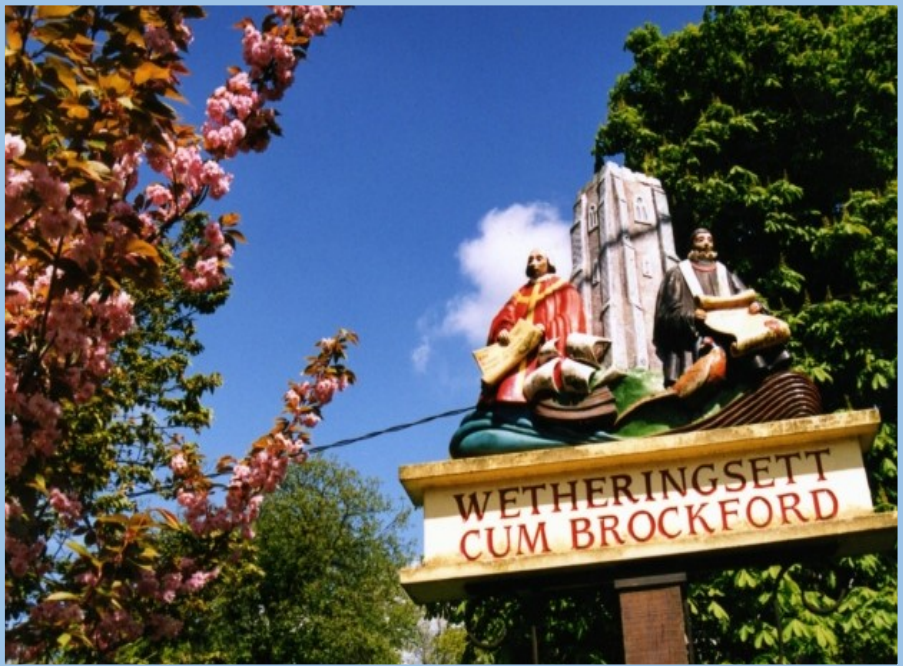


Wetheringsett -cum- Brockford



Newsletter

September 2026

USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish website;

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

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS ~ Sue Stannard 01449 767752

RECTOR ~ Rev'd Debbie Nicholls 07762 116335
(Rector of South Hartismere Benefice)

PCC SECRETARY ~ Emma Morris 01449 766117

CHURCH WARDEN ~ Tim Rowe 07775 872742

WETHERINGSETT V C PRIMARY SCHOOL 01449 766215
Executive Headteacher ~ Imogen Wallis imogen.wallis@wvcpschool.com
Head of School ~ Natalie Diwan mrsdiwan@wvcpschool.com
Chair of Governors ~ Jo Pitt

TREE WARDEN ~ Rachel Leech

TOWNLANDS TRUST ~ Lynne Cockerton 01728 862001

PARISH FOOTPATH WARDEN ~ Rachel Leech

RSPCA Suffolk Central ~ Ian Hendry 01449 767747

NON-EMERGENCY POLICE ~ Reporting, Info or Enquiries 101

MENDLESHAM HEALTH CENTRE 01449 767722

NEWSLETTER ~ Editor, Cally Buch 01449 766417

~ Adverts/Invoicing, Bernie Grindlay 07745 503967

~ Distribution, Sue & Eddie Payne 07857 686067

Email ~ wetheringsettnews@gmail.com

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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 September 2026 issue of your Newsletter



September, and the start of a new school year and, traditionally, thoughts of harvesting; which this year has had to be done much earlier than usual. Let's hope the heat waves and wild fires are over and the fields and gardens can now look forward to some much needed rain. It's frightening to contemplate how much wildlife has been lost this year—and how long it may take for things to readjust.

Much to look forward to this month: - the postponed fun dog show, now teamed with a 'Lazy Car boot sale'. I had to ask why 'lazy'? Well, apparently it's because it starts at 10am and not the 5:30/6am start of most car boot sales. (I have an uncomfortable feeling I might be the only person who didn't know that!) Also a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on 26th.

Check out our 'Village History' article on p.23 and marvel at how the A140 has changed in just over 120 years!

If you have any old photos of the village — any memories of past times, please contact me —



wetheringsettnews@gmail.com

or 07763 983 550 and we can arrange to share them through the newsletter.

Enjoy your month

Cally (Editor)

Dates for the Diary

September

Thursday 3rd

Saturday 5th

Saturday 26th

October

Friday 9th

Saturday 17th

School starts - Autumn Term

Fun Dog Show & Lazy Car Boot Sale

Macmillan Coffee Morning 10am-12pm

Village Quiz

Jumble Sale - Village Hall 10am-12pm

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

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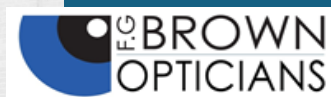
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Mid Suffolk

I hired a company to install concrete fencing and a gate in my back garden. The quality of the work is poor, some wooden panels are loose, and the gate doesn't shut properly. I paid before I inspected the work. What can I do?

When you put your trust in a trader and they don't meet your expectations it can be frustrating.

When there's a problem caused by a trader, you should be able to get it fixed or get some money back. Evidence is important - take photos and make notes about what happened and when, including times and dates, and keep hold of receipts or other proof of payment.

People can experience different types of problems with traders, and there's specific advice available on our website depending on what the issue is. In your situation, it's important to note if a trader hasn't done a good job with 'reasonable care and skill', the Consumer Rights Act 2015 entitles you to ask for the problem to be fixed or for a refund.

This is something you can mention when you take the problem up with the trader and cite your evidence. They should fix the problem within a reasonable amount of time, without causing you too much inconvenience. The law doesn't say what counts as reasonable, so you'll have to agree on it with them.

If they can't or won't fix the problem, you can ask for a partial or full refund, depending on how bad the problem is. You'll have to come to an agreement about how much you should get. It's a good idea to start by suggesting a figure and explaining why you think it's reasonable, then take it from there. Once you've agreed on the amount with the trader the law says you should get your refund within 14 days.

If you can't come to an agreement, or they refuse to fix the problem or give you a refund, there are other steps you could take - including complaining to your card provider if you paid by card.

You can check if the trader is a member of a trade association or quality scheme. If they are, they might have to follow certain rules, and if they've broken them, you could get help to take your complaint further. They might be part of an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) scheme - a way of solving disagreements with a trader without going to court - or they might agree to use one.

Continued on p.7 ...



Our first Draw took place last night (17 August), and we have now been in touch with our winners and are obtaining their Bank details so that we can transfer their winnings.

Second prize was won by number 002, Michael Wyett who will receive £26.25. First prize was won by number 034, Mandy Taylor who will receive £61.25.

Congratulations to you both!

The Wetheringsett Windfall is a simple, fun way to keep our historic Village Hall thriving while giving you a chance to win a lovely cash prize every single month.

You can view our simple 3-step instructions, set up your standing order, and read our FAQs, if you go to www.wetheringsettvillagehall.org.uk/wetheringsett-windfall

Remember, if you want to be in with a chance of winning next month you need to set your standing order up for the 1st of the month. Scan the QR Code for details.



**citizens
advice**

Mid Suffolk

ContinuedIf the trader isn't part of an ADR scheme, and you've already complained to your card provider and the complaint isn't resolved, you may be able to complain to the Financial Ombudsman Service.

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. Opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

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Friends of Debenham Library

Suffolk
Community Libraries

Reading Quest is our summer reading programme for children, , will formally finish on 31 August. We hope the children who took part enjoyed their reading and their visits to the library—and that they and their parents will continue to visit! Certificates will be issued in September.



The visit of Our Animal World on 19th August was once more very popular. Reptiles, insects, mammals, amphibians and even a small boa constrictor were passed around to be felt and admired. Other animals could be seen in the van afterwards.

Did you know....?

The library website (www.suffolk-community-libraries.co.uk) has a built-in translation facility - if you speak Polish, Lithuanian, Romanian, Portugese or Bengali, click on the Union Jack flag ("English") and you can choose one of them instead!

Lab in a Library visited on 27th August, whose workshops have been popular in other libraries. Both events were funded by the Friends of Debenham Library.

The **Book Group** continue to meet on the first Wednesday of each

month, 10.30am at Debenham Library. To register your interest in joining, please contact Maureen on 07507 802360 or ask at the library.

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.

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

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

Facebook: DebenhamLibraryAndFriends

Tel: 01728 587102

www.suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/libraries/debenham/



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If you're looking to start a project no matter on the size please get in touch and see how we can help you.

Adverts

The Wetheringsett-cum-Brockford newsletter is run on an entirely voluntary basis and is only made possible by the support of local firms and businesses, who pay for adverts placed. These payments meet the cost of printing, which is our only expense.

So, a big **THANK YOU** to all those placing adverts in the newsletter.....without you this local publication could not continue.

A message from your Parish Councillors

A REMINDER -

HAVE YOU SEEN ANY ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN OUR COMMUNITY?

We are lucky that we live in a village environment with all the benefit this gives us, however we all need to be vigilant and to report any behaviour we see that impacts either us or our neighbours.

Antisocial behaviour takes many forms. From aggressive, noisy or abusive behaviour (including vehicles, bicycles, e-bikes and e-scooters) to neighbourhood disturbances involving drugs, abandoned cars or animals and raves or unlicensed music events.

If you've witnessed antisocial behaviour, please report it to the Police. Your neighbourhood can be an area where you live, work, or visit often.

If you do see anything there are a couple of ways you can report it: -

You can access the Suffolk Constabulary site at

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

to report it online or by scanning the QR code.

You can ring 101 to report a non-emergency issue.

Remember to keep a record of the incident by maintaining a diary of incidents, including dates, times, and the impact it had on you.

I have a few jokes about unemployed people, but none of them work

I told my doctor that I broke my arm in two places, and he told me to stop going to those places.

I stayed up all night wondering where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

***What do you call a broken can opener?**
It can't opener.*

*My doctor said I was going deaf,
That was very difficult for me to hear.*

I'm reading a book on anti-gravity and I just can't put it down.



GREEN MAN

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Tree & Hedge Maintenance

Health Report & Advice

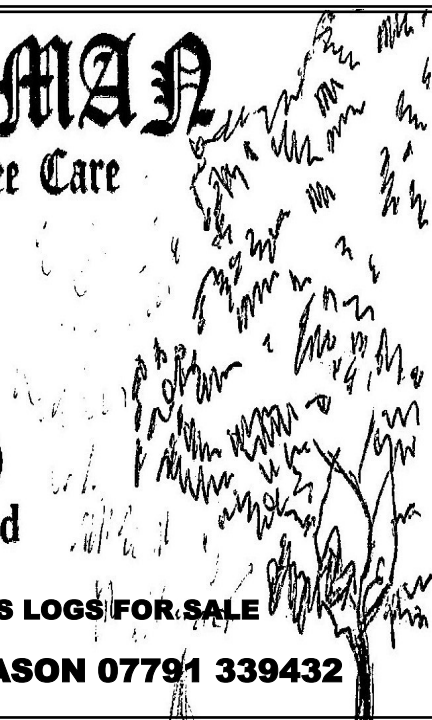
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A word from Sarah at Rosedale Bereavement Support...

As I write, the school summer holidays have just begun.

For those who are bereaved, holidays may feel very different, especially when a partner has died.

When someone dies there are many losses. The **Primary loss** is the death of the person themselves but there are also many other **Secondary losses**. The types of losses felt will vary, when a close parent dies, the adult child may feel they have lost their best friend, advisor, mentor or shoulder to cry on in a crisis.



When a partner dies, it is often the practical everyday losses that hit the hardest, due to constant everyday reminders. That person may have played many different roles in the relationship, such as cook, cleaner, gardener etc. Suddenly being responsible for all household tasks can feel

extremely overwhelming.

Where there are children to care for, this now becomes the sole responsibility of the surviving parent which can be a heavy burden to bear.

Many bereaved people say the biggest loss is often companionship- someone to watch TV with, talk about the day over dinner or go on holiday with. It is often the simple things we miss, such as making plans together, deciding what to eat for the week ahead or even just being together in companionable silence.

Though we can never replace that special person and the roles they played in our life, it can be helpful to think about who else could help to fill some of the gaps left behind. Perhaps there is a single friend who would also like to go on holiday or for a day trip? When a family member offers help with odd jobs or gardening, take them up on their offer.

If you belong to a supportive church, friendship circle or community group, accept those invitations for coffee or lunch or maybe initiate an invitation yourself? Maybe contact an old friend you haven't seen in a while and suggest a meet up.

Continued over

Helping and supporting others can also provide purpose and ease the loneliness and isolation of grief.

It may feel difficult at first but strengthening and developing our existing networks and building new ones can provide emotional support, practical help, companionship and connection.



When we have lost someone who brought so much to our life, connecting with others in a meaningful way can help to ease the burden of grief.

If you would like to join one of our bereavement groups in your area, visit rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk or call 01379 640 810 for more information. All groups are free and confidential.

This article was written by Sarah Howard, Rosedale Funeral Home Bereavement Support Group Facilitator



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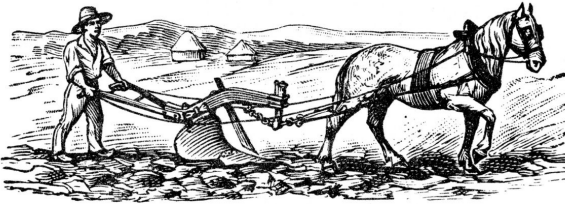
Brockford Station, Wetheringsett, IP14 5PW

Suffolk's award winning only standard gauge heritage railway

The Middy bar will be open, from 6pm, on Friday evenings, until 25th September. The Middy is closed for events now until the Santa Specials that run on December 6th/12th/13th/19th/20th/21st. Be sure to get your tickets early as this popular event sells very quickly.

Did you know that (excluding the special event days) village residents can get free access to the Middy? You will need to get a 'Residency' card for this—which can be obtained by providing your name and address and a stamped address envelope. The Middy will not be issuing any now until March next year and details of how to do this will be published in the newsletter then

What is a Hundred?



There are the Chiltern Hundreds and we are part of the Hartismere Hundred. It is not 100 parishes. I have always thought it was an area that had to send 100 men to support the king in time of need. It is actually

better defined: it is the division of 100 hides of land, the district that had to find the 100 warriors. As time progressed it became the area to support 100 peasant families. So what is a 'hide'. Certainly not an acre, because it would take twice the area of Breckland than Brockford to support 100 households. But then, an acre was the area a man could plough in a day - twice as much and easy in the Brecks! But, again, we are on 4horse land and the Brecks would be 2horse land. Perhaps that's the difference between the folk of Suffic and Narfic!!

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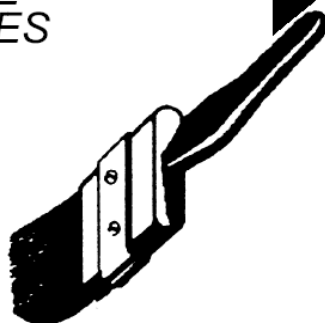
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SATURDAY
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WETHERINGSETT VILLAGE HALL

All welcome!



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AT

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ON SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2026

FROM 10AM TO 1PM

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**WETHERINGSETT
LAZY CAR
BOOT SALE
& FUN DOG SHOW**



**Saturday 5 September 2026
10am to 1pm**

Wetheringsett Village Hall

FREE ENTRY

Refreshments available

**SATURDAY
5TH SEPTEMBER
10AM - 1PM**

WETHERINGSETT LAZY CAR BOOT SALE

SELLERS ARRIVE FROM 9AM

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[pta-events.co.uk/
wetheringsett](http://pta-events.co.uk/wetheringsett)



Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council

Report of meeting held 3 August 2026

Parish Council Vacancy – the Parish Council is very keen to fill the current vacancy on the Council and would be very pleased to hear from any interested parishioner, 18 years and over. If you think you may be interested please do speak to a Councillor or the Clerk, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Meetings are held monthly on the first Monday evening of the month at Wetheringsett Village Hall at 7pm. The work of the council is varied and covers the management of all things to do with the community including planning, highways including potholes, trees, footpaths, play area, maintaining the council's finances, the parish website and generally the wellbeing of the parish and its parishioners. Please do attend a meeting to observe the council in action if you think you may be interested. Next meeting Monday 7 September 2026, 7pm at the Village Hall.

Telephone Kiosk damage – the Council is progressing repair of the damage caused to the stained glass panel in the kiosk. It is hoped the panel will be replaced shortly.

Anti-Social behaviour – complaints of anti-social behaviour in the village have been received. This has been reported to Suffolk Police. Parishioners are urged to make their own complaints known to Suffolk Police where necessary.

County Councillor – following the Government boundary changes the new county councillor for Wetheringsett, Cllr Matthew Hicks was welcomed to the meeting. Matthew reported on concerns over plans to progress the proposed A140 Major Road Network (MRN) scheme questioning whether the construction of a new link road represents a long-term solution to traffic and road safety issues at the A140/A1120 junction, clarity on the scheme, its impact on local residents and businesses, and whether alternative options have been properly considered were necessary. The junction has been a problem for many years and has been on Suffolk CC's radar for improvement. Local residents deserve clarity on the proposed timetable, options considered and compensation and support available to those directly affected.

Planning Concerns - were raised over the proposed EcoPower Suffolk solar farm and battery energy storage project proposed on 2,200 acres including land between Thrandeston and Mellis, north of Occold, north of Gislingham, north and east of Eye, and south and east of Stuston. The final planning decision will be made by the Secretary of State. Suffolk CC has objected on the grounds the land is best quality farmland and its impact on local communities.

Date of next meeting: Monday 7 September 2026, 7pm at Wetheringsett Village Hall.

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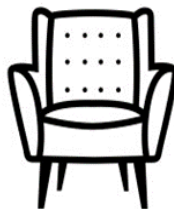
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Village History – Brockford 1905

A140 looking north. Notice the bay window on Bridge House, which is no longer there, and how the road was much lower then.

In the lower (enlarged) photo you can make out the pub sign of 'The Griffin' on the right, a gentleman strolling past Rookyards, and in the distance a horse and trap. And - Blissnot an HGV in sight!





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£50.00 for half a day (up to 5 hours) and
£120.00 for a full day (incl. the evening)**



Wetheringsett Manor School News

It has been a busy summer at Wetheringsett, with lots of exciting changes taking place around the school!

We are delighted to have a brand-new staff room area for staff to work in, and Goods In area. These fantastic new spaces will provide a much-improved environment for our staff and help us to continue making Wetheringsett an even better place to work and learn.

We would also like to say a huge congratulations to all of our pupils who received their GCSE results. We are incredibly proud of all their hard work and achievements. We wish everyone heading off to college the very best of luck for the next chapter of their journey — we know you will do brilliantly!

Finally, we are looking forward to the start of the new term in September and are excited to welcome our new pupils to Wetheringsett Manor. We hope they settle in quickly and enjoy being part of our school community.

Here's to an exciting new school year!



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			4		9			
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								5
6		4		7		2		
		1	2			9		3

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SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER

WETHERINGSETT VILLAGE HALL

10AM - 12PM

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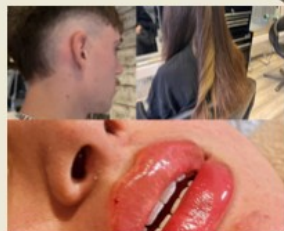
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South Hartismere Benefice

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday 6th September

The 14th Sunday after Trinity

Thorndon
Gislingham

10.00am Together @ 10
10.30am Harvest Holy Communion

Sunday 13th September

The 15th Sunday after Trinity

Mellis
Stoke Ash

10.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Worship for All

Sunday 20th September

The 16th Sunday after Trinity

Thorndon
Thornham Parva
Gislingham **Village Hall**
Yaxley

10.30am Holy Communion
10.30am Harvest Holy Communion
3.00pm God and Play
6.00pm Harvest Festival

Sunday 27th September

The 17th Sunday after Trinity

Thornham Magna
Wetheringsett

10.30am Harvest Holy Communion
10.30am Welcome to Harvest Holy Communion

Telephone Church BCP Holy Communion is on Thursdays at 11.00am

Contact:



Reverend Debbie Nicholls – Rector
rev.d.nicholls@gmail.com 07762 116 335

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A Dangerous Calling*

One of my favourite moments in the film “Darkest Hour” is towards the very end, when the members of the House of Commons start boisterously applauding Churchill’s call to stand up to Hitler’s tyranny and waving their white handkerchiefs in the process. At the end of Churchill’s great rallying cry, the M.P. sitting next to Lord Halifax asks him in a bemused sort of way, “What just happened?” and Halifax replies, “Winston mobilised the English Language and sent it into battle”. Five hundred years ago, the great Bible translator, William Tyndale, did a similar thing - he mobilised the English Language and sent it into battle on behalf of the plough boy.

In 1526, copies of Tyndale’s translation into English of the New Testament were smuggled from the Continent and sent down the Thames. So dangerous and so subversive were these Bibles considered to be, that as many copies as possible were ceremonially burnt outside St Paul’s Cathedral by the then Bishop of London, Cuthbert Tunstall. The Bibles used in parish churches at the time, the Vulgate, were in Latin and could therefore be understood only by an almost exclusively male, educated and wealthy elite. This left the vast majority of the population at the mercy of the rich and powerful for their understanding of scripture and so religion was being used not as a means of liberating the poor, as Christ had taught, but of control. It was this abuse of power which Tyndale sought to overturn and he brought his phenomenal linguistic powers to bear in the process.

Tyndale was a brilliant linguist who could speak several European languages and had studied Latin and Greek at university which gave him the great advantage of being able to translate from the original scriptures. But in addition to all this, he was a man with the soul of an artist. Most of us have heard of the King James Bible of 1611, one of the most influential books of all time, but what we may not realise is that 83% of the New Testament was lifted straight from Tyndale’s translation, his words could not be improved on. Phrases that were his creation are still in use today – “the apple of his eye”, “salt of the earth”, “sign of the times”, “a law unto themselves”, “the powers that be”, “eat, drink and be merry”, “a wolf in sheep’s clothing” and so many more. His ear for the music of language has meant that his words have a poetry which has taken hold in the popular imagination and they still resonate with us today.

He was a man of astonishing genius, but within 10 years of the arrival in England of his monumental translation, Tyndale was dead. He had lived much of his adult life as an exile, on the run and in hiding in Continental Europe. He was betrayed by a student friend of his from Oxford, was imprisoned and finally martyred by being strangled and burnt at the stake in 1536. But within two years of his death, thanks to another extraordinary man, Thomas Cromwell, there was a copy of the Bible in English in every parish church in the land.

Alison Williamson - Lay Elder

** A Dangerous Calling is the title of the exhibition at St Paul’s Cathedral where one of only 3 surviving copies of Tyndale’s original translation is on view. The exhibition runs until 27th February 2027.*



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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)

Village defibrillators



There are 2 defibrillators in the village: one at the entrance to the village hall and one on the external wall next to the large gates at Greenacres Park, Mill Lane. They are both easily accessed and in well lit areas, with instructions on how to use them next to them.

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Next visit: Thursday 10th September

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Cllr Stephen Alderton VICE CHAIR	stephen.alderton@wetheringsettcumbrockford-pc.gov.uk		
Cllr Stephen Dodgson	stephen.dodgson@wetheringsettcumbrockford-pc.gov.uk	07771 780 414	
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District Councillor: Andrew Stringer	Andrew.Stringer@midsuffolk.gov.uk	01449 780 339	
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