

The Glaven Valley Newsletter

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**May 2024**

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\*\*\*\*\*

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## **THE GLAVEN VALLEY NEWSLETTER**

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## **JUNE 2024 EDITION DEADLINE**

**Copy for the June edition must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> May at the latest.**

Either via email, post or hand mail to:

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GVN Post Box at 12 The Cornfield, Langham, Nr Holt, NR25 7DQ.

**The Editor does not necessarily agree with  
views expressed by correspondents.**

## **GVN Web Address**

**<https://glavenvalleynewsletter.weebly.com/>**

**\*\*CHECK OUT FOR EXTRA ITEMS\*\***

# Treasurer's Report

We welcome contributions from individuals – over 350 of our readers already do – our preferred method is by Standing Order – either monthly or annually – you can use the form below, or if you use online banking, you should be able to set one up online.

Other ways to donate are:

- Cash or cheque to the Treasurer, Stonebridge House, Bridgefoot Lane, Wiveton, Holt NR25 7TP (cheques payable to Glaven Valley Newsletter);
- Online bank transfer to us (Sort Code 30-94-34 Account 00897099);
- Collection box at Blakeney Garage

*Martin Tyler*  
Treasurer, Glaven Valley Newsletter

## Standing Order Mandate

<b>To</b>	<b>The Manager</b>	
<b>Bank (Your bank)</b>		
<b>Bank Address</b>		
<b>Bank details (your bank details)</b>	<b>Sort Code</b>	
	<b>Account Number</b>	
<b>Please Pay</b>		
<b>For the credit of</b>	<b>Glaven Valley Newsletter</b>	
<b>Bank details</b>	<b>Sort Code</b>	<b>30-94-34</b>
	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>00897099</b>
	<b>Reference</b>	<b>GVN Donation</b>
<b>Regular Amount (In figures)</b>		
<b>Starting on (enter date of first payment)</b>		
<b>Frequency Delete as appropriate</b>	<b>Monthly / Annually</b>	
	<b>And continue until cancelled by me in writing</b>	
<b>Signature</b>		
<b>Date</b>		

# GVN Production

Each month our lovely team of volunteers helps to print, collate, assemble, staple and deliver 1500 copies of the GVN: many thanks to you all.

My, voluntary, role as 'production coordinator' includes liaising with Chevertons printers in Cromer; collecting and collating the bi-monthly yellow pages; ordering paper for the white pages, scheduling the printing, stapling and bulk distribution; ordering printer ink and consumables as necessary, and generally being the 'single point of contact'. Unfortunately, single-point-of-contact can also mean 'single-point-of-failure,' and after 13 years, with health problems and an upcoming operation, it is likely that in the future I may not always be able to carry out these activities.

Rather than wait until this problem occurs, it makes sense to plan ahead, and to this end I am hoping to find one or two people who could help me as and when required.

If anyone feels this is something they would be interested in, and ensure the production of the GVN continues smoothly, please get in touch. Thank you

Oscar Haynes, 07721 435703, 01263 712693,

[oscar.haynes@btinternet.com](mailto:oscar.haynes@btinternet.com)

## Barton Reed Panel Fencing

[www.bartonreedpanelfencing.co.uk](http://www.bartonreedpanelfencing.co.uk)

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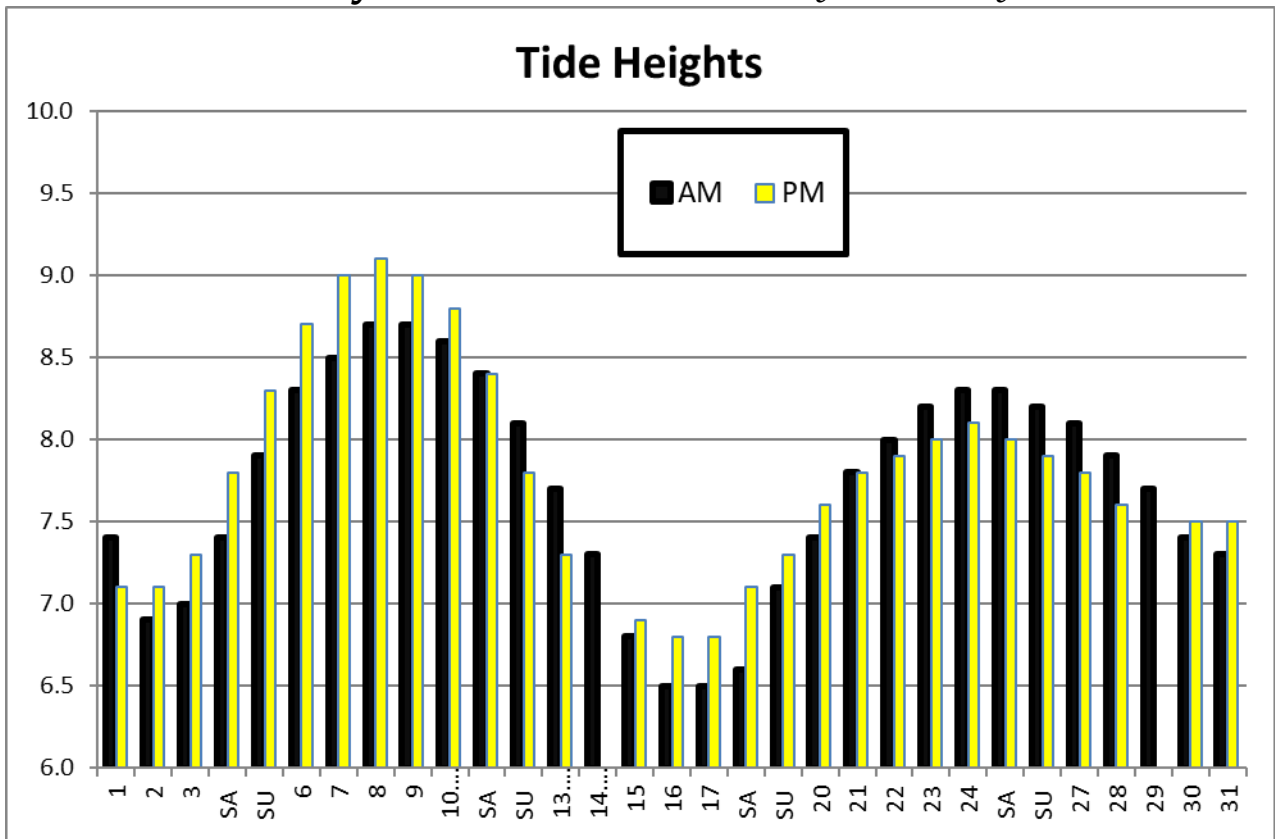
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# May 2024 -Tide Details *by Martin Tyler*



## Tide Times

	AM	PM		AM	PM
Wed 01 May	00:18	12:27			
Thu 02 May	01:37	13:46			
Fri 03 May	03:13	15:13			
Sat 04 May	04:25	16:22			
Sun 05 May	05:22	17:18			
Mon 06 May	06:10	18:09	Mon 20 May	05:35	17:48
Tue 07 May	07:03	18:57	Tue 21 May	06:12	18:26
Wed 08 May	07:34	19:45	Wed 22 May	06:48	19:03
Thu 09 May	08:14	20:31	Thu 23 May	07:24	19:41
Fri 10 May	08:53	21:16	Fri 24 May	08:00	20:20
Sat 11 May	09:30	21:59	Sat 25 May	08:36	21:01
Sun 12 May	10:08	22:44	Sun 26 May	09:12	21:43
Mon 13 May	10:44	23:32	Mon 27 May	09:50	22:29
Tue 14 May	11:29		Tue 28 May	10:32	23:19
Wed 15 May	00:32	12:26	Wed 29 May	11:20	
Thu 16 May	01:54	14:05	Thu 30 May	00:19	12:19
Fri 17 May	03:06	15:20	Fri 31 May	01:29	13:28
Sat 18 May	04:05	16:19			
Sun 19 May	04:55	17:07			

# Blakeney

## News from Blakeney CEVA School

All the children in our school are in full swing at the moment with a mixture of lessons, visits, and extra-curricular activities.

Athletics season is upon us and the children are enjoying their hurdling practise. We are also bringing the Maypole out of storage and have new ribbons! It is very exciting to see the wonderful old oak pole back in the playground. I am told by a parent of a current pupil (who attended Blakeney themselves) that it was always a tradition for the children to dance around the pole for Mayday. It is rather heavy and cumbersome but I hope the dance will be worth the effort.

This month, all of the children will be going on a walk with Bishop Graham. The walk; from the school, down to the Quay and on to Morston, will be a wonderful opportunity to talk with the Bishop. The children who are all very familiar with the route, have some particularly fascinating questions for the Bishop based around finding God in special landscapes. Blakeney Harbour and The Norfolk Coastal path are certainly two of those. To be given the time to appreciate this and an opportunity to talk about it will be a wonderful time for reflection.

May will also see the Year 6 children taking their SAT's exams. They have been taking extra lessons in English, Spelling and Grammar, and Maths during school and attending a revision club after school. Our own assessments identified any gaps in their learning and revision is tailored to meet the needs of each child. This is being done in a fun and informal way and always includes snacks and fruit juice! I haven't seen any signs of nerves as the children know that they are well prepared to take these tests. I advise plenty of sleep, relaxation, and hearty meals. Having happy, healthy, and enthusiastic children who are well balanced and enjoy learning is our aim. Regardless of the outcomes, we are very proud of this cohort and know they will go on to their future schools representing Blakeney in a very positive light.

This month also sees our school federation Founding Day. Each year, all 4 schools in the Pilgrim federation (Walsingham, Kelling, Hindringham and Blakeney) get together to celebrate its' creation. Last year, Blakeney hosted the event and this year it is the turn of Walsingham. All pupils and staff will arrive at the shrine in Houghton St Giles for a service of thanksgiving where Year 6 children from each school will speak of their Federation memories. With the exception of nursery children, we will then all walk the Holy Mile to the Anglican Shrine for a picnic and ice cream.

These days are always lots of fun and give children and staff an opportunity to see familiar faces.

Our amazing PTFA are also incredibly busy at the moment. On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, they will be providing tea, coffee, and

cakes at Stody Lodge gardens. The tea room is open from 1pm-5pm and tickets are available on line. The children and staff here at Blakeney have sampled many treats provided by the PTFA over the years and can commend them to you whole-heartedly!

It is rare that I write a newsletter without giving out a particular thank you. So many members of the community help our school and being in a position to show gratitude is one of the most rewarding parts of being at Blakeney CEVA Primary. Last month, the yellow lines outside the school and safety signage was refreshed after a parent raised a concern about traffic. Thank you to the parent who took the time to contact our local MP and thank-you to Duncan Baker and his office, who expedited the work. The safety of our children is paramount. Thank you also to those residents who continue to drive with particular care past the school.

Coming up before half term; the older children are visiting the Dyson building at Greshams School for a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths Day, John Lorimer-who discovered Sea Henge- is coming in to talk to the children about its' significance and the whole school are undergoing CPR training with the East Anglian Air Ambulance. Thank goodness we have a half term to recover!

*From Team Blakeney*

### **DO YOU HAVE A BUSINESS IDEA THAT REQUIRES PREMISES?**

Could the Parish Room (formerly known as The Scout Hut), in BLAKENEY be of interest to you?!

Do you have a great idea, something in mind, either a new venture or something that you are already doing?! If so, and you would like a confidential and informal discussion then please do get in touch now. Call the Parish Clerk on 01263 741106 or send an email to [clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk) outlining your idea. We are currently considering the future of this room and are open to considerations.

### **Grace and Ease Meditation**

Free friendly Zoom meditation classes

Less stress, More peace

Beginners and busy minds welcome

**Please message for details**

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**DIGITAL SWITCHOVER WEBINAR**  
– attended by Rosemary Thew (Chairman Blakeney  
Parish Council)  
Webinar hosted by Duncan Baker. The professional  
input was from BT and Virgin.

The switchover from analog is industry led and analog will be switched off by the end of 2025. Thereafter, phone lines will be served by broadband. Most people should not be aware of the change. Apparently, home land lines are unreliable and the change is happening worldwide.

Providers will contact customers ahead of the switchover. If someone does not have a mobile phone or access to broadband, a free solution should be offered to ensure contact with emergency services. This is likely to be a router to transmit phone calls at no extra cost.

Those depending on land lines need to be in touch with their provider (who should contact them). Telephone companies are working with local authorities to identify vulnerable people. There will be provision for them to have a fall back in place in the event of a power cut (when land lines won't work), although that protection seems to last only one hour.

A mandated engineer should visit vulnerable customers to assist and bulk migration is currently paused for more work to be done to identify vulnerable customers in rural areas.

For those who have broadband, the switchover should be simple-plugging in a wire to the existing router. However, additional extensions are not so easy and will need to be paid for. Migration is on a "batch" (geographical basis) with millions already migrated with no problems and vulnerable customers protected.

Publicity material should be made available as migration approaches.

## May News from Glaven Caring

### Dates for your diary.....

The Tuesday Cake, Coffee, and Chat morning at The Glaven is on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12 noon – no charge, donations only. Coinciding with Lisa's Glaven Friends hairdressing day (the first Tuesday of every month– contact the Glaven Caring to book an appointment)

Celebrate the Glaven's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at our 50th Wine and Cheese evening in the grounds of Bayfield Hall on 22 June 2024 from 6pm to 8.30pm. Tickets will be on sale shortly and if you would like to be added to our 'interested list' please do email us at [rsvp@glavencaring.co.uk](mailto:rsvp@glavencaring.co.uk)

Do join in our 50<sup>th</sup> fundraising campaign – Do your 50km for our 50<sup>th</sup>. Swim, run, walk, bike, surf, skateboard, whatever is your thing! Set your own goal to complete over a day, a week or even a month. Sign up and get sponsored for your

## Blakeney Village Hall Craft Fairs for 2024

<b>May</b>	18th & 19th
<b>June</b>	15th & 16th
<b>July</b>	20th & 21st
<b>Aug</b>	17th & 18th
<b>Sept</b>	14th & 15th
<b>Oct</b>	19th & 20th
<b>Nov</b>	16th & 17th

own personal 50km challenge. For an application form please email [info@glavencaring.co.uk](mailto:info@glavencaring.co.uk)

Did you know.....

Glaven Caring loan out wheelchairs, walking aids, trolleys, bathroom aids – all kinds of mobility equipment. Contact [nurses@glavencaring.co.uk](mailto:nurses@glavencaring.co.uk) to arrange a time with Liz to come and see what we have which might help you and yours. Donations accepted!

And finally thank you .....

To everyone who supported our Spring Coffee morning at the Harbour Room. We raised over £800 – and it was lovely seeing you all. Special thanks to Paul and Mandy of the Harbour Room who donated the use of the room and the teas and coffees.

And as always to our volunteers and clients – we do so enjoy seeing you all. And if you know of a friend or neighbour who might like to come along to Glaven Caring, or volunteer at the centre, please do get in touch. Please do follow us on Facebook@GlavenCaring for regular updates and all our daily news.

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# Blakeney, Cley & District Branch

## D-Day 80

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June from 5pm  
Harbour Rooms, High Street, Blakeney

A commemoration of the allied landings  
on the Normandy beaches

**Bangers  
'n' Mash**  
Booking  
advisable

**Bar open  
all evening**

**Outdoor  
&  
Indoor**

**Bring a  
lantern  
if you have  
one**

**1940s style  
clothing  
encouraged**

**RBL** - If you have been following our notices in the Glaven Valley News then you will know that we are on a mission! A mission to make ourselves as relevant to the Forces Community, country wide, as we can possibly be. There are serious cases in our Armed Forces, and with those who are ex-forces, of PTSD at various levels together with anxiety and depression. One of the tools that we can very efficiently use, is to link those with these sorts of conditions to others with property in the area who might be prepared to allow an occasional use of it for respite by those who really would benefit from a short pastoral break in beautiful North Norfolk. As well as signposting the beneficiaries to people willing to make accommodation available, we're also developing links to improve access to nature and the opportunity to be creative - particularly in art - all of which can be very therapeutic.

So, if you could see your way to facilitating this sort of therapeutic respite care - perhaps once every year or two and out of season, it would really, really help. Please contact our secretary, Helen, and we can talk through the details. You would be making a fantastic contribution.

**Further details from Helen Gimson**  
[helen.gimson@btinternet.com](mailto:helen.gimson@btinternet.com)  
**07966 494423**

**BLAKENEY SURGERY – ICB**  
(Integrated Care Board) responses to  
questions posted at the Blakeney Annual  
Parish Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
(Can be viewed at GVN Online)  
The full copy of the minutes of the  
Blakeney Annual Parish Meeting can  
be viewed  
at [www.blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
or a hard copy may be obtained via the  
parish clerk.

## VACANCY

**The Joint Dinghy Park Management Committee** now has a vacancy for one member of the public to join the Committee. Could this be you?

The Committee comprises of members of the Parish Council, The Blakeney Sailing Club, members of the Public, Blakeney Harbour Association and has regular input from The National Trust.

The Committee meets around 3 or 4 times a year/as and when required. The main work over the past few years has been to bring the Dinghy Park up to a decent and user-friendly standard for all, and this has now largely been achieved.

If you would like to become involved and would like more information, then please contact the Parish Clerk, Tracey Bayfield, on 01263 741106, or email: [clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Closing date for applications: 16th May 2024**

**EXTRACTS FROM the Minutes of the  
BLAKENEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
which was held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 in  
the Village Hall.  
Public Attendance: - 89**

**COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS**

**GLAVEN CARING ICO** – Alan Collett - Thank you to the Parish Council for granting the charity a sum of £500. Dr Tony Allibone started the charity in 1974, some 50 years ago, providing the elderly a warm and friendly welcome, in a relaxing atmosphere. This basic premise has continued and grown. This year it is celebrating its 50th anniversary, more news of which will follow!

It is managed by three committees, the supporters committee, the staff committee, and the trustees. The clients have traditionally come from the twelve villages of the Glaven Valley plus Holt. Today the boundaries are a little more flexible. It is the charity's intention that the first passenger picked up, by its bus should be in the centre one hour later. Negotiations are ongoing with Fakenham Age Concern to provide its bus to transport clients to and from the villages of Briston and Melton Constable.

The centre, its staff and many volunteers provide just what the clients require, be it quiet, or conversation, music or games, lunch or coffee and cake. The activities are carefully planned and tailored to those that come through the front door. We enjoy visits from Pets as Therapy, such as PAT dogs, or rabbits or horses. The trustees are currently working on a policy to enable clients to bring their own pets to the centre. Perhaps greyhounds and rabbits on the same day would not be such a clever move.

Recently at a Safeguarding training session, one person voiced that the knowledge gained at the previous training session about Dementia, was exactly the knowledge they would have liked to have had when they had been caring for a family member with dementia. It seemed to strike a chord. There is a need to educate/support those caring for and living with Dementia. Glaven Caring is going to hold an event to provide the opportunity to do just this and maybe if successful, hold more than one. The details are being worked out, but support is being sought and provided by the Holt Medical Practice with which the charity has had historic close connections. The charity currently provides the hot meals for the Poppy Café or Club in Holt once a month, and looks forward to further cooperation with this venture.

**GLAVEN VALLEY NEWSLETTER** – My name is Oscar Haynes, and I look after the production and distribution of the Glaven Valley Newsletter. In my opinion, the GVN exemplifies all that is good about a local magazine. Each month, with the help of over 45 volunteers, we print, collate, staple, and deliver 1500 copies throughout the valley. Most of these are hand delivered to each door, with copies put in each of the various churches, and about 30 posted to various parts - to people who have left the location, but who still want to be kept in touch.

We have two basic principles, which I strongly believe in. First, that the GVN should be delivered to anyone who wants it, and secondly, that it should be free. From time to time there have been suggestions that there should be a charge for the magazine, and that second homes and holiday homes should not receive copies, or - at least - that they should pay for them. To keep track of those people who do or do not want to receive a copy and pay or not, would be an administrative nightmare, and I know, from personal contact and feedback that many second homers greatly appreciate the magazine and use the yellow pages to look for locally supplied services, and make financial contributions.

Regarding the question of charging, our objective is not to make money, but, rather, to provide an informative and hopefully interesting and entertaining publication for the community. Our costs do keep increasing, but as long as we can break even thanks to the generous donations from residents and Blakeney Parish Council, and the advertising revenue, then we are happy.


The other subject which sometimes comes up is “why don't we get into the 21st century and go digital - rather than this archaic paper version”. During lockdown, we had no option, and we set up the GVN on line (as it still is), but - interestingly - the vast majority of people we have asked say that they value, and would much prefer a paper copy - and that is what we intend to continue with. Also, of course, not everyone has internet facilities...

Regarding the production of the GVN, for many years we have done this in a small shed in Glandford, but the collapse of the ceiling after heavy rain prompted us to look round for an alternative, and we are very grateful to the Blakeney Village Hall for making one of the changing rooms here available. Our volunteers much appreciate a warmer, drier environment, and now here we have our printer, collator, electric stapler and - perhaps - the most important item of equipment, namely this wonderful hammer! I would personally like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers. We very much appreciate the positive feedback we have for the GVN, and we hope we can continue to provide this for the whole community.

**BLAKENEY NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING SOCIETY** – *(written by John Seymour; Chairman)* The BNHS was formed just after the second world war and currently owns 39 houses, mainly in Blakeney, plus two in Wiveton and three in Cley. A further four cottages, owned by the Society, in Cley are subject to a long-term lease with Broadland Housing Association. Houses are let to people with a birth connection to Blakeney or one of the surrounding villages. This makes us almost unique in the country. It is something to be celebrated as without the existence of the Society many more homes would become holiday cottages or second homes. We are aware of the occasional negative comment but rightly or wrongly, we have a policy of not means testing except at the point of awarding a tenancy agreement. This is a topic which gets raised from time to time and I am pleased we have, so far, kept to one of the founding principles of the Society.

Silence Peace Presence  
Contemplation  
and  
Candlelighting  
for  
Peace Healing & Reconciliation

Every Tuesday and  
2nd Sunday of each month  
6.p.m in Wiveton Church



**The Focus of the Meeting  
is 20 minutes of Silent Prayer**

Just turn up or contact Mary 07875 676663

***Just turn up or contact Mary on 07875 676663***

\*\*\*\*\*

It isn't easy. Having put Covid behind us we were then immediately faced with the energy crisis followed by high rates of inflation and soaring costs. This led us to making the difficult decision to peg rents again in 2023 for the third year running at their 2019 level. We have increased rents for 2024 but we will never recover the three years we lost in terms of revenue.

Costs for repairs and renewals have also increased significantly. Consequently, we are now having to make difficult decisions about many items which we were able to do prior to 2019 which we now can no longer afford. One very good example is with windows. Whereas we were installing new double-glazed windows whenever the opportunity arose, we are now having to resort to repairing frames and upgrading the secondary glazing. In 2023 we had a deficit of £56,000 necessitating depleting the funds in our reserves. That is not sustainable over the longer term.

The Society is responsible for such work as exterior painting, boiler servicing, chimney sweeping, smoke and heat alarm servicing. Every year we are replacing several boilers and wood burning stoves. We have looked into air source heat pumps but the conversion costs make it economically unviable for both tenant and Society.

As reported last year, Energy Performance Certification surveys have been completed. The majority of houses fell into the E grade category which is currently the lowest grade acceptable. The government had set a revised target of C grade to be achieved by 2028. In some ways we have been fortunate as the Government has backed down on its' target. Two houses we have refurbished have achieved C grade.

Electrical Certification is ongoing and is about 95% complete. This has to be redone every five years for rented properties and the cycle is already beginning to repeat itself.

In 2023 there were two tenancy changes. One of the Morston Road cottages houses was refurbished and now has a new tenant who had been on the waiting list for some time. The other was when a tenant was able to purchase a house and has moved away from the village. In turn his house is now occupied by the former tenant and family from Little Lane.

One significant matter arose during 2023 which caused the committee a lot of soul searching. 1 Little Lane, one of the John Wallace legacy cottages, became vacant and quoted costs to refurbish it were beyond what we could realistically consider. Reluctantly we decided to sell the property which caused some unfortunate and ill-considered comment locally. John Wallace was aware this could happen and, in his Will, he specifically covered the point we must not be tied to keeping any property if it was no longer viable. 1 Little Lane is on the market and under offer again and in anticipation of selling it the Society is in the process of buying a replacement in Queens Close.

The proposed joint development between BNHS and Broadland Housing Association is moving forward at an incredibly slow and frustrating pace. Our contact within the BHA has recently advised they hope it will be ready to start building later in 2025. Time will tell. I expect it to be closer to 2026.

A great piece of news for the Society and we believe, the Community, is the very real likelihood of the War Memorial Cottage Trust being transferred to the Housing Society. Both parties are in favour of the move so it will, hopefully, go ahead without any problems. The Trust Deed which determines how the trust acts will be part of the transfer.

The Housing Society Committee works well. The Officers (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Housing Officer, and Rent Officer) are in regular contact between meetings dealing with day-to-day matters as they arise. We meet with the rest of the Management Committee every two months.

We do need new committee members. Several of the existing members are over 70 and it is only a matter of time before they will want to step down. If anyone would like to join us, please get in touch. The Society is too important for the Community not to have an active and vibrant committee.

**BLAKENEY PARISH COUNCIL** - Report for the past year and a glance to the year ahead by Rosemary Thew (Chairman)

This has been a very busy year for Blakeney parish council. But before coming to all that has been going on, I would like to bring you up to date with changes to your serving councillors. Last May, Edward Hackford decided to stand down as a councillor after just about 8 years. Our thanks to Edward for all he did. I am pleased to say that we had a good level of interest in filling the councillor vacancy, with the result that there was a contested election and Judy Pegden and Mike Reed were elected. The council is delighted they have joined us, both bringing a wealth of local knowledge to the table. So, thanks to them for what they are doing and grateful thanks too to our County Councillor, Michael Dalby, and our District Councillor, Victoria Holliday, who seems to have 36 hours in every day. And, of course, thanks too, to my fellow parish councillors who, in their various ways, contribute to the good of the village. So, to the work we have been doing.

**Blakeney Medical Surgery** - For nearly 3 years now, Blakeney parish council, and particularly Nigel Sutcliffe, has been fighting for the restoration of medical services to the surgery. Services were withdrawn in 2019 and the surgery has since been used mainly for prescriptions. A decision about closure needs to be taken by the Integrated Care Board who met on 13 February. They decided to defer a decision until 23 April to explore further the practice's proposed strategy for mitigation. Blakeney parish council believes the proposed mitigation to be inadequate and will be seeking improvement.

**Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan** - After 6 years work, involving people from the council and the wider community, the Blakeney neighbourhood plan has finally been made following a village wide referendum. This means that all planning applications have to be considered against the plan both by Blakeney parish council and by North Norfolk District Council before decisions are made. The plan seeks to set benchmarks for housing design, lighting etc. as well as protecting the very special environment in which we live.

**Housing** - As previously reported, it remains an ambition of Blakeney parish council to provide more affordable housing. As I said last year, we are in discussion with Blakeney Neighbourhood Housing Society in particular, but there are a number of legal and administrative hurdles beyond our joint control, and progress is frustratingly slow.

**Maintenance Issues** - We consulted last year about whether to keep street lights on. There was a mixed response, but the majority view seemed to be to have street lighting on until about midnight and then again in the morning. This view was based mainly on safety concerns and that was the decision taken by the council. Blakeney parish council is now seeking grant funding for a replacement upgrade of the street lighting stock with LED bulbs which are cheaper to run and longer lasting.

Maintenance work is being done to the village hall car park and, in conjunction with the National Trust, to the Carnser car park both of which get very heavy use. Blakeney parish council also works with Norfolk County Council about highway repairs

and, finally, work was done to Back Lane to improve inadequate yellow line painting and road patching.

A trod has now been put on Langham Road to protect pedestrians walking from the south of Kingsway to the public footpath near Scargills. 'Village Gateways' are also to be installed on roads leading in to the village in an attempt to calm speeding traffic. And the entrance to the overflow car park on Langham Road has been improved for safety reasons. All these projects are receiving financial help from Norfolk County Council.

**Plans for the Next Year** - A village wide consultation showed support for the installation of a site for pétanque/ French boules. An application is being made for grant funding, and the same for the replacement of the football goals on the village playing field, after a request from the young people of our community.

Blakeney parish council is continuing the work already underway to replace old commemorative seats and replace them with new, uniform ones; the now annual Party on the Pastures is planned for 18 August and the end of season bonfire event for 26 October; a village noticeboard is planned to show the location of key sites (shops, churches etc.) within the village.

Finally, the former Scout Hut, now known as the Parish Room, is available for hire. Please do consider it as you plan for parties or other events. In addition, you may have ideas about how the Room might be used for business purposes. Blakeney parish council would be pleased to hear from you if so.

My conclusion: there's a huge amount going on. Blakeney parish council is working hard to ensure that the village in which we live is somewhere we can be proud of. But we could not do all this without our hardworking and tireless clerk.

**GUEST SPEAKERS – THE FUTURE OF BLAKENEY SURGERY**

*How we got here – Nigel Sutcliffe Blakeney Parish Council*

I reported at last year's APM as to where we were. At that point in time, we had received formal notification from the ICB that HMP wanted to close Blakeney Surgery on the grounds 'it is no longer economically viable.' The next issue was for HMP to enter its 'Patient Consultation Phase' which commenced with the public meeting held at this Village Hall on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023. Those who attended that meeting would recall the huge number of people who attended including many who could not get in due to fire regulations. You will also recall the overwhelming support for both the retention of the surgery and the need for it to return to full face-to-face consultations.

At this point I should inform you that BPC did write to the ICB before the HMP consultation commenced to express their lack of confidence in HMP, effectively conducting their own review, in that they were not independent or objective enough to do it. We got no reply. It is worth noting that a sub-group to combat the proposed closure was formed comprising the chairman of BPC, our District Councillor, former G.P.'s Doctors Chapman and Archer and myself. We were active

throughout the 'Patient Consultation Phase' putting our case forward whenever we could. This activity included placing banners to stop the closure of the surgery, it included a petition with hundreds of signatures on it to stop the closure, and an information point at the 'Party on the Pastures.'

At the halfway point in this consultation BPC wrote to both HMP and copied in the ICB to point out that it had been constructed in favour of what HMP wanted - that is closure. The bulk of HMP's patients were and are unaffected by the closure of Blakeney surgery only the patients that used that facility are affected. The survey conducted by HMP contained nothing within it about the return of full medical services to Blakeney and some of their published papers indicated that whatever the ICB decision was Blakeney surgery may still have to close. Our concerns were rejected by HMP which was no surprise as it was not in their interest.

It is worth noting at this point that the Open Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> August is the only time that HMP engaged directly with their patients in the whole of their Patient Consultation Phase. They also did not engage with media interest in the reasons behind their decision to want to close Blakeney surgery. The final submission by BPC during this consultation phase explained the stealth nature by which services had been withdrawn from Blakeney by HMP and most importantly it explained that their patient income, surgery income and prescription income made it perfectly viable for Blakeney surgery to be kept open, with a doctor, nurse, and receptionist. The submission also identified the substantial difficulties in getting to High Kelling or Melton Constable surgeries.

I am afraid all of our work was ignored by all involved in this process and the submission by HMP to the ICB was too close Blakeney surgery. At this stage another NHS organisation the PCCG who actually makes the final decision on closure, got involved and they determined to defer that decision to the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 so that the ICB could consult further on 'mitigation' issues. This relates to the collection of repeat medications it does mean, I doubt, that the decision to close will be rejected. Members of the ICB are here tonight to discuss this further so please have your say.

The problem we have is that HMP has a monopoly of franchised medical services to all within its area. In other words, if we don't like what they offer we have nowhere else to go to get medical services. It follows they are telling us what and how we will receive medical services and we, as has been proved by this exercise, have no say in it. Remember we have had two independent public surveys conducted by Healthwatch Norfolk and our MP Mr Baker which showed overwhelming support to keep Blakeney surgery open as it had been before HMP undertook their course of action to close it. You may recall last year I introduced Healthwatch as a new ally in our struggle. That did not last long since they chaired the open meeting at this Village Hall and they helped design and have validated the Patient Consultation Phase of HMP closure plan.

I will conclude by assuring you that we have done everything we can in this battle to keep Blakeney surgery open, but the problem is no one is listening to our structured and reasoned arguments. HMP have said from the start that the surgery will close and that is what is going to happen. It would be nice if

those involved in this really cared about the patients who have already and will be further affected by it – thank you.

*Concerns about the consultation & its legality – District Cllr, Victoria Holliday*

I would just like to preface my statement by saying I am one of the few people in this room who actually worked as a GP at Blakeney Surgery, seeing patients who were on occasion quite ill, and that I found the set up perfectly satisfactory.

The current engagement by the Integrated Care Board and the previous consultation by Holt Medical Practice on the closure of Blakeney Surgery are wrong on many levels. There has been no public consultation on the removal of dispensing, GP, and nurse appointments from Blakeney Surgery, which despite what the Integrated Care Board and the practice are telling us, first occurred before Covid. We're told the Patient Participation Group was informed at various stages, but that is hardly a comprehensive engagement with the community.

As a result of our fight to keep Blakeney Surgery open, new policy has been brought in by the integrated Care Board which requires public consultation for changing what is offered at a branch surgery. However, the Integrated Care Board refuses to do this retrospectively for Blakeney Surgery. Obviously, a public consultation is seen as important so why aren't we being offered one? It feels as if access to healthcare for branch surgery patients has been taken away without the decision going through the proper channels.

The practice's previous consultation, and the current engagement by the Integrated Care Board, are on what options are open to patients in Blakeney and surrounding villages no longer able to collect medicines from Blakeney. Why is there no public consultation on what options are open for patients no longer able to see a GP or nurse at Blakeney? This is being swept under the carpet.

How are any of these consultations taking into account the Integrated Care Board's legal duty to improve the quality of services for patients, including improving patient experience? And their legal duty to make it possible for all patients to access the same level of healthcare, including those who live far away from the surgery, or live alone, or have no transport, or are elderly and infirm?

Just think of the demographics of Blakeney and surrounding villages; over half of the patients say they have a disability, more than 40% are over 65, almost a fifth have no transport, almost half live alone. The patients who attend Blakeney Surgery are being disproportionately harder hit by the closure simply because of where they happen to live and where they happen to be in life. And I haven't heard how these consultations are taking into account the Integrated Care Board's legal duty to work towards net zero and reduce carbon emissions. Instead, they will be increasing them by almost 19 tonnes of CO2 a year. The practice would need to offset this enormous increase by planting over 700 trees annually which will take about an acre of land each year. I don't see any plans for that.



I urge you all to write to the Integrated Care Board asking for a full and rigorous consultation on the permanent withdrawal of GP and nurse appointments, as well as medicine collection from Blakeney Surgery, which takes into account the Integrated Care Board's legal duty to look after its patients equally, and to look after the planet.

**Sadie Parker – Director of Primary Care – NHS Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care Board (ICB) & Mark Burgis – Executive Director of Patients and Communities** gave a presentation with slides. (Pg. 10 and 11 are copied below.)

**We want to focus on the issue of medicines collection:**

- 85% of people supported collecting medicines from a different Blakeney based site – **tell us more, e.g.** What will the building need to offer? Accessibility? Parking? Opening hours? What about access issues such as pavement? Location?
- Delivery was a popular suggestion and whilst the practice can deliver some prescriptions, online pharmacies were also suggested – **tell us more, e.g.** What support and information would people need to access online pharmacies or deliveries from high street pharmacies?
- There was very limited support (5.8%) for the vending machine idea – **tell us why e.g.** Is there anything that would help or encourage people to use them?
- Comments were made that many people, especially older people were not confident with using mobile phones and the internet – **tell us more, e.g.** Is there anything that could be done to help people learn new skills?
- Many comments raised concerns about what would happen if the prescription was wrong, or the patient had questions – **tell us more, e.g.** What support and information would people need to contact the pharmacy or dispensary?
- Is there anything else about medicines collection that concerns you? Are there other ideas?

**Next steps;** No decision has yet been made following the application to close Blakeney branch surgery. We need more information to help us complete our thinking about how the most vulnerable people might be affected and how they could be supported if the decision is taken to close. We want to hear from people in Blakeney and surrounding villages – we have asked the parish councils for help – please let us know if there are other opportunities. The final decision will be taken by the Primary Care Commissioning Committee **after 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024**. Written feedback will be accepted up to Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. (These dates have been adapted in line with the Pre-election guidance for NHS organisations Spring 2024.)

**Duncan Baker MP** – Huge thanks to everyone involved in this so far, everyone here this evening and more. What we are seeing here is wholly unacceptable to our community. We

get the feeling that the ICB are simply delaying the inevitable. The mitigation put forward is totally unacceptable, this is an area that desperately needs medical services, in an area which does not have a good enough public transport network.

**Questions/views from the public** – were listed by the ICB and they will be type out the questions and responses and send to BPC. (They are within the pages of this edition of the GVN)

**Holt Area Caring Society (voluntary drivers)** – Peta Benson – Our volunteers take people from the whole of the Holt medical practice catchment area and we have done our best over the last 45 years. We keep the cost as low as possible, at a 50p a mile charge. Blakeney to Holt is around £5 or £6. Whilst we do our best, sadly sometimes, we do have to say no, to requests.

**Duncan Baker MP – Going forward** – Many thanks to all of you for attending this evening, including the ICB. There are 42 ICBs around the country. It is worth remembering that we, the public, are their customers, and it is the taxpayers which fund the ICB. And as customers, it is clear that we are not happy with the mitigation being proposed. We wish it to be accepted that we are happy with what Holt medical practice does offer, BUT this mitigation being offered, is simply not good enough.

**BLAKENEY PARISH COUNCIL -**

[www.blakeneyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.blakeneyparishcouncil.org.uk)

(01263 741106)

Email: [clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@blakeneyparishcouncil.org.uk)



**Car Park Permits for the 2024 Season** - All existing permits expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and it is your responsibility to renew them.

**The Parish Office is open on a Tuesday & Thursday morning between 9am and 11am. At other times by appointment only.**

**Carnser Car Park – Residents Permits** – If you are a resident of the Electoral Roll for Blakeney and have your 2024/25 Council Tax Bill, then you can reapply for a new permit for the 2024 season. You can apply in the Parish Office in person, by email, by post or pop your application in the letterbox. Please make sure that you know your vehicle registration number as this is printed on each permit issued and held on the register, or bring last year's permit in with you, along with your proof of residency if you still have the same vehicle.

**Coronation Car Park** – All persons eligible for a permit, who require one (i.e. must live in the High Street as permanent residents and have no other parking facilities, sorry no second home owners), should be applying to renew their permits as soon as possible. You must not park on this car park without a valid permit, or you will be fined via the Fixed Penalty Notice system.

## 2024 - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Grays Travelling Funfair** – On the Carnser; Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2024; operating on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> inclusive

**Bingo in the ‘Big Top’** – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**Party on The Pastures:** - Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**End of Season Bonfire & Fireworks:** - Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2024. (Plan B is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October)

If you are interested in helping at either event or joining us in some capacity, then do get in touch and we will keep your details on file, until we start planning in earnest.

**A reminder: VISITORS/GUESTS/HOLIDAYMAKERS please be aware...**

**NO OVERNIGHT PARKING ON THE CARNSER CAR PARK** – It has been brought to our attention that several people staying in holiday cottages in Blakeney, are told by the owners of the cottages that they can park overnight on the Carnser Car Park on Blakeney Quay. This is not true, the signs advise that **no overnight parking** is permitted on The Carnser, and this is due to the fact that the Carnser Car Park is liable to unpredictable tidal flooding. Many of the vehicles that are caught out and flooded have been parked overnight on the Car Park when they should not have been. There are alternative car parks for overnight car parking, including Coronation Car Park and Blakeney Village Hall Car Park.

*Please do help us to spread the word, many thanks.*

## **EXTRACTS FROM THE APRIL FULL COUNCIL MEETING...**

**Chairman’s Announcements** – Having attended the online webinar re. Digital switchover update the chairman gave a brief update on the session as had the district councillor in her written report. Analog is due to be switched off by the end of 2025 and all telephone providers will contact their customers ahead of the switchover, although we are most concerned with how vulnerable people will cope with this change. (*See separate article within the pages of the GVN.*)

**Planning Items** – PF = Full Planning Permission, PM = Planning Permission – Reserved Matters, LA = Alteration to Listed Building & Appeals.

**PF/24/0332 & LA/24/0333** – *Proposal; Internal and external works associated with renovation of dwelling at, Ivy House, 121 High Street, Blakeney. Resolved;* No Objection.

**PF/24/0348** – *Proposal; Erection of two-storey front extension, raising of roof of single-storey side extensions, insertion of dormer windows on front and rear and external alterations at, 29 The Pastures, Blakeney. Resolved;* Object for the following reasons; i) Overlooking of the neighbouring property, resulting in privacy issues, ii) Overdevelopment of the site which lies within the Conservation Area.

**LA/24/0372** – *Proposal; Works including replacement of all guttering, down pipes, waste pipes to the exterior of the building, repairs and repainting of windows and repairs to roof at, Friary Farmhouse, Cley Road, Blakeney. Resolved;* No Objection.

**RV/24/0519** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission PF/23/1149 (Alterations to garage including modifications to roof to join it to the main roof to accommodate a bedroom in roof space and proposed rear extension) to allow enlargement of, and lowering in height of, rear extension at; Avalon, 8A Morston Road, Blakeney. Resolved;* No Objection.

**PF/24/0470** – *Proposal; Erection of 1.5 storey extension to front elevation of dwelling, single storey extension to rear, pitched roof to existing garage and new dormer windows to front and rear; replacement roof materials at, Cobbles, New Road, Blakeney. Resolved;* No Objection, subject to the CPRE Standard Light Pollution Clause being adhered to.

## **FINANCE**

**Accounts** totalling £10,263.14 are to be paid.

**Reports from Representatives on Other Committees/Groups** which have met recently;

**Blakeney Surgery** – *Cllr Nigel Sutcliffe.*

Since my last update the Annual Parish Meeting took place on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and was well attended by local people. At that meeting presentations were given by our Chairman, District Councillor, MP, and myself. Sadie Parker representing the ICB also gave a presentation and took questions on the proposed closure of Blakeney surgery and the issue of mitigation as outlined in the HMP submission to close the surgery. The questions raised at the meeting were insightful and searching in nature and most were taken away by the ICB to provide answers, and we have now received those and they have been placed on our website. Sadie Parker reminded everyone present that no decision had yet been made by the PCCG regarding the request from HMP to close the surgery.

A number of local representatives had also attended the Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (NHOSC) meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 where the issue of closure and of the process of how we have got to where we are was discussed by that group who represent Norfolk County Council and can submit ‘her call-in powers’ to the Secretary of State. A decision regarding this was not made since the ICB reminded the NHOSC that no decision had yet been made to close the surgery. A submission is to be made to this Committee, on all of the above issues, which has been prepared by Dr Archer. In addition, a paper on governance issues has been prepared by Alexandra Hooper of Stiffkey Parish Council which will also be submitted.

At our APM in 2023 I introduced Healthwatch and their role in the process, and considered them as a new ally in our campaign to keep the surgery open. In the discussions we had with them they were supportive of our position and undertook



a public survey on our behalf which revealed some useful data not least of which was a desire by those surveyed to keep the surgery open. They then became distant from us and the next thing we knew they were advising HMP on what they needed to do to close. They provided the chair of the open meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023, who you will recall informed everyone present that he was a retired GP, that he understood where HMP were coming from and that their Patient Consultation Phase, of which that meeting was the start, was more comprehensive than needed to undertake. Many attendees at that meeting felt the chairmanship was less than impartial.

Healthwatch also staffed drop-in centres during the consultation phase and more importantly they have validated the data gathered by HMP, a fact which had been used by the ICB in their presentations to the PCCG. I feel the lack of impartiality and objectivity by Healthwatch, Norfolk is of concern.

Healthwatch, Norfolk is funded by Norfolk County Council and their role, 'is to hold the health and social care system to account on behalf of all...' Their objectives include: -

1. Providing information and advice to the general public about local health and social care services.
2. Making the views and experiences of members of the general public known to health and social care providers.
3. Enabling local people to have a voice in the development, delivery, and equality of access to local health and social care facilities.
4. The promotion of high standards by health and social care providers.
5. Providing training and the developments of skills for volunteers and the wider community in understanding, scrutinizing, reviewing, and monitoring local health and social care services and facilities.

Have Healthwatch have stepped out of their remit with regards to HMP. Who initiated their change in actions was it HMP, the ICB or whoever?

BPC will raise the lack of independent objectivity by Healthwatch, Norfolk as a formal complaint with Norfolk County Council.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE –**

**Village/Business Signage Board** – It has been confirmed that solid colours are to be used (as opposed to pastel, noted previously).

We will draw up a draft consultation document along with a list of proposed consultees, based on the recommendations from the **Traffic Matters Working Group** regarding the future operation of the village hall car park.

We shall proceed to explore and obtain more detail on possible installation of **CCTV** on the quay to cover the

Carnser & dinghy park area, following the theft of a number of kayaks in 2023. Blakeney Harbour Association to be approached and asked if they would take the lead on this and its funding.

**For information only; NNDC Planning Decisions or Updates, or any Planning Inspectorate Appeals since our last meeting; most available on NNDC website.**

**PF/23/2598 – Southgate, Wiveton Road, Blakeney – Granted.**

**PF/24/0186 – Fairland, Morston Road, Blakeney – Granted.**

**PF/23/2177 – Curlews, Morston Road, Blakeney – Withdrawn.**

**LA/24/0282 & PF/24/0281 – Morgan Cottage, 97 High Street, Blakeney – Granted.**

#### **YOUR SERVING PARISH COUNCILLORS ARE:-**

Rosemary Thew – 740555 – Moonraker, Back Lane  
Nigel Sutcliffe – 741714 – Dallinga, 71 Morston Road  
Jenny Girling – 741048 – 11 Queens Close  
Samantha Arlow – 741297 – 40 Langham Road  
Alban Donohoe – 741741 – Ivy House, Back Lane  
Shirley Everett – 740819 – Southside, 87 Morston Road  
Barry Girling – 740792 – 11 Queens Close  
Willie Weston – 740910 – 27 Queens Close  
Iain Wolfe – via the Parish Office  
Judy Pegden – 741497 – 8 Wilsons Way  
Mike Reed – 07760 162344 – 2 Memorial Cottages, New Road

*Annual General Meeting (AGM); Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024, followed immediately after by the Full Council meeting.*

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## Thoughts from the Rectory

Dear Friends,

On a lot of days throughout the Church's calendar, someone or other is commemorated – someone who's played a notable part in the history of the church. Some of them are widely known. March 1<sup>st</sup> is St David's Day, December 26<sup>th</sup> is St Stephen, etc. Even the angels get in on the act (29<sup>th</sup> September, St Michael, and All Angels)! But many easily pass unnoticed.

The month of May throws up a wonderful variety. To name a few: the apostles Philip and James (1<sup>st</sup>); the medieval mystic, our own Julian of Norwich (8<sup>th</sup>); the evangelists and hymn-writers John & Charles Wesley (24<sup>th</sup>); the historian The Venerable Bede (25<sup>th</sup>); Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury (26<sup>th</sup>); and two extraordinary social reformers – Caroline Chisholm (16<sup>th</sup>) and Josephine Butler (30<sup>th</sup>). Quite a mixture!

And it emphasises for me how every community of any sort, including every church, needs everyone's contribution, with all our different gifts and temperaments. Not just historians and leaders and trail-blazers, but everyone... people who care about social welfare, those with a special concern for the poor, those with practical or administrative skills, those who are great organisers, those who are born encouragers, and so on. The list is endless. This idea of everyone being unique, and having something unique to contribute to the whole "body," is pretty central in Christian theology – St Paul had lots to say about it. And I think it's vital for any organisation. We all have something to offer, and a part to play, whether that's in church or in our wider village community.... without or without our own day in the calendar!

As we watch scenes of suffering on our televisions, or read gloomy statistics about our society, it's easy to despair and feel powerless to make a difference. But we can all make a difference where we are.

Have you heard the story about a boy walking along a beach and finding thousands of washed-up starfish? He bent down to throw one back in. Someone further along the beach shouted: "What are doing that for? What difference will that make?" And the boy called back: "It will make a big difference for that one."

*May God bless you, and may you bless others.*

*Richard*

### FRIENDS OF BLAKENEY AGM

Please note that this will be held in church on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm. Do join us for that and find out more about all that the Friends have been doing recently! See you there.

*Richard*

More information, as always, is available on our benefice website: [www.glavenvalleychurches.org.uk](http://www.glavenvalleychurches.org.uk) You may find you need to click "refresh" when returning to the website, to be sure of the latest information. Or please contact me on [revrichardlawry@gmail.com](mailto:revrichardlawry@gmail.com) or by phone on 740686, if you need information, advice, or help. Contact details are also on the website, and the contacts page of this magazine.

## Other contact details are:

### **BENEFICE OFFICE** 01263 740583

Benefice Administrator Nicola Turner

[admin@glavenvalleybenefice.org.uk](mailto:admin@glavenvalleybenefice.org.uk)

The Benefice Office is open Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm.

### **ASSISTANT CLERGY**

Revd Sarah De Bats 01263 710761  
Revd Jo Fawcett 01328 830415  
Revd Dr Claude Scott 01263 740573

### **LAY MINISTERS**

Dr Roger Bland 01236 740806  
Penny Thewlis 01263 715667

### **CHURCHWARDENS**

#### **Blakeney**

Stephanie Green 01263 740788  
Rosemary Thew 01263 740555

#### **Cley**

Hannah Stevenson 01263 741336  
David Barron 07989 932468

#### **Glandford**

Averil Monteath 01263 740179  
Roger Combe 01263 713901

#### **Letheringsett**

John Pridham 01328 831851

#### **Wiveton**

Stephen de Loynes 07975 813057  
Charles Killin 01263 741744

### **Confirmation:**

The Bishop of Lynn is coming to the benefice on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May to preach and preside at a Confirmation Service – always a special and celebratory occasion – at which Drew Hill and Lorraine Palmer will be confirmed. Do keep Drew and Lorraine and their families in your prayers over these coming weeks, that they will continue to grow in the love and joy of Christ.

### **Weddings:**

This month we look forward to the wedding of Bert Blaize & Beth Perrett in Cley Church on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Congratulations also to Christian Green and Kate Day who were married in Cley Church on 6<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Funerals:**

The funeral of Jenny Lincoln took place in Blakeney Church on 18<sup>th</sup> April.

Also, at Blakeney, on 16<sup>th</sup> May, there will be a Memorial Service for Evelyn Bird.

Please remember their families at this difficult time.

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## **St Peter's RC Church, Back Lane, Blakeney**

Mass Sunday - 11am

Mass Wednesday - 9.30am

Holyday of Obligation 9.30am

[www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org](http://www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org)



## May 2024 SERVICE SCHEDULE

<b>Wed 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am	Cley
<b>SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Easter 6</i>	
8.00	Holy Communion (BCP)	Wiveton
9.30	HC (CW) [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
11.15	Holy Communion (BCP)	Letheringsett
6.00	Taize Service	Cley
<b>Thur 9<sup>th</sup> – Ascension</b>	Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am	Blakeney
<b>SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Easter 7</i>	<i>C AID Week</i>
11.00	Confirmation Service [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
6.00	Service of Meditation	Wiveton
<b>Wed 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am	Cley
<b>SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Pentecost</i>	
9.30	Pentecost Communion [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
9.30	Morning Prayer (CW)	Letheringsett
11.15	Café Church	Cley
6.30	Evensong (BCP)	Wiveton
<b>SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Trinity Sunday</i>	
8.00	Holy Communion (BCP)	Cley
9.30	Holy Communion (CW) [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
11.15	Family Service (All-Age)	Wiveton
6.30	Evensong (BCP)	Glandford



**10 -14<sup>th</sup> July** - Tickets are £15 for each event, including a free Festival

programme. Why not become a **Festival Friend** and support this joyful celebration bringing the arts and the Glaven Valley community together and raising funds for our beautiful churches?

**Festival Friends Membership** for individuals/couples starts at £50/£75 and includes free event tickets and an invitation to the **Festival Friends Reception**.

To sign up contact: Stephen Cottee [stephencottee@btinternet.com](mailto:stephencottee@btinternet.com) 07501828781

**Glaven Valley  
Bereavement Support Group**

will meet on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May  
at Merchants House, Blakeney

4.00pm to 5.30pm.

Anyone who has suffered  
bereavement is very welcome.

Refreshments at 3.50pm

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ROOM, SITTING ROOM WITH OPEN FIRE,  
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We are located in Holkham Village, just along the road from The Victoria.

**RALEIGH**

**HAIBI**

# Cley

Thursdays@Three

## May

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May No 107

**Richard & Friends** - Local celebrity Richard Newton and fellow local musicians entertain with music and songs.

### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May No 108

**A Cley Alphabet of Birds** – Birds & birding in Cley – with complementary music.

Andy Clark (narrator).  
William Earp (narrator)  
Martha Street (narrator)  
John Swallow (narrator)

### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May No 109

#### **Une Flûte Soupire**

Music mainly from the French repertoire.

Wyatt Earp (flute)  
JustinHarmer(piano)

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May No 110

#### **The Encircled Sea**

A look at the Mediterranean in words and music

Adrian Taunton (script writer)  
Harriet Cooper (narrator)  
John Glasspool (narrator)  
Wyatt Earp (flute)  
Angela Dugdale (piano)

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May No 111

#### **In from the Wild**

Recital for Horn and Piano  
Lynne Roberts (French horn)  
Mark Jones (piano)

Wyatt Earp (01263 740902 [weiearp@gmail.com](mailto:weiearp@gmail.com))

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## ***CLEY WI***

**May-July 2024**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>**

### ***Stody Lodge Gardens***

***\*Visit\**** - magnificent azaleas  
and rhododendrons at their best

**Jun 6<sup>th</sup>**

### ***From a Palaeolithic Reindeer to the Portland Vase***

***Lucilla Burn*** presents the  
highlights of her curatorial career

**Jul 4<sup>th</sup>**

### ***Strawberry Tea Blakeney***

**Talks take place in Cley Village Hall,  
NR25 7RJ, at 2.30pm - Free to Members**

Visitors Welcome – Recommended Donation  
£5.00 (includes afternoon tea)

Further details 01263 740225



The summer season of Thursdays@Three started on April 18th. Special highlights are Operatic Favourites with the North Norfolk Opera on Thursday April 15<sup>th</sup> and A Cley Alphabet of Birds on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our Five Churches Festival performance, Making Musicians, performed by the winner of the Norfolk Young Musicians, is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July, and our concert, 'A Night at the Movies', is on 13<sup>th</sup> July. St Margaret's Fair is Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July.

Our church book stall continues to thrive: thank you so much Hanne and Klausbernd for all the effort you put into this. Donations of books are very welcome; they can go in the box near the stall in the church or contact us for collection.

*Thank you all very much indeed.  
Victoria Holliday, Chair, Friends of Cley Church*



## Cley Parish Council's Report

The Integrated Care Board is meeting to decide on the closure of Blakeney Surgery on May 7<sup>th</sup>. It's a virtual meeting by Teams so any of you can join and ask a question (to obtain a link email [nwicb.contactus@nhs.net](mailto:nwicb.contactus@nhs.net)). We have referred the closure to the Secretary of State as we feel due process has not been followed.

We are hoping to refresh our parish community support fund with grant funding ready for next winter. In the meantime, there are other places to go for help such as the Blakeney Food Bank - check out the 'hardship' page on our website, [cleypc.info](http://cleypc.info).

Our intrepid Toad watch team saved over 1000 toads this season which is absolutely brilliant.

There have been reports of suspicious behaviour in the beach car park at dusk. Our beat policeman would be very grateful of any details of cars involved, such as registration numbers or even make.

We've had a meeting with Highways to discuss the safety issues with the steps coming down from the bank into Coast Road at Artemis and we may actually be making progress. The Trails team (who manage the Coastal Path) admit that handrails would be helpful and the steps may need realigning, ideally to access the pavement not the road.

There continue to be complaints regarding the sewage works, both in terms of trucking activity and the odour. Please contact the Clerk if you have any concerns or report directly to Anglian Water on 03457145145.

We are looking for projects for which we can apply to get grant funding from the Hornsea Three Wind Farm community fund. These need to be community based, environmental or sports/recreational. Grants of up to £5000 do not require match funding, which is always a help. A water harvester for the allotments has been suggested but any ideas gratefully received.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday May 9th in the Village Hall at 6.30pm. The agenda will be published on the Notice Board, on the website ([www.cleypc.info](http://www.cleypc.info)) and [we'll mail it out to those on the Parish email list \(if you want to be included in this please email the Clerk\) and the village WhatsApp group](#). Please comment on or ask general questions about Agenda items before the meeting by getting in touch with the clerk or myself, or come along and participate. Minutes are posted as usual on the website.

*Dr Victoria Holliday, Chair*  
*[avictoriaholliday@icloud.com](mailto:avictoriaholliday@icloud.com)*  
*[victoria.holliday@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.holliday@north-norfolk.gov.uk)*  
*07557054629*

**CLEY COMMUNITY CAFÉ EVERY WEDNESDAY**  
You're sure of a warm welcome at the Cley Community Cafe, held every Wednesday from 10-4 in the Village Hall Club Room (round the back). Run by volunteers, it's a place to meet up with your friends and enjoy delicious home baking and tea and coffee. We love dogs. There is optional bingo with chocolate and other goodies as prizes from 2-3.30! We don't charge, but any donations go towards the running costs.

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### **BLAKENEY FILM NIGHT** **VILLAGE HALL**

**"What We Did on Our Holiday"(12A)**  
**Friday 17th May**  
**£5 on the door**

On a visit to family in the Scottish Highlands for Grandad's 75th birthday, a troubled couple (Rosamund Pike & David Tennant) pretend all is well only to have their three children innocently reveal all their biggest secrets.

Warm & witty, this charming film is often hilarious but has its poignant moments too. And amongst a host of well-known actors, Billy Connelly makes for a very memorable Grandad - but it's the children who are the real stars. Added to the fantastic scenery, wonderful acting & great music, it's an absolute treat!

Doors open at 6.30 for a 7pm start  
Bar/Refreshments  
All profits to the Village Hall  
[www.blakeneyvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.blakeneyvillagehall.org.uk)

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## **IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **CLEY FETE**

**The SUMMER FAIR**  
**will be held this year on**  
**SATURDAY 27th JULY 2-5 pm**

**See you there, hopefully on**  
**the church field!**

# Wiveton

The Friends of Wiveton Church

200 Club



Congratulations to Polly Ruff who is our 1st prize winner of the 200 club.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Victoria Egan (Chair)*

## Taizé Prayer

A Service of Song  
Silence & Contemplation



Cley Church  
Sunday 5th May 6 p.m.

The Taizé is an ecumenical Christian community in Taizé Burgundy. It is composed of more than one hundred brothers, from Catholic and Protestant traditions, who originate from about 30 countries across the world.

### WIVETON PARISH ROOM

We are looking for a cleaner.  
Flexible hours. If interested  
please contact Barbara on  
07817000936

Barbara Veitch  
[bpveitch@aol.com](mailto:bpveitch@aol.com)

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# Glandford

## D DAY 80 - Commemorative Event Thursday 6th June 2024

A special evening event is being planned for parishioners including friends and family at the Kings Head, Letheringsett on Thursday 6th June 2024.

This will include a Fish and Chip supper with a welcome drink. At 10pm we will be taking part in the National Beacon lighting ceremony. The cost per person will include a donation to a Forces Charity. Please call Jess at Letheringsett Kings Head on 01263 712691 for booking details.

*Louise Stevens*

## The Really Wild Flower Show

Over the weekend of the 29th and 30th June Natural Surroundings will be holding its first Wild Flower Festival to coincide with the peak time to see wild flowers in our gardens.

Nature-friendly gardening is quite rightly taken centre stage for many gardeners and garden designers. At Natural Surroundings we have been championing wildlife in the garden for decades and this flower show is a celebration of our love for wildflowers. The main event will be The Really Wild Flower Show, a horticultural show with a twist - not a vegetable in sight and all classes featuring wild flowers. There will be 10 classes, for arrangements such as meadow flowers, seaside flowers and garden 'weeds' as well as art and a children's class.

These will be judged on Saturday morning and the show is open to the public from 11am on Saturday while the prizes will be given out on Sunday. There will also be short guided walks around the gardens and meadows on both days and there will be much talk around wild flowers. If you would like to enter then email: [wildlife@naturalsurroundings.info](mailto:wildlife@naturalsurroundings.info) to be sent a Schedule.

*Anne & Simon Harrap  
Natural Surroundings, Bayfield*

***Kelvin Bishop***  
***Plastering Contractor***  
***New Build to Conservation***  
WEYBOURNE

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# AFFORDABLE ART SALE

10am to 4pm

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024**

in the

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# Letheringsett

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### St Andrew's Church

Thank you to our flower ladies who made the church look so lovely for our Easter Day service.

We have the Five Churches Festival again this year from 10th - 14th July and the Letheroingsett concert is on Thursday 11th July. So please could we have the same team plus anyone else who is happy to join us in cleaning the brass chandeliers again?

Tickets for the Festival can be booked at [fivechurchesfestival.com](http://fivechurchesfestival.com)

### After the flood

Just before Easter what turned out to be a small water leak in the church developed just before our Good Friday Meditation service into a more serious flood. However, with many hands and buckets the flow was reduced and by about 8 30pm with help from a local plumber it was stopped. Particular thanks go to the family who all got involved with the calamity and that was even after having set out for their weekend break at 05.00 ish that morning!

**Angel Voices Short Concert** Sunday 7th July 4 30 at St Andrew's Church. Angel Voices the new Blakeney children's choir are performing a short concert to raise funds for resources. There will be a retiring collection, tea and lots of cake. So do come along and hear them sing.

*John Pridham*

### D DAY 80 - Commemorative Event Thursday 6th June 2024

A special evening event is being planned for parishioners including friends and family at the Kings Head, Letheringsett on Thursday 6th June 2024.

This will include a Fish and Chip supper with a welcome drink. At 10pm we will be taking part in the National Beacon lighting ceremony. The cost per person will include a donation to a Forces Charity.

Please call Jess at Letheringsett Kings Head on 01263 712691 for booking details.

*Louise Stevens*

### Langham Dome Museum

**is Open Again for 2024!**

**Registered Charity number 1157742**

The museum was up and running again for the Easter Holidays. It was an incredible start to the season, with lots of families coming along to see what we had to offer. It was so wonderful to be greeting our visitors again, the volunteers were back on parade and working their magic as usual! We shall be open Friday to Sunday, during April and May, then Wednesday till Sunday from June till October. 10am-4pm. Plus all Bank Holidays throughout our open season.

The Spitfire looked ultra-shiny from its wash and polish after the winter season. As you will probably know, we took the decision to leave it 'Airborne' this winter. It was so much easier and safer for the team to use a cherry-picker this Spring, to enable them to reach the plane and spruce it up, rather than all the equipment needed in the past to mount the Spitfire back on it's plinth again. It was always a very anxious few hours for everyone, until the aeroplane was safely installed back on its pedestal!

Scott, our new Manager, has been working hard throughout the winter months, searching out new and interesting lines for our shop. In fact, we had to acquire new shelving units to display all of the new stock! Entrance to the shop is free, so if you're passing, why not pop in and see what we have to offer.

Our Raffle is up and running now. This year, we shall be giving away a total of £950 in cash, so it's definitely worth buying a ticket or two! At the moment they are only available to purchase from the Dome. If there are any local businesses out there that could help us by selling tickets, please get in touch at [admin@langhamdome.org](mailto:admin@langhamdome.org)

Scott is always seeking out new volunteers to join us. If you are interested in joining our 'Happy Crew' please contact him on [admin@langhamdome.org](mailto:admin@langhamdome.org) We shall need all the help we can get this year!

*Deborah Preston. Administrator.*

*Langham Dome Photos/ for the article can be viewed at GVN Online*

## HAPPY MONDAYS

**At The Glaven Centre, Thistleton Court, Blakeney**

Join us in good company for a deliciously nutritious homemade lunch every Monday at 12.30pm, for just £5.00

Please pre-book – call 01263 740762     [info@glavencaring.co.uk](mailto:info@glavencaring.co.uk)

# District Coucillors Report

## From NNDC

### Planning

The current phase of the new Local Plan examination is complete. There may be modifications to the plan coming out of these hearings which will go out to public consultation and possibly another round of Hearings. The new Local Plan hopefully will be finalised by the autumn.

### Benefits

The Household Support Fund has been extended to September 2024. This helps the most vulnerable households with the cost of essentials. NNDC operates an emergency support fund for help with grocery costs. From 6th April it will be easier to obtain a Debt Relief Order which means more residents can access debt relief. There will be 53 Mondays in the financial year 24/25 which means those on Universal Credit miss out on a week's Housing Costs. Almost £100k has been allocated in Discretionary Housing Payments to support tenancy issues, homelessness prevention and to support people to stay within the community.

### Housing

NNDC Cabinet has just approved a new Housing Strategy to provide a framework for the delivery of housing to meet the district's need. A new Housing Allocations Policy will be going out for consultation shortly. This will make the allocation of social housing fairer and hopefully simpler, but you will be able to give us your views. The Task and Finish Group on finding solutions to reduce homelessness in North Norfolk will be reporting its findings May/June. We've had stimulating discussions with various organisations from the Eastern Landlords Association to Emmaus. Eligibility criteria for warm homes grants have been simplified. These are for homes with energy ratings of D-G. This is well worth applying for: get in touch with me if you're interested.

### Finance

A new Economic Growth Strategy has been adopted.

### Environmental Services

The new waste rounds which started April 8th seem to have gone quite well so far. You can contact Serco on 03301099220 or [norfolkwaste@serco.com](mailto:norfolkwaste@serco.com), or get in touch with me with problems.'

### Other news

#### Blakeney Surgery

The decision whether or not to close Blakeney Surgery will be made on May 7th at a virtual meeting of the Integrated Care Board's Primary Care Commissioning Committee. We have written to the Secretary of State for Health to ask for her intervention against the proposed closure.

#### Digital switchover

This is an industry led switch to digital landlines with the old analogue lines switched off by the end of 2025. To be sure, vulnerable customers, i.e. those who are dependent on landlines, need to contact their provider about they

should be preparing for this change. I would encourage you to reach out to those who you think are in this category. I am arranging a meeting with BT to talk about mobile coverage in hard-to-get villages.

### Broadband connectivity

I have been in touch with Openreach to ascertain what their plans are for full fibre roll out to the villages which are not connected. It's very difficult to actually get hold of the build teams in the local area so I'm having to work through the Executive Complaints and Escalations Team!

*Victoria Holliday, District Councillor, Coastal  
07557 054629*

## John Jarvis's 'Monthly Memory Swap'

The next 'Monthly Memory Swap' is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, from 2 – 4pm in the large hall at the community centre.

John will be screening the next of his 'Street Memories of Holt...' in this case of Albert Street and beyond. During an extended coffee or tea break, there will be a chance to stir-up your own memories and stories about Holt of the past, the people, places, and events remembered, both here and in North Norfolk more generally.

We hope you can make it. Do bring along any photos of Norfolk and Holt that you would like to share. **Just turn up for this free event. No booking is necessary.**

### Future Dates for 'John Jarvis's Monthly Memory Swap'

(Usually the third Tuesday of the month)

Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup>, and possibly Tuesday July 16<sup>th</sup> (?)

We take a break in August and start again on:

Tuesday September the 17<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday November 19<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup>, all from 2 to 4pm-ish.

## A proposed World Cinema Club & date for your diary:

'Il Postino' at the Holt Community Centre (The Venue) at 7.00pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May.

Following the positive audience response to the showing of 'Cinema Paradiso' during The February Film Festival, we feel that a **World Cinema Club** showing more of the many wonderful films from around the world would be worthwhile. However, we would like to test if there is an audience by screening **Il Postino** at the **Holt Community Centre (The Venue) on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May**. If this is a success, gauged by advanced ticket sales and attendance on the night, we will go ahead with a full season's programme.

Entry will be £6.50 and tickets are available in person from the Community Centre (Weekdays 9 to 5, cash, or card available, although card payment preferred), or on the website.

If advanced ticket sales suggest a strong desire to support future screenings of World Cinema films, we will propose on the night a winter season of 6 films (September to April). Of course, there are costs associated with doing this (such as film licensing and hall fees) therefore we will propose the sale of season tickets to ensure a sound financial footing as we are keen for any surplus generated to go to supporting the Community Centre. With this base support we hope there will also be further tickets available to purchase on the night. More details, including the cost of season tickets and the films to be shown will be announced on the 29<sup>th</sup> May.

To wet your appetite here is more about our first film *Il Postino* ('The Postman' 1994 PG, 1h 48m).

*Philippe Noiret*, who starred as the projectionist in 'Cinema Paradiso', plays *Pablo Neruda*. *Pablo*, a famous Chilean poet, is exiled to a small Italian island for political reasons. On the island, the unemployed son of a poor fisherman is hired as an extra postman due to the huge increase in mail that this causes. *Il Postino* is to hand-deliver the celebrity's mail to him. Though poorly educated, the postman learns to love poetry and eventually befriends *Neruda*. Struggling to grow and express himself more fully, he suddenly falls in love and needs *Neruda's* help and guidance more than ever....

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in  
**Cley Village Hall**  
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Amnesty International **Saturday 1st June 2024**  
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under 12s ...free  
From Chris: 07719 543256  
[seagul504@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:seagul504@yahoo.co.uk)  
  
<https://www.klezmerland.co.uk/>



## Open Studios: 25th May to 2nd June

The Holt and High Kelling trail is conveniently clustered into two groups of artists on the eastern edge of Holt. We have three artists between the beautiful Georgian market town of Holt and one of Norfolk's premier tourist attractions North Norfolk steam railway, and a further 5 artists a short distance away in leafy High Kelling.

Leaving Holt travel up Grove Lane and visit 3 artists' studios:

Ubiquita - mixed media  
Terrie Clift - fused glass  
Ian Clift - woodwork

Then continue past Holt NNR station to High Kelling where 5 artists are within 100 yards of each other:

Richard Woodfield - fineline drawings  
Rob Linge - resin work  
Tricia Arnold - painting  
Caroline Houchell - mixed media & printing  
Sue Monteath - painting

Please see each individuals' page on the website for opening hours before travelling.

www. [northnorfolkstudios.co.uk](http://northnorfolkstudios.co.uk)



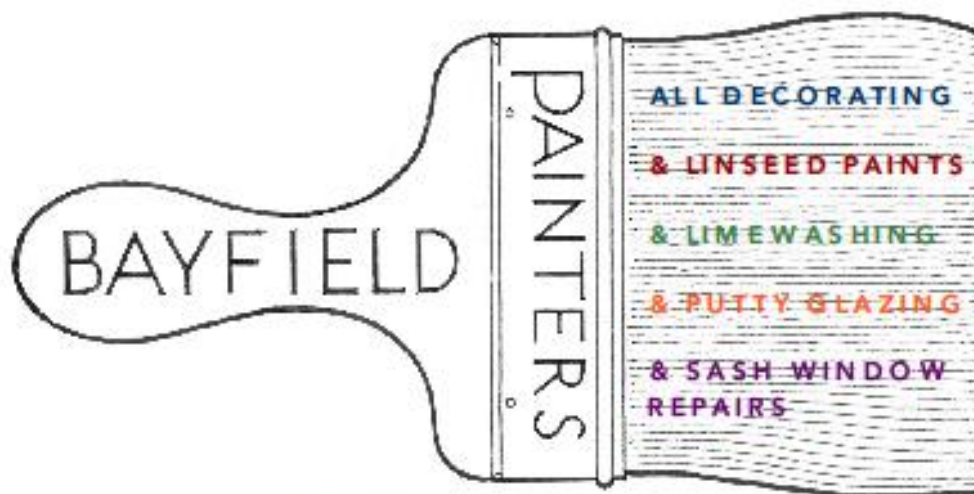
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## For a Five-Year-Old

A snail is climbing up the window-sill  
into your room, after a night of rain.  
You call me in to see, and I explain  
that it would be unkind to leave it there:  
it might crawl to the floor; we must take care  
that no one squashes it. You understand,  
and carry it outside, with careful hand,  
to eat a daffodil.

I see, then, that a kind of faith prevails:  
your gentleness is moulded still by words  
from me, who have trapped mice and shot wild birds,  
from me, who drowned your kittens, who betrayed  
your closest relatives, and who purveyed  
the harshest kind of truth to many another.  
But that is how things are: I am your mother,  
and we are kind to snails.

*Fleur Adcock*



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**THE GREAT  
BLAKENEY BREAKFAST!**  
in **St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney**  
will be held on  
**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May**  
**8am to 11am**  
Last orders for a cooked breakfast at  
**10.30am**

Please do come and join us for cereal, croissants, bacon and eggs, scrambled eggs on toast, and of course, great bacon rolls. It is a great place to bring friends and to make new ones. Visitors to Blakeney are very welcome. Donations welcome.

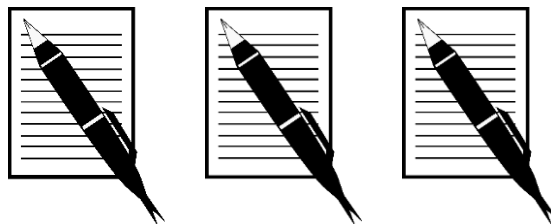
## let's do lunch

in **St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney**  
The Blakeney Lunch will be held on  
**on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May**  
**12noon to 2.00pm.**  
**Our Summer menu will consist of a  
chicken dish or cold meats, an  
option for vegetarians (such as  
tomato & mozzarella tart) a  
selection of salads and choice of 3  
desserts**  
**It's a great place to bring friends and  
to make new ones.**  
**Visitors to Blakeney are very  
welcome.**

## David Gay

**All outside cleaning:**  
Pressure washing - Drive ways & patios -  
Gutter cleaning using skyvac system -  
Window cleaning

**Please phone David on  
07375039363**



## Letter's & Articles

### HEINKEL 111 CRASH LANDS IN THE GLAVEN VALLEY

My father George Chapman who I am named after, was the Police Sergeant in Blakeney during World War II. A story that I heard him tell many times when I was growing up involved the crash of a German Heinkel III at Sharrington, a fifteen-minute drive inland from Blakeney. On May 4<sup>th</sup> 1941, the plane with its four-man crew was returning from the May blitz on Liverpool and was intercepted by RAF fighters over an area known as "The Wash" as they were about to cross the North Sea. The attacking aircraft was either a Boulton Paul Defiant or a Blenheim (both aircraft claimed the attack). The pilot, Alfred V Bachselten, dove the Heinkel through 10,000 feet to evade his attackers, leveled out over the North Norfolk coastline. He then took the aircraft through a right-hand turn and crossed the coastline in the vicinity of Cley. With landing and navigational lights switched on, he committed the stricken plane to a field to the north of the village of Sharrington, near Holt.

When the plane with the call letters "A1+LK" finally came to rest at 01.04 hours in the North Norfolk countryside, three of the crew clambered out and prepared to destroy their aircraft. The Heinkel had survived the crash mostly intact other than the propeller blades which were bent around the engine nacelles and the long glass nose was damaged when the aircraft slid through the twin hedgerows each side of the farm service lane.

After the crew had removed their dead 20-year-old crew member Bruno Kauhardt, who was killed in the fighter attack, they attempted to destroy the Heinkel by a self-destruct device which failed to ignite; they then pumped aviation fuel

from their main tank and ignited the aircraft by soaking their flight maps in fuel.

All that would remain of the aircraft was the burnt-out black shell with the vertical tail which still carried the Luftwaffe swastika insignia and a yellow "L" on the upper wing tip. The Heinkel had previously been painted matt black which was normal practice for night bombers. Shortly after the crash, a local member of the Home Guard, having heard the noise of the approaching aircraft, journeyed up the farm lane on his small motorcycle to investigate. By the time he arrived, the aircraft was on fire with the crew standing beside it. He quickly withdrew from the scene to get assistance, although others speak less charitably of his action. Having had no contact with local inhabitants, the crew decided to walk in the direction of Holt and passed through the village of Letheringset, arriving in Holt in the early hours of Sunday morning where the streets were devoid of people. Having failed to find any police officers to whom they could give themselves up, they decided to head off down the Kelling road towards the coast.

In the meantime, my father was now aware that the crew from this crash had disappeared without trace. He found this rather unusual as German pilots had previously made very little attempt to evade capture after being shot down over Britain. Deciding to expand the search, my father was in the process of rounding up help when he called on Police Constable Barnard who lived in Kelling, only to find him at home with the German crew.

Apparently, PC Barnard was cycling home from his appointed night duties when he came across the surviving crew members at about 6:00 am and took them home, where his wife made them breakfast. They were all enjoying a cup of tea when my father arrived to spoil the party. In other than war time, PC Barnard might well have been publicly commended for his bravery and humane action.

The captured crew were then taken to the main police station in Holt. There the senior officer on duty, no doubt in response to the apparent casual "surrender" was heard to say, "I suppose you Germans think you are going to win this bloody war." Admirable patriotism at this stage of the war, but not the normal courteous expression by the officers of the Norfolk Constabulary that one would expect.

Later that day, the crew was handed over to the military authorities at The Gresham School Hall which had been taken over by the army. The crew was subsequently taken under armed guard by rail to Liverpool Street Station in London on route to a POW camp.

Still with thoughts towards an escape route, Alfred Bachselten sought a corner seat, only to find that on the journey to London all the stations were called "BOVRIL." "We were already there," he said.

As a foot note to this story.

The information in this article was compiled by Russel Reeve who was a member of the United States Eighth Air Force Historical Society, who had been approached by the German Luftwaffe Association for information regarding this crash.

Russell contacted me in December of 1990 to see if I had any materials in my possession belonging to my father that could shed light on this crash. I was able to provide them with the information regarding the crew's capture and crash site; others including the pilot at the reunion were able to provide information on the crash itself.

On the 50th anniversary of the crash, the three German survivors, all in their seventies, visited the farm where they crashed. They met the lady, still living in the same house, who had observed them from her bedroom window when they set fire to the plane. They also visited the grave of Bruno Kauhardt buried at West Raynham, then traced their journey to where they were captured, and finally to Kelling where they visited PC Barnard's wife, who had fed them breakfast and was still living in the same house.

Both PC Barnard and my father had passed away shortly before the request for information was received. My youngest sister Pat was invited to meet the crew; the pilot, Alfred Bachselten, had good memory of my father.

For the crew survivors, the events of May 4<sup>th</sup> 1941 may well have saved their lives as the Luftwaffe rates of attrition were to be high in the forthcoming Battle of Britain and also in the events leading to the conclusion of the war.

*By George Chapman*

## **Evil. Under The Sun or in the Ice and Snow**

As we progress ever further up the path of enlightenment\* the view widens, although perhaps not our ability to understand more of what we see. The utter barbarity of the slave trade and the atrocities inflicted throughout the British and other European Empires are not just unconscionable and unforgivable, but difficult to understand outside their context. Young people learning about them today are understandably appalled and angered by what they are taught, and by being made to feel guilty about the colour of their skin. Feeling bound to respond somehow, they need to apportion blame, even to punish someone. I'm sure many of us feel the same, although self-flagellation is hardly going to do it. So, who do we blame?

Unfortunately, the culprits are long dead, so disfiguring their effigies has to suffice. But what if Edward Colston and the other slave traders could be brought back from the dead and stood in line in the street? What would happen to them? I hope just tomatoes. But the current level of anger makes me wonder. The moral consensus today (at least in the West) is that the world has become more humane, but - as the deaths of so many children in Gaza graphically testify - human nature doesn't change. Revenge doesn't lose its sweetness.

I believe two mistakes are being made. One is judging past centuries against the morality of today. The other is deciding who was guilty. The modern world no longer blames the German people for the Holocaust. The current generation bears no guilt. It's in the past and was perpetrated by an evil regime which, like slave trading, no longer exists\*. To insist



that people should take responsibility and be made to apologise because of the colour of their skin is simplistic, but that of course is the least of it, it is difficult not to see racism lurking in the background. Surely, we can narrow it down a bit more than that? At some point in its history, every country in the world had slaves, and it wasn't just European countries that were involved in the Africa / New World slave trade. But what did 18th-century English peasants, coal miners and mill workers know about it? How were they implicated? Mostly they couldn't read or write, and few would have known where Africa or India were, let alone what was happening there. They were slaves themselves. I interviewed a man born at the end of the nineteenth century who witnessed the last of it. He rushed to join WW1 just to get a coat to wear. He'd had to work in the mud in all weathers with a meal sack to cover him from the rain and the ice and snow\*. Men would steal turnips at night because they were always hungry. One of the gentry he worked for when he was just a boy wanted to take a whip to him because he didn't wash a pony correctly. That was prevented by the intervention of a local man who said. 'You take a whip to that boy and I'll take a whip to you. You're not in India now!' It was a ruling elite that committed the atrocities, and they just happened to be mostly white.

There were two populations in 18th-century England: the rich and powerful and the poor and powerless. If you didn't have a job there was no safety net, and most had trouble finding their next meal or a place to sleep. For every 1000 children born in early-18th-century London, almost 500 died before they were two, generally due to malnutrition, bad water, dirty food, or poor hygiene. Orphans roamed the streets. They didn't attend school and had no chance of improving their lives. Set against 140 deaths in every 1000 on slave ships, it's clear that the lives of the poor in England were no better than those of slaves. If you worked on the land, you were paid so little that unless you kept a pig and could grow your own food you starved, and if you forgot to doff your hat to the landowner's wife you could be thrown out of your house, or worse. The cotton that was picked by slaves in the US came to British cotton mills. Much of the labour there was provided by women and 'pauper apprentices', who were often children below the age of ten. Many of them were orphans sent into factories by the Poor Law authorities, often far from their homes. In 1800 some 20,000 of these children were working in the mills. So, there was slavery at both ends of the cotton thread.

If you worked in a mine or a mill you were given tokens to give back to the mine owner for food and clothing. How is that not slavery by sleight of hand? Little boys as young as ten working below ground squirming into spaces too small for a man to get into. Women and girls worked long hours in the cotton mills under terrible conditions. If you were a slave in Virginia, you could be beaten if you didn't work hard enough. If you were a press-ganged sailor in the British Navy, you could have the skin taken off your back with the lash, or be tied to a rope and dragged under the keel of the ship for little more. To settle even the slightest differences over ideology or lines on a map, European nations sent their best and bravest to be slaughtered in their thousands and eventually millions, their bodies piled into heaps then covered in earth to be later disinterred so their bones could be ground up and spread as fertiliser over the same fields in which they had once toiled.

Brutality was everywhere. It seems we are becoming very particular about those we choose to persecute, and blaming all white people for the sins of a few is unkind and unjust, particularly as their ancestors suffered as much, if not more, under the heels of that elite. So, can we narrow the blame down a bit further? All over the country, there are stately homes and large country mansions, some of which are still occupied by direct descendants of slaves, or mill- and mine-owners. What should they do? Well, as their grand roofs and monetary legacy come from the subjugation/persecution of others, perhaps they should respond in some way. But how?

To apologise for the actions of another person is meaningless without their consent, so should they make some sort of reparation? Well, yes, perhaps they should, but who to and how much? I suspect that no amount would be enough, and the moment they accepted any inherited responsibility the books would not be squared until they were penniless. Each person who could identify as the direct dependent of a slave would get their share, which I guess would be about £1.50. That of course doesn't mean that something couldn't be done to balance this unequal equation - perhaps anonymous gifts to organisations that support those affected by racial/social inequalities or others disenfranchised because of their origins? Nothing should be insoluble if you have a conscience, but looking to blame anyone for those terrible things seems pointless unless we can first understand all of it and use that knowledge to ensure that it doesn't happen again. Sadly, though, it seems impossible to alter what we are. The human capacity for cruelty and barbarism remains.

\*Assuming that we are.

\*Well not where we can see it.

As a boy aged nine, I worked picking mussels by hand, (bare hands) the threads that held them together were tough and the mussels were a mix of barnacles and broken shells and often covered in a slush of frozen seawater. I got reprimanded at school for biting my nails. I never did, sharp shells and ice bit them for me.

Addendum: Writing these contributions (which began back in the days of Peter Miller), it often feels like walking a tightrope. My only intention is to try to make this magazine a little more interesting and offer something to amuse or to think about. That of course brings with it the risk of being seen as being opinionated. I do hope this isn't the case as it certainly isn't my intention, as quite often I don't hold an opinion either way. Other than to focus a light and be able to speak freely.

*Godfrey Sayers*

# WHAT'S ON INFO

## Special Events at Holt Library

Events up to June are as follows, most starting at 11 00 and finishing around 12 00. The entry fee of £3 00 includes tea, coffee, and biscuits, providing funding to keep the majority of Library Creative sessions for children free. As seating is limited it is advisable to book by telephone or pop into the library when visiting Holt:

**Thursday 2 May - Langham Dome** will be sending a speaker to remind us of the Anti-aircraft training that took place then and its present transformation into a local tourist attraction. Langham Dome is one of only six such WW2 gunnery trainers in existence although 40 were built. Today it is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

**Saturday 25 May - from 10 00 - 2 00 - Our very successful Plant Sale and Raffle Prizes** this year, comprises donations from local gardeners and businesses, for which we are very grateful.

**Thursday 6 June - The Strangers**, should be a fascinating historical account of how by 1568 there were over a thousand Dutch/Flemish/Walloon Protestant immigrants in Norwich, having landed in Gt Yarmouth from the Continent...

Thank you so much for continuing to support the Friends of the Holt Library Group to raise extra funds for children's activities and we are presently working on when best to buy in a Magician to do a performance at Holt Primary School. We see this as a way of encouraging them to think of how people have used their personal interests and talents to set themselves up in life, especially in one of exciting and growing sectors of Industry, the Creative and Performing Arts.

*Ros Lucas, Chair  
Friends of Holt Library Group*

## May at the Museum of the Broads

If you like boats, bric a brac, or just fancy a bargain, come to our popular Boat and Fishing Jumble sale on Saturday 11 May. Doors open from 0930. If you have things to sell, see our website for details. All stalls must be booked in advance. You can grab a bargain at the Museum too. If you want to look around the Museum, plus take a boat trip, buy our special, reduced rate combined ticket. Full details are on our website: [www.museumofthebroads.org.uk](http://www.museumofthebroads.org.uk) We are open from 10am to 4pm on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, plus holiday Mondays, and you can also enjoy a boat trip.

We are also looking for local people to join us as part of our front-of-house team, welcoming visitors and selling tickets and items from the shop. Don't be shy!

*Museum of the Broads, The Poor's Staithe, Stalham, NR12  
9DA 01692 518681*

## CRAFT WORKSHOPS @ BLAKENEY HARBOUR ROOM 2nd & 4th Weds monthly

May 8..Pin loom weaving  
May 22..lampshade making

June 12..Spindle spinning  
June 26..Gelli plate printing

July 10..Creative doodling

Aug 14..Broomstick crochet  
Aug 28..Eco friendly earrings

Sept 11..Weaving in the round  
Sept 25..Lampshade making

Oct 9..Beasties & brooches  
Oct 23..Card making

Nov 13..Freeform crochet  
Nov 22..Xmas lanterns

For more info and booking email  
[Seagullssamphire@gmail.com](mailto:Seagullssamphire@gmail.com)

## CRAFT EVENT Blakeney Harbour Room July 26,27&28

Spaces available, enquiries and to book  
please email  
[Terri121@btinternet.com](mailto:Terri121@btinternet.com)

Cost is total for 3 days £45  
This is for a 5' indoor table or  
3mx3m outside space for your  
own gazebo and tables.

## Glaven Caring

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including Carers, Cleaners and  
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supportive team Contact us for  
more information:

[info@glavencaring.co.uk](mailto:info@glavencaring.co.uk)

01263 740762 The Glaven  
Centre, Blakeney, NR25 7PH

## Sunday Spring Concert

in Blakeney Church

### The Spirit of the Flute

Rev Sarah de Bats (flute)

Brenda Blewett (piano)

Sunday 19 May 3.30 – 4.30pm

Our curate, Sarah, used to be a professional  
flautist and this is a wonderful opportunity to  
hear her perform a beautiful programme of  
music with Brenda.

Tea and lovely cakes will be served in the  
interval.

Free admission with retiring collection.

**Everyone welcome!**

## BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY May 27th

Bring and Buy Coffee Morning 10 - 12 noon

Do come and join us at this annual event,  
Coffee and cake in the Village Hall.

Items on sale in the church.

Access to look around the Rectory Garden  
Small Bric a Brac welcome (no furniture)

Look forward to seeing you. Free entry.

Proceeds for Langham Church General Fund.

*Langham P.C.C.*

## D DAY 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*Songs from the 40's*

Featuring:

**The JEFF SHORT  
COMBO & SINGERS**



An **Evening Show** has been added at Aylsham  
Town Hall on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 7.30pm**, plus  
a Matinee at **Coronation Hall, Mundesley on  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm.**

All tickets are £13.00 + £1.00 postage, ticket  
includes refreshments. They are available now  
on **01263 733 845** (payment by BACS or cheque)  
tickets will be posted out to you; or.

In person from **J B Postle & Son**, in the Market  
Place Aylsham (cash only there please)

or for Mundesley in person from **Jupe Boutique**, 1  
Station Rd, Mundesley (cash only there too please).

This will be our first 40's show in Aylsham and  
Mundesley.

**Charity Raffle in aid of Mundesley Community  
First Responders**

**Charity No. 1047987**

*A Musical Matinee Presentatio*

## Carole Griffin RBA – Salthouse Studio

Award-winning member of the Royal Society of British  
Artists, Carole, will open her Salthouse Studio from May  
25<sup>th</sup>. Painting in oils and watercolours, Carole aims to  
bring out beauty in both her plein air landscapes and still  
lives. Trained at the Central London, she was awarded the  
Leverhulme Travelling Scholarship to America. She's  
received many other awards since as well as commissions  
from the Peerage in the House of Lords and from Foreign  
Royalty. Carole exhibits annually with the RBA at the  
Mall Galleries and other venues, including the Royal  
Academy Summer Exhibition and the Adrian Hill in Holt.  
She recently received the Peter Kelly Commemorative  
Prize from the Mall Galleries. You can also view  
Carole's work throughout the year by contacting 07831  
399151 or visiting [www.carolegriffin.com](http://www.carolegriffin.com) or following  
[@carolegriffinart](https://www.instagram.com/carolegriffinart) on Instagram.

**WHEN: May 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**WHERE: Corner Studio, Purdy Street,  
Salthouse, NR25 7XA**

### May Sudoku: Easy

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

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

### Medium

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

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

### Hard

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

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

### Wordsearch

E Q D Q H O B X W E Y F G T E  
 S F O U M D O E X F B Z R L X  
 A N O A L Y Q T I B Y I M B P  
 E A L D O G E L Y T P D K H A  
 R Y F R N N P U Z L J K W M N  
 C S L U D M Y W I C H J R S D  
 N S R P A D I C C R S A X F T  
 I N Y L I T A E S I M I X A M  
 K S W I D T K L B W S V C K G  
 V P P C E O L Z H S G F A J X  
 T R T A B J U U D E V E L O P  
 U S A T T D G B M E G L U B N  
 L B R E P Y I T L G R O W I U  
 Y H L U D T K O U E D J A L X  
 S D Y H B D N C G K J G X X K

AMPLIFY, BULGE, BURST, DEVELOP  
 DOUBLE, EXPAND, EXTEND, FLOOD  
 GAIN, GROW, INCREASE  
 MAXIMISE, MULTIPLY  
 QUADRUPPLICATE, TRIPPLICATE



# 2024 SEASON

FREE

DONATIONS WELCOME

The North Norfolk Wheelyboat



**THE NORTH NORFOLK WHEELYBOAT POPPY- MAKING  
BLAKENEY HARBOUR ACCESSIBLE TO THE DISABLED**

---

**BOOK YOUR 2024 TRIP ON POPPY.**

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