

Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford

NEWSLETTER



MAY 2023

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Parish website;

<http://wetheringsettcumbrockford.onesuffolk.net/home/>

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Welcome to the May 2023 issue of your Newsletter



Lots to report - and to look forward to this month.

We have a new defibrillator installed in the village - see page 5 for details. Many thanks are due to all those who contributed to this and to Bernie Grindlay who persevered to find the way through all that was needed to achieve it!

The Middy Bar is now open on Friday nights again, for the summer season.

Opening next to the 'Railway Sidings' we have a Dog Park.



There are 3 Bank Holidays this month for you to enjoy and most excitingly, after the Coronation on Saturday 6th we have our own village coronation celebrations on the Sunday. Starting at 2pm in the Village Hall and on the school playing field. There is definitely something for everyone to enjoy, (see page 9 for full details), — plus there is a yummy complimentary tea!

The church will also be providing refreshments in the morning—starting at 11am. This is your chance to check out the coronation decorations. Don't forget to take your bunting or flags for the church! See page 8 for details.

A perfect opportunity for the village to come togetherand no excuse to go hungry while joining in all the fun!

Enjoy the beauty that May brings

Cally (Editor)



Dates for the Diary

May

Monday 1st	May Day (Bank Holiday)- Mendlesham Street Fayre
Saturday 6th	Coronation of King Charles III
Sunday 7th	Decorations and Refreshment at the church 11am
Sunday 7th	Coronation Village Tea Party 2pm-5pm
Monday 8th	Public Holiday (for the Coronation)
Monday 29th	Spring bank Holiday

Contributions from the village community for inclusion in the newsletter are welcomed

Deadline for copy 15th of every month

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£12.00 an hour

£50.00 for half a day (up to 5 hours) and

£100.00 for a full day (incl. the evening)

A new Defibrillator for the Village

A life saving community defibrillator has been installed at the gates to Greenacres Park Wetheringsett IP14 5QE. The defibrillator was installed with funds from the Townsland Trust and



generous donations made by Michael and Wendy Jay also Martin and Becky Banberry, all working in conjunction with The Community Heartbeat Trust. Michael and Wendy also provided the site and electrical power for the machine. A big thank you to these contributors.

Should you need to use the defibrillator dial 999 and please ensure that the ambulance service is asked for as it's only the ambulance service that can give you the code to access the defibrillator which is housed in a locked cabinet.

This link is for an online training video should anyone want to view it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKGS CWKDS6g>





A New Facility for the Village!

A ...Dog Park

We have just opened our new Dog Park, situated at our Railway Sidings. Information is available on the web; Brockford Dog Park. It is fully enclosed for dogs to be able run free, unlike on the footpaths where dogs must be on a lead! Although there are not many obstacles on the field we hope to develop the site with a tunnel, and a mound and of course a splash pool! We also have a local resident who is offering dog training and will advise on these obstacles.

The Cedars Pool



The Cedars pool was well used over the Easter holiday, and we have managed to keep the temperature at 80F. Our registered families in the parish is up to last year's number and the regular swimmers have returned, so hopefully we are a fitter community!

tonyalston@hotmail.com for details.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH
WETHERINGSETT-CUM-BROCKFORD

Coffee Mornings

Wednesdays 10:30–12:00

with the usual scrummy spread

*Short Morning Prayers precede coffee mornings
at 10.00am in the hospitality area*



It's a Dog's Life

Hello everyone!

Hope you all had a lovely Easter. It's all been a bit strange in our house for the last week or so. It all started with them making all sorts of strange noises - coughs, sniffs and worst of all, sneezes. I'm not sure why but when Mum sneezes it scares me to death! Anyway, I then spotted some very odd behaviour - both of them sticking things in their mouths and noses which only made the gurgling and sneezing worse - honestly, humans are very odd sometimes.

Since then the coughing and sneezing has continued. I've tried my best to help - I've happily shared the sofa and bed so they can rest, tried not to get freaked out when mum sneezes (and believe me she can go on for a long time!), and not hunted-out and chewed up tissues from the bin. With a bit of luck things will soon be back to normal!

See you all soon! X

Woolles of Wetheringsett

Doggie facts

Three dogs survived the sinking of the Titanic

Dogs can sniff at the same time as breathing

A dog's sense of smell is legendary, but did you know that his nose has as many as 300 million receptors? In comparison, a human nose has about 5 million.

Dogs mark their territory with glands in their paws, when 'scratching' the ground





Wetheringsett Coronation Celebrations

As part of the village celebrations for the Coronation of King Charles III, the church would like to invite everyone who lives in the village and any community groups *to make either a length of bunting or a pennant*

The bunting can be made out of any material:
wool, felt, fabric, card or paper.

It could be
knitted, crocheted, sewn, stuck, painted or drawn.

The theme can be
anything related to King Charles III or royalty: the
Crown jewels, corgis, plants, carriages etc.

The church will be open on the day of the Village celebrations on the 7th of May from 11-1.00pm for tea, coffee and cakes and to see the bunting, which we hope will cover the whole church inside. Then we can head up to the Village Hall for the afternoon tea, starting at 2pm.

If you would like to take part please could you leave your bunting in the porch of the church by

Friday 5th of May

or contact emma.morris@wvcpschool.com



Coronation Village Tea party



Sunday 7th May 2pm to 5pm



Wetheringsett Village Hall and School Playing Field

Everyone Welcome

From 2pm there will be -

Children's Face Painting/crown making
Play some old fashioned games
See some vintage toys and vehicles

Raffle
Royal Quiz

Decorate a royal
egg competition

Bar with Real Ale and Wine
Live Music -
The Brinkleys, Beth and Lorna



*Complimentary Celebration Tea –
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Enjoy meeting up with others

More details on the Village Web site

Hope to see you there !



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Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council

Report on the meeting held Monday 3 April 2023

Footpaths – it was reported a number of footpaths are still suffering from dog fouling. Could we remind dog owners to please clear up after their dogs. A number of dog waste bins have been provided throughout the village, these are emptied by MSDC Waste Dept at a cost to the Parish Council. If the bins are not fully utilised this is a waste of money to the Parish so please do make full use of the Dog Waste Bins provided.

Trees – Cllr Mrs Aldred reported on the Suffolk Tree Warden’s annual general meeting held at Waldringfield. There had been speakers from DEFRA and a report on HM Queen’s Platinum Green Canopy scheme. The group is now applying to become a fully registered Charity which will enable it to apply for grant funding to promote tree planting schemes.

Norwich Road, Brockford – development. It was reported the appeal by the developer for 14 dwellings instead of 9 on the site had been withdrawn. The Parish Council had not supported the increased number of dwellings on the site.

Highways – County Cllr Stringer reported on the new Highways Contract agreed with MileStone Infrastructure, part of the M Group Services. The contract is worth between £800m-£1bn and will begin on 1 October 2023 and will last up to 20 years. The service will provide maintenance of roads, pavements, Rights of Way, drainage, hedges, construction of new roads and snow clearing. It is hoped the new contract will bring about improvements and maintenance of the large number of potholes throughout the county.

Council Tax – Cllr Stringer went on to report that MSDC would not be raising Council Tax for 2023/24 and the meeting was reminded that approximately 78% of a council tax bill goes to Suffolk CC, 14% to Suffolk Constabulary and 9% to Mid Suffolk District Council as well as a proportion to Parishes. MSDC had agreed to a £2m allocation from its reserves towards energy efficiency measures to provide better insulation to housing across the district to help with energy and the cost of living crises.

MSDC Members also approved a capital expenditure of £6 million to deliver improved depot facilities, primarily for its waste collection service. This could result in a new depot for Mid Suffolk to replace the Creting Road, Stowmarket depot or a new site to serve both districts.

Date of next meetings: Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 11 May 2023, 7pm at the Village Hall, Wetheringsett followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting at 7.45pm



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Friends of Debenham Library

Over 30 adults and children came to the event last month make craft items for the new Debenham Story Trail and some Easter decorations.

Warm Spaces: Debenham Library continue to offer free hot drinks on a self-service basis, funded by Suffolk Libraries. Come and make yourself a drink while you browse the books, read or use the computers.

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For services held in church and online

MAY 2023

Week 1 Sunday 7th May <i>The 5th Sunday of Easter</i>	Gislingham Thorndon	10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion Coronation Songs of Praise
Monday 8th May	Thorndon	2 – 4 pm	CONNECT
Week 2 Sunday 14th May <i>The 6th Sunday of Easter</i> <i>Rogation Sunday</i>	Mellis Stoke Ash Thorndon	10.30am 10.30am 4.00pm	Worship for All Holy Communion CONNECT
Thursday 18th May <i>Ascension Day</i>		11am	Telephone Church
Week 3 Sunday 21st May <i>The 7th Sunday of Easter</i>	Thornham Parva Thorndon Thorndon	10.30am 10.30am 4.00pm	Worship for All Holy Communion CONNECT
Week 4 Sunday 28th May <i>Day of Pentecost</i> <i>Whit Sunday</i>	Yaxley Wetheringsett Thornham Magna Thorndon	10.30am 10.30am 10.30am 4.00pm	Worship for All Worship for All Holy Communion CONNECT

Online Worship services are on Sundays at 9.00am and Wednesdays at 7.00pm

Telephone Church BCP Holy Communion is on Thursdays at 11.00am

Contact:



Reverend Canon Julia Lall - *Rector*
rev.julialall@gmail.com 01379 678064 & 07850 492212

Reverend Lauren Moore – *Curate*
rev.laurenmoore@gmail.com 07798 705876

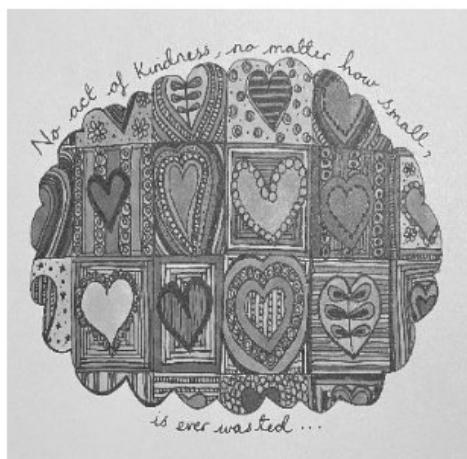
Reverend Debbie Nicholls – *Assistant Curate*
rev.d.nicholls@gmail.com 01379 788512



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SouthHartismereChurches/>

South Hartismere Benefice

May Newsletter 2023



Kindness

My dear friends,
It is so good to be writing to you again as I ease back to full-time work over the next few months. Over the weeks of my recovery, I had plenty of time to think, and my overriding memory of that time will always be the incredible kindness that so many people showed me – from flowers, cards, messages and prayers, to practical offers to shop, cook, do my ironing, walk the dog – it was incredibly lovely, and so appreciated by my family, as well as by me. Thank you so much.

There have been times in my life when I have also experienced unkind behaviour, and maybe you have too. I have been reflecting on how devastating this can be to individuals, communities, families, workplaces and churches, and how we need to work at kindness, encouragement, mutual support and affirmation. I'm reminded of one of our lovely Primary schools, who replaced their list of school rules with just one: 'Be kind.' We should all strive to do this more, to do it daily, and to do it with love and compassion because we never know what burdens other people are carrying; we should speak words of encouragement and affirm one another, and strive to overcome all that is wrong and unhealthy in the way we conduct our relationships.

Recently, Revd Lauren Moore posted on our church Facebook page one of her beautifully illustrated inspirational quotes: 'No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.' It is pictured at the top of this letter, but you can see it in all its glory at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SouthHartismereChurches>.

The theme of kindness is also at the heart of the Coronation Celebrations. We are so aware that our village organisations and churches rely on the kindness of volunteers to give their time and gifts to help their local communities, and on May 8th thousands of organisations across the country are getting together to give us all the chance to do this in The Big Help Out. Everyone is invited to join in to demonstrate kindness in practical ways - from checking in on someone who'd like a bit of company or volunteering for a charity. Look out for details of CONNECT's Coronation Tea for volunteers elsewhere in the magazine.

I have just come across this prayer, and it is my prayer for all of us in these difficult times:

'Remind us that all of this, every bit of it, is for love.
Keep us fiercely kind. Amen'

Blessings, *Julia*

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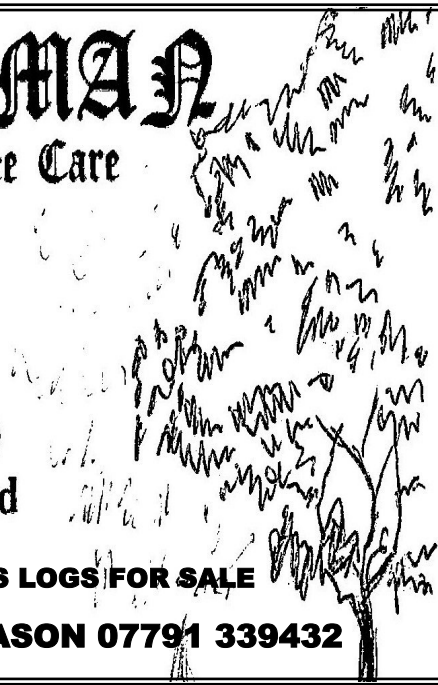
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Wetheringsett Manor

Wetheringsett Manor School News

We would like to welcome back everyone after the Easter break. We have had a good first week of the new Spring Term and have lots planned for the next term.

For the Kings Coronation we are planning a Cream Tea and activities such as a three legged race, egg and spoon race and Pin the Nose on Charles! We hope everyone enjoys their bank holidays



Middy Café

Open to the local community on Wednesday and Saturday mornings 9am-1pm (when railway volunteers are there)



Summer term 21st April 2023

Collective Worship Theme: Friendship

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful start to the term. Ks2 has already visited the church to start a project on producing our own stained glass windows and KS1 looks forward to doing this in the coming weeks!

Cake competition

School council has decided they would like to have a competition like we did for the Queen's Jubilee. The children plan to bake a cake and decorate it for the King's Coronation. They will bring it to school on Wednesday 26th April. Please could you ensure an ingredient list is included for allergies. We are looking forward to tasting all the entries of the baking competition!



Egghead competition

It has been lovely to see the outcomes of children who have completed their Egg Heads so far. All the eggs will be displayed in the village hall over the Coronation and judged on Sunday 7th May. The Village has also been invited to join in. The judge will be a member of the village committee. Last day for entry is the 5th May. The Village celebrations on the 7th May will start at 2pm in the Village Hall.

School uniform from Brigade

We are pleased to be able to offer all parents the following discount; On the weekend of Saturday 29th-Sunday 30th April you will be able to get a 10% discount when ordering school uniform.

Code: Enter **SPRING23** at the checkout to activate the discount

Fathers day lunch

We will be hosting a special Fathers Day Lunch on the 15th June where Fathers and Guardians are invited to join the children for lunch at 12.

School trip

On the 4th July we are very excited to be going to Southwold for a whole school Summer trip. Ks1 will be visiting the peer, looking at games from the past linked to their History topic last term. Ks2 will be focusing on Geography looking at how the environment is being damaged and what we are doing to protect our coastlines.

Leavers Assembly

We would like to invite all parents/guardians to come to the Year 6 Leavers Assembly followed by a picnic lunch. This will take place on the 19th July at 11.30.

Forthcoming dates for the diary

26th April	Baking competition
1st May	Bank holiday
8th May	Bank holiday
9th-12th May	KS2 SATS
16th-17th May	KS1 SATS
23rd May	Whole school DT day
29th May	Bank holiday
13th June	Year 1 phonics screening
15th June	Fathers day lunch
22nd June	Year 6 Crucial Crew
22nd June	Children's University graduation
29th June	Art Cafe
4th July	Whole school trip to Southwold
7th July	Sports day
11th July	Whole school production

Closer to these dates , we will communicate more information. Thank you for your continued support., we look forward to working with you.

Ms Wallis and Mrs Sheeran



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Mid Suffolk

I recently started a new job where my boss has told me I'll have to work on bank holidays. This was never the case in my old job. Can my employer make me work on a public holiday, and should I get paid extra if I do?

When it comes to bank holidays, whether or not staff have to work is up to their employer, and you don't have to be paid more if you do. Unless your contract says you'll be paid extra for working bank holidays, you will just be paid your normal amount.

The situation will vary from job to job and may depend on a number of factors such as whether your place of work is open on bank holidays, your hours of work and crucially, what your contract says.

Take a look at your contract, if you have one, to find out what your personal situation is. Your contract might say you will always get bank holidays off but it could say you are sometimes required to work or will always be required to work. If your place of work is normally open on a bank holiday you'll probably be asked to work at least some.

Your contract might say something like: "In addition to bank and public holidays, your annual entitlement to holidays is X days". This means you get public holidays off in addition to your annual leave entitlement but it might not mean you're entitled to take the specific days off. You may be required to work a bank holiday, in which case you should get another day off instead.

Alternatively, it might say something like: "Your annual holiday entitlement (inclusive of bank and public holidays) is X days" - this means you have to take bank holidays off as part of your annual leave entitlement. Bank holidays will either be deducted from your annual leave allowance (so you'll have to book all bank holidays as paid time off) or counted as additional holiday days.

If you don't have a contract, the legal default position is that your employer can tell you when you can or can't take time off.

If you find you need to resolve an issue with your employer, first ask for an informal chat, where you can raise your concerns. If this doesn't get you anywhere, you may need to raise a formal grievance. If you need advice on this, Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can help.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on issues including debt, employment, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or use the contact form at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us. More information and our opening hours can also be found at midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us.



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Have your say

Here is one idea about tackling roadside litter....
any other thoughts welcome....

Litter Letter Later.

Firstly, one has to say how well the litter pickers did recently but it is disappointing how much of it has been replaced!

Perhaps a letter to the Prime Minister might help: if the road tax on all vehicles were to be increased by £1 and the money raised was spent on litter picking, there would be a little less litter. If that amount was increased to , say, £10 even more of the relatively few guilty drivers would cease to litter the roadsides, and there would be a much bigger sum to pick the litter... if there were the labour to do it, of course. At £20 increase, the Govt. could even offer a reward that resulted in each fly tipping conviction.

This will not happen, so electric cars will not be exempt! AJA

Do you have anything 'to say'? Any thoughts you would like to share with the rest of us— or just something you would like to 'get off your chest'

Please send your thoughts about any of the articles in the newsletter - or any other matter, to **wetheringsettnews@gmail.com**

(Please refer to Disclaimer on page 2)



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Wetheringsett Manor

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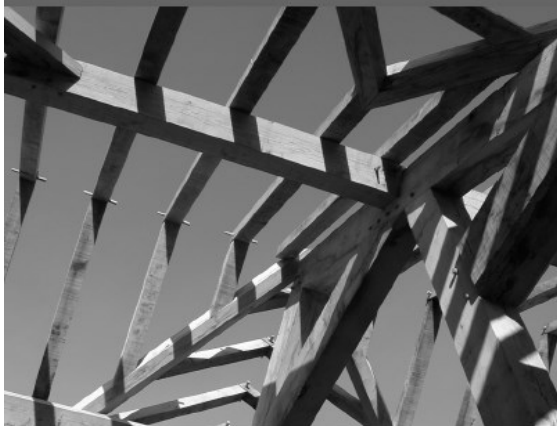


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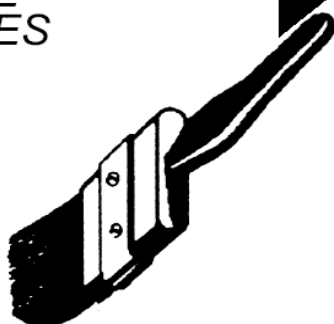
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The Middy Bar now open again on Friday Nights
Spring 2023 Programme

7th & 8th May Gala Coronation Steam-Up.

Despite the title we are running trains and not trying to compete with the royal celebrations, but, we will have two locos in steam plus our award winning diesel 'Shreddie' and our Wickham Trolley all in action during the weekend.

'Middy in the 1940's', bank holiday weekend 28th and 29th May, is one of the big event of railway's calendar, when in addition to the railway attractions, there is a full programme of displays, military vehicles, live music, memorabilia, visiting 'soldiers, sailors and airmen', perhaps even a famous face or two. Even a Battle of Britain Memorial Flight flypast weather permitting (tbc). See the web site for full details of this very popular event.

At every opening there will be steam train rides in genuine Victorian 4-wheel carriages and the Museum, cafe, Restoration Shed, souvenir shop and Middy's real ale bar will all be open too.

For the full programme and entry prices see www.msrlr.org.uk

The Spring events pave the way for a full programme of open days every Sunday and Bank Holiday from 4th June to 3rd September.

******* NEW - The Middy Market *******

Easter weekend saw the beginning of something new at The Middy—the start of a series of craft fairs / car boot sales - 'The Middy Market' 10am—2pm

These will run every second Saturday morning of each month during the summer season 13th May, 10th June, 8th July, 12th August 9th September.

Free pitches - to book a space go to www.msrlr.org.uk/middy-market

No trains will run on these days but the Tea Room and Museum will be open

Two Easter Walks—30 years apart!

1993

Thirty years ago, Mary and I walked the trackbed of the Mid Suffolk Light Railway, from Haugley to Laxfield, about 19 miles across fields since all the track has gone. However, most of the gateways were still there which was handy as a waymark, and for getting from one field to the next.

We did it in three stretches: Haugley to Brockford, Brockford to Worlingworth and Worlingworth to Laxfield. We started at 6am each day. Mary asked what to do if the farmer challenged us. I said what farmer would be up at 6am over the Easter bank holiday, and he would probably know me anyway. If not, I would show him the map and ask the way.

On the second stretch we saw a black dog sitting in the middle of the adjacent field. We walked a little faster once we were past the dog. I saw Mrs H the following week and said it was their dog. She said her husband often told it to Sit and then forgot about it; so, it must have been there all night! On return from the third stretch we called at the Southolt Plough for a restorative measure and fell into conversation with an old codger who had worked on the railway many years before. His questions/conversation became a bit repetitive and when he again asked if I would have shovelled coal on the Middy for 10/- a week, I replied, as leaving, "Not whilst there are old codgers like you prepared to do it!"

It was a good time of year to do this, when the crops were not too tall and the weather just right.

The Railway was built at the beginning of the 1900s, but post WW1, the army sold off its thousands of trucks, and the tarmacking of the roads soon led to the death of the minor railways.



2023

Thirty years after walking the MSLR track bed, and many other walks as well, Mary and I determined to walk the River Gipping Towpath from Stowmarket to the harbour at Ipswich, about seventeen twisting miles, and to our surprise, passing 18 locks!

Two Easter Walks cont.

Again, we divided this into three stretches, catching the train at Stowmarket and walking back from Needham Market; leaving the car at Claydon and walking back to Needham and on the Sunday walking from Ipswich back to the car at Claydon –all done in good weather and it rained all Monday morning.

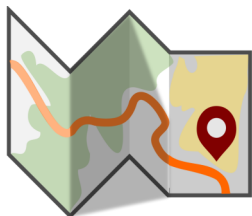
It was a fantastic walk, mostly. It was, of course, level and at about 6 miles, all I wanted three days on the trot. There is a Gipping Valley Trust, gradually improving the towpath, but signage could easily be improved in many places. The first day we negotiated Footbridge Closed as had somebody else. Though Stowmarket behind Munto and Fison, the ICI Gunpowder (and paint) factory, the lawnmower factory etc- an industrial town of yesteryear.

The middle stretch was interesting because of our mistake. A Footbridge Closed was tightly closed, and we were on a nicely mown path. This ceased where we tarried for a sandwich, so we carried on across an unmarked meadow, slowly realising something was amiss. We were following 'the old river' on my Trust old map- far from trusty it was. We were left with 200 yards of a narrow rabbit track between the river and the railway. The track was used by rabbits but the brambles etc made much of it impassable to us. We knew the train timetable, so made short bursts alongside the railway.

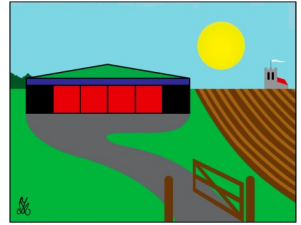
The final stretch looked straight forward -stupid assumption. No constructive sign at the first lock and we were going along the Alderman's Canal, nearly to the centre of Ipswich. Past Wines of Interest and Halfords and we were right again. A good walk past Sproughton and Bramford churches and a couple of mills. This was a river of many loops and I did suggest we could have halved the distance by walking the rail track bed, not the towpath. No!

The history of the river was interesting: all those locks. The river was made navigable in the 1700s, but the railway in the early 1800s was soon the death of it.

AJA 10.4.2023



Debenham Shed



Dates for our **Craft Days** are provisionally as follows: Saturday 13 May, 24 June, Saturday 22 July, Saturday 12 August, Saturday 9 September, Saturday 14 October, Saturday 11 Nov and Saturday 9 December. To cover the cost of craft materials and refreshments there will be a charge per session of £10 for members, £15 for non-members. Advance booking is required for these sessions: please email chairman@debenhamshed.org.uk. More details of activities available will be in future updates, or you can sign up to our mailing list at www.debenhamshed.org.uk on the Contact page.



Whilst receiving such splendid support from the Debenham Garage, during an oil change in the gearbox of our 1976 MG Midget, two ball bearings dropped out. This required a replacement gearbox and the removal of the engine. Once fitting was completed, the car was stripped of the windscreen, bumpers and lights etc and taken to David Barnard's workshop for paint removal. On completion, it was found that the rear wing and a panel under the windscreen were badly rusted and needed replacement. Fortunately we were able to obtain these and the car was taken to Tom Palfrey's at Wetheringsett for fitting and welding. On return, it will be stored for a week and then taken to Peterborough for painting by Storey's, with paint supplied by courtesy of PPG Ltd. An update will be posted in a subsequent Parish Magazine. The "west wing" construction should be completed this month, with a concrete floor already laid and steel sheeting in place.

Debenham Shed is at 2 Fields Farm, Low Road (IP14 6BJ).

We are open on Monday mornings 9am-12pm, Friday afternoons 2-5pm and normally the second Saturday morning of each month.

Chairman: Dennis Morley 07976 925016. Treasurer: Tony Hutt 07906 614328. Visit our website at www.debenhamshed.org.uk (sign up to newsletters on the Contact page)

Email info@debenhamshed.org.uk. Like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DebenhamShed

*What is Debenham Shed? A place to make things by yourself, with guidance or with others. It could be in metal, cloth, wood or plastic. We have lots of tools and sourcing materials. You may want to repair or make new—the limit is your imagination. It is also for social connecting and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge, and of course a lot of laughter. **Debenham shed is open to all adults.***

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