

WETHERINGSETT-CUM-BROCKFORD



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

## USEFUL CONTACTS

### Parish website;

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

<b>VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS ~ Sue Stannard</b>	<b>01449 767752</b>
<b>RECTOR ~ Rev. Canon Susan Loxton</b> revloxton@gmail.com	<b>01379 388493</b>
<b>PCC SECRETARY ~ Emma Morris</b>	<b>01449 766117</b>
<b>CHURCH WARDEN ~ Tim Rowe</b>	<b>07775 872742</b>
<b>WETHERINGSETT V C PRIMARY SCHOOL</b> <b>Executive Headteacher ~ Imogen Wallis</b> <a href="mailto:imogen.wallis@wvcpschool.com">imogen.wallis@wvcpschool.com</a> <b>Head of School ~ Natalie Diwan</b> <a href="mailto:mrsdiwan@wvcpschool.com">mrsdiwan@wvcpschool.com</a> <b>Chair of Governors ~ Jo Pitt</b>	<b>01449 766215</b>
<b>PARISH TREE WARDEN ~ Elizabeth Aldred</b>	<b>01728 860482</b>
<b>TOWNLANDS TRUST ~ Lynne Cockerton</b>	<b>01728 862001</b>
<b>PARISH FOOTPATH WARDEN ~ Elizabeth Aldred</b>	<b>01728 860482</b>
<b>RSPCA Suffolk Central ~ Ian Hendry</b>	<b>01449 767747</b>
<b>NON-EMERGENCY POLICE ~ Reporting, Info or Enquiries</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>MENDLESHAM HEALTH CENTRE</b>	<b>01449 767722</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER ~ Editor, Cally Buch</b>	<b>01449 766417</b>
<b>~ Adverts/Invoicing, Bernie Grindlay</b>	<b>07745 503967</b>
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<b>Email ~ wetheringsettnews@gmail.com</b>	

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The newsletter is produced in good faith but errors and omissions may occur during the process of production. Please let us know if this is the case so that any errors may be corrected in future editions.

# Welcome to the May issue of your Newsletter



I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Easter, we certainly had wonderful weather!

And now we welcome May, and are welcomed in turn by the glorious May blossom that, living where we do, we are fortunate to see all around us. Did you know, as many as 200,000 miles of hawthorn hedge were planted in the Parliamentary Enclosure period, between 1750 and 1850! The name 'Haw' derives from 'hage', the Old English for 'hedge'.

Enjoy your month *Cally (Editor)*



## *Newsletter Delivery - a thank you*

*Nineteen years ago Linda and Bernie moved into the village and Linda answered a plea for help delivering the newsletters - she has been doing it ever since!*

*So, Linda, a huge "thank you" from the newsletter team for all those steps walked and all those newsletters posted through letter-boxes over the years.*

*Thanks also to Nigel, who has agreed to take over the round....and to all those volunteers who ensure the newsletter reaches households in Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford.*



*19 years.....how many newsletters.....how many steps.....?  
thank you Linda.*

*Cally, Bernie, Sue and Eddie.*

## **Dates for the Diary**

### **May**

Monday 5th

Early May bank Holiday

Tuesday 13th

Annual Meeting Church and Town Estate Charity  
Village Hall 7pm

23rd & 24th

'Curtains UP' Murder Mystery evenings

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

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

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Thanks! References available

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Kelly's Crafty Corner  @kellys\_craftycorner 

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# **Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council**

## **Report of meeting held 7 April 2025**

**Parish Council Vacancy** – your parish councillors would be very pleased to hear from any parishioner, 18 years and over, who may be interested in joining the council. Meetings are held monthly on the first Monday evening of month (not including bank holidays). The role of the parish council covers many tasks including commenting on planning applications, monitoring the Council's finances, providing and maintaining some village facilities, monitoring highways, liaising with District and County Councils. A Parish Council is the level of government closest to the community and the first place many parishioners go with concerns or ideas and therefore plays a vital role in any community, delivering services to meet local needs and striving to improve the quality of life in the parish. If you think you may be interested, please do attend a parish council meeting to observe the council in action or speak to a councillor or the clerk for more information, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please see contact details on back page of this magazine.

**Proposed changes to Planning Community Involvement** – Mid Suffolk District Council is currently consulting on a proposal to stop sending letters to neighbours for certain types of planning application. There is currently a statutory requirement that neighbouring residents are notified of planning applications or a site notice is displayed at the relevant property. Mid Suffolk Planning is proposing to stop sending the letters in an attempt to save money. The Parish Council did not support the proposal and agreed that letters should continue to be sent to neighbouring properties informing them of any planning application on the basis of transparency and accountability.

The consultation runs until Monday 12 May 2025 and parishioners are encouraged to respond to the consultation via the following link

<https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/planning-consultations>

**East Anglian Air Ambulance Service** – due to the village proximity to the A140 a donation of £100 was agreed to the Air Ambulance Service. Councillors believed the Air Ambulance provided a vital facility should it be needed.

**Police & Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore** attended the meeting to advise on action should the village suffer any further loud noise and disturbance from Raves lasting from a day and into the early hours over the coming summer months. Commissioner Passmore advised these should be reported to the Police via 999.

**Date of next meetings: Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting, 7pm Monday 12 May 2025 at Wetheringsett Village Hall.**

**Ordinary Parish Council Meeting - Monday 2 June 2025, 7pm at Wetheringsett Village Hall. ALL WELCOME**

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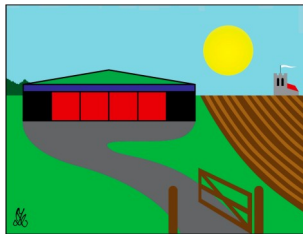
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# Debenham Shed



Our next Workshops are:-

- Saturday 10 May 10am-2pm: Weaving
- Friday 13 June 10am-2pm: Decoupage with

John Ellam

If you are interested in attending please email

[crafts@debenhamshed.org.uk](mailto:crafts@debenhamshed.org.uk) or one of the telephone numbers below.

Debenham Shed is at 2 Fields Farm, Low Road (IP14 6BJ). We are open on Monday mornings 9am-12pm, Fridays 10am-5pm and normally the second Saturday morning of each month. Membership by the year, half-year or PAYG. Chairman: Rob Davies 07952 556152 Treasurer: Tony Hutt 07906 614328. Visit our website at

[www.debenhamshed.org.uk](http://www.debenhamshed.org.uk) (sign up to newsletters on the Contact page) Email

[info@debenhamshed.org.uk](mailto:info@debenhamshed.org.uk) . Like our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/DebenhamShed)

[DebenhamShed](http://www.facebook.com/DebenhamShed). Registered Charity 1212367

*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 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.**



## What have the Romans ever done for us?

According to Monty Python's 'Life of Brian' ....*Apart from the sanitation, the medicine, education, wine, public order, irrigation, roads, the freshwater system, and public health... what have the Romans ever done for us?"*

But, did you know ..The Romans brought their coinage, which could be used to purchase items throughout the empire.



A dupondius, which was worth two asses and minted thousands of miles away in Rome, could be exchanged for goods in York or Jerusalem. **The first truly global currency.**

When Julius Caesar stated the famous "*Veni, Vidi, Vici*" (I came, I saw and I conquered), perhaps he should have added something more. Not only did the Romans come, see, and conquer, but they stayed a while, married local girls, and contributed to the gene pool!

**Free family activities, food  
vendors, seating & traditional  
market**



# Family Friendly Market

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Try Steel Pans**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June - Bubble hut & seed planting**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July - Epic bubble show & free books**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August - Sin Crew - Break Dancing  
show and lessons & Foreword Book Festival**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September - Circus Skills Workshops**

**Every 3rd Saturday of the month**

**Stowmarket Market Place | 9am - 3pm**





Mid Suffolk

## Armed Forces Veterans and their Families

We are delighted to share some exciting news with you.

**Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk has been awarded funding from the Veterans' Foundation to launch *Veteran Connect* – a brand-new initiative supporting Armed Forces veterans and their families across Mid Suffolk.**

This project, initially funded for one year, will deliver **accessible, impartial, and non-judgmental support**, with a particular focus on veterans living in rural communities. Many of these individuals face significant challenges in accessing vital services such as healthcare, housing, and employment.

*Veteran Connect* will help bridge these gaps by offering **personalised, localised support** and improved access to existing services.

At the heart of this project is a **dedicated Veteran Connect Adviser**, who will work closely with individuals and partner organisations to ensure that no veteran or family member is left behind.

We will be working **collaboratively** with local organisations to:

- Improve access to services for veterans and their families
  - Reduce duplication across the support landscape
- Enhance the quality of advice and guidance provided in our community

As the only Advice Quality Standard-accredited organisation in Mid Suffolk for benefits, debt, and disability advice, Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk is well-positioned to deliver high-quality, trusted support to those who need it most.

You will find more information on our website <https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/> under 'Veteran Connect'.



Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide in depth advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at [midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us](https://midsuffolkcab.org.uk/contact-us). Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

# **S.C. CLIFFORD**

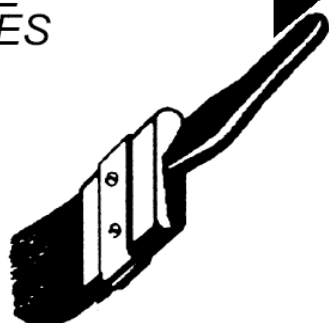
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## Friends of Debenham Library

**Suffolk  
Libraries**

Our normal service continues, and the Friends are planning some activities for families and children during the summer holidays. More details later. Meanwhile, will any swifts take up residence in the swift boxes from 7<sup>th</sup> May onwards?

Please note that the mobile library no longer stops at Debenham.

*Books, DVDs, WiFi, Computers, Printing/photocopying/scanning, CDs and audiobooks, downloadable films/music/audiobooks/ebooks, free reservations.*

*The room is available for hire outside opening hours*

Opening hours:



Tuesday: 0930 am –1300 pm    Wednesday: 1500 –1930 pm  
Saturday: 0900 am –1300 pm    Sunday: 1200 –1600 pm

**Email:** [debenham.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:debenham.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk)

**Facebook:** DebenhamLibraryAndFriends

**Tel:** 01728 861940

[www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/debenham-library](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/debenham-library)

On **May Day**, People danced around the tree poles in celebration of the end of winter and the start of the fine weather. The end results would be either a beautiful plaited pattern of ribbons round the pole or a tangled cat's cradle, depending on how much rehearsing had been done !

### Maypole Dancing

**Interesting Fact** - The tallest maypole is said to have been erected in London on the Strand in 1661; it stood over 143 feet high. It was felled in 1717, when it was used by Isaac Newton to support Huygen's new reflecting telescope.





Friends of Mendlesham Health Centre (incorporating Bacton Surgery)

**MENDLESHAM SUMMER FAIR 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE**

**Can you help out with a donation for our  
'Tombola' stall at this year's Fair?**

*Bottles Tins Packets ... etc.*



Contributions of any of the above would be greatly appreciated and may be left at Mendlesham Surgery,  
from **27<sup>th</sup> May.**

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6.30pm start

If you are interested in coming along, please contact me for further details: -

Amanda Wearing. Telephone: 01449 711674;

Email: [atwearing@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:atwearing@yahoo.co.uk)



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It's a *Bank Holiday!*

It may not be, as you read your Newsletter, but they are not far away! Two over Easter and two in May, and two weeks of World Snooker in the middle, it is more extended than Christmas and the New Year. Do we make good use of this 'leisure' time? 40% do home D.I.Y.; I'm not sure how much gardening counts towards that! Many go away for the week-end as holiday or visiting relations; that usually means being on the road/in a traffic jam on the Monday - a good excuse not to go far. Here, we tend to have the best weather in the country, some Octobers excepted, so people come here.

We live in a live village, with many facilities, which help the local economy: Our campsite is busy at the Bank Holiday week-ends; the dog park is used increasingly, The Railway puts us on the map, and the Black Barn now has a farm shop and cafe. Soon the Garage will have increased facilities, with their 24hr alcohol licence - that does not necessarily mean they will be open 24hours, of course. We hope that the influx of small children and noisy dogs are not too much of a nuisance, but we hope you are not too much of a complaining sort! Of course, constructive suggestions are welcome, ... but somebody ought to do something about .....

Anon. As usual!



Wetheringsett Manor

## Wetheringsett Manor School News

The Senior Leadership Team at Wetheringsett Manor finally undertook their skydive for charity (having have had their jump postponed multiple times) and they

went on the 5<sup>th</sup> April which was the first day of the Easter holidays and raised £3,642 for The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity.

Since the clocks changed the weather has started to improve, it is looking like it will be a warmer start for the Summer Term. We have lots of trips planned and some of our students will be undertaking their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions later in the term. It is also the start of the Exam season so we wish good luck to all our students who are taking their exams.







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## The F Word

Over the last few weeks, I have heard the F word a lot: in the media, at school in Church and at the Cathedral.

The F word is **Forgiveness**. It was the value that the pupils at the school were thinking about and discussing last term. With the children discussing what it means to them and learning how we can all make mistakes, the importance of saying sorry and forgiving their friends. During Lent St Edmundsbury Cathedral had an exhibition on Forgiveness their theme of Lent was 'Unforgivable', along with an exhibition -The F Word: Stories of Forgiveness. A thought-provoking collection of images and written accounts, the exhibition explored restorative justice and forgiveness in the face of atrocity. With examples of restorative justice (victims and perpetrators meeting each other) in England and Northern Ireland, and examining forgiveness in South Africa, America, Israel and Palestine. Looking at forgiveness as a healing process, a path out of victimhood and, ultimately, a journey of hope. The resources used are from The Forgiveness Project, founded in 2004 by journalist, providing resources and experiences to help people examine and understanding that forgiveness has the power to transform lives; not only supporting people to deal with issues in their own lives, but also building resilience, hope and empathy. In their Lent course they also asked - Are there things that are unforgivable? In our day to day lives we often ask for forgiveness and forgive daily. Sometimes it's easy and quick and doesn't take much effort to either say sorry or to forgive, for example for bumping into someone in a shop or for getting irritated with someone because once again they have left a wet towel on the bathroom floor.

But what about when someone has betrayed you, or committed a crime against you. Being able to truly forgive in those circumstances can be harder. Sometimes it is hard for a person to admit they have done something wrong or made a mistake, they can't see the other person's point of view. In reverse it can also be difficult to find forgiveness, especially if the other person doesn't say sorry. Or doesn't admit they have made a mistake. Do we ask why? To ask for forgiveness and be forgiven are both important for us in different ways.

Mentally, forgiveness can lead to a reduction in stress and anxiety. Holding onto grudges and bitterness is not good for us. Forgiveness allows us to release these burdens, offering peace, healing and liberation. It promotes healing and emotional well-being. It enables us to move past hurt and resentment, giving us empathy and understanding towards those who have wronged us. Why they did what they did. This can help improve our mood and enhance all our relationships. Spiritually, forgiveness connects us more deeply with God. It allows us to mirror God's mercy, so can we have a closer relationship with Him. By forgiving, we obey God's command, to receive His forgiveness. In the Bible, forgiveness is a powerful act of love and obedience. When Jesus teaches us how to pray in **Luke chapter 11 v1-4** One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John the disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

***'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins for we also forgive everyone who sins against us and lead us not into temptation.'***

In **Matthew chapter 18 v21-22**, Jesus teaches Peter about the extent of forgiveness, saying, ***"I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."***

**Ephesians chapter 4 v32** ***"be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."***

Words for us to use in our daily lives.

Emma Morris - Lightwave Schools and Families Minister



## South Hartismere Benefice

### MAY 2025

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**  
*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Thorndon  
Gislingham

10.00am  
10.30am

Together @ 10  
Holy Communion

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**  
*The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Stoke Ash  
Thornham Parva

10.30am  
10.30am

Worship for All  
Holy Communion

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**  
*The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Mellis  
Thorndon  
Gislingham  
Thorndon

10.30am  
10.30am  
10.30am  
4.00pm

Holy Communion  
Holy Communion  
Worship for All  
CONNECT

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**  
*The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

Wetheringsett  
Yaxley  
Thornham Magna

10.30am  
10.30am  
10.30am

Worship for All  
Worship for All  
Holy Communion

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May**  
*Ascension Day*

Mellis

7.00pm

Ascension Day Service

**Telephone Church BCP Holy Communion is on Thursdays at 11.00am**

**Contact:**



**Reverend Debbie Nicholls – Rector**  
[rev.d.nicholls@gmail.com](mailto:rev.d.nicholls@gmail.com) 07762 116 335

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

**facebook**

### Quote of the month

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.



# ***Michael Brame***

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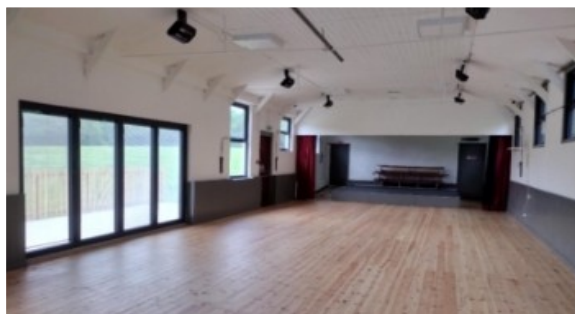
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Church and Town Estate Charity**

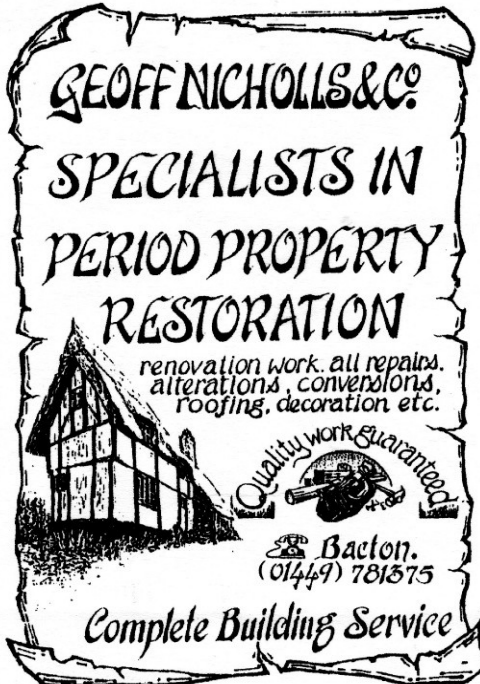
Notice is given of the Annual Meeting of the Charity.  
This will be held on Tuesday 13 May 2025,  
7pm at All Saints Church, Wetheringsett

**THE MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – PARISHIONERS ARE VERY  
WELCOME TO ATTEND TO HEAR ABOUT THE WORK OF THE CHARITY  
or RAISE ANY QUESTIONS**

**Agenda: -**

1. Apologies and consent to absence
2. Election of Chairman
3. Report on Charity activities 2023
4. Treasurer's Report
5. MEETING OPEN TO PARISHONERS

**Charity No. 209940**



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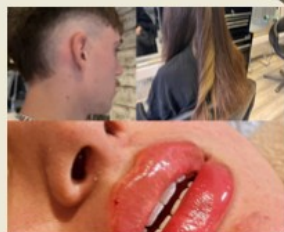
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(Please refer to Disclaimer on page 2)



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