at St Peter's, Holton. The Revd Bill Mahood		
SUNDAY 19th	10.30am	WELCOME PRAISE
	11.00am	Morning Service ~ Minister Jon Sermon
	6.30pm	Evening Service ~ Minister Jon Sermon
WEDNESDAY 22nd	10.30am	CHRISTIAN AID COFFEE MORNING by kind invitation of Mrs Angela Sutton-Day, 8A Bungay Rd, Halesworth IP19 8HW
	7.00pm	ANNUAL GENERAL CHURCH MEETING in the main Church
SUNDAY 26th	10.30am	WELCOME PRAISE
	11.00am	Morning Service ~ Mr George Long . Followed by tea and coffee
	6.00pm	TFP ~ Tea
	6.30pm	TFP ~ Service ~ Minister Jon

Wenhaston Methodist Church

Minister: The Revd Louise Morrissey

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30am

5	Iris Baker
12	The Revd Louise Morrissey HC
19	The Revd S Yelland
26	Rosemary Adams

Tuesday Meetings at 2.30pm

7	Women's Fellowship Spring meeting
14	Bible Study
21	Women's Fellowship
28	Bible Study

Saturday 4th 9.30am - 11.00am

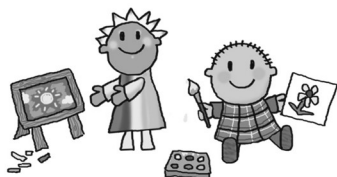
"Pray Awhile" on a come and go basis for prayer and meditation

ALL WELCOME AT ANY SERVICE

St Edmund King & Martyr Roman Catholic Church, Halesworth

Sunday Mass at 9am

Mass on Fridays at 10am



EXPLORE 2!

Spexhall St Peter, 25th May - 3pm

A song, a story, an activity, a snack, a song and a prayer
Church for children, designed by children, led by children

(Adults allowed if helping – all children welcome)

Moving from behind the Curate's spectacles to up front

As I sit and write this, we have just ended Palm Sunday, with our very wonky donkey surviving yet another procession from the library to church. Patched up and tidied, no one could tell that his back was crumbling (*except those of us in on the secret*). That donkey has had an annual outing on Palm Sunday for goodness knows how many years, since it was made by the Woolners. For the rest of the year, it sits quietly in St Mary's Halesworth, enduring the cycle of services, meetings, events, baptisms, weddings and funerals that take place all year round. If only that donkey could talk!

This year, the donkey and I had real cause to rejoice however, because following behind, singing (or in my case gasping for air between songs), waving palms and generally emulating Christ's entry into Jerusalem was a sizeable crowd of all ages and stages. And yes, those other hardy souls who had ventured out onto the Thoroughfare early-ish on a freezing cold Sunday morning to do an errand or two, did stop in their tracks and watch us. And yes, some took a palm cross away with them. Because we caught their interest maybe, or maybe because we were doing something important, something significant, something that is more than an echo of our Sunday School Palm Sunday processions since time immemorial. We were witnessing too, showing in real life action, the start of the greatest story ever told. Of course, we know the end of that story before we set out every year. At the time, only Jesus knew what the entry into Jerusalem meant for him. He knew it was the final act of radical defiance, the entry of a revolutionary into hostile territory and that he would die for his defiance.

Jesus was copying in his own right the prophecies of Zechariah centuries prior to him – when Zechariah said "Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a

donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey". He was subtly (and not so subtly) signalling that he was the King, (THE KING in fact) a message that would infuriate the Jews, and threaten the Romans. I know that we (unlike Jesus) were not in any way doing something radical, subversive or revolutionary in walking down the Thoroughfare behind wonky donkey. We were in many ways doing something traditional and small c – conservative. BUT we were, at the same time, doing something abnormal and unusual; something vitally important to us as it heralds the fact that Jesus died to save us from our sins and to give us eternal life.

Christians the world over daily do small things, individual things which seem radical and revolutionary to others who neither share nor respect what we stand for, or believe or maybe just don't understand it. Christians are persecuted in many countries for their faith. We are not going to be. The worst we could face is a bit of mild ridicule or puzzled bemusement, but all the more reason why we should publically stand up and be counted. At Pause for Thought in May, Alison will be leading a service thinking about the dangers and challenges experienced by persecuted Christians in many parts of the world. Everyone is welcome to attend. Why not come along? Or, if the whole thing is a complete mystery to you, why not take a small radical step of your own ... go to a service somewhere across the Blyth Valley in May, or sign up to one of our bible study groups, or even ask me to drop by for a chat. We could sit in front of wonky donkey to talk. He will keep his own counsel for another year until yet again we herald the horrors of Good Friday and the amazing miracle of Easter Day by trolling down the Thoroughfare singing Hosanna.

Jane

Nathan Hunt
Tree Services
Professional Arborist



Contact Nathan:

07900734124

nathan.khan15@gmail.com

Crown reduction specialist

All aspects of tree work undertaken · Free quotations



Kay @
Willow Therapies

07850 111254

Kay Mitchell (MAR)
Complementary Healthcare

Email: kay@mgcservices.org

Willow @ Church House
Halesworth

PRADA

OAKLEY

Jeffery & Associates
OPTICIANS

jandaopticians.co.uk

4-5 Rectory Street
Halesworth

Opposite the Library

01986 872116

Digital Photography
Glaucoma & Diabetic Screening

Ray-Ban

D&G



News from our Sister Churches

ST EDMUND'S RC CHURCH, HALESWORTH

May - surely the most beautiful month of the year, everything in the natural world clean and new, before the heat and dust of the summer months have darkened the foliage and turned the grass brown. The uncertainties of April, the sudden showers and misty mornings are now replaced by warm Spring sunshine. Bare branches of the tallest trees are overnight covered in a green mist as the new and tender leaves appear. Hawthorn hedges turn from brown to brilliant green, and the May flower lies upon them like snow. The fruit trees are in blossom, promising apples, pears and plums in due season, and our gardens are suddenly filled with flowers - I'm looking at a clump of purple aubrietia as I write, and primroses are brightening the lawn with their delicate blooms.

May is traditionally Mary's month, and the beauty of nature blends well with the sweet, maternal spirit of the Mother of God. Catholics down the ages have prayed to her, though the Church's teaching nowadays is to pray *with* her rather than *to* her, not that there is any harm in turning to her when we need courage and guidance; she always directs us towards her Son.

Mary appears in all four Gospels of the New Testament, enough to give us a rounded picture of a serious, devout young woman who accepted the angel's amazing message, and immediately set out to visit her cousin Elizabeth with the news. She and Joseph provided the child Jesus with a happy upbringing, but her sky darkened as the years went by and his ministry approached its end. She must have pondered over Simeon's prophecy that a sword would pierce her heart - and we cannot begin to imagine how she felt when she stood at the foot of the Cross where he hung in his last agony, the moment when he handed her over to the care of the disciple John, and proclaimed her as John's Mother and ours.

We can call upon Mary at any time to join her prayers with ours. 'Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.'

Margaret Holt

HALESWORTH & BRAMFIELD UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Dear Friends,

I find that, again, the most striking thing to report from our church life is prayer! By the time this comes out, Easter will be over, but I write as we enter Holy Week. Not only has the intensity of our Friday morning prayer meetings been really encouraging, but we recently added a Saturday morning too! Our prayer ministry team, at a recent meeting to pray for each other and for training and mutual encouragement, asked me to preach (sometime soon) on different ways of praying - and yes, I will. We have had examples of listening to God together on several recent Fridays, and the Saturday came about following a suggestion from one individual of calling a special 'day of prayer'.

The background to the Saturday prayer day started with prayer for one of our number with a long-term health issue. This led on to realisation of many who struggle, then a change of emphasis to the clergy and church leaders across all denominations. Almost all have had health problems themselves or with a close family member. Out of this came the 'call' to pray for church leaders and their families. This widened to the whole community - and indeed for the healing of our nation. So I issued the call, for those who could to come together to pray - and for others to pray at home. This could include fasting (whether in relation to food or anything else) for those who felt that was their call.

So, we had a powerful time of prayer, joined by at least one person from another church, praying those themes. And I know of several who consciously set aside that time to pray at home.

Alongside this, I'm aware of growing numbers and vibrancy in the local ecumenical prayer groups that have sprung up. And my own experience of meeting with the Revd Jane Held to prepare joint activities and pray together has brought a sense that we are at the dawn of a new era of greater co-operation between our churches. Prayer can be aloud or silent, in your own language or in tongues. It can include singing, shouting, crying, dancing... Culture has dulled us to this reality, but communication (two way) with our creator is something we are meant for. In this month's 'Christianity' magazine, there's an article about prayer, written by Pete Grieg, founder of the 24/7 prayer movement: He suggests 3 essentials:

Keep it Simple Keep it Real Keep it Up

This fits with the way prayer is intended to be the most natural thing. Don't make prayer over-complicated, intense or weird. Just 'be' with God. The 'real' bit is needed because when life is tough, it would be too easy to try to 'put on a brave face' - even to God. We can't escape His presence anyway (Psalm 139:7-12). The creator God who 'knit us together in our mothers' wombs' cares too much for that. And we need to keep going. That includes what God has recently called our church into.

So, the next 'Saturday Special' (we haven't given it that title, it was just an easy way to refer to what we did recently) will be **Saturday 18th May**. And we deliberately want to host this and MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO ALL. So please join us from other churches, to pray for the church as a whole, the community of Halesworth and the Blyth Valley and the nation!

We'll be meeting at the **URC at 11.30am**, for about an hour. And many will be focused on prayer that day, at home as well as together, throughout the day as well as at that time.

Blessings

Jon





What is "Pause for Thought"?

How much do we know about what happens in other churches in the Blyth Valley Team? As I begin the exciting opportunity to lead worship in different churches, I thought it might be useful to share with each other the variety of worship on offer in our churches each month.

"Pause for Thought" is one of the more informal services that happens regularly in the Blyth Valley Team. It takes place on the fourth Sunday each month at 11.15am in St Peter's Church, Wenhasston. The mood of the worship is quiet and contemplative, and it includes a short reflection, sometimes on the reading, sometimes on a poem or picture. There are

times of silence and sometimes opportunities to listen to music as well as sing. Prayer time is an opportunity for anyone to offer up their own prayer for someone or something concerning them.

At "Pause for Thought" on Sunday 26th May, we will be thinking about the dangers and challenges experienced by persecuted Christians in many parts of the world. Everyone is welcome to attend. Why not come along, especially if there is no service happening in your own church?

We look forward to welcoming you to Wenhasston.

Alison Alder

Worship and Service Patterns

Three things about worship and our worship pattern. Firstly, a sincere apology to our loyal, dedicated band of 8am Holy Communion members in Halesworth. The service patterns with all the Team Services, coupled with shortfalls in staffing, mean I inadvertently shortchanged you so you ended up with only one service in 5 weeks. My sincere apologies. We are back to 2 services a month from May and I will endeavor to "do better" in future.

Secondly, we are now going to be holding a short "daily office" service every day of the week (except Saturdays) from May onwards. We will say Morning Prayer in St Mary's Lady Chapel every Monday and Tuesday at 9am. We have Midweek Eucharist at St Mary's at 10am every Wednesday. On Thursday we say Morning Prayer (BCP) at Bramfield at 9am (lifts can be given) and every Friday Morning Prayer at Holton (lifts can be given) at 9am. These are short quiet services lasting about 15 minutes. All are welcome.

Thirdly, EXPLORE-2! – our monthly children's service, designed by children and led by children (for children from birth to when they feel it's too young for them (around about 10 or 12 years old)) is at 3pm on the third Sunday of each month at St Peter's Spexhall - again all are welcome to an exciting alternative sort of Messy Church – from Halesworth and every village too.

Oh yes - and the fourth thing! Pentecost Sunday is on June 9th and not only will we be holding our major Churches Together Service on Holton Paddock, but we will also be visited by Bishop Mike who is coming to meet with our EXPLORE! Outdoor Church After School Club at Ilketshall St Lawrence school at 11.45am that morning. Rumour has it that a bonfire will be involved! And if there is a bonfire there has to be..... sausages and toasted marshmallows!

Jane H



MAGGIE'S DISCOUNTS

Babies Knitted Garments

Knitting Patterns, Needles and Wool

Thermal Underwear for Ladies and Gents

Pyjamas and Nightwear. Dressing Gowns

16A Thoroughfare, Halesworth. Tel 01986 874652



THE HUNTSMAN & HOUNDS

Stone Street, Spexhall IP19 0RN
Tel 01986 781341

E: info@huntsmanandhounds.com

Home-cooked meals available daily

Warm and friendly welcome

ALLEN'S BUTCHERS

Good Quality Meat and Meat Products
at Competitive Prices

2 MARKET PLACE, HALESWORTH

Tel: 01986 872132

LIFE EVENTS

FROM THE REGISTERS IN MARCH AND APRIL

WEDDINGS:

Matthew King and Katherine Hueston at Holton
Michael Aldred Balls and Anne Aldred at Wissett

FUNERALS:

Dawn Elizabeth Leggett at Holton
Jean Marjorie Burleigh at Holton
Maria Louise Seatory at Halesworth
Gordon Charles Tyler at Halesworth
Pamela Lillingston at Chediston

Suffolk Coastal Cottages

Local self-catering cottages for short breaks/weekly lets



Phone Trish Gower 01502 478078

bookings@suffolkcoastalcottages.co.uk

www.suffolkcoastalcottages.co.uk



Christian Aid Week - 12th - 18th May

During this week, a volunteer may post an envelope through your door asking you to donate to Christian Aid. They will return to collect donations within the week. About Christian Aid: The charity has more than 70 years experience of working in partnership to support communities to thrive. They tackle the root causes of poverty so that women, men and children the world over are strengthened against future knocks. And if disasters happen, they get people the help they need straight away. Every year, during this week in May, Christian Aid focus on a particular area in need. This year it is Sierra Leone. Since the outbreak of Ebola the country has been heavily in debt and cannot afford basic healthcare and medicines. Christian Aid is raising money to help keep mothers and babies safe in pregnancy and childbirth. Your envelope will feature the story and how you can help. If you can go online, you can also sign a petition asking the Chancellor to cancel the debt.

St Peter's, Holton is hosting the Christian Aid Service this year. This will be Evensong with the Team Choir on Sunday 12th May at 6.30pm, with tea at 5.30pm. Please note: We may not have enough volunteers to do house collections in every street but there will be a collection at the Service as well.

On Saturday 11th May, there is an organised walk in the

Huntingfield area, also for Christian Aid. You don't need to be sponsored, just a donation would be great. If anyone would like a lift to Huntingfield for Heather's Walk, please let Jackie know - 01986 835752. More info on any of these things please contact Jackie W - 01986 835752.

'All mums should live'



Jebbeh's Story: Sierra Leone is the world's most dangerous place to become a mum. Every day 10 women die from giving birth. In Sawula district, the community struggle with a clinic which has no electricity and only two delivery beds.

Jebbeh is heavily pregnant but as her baby grows, it's not joy that fills her heart, but fear. When Jebbeh's sister Fatmata went in to labour, there were so few ambulances that Fatmata had no choice but to walk for three hours under the baking sun, to the nearest hospital. The journey was long and with every step Fatmata struggled to keep walking.

Jebbeh told us: *'My sister was crying out with hunger. She died on the side of the road. She never gave birth.'*

This Christian Aid Week, together, we can make childbirth

safe for mums and babies.

Through our gifts and prayers, we can help give the world's poorest mums a chance to live.

Stand with mums

Will you be a partner for change? If our church raised £300, it could help provide a new delivery bed so more mums like Jebbeh can deliver their babies safely.



Heather's Walk for Christian Aid

Saturday 11th May 2019

2 Circular Walks : 3 Miles or 7 Miles
In the Huntingfield Area

Optional short walk of under a
mile to visit Huntingfield Church

All Welcome

Start: 10am

Register/donate from 9.30am

You will need packed lunch for 7 mile walk / drinks provided.

Toilet facilities: at lunch stop •

Please park on Huntingfield Millenium Green.
Field above the Village Hall • JP190QH



MEMORIES AND STORIES OF OLD HALESWORTH

By James W Newby. Compiled by Derek Newby

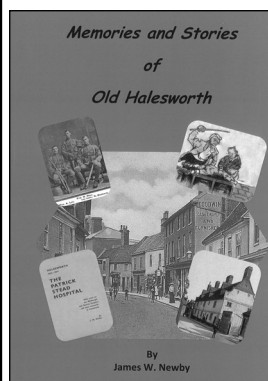
Covering over 130 years of one man's records

of life in Halesworth.

Priced at £6.99

Available from Halesworth
Bookshop, St Mary's Church,
Halesworth Museum and
Heathside Stores Wenhaston

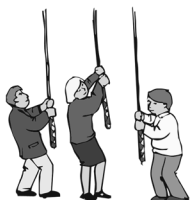
*Proceeds from the sale of this
book will be donated to
St Mary's Regeneration Fund*



St Mary's, Halesworth

Receipts Summary - March 2019

Collections	£689.00
Planned Giving	£1306.00
Fees	£758.00
Gift Aid Tax PGS	£94.00
General	£122.00
TOTAL	£2969.00



From the Ringing Chamber



I was recently contacted by the tower captain at Mendham to see if I could help to teach three new ringers, or rather three people who had expressed an interest in learning to ring. This is potentially a huge commitment. Learning to ring involves one-to-one sessions for three to six months followed by close supervision until the learner is safe to be left alone, and even then continued supervision is advisable to stop the inevitable bad habits developing. Teaching three people at once triples the time commitment. And to make things worse the dropout rate is notoriously high, as only the most tenacious of learners will put up with the time it takes to master a good technique. Nevertheless, for two reasons I agreed to help.

I met with the three recruits and, although they were considerably older than the ideal (about 14) they all showed interest, intelligence, enthusiasm and an eagerness to learn. They were very open to the idea of travelling to other towers and seemed to understand the difficulties of learning this extraordinary skill. On top of that I was very gratified that my plea to other NE District ringers for help brought forth six offers from competent ringers, all prepared to give their time to help another tower build up its band. This is typical of the ringing world: there is nothing in it for them, other than the satisfaction of creating new ringers.

Time will tell how we get on.

Meanwhile, back home, things have been ticking over unspectacularly. There was some particularly satisfying ringing on Palm Sunday when we were joined by Mike's daughter Clare who rings in Cambridgeshire. Competent Visitor Factor then applied as everybody raised their game, not wishing to embarrass themselves in the presence of a

visitor who clearly knew what they were doing, and as a result we managed some very respectable call changes as well as a course of Plain Bob Major and a very good lower at the end.

Hopefully our forthcoming annual meeting may re-energise the band as we look at how we have met or failed to meet our targets last year, and consider what we aim to achieve over the next 12 months. Watch this space! **PG**

GREAT NEWS

I am absolutely delighted to tell you that Alison Alder and Linda Berry have both been authorised to go forward for ordination as Deacons on June 29th 2019 at the Cathedral.

They will both join me as Assistant Priests and Curates in the Team. (Three lots of Curate's spectacles? Well, maybe not).

Their first service as Deacons is the 10am Team Service on the 30th June which will be in St Mary's, followed by brunch for everyone.

They bring extra special gifts with them and will be such wonderful additions to the Clergy team. We are all really, really glad for them and ask for your prayers for them and their families as they prepare.

Incidentally, I too am through the assessment process and will be ordained priest on the same day. In addition, as if all that is not enough, Veronica Downing has been accepted for Reader training and begins her three year course in September. I am delighted for her as well. She too will bring many gifts to the Team. Congratulations to all three of them.

Jane



HORSE & GARDEN



Come & explore this Aladdin's cave in the heart of Halesworth
For your Spring goodies!

Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

01986 873484

18b Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AP



The HALESWORTH BOOKSHOP

Wide selection of current titles
Out of print book search/ordering
Supply of CD's and DVD's
Wide selection of cards and gift wrap

42 Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AR
Telephone: 01986 873840 halesworthbookshop@gmail.com

MGC
SERVICES LTD
(est. 1989)

PLUMBING & HEATING

01986 872882

A SMALL LOCAL COMPANY THAT CARES

We Can Provide Quality Work Using Experienced Craftsmen

- Complete Heating Systems • New Boilers, Boiler Servicing • Landlords Gas Safety Records
- Bathroom Suites Supplied and Installed • General Plumbing

For A Reliable, Courteous Service, Contact Clive Mitchell



BOSCH

Over 35 Years Plumbing
and Heating Experience





A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Coffee Morning on April 6th, over £166 was raised. At the Diocesan meeting last month, it was announced that our Treasurer has been able to make contact with the Finance Manager for the Anglican Council in Malawi, so we will be able to send some money to help our link Diocese of Malawi which has been affected by the recent cyclone. So as well as supporting the *Make a Mothers' Day* campaign, some of the money raised will be sent to our Diocesan Treasurer for our members in Malawi.

At the Council meeting, the various reports for the past year were received and I thought I would reproduce (below) the Action and Outreach report for those that do not see the MU Diocesan magazine Pathways.

ACTION & OUTREACH 2018

We asked the Woman's Refuge in Ipswich if there was anything they were in need of for the ladies. They gave us ideas and one was a garden bench for the garden where the ladies and children go for therapy and coffee mornings also it is a lovely space for children to play. Several of Mothers Union members came with me to see the bench in the garden we were made very welcome and were told of the work that the Woman's Refuge does to help the ladies and children.

The amount of toiletries, bedding, towels, underwear and toys donated through the year for the Woman's Refuge in Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds has been fantastic.

Once again, at Christmas members kindly donated gift vouchers in £5 domination's for the Woman's Refuge in Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds which were very well received.

The members of the Diocese have been very busy making items for the Special Baby Unit at Ipswich and West Suffolk hospitals. Also, drain bags for the Oncology department at Ipswich hospital. Hats for the Seaman's Mission.

The Wedding Fayre at Trinity Park in September, which is always an enjoyable event, was another success as the majority of brides that we spoke to were getting married in

church rather than a venue, which is very encouraging.

This year we were asked if we could help provide new underwear, hats, scarves, gloves and toiletries, for the Ipswich Winter Night Shelter. The amount of items donated by Mothers Union members was fantastic.

I would like to say a very big thank you to all members and friends of Mothers Union for your generosity helping making the lives of the families who are in need of the Woman's Refuge in Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds and the dedicated work of the staff at Ipswich and West Suffolk Hospitals.

I could not have done Action and Outreach these last six years without all of your help and prayers.

Sandra Griffiths Action & Outreach.

Please note we do not have a meeting in Halesworth this month but will be joining with Wenhasston branch on Wednesday 8th May at 2.30pm at Wenhasston. Lifts are available so please let me know if you would like transport.

Win Sutton, Branch Leader.

Telephone: 01986 875225

NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL SCHOOL

EDGAR SEWTER PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR

On March 4th, Edgar Sewter Primary School Choir took part in the Snape Maltings Music Celebrations. It was a wonderful occasion.

The children had different rehearsals throughout the day such as technical lighting and staging rehearsals and finale rehearsals. They were taught a finale song by the composer of the piece. All this led up to the final performance in the evening. The children sang "This is Me" from the Greatest Show and Jack Johnson's "Better Together". The children also created dances which they perfected and performed.

It was undoubtedly an amazing experience for them and they have not stopped talking about it and saying how brilliant it was! It certainly was an excellent opportunity for them as they were able to work with many professional musicians. It was such a success that the school has already applied for another opportunity with Snape Maltings.

***Blyth Valley Times would be pleased to
receive regular news items and
photographs from our local schools.***

***Please email these to:
blyth.valley.times@gmail.com***



THE FEEDBARN

◆ SUFFOLK ◆

Pet Store

3 Market Place, Halesworth, IP19 8BA

01986 873642

**A traditional store for all your pets needs
and creature comforts.**

www.thefeedbarnsuffolk.co.uk

NEW CUT CHOIR

We would like to "sing" (sorry!) the praises of the recently founded New Cut Choir in Halesworth. Led by dynamic duo Alexander Campkin and Rob Gildon, the group is welcoming and sociable and open to all ages and abilities.

We have already made new friends from Halesworth and surrounding villages. Songs range from pop to gospel, classical to jazz and folk - from Purcell to Cole Porter with improvisation in between.

Music is taught mainly by ear and sometimes supplemented by sheet music and recordings. After a few short weeks, we are confident enough to be planning a performance on the beach bandstand as part of the June Aldeburgh Festival. I return home every week, head buzzing with music, waking up with one of the tunes going around my head and others popping up through the week.

New members are welcome – why not drop in and give it a try? It is such a fun way to spend an evening.

Sessions run from 7pm to 9pm on Tuesdays and cost £5. Geraldine Lines (singer, New Cut Choir).

Alexander Campkin

E: info@alexandercampkin.com

Hearts and Hymns

I was recently flicking through the TV channels when I stumbled across a delightful little radio programme called Hearts and Hymns.

The 60 minute show is presented by the very listenable Pam Rhodes and features a mixture of hymns and songs traditional and modern, some familiar some not so. It goes out at 6pm on Sundays and can be found on Premier Radio, Freeview channel 725. Well worth a little listen.

John Parson



Regeneration Update

Just a short update this month, but hopefully more next month after the DAC visit us in May (May 7th to be precise) to consider our requests to amend our planning permission.

We sincerely hope we will get the go ahead to level the whole floor, put in new lighting, lay a new blue carpet and to buy all the chairs people have so generously sponsored since January, so we can turn the church into a much more harmonious, tranquil, attractive, useable, flexible and practical space for worship, for community and for peaceful reflection.

The sub-committee meets again on May 23rd to start planning phase two of the work. We could do with a couple more members of the sub-committee to help us think through and organise the programme of work. We particularly need folk with vision and practical skills (especially if you have skills in building development, planning, project management, grant bidding, community development, tourism, arts and music).

You do not need to be a person of faith, or a member of church, just be someone who cares about Halesworth and our villages and making the Church a vital centre to our community, a wonderful example of preserved heritage and modern accommodation, and a place to use and enjoy. If you are interested and can give up about 3 hours a month, get in touch with Jane at jane@janeheld.co.uk



Popular pub pledges its support

The Queen's Head at Bramfield has named the Pear Tree Fund as its charity of the year.

The popular pub has chosen to support the Pear Tree Fund, which was formerly known as Halesworth Community Nursing Care Fund, because of the work it does for vulnerable local people. It already has a collection tin on its bar and is now organising a calendar of special events to raise further funds.

"We are delighted to be able to help the Pear Tree Fund in any way we can" said Kate Wood, owner of The Queen's Head. "Since buying The Queen's Head in July last year, we've discovered what a fantastic place Halesworth and the surrounding area is, and are keen to assist this hard-working charity to benefit the local community. Pubs are an intrinsic part of our culture and community and have always been staunch supporters of fundraising for charities. This is something we're keen to continue."

Events, including a book sale, family quiz and sales of special Queen's Head homemade chutney, will take place throughout the rest of the year.

To find out more about the Pear Tree Fund and how you can support the charity, visit peartreefund.org

THANK YOU

Rosemarie Mallett would like to thank everyone for the lovely Easter flowers in St Mary's. She also thanks all those who helped with the arrangements, it was much appreciated.



NO BAD FEET

Susan Fitch, A.H.C.P.

FOOTCARE SPECIALIST PRACTITIONER

Let me help to keep your feet happy and healthy

TREATMENTS AVAILABLE:

DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE, INGROWN TOENAILS

CORNS, VERRUCAS, CALLUSES,

PAINFUL HARD SKIN

THICK NAIL TRIMMING AND FILING

GENERAL FOOT HEALTH CARE

AND FOOT TIDYING

PHONE 01986 872067

MOBILE 07497 371073

**I AM AVAILABLE FOR HOME VISITS
BY APPOINTMENT**

WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

Blyth Valley
Parkinson's Group

**Coffee
Morning**
Wenhaston
Village Hall
Wednesday
8th May
10am to 12 noon

Raffle, Stalls

*In aid of Blyth Valley
Parkinson's
Support Group*



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

Rosemary Wright and Stella Dobson
invite you to the

Spring Traidcraft
Day

St. Edmund King and Martyr
Roman

Catholic Church, Halesworth

Church Farm Lane IP19 8SY

Tuesday 7th May **10am- 4pm**

Gifts that make a difference to the worlds
poor



Refreshments- tea, coffee and
lots of cakes.

Car parking available.

*St Peter's Church,
Wenhaston*

Plant Sale

Saturday 18th May
10:30 to 12:30

*In the Church Yard
In the church if wet*

**Plants, Cake Stall, Raffle,
Coffee**

Proceeds To The Church

**FREE
MOVIE
NIGHT**

Wenhaston Village Hall
IP19 9EQ

May 17th, 2019
6 - 8:30 PM

Come along if
you're 10-18
years old!

Free film
and snacks!

For more information please contact:
jade.read@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

All
supervised



Friends of St Mary's · Halesworth
Arms of The Argentines · Mediaeval Benefactors

Lunchtime Recital
St Mary's Church, Halesworth
Wednesday 8th May,
12.30pm

Picnic Lunch available from 12 noon
or bring your own



The C Strings
(Wendy Gudgin, Ben Payne, Jean Hudson
and Patrick Crooke)

Perform

Unique arrangements of concert favourites

**Retiring collection for the
Regeneration of St Mary's Church.**

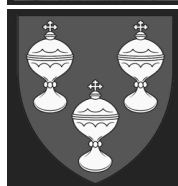
THE ARTS SOCIETY, SOUTHWOLD*The 2019 Season of Lectures continues on the following Tuesdays:***May 14th:** New York in the Gilded Age (1890's)*Speaker:* Mary Alexander**June 11th:** Thomas Heatherwick - the modern Leonardo?*Speaker:* Ian SwankieAll lectures commence at 2pm in Southwold Arts Centre,
(St Edmund's Hall), Southwold.Visitors and Members' guests welcome. *Small donation appreciated.***BRING AND BUY
AT BLYFORD CHURCH****Sunday 19th May****10am to 4pm****TEA – RAFFLE****IN AID OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH BLYFORD****ALL WELCOME****CAR BOOT SALE****Saturday 4th May, 10am****St Peter's Church Paddock****Bookings: £6 in advance, £7.50 on the day****Tel: 01986 835752 or 01986 875913****Refreshments, Raffle and Church Stall***In aid of St Peter's Church, Holton***ANAM CORA***Sounding in Sacred Spaces***Spring into Life***a celebration of May!***Saturday May 11th 3.30 – 5.00 pm****Joyful Singing & A Sung Meditation**Weaving together song, poetry & silence, inside & outside the church,
to celebrate this time of abundant flowering & new life**A fundraiser for the Thorington Angels at
St Peter's Church Thorington Suffolk IP19 9JG****SUGGESTED DONATION £10: REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE**

For further information contact Cathie Shuster 07734 469038

Anam Cora are five singers who blend their voices
to reflect harmony, compassion & joy

For more info visit:

marybenefiel.com/anam-cora & blythvalleychurches.org.uk

CANCER RESEARCH**SPRING FAIR****SATURDAY 11TH MAY, 10.30am - 2pm****NEW VENUE: Holton Village Hall***Light lunches. Raffle, cakes, books, tombola, bric-a-brac,
stall of new and nearly-new items, etc.***Ample parking.***Hoppa running usual morning service (departs**Railway station 9.30am, arrives village hall 10am).**Please come and support us. A warm welcome to all*The Blyth Valley
Team Ministry**ST. PETER'S CHURCH, HOLTON**
invites you to the**POP
IN
PARLOUR****Friday 10th May****12noon to 1.30pm****in****St Peter's Room, Holton****THE GREAT HALESWORTH
MEDIAEVAL TRAIL****Monday 6th May****10am - 3pm****Collect forms from De Argenteins
at Ancient House (middle of town
next to the Toy Shop)****£1 adults, 50p children per sheet*****For ALL the family - fun for all*****Mediaeval Quiz*****Prizes to be won*****Tea/coffee & cake****in St Mary's Church****Craft table for children -
with Mediaeval themed
colouring sheets,
brass rubbings, stamps
and more in Church**de Argenteins
the Ancient House**www.deargenteins.co.uk**de Argenteins
the Ancient House**www.friendsofstmaryshalesworth.org.uk**

MRS DAWN ELIZABETH LEGGETT

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Dawn Elizabeth Leggett was held in St Peter's Church, Holton, on March 29th. She passed away peacefully at her home in Holton on March 2nd, aged 74. The Revd Bill Mahood officiated, with Jason Busby on the organ.

In his address the Revd Mahood said that Dawn was born on 13th November 1944 to Margery and Alan Abrams in the Clifton area in Bristol where Margery was evacuated, due to the war, to stay with relatives. She was their second child.

In the mid 1950's the family were living at Shenfield when Dawn trained and worked as a telephonist at Barclays Bank in London. During that time she met Reg Leggett and they were married in September 1963 and lived in a flat in Forest Gate. They saved enough for their first house on a new estate in Writtle, Chelmsford, but had been there for only a short time when Reg's firm asked him to move to Halesworth to help and establish a new factory there and they moved to their present house in Holton in 1967.

Dawn worked in the office of the new factory for about a year and moved from there to work for the Halesworth doctors in their dispensary in Halesworth Market Place, during which time she had two children, Wendy and Mark. She later worked in the new surgery at Cutlers Hill. She then qualified as a keep fit instructress and had her own classes which she took to perform at the Royal Albert Hall and Seymour Hall in London.

She then trained and passed exams to be a doctors' practice manager, but never took a post doing this. After leaving the surgery she became self-employed, making soft furnishings. Keen on sport she enjoyed playing tennis in Halesworth and golf in Southwold. Never idle at home she enjoyed working in

their garden and for relaxation she created some exquisite tapestries.

When she stopped working she took up playing bridge which she loved and played 3 or 4 times a week at clubs in Southwold and Walberswick and with friends in their homes. She will always be remembered for her smile and happy disposition and always willing to help others and, as one member put it, "a light has gone out of our lives". Dawn loved and enjoyed her family and all get-together days and she liked to travel in their mobile home, the first one of which she helped to fit out, and she enjoyed overseas holidays. On their last and 15th holiday in Egypt she was unwell, and on returning home she saw their doctor and was being treated, but on the second day home she died in Reg's arms.

The family and immediate mourners were her husband Reg, Mr & Mrs P Blankley (daughter), Mr M Leggett and Linda (son), Emma, Oliver, Georgia and Arron (grandchildren), Mr & Mrs P Abrams (brother), Mr & Mrs G Speller (sister), Neil and Jodiean Speller, Paul Speller (nephews), Nathan (great nephew) Hannah and Larissa (great nieces), Mr & Mrs W Childs, Mr & Mrs E Clarke (cousins), Mr & Mrs F Ashford, Margaret Blankley. Roy Wells.

The commendation, committal and blessing were given in the Church and exit music was Enya's *Journey of the Angels*. There were beautiful floral tributes from Reg and the family and cremation followed. Donations in the Church in memory of Dawn for the East Anglian Air Ambulance amounted to £460. Further donations are invited and may be sent to: E.A.A.A., Hanger E, Norwich Airport, Norwich NR6 6EG.

Derek Newby

DURRANTS

SINCE 1853

AUCTIONEERS · VALUERS · ESTATE AGENTS

12 Thoroughfare, Halesworth

Suffolk IP19 8AH

Tel: 01986 872553 / Fax 01986 874007

Email: halesworth@durrants.com

www.durrants.com

**AUCTION ROOMS - BECCLES
HOLIDAY LETS IN SOUTHWOLD**

**Thinking of selling, or just want to know what your
property is worth?**

Call today for a free no obligation market appraisal

HALESWORTH (01986) 872553

BECCLES (01502) 712122

HARLESTON (01379) 852217

SOUTHWOLD (01502) 723292

DISS (01379) 642233

WWW.DURRANTS.COM

Stella's Hair Salon

EST 1999



Schwarzkopf
PROFESSIONAL

**1 The Courtyard, 25 Market Place, Halesworth
Phone: 01986 873324**



Densons Jewellers

QUALITY REPAIRS - Jewellery - Watches - Clocks



**Gorgeous selection of
jewellery, watches
and gifts.**

**Watch batteries
and straps**

Insurance valuations

No 15 The Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AH

01986 873209

densonsjwllrs@gmail.com

A concert for John Stevenson OBE

I caught the 15:47 Diss to London Liverpool Street train on 6th April (following a wedding at St Andrew's Wissett), then the tube to Bow Church, a short walk to the Docklands Light Railway station and got off at All Saints. Up the stairs and round to the right was the imposing tower of All Saints Church, Poplar.

I was so pleased I could attend a concert dedicated to John Stevenson OBE, by the London Dockland Singers. Andrew Campling (conductor) and Sir Andrew Parmley (organ) both worked with John and were honoured to be part of the evening. Lady Parmley read the Eulogy at John's funeral service in St Andrew's Bramfield. The Church was beautifully simple in decoration, with perfect acoustics, the organ situated high at the west end, the choir at the east. The evening started with Faure's sublime *Cantique de Jean Racine* and concluded with Faure's *Requiem* (brought back a lot of happy memories from when I was a boy chorister).

I climbed up to the organ loft during the interval to meet Sir Andrew who showed me the organ console and highlighted a couple of electrical faults with the organ and how the

trumpet stop was marked so it wasn't used in error due to it's power! A fine modern organ dating from just 1953, a rebuild of a Hunter organ; "presumably a 'new' organ in the old case"; this organ was brought from Clapham Congregational Church.

With other pieces by Holst and Howells and two compositions by Andrew Campling, in particular his setting of George Herbert's poem, *The Elixir* was commissioned by the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers for their 350th Anniversary Service in St. James Garlickhythe, City of London in 2014. A fine piece of music.

After the interval Lady Parmley on behalf of Charles presented a cheque in memory of John for £10,000 to the Headmistress of the all girls, St. Marylebone CE School where John was Headmaster. The money going into the Schools Prize giving fund. I'm sure John was with us in spirit enjoying every minute of the concert. My only grumble.....I had an hour before my train home, grabbed a quick pint at £6.50! £6.50 for a pint! The concert was worth it.

Rest in peace John and rise in glory.

Jason Busby



ANGEL
PODIATRY

43 Thoroughfare
Halesworth
IP19 8AX
01986 874531
www.angelpodiatry.co.uk
info@angelpodiatry.com

Podiatry Chiropody Footwear

As HCPC registered podiatrist we specialise in the diagnosis and treatment of foot problems.

Skin problems: corns, calluses, verrucae

Nail issues: thickened nails, ingrowing toe nails

Laser Treatment for fungal nail infections

Diabetic foot care

Biomechanical assessment, Orthotics

Plantar fasciitis, Bunions, other foot and leg pain

Footwear - Db wider fitting shoe, Padders,
Josef Seibel, Skechers, Cotswold.

MARKET PLACE

WINE SHOP
FULL OFF-LICENCE
including Homebrew

Alexander Carr - Proprietor
Major credit cards accepted · Free parking
Market Place, Halesworth. Tel 01986 872563



Thoroughfare Flooring & Furniture FACTORY OUTLET

Flooring, Beds, Mattresses

STOCKISTS OF

Highgrove and Highgate Beds

Tailor-made to suit your needs

Solid Oak Furniture on display

Also large selection of Carpet & Vinyl Remnants

Open 6 days a week · Free Delivery · Free Quotes

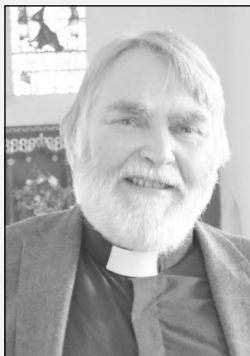
Unit 2, 18b Thoroughfare

Halesworth IP19 8AH

Tel 01986 948748

factoryoutlet@mail.com

Blyth Valley Ministry Team



Edward Rennard
Team Rector

The Rectory, Highfield Road,
Halesworth, IP19 8SJ
Tel: 01986 872602
Mob: 07958 191975
Email: edward.rennard@gmail.com
(off duty Monday)



Jane Held
Curate

Oak Cottage, The Street,
Rumburgh, IP19 0JX
Tel: 01986 781760
Mob: 07771 556391
Email: jane@janeheld.co.uk
(off duty Thursday & Friday)

Vic Hopkins *Honorary Associate Priest*
Tel: 01986 875934.
Email: csninefour@btinternet.com

David Sochon *Honorary Associate Priest*
Tel: 01986 781151.
Email: davidsochon@googlemail.com

Pam Bayliss *Honorary Associate Minister (Methodist)*
Tel: 01502 471763 *(Foodbank)*
Email: revbayliss@btinternet.com

Diana Gardiner: *Reader*
Tel: 01986 784174.
Email: osmg.diana@gmail.com

Win Sutton: *Reader*
Tel: 01986 875225.
Email: win.sutton28@gmail.com

Linda Berry: *Ordinand*
Tel: 01986 798165.
Email: churchwarden@stmaryshuntingfield.org.uk

Alison Alder: *Ordinand*
Tel: 01502 478855.
Email: alisonalder@hotmail.co.uk

*If telephoning, please always leave a message,
if there is no one available to take your call.*

(Malcolm Walkey is currently on sabbatical)

Karen Wynne Evans - *Team Choir Director*
Tel: 01986 873431
Email: karen.wynne.evans@virgin.net

Jason Busby - *Organist - Halesworth, Holton and Team*
Tel: 01986 873336
Mobile: 07817 863533
Email: jasonbusby@yahoo.co.uk

Team Council Contacts

Edward Rennard: *Team Rector, Chair of Team Council*
Geoffrey Kiddy: *Lay Chair of Team Council*
Email: mail@wissettlodge.co.uk
Pedro Cockerton: *Team Treasurer*
Tel: 01986 873431 **Email: treasurer.bvtm@gmail.com**
Carolyn Clarke: *Clerk to Team Council*
and Team Administrator
Tel: 01986 875941 **Email: office.bvtm@gmail.com**

CHURCHWARDENS - FIRST POINT OF CONTACT FOR LIFTS

PARISH	CHURCHWARDENS	TELEPHONE
Blyford	Alison Cackett	01986 874442
Bramfield	Robert Gamble	01502 478682
Chediston	Veronica Downing Graeme Williams	01986 873184 01986 875342
Halesworth	Jason Busby	01986 873336
Heveningham	Camilla Warrilow Janet Pleasance	01986 798408 01986 798533
Holton	John Hewlett	01986 875913
Huntingfield	Emma Ward	
Linstead	Roger Wilkinson Malcolm Heath	01986 785167 01986 785289
Spexhall	Fred Woods Janet Sochon	01986 781256 01986 781151
Thorington	Trish & Mike Gower	01502 478267
Wenhaston	Jonathan Alder	01502 478855
Wissett	Geoffrey Kiddy Nick Evans	01986 873173 01986 872372

Halesworth & District Museum

- A Sporting Life^{1,2}

One of the most impressive recent additions to the Halesworth sporting scene is the Halesworth Golf Club. Before 1991, when it was opened, Halesworth golfers had traditionally travelled to Southwold to play. On the inspiration of Tony and Rosie Ward, an 18 and a 9 hole course were laid out on 190 acres of farmland north of the Bramfield Road, overlooking the Blyth Valley.

Now owned by Mr and Mrs Jon Hunt, it has been steadily improved over the last 30 years or so, and its several hundred members can now enjoy what has been described by the Suffolk Golf Union as "the best conditioned golf course in Suffolk".

With a range of trophy and club competitions, there is a crowded Club programme running alongside the opportunity for a quiet game among friends.

As Criswell Freeman says in his poem:

"Life is like a round of golf, With many a turn and twist...

But the game is much too sweet and short, To curse the shots you've missed.

Sometimes you'll hit it straight and far. Sometimes the putts roll true.

But each round has its errant shots And troubles to play through.

So always swing with courage No matter what the lie.

And never let the hazards Destroy the joy inside.

And keep a song within your heart. Give thanks that you can play.

For the round is much too short and sweet To let it slip away".

1. The *Sporting Life* was a British newspaper originally priced at one penny (1d) and published 1859-1998

2. This *Sporting Life* is a 1963 British drama film based on the 1960 novel of the same name by David Storey.

Jenny Janes

Need
a Lift?

If you would like a lift to any of the services in the Blyth Valley Team Ministry:

Please contact one of our churchwardens who will be happy to organise a lift to and from the service.

(See page 16 for churchwardens' contacts)

BVTM EMAIL ADDRESSES

BLYTH VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY OFFICE:

office.bvtm@gmail.com

BLYTH VALLEY TEAM TREASURER:

treasurer.bvtm@gmail.com

BLYTH VALLEY TIMES:

blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

ECUMENICAL CLERGY

Louise Morrissey *Methodist Minister in Covenant*
Wenhaston Methodist Church,
62 King George's Avenue, Leiston, IP16 4JG
Tel: 01728 830733
email: Delilah.Morrissey@googlemail.com

Jon Sermon *URC Minister*
Halesworth & Bramfield URC,
Quay Street, Halesworth, IP19 8EP
Tel: 01986 873761
email: jon@sermons.me.uk

Don Nichols *URC Minister*
Halesworth & Bramfield URC,
Quay Street, Halesworth, IP19 8EP
Tel: 01986 872913
email: donnichols2@btinternet.com

Roger Spencer *Roman Catholic Priest*
The Presbytery
The Common. Southwold, IP18 6AH
Tel: 01502 722265
email: delacyspencer@btinternet.com

TEAM LAY ELDERS

Margaret Bloomfield	01502 478502
Jason Busby	01986 873336
Alison Cackett	01986 874442
Veronica Downing	01986 873184
Robert Gamble	01502 478682
Malcolm Heath	01986 785289
John Hewlett	01986 875913
Jackie Moulson	01986 875457
Eileen Salmon	01986 875749
Janet Walkey	01986 872594

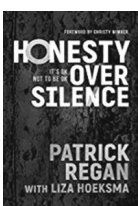
margaretibloomfield@talktalk.net
jasonbusby@yahoo.co.uk
acackett@me.com
veronica@veronicadowning.co.uk
rwagamble@gmail.com
mlheath@aol.com
johnfhewlett@btinternet.com
jacquelinemoulson@btinternet.com
janetwalkey@hotmail.com

20^a SIGN OF THE FISH

IMPORTANT NOTICE: SIGN of the FISH bookshop has a new phone number – 07770 465 785

It cannot have escaped your notice that the Sign of the Fish bookshop is somewhat petite, “bijou” even, and (stretching the metaphor), although we hope you will find a “bijou”, we cannot display a wide range of the best of current Christian publishing, and it is rare indeed to find more than one copy of any title, so it’s “first come, first serve”, don’t be disappointed if the book you are interested in is no longer in the shop, *we are happy to take orders*. (On that note **A Guide to the End of the World** reviewed in the March issue of BVT is back in stock).

Here are some recent publications dealing with contemporary yet eternal issues, all of which have received 4 or 5 star reviews and all of which will be in the shop (at least for a while!).



Honesty over Silence: it's OK not to be OK, by Patrick Regan 2018

The sub-title sums this book up beautifully. From the “blurb”: (it) seeks to open up conversations around topics that many find difficult such as trusting in God through life’s ups and downs, dealing with anxiety and depression, the challenges of parenting a child with special needs, living in community, learning to look after ourselves, developing our character, and living with thankful hearts even in tough seasons. It will examine the strength in letting go of our need to be in control as well as looking at how we can stop comparing ourselves to others and instead live authentically and honestly as we grow into the people God has created us to be.



Can We Trust the Gospels? by Peter J Williams 2018 This is a good summary of a complex subject, but adds new insights along the way, based on first-hand research. One reviewer has found it useful when presented with the atheist memes that are so prevalent on the Internet. On the

whole the scholarly author’s own conclusions stand: “it is rational to have a high degree of confidence in the text of the Gospels as it appears in modern editions”.

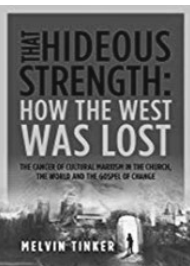


How to pray: a simple guide for normal people, by Pete Greig 2019

Published at the beginning of April this book is already a best-seller on the topic of prayer – perhaps it was the sub-title that sold it initially! Certainly it’s a topic that most folk struggle with at some time, and yet it is our life blood as Christians. This down-to-earth introduction uses the Lord’s Prayer as the model, (which after all was Jesus’s response to his disciples’ request “Lord, teach us how to pray”) unpacking nine important themes: stillness, adoration, petition, intercession, perseverance, contemplation, listening, confession and spiritual warfare.

That hideous strength: how the West was lost, by Melvin Tinker 2018

The title is taken from the horribly prophetic, or prescient, final volume of C S Lewis’s space/fantasy trilogy. Many are now dismayed at what seems to be the whittling away and outright attack on our formerly Judaeo-Christian culture and civilisation. Others embrace this as enlightened diversity, a better, fairer way, perhaps not realising it is a view largely and relentlessly promoted by the media. The author seeks to open our eyes to the dangers of the latter world-view in an engaging way.



Val Jennings

TOWNSEND ELECTRICAL

**DOMESTIC
COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL
SECURITY**



Broadway Drive, Norwich Rd, Halesworth
T: 01986 875397



E: info@townsend-electrical.co.uk
www.townsend-electrical.co.uk



St Peter's Room, Holton

A room within the church

Equipped with tea and coffee facilities.

Washing up area/toilet.

Suitable for small meetings/music groups/daytime and evening availability.

Bookings: 01986 835752



Are you a Church flower arranger? We can offer you a 10% discount on Church flowers - pick up a discount card in store.

3 Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AH
01986 873100

www.thehalesworthflorist.net

micropress Digital

Your
Partner
in Print!

Micropress Printers have a dedicated Digital Department ideal for your small printing requirements. Our team of friendly staff are on hand to help make any print project as easy as possible for you. We specialise in Bound Books, Booklet printing along with Greetings Cards, Postcards and Calendars.

For a quote call **01502 725800**
or email anna@micropress.co.uk

BLYTH VALLEY TIMES

If you are a member of a group or organisation in the area and would like to share your news with the local community, please email your monthly report to us for inclusion in Blyth Valley Times.

We would also be interested to receive your suggestions for our front cover space. As regular readers will know, we publish a topical photograph and short accompanying article on our front cover each month. If you have an interesting photograph - preferably with a local connection - that you would like us to consider using, please send it along to us.

E: blyth.valley.times@gmail.com
www.blythvalleychurches.org.uk

Blyth Valley Times

is published monthly by the
 Blyth Valley Team Ministry.

The Team Rector and Editor is
 Edward Rennard. Tel: 01986 872602
 email: edward.rennard@gmail.com

Please ensure all copy is sent to
blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

Blyth Valley Times and Team Office
 St Mary's Church, Steeple End,
 Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8LL

**PLEASE NOTE: Deadline for ALL copy
 for the next issue is midday on**

Saturday 11th May

But the sooner the better please!
Publishing date: Thursday 23rd May

Advertising

Advertising starts from only £48 per year. Links to your website from our website, £5 per year.

For information call 01986 875941
 or email blyth.valley.times@gmail.com

Team Office

Situated within St Mary's Church, Halesworth
 Tel: 01986 875941

office.bvtm@gmail.com

Team Administrator: Carolyn Clarke
Office open: Tues-Fri 9am - 1pm

Halesworth Foodbank

We are here to help anyone who is struggling to find enough to eat!

The Foodbank operates as part of Waveney Foodbanks, and is open on Wednesdays at St Mary's Church, between 10.45am and 12noon each week.

Usually people come with a red voucher which entitles them to a box of food. The red vouchers can be obtained from the following:

Halesworth Library

CAB at the Volunteers Centre on Friday mornings.

Children's Centre – for those with children under 5 years

Edgar Sewter School for those with children at the school

Social Workers

Dragonflies (for those under 5's)

Halesworth Volunteer Centre

or by letter from a health agency.

If none of these options are open, then please still come to the Foodbank! We will not turn anyone in need away, but will listen to your story over a cuppa and give you emergency supplies.

Halesworth Foodbank are in urgent need of donations for LOCAL use. Our supplies have dwindled to almost nil, so we would very much appreciate your support.

Donations of non perishable foods, in date, to the foodbank are much needed.

They can be left at the following places:

St Mary's Church; St Edmund's Church;

United Reformed Church;

Wenhaston Methodist Church;

Wenhaston Post Office;

Wenhaston St Peter's; Holton St Peter's;

Spexhall St Peter's;

Wissett St Andrew's;

Rosedale Funeral Directors;

Woolnough Funeral Directors;

Hideout Café; or The Hub, Huntingfield.

As well as food donations, we need cat and dog food, tin openers, toiletries, washing up liquid, laundry powder and household cleaning items, sun cream, children's sun cream, lip salve.

We also need bottles of baby food and products, long life milk (UHT or powdered), fruit juice (long life cartons), tinned meat/fish, sugar (500g), cereals, tinned vegetables, tinned sponge puddings, instant mashed potato, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauces, tinned rice puddings, jam, biscuits or snack bars, cereal bars, tea bags/instant coffee, tinned fruit, squash (no sugar added varieties).

The foodbank could not operate without the generous support of the Community. So thank you everyone for helping others who are in need.

Pam Bayliss

Organiser for Halesworth and Beccles Foodbanks.

News from Town & Villages

Blyford

Correspondent Alison Cackett

01986 874442

Email: acackett@me.com

Busy at Blyford, we had a lovely Mothering Sunday Service with Diana. Posies made by Sally and Virginia, and seeds were given out to the congregation. In addition, we had Phyllis's lovely Simnel cake, which we all enjoyed.

Thank you to Sally and Virginia, as well as Geoff and Phyllis for making the church look spick and span and for the beautiful flowers which decorated the church.

We are hoping to have a working party to help tidy up the graveyard and cut back trees etc. We are also looking for people to be able to help keep the church clean in general. If you are interested or could help, please let me know on 01986 874442.

Bring and Buy

We have a Bring and Buy on Sunday 19th May at the church, with refreshments and plants. Any contributions would help, as well as helpers on the day.

Our next service will be Eucharist by Extension with Jane on Sunday 26th May.

Bramfield

Temporary Correspondent

Jane Held

www.bramfieldandthorington.suffolk.cloud

Another quiet month at Bramfield, and I continue as temporary column writer whilst June's shoulder continues to slowly improve. However, I am unable to act as village recorder as June has done, so wonderfully over many years, as I do not have the local knowledge she does. So if anyone in Bramfield is interested in taking on the task of not only producing our monthly column for *BVT*, but also using it as the village historical record for the Suffolk History folk as June did, please do let me know.

Despite the promise of warmth earlier in the year, it's been a cold and late spring, which has kept to the forefront of our minds the problem of replacing the boiler in St Andrew's ... a job for the

new PCC to take on over the summer! Services have continued in Church, although slightly fewer than usual due to the shortage of clergy. Robert usually takes our Thursday morning service, which has had to become morning prayer all four weeks of the month. Our services continue to be small but lovely. Mothering Sunday was a joy, with bacon rolls and croissants and convivial conversation afterwards.

Bramfield School came on time for their Easter Service – which is more than their Curate did due to a timetabling error in her faulty electronic diary! I came flying in late, to the glorious sound of a full church of children lustily singing a great Easter song. It was worth the embarrassment to hear what the village could hear echoing down into the village.

We held our Annual Meeting at the Queen's Head. Lovely food and drinks smoothed our way through what can be a rather dull process and actually we had a great meeting. We welcome our new Parochial Church Council (PCC) members with pleasure – Jane, Dawn, Victoria and Helen – and thank them for joining us and being prepared to contribute to making our church in community and community in church a thriving part of village life. We very sadly said goodbye to Clare and Rachel. They have done so very much for us over the years and they will be sorely missed. We wish them luck in their new community over that border in foreign parts (Norfolk!).

We have, as a consequence, new office holders. Our Churchwarden is Robert Gamble, and Deputy Churchwarden Jane Gamble, our Treasurer is Helen Duddridge and our Secretary, Victoria Page. The new PCC in addition comprises June Brereton, Eira Page, Thelma Mullet, Jinnie Barham and Dawn Munnings. Thank you all. If anyone else is interested our next meeting is on June 16th at 6pm in the Queen's Head – yep the "new tradition" continues.. and indeed we may add to our numbers through also setting up an informal fund raising group to lead on fund raising activity.

In the meantime, as we are largely a

"new crew" we would be very grateful if folk could let me know if things are happening we need to know about or report in this column, and of course if anyone needs anything a Curate can provide too.

Our services in May are on May 12th at 11.15am (Common Worship Eucharist) which is a joint service with Wenhaston, and May 19th Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).
Jane

Chediston

Correspondent

Sally Aldous 01986 873363

www.chediston.suffolk.gov.uk

Mothering Sunday – March 31st

Veronica took this service for us and we were very nearly a "full house" with several children present. Posies were distributed during the service and well-known hymns were sung. We were particularly pleased to welcome Doug Cady's two nephews. Afterwards we were well refreshed with coffee and cakes.

Chediston & Linstead WI

We met on April 9th when Mark Hall of Rosedale Funeral Directors gave a talk entitled "A day in the life of a Funeral Director". This was interesting and intended to be light-hearted which, up to a point it was, however our Secretary Vicky intervened to ensure it stayed that way. The talk was followed by a raffle and a really delicious tea with a decorated chocolate cake which looked too good to be cut!

Graeme Williams writes: Sam Curtis - your friendly neighbourhood Chediston Blyth Valley Times (BVT) delivery girl has had a bit of a problem! Unfortunately, she had a fall at home and broke her hip. She did such a good job of it that a full hip replacement was required, along with incarceration at James Paget Hospital. Sam is recovering very well and is already up and about and should be out of hospital shortly (certainly before you read this!). Family and friends are looking after Barry and Jess (the dog) until Sam completes her

recovery. You will probably have to put up with a less cheery face delivering your *BVT* for the next few months though. Obviously, we wish Sam a speedy recovery, after all we are short of indoor bowlers!

SA adds: As well as poor Sam being laid up, Sarah Carman has broken her ankle. She is at home in plaster and very ably coping with crutches. What a time to be indisposed with the school holidays just beginning. Harriet, Arthur and Clementine are all being a great help and realising how much their Mum does for them all!

I only discovered very recently that Sara Burroughes had a horrible car accident near the bottom of our drive several weeks ago. She assures me she is well on the way to recovery and practically back to normal. No more accidents in Chediston please!

Finally, on a happier note Pat Twyman has recently celebrated her 90th birthday with a surprise party. She always decorates the porch in the church for us on important occasions. Many congratulations Pat.

David Mantell writes: After many years, I have now retired from running the Chediston NHW (Neighbourhood Watch) scheme. May I take this opportunity of thanking my assistant, Pat Mattinson, and all those sub-coordinators and contributors for their valued help. The new leader of the scheme is Chris Roose and she is ably assisted by Pat Mattinson.

Many thanks to David for doing this for us for so long.

Veronica Downing has been accepted by the Diocese for Reader training. She has had a panel meeting and interviews with 3 others at the end of March and a letter from Bishop Martin the following week. This is for Lay Reader training – like Maggie Pepper! Hopefully it will help lessen the load on the clergy in the BVTM we wish her well in her new role.

We understand that Edward is now home, and we hope his recovery will soon be complete.

Concert

Saturday 13th April saw an excellent evening concert of music and readings at St Mary's. The programme was put together by Will Drew-Batty, Chediston's resident organist, on the theme of 'Peace and Conflict'. There

were songs and music by Handel, Ivor Gurney, George Butterworth and Benjamin Britten. Numerous villagers undertook readings from Ted Hughes, Wilfred Owen, Wendy Cope, Roger McGough and others. Extracts from Victoria Panton-Bacon's book 'Six Weeks of Blenheim Summer' were also read by the author. A narrative poem with music composed by Will called 'Late Opening' was also performed. Refreshments at the interval completed the event, which was in aid of St Mary's and thanks are due to those who gave their time and talent to make the event a success.

Heather's Walk for Christian Aid

This will take place on Saturday 11th May in the Huntingfield area with circular walks of 3 or seven miles. There will also be an optional short walk of under a mile to visit Huntingfield Church with its beautiful ceiling. Those of you partaking in the 7-mile route will also have the chance to visit Linstead's lost church!

Start time is 10am - please register/donate from 9.30am – parking at Huntingfield Millennium Green field near the Hub - IP19 0QH.

A packed lunch is needed for the seven mile route – drinks are provided. Toilet facilities available at the lunch stop.

Doug Cady

Over the past few months, there have been various references to the PCC planning the installation of a memorial stone in the church in Doug's honour.

We are pleased to announce that the stone is now in place, located in the chancel below the window where he sat in the choir over so many years. The stone is modest and understated, not unlike Douglas himself! There are now plans to hold a dedication service which will be arranged in conjunction with his family. The very provisional date being mooted is Sunday 2nd June, but that is subject to change – watch this space for more information.

Halesworth

Correspondent Jason Busby
01986 873336

I'm sure you all watched in shock seeing Notre Dame Cathedral on fire. I was very touched by the people

gathered standing in silence, sadness and singing hymns. The image of the Crucifix shining in the rubble, a golden symbol of the miracle of Notre Dame will be an everlasting picture in our minds. It may take many years, decades to rebuild her, but she will rise once again. 'The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.' John 1:5. Our prayers are with the people of France, the fire fighters who did an outstanding job and all affected in spirit by the fire.

Back here, life continues. We held the APCM on Tuesday 9th April, draft minutes from the APCM and the first meeting of the new PCC are available at the back of Church.

I won't go into detail, 16 people attended the meeting chaired by Jane Held. We heard a variety of reports from organisations across the Church. Elections took place with all posts filled for another year.

Here is a snippet from Jane's view of the year "*Jane updated us that Edward is slowly getting better. He is home, very weak. Not up to visitors at the moment. Jane continued ... It has been a sticky year, with Jan and Edward both being poorly. Jane feels it has been a very encouraging year; people have rallied round and got on with running the team. Jane feels the kindness and flexibility of the team has actually been good for us. We continue to provide pastoral ministry, a very good, but utterly freezing development day earlier this year. With the new vision and values out for consultation. We have leads for a number of development work from children's ministry to pastoral to worship with its different forms and the final one being managing the team as a business. Both Bishops are looking at how we can move forward with the house for duty post and appointments etc. Jason added thanks to the retired clergy and Jane. We have ordinands in training who have passed their assessment and they will be sent forward for ordination as Deacons in June. Finally we have a new reader in training - Veronica Downing will start training in September. So out of a tough year we have some good news*".

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the life of our Church in so many different ways. There are many who work very hard indeed, much of it unseen and unacknowledged. But

without that contribution, we would be very much the poorer. The PCC next meets on Monday 24th June, 7pm in Church.

Holy Week is upon us, Palm Sunday saw the procession from the library to the

Church, a good turnout. Some fine singing from both yourselves in the congregation and the choir. Thank you to Gwen, Sarah and Jean for providing breakfast in Church after the service, what a wonderful treat indeed.



A Celebration for the life of Gordon Charles Tyler took place on 12th April. 'The Lord's my shepherd' and 'All things bright and beautiful' were sung. 1 Corinthians 13 4-8 was read and the poem 'All is well' by Henry Scott Holland. Rest in peace Charles and rise in glory.

Thank you to everyone who came, cooked, set up, cleared up and enjoyed Mothering Sunday Lunch and worship together. £188 was raised. Thank you.

Left: Palm Sunday procession.

Below: Mothering Sunday lunch.



Holton

Temporary Correspondent

Denise Beale

dkbeale@btinternet.com

Roger Moulson

I am writing this to inform all our friends, who do not yet know, that Roger is now living at Beech House. I would encourage you all to visit him if you would like to. I feel that would help him adjust and help him to continue to feel part of our community. Beech House encourages visits and the only times to avoid are lunch and tea times, 12pm -1pm and 5pm-6pm. Many thanks.

Jackie Moulson

LENT LUNCHES

This year our Lent Lunches have been in aid of the Leprosy Mission and have taken place each Friday bar one during Lent. The lunches have been well supported overall and we will be sending a worthwhile donation to the Leprosy Mission which will be doubled by the Government as part of the UK's overseas aid. As I am writing this before the last Lunch I can't give the amount raised but will make sure it is included in the next issue of BVT.

As part of our Lent Lunch we also have a fair-trade stall selling mainly food, plus a few gifts. This too has done well with a number of sales.

Thank you to all who have come to lunch and all who have helped by making soup, hosting and all the other jobs which need to be done to make this as successful as it is.

POP-IN PARLOUR

We have one more Pop-In Parlour before the summer break and that will be on Friday 10th May in St Peter's Room. Please note that this is a week later than usual so that it is NOT the day before the Car Boot sale! You will be pleased to know, I am sure, that cheese will be back on the menu plus pickles etc.

OUR LENT GROUP IN HOLTON

Who said Lent groups were boring? We are coming to the end of our lent group in Holton, kindly hosted and led by Jill and John Hewlett. We have been reading/following a Lent study course written by Nick Fawcett called, *Decisions Decisions*. Every session has a

game/activity within it which helped us to explore the decisions we make. We played Matchsticks during the first session, which caused a lot of amusement and laughter. Week two used the Balloon Game, whereby group members had to discuss why they should be kept in the balloon. This led to a discussion about the varying reasons given for the decisions made. Session three was very interesting. We were divided into two groups and given some Lego pieces and encouraged to build something without the instructions.



The above photograph shows our efforts. This idea reminded me of a friend who was often given jigsaws to do without the picture. There was a lot of discussion and team collaboration with this activity. Session four's activity looked at optical illusions and we discussed how and why appearances could be so deceptive.

Thus far I have learnt a bit more about how I make decisions and whether I involve God in them. In addition I have learnt how my prejudices, and we all have them, affect the decisions I make. I'm looking forward to the last session; who said Lent groups were boring?

Jackie Moulson

QUIZ NIGHT

On 21st March we held our fourth quiz evening in the village hall. Once again, it was a great evening, we not only had fun but raised well needed funds for our church.

We are indebted to everyone who helped in any way, big or small, and extra thanks must go to our quizmasters (or should that read mistresses). I hope they will be willing to think up some more questions as I have the feeling another quiz might be planned for October or November. Maybe, instead of serving ploughman's suppers, we could try jacket potatoes with different fillings, which would be a nice hot option.

Christian Aid Week:

12th - 18th May

During this week a volunteer may post an envelope through your door asking you to donate to Christian Aid. They will return to collect donations within the week. St Peter's Holton is hosting the Christian Aid Service this year. This will be Evensong with the Team Choir on Sunday 12th May at 6.30pm with tea at 5.30pm.

For more information about Christian Aid Week, please read the article on page 8 of this edition of BVT, or contact Jackie Watts - 01986 835752.

Many thanks.

Mary Curtis

CAR BOOT SALE:

Sat 4th May, 10am

We still need help with refreshments, BBQ and on the Church Stall. It's good to have lots of helpers so that people can take a break and have a look around the stalls.

We need you to make cakes, biscuits, scones. Also please can you let me know if you have bric a brac items for the church stall and would like me to collect.

We hope many people will come and enjoy finding a bargain or two and having refreshments. The Church Paddock is a great venue with free parking for visitors, although donations are welcome.

If you would like to book a pitch please ring 01986 835752 or 01986 875913. £6 in advance or £7.50 on the day.

DATE FOR THE DIARY:

Holton St Peter Flower Festival

This year it is the weekend of 27th July, and the theme is "A Special Day In My Life".

Make a note in your diaries! I am hoping you will be able to join the team again for this joyous event.

Huntingfield

Correspondent Linda Berry

churchwarden@stmaryshuntingfield.org.uk

On Saturday 11th May at 10am, there is an organised walk starting in Huntingfield - "Heather's Walk" for Christian Aid. For further details, please see advertisement on page 8 of this issue of BVT.

Linstead

Correspondent

Malcolm Heath 01986 785289

www.linstead.suffolk.gov.uk

SO I WILL SOON BE ABLE TO TELL everyone if it has all been worth it. Mr Openreach continues to appear from time to time. He peers briefly into the hole across the road, but I suspect that it just a forensic examination to check that no-one has made off with his toys. So, morbid curiosity getting the better of the me, I Googled him to discover, *Mirabile Dictu*, that we can actually (are you sitting comfortably - prepare to be amazed) get superfast broadband. In theory at any rate, by the time you read this, we will have lurched into the 21st Century. I will keep you informed. When I open the curtains of a morning and see a collection of high-viz jackets staring disconsolately into that hole in the ground, I may do so with a much more benevolent eye.

ON THE TOPIC OF GOOGLING, AM I THE only person who finds websites an invention of the Devil? If I can get lost and go round in ever decreasing circles then I will. I have developed what I have decided to call this (note this neologism) diktyakophobia; that is a morbid fear of websites. I find that the best way round this is to plead cheerfully old age and then I find that helpful people out there will send me a link, a little piece of blue script which, when clicked on, takes me straight through to where I want to be; absolute magic. So may I raise a glass to all those kind people out there who send me these links, thus keeping my blood pressure within normal bounds and saving me hours of frustration!

ON THE TOPIC OF BLOOD PRESSURE you will be pleased to know that Linstead is about to get it's very own defibrillator. This will be sited outside the workshops of Linstead Farm & Garden Machinery and will be funded from Councillor Stephen Burroughes's Community Budget. Once the installation is complete the Parish Council will be seeking volunteers to receive appropriate training in its use.

THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH meeting took place in April. The Churchwardens will be Roger Wilkinson and myself. Angela Frost will continue as PCC Secretary. We were sad that

Clive Frost and Benny Fenton had decided to step down from the PCC, but they will both be continuing to help with the upkeep. We thank them for their past help and are grateful for their continued involvement. The remainder of the PCC stays unchanged.

CHEDISTON & LINSTEAD WI MET IN April and heard Mark Hall talk about his work as an undertaker. Their next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Tuesday 14th May, at Linstead Village Hall. The speaker, Stephen Govier, will be talking about Art and History in Suffolk.

AS WE EDGE TOWARDS WARMER weather, we hope, we hold our first social event of the year.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A
SUMMER PARTY
 AT LINSTEAD VILLAGE HALL
 ON SATURDAY 15th JUNE
 FROM 7PM.
 With a
BARBECUE
 And back by popular request:
THE BACKWOODS BAND
 £10 PER PERSON
 IN AID OF CHURCH FUNDS
 PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LIQUID
 REFRESHMENT
 To help us with numbers for
 catering, please contact either the
 Frosts: 01986 785236
 or the Heaths: 01986 785289

Enjoyment guaranteed!

AN ANNUAL TASK, BEFORE THE verges get too overgrown, is the Great Linstead & Chediston Litterpick. Volunteers scour the roadsides for the detritus scattered so enthusiastically by The Great Unwashed. One tries to draw deep sociological conclusion from changing fashions in the types of litter. Cigarettes and smoking accoutrements have all but disappeared. Drinks cans continue to be popular ejections, the vast majority being energy drink containers. Presumably, the act of winding down a window and throwing out a can requires considerable effort, so there is a self-perpetuating aspect to the activities of these Morlocks. However, the consumption of beer continues to decline. The star of the show, if there

can be such a thing, was a complete camping outfit, tent, sleeping bag, suitcase and so-on. It required a wheelbarrow to carry it all. I can almost sympathise with that, I never quite saw the attraction of camping either.

Our grateful thanks to all who took part in the exercise. It does mean that, for a few precious moments, the verges of our parish were litter-free.

SERVICES IN MAY COMPRISE MATINS on the 12th and 26th. Holy Communion on the 19th. When we will be joined by Chediston. All services are at 9.30am.

ROTAS FOR MAY

DATE: FLOWERS & CLEANING

5 th	No Service
12 th	Mrs A Frost & Mrs V Bish
19 th	Mrs P Keable & Mr D Keable
26 th	Mr & Mrs R Ward

Spexhall

Temporary Correspondent

Janet Sochon 01986 781151

<http://spexhall.onesuffolk.net/Home/>

Once again it is time to put pen to paper for the *Blyth Valley Times* article. Each deadline seems to come round faster than the last; sometimes there is so much to report from the last month and sometimes so little.

The only parish service in March was the Mothering Sunday service which was led by Jane and was well-attended with the traditional posies being distributed before pizza, cake and wine were shared and "inwardly digested" afterwards - it's amazing how people's minds in Spexhall always revert to food.

By the time that this report goes to print Easter will be over and a third of the year will have passed. The contemplative Tenebrae service was on Good Friday - when all but one of the candles initially lighting the church were gradually extinguished. We were reminded of the suffering and death of Christ, but the fact that the darkness of evil will never overcome the light of God. All were welcome at this very moving service.

The Easter Sunday service at 11.15am was a family Eucharist led by Jane. Egg hunting and rolling followed the service with an Easter bonnet competition and the Easter bunny

arrived to bring more gastronomic delicacies (naturally!) to add to the usual conviviality.

Thorington

Correspondent Trish Gower

01502 478267

After our APCM on 7th April, all officers are in place, although we shall miss Gwen being on the PCC after a long number of years of devoted help and efficiency and guidance when needed. Thank you again Gwen from all us us here in our small group. Thanks to Jane for chairing the meeting and we all send Edward our best wishes, and thinking of Margaret, too,

We are looking forward to seeing you on 11th May from 3.30pm to 5pm, when we have .. **A Special Event - "Spring into Life, a Celebration of May!"** a sung meditation with Anam Cora.

This singing group is bringing their unique blend of song, poetry and meditation to St Peter's, Thorington. They will begin with some Maying songs outside at 3.30pm before heading into the church for the rest of the celebration at 4pm. Refreshments to follow. Suggested donation: £10. For more info visit: www.marybenefiel.com/anam-cora/

Please tell your friends and do come along.. all welcome.

Please also note the date of June 8th, 10.30am onwards, when there will be a Coffee Morning at Brook Farm, Wenhaston, fundraising for Thorington Church. All are welcome and we are hoping the southern marsh orchids will be looking beautiful on the meadow just behind the house, and there will be a 'guess the number of orchids' competition!

Please call Trish for any more information about these events, 01502 478267.

Wenhaston

Correspondent

Margaret Bloomfield

margaretibloomfield@talktalk.net

At our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Margaret Goldstone retired as Churchwarden after many years of sterling work for St Peter's. Margaret has given her all in looking after the

church and its members, she will be greatly missed, but we do wish her a long happy retirement and our love goes out to her. She will still be around, of course. We are very grateful to Jonathan Alder for agreeing to be our new Churchwarden and wish him well. Some of our PCC members have also retired after years of service and we do thank them too.

The church looked beautiful at Easter and we do thank the flower arrangers who do such a marvellous job. Although Holy Week and Easter Sunday have now passed, we are still in the Easter Season and life goes on in the Church. On May 18th we will have our Plant Sale in the Church and Churchyard at 11am (please see advertisement) when we will sell plants, as well as a cake stall and raffle. There will be coffee and biscuits in church. We should be grateful for any donations of plants, cakes or raffle prizes, and also invite you to come along and buy.

SIDESPEOPLE IN MAY

5th	10am	Team Eucharist at St Mary's Church
		No service at St Peter's
12th	9.30am	Eucharist at Bramfield
	6.30pm	Team Evensong at Holton
		No service at St Peter's
19th	9.30am	Morning Prayer Viv Kemp
26th	11.15am	Pause for Thought

CHURCH CLEANING

5th	Anne and Colin Wright
19th	Dorothy Franklin and Suzanne Watkins

MB

WENHASTON MOTHERS UNION

We enjoyed a lively discussion at our April meeting with questions ranging from "How do we personally live out the Principles of the MU – Religious marriage services are in the decline, how should the Church respond – our most embarrassing moment and where would we like to live if not in the Blyth Valley! There was much serious discussion together with some amusing replies!

We talked about the Lady Day Service at the Cathedral which was enjoyed and appreciated by all those that spent the day in Bury St Edmunds. We then

looked ahead to our outing in the summer and various suggestions and ideas were discussed. More news on these ideas later.

Our speaker at our May meeting will be talking to us about the work of the Children's Society and we look forward to the members from Halesworth branch joining us for the afternoon. This will also be an open meeting if anyone is interested to hear about the extensive work the this organisation does. We meet on Wednesday 8th May in the Church Room at 2.30pm.

Margaret G

WENHASTON APCM

I had the pleasure of chairing the Wenhaston Annual Parochial Church Meeting on April 13th. At that meeting we said goodbye and thank you to Margaret Goldstone who has been Churchwarden at St Peter's for many, many years and who is standing down. She gave her report of the previous year, and I felt it was important to reproduce that report in *BVT*, if only to recognise her amazing contribution over the years. So here it is, slightly edited to fit in. Welcome, too, to our new Churchwarden Jonathan Alder.

Jane Held

Margaret's Churchwarden's report:

In spite of declining numbers our Church Life continues to be positive and we have many Blessings to thank God for. Sadly ill health has made it difficult for some members to join us as much as they would like and we do miss them when they are not with us. Attendance at our Sunday Eucharist has remained much the same as last year with an average of 13 – 14 Communicants. Pause for Thought on the fourth Sunday has now become a popular and well established Service and we all appreciate the time, thought and love which Alison gives to the Service. Encouragingly numbers are slowly increasing.

Sadly our joint Services with the Methodists are now very few, again due to small numbers at both Churches, but we held a joint Harvest Service and Lunch in St Peter's and this was a joyful occasion enjoyed by us all. At Christmas the Village Carol Service was again popular and well supported especially by the village

folk. The Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve was a beautiful service but the numbers were rather disappointing. Remembrance Sunday, with its special celebrations this year was celebrated with a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial followed by a Service in the Church, both being led beautifully by Alison. They were particularly well attended this year and after the service we joined in the village celebrations in the Village Hall which were very well organised and a great success.

The Doom Painting continues to be popular with many visitors and there have also been several groups visiting during the year. Valerie has on several occasions talked to these groups and we have also organised refreshments for which we have received useful donations. The monthly Lunches continue to be appreciated and are well attended. The Christmas Lunch which is held in the Village Hall is especially popular with about forty people sitting down to a full turkey lunch. Again Margaret and I have received much support from both St Peter's people and from many friends in the village. Felicity continues to organise at least two lunches every year together with her band of helpers and we both appreciate her support in this way.

Once again we have miraculously managed to pay our Parish Share and Team Expenses in full thanks to the generosity of many people both in the Church and the village not forgetting all those who work so very hard in fundraising. We are also extremely lucky in having such an efficient and hard working Treasurer. Thank you Margaret from us all, we really do appreciate all the time which you give to the Treasurer's Job and to organising fundraising. We are also grateful to Jenny for being a very efficient Secretary and coping so well with the Minutes and our muddled reports! – Thank you Jenny. We are delighted that Alison is going forward for Ordination and will be ordained Deacon in June. We wish her well and our love and prayers will surround her.

My last report, so a huge thank you to you all for all the help and support which you and many, many other people have given me over the last sixteen years. I could not have done it without you. I have no doubt whatsoever that Jonathan will make an excellent Churchwarden and I know that you will support him as you have

supported me. I have enjoyed being involved with the Church, I have learnt much about Church life, made many mistakes but I thank God for giving me the opportunity to serve him in this way. Just remember you will not have me to be bossy and to organise you anymore!

Margaret G

(And if you think we will let you go that easily Margaret well you are wrong – thank you so very much for everything, Jane).

WENHASTON FLOWER CLUB

At our meeting on Tuesday 7th May in Wenhaston Church Rooms at 7.30pm, we welcome back Debbie from Reydon who will be doing a demonstration entitled "SPRING INTO SUMMER". A warm welcome awaits any new members, just come along on the night. For further information contact Jean Spindler on 01502 478317.

Footpath Walking

A morning walk will leave from Wenhaston Village Hall on Tuesday 7th May at 10am.

Ian Denney will lead a walk round Huntingfield on Tuesday 21st May. Meet at Huntingfield Arms before 10am to order lunch.

For any further information or help please contact Heather Phillips on 01502 478545.

Heather Phillips

Wenhaston WI's April Meeting

For some time Sutton Hoo was thought to be a Viking burial plot but our speaker Peter Carter soon abused us of that notion. Sutton Hoo is an extremely important Anglo Saxon archeologically site, as it is from the middle of the Dark Ages. Historians had an idea of life under the Romans as it had been well documented, then nothing until Alfred the Great. The finds at Sutton Hoo clearly show that the Anglo Saxons had a highly developed and noble culture with greatly skilled crafts men and sophisticated marine architects.

It is thanks to Mrs Pretty, who was living at Tranner House, that the site was excavated. After her husband died she became interested in Spiritualism, looking over her land she became convinced there was something to be found. She contacted Ipswich museum and employed Basil Brown to excavate the site. Many wonderful artefacts have

been found (other than the well-known helmet) jewellery, belts, coins and silver wear. A mysterious object was unearthed, great excitement! It turned out to be a roller-skate; it had been thrown into the pit by Mrs Pretty's son.

An interesting and informative lecture, inspiring us all to visit when all the improvements have been made and the site is open again in a few months' time.

Next month it is Resolutions followed by Women in Farming by Helen Reeve.

FJ

NEW BOOK PUBLISHED



Felicity Jelliff has just published her third book. This time a ghost story set in Suffolk. The title 'Lost Memories' hints of situations to be rediscovered and resolved. Available from Amazon, Halesworth Bookshop and Wenhaston Post Office.

Wissett

Correspondent

Nick Evans 01986 872372

nickandmaggie@btinternet.com

Julian had mown the churchyard, and the church was filled with the most beautiful flowers for the marriage of Michael Aldred Balls and Anne Aldred, both from historic, local families, and although the flowers immediately went away to allow Lenten severity to resume, a good sample remain in the porch for all to enjoy.

On the same day Simon Knott cycled up to revisit Wissett: he has given everyone the great gift of www.suffolkchurches.co.uk, a huge personal website of information, opinion and photographs of all the churches in Suffolk, which then spread into Norfolk, Essex, and elsewhere.

Several mothers, but rather sadly no children, at Mothering Sunday, and we

were glad to send the collection to the Bishops' Kagera appeal. The purple bucket has been out for the terrible effects of the worst-ever cyclone in Africa. We will contribute, but I have to confess that the bucket system itself does not seem to work very well here. The devastation in Mozambique has predictably faded from the news.

As well as managing spring growth in fields and gardens, there is plenty to do in May.

The **Plant Sale** in the Village Hall is on Bank Holiday Monday morning, 6th May.

At 7pm on May 9th, again in the Hall, we hear **Bill Mahood** talking about his fascinating life: there are drinks and nibbles, and tickets are available from Valerie Eagle-Bott, 01986 872372.

The **Rogation Walk** from Wissett to Spexhall starts at 2.30pm on May 26th.

This edition might reach you in time to decide to come to the **St George's Supper** on 27th April, a cheerful evening Village Hall funds.

In April, we held the APCM: the Revd Jane Held guided us efficiently through the inter-related sequence of meetings and we can legally continue for another year; only the newish item of safeguarding tripped us up in a minor way.

We welcome Susan Fitch to the PCC, and thank Anne Andrews, who is 'taking a sabbatical' after many years' membership and holding most of the offices. The rest of us were re-elected en bloc, and the Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer carry on as before.

The faculty petition has gone off, and soon the financial statement will make its way to the Deanery, the Diocese, and even Lambeth itself; we are well looked after.

Legal affairs remain prominent as we prepare for the first Archdeacon's visitation for several years, the inspection of all our records and property. Finally, the 'other' visitation, the enthusiastic swearing in and commissioning of the Churchwardens, is in Halesworth this year, on 22nd May.

All this exciting admin perhaps unfortunately always coincides with the most complex and dramatic time of the church's year, with a slight risk of losing focus on what it's all about; tomorrow is the start of Holy Week, and all that follows.

Karen Evans

*Player and teacher of Piano
and fortepiano*

Lessons for all ages and stages

Halesworth

Tel: 01986 873431

ST. MARY'S CHURCH HALL HALESWORTH

Available for:

**JUMBLE SALES,
BIRTHDAY PARTIES
MEETINGS, CLUBS etc.**

For very competitive hire

Tel: Ron on 01986 872806



Advertise in **Blyth Valley Times**

from only £48 for 12 issues.

Please call 01986 875941 for further information.

A PET'S BEST FRIEND

Animal Sitting & Dog Walking

Pet Transportation Service

Insured, CRB Checked

Sarah Grimwood

9 Bigod Close, Halesworth
Suffolk, IP19 8SR

Tel: 01986 873592

Mob: 07895 025174

Email: frary8sr@btinternet.com



Rehability

Mobility Aids for Daily Living

- Bathing & personal care aids
- Small aids to daily living
- Profiling beds, pressure relieving cushions
- Riser recliner chairs, moving & handling aids



Scooters & wheelchairs

- Sales & servicing
- Hire of scooters, wheelchairs & chairs
- Advice from qualified Occupational Therapists & trained staff
- Personal service the internet cannot provide

- Gold Standard customer service



Visit us at 7 Bridge Street, Halesworth IP19 8AB
opposite the Library



01986 873803 (Shop)

07848 870660 (Servicing)

www.rehability.co.uk



HALESWORTH
CARPETS

YOUR HOME
ON THE
HIGH STREET

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT:

42 Thoroughfare, Halesworth IP19 8AR

Telephone: 01986 872222

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm, Sat 9am - 4pm
(closed for lunch 1-2pm)

www.thehalesworthcarpetshop.co.uk

CARPETS | RUGS | NATURAL FLOORINGS | CURTAINS & BLINDS | BEDS & MATTRESSES



PEARCE & KEMP
LIMITED



ELECTRICAL & LIGHTING CONTRACTORS · HALESWORTH

www.pearce-kemp.co.uk · telephone 01986 872130 · enquiries@pearce-kemp.co.uk



Friends of St Mary's Halesworth

LUNCHTIME RECITALS

WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL –
Veronica Downing & Joanna Barfield -
 (Thank you Shirley for the review)



Veronica and Joanna have performed several times together at St Mary's and it was in fact Veronica who gave the first recital in this series of lunchtime recitals several years ago. Their recent recital *Two Daughters with One Voice* took its name from the first of their songs, a duet from Purcell's *King Arthur*: Two daughters of an aged stream. This was followed by solos from Bononcini (*Per la gloria*), Schubert (*Du bist die Ruh'*), Torelli (*Tu lo sai*), Paisiello (*Il mio ben quando verrà*) and Handel (*Laschia ch'io pianga*). The two singers joined in a delightful performance of the duet *Sull'aria* from Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, followed by Cherubino's song *Voi che sapete* from the same opera. Two pieces from Purcell's *The Fairy Queen* (Mystery's song and Hark, How all things with one sound) were both sung with style. After a moving rendition of the Irish folk song 'She moved through the fair', the recital was concluded with a serene performance of *Panis Angelicus*, set by César Franck.

There was lovely interaction in their duets between the singers whose voices work well together. The ornamentation in the Baroque songs was handled with some dexterity and in several pieces the mood was well captured. The pair were ably supported by pianist Karen Smith, who we are very grateful to for stepping in at short notice owing to the unavoidable withdrawal of Jonathan Rutherford.

As always, this occasion was enhanced by the drinks and delicious food provided before the recital and by the friendly reception given by the team. The new chairs certainly provide a more flexible space, even if there is no longer a ledge to support one's coffee cup!

£214.72 was raised – thank you.

WEDNESDAY 8th MAY – C Strings



WEDNESDAY 12th JUNE – Jason Busby

If you would like your email added to our recitals (**the second Wednesday of every month**) mailing list, please email friendsofstmarys@talktalk.net or [facebook.com/FriendsOfStMarysHalesworth](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfStMarysHalesworth) where you can also find details of previous recitals, also on: www.friendsofstmaryshalesworth.org.uk

CHAIRS



Thanks to all who have sponsored a chair. Sponsorship forms are available in church if you haven't and would like to sponsor a chair (or more than one) at £100 a chair. 50 chairs sponsored so far!

Please remember that if you are eligible for gift aid, to complete this section of the form and ensure you have included your full name, address and signature.

MONDAY 6th MAY

– THE GREAT HALESWORTH

MEDIAEVAL TRAIL

Why not come and take part in the Great Halesworth Mediaeval Trail on Bank Holiday Monday 6th May.

Quiz sheets can be collected from de Argenteins from 10am - separate sheets for children so the whole family can take part.

All correct entries will be entered into a prize draw. Once you've found all the answers, join us in St Mary's Church for tea, coffee and cake. Children can try their hand at brass rubbings, use some mediaeval stamps and more.

50/50 Club Winners for March:

- 1st Prize: J Held
- 2nd Prize: J Quine
- 3rd Prize: M Anstey

If you would like to join the 50/50 club, forms can be found on the table by the North door in St Mary's Church.

William Beeston Coyte

A Curate and his contact with the Military in Halesworth, and his Physic Garden in Ipswich

An intriguing paper relating to *"The Beeston-Coyte Hortus Botanicus Gippovicensis"*, (essentially a catalogue of plants), resides on Halesworth Museum shelves. It was written by John Blatchly and Jenny James. (Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archaeol, XXXIX 1999)

Intriguing for a nonny mouse because for a few years, the author of the *"Hortus"*, William Beeston Coyte (1740-1810), was curate at St Mary's Church in Halesworth. He was born in Queen Street Ipswich where his father, (another William), was a Bachelor of Medicine and cultivated a 1.1 acre Physic Garden. After attending Ipswich School, he went up to Queens College, matriculated and took MB, and was ordained deacon in 1763.

The new curate was already in Halesworth when the settlement for his marriage to Sarah, daughter of Capt Robert and Mary Rowning of Ipswich, was drawn up in 1764. Patron of the living in the town was William Plumer and Rector of St Mary's, the Revd Thomas Forster.

The Rev Forster was in part responsible for the bustling and revitalized town that Coyte arrived in. For, as a Commissioner of the Blyth Navigation, in which he invested £100, he facilitated in the opening up of a navigable waterway between Halesworth and Southwold for trade, the first wherry arriving in the town in July 1761.

Preparations were underway as well for the building of the new 'House of Industry' at Bulcamp for paupers. The first bricks for which were laid in March 1765; this was opened in October 1766, but not before a riot had taken place there during the previous August. This tumultuous event necessitated a party of soldiers being sent from Ipswich, a rioter lost his life and six others were imprisoned; more than £500 worth of damage was done.

A nonny mouse, still intrigued, viewed the original minute book for the 'House of Industry', and the marriage and baptism registers for Halesworth. (SRO.L) An extract from the minute book, dated 30 September 1765, relates the Directors and Guardians response to the riot, "To have a guard stationed at the building, and to effect same by writing to the Commanding Officer at Halesworth for a detachment of a Corporal and five soldiers to be sent each night."

Unexpected evidence of the settled Military presence in Halesworth is provided by Coyte's own hand. Examination of the marriage register for the year to September 1766 reveals not only did Coyte officiate at all of the weddings, but that no less than nine of them were of Regimental men. Coyte records General Elliot's Regiment of Light Horse (1), the 43rd Regiment of Foot (7), and General Stanwick's Regiment of Foot (1). Only one of the weddings was by licence, with eight being by banns, denoting residency. Just over half the couples signed their name with a cross.

William and Sarah's first child, a daughter Sarah, was baptised in the town on 16 February 1766, their second daughter Mary on the 5 June 1767. William Beeston Coyte never took priest's orders, and soon after with his family returned to live in

Queen Street, Ipswich. He became an MD and took over the cultivation of the Physic Garden, the third generation of his family to do so.

For this garden had been founded by his great uncle, William Beeston MD, who on his death in 1732 bequeathed it to his nephew, Coyte's father. Beeston is remarked upon as an eminent physician, exquisitely skilled in botanic knowledge, and as living next to his Physic Garden with a collection of rare and exotic plants, in a letter written by the notable Daniel Defoe (author of *Robinson Crusoe* 1720), who visited Ipswich in 1722.

The Beeston-Coyte Physic Garden, whilst fronting onto Queen Street, extended in the rear to Thursbys Lane (now Princes Street), and is wonderfully detailed on Joseph Pennington's engraved map of Ipswich 1778.

According to Coyte, *The Hortus Botanicus Gippovicensis* 1796 (SRO.L) is a systematical enumeration of the plants he cultivated in his Botanic Garden in Ipswich with botanical observations. More than 2000 species in fact, some of them under glass with a stove.

The Hortus though is more than a catalogue of plants as it provides results from his investigation of the natural produce of some grass-lands in high Suffolk. This was on turf he had taken from Tannington Green and grown on in Ipswich. He wished to analyse the content of the grass of dairy farms in relation to the quality of their butter.

We have evidence as well of his finely developed sense of humour; he wrote the following epistle to John Wood, Esq., Fiddler and Dancing Master in Ipswich. After a fit of the gout:

*The Gout, to All a sad Disaster, But most to you, a
Dancing Master,*

*Who cannot move, Who cannot go, Or Trip it, with yr
Gouty Toe?*

*But since a remedy is known for all things, save
Death alone;*

*If the hard Ground yr tender Feet can't bear, Stand
on your Head,*

*and lift em up in the Air, And do the Minuet Step &
Rigadoon it there.*

Coyte was also a Fellow of the Linnaean Society and in correspondence with its founder James Edward Smith, who sent him some Indian seeds. He received plants from Joseph Banks and James Sowerby, and mounted botanic expeditions to North Wales in 1788, and South Wales and Cornwall in 1794.

Coyte can be added to the list of Georgian botanists associated with Halesworth and district; he joins Humphry Repton, Dawson Turner, Sir William Jackson Hooker and Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker.



Garden Landscape Supplies

NATURAL STONE PAVING · SAND, BALLAST & CEMENT · RECLAIMED RAILWAY SLEEPERS
· FENCING · DECORATIVE AGGREGATES · TOPSOIL · BARK MULCH
· BRICKS & BLOCKS · DRAINAGE · TIMBER

Free delivery in Halesworth area

Kings Landscaping Ltd, Unit 23 Halesworth Business Park, Norwich Road,
Halesworth IP19 8QJ

t: 01986 875555 e: info@kings-landscaping.co.uk www.kings-landscaping.co.uk

FOX'S CARDS AND BALLOONS

Choose from our extensive range of
GREETINGS CARDS

**45 THE THOROUGHFARE,
HALESWORTH**

Tel 07930 275126



D.S Munnings & Son - FIRST CALL

Small and Large Lawn Cutting
Rubbish Clearance - Cheaper than a Skip
Scrap Metal Collection

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Call Steve on 01986 872728 or 07805 270562

"HUGGY'S"

Middle Car Park, Halesworth

Tel 01986 873932

BIKE SHOP + PARTS: Bicycle servicing · Lights & Reflectors
New & Second-hand bicycles

CAR SHOP: Parts · Accessories · Tools · Batteries

WORKSHOP: Servicing · General Repairs · MOT Preparation



D.C. Patrick NEWSAGENTS

**16 THOROUGHFARE,
HALESWORTH IP19 8AH
Telephone 01986 835730**

**4 Market Hill, Framlingham IP13 9BB
Telephone 01728 724414**

**WE ALSO PROVIDE FULL DRY CLEANING
AND LAUNDRY SERVICES**



- Experienced (25yrs)
- Insured (£5 million)
- Qualified (NPTC, Tech Cert Arb)

Call Tim or Jack

Mob. 0754 0450811 or 01986 873494

Email: teepee1066@gmail.com



**MOTOR ENGINEERING
LTD OF WENHASTON**
— EST 1988 —

OUR SERVICES

MOT's for cars & bikes,
Classes I, II & IV
Free MOT Retest
All make servicing & repairs including:
batteries, exhausts & tyres replaced.
Cam belts, clutches, diagnostics
Air Con Service
Water Softener Salt Tablets



WE PROVIDE

A Friendly Reliable Service
MOT's on site By Appointment
A Comfortable Waiting Area
Free Local Collection & Delivery
Courtesy car (On Own Insurance)



Good Garage Scheme
Mobil
SERVICE CENTRE



**CALL NOW:
01502 478642**

PJN MOTOR ENGINEERING LTD, Wash Lane, Back Road, Wenhaston, Halesworth,
Suffolk IP19 9DX

Telephone 01502 478642. Mobile 07802 965746. Website www.pjn-motor.co.uk

Cross Ram & Co. SOLICITORS

Providing a first class service for generations.

- Property specialists
- Wills, trusts and probate
- Inheritance tax planning
- Agricultural transactions
- Remortgages
- Leasehold and business transactions
- Commercial property

**18 Thoroughfare, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8AJ
Tel: 01986 873636 Email: info@crossram.co.uk**

**3 Church Street, Framlingham, Suffolk IP13 9BG
Tel: 01728 724111 Email: info@crossramfram.co.uk**

www.crossram.co.uk



Conveyancing
Quality



This firm is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority SRA Number 45753

Wenhaston Church Room

Now completely modernised
for smaller meetings, parties
and receptions - at very
competitive rates.

For bookings call 01502 478815
or 01502 478602



Lesley Pyke (King) GLASS ENGRAVER

ph: 01502 740400

11, Henstead Arts & Crafts Centre
Toad Row, Henstead, NR34 7LG

www.glassengraving.org.uk

A perfect gift for any occasion

HOLTON AND BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL

Charity No 291379

A well-appointed hall with stage, large grounds and car park

License available, if required. Competitive rates.

For further details please telephone 07756 916577

E: holtonandblyfordvillagehall@hotmail.com

HALESWORTH STATIONERS

FOR ALL YOUR PERSONAL AND BUSINESS STATIONERY
ART & CRAFT MATERIALS, GREETING CARDS & GIFTS
INKJET CARTRIDGES & COMPUTER ACCESSORIES
PHOTOCOPYING AND FAX SERVICE

OPEN 9 - 5 MONDAY TO SATURDAY (CLOSED 1pm THURSDAY)

57 THOROUGHFARE, HALESWORTH IP19 8AR

TEL/FAX 01986 873742

SPEXHALL VILLAGE HALL

Ideal venue for Clubs, Parties and Meetings
Training/Teaching Facility

Available for hire at very competitive rates

Capacity - up to 60 people

Contact: Jane Held - 01986 781318

Email: jane@janeheld.co.uk



01986 782566

07748 563704

Beautiful flowers for every occasion

www.erb-floral-designs.co.uk

er.bemment@gmail.com

The Coombes, Park Road, Flixton, Bungay, Suffolk NR35 1NR

AWD GOLDSMITH

Specialist in engagement and wedding rings

12 Bridge Street, Halesworth, IP19 8AQ
01986 875237

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 9am to 5pm

Award winning hearing care on your doorstep...

Struggling with your hearing? Help is available locally.
Book your hearing assessment with us today.

- Comprehensive hearing assessments
- The very latest hearing aid technology
- Outstanding aftercare service
- Hassle free, no obligation trial period to ensure complete satisfaction



Find us locally at:

Jeffery & Associates Opticians,
Rectory Street,

HALESWORTH

Sole Bay Health Centre,
Teal Close,

REYDON

Beccles Hospital,
St Mary's Road

BECCLES

For appointments please call 01473 230330

■ Award Winning ■ Family Run ■ Private ■ Independent ■ Local

hearingcarecentre.co.uk



Karen Finch RHAD FSHAA FRSA

EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES
**BUSINESS
AWARDS 2017**

WINNER
CUSTOMER CARE
AWARD

EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES
**BUSINESS
AWARDS 2017**

WINNER
SHOWCASING
EXCELLENCE AWARD



Rogation Walk
from
St Andrew's Church, Wissett
through the fields to
St Peter's Church, Spexhall
Sunday 26th May
2.30pm

Tea will be served afterwards in Spexhall Village Hall

Everyone is welcome to take part in this annual Team event.



COME CELEBRATE WITH US



On: 2nd June – a service to thank volunteers across Halesworth and the villages

At: St Mary's Church Halesworth 3.00pm

For more information: Win Sutton 01986 875225
or Halesworth Volunteer Centre 01986 874290

#volunteersweek