

Lookout Magazine

The Parish Magazine for
Alphamstone, Lamarsh,
Great & Little Henny, Middleton,
Twinstead & Wickham St Pauls



September 2025



Twinstead Family Fun Cricket Day

Sun 28th Sept. BBQ & Bar. Start time 12 noon
Twinstead Cricket Club, Church Road, Twinstead
Do come and play - no experience necessary!

This will be fun Villagers v TCC event - not a fund raiser.

All Welcome

Residents from surrounding villages welcome to take part too!

Do let us know if you'll be attending
so we can get our nominal price catering right.

Players / Team volunteers please get in touch
Call 01787 269391 - please leave a message.

WHO TO CONTACT

Team Rector	Rev Gill Morgan	revgillmorgan@outlook.com 584993 Day off: Friday
Team Vicar	Rev Claire Wilkinson	revclairewilkinson@outlook.com 269873 Day off: Friday
Team Administrator	Fiona Wildblood	fiona@northhinckfordteam.org (working hours 9:00am-4:00pm Tues & Thurs) 07867 334322

The Church of St Barnabus, Althamstone

Churchwarden	Adrian Huggins	269151	
Magazine Contact	Melinda Varcoe	269570	melindavarcoe@gmail.com

The Church of St Mary the Virgin, Great & Little Henny

Churchwarden	Jeremy Milbank	269720	
Magazine Contact	Stella Bixley	269317	stellabixley@gmail.com

The Church of the Holy Innocents, Lamarsh

Churchwarden	Andrew Marsden	227054	
Magazine Contact	Bret & Rosemary Johnson	227988	bretuk89@yahoo.co.uk

The Church of All Saints, Middleton

Churchwarden	Sue North	370558	
Magazine Contact	Jude Johnson	582559	judevh11@hotmail.co.uk

The Church of St John the Evangelist, Twinstead

Churchwarden	Henrietta Drake	269083	
Magazine Contact	David Holland	269693	twinsteadlookout@gmail.com

The Church of All Saints, Wickham St Pauls

Churchwardens	Janice Rudd	269789	
	Ann Robertson	269624	
Magazine Contact	Susannah Goodbody	269250	gdby@goodbodys.net

www.northhinckfordteam.org

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/northhinckfordteam

Magazine Editor: Susannah Goodbody
gdby@goodbodys.net

Magazine Advertising:
Jude Johnson 01787 582559
Flint Cottage, Church Road
Bulmer Tye
CO10 7EH
advertisinglookout@gmail.com

Magazine Treasurer: Pamela Holland 01787 269693
Email: pameladorothyholland@gmail.com

Email:

Please note all copy to be emailed to the editor by the 8th of the month, thank you

Dear Reader,
 Congratulations to 3 observant readers, Alison, Pat and Paul who all gave correct answers, and live in Wickham – the photograph was of the pond by Wickham Church and Wickham Hall! So what about photographs from your village for readers to guess? Just a bit of fun..... Please send your contribution for the next issue.

This month has a heap of events in so many of our villages, which we do hope you will support – come and see friends, support a cause, remember times gone by. We are so lucky in our area to have such an environment that gives itself to our lives and allows us to live as we do – long may this go on, and we all have to help and support events and clubs etc to encourage this life to continue.

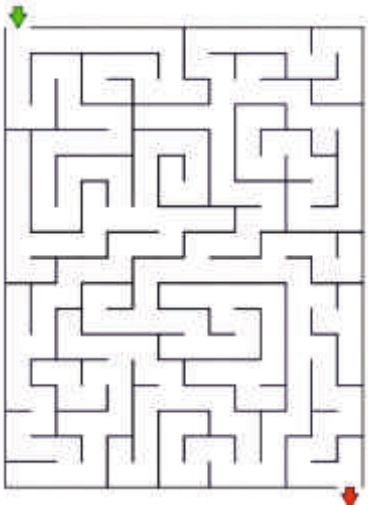
I hope you are able to enjoy yourself, and maybe at the same time help others to do so.
 With my very good wishes to you
Susannah


Sudoku Solution on page 39

		7	3					
		4			6		3	9
	9			7				4
5		9		2				
					4		2	
2				6			1	
1	3		5			2		
				4	5			

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Maze





Belchamp Bears



Bumps to pre-schoolers with their responsible adults are invited to join us

Monday mornings, 10.30 am – 12.00 noon

At Belchamp St Paul Church.

Play, craft, chat, drinks, cake, stories and prayer time!

North Hinckford Service Rota September 2025

	7th September Twelfth Sunday after Trinity <i>Green</i>	14th September Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity <i>Green</i>	21st September Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity <i>Green</i>	28th September Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity <i>Green</i>
ALWAYS CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ANY CHANGES AND UPDATES www.northhinckfordteam.org				
Alphamstone	9.30am Morning Prayer BCP Lay-led	9.30am Harvest Holy Communion		
Belchamp Otten				5.00pm Harvest Service
Belchamp St Paul		3.00pm Belchamp's Harvest Festival on the Playing Field		Café Worship Refreshments served from 10.15am 10.30am at Bulmer 
Belchamp Walter			11.15am Holy Communion	
Borley	11.15am Holy Communion			
Bulmer		11.15am Harvest Holy Communion		
Foxearth		10.30am Morning Praise Lay-led	9.30am Holy Communion	
Henny	9.30am Holy Communion			
Lamarsh			11.15am Holy Communion	
Liston				
Middleton	11.15am Holy Communion			
Ovington	9.30am Holy Communion			
Pentlow		11.15am Holy Communion		
Twinstead				4.00pm Harvest Holy Communion
Wickham St Paul			2.00pm Pet and Harvest Service on the Village Green	

Pastoral Ponderings



I have been pondering on 'hidden treasures'. I wonder if perhaps many of us have hidden treasures; gifts and skills that perhaps we are too modest to talk about, show off or even use?

Perhaps we store up our material treasures for that rainy day but when that day comes we decide to save it for the storm?

Each of us will have treasures, be it practical, material, emotional, spiritual, gifts of creativity, organisation, administration and many more but I wonder, what do we do with them? I came across a little quote the other day that said, "I have lots of hidden talents... the problem is, even I can't find them"!

Sometimes in our efforts to keep humble or private, we keep our treasures to ourselves, but I can't help thinking what a waste that is.

As Autumn moves on I notice the hidden treasures in the hedgerows, as the flowers of spring and summer turn to fruit and berries. For animal, bird or human that enjoys foraging, they are there to share and, for those not taken, to seed they go.

Our church buildings are often described as hidden treasures, with many of them having remained unchanged since the Reformation. Here they have stood for hundreds and even a thousand years, with purpose and presence. The church, of course, is more than a building, it is the people of God, who are in the business of following Jesus.

In Jesus' time, there were no church buildings and so when the word 'church' is used in the Bible it always refers to people. For the most part, early Christians were dependent on those who owned larger houses, providing a safe place for meeting. Early Christians were persecuted so meeting in a big public building would have been very risky!

Over the years, people have expressed and deepened their faith and devotion by gathering together and when homes became too small, and the Christian faith grew, large buildings were built to glorify God!

People living in our villages will all have different views of the importance of a church building and its purpose and significance in each community. Our buildings are sacred places of worship. They are a visible reminder of God's presence and the walls are soaked in prayer, song, words and music. The floors and pews hold the life stories of love, sorrow and new birth of hundreds of years. They are places for private, communal and public prayer, for reflection, stillness and where people may feel closer to God. They are also very practical places for people to meet together, find shelter and fellowship.

I wonder, are these sacred buildings and hidden treasures, losing their original purpose, even though they hold so much history and so many stories? I do hope not!

I invite you to take a visit to your local church building, to sense the stories of it's past, the spiritual sacredness that still fills it and to ponder on what your local church means to your community. You might even find some sacred space to reflect on your own 'hidden treasures'. As I ponder, I hope that neither our sacred buildings nor our own personal treasures are being hidden away, lost or even going to seed.

With prayers,

Rev Gill

The following has been supplied by a reader, for which Thank You So Much:

'We plough the fields and scatter'

This is such a traditional Harvest hymn that many will recognise it when hearing the first few evocative plain notes. It is often used at a farmer's funeral even if it is not the season for 'ploughing and scattering'.

The hymn was written by a German, Matthias Claudius in 1783. He had written a poem for a rural harvest festival and this hymn was part of it and known as the Peasant's Song. It then appeared in Catholic and Protestant hymn books in Germany, the music being written by Schultz in 1800. It was translated into English in 1861. The hymn is used in Switzerland and in America for Thanksgiving.

As well as those evocative notes for the first line, we again have single notes before the start of the chorus.

Farmers still have the seasons for '*ploughing and scattering*' - or drilling as it is now called. The farmer waits for '*the breezes, the sunshine and soft refreshing rain*'. But it is often difficult to '*be thankful*' after deluges of rain or periods of drought.

The farmer is happy to harvest and gather the '*good gifts*' that then grace our shop shelves.

But not only must we be thankful for those '*good gifts around us*', we must also appreciate that supply can be fickle. Weather, political tensions between nations and ash clouds from volcanoes can all lead to some empty shelves in the supermarket.

The farmer, with God's help will do his best. He always has, and always will, just as God will continue to be maker of all things '*near and far*'.

*** Please see Henny's Preservation Society Working Day on page 24 ***

Smile Lines



Knock knock What do you get when you cross an atheist with a Jehovah's Witness?

Someone who knocks at your door for no apparent reason.

Our current shopping list 2025

Food items

- Tinned fruit
- Instant Snacks (Pot Noodles etc.)
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned fish
- Microwave rice
- UHT milk
- Cereal (small boxes)

Non food items

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Toothbrushes



We ask for small packs as larger packs do not fit in our boxes making it difficult for our clients to carry home. Also, we are unable (for hygiene reasons) to split large size or catering packs.

We follow the standards set by the Food Standards Agency. We can only accept donations of unopened and undamaged goods that are still well within their "use by" date (no less than six months if possible). Items which do not meet these requirements cannot be used and your donation may be wasted.



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Braintree Area Foodbank supports the whole of the Braintree District including Halstead, Sible Hedingham Witham and surrounding villages.

SIX VILLAGES DIARY DATES

W.S.P. Post Office opens Tuesday 10.00 – 1.00pm, and Thursday 9.00-1.00 in the Village Hall.

Bowls every Monday 2.00-4.30 in Wickham Village Hall.

For Lamarsh's regular events please see Lamarsh pages. Church Service Rotas on page 5.

September

Tues 2	2.00	Craft Group	Parish Rm, Henny
Thurs 4	10.30-1.30	150 th Anniversary	V.Hall, Lamarsh
Sat 6	1.00	Dog Show	The Green, W.S.P.
Tues 9	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall, Alphamstone
“	2.00	Tea & Chat	The Church, Middleton
Sat 13	9.00	Ride & Stride	All churches
“	10.00-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall, Twinstead
Tues 16	9.30-11.30	Crafty Women	Carters Café, W.S.P
Fri 19	12.30-1.30	Sandwiches & Cake	V.Hall, W.S.P.
Sun 21	2.00	Pet & Harvest Service	The Green, W.S..P.
“	5.00	Social Club Evening	V.Hall, Alphamstone
Tues 23	10.30-12.00	Macmillan Cof.Morning	V.Hall, Alphamstone.
Sun 28	12.00	Family Cricket Day	Cricket Gr., Twinstead
“	4.00	Harvest Festival	Twinstead Church

October

Thurs 2	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall, Lamarsh
Sat 4	2.00-4.00	Jumble Sale	V.Hall, W.S.P.
Sun 5	11.00	Farm Machinery Day	Great Henny
	11.30	Harvest Festival	Middleton Church
Tues 7	2.00	Craft Group	Parish Rm, Henny
Sat 11	10.00-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall Twinstead
“	7.00 pm	Quiz Night	V.Hall, W.S.P.
“	7.15 for 7.30	Gin-Tastic	Middleton Church
Fri 17	12.30-1.30	Sandwich & Cake Lunch	V.Hall, W.S.P.
Sat 18	10.00-1.00	Coffee & Swop	Henny Parish Room
“		Trafalgar Day Fireworks	V.Green, W.S.P.
Tues 21	9.30-11.30	Crafty Women	Carter's Café, W.S.P.

November

Thurs 6	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall, Lamarsh
Sat 8	Evening	Wine For Christmas	Parish Room, Henny
Sat 15	?	Winter Warmer Supper	V.Hall, Alphamstone
Sat 29	?	Craft Fair	V.Hall, Lamarsh
	10.00-3.00	Wood Carving Workshop	V.Hall, Alphamstone

December

Tues 2	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall, Alphamstone
Thurs 4	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	V.Hall, Lamarsh
Sat 6	?	C/mas Market	Middleton Church
	?	C/mas Lights Switch On	The Green, W.S.P.
Sat 13	?	C/mas Wreath Making	V.Hall, Alphamstone
Sun 21	?	Carol Service	Middleton Church
Wed 24	6.00 pm	Carol Service	W.S.P. Church

January

Sat 24	10.00-1.00	Coffee & Swop	Parish Rm, Henny
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Formed in 1975, the Charity is an Educational Trust that administers funds from investments, in the form of grants to local young people.

Educational Grants Available

The Earls Colne and Halstead Educational Charity offers grants to individuals, schools and voluntary groups and is keen to encourage applications to provide support for suitable projects that would benefit local young people

Projects previously funded include: the purchase of equipment such as mini tennis nets, specialist equipment for those competing in sports or arts, first aid training, expeditions and guide/scout events

To qualify, applicants must:

- be aged between 5 and 25*
- have lived or attended school for at least one year within the Charity's area of benefit (catchment area) *

* Voluntary groups must cater for young people in this age range and be located within our catchment area



Find out more:

More information about the Charity and application forms can be found on our website – www.echec.org.uk.

Alternatively, email: - earlscolnehalstead.edcharity@yahoo.co.uk

Formed in 1975, the Charity is an Educational Trust that administers funds from investments, in the form of grants to local young people.

Are you studying for a degree or about to start a degree course?

The Earls Colne and Halstead Educational Charity offers
Resource Grants to young people studying
undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses
(excluding one or two year Foundation courses and including recognised
level 4 courses).

To qualify, applicants must:

- be aged between 18 and 25
- have attended school *or* have lived, for at least one year, within the Charity's area of benefit (catchment area).

Note: Grants are not means-tested and anyone can apply as long as you meet the above criteria.



Find out more:

More information about the Charity and application forms can be found on our website – www.echec.org.uk.

Alternatively email - earlscolnehalstead.edcharity@yahoo.co.uk .

NSPCC COLCHESTER BOOK FAIR

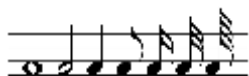
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**Contact telephone numbers, and collection points for donations
are listed on the website:**



www.nspcc-bookfair.org.uk



Musical events in June



Duynvolck, a group of folk musicians from Holland and East Anglia, came to Lamarsh Church on Thursday 19th June to give an evening's entertainment, with proceeds to go to the church.

They played a huge variety of instruments. It was a very enjoyable and exciting performance - sometimes at breathtaking speeds! Music from Ireland, Scotland, England and Holland.

It was a nice link with our friend Desmond Bridge to know that Duynvolck had called at his new home in Yorkshire and given a performance to him and some of his neighbours.

The Gainsborough Collective gave another of their occasional concerts in the Friends Meeting House in Sudbury on Saturday 21st June – this time with delicious afternoon tea served afterwards in the garden, where we were able to chat to the performers. It was an additional delight to be in that garden, which has a very peaceful feel and is the graveyard of a number of Sudbury Friends.

We are all looking forward to hearing when the Collective will give their next performance – look out for the notices!

Local Bus Guide

DART Bus Service works within our area and can be used by ringing 0115 777 3187 or dart@central-connect.co.uk to book a place. A postcode is required and they will give you times for collection and drop-off. A single fare without concessions is £3.

DaRT 3 Service



Serving North East Braintree

Demand Response Transport (DaRT) is an alternative way of providing access to key services in rural areas.

DaRT services differ from bus services as they are flexible and may divert on and off route to collect and drop off passengers within their operating area.

DaRT 3 is available Monday to Saturday from 6am - 8pm (no operation on Bank Holidays).

To book DaRT 3 call 0115 777 3187 or email dart@central-connect.co.uk

Please note that email bookings are not confirmed until you have received a response from the DaRT booking centre. All DaRT bookings are subject to availability.



Delivering on behalf of:



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Citizens Advice Tips

As music lovers gear up for a summer of festivals and big gigs, Citizens Advice is urging fans to watch out for ticket scams – and make sure they don't miss out on all the fun by falling for a fake.

Jane Parsons, Consumer Expert at Citizens Advice, said: “With so many people excited for a summer of live music, scammers see a golden opportunity to catch out event-goers with fake tickets.

Jane's top tips for people are:

1. Stick to official sellers: Buy tickets directly from the event organiser, venue, or official artist sites as this way you'll know it's genuine and at the original price. Don't buy tickets from a website if:

- it's offering tickets which aren't officially on sale yet
- it could be hard to contact the company selling them - for example if they only have a PO Box address and mobile number

2. Use fan-to-fan platforms and reselling sites carefully: If the event's sold out, you can try using reputable fan-to-fan resale sites that cap prices at face value and offer refunds if tickets turn out to be invalid or misdescribed.

Reselling (or secondary ticketing) sites resell tickets bought from official sellers and others, including private sellers. Some events have their own rules about reselling tickets or procedures for doing so and it's worth checking the terms and conditions of an event for this information before you spend any money.

You should also make sure the reselling site you use tells you:

- what kind of tickets you're buying - for example your seat number or if the tickets are for a standing area or has a restricted view
- your unique reference number for your tickets so that if you can't tell where you'll be sitting or standing you can use them to check with the original seller.

3. Always pay by card - never cash or bank transfer: You should pay for tickets online with a credit or debit card. If you use a card and there's a problem, for example the tickets are fake, your bank will usually help you get your money back. Be very careful if a reselling site asks you to pay by bank transfer - this might be a scam.

4. Watch out for red flags - if it's too good to be true, then it probably is: Be wary of vague listings, last-minute deals, or low prices that seem too good to be true. Scammers will also often say things like “only one left!” or “need to sell urgently” to push you into a quick sale — especially on social media or messaging apps. If a seller can't provide clear ticket details, refund terms, or asks to “DM you privately”, think twice.

5. Don't fall for pressure tactics by private sellers: If you buy tickets from a private seller, you'll have little protection if you don't get what you expect - for example the tickets

don't arrive. It's best to meet the seller face to face before you pay them - meet them in a public place and take someone with you. Don't be tempted to buy from someone selling tickets in the street near the venue - the tickets might be fake.

If you've experienced a problem with ticket scams, you can **report any issues to Citizens Advice Consumer Service.**

Helen Arbon Public Relations Officer

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If you want to get in touch with Sudbury & South Suffolk Citizens Advice we ask for some information about yourself and the issue you want help with. We use this to provide you with advice, as well as to improve our service and inform our campaigns. If you want more detail about your rights and how we use your information, you can read our privacy notice, which we have recently updated. This can be found on our website <https://sudburycab.org.uk/privacy> along with our email disclaimer. <https://sudburycab.org.uk/disclaimers>.

If you need advice on a consumer problem, head to the Citizens Advice website.



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Essex Libraries

New free services for you with your library card!

Roll up, roll up, new free services have arrived at Essex Library Service - LinkedIn Learning and Freegal Music!

Learn something new with LinkedIn Learning, with their selection of over 24,000 expert-led courses on a variety of subjects. Whether you're looking to upskill at work, change careers, get creative, improve your wellbeing, or just learn for fun, LinkedIn Learning has something for you.

Love music and want to stream for free? Try Freegal! Listen to over 18 million songs from over 200 genres, from Adele to Billy Joel, Bob Dylan to Miranda Lambert! Enjoy unlimited tracks on your devices anywhere and everywhere.

Both services are available free to library card holders. To start using them, visit the Essex Library Service website: libraries.essex.gov.uk.

Increase your digital and money skills

A new course being rolled out across Essex aims to give you the skills and confidence to tackle everyday digital and financial tasks.

Created by Essex Libraries and run in partnership with Barclays Eagle Labs and Digital Essex, the Digital Levelling Up course will take place in libraries over five sessions lasting between an hour and 90 minutes each. It's led by library staff known as 'Digital Champions'.

Keep your eyes on our events page where details will be shared as we put courses in place.

For more details about Digital Levelling Up and where it's happening visit the Essex Library Service website: libraries.essex.gov.uk.

Smile Lines

Share There are only two things a young child will share willingly – communicable diseases and mum's age.



Crafty Women

Enjoying Crafts Together

After the Summer tasks perhaps you would like a morning working at some craft. You will be made most welcome to join us at Crafty Women on **Tuesday September 16th at Carter's Cafe, Coxes Farm Shop at Wickham St Pauls from 9 30 - 11 30am.**

Enjoy exchanging hints and ideas as well as general chatter and good refreshments from the cafe.

Hope to see you there!

After that we meet again on **Tuesday October 21st**

More details from Rosemary Ingram 07958 744421 rjingham@outlook.com

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Alphamstone

Magazine Contact **Melinda Varcoe 01787 269570**



Melinda Varcoe writes:

There's a distinctly wistful, sepia tinge to the month of September; if you only see it as the end of summer, you can find yourself indulging in the sort of melancholy and sentimental regret that the Portuguese call 'saudade'. On the other hand it can herald the most beautiful golden days, riots of gorgeous natural colour, fruitfulness and plenty, and the pleasant thought that it will soon be OK to light the fire in the evening and curl up with a book. See what I mean? It's all about attitude of mind.

And having things to look forward to - which brings me to The Proms, that absolutely amazing and wonderful feast of music, lasting two months, and culminating in the biggest, most life-affirming party of the year, The Last Night. This year it falls on Saturday 13th September, and will doubtless be the usual mixture of wonderful performances, high spirits, flags, hats, and utterly devoted music fans we've enjoyed for so many years – almost since Henry Wood first conducted his symphony orchestra in 1895, though things were a little more po-faced back then. Looking at the multiplicity of music and international performers in the 80 concerts this year is a humbling experience – I love it every year, but this year the concerts I've enjoyed seem to have been spectacularly good. Nowhere else in the world is this sort of quality and diversity celebrated with such professionalism, attention to detail, inclusivity and sheer joy, and whether we're flag-wavers or not, we can be proud of it. The huge affection evident between the Prommers and the performers is real, demonstrating an admiration and respect which means that even in a hall holding 5,900 over-excited enthusiasts, there are often moments when you could literally hear a pin drop.

Although it was in London's 18c pleasure gardens that informal 'promenade'concerts originated, allowing people to stroll about, eat and drink while enjoying music, it was impresario Robert Newman, who announced in rather patronising tones to Henry Wood in 1894, “[I want to run]... nightly concerts, and train the public by easy stages. Popular at first, gradually raising the standard until I have created a public for modern and classical music”. The Proms have changed a great deal since then - would Newman and Sir Henry approve? - but they are a jewel in the crown of British music-making, and a summer treat which makes September just as exciting as July.

Incidentally, the totemic bronze bust of Henry Wood (which presides over all the Promenade concerts from in front of the Albert Hall organ) was rescued from the ruins of the bombed-out Queens Hall in 1941. On the last night he sports a well-deserved laurel wreath donated by the Prommers, and spends the rest of the year overseeing activities at the Royal Academy of Music!

Village People

Art Walk, June 29/30th

Over the last blisteringly hot weekend of June, Alphamstone held an **Art Walk**, featuring ten local artists with their Open Studios, and covering all sorts of different media from stained glass to wood turning & carving, via painting, ceramics, sculpture & more; amazing in a village as small as ours to be able to display such an impressive array of talents! Despite the heat it was very successful, with good attendance and quite a few sales, and we had plenty of interest and positive comments about the high level of flair and creativity on show. Definitely something that could be repeated in the future.

July 12th saw the wedding of Toby Twinn and Rosie Turtle, a lovely occasion on a beautiful sunny day. Alphamstone wishes them many happy years together.

Village Hall

Kathryn Parsons writes:

September! How did that happen? Hopefully we will still have some nice weather this month and summer will last a bit longer.

At the Village Hall we are preparing for the autumn agenda:

As I write the hall is getting a facelift, with all the outside paint being refreshed. This is being undertaken by Goodchild painters, and paid for with a grant from the Hypercharged Foundation. This is part of County Broadband and all of us as Trustees would like to thank them for their support. As you know, I and my amazing team of Trustees work really hard to raise every penny to keep the hall running, so we are very appreciative of any grant which pays for something.



Talking of raising money... an absolutely painless way to do this is to sign up at [easyfundraising.com](https://www.easyfundraising.com) Nominate Alphamstone Village Hall as your charity and we get some money nearly every time you buy something online. It's a lovely thing to do, and even if you don't nominate our hall please sign up and nominate a charity close to your heart.

Coffee mornings recommence on **Tuesday 9th September**. These are every other Tuesday from **10.30 until 12.00** and everyone is welcome to attend; I want to assure any chaps thinking about joining us that there are lots of men who attend regularly. It's not just us women putting the world to rights!

September 21st – Social Club Film Evening, 5pm, Village Hall – after a break in August, the film club is back for another season. Do come along; if you're not yet on the email list for notifications, just let Melinda Varcoe know and she'll add your name. All welcome – not just Alphamstonians!

Tuesday 23rd September is our Macmillan Coffee Morning so please come along and join us in raising money for this charity which sadly many of us or our families might need. If you can please bring a cake along to sell, it will be gratefully received. We will have coffee, sell cakes to take home and there'll be a raffle, please join in.

There will be a **Winter Warmer supper on Saturday 15th November**, our usual evening of hearty supper and lovely puddings cooked by Sue Gardner and her team. More details on how to book in the next newsletter.

Amyas Varcoe's woodcraft workshop in the hall is on Saturday 29th November (see details below)

And although I don't like to mention December celebrations this early, the **Coffee Morning on Tuesday 2nd December** will include a sale of beautiful gifts and Christmas decorations made by Sue Faull.

Also there will be a chance to **make your own Christmas door wreath on Saturday 13th December**.

Remember that the hall is available to book out for any family events, meetings or classes. See our advertisement for details.

Wood carving workshop with Amyas Varcoe, Saturday November 29th 10-3



Do you fancy trying something new, creative and fun? Perhaps even making a unique and special Christmas present? **On Saturday November 29th, from 10-3**, woodcraftsman **Amyas Varcoe** will be running a workshop in the Village Hall. Amyas, who was born and grew up in Alphamstone, is a skilled maker with a deep love of wood. He explains:-

"In this workshop we'll learn how to take a piece of wood and, with simple hand tools, create something lasting, unique and beautiful. Everyone is welcome, from absolute beginner to experienced craftsperson, and there will be hands-on guidance for every step of the process. All tools and materials are provided, as is protective equipment. The bowls and



spoons we can make are universal objects, used by humans for millennia. They have no moving parts, require no operating manual, and can be any shape or size.

Fashioning things with our hands is a skill that has been rather forgotten in our digital age, but with nothing more elaborate than a knife and a piece of wood, it's possible to focus, create and meditate at the same time. There's so much untapped self-esteem and confidence that comes from holding something in your hand that didn't exist before; if you can take it home and use it to do something as primal as feeding yourself, then that's a precious thing indeed. The idea that somewhere inside a nondescript log or branch could be a spoon, a musical instrument or a work of art is really quite something!"

The cost for the day is £50 and places are strictly limited to 6 people max, so early booking is advised. Homemade light refreshments will be provided, and participants can bring a packed lunch if they wish.

Please contact Amyas to book a place, amyasvarcoe@googlemail.com or on 07730 495211

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mail@thehennyswan.co.uk

Great & Little Henny

Magazine Contact **Stella Bixley 01787 269317**



Farm Machinery Preservation Society Working Day Sunday 5th October

At Grove Farm, Great Henny CO10 7LT

Vintage tractors ploughing
Static displays of stationery engines and other vintage vehicles

From 11.00am Free Entry
Refreshments available

Donations welcomed for Cancer Research UK

A vintage tractor run will take place on **Saturday 4th October**
departing from Grove Farm at 10.00am.

Donations for Cancer Research UK will be welcomed en route.

For more information contact Mark Cracknell 01787-269552



Henny Craft Group

All welcome. Come and bring your sewing, knitting, art and craft projects to work on whilst having a chat over a cuppa and cake. There will be a charge of £3 to cover the cost of hall hire, heating and refreshments. If you are planning to attend it would be helpful if you could email: sue.trott@yahoo.co.uk so we have an idea of numbers for refreshments and setting up the room.

Future meetings held at Henny Parish Room on
Tuesday at 2.00: **2nd September & 7th October**

St Mary's Church, Great Henny If anyone could spare an hour at the beginning of the month to help us with the church cleaning/flowers we would really appreciate it. If you can give us a hand now and then please contact Stella 269317.

Henny Parish Room News

Address: Henny Parish Room, Clay Hill, Great Henny CO10 7NL

Registered charity no. 301315 **All tickets and information: Stella Bixley 01787 269317**

Henny Parish Rooms
WhatsApp group



If you would like to be updated with the latest news simply scan the QR code (left) and tap the request to join.

Henny Parish Room Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Henny-Parish-Room/788850521144073>

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If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started! You can find our easyfundraising page here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hennyparish/>

Henny Parish Room Lottery

1st Prize £35 2nd Prize £20 3rd Prize £15

Prize winners for the July Draw 1st Prize 31, 2nd Prize 15, 3rd Prize 21
Prize winners for the August Draw 1st Prize 44, 2nd Prize 67, 3rd Prize 139

The Henny Parish Room Lottery raises vital funds to maintain Henny Parish Room for our community. We thank you for your ongoing support, either through renewing your annual subscription, or by joining the Henny Lottery.

Tickets are just £1.00 each and you can hold as many as you like.

If you would like to join the Henny Parish Room Lottery just contact us by e-mail, phone or speak to a committee member and we will send you an application form.

E – mail hennyparishroom@gmail.com or ring 07939 243 631.

In aid of Henny Parish Room funds

Quiz Night our Quiz night in June was a fun evening with the added excitement of a power cut following a thunderstorm earlier in the afternoon! Armed with an assortment of torches and camping lights our teams were undeterred by the lack of lighting. A great cheer went up when the power was finally restored just in time for the platters of sandwiches at the interval! The fabulous sum of £505.00 was raised for Henny Parish Room funds. Many thanks to all of you who came to support this event.



HENNY PARISH ROOMS

Come and join the local villagers for

COFFEE AND SWAP

Bacon Rolls & Hot Chocolate



SEE YOU ON OCTOBER 18th!

It's good to talk and eat cake and who doesn't love a freebie? That's the thinking behind a new initiative at the Henny Parish Room. On July 5th we held our first drop in morning and were delighted with the response. Lots of cake and beverages were consumed and we were overwhelmed with generous donations to the "swap table". People left with plants, books, puzzles, magazines and recycled gifts – just what they were looking for! We had so many unclaimed items we put aside a pile of raffle prizes for our "Wine for Christmas" evening on November 8th (SAVE THE DATE) together with refreshment donations of £40 for the Parish Room funds!



Date for your diary: Coffee & Swap, Saturday January 24th 2026 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Make "Wine For Christmas" evening on November 8th

Garden Clippings

To our surprise and delight the seemingly lone cob swan, seen sitting forlornly on the riverbank for a few weeks, proudly swam, with his head held high, into the millpond accompanied by his mate and six small cygnets during early June! No nest in our garden this year but obviously a superior spot had been found downstream from us. Very pleased to report that at the time of writing the cygnets are probably half grown and all six have survived thus far.

On the duckling front there have been some successes with a now independent group of five youngsters regularly in the garden and two younger broods, still with their mothers, also of five. They all troop up to outside the kitchen window at various times of the day to feed on the food I put out there for them. The smaller ducklings are hilarious as they suddenly hurtle up the back lawn towards the house and up the sloping path which leads to the area outside our back door visible from the kitchen. Mother duck just about keeping up behind them! It is amazing how quickly they arrive at the back door, I only just have time to throw out some food for them sometimes!

At last the rain came and helped to restore, to a small degree, some of the parched and wilting plants and shrubs in the garden. A pigeon was obviously very pleased to have a heavy downpour to enjoy as it sat on the electricity cable to the house, raising first one wing and then the other to take full advantage of a much-needed shower! The fruit trees are so laden with fruit that branches are bowed and some have snapped in the recent strong winds. It certainly would appear that a bumper harvest is ahead. The crab apple in the vegetable garden is probably the most laden with branches touching the ground with the sheer weight of fruit and possibly the lack of rainfall not helping either. I had a good harvest of gooseberries and managed to make several jars of jam. The blackcurrants all disappeared as the blackbirds tucked into those! I didn't begrudge them the fruit in the parched conditions. Of course, the fabulous numbers of butterflies in the garden has been such a treat and joy to observe. Literally clouds of them around certain plants when in flower throughout the summer. Dragonflies and damsel flies equally prolific.

Watering seems to have been a rather endless task. A great sigh of relief when the rain does come and an evening off watering for a change! We have managed to eke out the water supply in at least some of our numerous water butts dotted around the house, garage and garden sheds. The furthest away butts obviously being the ones not to run dry! We erect a large market stall type awning along the back terrace during the summer months. This is a great way of collecting rainwater as it runs off in rivulets at certain points and into an array of buckets and containers positioned along each side of its length. These are then used to top up the water butts. A lot of effort but we have only used the hosepipe for filling watering cans on rare occasions. We have a few sweetcorn plants which are now forming their cobs. After our last effort a few years back, and the complete destruction of the plants by badgers on the night prior to picking the much-anticipated cobs, we have taken action to protect them. A circle of sheep wire netting, then chicken wire netting on top, held firmly in place. Badgers can squeeze through sheep wire, incredibly, hence the addition of chicken wire! We can only hope this is enough to keep the badgers at bay!

While the haymaking was in progress on Shalford Meadow, opposite our house, we observed the almost immediate arrival of several buzzards and kites as the farm machinery began cutting the grass and leaving it in neat rows to dry. They were circling around like vultures in the hope of grabbing a meal. On another day, after some rain earlier in the morning, I was spellbound watching a flight of swallows diving and swooping all around the tractor and the mower behind. There must have been at least twenty of them, impossible to count. I spoke to the young man who had been operating the tractor later, and he said he was equally delighted to see them and was pleased to say that despite their apparent daredevil swooping close to the machinery not one was injured. **S.B.**

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A Prayer Labyrinth has been mown into the grass outside the church at Great Henny, and we welcome visitors and passing walkers to prayerfully walk the path.

Labyrinths have been used for centuries in Christian spirituality and beyond, as a meditative tool for prayer, contemplation or simply slowing down. The labyrinth is a spiritual tool that meets you where you are. We believe God welcomes all who seek, doubt, or wonder. Let this be a space of grace, love, and welcome—just as you are.

Everyone is welcome, this space is open to you. You don't need to say any special prayers or believe any particular doctrine to benefit from this quiet, sacred journey.

Jesus said "I am the way, the truth, and the life." – John 14:6

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Lamarsh

Magazine Contact **Brett & Rosemary Johnson 01787 227988**

Lamarsh Village Hall

www.lamarshvillagehall.com

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Charity Number **301351**



Broadband Facility

Ultrafast Broadband, provided by Gigaclear, is available to all Village Hall users.

Regular Events

Community Library Free to join. Books refreshed regularly.	Every Thursday and every first and third Saturday of month.	10.30 to 11.30am
Coffee Mornings (with Lottery Draw) First Thursday of month	4 September 2 October 6 November 4 December	10.30am to 12 midday
Find the Flow Yoga with Daphne. abctoolkityoga@gmail.com	Wednesday mornings	10-11.15am
Pilates with Sophie sophieparishpilates@gmail.com	Saturday mornings	8am-9am

Special Events

Thursday, 4 September 2025 Coffee Morning: 10.30-12pm Lunch: 11am-1.30pm	150 Anniversary Special Coffee Morning, followed by light lunch, with presentation, speakers and former school students
Saturday, 29 November 2025	Craft Fair (with refreshments)



Bespoke Lamarsh Bird Boxes

The very last 20 have a label stating that they are made from the original
150 year old floor. £15 each in aid of the Village Hall.

If you'd like a bird box, please contact **Fiona 07731194079**.



Lamarsh Lottery

July 2025 Lottery Winners

1st prize (£30) – number 1
2nd prize (£20) - number 73
3rd prize (£10) - number 64

August 2025 Lottery Winners

1st prize (£30) – number 97
2nd prize (£20) - number 4
3rd prize (£10) - number 29

The village lottery is drawn the first Thursday of the month at the same time as the coffee morning. Thank you everyone who has supported this. It is £1 per ticket per month and you can have as many tickets as you would like.

You've got to be in it to win it! Buy a ticket now

Email: jane@lamarshvillagehall.com

Registered Charity No. 301351

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Lamarsh Village Hall Craft Fair with refreshments

Saturday 29 November 2025

10 am to 1.00 pm

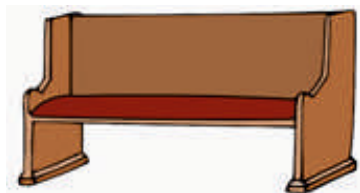
Contact: Fiona 07731 194079 - tables £10



Please join us to celebrate
150 years
of Lamarsh Village Hall
on Thursday 4th September
for an exhibition
with refreshments at 11 am
followed by a light lunch.

Middleton

Magazine Contact **Jude Johnson 01787 582559**



From The Church Wardens' Pew

Unfortunately a communication glitch somewhere meant that the submitted Middleton's July/August contribution to Lookout wasn't included. However, printed copies of Middleton's news was delivered to households in the village and thanks go to Sue Joy and Martin North for arranging the distribution.

The fine weather on the first Sunday in August meant we were able to hold an alfresco service in the churchyard and enjoy another of the benefits of living in the countryside.

Boules and BBQ

Good news. A big thank you to the Morgan family who have very kindly offered to organise the annual Boules and BBQ event for Saturday 30 August starting at 12.30 pm. The BBQ will be well underway by 12.30 pm so come along and enjoy a BBQ lunch. Remember to bring your own liquid refreshment!

Ride and Stride

This Friends of Essex Churches event takes place on Saturday 13 September and raises funds to help maintain the fabric of our churches. Half of the sponsorship money raised goes directly to our village church with the rest going to Friends of Essex Churches who have given a lot of support to All Saints over a number of years.



Please sponsor Martin who plans to visit all the churches in the benefice and a few more on the way round his 50+ mile ride. The sponsorship form is on the Box Iron Green notice board. We will need some volunteers to help at the church on the 13 September to welcome walkers and riders visiting All Saints and sign their attendance form and serve drinks, biscuits & sweets. Usually we do this in one hour slots and if you can help please let Sue North know.

Middleton Stones

More decorated stones have appeared around the village with varying inscriptions and designs which adds interest to a stroll through the various routes round Middleton

Harvest Service

This will be on Sunday 5 October at 11.15 am. We will be collecting tinned and packeted foodstuffs for our local food-bank, Storehouse. This charity reports there is still a significant demand for the service they provide. There are stringent checks on applicants for their service who have to satisfy a number of criteria to be referred to Storehouse for support.



Dates for your diary:

Christmas Market 6th December 2025

Carol Service 21st December 2025

Carol Singing date round the village to be decided.

Gin tasting

Tickets go on sale shortly for a presentation and tasting to be held on Saturday 11 October hosted by the English Spirit Company of Great Yeldham. At the event, you will be able to taste a variety of their spirits including various gins, vodka, rum and non- alcoholic drinks.

Please see Gill Davidson at Homefield for tickets. The price is **£10 per person** payable strictly in advance and covers the presentation, tasting and savoury nibbles. A bottle of gin will be raffled and the winner announced at the end of the evening. ***You must be 18 years or over to participate in the event (ID may be required).*** If desired, you will be able to place orders with English Spirit Company at the event.

You can learn more about English Spirit Company at <https://englishspirit.uk>.



Can you help?

The Committee that represents the Friends of All Saints Middleton is seeking a new Chairperson from amongst its Friends after Jill Symonds stepped down following a number of years in the role.

The Committee was established to organise events that foster community spirit and fundraise to support the use of the church as a community building in lieu of a village hall. If you live in the village, you are a Friend so can you offer your support? The role involves charring Committee meetings which take place 2 or a maximum of 3 times a year and also the Annual General Meeting of the Friends. The Chair is required to ensure orderly and timely proceedings at meetings (generally Committee members are not an unruly bunch!) and to encourage debate. Its not an onerous role and Committee meetings usually take place over a glass of wine or two. The current Committee members

(and their roles) are Gill Davidson (Treasurer), Marion Cane (Secretary), William Lees (PCC representative), Sue Joy, Jill Symonds, Keith Hughes and Sherrye Dix.

If you are able to help, please contact any of the Committee members.

Magazine Contact

We are also looking for a Magazine Contact for the monthly publication of Lookout magazine as Jude Johnson will be stepping away from the role when a replacement can be found. The role involves pulling together contributions from the regular contributors, and anyone else who wishes to include an article, and submitting them by the monthly deadline (8th of the month) to the Magazine Editor, Susannah Goodbody.

If you are interested, please contact Gill Davidson or Marion Cane.

Ladies Circle

The weeks and months seem to have flown passed this summer. Nearly had a heart attack when I saw Christmas decorations in a local shop! No doubt the Easter eggs will be in the shops before I have disposed of the Christmas wrapping paper!



Our June and July meetings were well attended and as usual we caught up on all that was happening round the village. It has been so nice to be able to sit outside for our tea the last few months, long may it continue. If you are free, do join us for a cup of tea and a chat in the church (our village hall) at 2.00pm on the second Tuesday of the month. The date for **September will be Tuesday 9th**. Not sure who will be making the tea but I expect we will sort that out at our August meeting

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ENGLISH SPIRIT COMPANY TASTING!

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on **Saturday 11th October at**

All Saints Church, Middleton

7.15pm for 7.30pm start



Tickets are £10 per head and must be paid
for in advance

Savoury nibbles are included in the price

During the evening a bottle will be raffled and the
prize awarded.

Please contact Gill at Homefield for your tickets now!



Sorry, to participate you must be 18 years and older!



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Sandra O'Sullivan: 01787 269255

Sudoku solution from page 4

6	5	7	3	4	9	8	2	1
8	2	4	1	5	6	7	3	9
3	9	1	8	7	2	6	5	4
5	8	9	4	2	1	3	7	6
4	6	2	9	3	7	1	8	5
7	1	3	6	8	5	4	9	2
2	4	5	7	6	3	9	1	8
1	3	6	5	9	8	2	4	7
9	7	8	2	1	4	5	6	3

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Twinstead

Magazine Contact **David Holland 01787 269693**



Twinstead Flower Festival

By Jane Bingham Wallis



The “Flower Power” themed flower festival was held over a weekend in the middle of June. Held in aid of both the church and the village hall, the event was a great success and raised £1,600.

The flowers in the church were beautiful and filled the church. The scent as you walked into the church was amazing - quite intoxicating! A huge thank you to everyone who donated towards the flowers, also who worked hard to create the wonderful displays. Visitors also appreciated the various quotes relating to the power of flowers. Two favourites were: the first attributed to Zen Shin - “A flower does not think if competing with the flower next to it. It just blooms.” The second made by Lady Bird Johnson - “Where flowers bloom so does hope.”





Refreshments and stalls were found in the village hall. As well as a cake stall offering an amazing selection of homemade goodies, a tombola, plant stall and the raffle, gifted villagers were selling their products from incredible woodcraft to beautiful pottery and handmade cards, toys etc. An amazing number of villagers donated their time over the weekend to help in the church, serving refreshments, organising and manning stalls etc; all much appreciated- thank you. Also thank you to all the bakers who, between them, donated a truly incredible selection of delicious cakes, scones etc. and to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle and tombola and all the green fingered villagers who grew an amazing variety of plants.

Another huge thank you must go to everyone who helped set up at the village hall both before the weekend, erecting gazebos, moving tables etc., and then clearing up after the event.

Village Hall Social - Saturday September 13th

The next social/coffee morning will take place on the above date from 10-12 in Twinstead Village Hall. As always, coffee, tea, homemade cakes and sausage rolls will be available as well as plenty of good company.

The October Social will be held on **Saturday 11th October.**

Twinstead Quiz

We intend holding the next quiz in January, a fun evening to brighten up a dreary month. More details will follow.

Harvest Festival

Sunday 28th September, 4pm

From Henrietta Drake:

Do come along to our annual Harvest Festival in St John the Evangelist, Twinstead. There will be well known harvest hymns and refreshments afterwards. Any offerings are welcome and can be dropped off in the church beforehand or brought to the service. After the service they will be taken to Sudbury's food bank.

Can anyone offer a home to two cats?

From Carol Swan:

Is there anyone who can open their hearts and re-home two cats who are currently at home alone. They are cared for, feeding and cleaning, but they lack company. They are both friendly and enjoy human contact. They are indoor cats.

If interested please contact 01787 269283 for more information.

Lottery Results

Twinstead Village Improvement Society

Results for Lottery Draw Friday 4th July

£20 Ticket No. 99 .. Flower (Liz)
£10 Ticket No. 3 .. Sam and Gary
£10 Ticket No. 48 .. Weavers (Colin)

Friday 1st August

£20 .. Ticket No. 127 .. Drake
£10 .. Ticket No. 19 .. Weston
£10 .. Ticket No. 131 .. Austin

Congratulations to everyone, especially our first time winners Sam and Gary.

Twinstead Riding School

Pink and Orange Pony Day 2025 Twinstead's wonderful charity pony event was held in glorious if a little hot weather at the Riding School. We hope the pictures say it all - this was a very successful event full of fun, happy faces , wonderfully adorned ponies, their proud owners and mounts.

Rosettes brought success and joy to many and we can only hope that this event will be repeated again next year. ***Huge thanks and congratulations to all who made this event happen.***





Opening Hours
Mon - Sat 9.30am-3.00pm
Closed Wednesday and Sundays



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A detailed illustration of a garden tool handle, likely a chainsaw handle, showing the ergonomic shape and the mounting points for the tool head.

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8am till 1pm***

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Wickham St Pauls

Magazine Contact **Susannah Goodbody 01787 269250**



21st September 2.00 pm Pet Service & Harvest Festival

on the Village Green Please look elsewhere in this magazine to see where other services are being held within the Benefice.

FLOWERS AND LIBRARY ROTAS

Flowers in church: September: Mrs O'Sullivan

Mobile Library: Wednesday, 17th, 13.10-13.40, beside the Village Green.

Church Events

We have our **Harvest and Pet Service** outside the Village Hall at **2pm on Sunday September 21st**. Inside the Hall if it is wet. We welcome gifts of tinned or packet goods which will then be forwarded to a local food bank and of course our pets will be blessed by Rev Claire. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Village Hall.

On Saturday September 13th it is the annual sponsored cycle ride for Friends of Essex Churches. If you would like to cycle round the village churches in our benefice, or walk to the churches in Sudbury, **Ann (01787269624)**, has sponsor forms. Half the money raised goes to All Saints, and the other half goes to Friends of Essex Churches. Churches will be manned to sign your sponsor form, and to provide refreshments and a toilet stop where possible.

Lookout Deliveries

WANTED – Someone to join the Distribution team to deliver Lookout once a month, mostly around the Green. If you can help please telephone 01787 269250.

POST OFFICE - OPENING TIMES AND INFORMATION

The Post Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays (NOT Mondays)

Tuesday 10am - 1pm Thursday 10am - 1pm



Postal Service	Money	Travel
Letters & Parcels Collect & Return Drop & Go	Everyday banking including cash withdrawal and cash & cheque deposits	Travel Money Savings Moneygram Bill Payments Utility & mobile

Events This Month

SANDWICH AND CAKE LUNCH

provided by the WSP W.I. on the third Friday in the month

WICKHAM ST. PAULS VILLAGE HALL



**Friday 19th September 2025
and**

Friday 17th October 2025

Serving from 12.30 to 1.30



This event is becoming more and more popular so why not pop along and meet up with your friends from WSP. It is open to anyone in the village, and usually has an average of thirty villagers & family members, who meet up for a relaxed chat while enjoying a choice of three sandwiches, three scrumptious cakes to choose from, plus tea and coffee.

All welcome – lifts available (phone 267854)



Future Event with the W.I.

Saturday 6 September ~ WSP Annual Dog Show ~ The WI will be providing cake & refreshments in the Hall for everyone to enjoy. (Please see page 46 for details).

Events in October

GRAND JUMBLE SALE

Saturday October 4th 2pm - 4pm

Wickham St Paul's Village Hall

In aid of All Saints Church

Admission 50p Raffle and Refreshments

If you have items of clothes, shoes, handbags, toys, garden implements, books, bric-a-brac and household goods to donate in good condition please contact Ann 01787369624 or Janice 01787 269789

Fun Dog Show

BBQ, ICE CREAM AND LOTS MORE ATTRACTIONS!

*Fastest Sausage
Eating, Best
Fancy Dress,
Basic Obedience,
and many more*



*Fun for all
the family,
plus your
four-legged
friends*

**1-5pm Saturday 6th September
Wickham St Pauls, CO9 2PT**



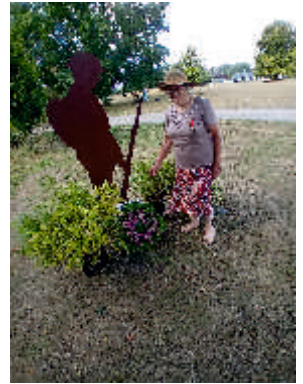
Guide Dogs for the Blind is one of the chosen charities to which proceeds will be donated. It costs £44,600 to train just one guide dog, so any donation you can make will be going to an excellent cause.

The funds raised from the classes will be donated to Wickham St Pauls Church. The maintenance of such a beautiful place of worship is always costly. Any donations will be greatly received.



Ronald Macdonald charity www.wickhamdogshow.co.uk

V.J. Day On The Village Green



On Friday August the 15th at 11.45am 56 people from the village and elsewhere gathered together outside the village hall to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. The service was led by Ann Robertson who spoke about the villagers Tom Hearn, Toby Rash and Ted Spencer who had embarked on a long sea voyage at the start of the war, not knowing where they were going. On arriving in India and then onwards into Burma they faced challenges in stark contrast to their quiet village lives....from snakes and insects to dysentery and imprisonment in Japanese camps. She spoke about the love and support of Christ through all adversities, and our hope for peace in the world. A tropical wreath was laid at the foot of the soldier statue by Margaret Hearn, Tom's widow, who wore her husband's Burma Star and his bush hat. The wreath marked our grateful thanks to all who served in the Far East, and for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. After the two minute silence at 12.00noon Martin Gosling provided a fly past with impeccable timing. A poem was read by Derek Stokes written by Brenda Wilson, one of the first female town criers. She read this on the bridge over the River Kwai in 1995 to mark the fiftieth anniversary of VJ Day.

After the service refreshments were served in the Village Hall and over 40 stayed for the WI's sandwich and cake lunch. Villagers were able to look at the exhibition of Far East memorabilia including some of Ted Spencer's letters, a pilot officer's tropical uniform and photo albums from the time.

In the evening the church bells were rung, and after dark villagers gathered around the lit beacon with sparklers to raise a glass to our brave servicemen and women.

OYEZ OYEZ OYEZ

Confidence is what we need
So that nations trust each other
And all the races of mankind
Treat each other as a brother
Food for every living thing
By nature, is provided
If only we could see
It was equally divided
The woods and streams,
The mountains high,
The sea and golden shore
Were never ever meant to be
The cause of senseless bloody war
Or race for powerful armaments
And sacrifice of youth
But a world of true contentment
Built on faith and trust and truth
Peace to the World

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN



in aid of Improvements to the Village Hall
Saturday 11th October 2025
at 7.00 p.m.
Wickham St Pauls Village Hall
Tables of up to six people
Tickets available from: Linda 07985 249030
Price: £10.00 includes a WI buffet
(All drinks to be purchased from the bar)

Events to be held on the Village Green, with further details later:

Trafalgar Day Fireworks **18th October**

Christmas Lights switch-on, **6th December**

Past Events

Our Bronze Award

The churches in our benefice have been working hard to make sure we are taking care of God's Creation. To that end over the past year All Saints has been working towards being an Eco church. An Eco church strives to look after the earth as part of the church's everyday work and witness. Eco Church Rocha run and resource the scheme with three levels of award, bronze, silver and gold. We have been successful in achieving the bronze award which was presented at our August service and we are now working towards our silver award having already elements of this. Thanks go to all who work in our church, especially to James who maintains our churchyard. We had blue tits nesting in one of our new nesting boxes he put up. Thanks also to the flower ladies creating arrangements without oasis and those who have cleaned the church using our eco friendly products. We even have brown eco friendly toilet paper in the new toilet! We are working on new initiatives to do with worship and also our carbon footprint, building on what we have already done.

Wickham Lottery

Congratulations and a cheque for £25 goes to No.56, held by Mrs. Helen Holton

W.I. - July

At our July meeting, the WSP W.I. members met Brenda Willison, Town Crier of Newmarket, who needed no introduction as she was dressed in a splendid Town Crier's outfit. Brenda's talk began with some history about Town Criers, it is thought that the first ones appeared in Ancient Greece in 776 BC. Then in 1066, King Harold gave Certificates of Protection to Town Criers as they often had to deliver bad news and were not very popular. Town Criers tended to attract attention by ringing a bell followed by their cry, three times "O Ye" which comes from the Old French for "Listen". Town Criers had to be literate, wore tricorn hats with a feather (some made from swan feathers) that could be used as a pen to write messages, these quills could then be put into a fold in the hat if they had to ride from one town to another. By the eighteenth





Vacancy for Councillors
on
Wickham St Pauls Parish Council



We currently have a
Councillor vacancy on
Wickham St Pauls Parish Council.

If anyone is interested, in joining us,
please contact the Parish Clerk for
further information and an
application form.

E-MAIL:
parishclerk@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org

century, town criers often acted as watchmen informing people that 'all was well' after curfew. They also rang their bells when leading local men to deal with fires that might break out. However, their main function was to deliver news or important information in towns

Brenda became a Town Crier in 1987 when a local newspaper in Peterborough invited applications for the role for which her daughters applied on her behalf as she had such a loud voice. Her voice certainly boomed out in our hall when she joined in with Jerusalem – we later heard her voice measured 109 decibels (Concorde is a mere 105 decibels!). She was one of only two women in the twenty competing for the role. She became a deputy Town Crier for Peterborough before being adopted for the full post by Market Deeping where she remained for 21 years, later becoming the Town Crier for Bakewell. Brenda is one of 26 women out of about 250 town criers in Britain, a role that she thoroughly enjoys and through the years has furnished her with many amusing anecdotes she relates during her presentations. Her duties are voluntary, she is called upon for a

variety of occasions during the year including the local carnival, Christmas events, and she has competed in national and world competitions.
 Brenda is proud of her collection of bells, her oldest one from 1462, one made for her by the famous bell makers Taylors of Loughborough and she also has her original school bell.

WSP W.I. Mid-Norfolk Railway Trip from Dereham to Wymondham Abbey 30th July 2025

Thirty-four members of Wickham St Pauls W.I., plus twelve guests travelled by coach to Dereham in Norfolk on a lovely sunny day to board The Mid-Norfolk Railway for a 22 mile round trip stopping halfway to view Wymondham Abbey Church.

Unfortunately, the usual steam train was unable to be used for this trip due to the extremely hot dry weather in case of sparks from the engine straying into the crop fields and starting a fire, therefore it had to be replaced with a diesel train.

Tickets were issued before boarding, clipped by a Ticket Inspector during the journey, using a machine that cut out a miniature shape of a steam locomotive.

While travelling along the countryside the Train Guard gave us a history of the line, naming the small stations we passed by and other interesting facts. This line is run by volunteers with the upkeep covered by these train trips, also running the Polar Express at Xmas, for children encouraged to wear pyjamas for the trip and the story re-enacted by actors. Another form of income is generated by storing carriages in their sidings that have been sold to other countries and are waiting to be shipped.

Following this delightful ride it was all on to The Greenstone pub for a delicious meal, everyone enjoying the excellent service from the very friendly staff.

Flag Flying Programme

3 September	Merchant Navy Day	(2000)	Red Ensign
9 September	British Farmers Support Day	(2013)	Union
9 September	Women's Institute meeting		Essex W.I.
10 September	His Majesty's Accession	(2022)	Royal Standard
15 September	Battle of Britain Day	(1940)	RAF
19 September	Soup and Cake Village Hall		Essex W.I.
21 September	Women's Institute anniversary	(1915)	Essex W.I.

The St. George flag will be flown most of the time in between other appointed flag

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

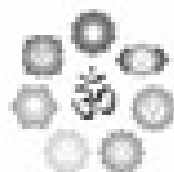
I have approached several people to find out who the mystery person is who left two small bags of vegetables and greengages on my doorstep. No luck. I am most grateful for them, and perhaps I will find out soon, so I can thank them properly.

Pat Revell

Don't forget that we need all material for the **November** issue of Lookout by the **8th October**, Thank you, **Susannah**

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LOOKOUT MAGAZINE COSTS AND SIZES FOR 2025

Published 10 times per year with the July/August and December/January issues being combined issues.

Advert Size	Cost for 10 issues per year	Advert Dimensions (mm)
Outside/Inside Back Cover in Full Colour	£250	185mm long x 130mm wide
Full Page	£200	185mm long x 130mm wide
1/2 Page	£110	90mm long x 130mm wide
1/3 page	£75	58mm long x 130mm wide
1/4 page	£60	90mm long x 62mm wide
1/6 page	£40	60mm long x 62mm wide
1/8 page	£25	45mm long x 62mm wide

For fewer issues, the cost is pro rata.

Finished artwork in digital form is required, either JPEG, TIFF or PDF.
The artwork needs to be monochrome of the same orientation (portrait or landscape) and height/width ratio (aspect ratio) as the intended advert space.

The deadline for copy to be received by Jude Johnson is the 8th of the month preceding publication. Please send all artwork to advertisinglookout@gmail.com.



Christmas

Craft Market

Wickham St Pauls

Wickham St Pauls Village Hall CO9 2PT
10am to 4pm

Saturday
6th December 2025

Local makers and artists selling
beautiful crafts and art

Super Tombola, Xmas Raffle

Refreshments

Mulled wine and cakes galore!

£1 Entry including ticket for raffle – children under 10 free
In support of Village Hall Funds

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