

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 2019

JANUARY 2020

# **Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford** NEWSLETTER



## **Inside -**

Upcoming Village events

Christmas Ghost story

School news

Latest on the Village Hall

Past crimes in the village

Church Services

And much more...

## USEFUL CONTACTS

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS ~ Sue Stannard	01449 767752
CHURCH WARDENS ~ Ken Goudy	01449 673648
~ Michael Churchill	01449 768869
Wetheringsett VC Primary School	01449 766215
Headteacher ~ Mrs Hookway	Chair of Governors ~ Sarah Payne
PARISH TREE WARDEN ~ Elizabeth Aldred	01728 860482
TOWNLANDS TRUST~	
PARISH FOOTPATH WARDEN ~ Elizabeth Aldred	01728 860482
RSPCA Suffolk East & Ipswich branch~ Ian Hendry	01449 767747
NON-EMERGENCY POLICE Reporting, Information or Enquiries	101
MENDLESHAM HEALTH CENTRE	01449 767722

**Editor contact: Cally Buch 01449 766417**

**wetheringsettnews@gmail.com**

***Deadline for copy 15th of every month.***

Typed announcements by email only. pdf or word doc. preferably please.

**HALF PAGE ADVERTS SHOULD BE IN LANDSCAPE FORMAT**

Any contributions from the village community are welcomed. The newsletter is for the community and serves to inform and give news and the occasional interesting fact or two. Editor reserves the right to amend pieces due to space restrictions. If pieces for inclusion are not formatted, Editor reserves the right to amend as best fits the edition. Views expressed within are not necessarily those of the editor and contributions are made from various sources.

***Invoice / advert queries please contact Clare Rogers 01728 861382***

***Distribution is organised by Eddie and Sue Payne 01449 767794***

# DECEMBER

Welcome to the  
December & January  
issue of your newsletter

# JANUARY



This issue covers two months and inside you will find some interesting articles as well as news about life in the village.

Our Christmas Ghost story this year is locally based in Suffolk. Are there any suitable ghostly tales based in the village itself that you know of?

Was life so very different in the village in the past? See some more snippets from the local Parish Council meetings from the last century (p.13) and read about an unhappy state of affairs for one Wetheringsett family in 1873 (p.11), and see what you think.

Read about changes to our village school status along with news from the school on p.34 There are three 'Thank You's in the newsletter—see if you can spot them all.

Don't forget the Christmas Tree Festival in the church, and to attend a service of Christmas songs and Carols there on 14th

The Village Hall celebrates its centenary in 2020 and on 10th January everyone is invited to a Wine and Cheese Evening held in the hall to discuss its future. Come and hear about possible options and provide your input.

*It only remains for me to send my very best wishes to everyone. I hope your Christmas is warm and happy and that 2020 is all that you wish it to be*  
Cally (Editor)

## Newsletter Distribution

Throughout 2019 a small team of volunteers have walked the parish roads and footpaths once a month to ensure the newsletter reaches all residents.

*Thank  
You*

So thank you:

Malcolm, John, Angela, Des, Steve, Sue,  
Linda, Elizabeth, Lesley, Rose, Andrea,  
Fiona, , Angie and Shirley.

There is no newsletter in January, delivery starts again in February.



News from High Suffolk Rotary *See Facebook for more!*

  
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 Highsuffolkrotary

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Help others

**POLIO TYPE 3 DECLARED ERADICATED**



October the 24<sup>th</sup> was **World Polio day**, and this year was the occasion for a declaration by the World Health Organisation that **one of the major types of polio has been eradicated.** The battle against Polio has been Rotary's major campaign, and since 1985 Rotary has contributed **more than \$1.9bn** towards eradicating this terrible disease.

**SANTA IS ON HIS WAY!**



Yes, he's booked his transport with is already! Here are the dates for this year:

<b>Eye</b>	<b>Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>
<b>Stradbroke</b>	<b>Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>
<b>Debenham(1)</b>	<b>Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>
<b>Debenham(2)</b>	<b>Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>

All Santa's tours start at about 6pm and will be finished by 8pm.

**Details of the routes will be posted on our website by the end of November.**

**SANTA NEEDS HELP!**

**We need more elves to help with the collection. Can you help - please?**

**Rewards include good exercise, big smiles on faces young and old, and a very Christmassy feeling!**

**Contact us at info@highsuffolkrotary.org**



In between doing what we can for the community both local and international, we try to get talks from interesting speakers, especially those with a local connection. This month **Derek Sim of the Norfolk Fire Service** told us about some of the challenges of being a modern fireman, the preparation and training needed, and also some of the less-serious incidents he's attended. Yes, they really do get called out for cats up trees – not to mention tortoises stuck in ornaments... **The History of the River Gipping** was the subject of another talk, from **Lewis Tyler, Secretary of The River Gipping Trust**, who told us some of the story of how this local river was cleaned up and made beautiful again.



All Saints Church, Wetheringsett

# Christmas Tree Festival

The Parochial Church Council would like to invite anyone in the village - parishioners, local businesses and the local school - to provide and decorate a *Christmas Tree* for display in the Church over the festive season

(If you wish to put lights on the trees, only battery-powered ones will be acceptable)

If you have any queries please contact  
Ken Goudy, Churchwarden on  
01449 673648 or Mobile 07745 959823



Saturday

14 December 2019

6-8pm in the church

*An evening service of  
Christmas songs and Carols with the  
Stowmarket Brass Band*

Everyone welcome

*There will be mince pies and biscuits  
with mulled wine and soft drinks during the  
interval*



# Creative Silk Painting

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## Dates for the Diary

### December

Sunday 1st  
Monday 9th  
Saturday 14th

Christmas Tree Festival - Wetheringsett Church  
Art Exhibition & Sale at Old School Hall Mendlesham  
Over 60s Christmas Lunch - Stoke White Horse  
Sing Christmas with Stowmarket Brass Band  
- Wetheringsett Church  
Community Christmas Lunch - Wetheringsett School  
Last day at school

### January

Monday 6th  
Tuesday 7th  
Friday 10th  
Friday 31st

Parish Council Meeting - Wetheringsett Village Hall  
First day back to school  
Wine & Cheese - Future of Village Hall  
- Wetheringsett Village Hall  
Film Night - Debenham Library

## Harvest Cookery Book



Wondering what to do with all those Autumn apples and other seasonal fruit and vegetables?

Want a few new recipe ideas?

Support Wetheringsett Church and buy yourself or a friend a copy of the latest Harvest Cookery Book.

Packed full of recipes, handy hints and beautifully illustrated.

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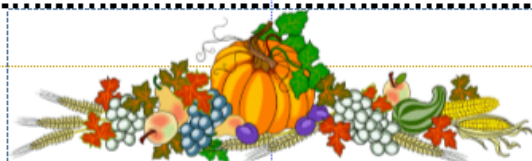
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## **HARVEST SUPPER - THANK YOU**

On 12 October the Parochial Church Council held their Harvest Supper evening at the Village Hall. We welcomed 48 diners and raised £177 towards Church funds.

I should especially like to thank Sue Standard and her helpers for all their hard work. I am also grateful to all those people who made and contributed some very tasty puddings.

Finally I would also like to thank my wife, Barbara, for her help and support in the preparation of the event and on the day itself.

Thank you to everyone who came, and we hope you enjoyed the evening.

Ken Goudy      Churchwarden



# **Our Village Hall is 100 Next Year**

## **Have your say in its future**



### **Wine and Cheese Evening**

### **7pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

### **at the Village Hall**

Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council cordially invite you to a Wine and Cheese evening at the Village Hall on 10th January 2020

During the evening the Parish Councillors will present a range of options on the future of the Village Hall and ask for feedback from villagers on those options. The Neighbourhood Plan and recent village survey will also be presented for discussion.

### **R.S.V.P.**

Please email [wetheringsettcumbrockfordpc@outlook.com](mailto:wetheringsettcumbrockfordpc@outlook.com) to let the Parish Council know if you will be attending



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## Christmas Ghost Story

Why do people tell ghost stories at Christmas? This has become a tradition and as Dickens wrote, the ghosts of Christmas are really the past, present and future, swirling around us in the dead of the year. They're a reminder that we're all haunted, all the time, by good ghosts and bad, and that they all have something to tell us.

This year, in the newsletter, we re-

tell\* a local ghost story .....

The pretty Suffolk village of Rattlesden is where the River Orwell springs from Orwell Meadow. Half-timbered houses watch over the charmingly named River Rat while 60 angels watch over the congregation of St Nicholas Church. But there were no angels watching over the former Rattlesden Rectory in the 1860s when a handyman was called in to repair parts of the crumbling red brick house which overlooked the river in the village and was working on some wooden panelling which had rotted and behind which rats lived. The following account is partly in his own words –

"As I worked away at the panelling, I noticed a sour, musty smell. It was only the ghost of an odour, but it made me feel a shade depressed," he said, "rats suggested themselves to me as an explanation of that smell, for I was told the old woodwork was full of rats."

Ignoring the smell, the man began work, unnerved by the fact he felt as if he was being watched. From the pantry, he heard a rustling, shaking noise before two hands appeared over the top of the door where he had hung a dust sheet to stop sawdust spoiling food.

"A moment later there was a whistle, low and eerie; the door opened wide and I got a horrible shock as there came out my white dust sheet with a head lolling on top of it. For some seconds, it remained silent and motionless, just outside the pantry door. Then it whistled again, the same low whistle."

Assuming that a prank was taking place, the man decided to scare away the joker by brandishing a hammer, but felt the figure rush past him towards the stairs.

\*First published in EADT August 2019

Cont. over page



### *Christmas Ghost Story cont.*

"As it made this rush, it dropped the sheet and I was horrified to see that it was naked - a thing with pale, blotchy skin of the colour of old parchment," the account continued, "for a few moments, I watched this apparition in a state of benumbed perplexity, and as I watched it, my brain seemed to begin to grow muzzy.

"I felt some force was passing from the thing in the corner to me: it seemed to be some foul influence which was thrusting itself upon my brain and sapping all the powers of my mind and body. I felt that my consciousness was gradually being smothered by a thick, black mist. As I stood there half-dazed, the thing began to move again in a crouching posture."

"I have said it was naked and shaped like a man, but I could not see its face distinctly - only a kind of phosphorescent glow. I wondered if the thing had eyes - I could not see them. Anyway, it appeared to be blind, for it came towards me with arms outstretched, just as a man would advance if he were feeling his way in the darkness.

"I had a sickening, overwhelming feeling of evil and was conscious once again of that sour, musty smell. It was an intense smell now and I was somehow certain that it was the smell of death."

The awful encounter was far from over: the figure suddenly grabbed the man, pressing its face close to his - the man described the skin of the creature as being similar to a pig's wizened bladder and noted that protruding from its mouth was a dried-up blue-tinged tongue.

After a struggle, the man was overcome by the stench and passed out. When he came to, the creature was gone

.....but the smell remained.

He later found out the ghost had been seen before, in the same place - a vicar had arranged for the pantry door to be nailed up, dogs had refused to stay in the house and

servants reported feeling as if the door was pushing against them.

Continued on page 21



## Crime in Wetheringsett in

19

As reported in the local newspapers of the time

Robert Smith, Wetheringsett, labourer, was charged with having brutally assaulted Samuel Smith of Wetheringsett, his brother, on the 11<sup>th</sup> April last. - Defendant pleaded guilty. Samuel Smith said: My sister and her husband came to me on Good Friday and met and my father at Wetheringsett White Horse. Defendant was there and wanted me to stand a pot of beer. I refused and left. Defendant came after and knocked me and my father down upon the road and followed me to my house. He became very violent and knocked me about the head; he also opened a knife and said he would kill me. The whole affair lasted more than half an hour. My father was knocked into a ditch and had his arm broken in two places. I got him out and took him home. Defendant then came to my house and ill used me and my father, cutting my head in several places. - Mr Brooke rose from the Bench and stated that defendant was a bad character and had cruelly used his father and brother; that the face of the latter was quite black from bruises; that he frequently left his wife and children to starve; that he was drunk three nights in a week, and was a disgrace to the parish. His father was afraid to prosecute because of the threatening language used towards him. - The Bench sentenced the fellow to one month's hard labour. - Thos. Smith, also a member of this family, was charged with using threatening language towards Samuel Smith, at Wetheringsett, Sunday night - John Smith, who presented a most pitiable appearance, one arm being in a sling, said: Thomas and Samuel are both my sons. Yesterday the defendant, who lives with me, said: Father Sam is going to the sitting tomorrow; if he do he shall not come out alive; I will kill him. I said, "Oh dear Oh Dear, and begged him not to say so. He only came home from being a soldier last Michaelmas. I went to neighbour, and said "Get a policeman, I said "perhaps I had better, for I may thus save two lives, and I waited till the policeman came. - The Bench ordered defendant to find two sureties of £6 each and himself in 10/- to keep the peace three months; in default three month's imprisonment.

*Framlingham Weekly News, 26 April 1873.*

*More to follow next issue . .*



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## *Snippets from the Village History*

### *Parish Council Minutes: 1894 - 1954*

Parish Council meetings were mainly held in the School Room in the evening, and on occasions were also held in the Mission Room in Wetherup and in the Rectory. Here are some further excerpts:

#### **November 1937**

A letter .... was read in reference to Overhead Electricity Mains through the village, and asking if the Parish Council have any observations to offer upon the proposal .. .... the Council are in favour of the proposal, and would press for a further extension, which would benefit the whole village.

#### **February 1938**

The meeting was held to draw up a plan for Air Defence in Wetheringsett. A good many names were brought forward, and it was proposed to see these people and enquire if they were willing to serve.

#### **May 1939**

Arrangements have been made with the Stowmarket Urban District Council for the services of the Fire Brigade belonging to the authority to be available for fire extinguishment in Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford. The Brigade can be summoned through Stowmarket Police—Telephone no. Stowmarket 14

#### **July 1939**

The meeting discussed water services for Fire Protection and selected the following ponds: a pond in front of the Trowel and Hammer, owner Mr Jefferis, Wetherup Street: a pond at White Horse Corner where the old pump draw water from ..... A pond in the hockey meadow close by the nine new Council Houses ... a pond called the sand pit pond near Dale Farm... all the ponds require a good clean out.

*Taken from 'A Village History of Wetheringsett cum Brockford' compiled and first published 1981. The above extracts were added (by Maureen Withey), to the edition published in 2002*

*More to follow in next issue*

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ALL SAINTS  
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*Coffee Mornings Wednesdays  
10.30am with the usual scrummy  
spread.*

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

## **Food, Fun and Family Friendly!**

What's not to like! Come and join us, you are assured of a warm welcome. There is a variety of family friendly services and activities each month in this benefice.

**Second Sunday**            4 - 5.00pm  
Messy Church at Thorndon Church

**Third Saturday**            4.30 - 6.00pm  
Pizza'n'Prayer at Thorndon Church for children 9+

**Fourth Sunday**            9.15am  
Cafe Church at Thorndon Church



## South Hartismere Benefice Christmas Services 2019

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Thorndon	4.00pm	Christingle Service
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Stoke Ash	4.00pm	Christmas Songs of Praise & end of Christmas Tree Festival
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Thorndon	7.30pm	Christmas Concert with the Waveney Choir
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Gislingham	7.00pm	Carol Service
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wetheringsett	6.00pm	Sing Christmas with the Stowmarket Brass Band
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Thornham Magna	3.00pm	Carol Service with the Gislingham Silver Band
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mellis	7.00pm	Carols by Candlelight
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Gislingham	10.30am to 11.30am	Christmas Craft Party <i>in the Village Hall</i>
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Thornham Parva	6.00pm	Carol Service
Christmas Eve 24 <sup>th</sup>	Gislingham Yaxley Thornham Parva	3.00pm 4.00pm 11.30pm	Crib Service Carol Service Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion
Christmas Day 25 <sup>th</sup>	Gislingham Wetheringsett Thorndon	9.30am <b>10.00am</b> 10.30am	Christmas Morning Service Christmas Morning Service Christmas Family Service <i>followed by</i> Holy Communion

*Christmas Blessings to you all*





12 Days of  
Christmas  
Wonder

## South Hartismere Benefice

### Growing Together

December/January Newsletter

*O Star of Wonder, star of light* is the chorus from the well-known carol, 'We Three Kings of Orient Are', which comes in at number 18 in Classic FM's Top 30 list of Christmas Carols.

Christmas carols feature a lot in our Christmas celebrations this year. In addition to the usual carol services in each of our churches (details can be found elsewhere in the magazine), favourite Christmas Carols and Songs is the theme of Wetheringsett's Christmas Tree Festival on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, and the Waveney Choir Concert at Thorndon on 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

'We Three Kings' is the theme of this year's Follow the Star initiative by the Church of England, with 12 brand-new reflections for the Christmas period.

Follow the Star invites you to experience the wonder and excitement of the Wise Men's journey as they travel towards Jesus. 'We Three Kings' is an incredibly well-known carol written from the perspective of the wise men (or Magi) as they follow the star to discover Jesus. This year's reflections invite us to go on a similar journey of wonder and discovery, using daily themes suggested by the words of the carol's chorus: *O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.* John Henry Hopkins (1820–1891). As well as the reflections, each day offers a practical challenge to bring the theme alive together with a short prayer. There is always a slightly longer suggested Bible passage to read if you want to go a bit deeper. When Epiphany arrives and the wise men finally reach their destination, maybe you will have made some discoveries of your own about your journey of faith and the gifts you bring along the way.

The free Follow The Star app – available for Android and iOS devices – allows anyone to join the journey. The app includes full audio for each day, including the Bible reading and the daily craft activities. You can also sign up for free e-mail versions of the reflections via [www.churchofengland.org/followthesta](http://www.churchofengland.org/followthesta)

Join us this Christmas as together we Follow the Star:

*God of wonder, as we follow the star, open our minds to search for you, open our eyes to see you, and open our hearts to receive your love, this Christmas and always. Amen.*

Blessings, *Julia*

#### From the Parishes:

In loving memory of: Wesley Head, Sheila Waterman – Gislingham; Peter Warbey – Thornham Magna; Joan Coe, Geoffrey Lane – Thornham Parva

The Venerable Ian Morgan, Archdeacon of Suffolk



## South Hartismere Benefice Worship Rota – December 2019

*Every week we can gather to worship together at these services*

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup></b> <i>The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	Wetheringsett Gislingham <b>Thorndon</b>	9.00am 10.30am <b>4.00pm</b>	CW Holy Communion CW Holy Communion <b>Christingle Service</b>
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Stoke Ash</b>	<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Christmas Songs of Praise &amp; end of Christmas Tree Festival</b>
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	Stoke Ash Thorndon Thornham Parva	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Morning Worship CW Holy Communion
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Gislingham</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Carol Service</b>
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wetheringsett</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Sing Christmas with the Stowmarket Brass Band</b>
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	Gislingham Yaxley <b>Wetheringsett</b> <b>Thornham Magna</b>  <b>Thorndon</b>	8.30am 10.30am <b>10.30am</b> <b>3.00pm</b>  <b>5.00pm</b>	BCP Holy Communion CW Holy Communion <b>Carol Service</b> <b>Carol Service with the Gislingham Silver Band</b> <b>Christmas Come and Sing</b>
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Mellis</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Carols by Candlelight</b>
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	Thornham Magna Thorndon Yaxley <b>Mellis</b>  <b>Thornham Parva</b>	8.30am 9.15am 10.30am <b>10.30am</b>  <b>6.00pm</b>	BCP Holy Communion Café Church Morning Worship <b>Family Christmas Service followed by Holy Communion</b> <b>Carol Service</b>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<b>Gislingham</b> <b>Yaxley</b> <b>Thornham Parva</b>	<b>3.00pm</b> <b>4.00pm</b> <b>11.30pm</b>	<b>Crib Service</b> <b>Carol Service</b> <b>Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Christmas Day</i>	<b>Gislingham</b> <b>Wetheringsett</b> <b>Thorndon</b>	<b>9.30am</b> <b>10.00am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>Christmas Morning Service</b> <b>Christmas Morning Service</b> <b>Family Christmas Service followed by Holy Communion</b>



## South Hartismere Benefice Worship Rota – December 2019

*Every week we can gather to worship together at these services*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>** Stoke Ash 10.30am Benefice CW Holy Communion  
*The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas*

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>** Gislingham 11.45pm Ringing in the New Year

### CHILDREN AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup>** **Gislingham** **10.30am** **Christmas Craft Party**  
**Village Hall** **to**  
**11.30am**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** Thorndon 4.30pm Pizza 'n' Prayer

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>** The Limes 11.15am Holy Communion  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>** Yaxley House 11.00am Holy Communion

*BCP = Book of Common Prayer – said service CW = Common Worship – with hymns*

Contact:



Reverend Canon Julia Lall - Rector  
[rev.julialall@gmail.com](mailto:rev.julialall@gmail.com) 01379 678064

<https://southhartismerebenefice.edublogs.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ThorndonAllSaints/>



# South Hartismere Benefice Worship Rota – January 2020



*Every week we can gather to worship together at these services*

## MORNING SERVICES

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas</i>	Wetheringsett Thorndon Gislingham Thornham Parva	9.00am 9.15am 10.30am 12.30pm	CW Holy Communion Café Communion CW Holy Communion Baptism
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Baptism of Christ</i>	Stoke Ash Thorndon Thornham Magna	9.00am 10.30am 10.45am	BCP Holy Communion Morning Worship CW Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</i>	Gislingham Yaxley Wetheringsett	8.30am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion CW Holy Communion Morning Worship
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</i>	Thornham Parva Thorndon Yaxley Mellis	8.30am 9.15am 10.30am 10.30am	BCP Holy Communion Café Church Morning Worship CW Holy Communion

## EVENING SERVICES

**There are no evening services this month**  
Gislingham Songs of Praise and Thorndon Come and Sing  
will return in **March**

## CHILDREN AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES

<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Thorndon	4.00pm	Messy Church
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Thorndon	4.30pm	Pizza 'n' Prayer
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	The Limes	11.15am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Yaxley House	11.00am	Holy Communion



*BCP = Book of Common Prayer – said service*

*CW = Common Worship – with hymns*

**Contact:**



**Reverend Canon Julia Lall - Rector**  
[rev.julialall@gmail.com](mailto:rev.julialall@gmail.com) 01379 678064



<https://southartismerebenefice.edublogs.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ThorndonAllSaints/>

# Christmas Crackers!

- \* How does Santa keep track of all the fireplaces he's visited? He keeps a logbook
- \* Who hides in a bakery at Christmas? A mince spy
- \* What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations? Tinsillitis
- \* What did Cinderella say when her photos didn't arrive? "One day my prints will come!"
- \* What do you call a boomerang that doesn't come back? A stick
- \* What did Adam say the day before Christmas? It's Christmas, Eve.
- \* What did the farmer get for Christmas? A cowculator
- \* .What do you get if you lie under a cow? A pat on the head
- \* Which side of a turkey has the most feathers? The outside
- \* What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party? Freeze a jolly good fellow
- \* What's the most popular Christmas wine? "I don't like sprouts!"
- \* Why is it getting so hard to buy Advent calendars? Their days are numbered
- \* Who is Santa's favourite singer? Elfis Presley
- \* What kind of music do elves listen to? Wrap

Merry Christmas



## *Christmas Ghost Story cont.*

Subsequent enquiries established that the ghost was in all probability that of a person who had once lived in Rattlesden, Robert Bumpstead and - for a reasons unknown, although there is speculation that it was to avoid body snatchers - he was buried under the pantry floor rather than in the churchyard.

Apparently disturbed in 1892, when the rectory was demolished, his skeleton was buried at the church and he began to be seen there, to the point where the local clergy staged an exorcism which finally gave Robert the peace he needed to move on. A relief to Rattlesden indeed.

## EYE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

*Every 1st Friday of the month at Eye Bowls Club*

*10:30–12:30*

*MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL*

*Everyone welcome – so please come along*

Please remember we rely on your support to keep the group going

*We also have Thai Chi, resident reflexology,  
Alternative therapies and much more to be added*

Contact Nikki Boughen at Eye Health Centre for more details

Tel: 01379 870689



## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2019



I would like to say a big thank you to all those who helped make this year's Poppy Appeal for the Mendlesham District such a great success again this year.

The annual Poppy appeal is when we remember and reflect on those, past and present, who gave so much for us all and a time to raise invaluable funds for this worthy charity to help those in need. This fantastic amount is due to the wonderful committed collectors who give up their time to help with the appeal, the support of local businesses who are kindly happy to have poppy trays at their premises and all of you who gave so generously to the Poppy Appeal.

The district as a whole raised the grand sum of **£2,700.00**

Mendlesham	£1368.75
Mendlesham Green	£ 193.09
Thwaite	£ 131.29
Wetheringsett	£ 250.66
Brockford	£ 79.54
Wickham Skeith	£ 672.92

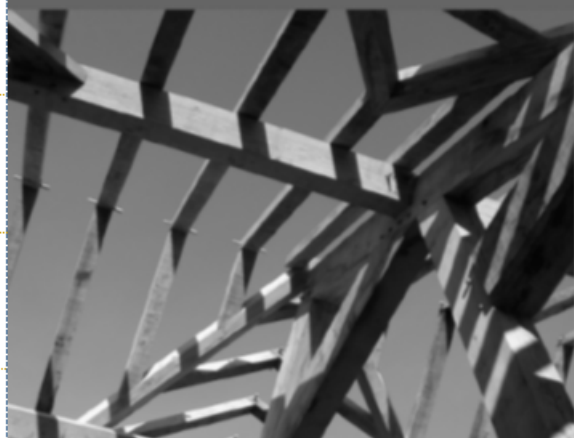


**Jacquie Nash.** Poppy Appeal Organiser



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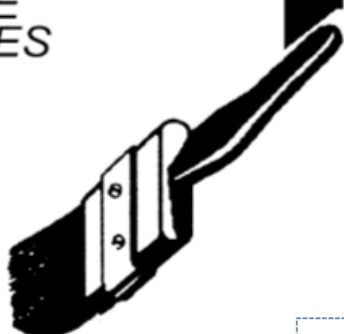
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**Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council**  
**report on meeting held 4 November 2019**

**Cycle Route** – Members were pleased to report very good attendance at the opening on the Cycle Route by County Cllr Andrew Stringer on Sunday 3 November. Sarah Payne was congratulated on the success of the opening and Members recorded thanks to her for all her work in bringing the project to fruition. It is hoped the cycle route will become a focal point of interest for residents and visitors alike. Thanks were also recorded to County Cllr Andrew Stringer for his grant contribution of £5,000, to the previous District Cllr Glen Horn for his contribution of £2,000 and to the Hakluyt Society for its contribution of £500.

**Remembrance Sunday** – three poppy wreaths were purchased by the Parish Council for Remembrance Sunday services, one for the 34<sup>th</sup> USAAF Bomb Memorial Service at Mendlesham represented by Cllr Mrs Ann Arnold, one for All Saints Church and one for the War Memorial at Hockey Hill represented by the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Charles Harvey.

**Parish Precept 2020/21** – members considered a proposed parish council budget prepared by Cllr Mike Pease. This covered anticipated expenses over the next year 2020/21. With the exception of the Village Hall, it was anticipated that expenses would remain more or less at the same level. It was therefore agreed that the precept on the District Council remain at the same level as last year, £8850. Should there be any unexpected nominal expenses it was agreed these could be covered from existing reserves.

**Village Hall** – the future of the Village Hall has been an item for discussion at each parish council meeting over the last 18 months or so. Parish Councillors are faced with the decision whether to refurbish the existing hall or to build a complete new hall, together with the cost and the availability or not of grant funding. Your parish councillors would now like to hear the view of residents on the options available and cordially invite parishioners to discuss these over Cheese and Wine on Friday 10 January, 7.30pm at the Village Hall. **Please do attend, your views on the future of the Hall and its use are very important.**

**Trees** – The supply of young trees for distribution in the village should be available from mid-December. Please contact Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Aldred if you have reserved a supply.

**Date of next Parish Council meetings: (held in the Village Hall)**

**Monday 6 January 2020, 7pm and Monday 3 February 2020, 7pm**

**ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND**

**In the meantime your Parish Councillors take the opportunity to wish all parishioners a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.**



# Suffolk Sweep

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## The Cedars Pool - Keep Swimming!

We have had a busy summer at The Cedars Pool, but the colder weather should not stop people swimming, to keep fit in an enjoyable way. We still try to keep the water



at about 80 degrees, and have just finished draft proofing the roof, so that the air temperature remains warmer, even on a cold windy day.

We are having a path light installed, as we find that several people like to swim after 4pm, even up to 8pm, so please continue to use the facilities through the darker months to keep yourself fit.

We do not charge to swim, as we like to see the pool being used to useful effect. So please keep swimming: we do not like the warm water being idle!

AJA Dec. 2019

Contact: [tonyalston@hotmail.com](mailto:tonyalston@hotmail.com)



Amanda  
Polley

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## Friends of Debenham Library

Visitors to the library will see a beautiful, new painted board on the wall in the children's area. We thank Sarah Carruthers for her artistic skills.

## Library Cinema

The audience last month for **Yesterday** numbered over 50, a very good number. By popular vote we have chosen **Sorry, We Missed You** for Friday 31st January, and **Official Secrets** for March (date to be decided). More details will be in this magazine. Join our mailing list (email) so you don't miss out!

## Suffolk Libraries Book Journey

Sue and Tony Hutt's sponsored tandem ride from Debenham Library to Stradbroke Library on 10th October and the cheese and wine evening have now raised over £600 for Suffolk Libraries IPS, including £250 from Debenham Parish Council.

School corner, Debenham IP14 6PL (next to the Primary Sch).

### Opening hours:

Tuesday: 0930 am – 1300 pm  
Wednesday : 1500 – 1930 pm  
Saturday: 0900 am – 1300 pm  
Sunday1: 200 – 1600 pm

Tel: 01728 861940

[www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/libraries/debenham-library](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/libraries/debenham-library)

Facebook: @DebenhamLibraryFriends

## Did you know....?

Find My Past, Ancestry and many more online services are available at the library.

*Books, DVDs, CDs, Newspapers, WiFi, Computers, printing and photocopying, faxing and scanning, laminating, audiobooks, downloadable music/audiobooks/ebooks, free reservations, drinks. The room is available for hire outside opening hours. The Home Library Service is also available for house-bound residents.*



The 2020 Suffolk

Naturalists' Conference:

*'On the verge of success'*

Saturday 29th February 2020 at Wherstead Park, Ipswich

A national conference with the aim of sharing best practice on the management of **roadside verges**.

There is increasing interest in these fragments of semi-natural grass-land and their potential role as corridors for ecological networking. This will be an opportunity to find out more about some of the pioneering work happening in counties like Lincolnshire and Dorset, in adopting new technologies and county-wide 'wildlife verge management practices, which both benefit wildlife and save money.

Non members: £18. Members and students: £13

Tickets available to purchase online:

<http://www.sns.org.uk/pages/conference.shtml>

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**Wetheringsett C of E Primary School**

would like to invite members of the parish to join them for a

**COMMUNITY ROAST LUNCH**

**Every Wednesday at 12:30pm**

**December 4rd, 11h**

**And Christmas Lunch on 18th**

**£3:50 per person**

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book a place, please contact

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## November 2019

What a busy term this has been with lots to celebrate!

We began our term with the strongest set of results from the Keystage 2 SATs the school had ever had. **91% of pupils in Year 6 achieved the expected or better standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics** placing the school in the **top 2% in Suffolk and in the top 13% Nationally.**

Staff and parents can feel justifiably proud of the work that has contributed to this strong performance .



A lot of work was also going on behind the scenes to prepare for the academisation of the school which happened on 1<sup>st</sup> November. We celebrated with a tea -party for the school community and friends.

No immediate changes will be observed except by some changes to signage. The school badge has always said **Wetheringsett Church of England Primary School**. On our signage it had 'Voluntary Controlled', this will no longer apply as the school is now part of the **St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust**. We are now a part of a family of 19 schools in the trust opening up opportunities to work collaboratively with schools of similar vision.

We were delighted to be a part of the Hakluyt Cycle Loop project with many of the school community attending the official opening on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.



The children were most impressed by the stained-glass panel in the refurbished telephone box, now designated an information centre. The older pupils' contribution of kite 'pendants' were also much admired at the small exhibition in the village hall.



### Forthcoming events....

**Christmas Fayre Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2019 3.30pm**  
**Community Christmas Lunch Wednesday 18<sup>h</sup> Dec. 2019 12.00pm**

# Over 60's Christmas Lunch

The Over 60's Christmas Lunch will be held at the White Horse Inn, Stoke Ash, on

**Monday, December 9th 2019, at 12.30 for 1pm.**

If you would like to attend could you please choose your meal from the menu below



## MAIN COURSE

Seasonal Turkey (G)  
Venison Meatballs (G)

Abbot Ale Beef Stew with Cheese and Rosemary  
Scone

Slow Braised Pig Cheeks with Redcurrant Gravy (G)

Grilled Red Mullet with Parma Ham Crisp (G)

Parsnip and Chestnut Roast (V)

Filo Stack with creamy mushroom, nut and leek sauce (V)

## DESSERT

Frozen Coffee & Tia Maria Mousse (G) (V)

Seville Orange Marmalade Christmas Pudding (V)

Chocolate and Walnut Brownie (V)

Ginger Sponge (V)

Homemade Morgan's Spiced Rum & Raisin Ice Cream (G) (V)

Gluten free and dairy free mulled wine poached pear (G) (V)

Coffee or Tea ~ Mini Mince Pie

Please phone Valerie Gaitley on 01728 860523 with your choices by November 20th as the Inn needs to know numbers in advance, also letting her know if you need transport.

Anyone resident in Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford who is the required age is eligible. There may be a small charge depending

## Ipswich Mobile Library Route 7

7H	<b>Brockford St</b>	<b>Old Griffin</b>	<b>1245 – 1300</b>
7I	<b>Wetheringsett</b>	<b>Hockey Hill</b>	<b>1405 – 1420</b>
7J	<b>Wetheringsett</b>	<b>Wetherup St</b>	<b>1430 – 1445</b>
7K	<b>Wetheringsett</b>	<b>Park Green</b>	<b>1450 – 1505</b>

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**2019: December 19th**      **2020: January 16th**

## **MENDLESHAM ART GROUP CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION AND SALE OF WORKS**

*Due to the success of our 1<sup>st</sup> art exhibition, last year, we will be holding another one this year in the Old School Hall, Old Market Street, Mendlesham on*

**SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> DEC 10AM-4.30PM**

Original paintings, prints, greetings cards and Christmas Cards, to view and for sale

Light refreshments will be available

Entry is free

For further details, please contact: Irene Hart tel. 07889 408345

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Cllr Elizabeth Cain VICE CHAIRMAN	eccain@btinternet.com	
Cllr Mrs Ann Arnold	broadoaksuffolk@googlemail.com	01449 767781
Cllr Tony Alston	tonyalston@hotmail.com	01449 766231
Cllr Barry Lacey	sally.lacey@btconnect.com	01728 860273
Cllr Mrs Elizabeth Aldred	aldred.sons@gmail.com	01728 860482
Cllr Mike Pease	mikepease@btinternet.com	
Cllr Mrs Hilary Green	greenhils2911@gmail.com	
Cllr Mrs Sue Gibbs	suegibbsj10@hotmail.co.uk	01449 766735
Cllr Claire Estcourt	clairehestcourt@gmail.com	
Cllr David Brown	daveandjanetbrown@gmail.com	01449 766151
Parish Clerk: Mrs Lynne Cockerton	lynne.cockerton@btopenworld.com	01728 862001
<u>County &amp; District Councillor :</u> Cllr Andrew Stringer		01449 780339
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