

# The Glaven Valley Newsletter



*Echoes of Summer: Blakeney Sailing Club Lasers and other boats coming back to Blakeney after a breezy August High Tide sail on the Harbour –  
photo by Tom Green*

**October 2023**



## Dates for future events at The Venue

**'My Norfolk, My Holt' and 'Arts Forum' interviews** part of an ongoing series of monthly interviews/conversations, **take a break in September, starting again on:**

- **Wednesday October 18<sup>th</sup> – H.J Jackson (Printmaker) A conversation about art, life & '70 years of printmaking**, discussing his work, creative processes, inspiration, and influences; **how and why he became an artist**; how he makes what he makes, as well as where, when, and why he makes it; the importance of creativity and the arts, for him personally **as well as for society more generally**; and reflecting upon life and living in Norfolk.
- **Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup> – Martin Eaton (saxophonist with, amongst others, the Martin Eaton Quartet and The Jonathan Wyatt Big Band)** An interview discussing the life of a jobbing musician, Martin's love of the saxophone, his favourite repertoire, players, composers, and records; influences on his playing, illustrated with instrumental material; the importance of music generally **personally and professionally**; **how and why he became a musician**; **the challenges and rewards of being one.**
- **Change of date January 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 – Raffaella Barker (author).**  
An interview discussing the life of a writer; the importance of writing **personally and professionally**; the influences on Raffaella's work, illustrated with material from authors and others who are, or have been, important to her; **how and why she became a writer**; **the challenges and rewards of being one.**

**Arrive at 6.30pm when the bar will be open, for a prompt 7.00pm start.**

**The evening will finish 8.30pm-ish after questions.**

**Though events are usually free donations for The Venue are gratefully accepted.**

Booking is helpful, for all events, so that numbers can be gauged.

**To book please contact The Venue 01263 713427, or via email [info@thevenueholt.com](mailto:info@thevenueholt.com)**

For up-to-date information please visit 'The Venue website <https://thevenueholt.com/>

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## **THE GLAVEN VALLEY NEWSLETTER**

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## **NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION DEADLINE**

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

## **GVN Web Address**

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

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

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

# Treasurer's Report

If you would like to support us then best way is through a small regular donation by standing order – either monthly or annually – that way we are in a better position to plan for the future knowing that we have regular amounts coming in. Standing orders can either be set up online or by using the form below and sending it to your bank. You can always cancel this at any time through your bank.

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)
- Cash or cheque dropped into the collection boxes at Blakeney Garage or Made in Cley
- Online transfer or setting up a standing order to us (Sort Code 30-94-34 Account 00897099)
- or using the form below and sending it to your bank to set a standing order up

*Many thanks,  
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>		

## FOR PRIVATE RENTAL

TWO BEAUTIFUL COASTAL COTTAGES AVAILABLE FOR SIX MONTHS TO ONE YEAR RENTAL.

**COTTAGE ONE** - 2 KING SIZE BEDROOMS, 2 EN SUITE SHOWER/BATH ROOMS, LIGHT & AIRY OPEN PLAN SITTING/DINING/KITCHEN, DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM. SUNNY PRIVATE GARDEN AND CART SHED PARKING FOR TWO CARS. CLOSE TO BEACH AND AMENITIES. TEN MINUTES TO HOLT.

**COTTAGE TWO** – 2 KING SIZE BEDROOMS, 2 EN SUITE SHOWER ROOMS PLUS A FAMILY BATHROOM. LARGE VAULTED SITTING/DINING/KITCHEN, UTILITY ROOM, SOUTH FACING PRETTY COURTYARD GARDEN, PRIVATE PARKING FOR TWO CARS. CLOSE TO BLAKENEY.

BOTH PROPERTIES ARE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION AND FULLY FURNISHED TO A VERY HIGH STANDARD. MAY SUIT SOMEONE SHORT TERM WHO IS HOUSE HUNTING IN THE AREA OR SIMPLY AS A REGULAR HOLIDAY RETREAT.

ENQUIRIES TO TELE: 07876064395

## **Barton Reed Panel Fencing**

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

01692 535463 07881 717692

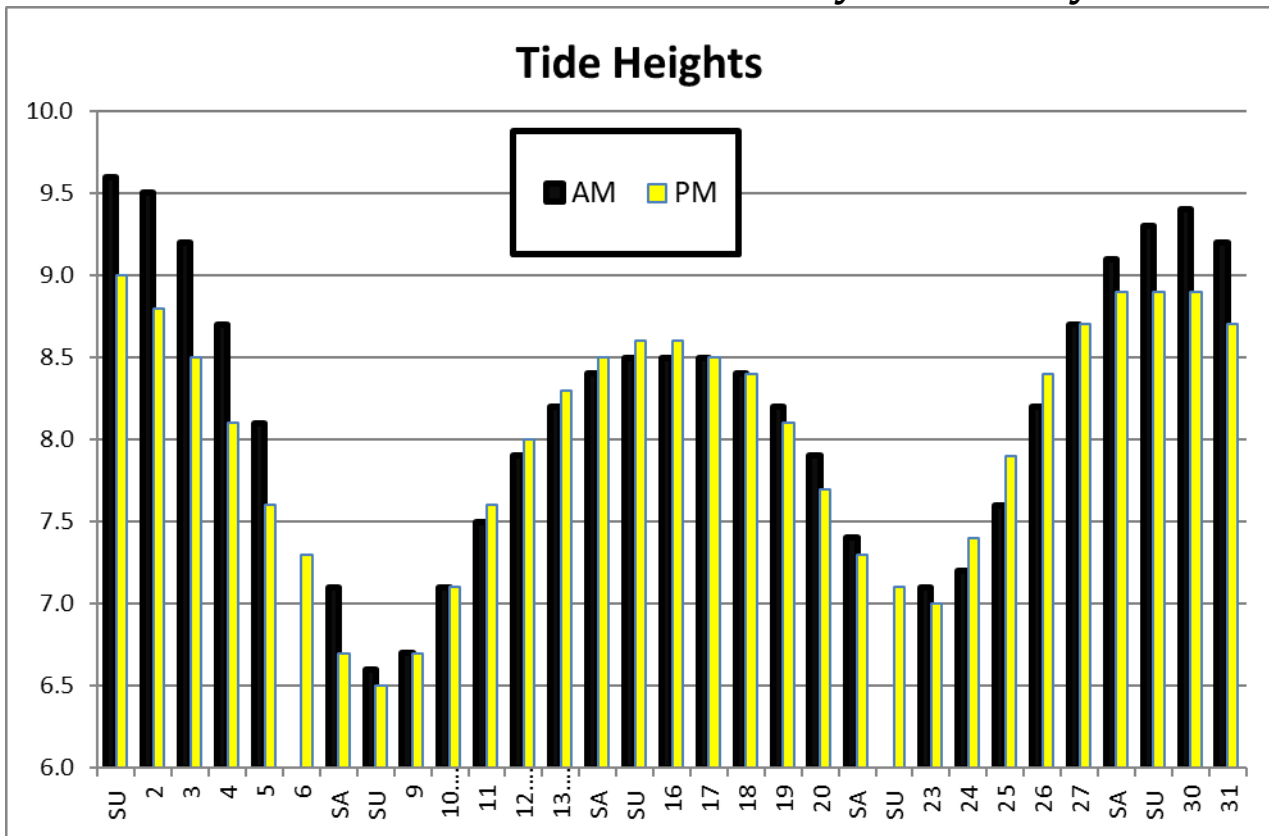
email: jon.moore61@btinternet.com

**Beautiful handmade Norfolk Reed Panel  
Fencing made in our workshop  
at Barton Turf**

- Standard and custom size panels available
- Natural/local sourced materials
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- Free no obligation quotations
- All other types of fencing supplied/fitted on request



# October 2023 - Tide Details by Martin Tyler



## Tide Times

	AM	PM		AM	PM
Sun 01 October	08:29	21:04			
Mon 02 October	09:11	21:39	Mon 16 October	08:17	20:42
Tue 03 October	09:51	22:12	Tue 17 October	08:51	21:13
Wed 04 October	10:32	22:45	Wed 18 October	09:27	21:45
Thu 05 October	11:13	23:21	Thu 19 October	10:05	22:20
Fri 06 October		12:01	Fri 20 October	10:49	23:00
Sat 07 October	00:06	13:14	Sat 21 October	11:41	23:53
Sun 08 October	01:40	15:02	Sun 22 October		12:53
Mon 09 October	03:29	16:17	Mon 23 October	01:07	14:41
Tue 10 October	04:33	17:15	Tue 24 October	02:49	16:05
Wed 11 October	05:23	17:59	Wed 25 October	04:04	17:07
Thu 12 October	06:04	18:34	Thu 26 October	05:02	17:57
Fri 13 October	06:39	19:06	Fri 27 October	05:51	18:40
Sat 14 October	07:12	19:38	Sat 28 October	06:37	19:20
Sun 15 October	07:44	20:10	Sun 29 October	06:22	18:58
			Mon 30 October	07:06	19:34
			Tue 31 October	07:48	20:09

**REMEMBER - BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS Sunday 29 October**

## 'Monthly Memory Swap'

The 'Monthly Memory Swap' is usually the **third Tuesday of the month**, over a cup of tea or coffee, **the next event is on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, from 2.00pm – 4.00pm-ish**, in the main hall of The Venue.

On this occasion John Jarvis will be screening an interview with Harold Cooke, speaking, amongst other things, about Holt Boy Scouts, being a Far Eastern Prisoner of War, & the 1953 Floods.

It is a chance to share memories and stories about Holt of the past, and North Norfolk more generally.

If you have fond memories of growing-up and/or living in Holt, or would like to hear the memories of others, why not come along to the 'Monthly Memory Swap'.

Do bring along any photos you have and would like to share, along with memories of Norfolk and Holt, the people and places you remember.

There will be a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit half way through the afternoon.

**Just turn up for this free event. No booking is necessary.**

### Future Dates for 'John Jarvis's Monthly Memory Swap' for 2023 & 24

Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup>,  
Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup>,

## **Come & Sing Handel Coronation Anthems with Sheringham and Cromer Choral**

**Saturday 21 October 2023**

This very popular annual Come & Sing event will be held on Saturday 21 October 2023. It takes the form of an all-day workshop in the Lighthouse Community Church, Cromer Road, Sheringham lead by musical director David Ballard and accompanied by Philip Adams.

The day will conclude with a concert performance at St Peter's Church Sheringham open to all. There will be a Retiring collection for Church and Society funds. In this Coronation year we sing the four Coronation Anthems which were composed by Handel for King George II. The best-known of them, Zadok the Priest, has been sung prior to the anointing of the sovereign at the coronation of every British monarch since, including King Charles III.

The workshop gets under way with distribution of scores from 10:00 am. At the close of the workshop all singers will make their way the short distance to St Peter's Church where a performance will take place at 4:00 pm. It is very much hoped that friends and families of the singers as well as other members of the local community will come along to St Peter's to enjoy this short concert and celebrate the occasion.

### **Booking Information:**

Tickets cost £10. Pre-booking is essential. Please complete the Booking Form which can be found on the Come & Sing page of the Society's website

<https://www.sheringhamandcromerchoral.org.uk/come-sing/>

# Blakeney

## News from Blakeney CEVA Primary School

We have only been back 3 days as I write this but what an amazing start to our school year. The children's return was marked with full attendance at St Nicholas' for the big breakfast. All our children (and family and friends) began their day eating together and sharing news of the summer holidays. We cannot thank the Church team enough for welcoming us all. It was such a special way to begin the school year and lovely for our new families to settle into the community. The walk down to the school and the remainder of the day was relaxed, happy and full of anticipation.

Samphire Class jumped straight back into the routine with arithmetic practice. A brave choice said some of the teaching team but it allowed the chat to settle down before we went to Collective Worship. Our worship theme of new beginnings got the children thinking about their own personal expectations of the coming year. Some reflections focused on concern for family members, while others wanted to learn times tables or make the football team. The children in our school are different individuals but all of them are becoming eloquent and confident when talking about their hopes and aspirations.

Our new learning area (Healthy Body and Healthy Mind) is Science based and the arrival of Wilf (the skeleton) has been marked with the children making their own skeletons using pasta and dried peas and beans. They are very impressive and I know that by the end of this topic we will have many aspiring surgeons and nurses.

In Hedgehogs class, the children already have examples of their learning up on the walls. I have seen some amazing drawings and writing about their families. Miss Collison is busy arranging lots of educational visits as part of their learning theme. These trips provide wonderful opportunities for language development and writing and will include the nursery children lucky enough to be in school that day. Elmer the elephant is the focus text for our KS1 class in the first few weeks.

A special act of kindness also helped to make the first few days memorable. A local family very generously donated some wonderful play equipment to the school. We have a new wooden farm, train sets, and some very popular space hoppers and playground games. The children are thrilled and have written a thank you card. These items were a timely gift as the new play equipment in the plantation was being fitted and not quite ready to use. The old adage *it takes a village...* fits our school perfectly.

It feels as if we have been back for a lot longer than a few days but as one new pupil in my class said on the first day, as

the clock reset itself and the hands went round really quickly, "Wow, time goes really quickly in here!"

*Team Blakeney*

## Blakeney Sailing Club

As the evenings draw in, remind yourselves of an outstanding summer of sailing by checking out the Blakeney Sailing Club Facebook page and Instagram for some stunning pictures of our activities on and off the water. It really has been a memorable year. As I write this short newsletter, local sailors are anticipating yet another brilliant weekend competition. This is the International 14 Open Event on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> September. This promises to be two days of fantastic racing. Good luck to all those who are taking part.

It seems a pity to be writing about the end of this year's sailing. However, this is not far off as the final event will be the competition for the Last Post Horn on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> October. Let us hope for some fine autumnal weather.

Stay safe,

*Amy Howes*

## News from the Glaven Centre

Here at the Glaven, we think that summer would not be summer without our annual barbeque. It was both fun and delicious and we are extremely grateful to our dedicated kitchen team, who always do a splendid job of catering for numerous people and laying on an impressive spread. At our latest fundraising event, Party on the Pastures, we raised a grand total of £306 from our tombola stall. We recognise the amount of hard work that went into this and thank our devoted staff and volunteers.

Our wheelyboat trip was a huge success and our clients were able to reminisce at times in their life - one lady told of her residing on a boat on the Thames. To feel that sea air again whilst the water glistened beneath them was an opportunity they otherwise may not have had.

We love to make things possible for people here at the centre and have had some lovely feedback from a new client's wife; she feels that by her husband attending the Glaven, she can reclaim time for herself. She could not express enough how much this means to her and how she can now go to the beach regularly which she could not do before. This is something just for her, to refill her own cup, which is of vital importance for both mind and body. If this sounds like something you or someone you know needs, we would love to help and are very flexible with adapting to individuals' needs and you can feel reassured that your loved ones will be cared for in a friendly and professional setting.

We would finally like to say a huge thank you to our nurse Janine, who has written these articles since the beginning of the year. We wish her all the best as she heads off on maternity leave. Our articles will continue on and we hope you enjoy reading them as much as we do writing them.

The Glaven Centre



## Coastal Rowing Association of Blakeney

This is one of the most exciting times of the year for your local rowing club. Members are now faced with the great choice of whether to row at Blakeney or on The Norfolk Broads. On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, *Hoi Larntan* was moved to Barton Turf, near Barton Broad, and already the booking calendar shows that numerous outings have been planned. Many more rows are expected to take place at Blakeney; but first, there is a major race in London. At the time of writing, the Thames Great River Race, always a keenly anticipated highlight of the Autumn, will take place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September and *Hoi Larntan* is currently on its way to London.

A CRAB presence will be complemented by a strong contingent of guest rowers from New Zealand. Read this newsletter next month to see how the crew fared against hundreds of other oared craft. It will be great to see *Hoi Larntan* back on the Carnser after this massive event. Many thanks to Adrian Hodge, once again, for taking on the demanding task of rowing and towing.

The club's social scene continues to be active. The annual picnic on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August was a great success. Both skiffs, plus other craft, took "Crabbers" to Pinchen's Creek for food and a chat in the gathering twilight.

To keep up with the full range of activities offered by The Coastal Rowing Association of Blakeney, look at the club's website at [crabblakeney.wordpress.com](http://crabblakeney.wordpress.com). There are some stunning pictures there. You can also be a club follower on Instagram or on Facebook.

There is much to find out about the rowing scene. Please contact Humphrey at [hborgnis@icloud.com](mailto:hborgnis@icloud.com) if you wish to know more about becoming involved. Try rowing for yourselves. When you are on the water, coaching and helpful advice will always be available. You will be made very welcome. There is no obligation to participate in any competitive event. Come along for a gentle and sociable row. Hope to see you on the water soon.

*Barry Howes*

### Blakeney Village Hall Fabulous Craft Fair

14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October  
Open 10am – 4pm

All talented local crafters  
Free admission  
Free parking  
Refreshments  
(Dogs welcome)

## BLAKENEY FILM NIGHT VILLAGE HALL

"Roald Dahl's

**Matilda The Musical" (PG)**

**Friday 20th October**

**£5/£2 on the door**

This brilliant adaptation of Roald Dahl's timeless tale provides a marvellous spectacle. Great casting & plot, amazing score & lyrics plus superb choreography all add up to a rollicking romp full of outrageous fun.

Our heroine, a girl with a quick mind & imagination, encounters both the best and very worst of adults (meet Miss Trunchbull - Emma Thompson on scary monstrous form!) However, Matilda just gets better at standing up for what is right & teaching a lesson to adults who behave badly (helped by some rather special powers)! With its irresistible energy & charm, a delightful film for young & old alike in which good always triumphs over evil.

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)

### THE FAKENHAM SOCIETY Est. 1948

LIGHT UP YOUR WINTER EVENINGS!

Our events start at 7.30pm at The Gallow on the racecourse.

5 OCT - Robert Smith, the long-serving harbour master at Wells-next-the-Sea will be coming to talk to us about the characters and events that have shaped the town's spirit and history.

19 OCT - Roger Beck joins us from Guildford to take a light-hearted look at the birds and other wildlife we see in our gardens.

£5 per event or become a member for £20 for the 23/24 season. For further details call 01328 877514, visit [www.fakenhamsociety.org.uk](http://www.fakenhamsociety.org.uk), or email [membership@fakenhamsociety.org.uk](mailto:membership@fakenhamsociety.org.uk)



## OCTOBER EVENTS AT BLAKENEY HARBOUR ROOM

### SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER

**THE PAT McMANUS BAND £15.00** (Doors open 7.30). One of our favourite acts returns at last. Pat McManus is a contemporary, and was a friend, of the great late Rory Gallagher. One of the best guitarists to grace our stage in Blakeney, and he is not bad on the fiddle either!! Blues at its best, performed by one of the nicest guys in the business - always a great show.

### Thursday October 26th - Quiz night in The Top Bar 7pm

### SATURDAY 28th OCTOBER

**DON'T SPOOK THE HORSE £12.00** (Doors open 7.30). All fans of Neil Young need to come and see this great tribute act. Lead by our very own Mark Fawcett and Brian Eade, the band takes you through all the great songs of Neil Young, as well as some of his lesser-known compositions.

### SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER 7pm

#### ELECTRIC OPEN STAGE BENEFIT NIGHT

Over the last few months, the Open Stage evenings on the last Sunday of each month has attracted fabulous performances of a variety of genres including folk, Americana, blues. This is an evening to showcase some of these acts, most of which are from North Norfolk.

Please come and support your local music venue and check out some of that hidden talent that lurks in our towns and villages.

*George Crawley (Harbour Room Events Committee)*

## BLAKENEY PARISH COUNCIL -

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



Wow, what a summer jam packed full of events, in our beautiful little village, whether it was the Coronation Event of King Charles III back in June, Gray's Funfair, Greasy Pole, Rural Sports, Party on Pastures, Circus Ferrel, etc, or the forthcoming Bonfire & Fireworks, there really has been something for everyone.

Huge thanks to all who attended, volunteered, or sponsored these events, be it businesses, organisations or individuals. We simply could not have done it without you, so thank you!

**DIARY DATES: We have not finished yet!**

- **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023 – End of Season Bonfire & Fireworks** (Plan B, is for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, i.e., weather!)

**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 SEPTEMBER FULL COUNCIL MEETING...

#### Reports from County & District Councillors –

*County Councillor* – Michael Dalby had circulated a report in advance. *BPC asked that with regard the 'Bid to boost Norfolk's 3bn tourism economy'*; that visitor parking is accounted for.

#### Open Public Session –

- *Member of public referred to article in GVN from BPC in response to Alistair Lindops article, re. Macmillan Mighty Hike, asking for BPC to publish a correction in the next issue.*
- *Graham Gower Smith (Norfolk Constabulary Beat Manager Holt) introduced himself, as Blakeney will be under his domain.*

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

**PF/23/1330** – *Proposal; Single storey extensions and external alterations to dwelling at; Charnwood, Pintail Drive, Blakeney* – Resolved to ratify; Object as overdevelopment of the site.

**PF/23/1577** – *Proposal; Installation of two dormer windows (front and side), enlargement of first floor rear windows and rendering of property at; 8 Langham Road, Blakeney.* Resolved – No objection.

**LA/23/1640** – *Proposal; Internal and external works including reinstatement of west elevation window, replacement flat roof incorporating flat rooflight and external soil vent pipe to south elevation at; 16 Westgate Street, Blakeney.* Resolved – No objection.

**PF/23/1673** – Proposal; Alterations and extensions to single storey dwelling including replacement roof with higher ridge and dormers to form a one and half storey dwelling at; **Midsummer Cottage, Old Rectory Lane, Blakeney.** Resolved – No objection.

**NP/23/1753** – Proposal; Erection of agricultural storage building at; **New Barn Farm, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney.** Resolved – No objection.

**PF/23/0969** – Proposal; Demolition of existing bungalow and garage; Erection of 2 no. two-storey dwellings and outbuilding (home office) at, **Three Gables, 8 New Road, Blakeney.** Resolved – No objection.

**PF/23/1657** – Alterations to office/storage building, comprising the installation of solar panels and rooflights on the south facing roof slope and alterations to windows and doors to the north elevation at, **Hilltop Retreats, Langham Road, Blakeney.** Resolved – No objection.

**PF/23/1825** – Erection of single storey holiday lodge at, **Hilltop Retreats, Langham Road, Blakeney.** Resolved – Object; i) this application is for a permanent dwelling (there is already a residential house on this site) as opposed to a static caravan, ii) it goes against the revised permission granted for this site, in accordance with an associated application no. PF/20/1347, which allows occupancy from 20<sup>th</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> January in any year only, this is for all year-round occupancy, iii) we see this as further overdevelopment of this site in the AONB.

**PF/23/1791** – Installation of replacement oil tank at, **Hill House, New Road, Blakeney.** Resolved – No objection.

**FINANCE** - Resolved that the **Accounts** totalling £ 17,821.03 are paid.

#### **Clerk/RFO Report –**

- Clean audit completion of the limited assurance review for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 confirmed by the **External Auditor**, PKF Littlejohn LLP.
- The Blakeney & District Wildfowlers have advised that they are no longer able to continue with the upkeep of the **Blakeney Duckpond** and are considering handing it back to the landowner, but wish to ask BPC if they would be interested in running it first. *(The Clerk has asked BDWA that BPC would need to know precisely what this would entail in terms of costs, manpower, insurance, land management, regulations and legislation etc, and would welcome this in writing and attendance at a meeting by BDWA before this could be considered.)*

**Written Reports from Representatives on Other Committees/Groups** which have met recently if applicable.

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

The last month has been incredibly busy with regards to the Surgery but let me first deal with a letter that Steffan Aquarone sent to us as the result of his visit last month regarding fundraising in relation to a new surgery build. His letter explains how this can be done and his support is clear. May I suggest at this stage in what we are doing it is not the time to go down this option, but it could be viable for the future one we have a result on the future Blakeney surgery. I would suggest we defer it relevance to a future date once the decision is known about the surgery early next year.

Since the public meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023 a small group has evolved to deal with the ongoing issues. The group comprises from BPC your Chairman and Vice-Chairman, your District Councillor and two retired GP's from HMP. They have met regularly to discuss options and come up with actions to move our cause forward. Your District Councillor has been at the heart of this and deserves our thanks.

We need to remember that the public meeting came as a shock to HMP with regards to the numbers who attended and their hostility to the proposed closure of Blakeney Surgery. Since then, I will summarise the action taken as follows: -

- A rebuttal statement has been prepared to counter the arguments put forward by HMP and it has been widely distributed.
- A petition has been commenced to express the support of parishioners to keep the surgery open. If you have not yet signed it, please do. Patients from Holt and Melton Constable are also signing it. The completed petition will be taken to HMP before 30<sup>th</sup> September, and it will then be handed into the ICB.
- A stall was established at the Party on the Pastures on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August to issue stickers to 'Save Blakeney Surgery' to all who attended. The petition was available to sign and the rebuttal statement was handed out to visitors. Banners were made and displayed at the stall – these can now be found on display at the Village Hall car park. The stall was primarily staffed by our District Councillor together with Parish Councillors, a GP from our resistance group and our MP. Its presence was well received by all who attended the event.
- The drop-in sessions have now been extended by HMP to include one at Blakeney Village Hall on the 7<sup>th</sup> September between 10am and 12 noon and one on the 12<sup>th</sup> September at Holt surgery between 6pm and 7.30pm. All the sessions so far have been visited by a member of the group I mentioned early. It is clear, certainly from the one I went to, that there is universal support for our cause throughout the area HMP covers and I have yet to meet any member of the public who supports the closure of Blakeney Surgery.

- Please do not forget that HMP patient survey is still ongoing to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September and if you have not yet completed it, please do so. That Survey is deficient in several areas and is clearly deigned to elicit nothing controversial and to support the closure and nothing else. In relation to it BPC have written to HMP yesterday pointing out their failures and inadequacies, for example, there is no reference to Blakeney surgery at all in that survey. We are asking HMP to make their public consultation more meaningful for the second half of their patient engagement phase. We await to see what they will do. Our clerk has sent you a copy of the letter.
- For the future a definitive document is being prepared to show why Blakeney surgery should not be closed. This will be submitted to the ICB once the public consultation period of HMP has concluded.
- One final point is that some weeks ago an incident occurred at Blakeney Surgery where as far as we are being told a local resident was abusive to the receptionist on duty. Whilst this has been dealt with, we note that HMP were quick to inform the ICB about it. We state without reservation that such behaviour is unacceptable and is not condoned in anyway by anyone involved in this current campaign.

*May I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in this process for their support and hard work. It is an important issue which affects everyone. (NS)*

**Resolved** to reappoint the following Public Representatives to the **Dinghy Park Management Committee**; Steve Roch & Peter Roe.

#### CORRESPONDENCE –

**Resolved** that in response to the **Government Consultation** on additional flexibilities to support housing delivery, the agricultural sector, businesses, high streets and open prisons; and a call for evidence on nature-based solutions, farm efficiency projects and diversification, that we **Object**; as we believe there are more local concerns than benefits. VH will prepare a precis response on our behalf.

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

**PF/23/0397 – 8 Langham Road, Blakeney** – Rear and side two storey extensions, full remodel and adding insulating skin - **Withdrawn**.

**NP/23/1490 – New Barn Farm, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney** – Erection of steel framed agricultural store – **Prior approval of the authority will be required for the siting of the barn.**

**PF/23/1329 – Point View, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney** – Porch to front elevation of dwelling – **Approved**.

**LA/23/0910 – Melrose House, 107 High Street, Blakeney** – Replacement of windows and doors – **Approved**.

**PF/23/1209 – 2 Kingsway, Blakeney** – Alterations to fenestration and external materials – **Approved**.

**RV/23/1263 – Cranford, High Street, Blakeney** – Removal/Variation of Condition – **Approved**.

**PF/23/1148 – Avalon, 8A Morston Road, Blakeney** – 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 – **Approved**.

**PF/22/1415 & LA/22/1416 – The Friary, Mariners Hill, Blakeney** – Alterations, partial demolition of garden wall and erection of garden shed (internal and external works to dwelling) – **Approved**.

**NMA/23/1641 – 16 Westgate Street, Blakeney** – Non-material amendment of planning permission PF/22/2547 (external alterations) – **Approved**.

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

Rosemary Thew – 740555 – Moonraker, Back Lane

Nigel Sutcliffe – 741714 – Dallinga, 71 Morston Road

Jenny Girling – 740792 – 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 Parish Office

Judy Pegden – 741497 – 8 Wilsons Way

Mike Reed – 07760 162344 – 2 Memorial Cottages, New Road

*Those interested in planning matters, should keep an eye on the NNDC website at the moment as a first resort and respond direct to NNDC with any objections/comments/support but by all means copy the Parish Council in, but please do note the deadlines.*

**Next Full Council meeting; Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.**

## WANTED

### 3 BEDROOM RENTAL PROPERTY

Urgently looking for a rental property for family of 4 within the Glaven Area - must be pet friendly.

Contact Dawn Smith  
07730209315

## FOR SALE

DELIGHTFUL DETACHED TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF HOLT TOWN CENTRE.  
TWO BEDROOMS, TWO SHOWER ROOMS, LARGE SITTING ROOM, GARDEN/DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, UTILITY ROOM,  
ENCLOSED PRETTY GARDEN,  
PRIVATE PARKING FOR TWO CARS AND A GARAGE. VERY QUIET LOCATION.  
RECENTLY DECORATED THROUGHOUT WITH NEW CARPETS.

AVAILABLE CHAIN FREE.

TELEPHONE: 07876064395

The Wells Library Friends group is looking for a new **Chairperson**. This friendly group usually meets about once a month at the library, and helps arrange and support Library events along with raising money for the library and promoting its services in general. If you would be interested in supporting your local Library and like to find out more about the Chair role, please get in touch with Wells Library on 01328 710467.

Our relaxing **Drum Meditation** sessions are now back ... Sit or lie down...and let the rhythm of the drum flow over and through you, balancing your body and your mind ...

The first Wednesday every month from 5.45 to 6.45pm in the Community Room at Wells Library. Bring a mat, blanket, or cushion. Donation please, on a pay-what-you-can basis

Contact Ali on 07933 305145 or [alisonmaryc@gmail.com](mailto:alisonmaryc@gmail.com)

**Bounce and Rhyme** continues to go from strength to strength on a Monday afternoon at 2pm – we sing songs, tell stories, and enjoy rhymes and bubbles together – no need to book, just enjoy!

**Computer help sessions** with our friendly volunteer continue on Mondays 5.30 - 6.30pm and Wednesdays 11am - 1pm. One-to-one assistance, whether you are a beginner or just need specific help, at your own pace. Booking essential - call 01328 710467 to book.

### Fakenham Library closing for works – change of dates.

Please note that due to works on the building, **Fakenham Library** will close Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October and reopen Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Please note these dates are subject to change. For further information and details on alternative library services please visit [library.norfolk.gov.uk](http://library.norfolk.gov.uk) or follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/FakenhamWellsLibrariesNorfolk> or contact Wells Library on 01328 710467.

Follow our Facebook page – **Fakenham and Wells Libraries** - we often post about our Events and Services, too numerous to list here...and pick up a copy of our **What's n** leaflet on your next visit.

We are staffed on **Mondays 11.30am – 7pm, Weds & Fridays 9am to 7pm, Saturdays 10am to 4pm.**

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

*Liz Rogers, Library & Information Assistant*

## Coffee Morning



Every Thursday 10-11am  
at The Pilgrim Methodist Church  
Blakeney. Join us for refreshments in  
our cosy lounge area, feel free to bring a  
book that you are reading, a craft that  
you are working on or just pop in for a  
chat. There is no charge and all are  
welcome.

### **Babysitter Available** in the Glaven Valley Area:

Weekdays from 5pm to 10pm  
and Weekends from 5pm to  
midnight  
£5 per hour

Call Grace on **07966511340**  
for more details or to book



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## **B. L. S Landscaping & Garden Maintenance**

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- Seasonal pruning and planting
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Email: [bls88gardens@gmail.com](mailto:bls88gardens@gmail.com)

For a full list of services:  
[www.bls-landscaping-gardening.com](http://www.bls-landscaping-gardening.com)

## *CLEY WI*

Programme October & November 2023

- Oct 5<sup>th</sup>**      ***Autumnal Notes***  
*A musical interlude (in Cley Church)*  
***Wyatt Earp & friends***
- Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>**      ***Fakenham to Wells***  
*A retrospective view*  
***Philip West***

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings take place  
in

**Cley Village Hall, NR25 7RJ, at 2.30pm**

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

**Further details 01263 740225**



## October Sudoku Easy

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

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

## Medium

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

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

## Hard

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

Fill the grid so that every row, every column and every 3 x 3 box contain 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  
 QUADRUPLICATE, TRIPPLICATE

## Thoughts from the Rectory for October

Dear Friends,

When I was a student, eking out a student grant – (but wasn't I fortunate? ... in those days when further education was still free, we did not have student loans!) – my daily diet was probably not very healthy. Like most students, my diet consisted mostly of any food which was cheap to buy and would fill me up! And my recollection is also that I perfected the art of throwing together whatever food was there in the fridge, and creating some strange mixed dishes in the process, so that nothing would get thrown away. "Waste not, want not" was the watchword. After university, I went to work as a volunteer teacher in Africa for a year, and some years after that in India, and seeing another level of poverty out there encouraged me all the more to avoid waste wherever possible. And actually, it's stayed with me. I never like throwing food away, because I have seen too many people who are really hungry.

In the Harvest season, there is so much to give thanks for. But one concern continues to be the problem of food waste. For example, I read that around 60% of the total amount of food thrown away in the UK comes from our homes. (An uncomfortable thought, when many are struggling to put food on the table.) Every year in this country we throw away 7 million tonnes of food and drink from our homes, and more than half of it is stuff we could have eaten.

The impact of this wastage is both economic and environmental. Producing, distributing, storing and cooking food uses energy, fuel and water. Each of these emits greenhouse gases contributing to climate change. Evidently if we shopped more carefully, and stopped throwing all this food away, it would save the equivalent of at least 17 million tonnes of carbon dioxide, the same as taking 1 in every 5 cars off our roads.

We are much better than we used to be in this country about recycling in general, but we have got a way to go, it seems, when it comes to food. These issues, like everything else in life, are not just practical issues, but spiritual issues as well. If this sort of waste is harming the planet, and therefore endangering people, especially the vulnerable, I am sure we would all say it's important to try to do what we can to address the problem.

What better way to celebrate harvest than seize the opportunity we all have to help make a difference – let's not waste it, as it were!

*Happy Harvest! 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  
[glavenvalleybenefice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:glavenvalleybenefice@yahoo.co.uk)

### 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

### CHURCHWARDENS

#### Glandford

Averil Monteath	01263 740179
Roger Combe	01263 713901

#### Letheringsett

John Pridham	01328 831851
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#### Wiveton

Stephen de Loynes	07975 813057
Charles Killin	01263 741744

### Funerals:

The Memorial Service for Sylvia Harrison took place on 11<sup>th</sup> September, in which her long and remarkable life was remembered with gratitude.

### Weddings:

Last month, on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, James Key and Ella Corey-Wright were married in Blakeney Church.

This month, on 14<sup>th</sup> October at 1pm, will see the wedding of Henry Baker and Alex Hacking at Cley Church.

Our congratulations to both couples!

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**St Peter's Catholic Church**  
**Back Lane, Blakeney, NR25 7NP**

Mass Sunday - 11am

Mass Wednesday - 9.30am

Holyday of Obligation 9.30am

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





**OCTOBER 2023  
SERVICE SCHEDULE  
NB: no services in Wiveton**

<b>SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<i>Trinity 17</i>	
9.30	Holy Communion (CW) [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
11.15	Holy Communion (BCP)	Letheringsett
6.00	Sacred Space	Cley
<b>Wed 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am	Cley
<b>Thur 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Evening Prayer	Glandford
<b>SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Trinity 18</i>	
9.30	HC (Celtic) [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
11.15	Holy Communion (BCP)	Glandford
4.00	Harvest Choral Evensong	Letheringsett
6.00	Service of Meditation	Cley
<b>Thur 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Evening Prayer	Glandford
<b>SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Trinity 19</i>	
9.30	Holy Communion (BCP)	Letheringsett
11.00	Harvest Service [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ] [ <i>followed by ecumenical lunch</i> ]	Blakeney
11.15	Café Church	Cley
<b>Wed 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am	Cley
<b>Thur 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Evening Prayer	Glandford
<b>SUNDAY 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<i>Trinity 20</i>	
8.00	Holy Communion (BCP)	Cley
9.30	Holy Communion (CW) [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney
11.15	Family Service & Baptism	Cley
6.30	Evensong (BCP)	Glandford
<b>Thur 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Evening Prayer	Glandford
<b>SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<i>Last after Trinity / Bible Sunday</i>	
11.00	Benefice Communion [ <i>&amp; live-streamed</i> ]	Blakeney

CW - Common Worship; BCP - Book of Common Prayer (1662)

# EKO Cleaning LTD

## Cleaning Services

We are an Eco-friendly cleaning company based in Holt, Norfolk, that clean with no harsh chemicals and no single use plastics.

Our main areas of expertise are:

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- Holiday Home Change Overs
- Office Cleaning



07876 233812  
ekocleaningltd@gmail.com



## Glaven Valley Bereavement Support Group

will meet on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October  
at Merchants House, Blakeney

4.00pm to 5.30pm.

Anyone who has suffered  
bereavement is very welcome.

Refreshments at 3.50pm



As we approach some of our Harvest Services in the Glaven Valley Benefice and celebrate harvest time, we would be very grateful to receive donations in aid of the Blakeney Food Bank. If you would like to donate any items, we will happily accept them at Blakeney Church please leave your donation on the base of the font (or leave your donations at any other church in the Benefice). All contributions gratefully received.

Harvest Choral Evensong on

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm in St Andrew's Church, Letheringsett

All are welcome to join us for our Harvest Praise Service on

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 11am in St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney

**followed by an Ecumenical Bring and Share Lunch**

# Cley

## Thursdays @ 3pm October

### Thursday October 5th

No 83 *From A Female View*

A programme to welcome the Cley WI who will hold their monthly meeting with us. Meg Starling (soprano) Brenda Blewett (piano) Wyatt Earp (flute).

### Friday October 6<sup>th</sup> 5pm

No 84 Our sister series **Fridays@Five** features new generation artists.

#### *The Vandory String Trio*

Fabian Jüngling (violin) Louis Vandory (viola) Valentin Lutter (cello) play Beethoven Trios Op.9 No 1 in G major and Op.9 No 3 in C minor. This dynamic young trip is based in Munich but currently touring the UK.

### Thursday October 12th

No 85 *From Classics to Jazz* - Piano recital by Andrew Leach.

### Thursday October 19th

No 86 *England Expects* A words and music tribute to Admiral Nelson.

Meg Starling (soprano) Angela Dugdale (piano) Wyatt Earp (flute). The Sam Smith Singers with Steve Benson, Paul Hands, Richard Newton, and Sue Andrews (narrators)

### Thursday October 26th

No 87 *A Trip Down Memory Lane* A programme of light-hearted songs from verse by Edward Lear, Hilaire Beloc, and A.A. Milne

John Bennett (tenor) Gill Smith (piano).

## November

### Thursday November 2nd

No 88 *Lo! Hear the Gentle Lark*

Music for voice, flute, and piano. Meg Starling (soprano) Wyatt Earp (flute) Angela Dugdale (piano).

*Wyatt Earp*

## Cley Parish Council's Chairman's Report September 2023

Thank you all very much indeed for your support to save Blakeney Surgery. As I write, our petition has over 1,250 signatures, I understand about 500 practice surveys have been completed and many of you have also written into the practice and the Integrated Care Board with your views. The decision will be made in January or February next year.

The possible electric vehicle charge points will be on the agenda next month. The Village Hall has agreed that chargers could be installed in the VH car park provided the power comes from an external source, not from the VH itself (as discussed in a previous iteration). If the proposal from Norfolk County Council is acceptable and Cllrs are so minded, the suggestion is that we hold a village referendum to find out your views on electric car charging in the village.

We finally have a design for the Newgate Green improvement works which we will discuss at next month's PC meeting. Gemma will be posting on the website.

The Toad Patrol was so successful last year we are planning next seasons! Thank you to all who worked tirelessly to save so many toads. If you are interested in joining in do come along to a pre-season meeting on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm in the Club Room.

The draft Glaven Valley Conservation Area Appraisal is out for consultation as of October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Following the previous consultation, it is proposed to retain the saltmarshes north of Cley and Blakeney and all the villages within the GVCA, now including Sharrington. The boundary has been extended to include north of Baconsthorpe, and Selbrigg Pond. The only anomaly is the Cley Village Hall car park which has been taken out.

The Enforcement Team from NNDC tell us another planning application will be required for the Barn on Cookes marsh, to request permission for the render which has been applied. The land will returned to its original levels with consideration of any new habitats which have developed over the last few months.

The Community Café has been a huge hit with residents and visitors this summer. We are so grateful to our bakers, roll makers, baristas and bingo callers. We also owe an immense debt to the Village Hall for allowing us to have the Club Room at such an advantageous rate. We are thinking about a Warm Space this winter, possibly two days a week, adding in Fridays, if we can obtain grant funding. Do get in touch if you would be interested in taking part.

We will be holding another litter pick on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 10am. We would love it if you joined us. You never know what you will find!

The lokes are in need of their end of season clearance which we will be organising in early October.

The Three Swallows have very kindly asked us if the community might be interested in creating a wildflower or memorial garden in the top of their garden. What do parishioners think?

We still have plenty of money available for hardship support from our £2,500 Community Support Grant so do please contact the Clerk if we can assist you at all, [clerk.cley@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.cley@gmail.com) or 07812384889. All enquiries will be treated confidentially.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday October 12th 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 will 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*  
*victoria.holliday@north-norfolk.gov.uk*  
*07557054629*



Our popular Thursdays @ 3 Music in the Afternoons started again September 21st.

Huge thanks to those who took part on our behalf in the Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride on September 9<sup>th</sup> in the searing heat. Half of what you raised goes to St Margaret's and the remainder to The Norfolk Churches Trust, an equally good cause.

I would also like to thank the wonderful church flower arranging team, who produce the most fabulous displays week after week. This summer we were treated to some really stunning arrangements.

We are very excited to host the world premiere of James McConnel's Cantata on 11<sup>th</sup> November. More details to come.

We will be hosting a hay raking work party later in the month. Do get in touch if you would like to help.

Check out our new St Margaret's history leaflets with stunning photographs from Hanne Siebers, and look out for our new range of Christmas cards this autumn!

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.

*Victoria Holliday, Chair, Friends of Cley Church*

## 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)



**NWT North Norfolk  
Group  
and  
Cley Bird Club**



### **October meeting Birding Antarctica: The Last Frontier?**

Andy Clarke has a lifetime's experience of working, living and birding in Antarctica. Long the preserve of explorers and scientists, in recent years, it has become firmly established as a destination for tourists, allowing birders to see species that once seemed unattainable, such as Emperor Penguins, Snow Petrels and Blue Whales. In this talk, Andy will introduce Antarctica and describe the spectacular wildlife to be found there.

This joint event between the North Norfolk Group of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Cley Bird Club is on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023** at 7.30 p.m. in Cley Village Hall.

Entry £3.00 - refreshments included – no need to book.  
The meeting is kindly sponsored by Lynton Wines.

#### **Forthcoming meetings – dates for your diary:**

What is so special about Kenya? – Nik Borrow – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023.  
Norfolk's wonderful 150 – Tony Leech – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Cley WI Summer 2023

A visit to Mannington Hall was arranged for June, the month when it is beautiful rose garden would be at its best. Members were greeted by Lady Walpole and given an introductory talk on the house and grounds and then left to explore the gardens at leisure. Despite the day being one of the coldest and most inclement of the year to date and the roses not having quite reached their expected peak, the outing was deemed to be very successful and enjoyed by all.

In July we gathered in Brenda Pain's lovely garden for our annual Strawberry Tea. Summer had finally decided to arrive and it was a case of seeking out the shade instead of putting on the extra layer needed for the Mannington trip. This July afternoon gathering of our members is a relaxing couple of hours and gives our newer members the opportunity to get to know everyone better whilst tucking into a delicious tea, rounded off by a bowl of succulent strawberries.

We took a break in August and the programme resumed again in early September. The scheduled speaker was unable to be with us after all but we were very fortunate to secure the services of Rosie Wilkin who entertained us, quite alarmingly at times, with her talk on Medieval Medicine – the weird and the wonderful. Dressed in period costume (a thick worsted dress on one of the hottest days of the year), she regaled us with tales of not only the weird ideas they had - with an element of pagan Anglo-Saxon magical practice thrown in for good measure - but also the wonderful ones used in modern medicine even today. She brought with her an array of props which were passed round to illustrate her talk: piss pots, lotions and potions – one ingredient being bull's bile (!), leeches and bloodletting tools, charts, manuscripts and body parts and a very realistic mock-up of diseased, worm-ridden 'waste matter' (definitely not for the faint hearted!).

On a more palatable note, she handed round a plate of 'Nerve or Intelligence Cookies' (nutmeg biscuits) for us to sample, baked following the original recipe of the renowned spiritual healer Hildegard of Bingen and guaranteed "to create a cheerful countenance and glad spirits and to lighten a heavy heart." On seeing the many smiling faces at the end of the talk, I can confidently confirm that they worked!

Our next meeting, on 5<sup>th</sup> October, will be held in St Margaret's Church where we will be joining the regular Thursday afternoon audience for a feast of music entitled "From a Female View" specially curated for us and performed by Meg Starling (soprano), Wyatt Earp (flute) and Brenda Blewett (piano). We will meet at 2.30pm as usual to discuss WI matters and the concert will begin at 3pm.

*Alison Cole*

## **CLEY WI**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October

2.30pm

### **From a Female View**

A programme of music specially  
curated for Cley WI

*performed by*

**Meg Starling** (soprano), **Wyatt Earp**  
(flute) and **Brenda Blewett** (piano)

St Margaret's Church, Cley NR25 7TT

*Visitors Welcome - Recommended Donation £5.00  
(includes afternoon tea)*

For further information on Cley WI please phone  
01263 740225

**Our journey to finding the  
Gloucester.... how two diving Norfolk  
brothers discovered the wreck of a 17<sup>th</sup>  
Century ship which had carried the  
future King of England.**

**Talk by Julian Barnwell  
20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm  
Binham Village Hall**

**Tickets £12 including a glass of  
wine/soft drink**

**Booking essential:  
Email: [fobptickets@gmail.com](mailto:fobptickets@gmail.com)**

**Organised by the friends of binham  
priory**



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# Wiveton

## Wiveton Church

Unfortunately, there has been yet another delay and the target date for reopening the church is now end of October. Watch this space!

**Emma Bridgewater Wiveton Church Mug** I still have some of these very beautiful mugs, designed by Matthew Rice. There were only 500 produced so they will definitely be Collectors' items in the future! If you would like to buy one/some - or look at them - or if you know any avid Emma Bridgewater collectors, please contact me (details below).

The mugs are £25 each. Payment can be made either by bank transfer to:

Wiveton PCC Fabric Account

Sort Code 40-52-40

Account No 00012135

or cash, on collection.

200 Club



September's 1st Prize Winner was Stephen Irwin, with a prize of £65 🍷.

**Can you help us get to 300, making it a 300 Club!?** There is no minimum monthly amount and you have the chance to win one of 5 prizes each month, with a 1st prize of £65.

Just email me and I will let you have an application form.

Anthea de Loynes  
Chair of the Friends of Wiveton Church  
[antheadeloynes@aol.com](mailto:antheadeloynes@aol.com)  
07746 018310

## St Andrew's Church Letheringsett

Sunday 8th October 4pm

Harvest Choral Evensong  
sung by the Richeldis Singers

Parking by the Kings Head  
opposite

Retiring collection and  
Refreshments



## Grace and Ease Meditation

Free friendly Zoom meditation classes

Less stress, More peace

Beginners and busy minds welcome

Please message for details

07799 328400

# Glandford

*No news from Glandford this month.*

# Letheringsett

**Letheringsett Village Hall  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 6.30 for 7pm  
We are having a Harvest Supper**

## MENU

**Gammon Roast  
Many lovely desserts  
One glass of wine included  
Price £10 per head  
We have held the price at £10  
irrespective of costs.**

This is a popular event, please book early. If you have any dietary or food allergies, please mention this when booking. There will also be a raffle. If anyone wishes to donate a raffle prize or make a pudding – it would be gratefully appreciated. You are welcome to bring any refreshment of your own.

We look forward to seeing you.  
**Booking: Gillian Sands  
01263 713561**

## **Quotable Quote's on Logic...**

Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.  
**Albert Einstein**

Nature is the source of all true knowledge. She has her own logic, her own laws. She has no effects without cause, nor invention without necessity  
**Leonardo da Vinci**

Contrariwise, if it was so, it might be; and if it were so, it would be; but as it isn't, it ain't. That's logic  
**Lewis Carroll**

A mind all logic is like a knife all blade: it makes the hand bleed that uses it  
**Rabindranath Tagore**

## **Refugees**

They have no need of our help  
So do not tell me  
These haggard faces could belong to you or me  
Should life have dealt a different hand  
We need to see them for who they really are  
Chancers and scroungers  
Layabouts and loungers  
With bombs up their sleeves  
Cut-throats and thieves  
They are not  
Welcome here  
We should make them  
Go back to where they came from  
They cannot  
Share our food  
Share our homes  
Share our countries  
Instead let us  
Build a wall to keep them out  
It is not okay to say  
These are people just like us  
A place should only belong to those who are born there  
Do not be so stupid to think that  
The world can be looked at another way

*(now read from bottom to top)*

*Brian Bilston*

## **Sheringham & Cromer Choral Society Concert**

**St Peter's Church, Sheringham  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm**

Tickets £18, under 18's free, purchased from the box office at Sheringham Little Theatre on 01263 822347 or from [www.sheringhamlittletheatre.com](http://www.sheringhamlittletheatre.com)

Tickets also available from North Norfolk Visitor Centre, Loudon Road, Cromer for personal callers only.

# 'Truly Rural'

Simply Delicious Cooking

Elizabeth Joycie Harrison

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Mob: 07850 588765

e-mail [trulyrural@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trulyrural@hotmail.co.uk)

let's do  
lunch

in St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney  
The Blakeney Lunch will be held on  
on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October  
12noon to 2.00pm.

With the cool autumn days  
fast approaching we have  
changed our menu to a variety  
of delicious homemade soups  
followed by a choice of  
homemade desserts.

It is a great place to bring friends and  
to make new ones.

Visitors to Blakeney are also most  
welcome. Donations welcome.



## St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney Mini-Food Bank

We are very pleased to announce that Spar at Westgate Street, Blakeney, has very kindly agreed to provide a donation box in the shop for anyone who would like to donate items for our Food Bank at St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney.

We would be very pleased to receive any of the following items:

Coffee and tea, cereals, long life products, tinned meat or fish, tins of soup, vegetable oil, jams and preserves, puddings and any types of toiletries, toilet rolls, washing detergent and cleaning items.

All items gratefully received will go straight back to the community, working together within the Glaven Valley.

*Richard and the team at Blakeney.*

## THE GREAT BLAKENEY BREAKFAST!

in St Nicholas' Church, Blakeney  
will be held on  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
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.



## If Blakeney Surgery closes, how will you get your medicines?

If Holt Medical Practice closes Blakeney Surgery it will inconvenience many patients who rely on Blakeney as their ordering and collection point for their medicines.

Unfortunately, Holt medical practice have only referred to options that allow them to retain their dispensing fees. There are however alternatives that may well be more convenient for patients, but which would result in Holt Medical Practice losing dispensing income.

Patients living close to the Coastal Hopper service (which is an hourly service, but more frequent in the summer months) may find it more convenient to collect medicines from David Jagger pharmacy in Wells next the Sea. The bus stop is 50 meters from the Wells Pharmacy. Alternatively Boots Pharmacy in Sheringham is near the junction of High Street and Station Road about 200 yards from Sheringham Station. A third option is online pharmacy companies.

All of the above pharmacies use the electronic prescription service, so if you request your medicines using either the NHS app or Patient Access app. your prescription is sent electronically to the pharmacy that you have specified in the free text box. You then just go and collect your medication. The pharmacy may request your NHS number, which you will find is printed on your last prescription.

My wife and my preferred option has been to sign up to an online pharmacy (pharmacy2U in our case). You order your medicines via either the NHS app. or the Patient Access app. In the free text box, you request the Holt medical practice to send your script electronically to the online pharmacy of your choice. The online pharmacy then posts your medication to you via Royal Mail. There is no cost to you, but they get the dispensing fee. You do not have to travel to order or collect, so time and expense of petrol is saved, and no repeat journey when they announce they are out of stock for some of your items!

What's not to like!!

I appreciate that this requires some online skills, and that our older patients may need help with both these options. It is most regrettable that HMP has not mentioned these alternatives. This is understandable as with my wife and myself they will have forfeited dispensing fees to the tune of £300 per annum, but as they are planning to withdrawing from Blakeney Surgery, we see no reason why they should continue to benefit from these fees.

*Andrew Chapman (former senior partner HMP)*

### Looking after the archaeology of the North Norfolk coast

Did you know that, alongside our conservation role, the National Trust looks after dozens of archaeological sites along the North Norfolk coast?

Coastal areas are particularly interesting and important archaeologically. This is partly because of the historically important role of coastal towns and settlements as centres of trade, going back to the Roman period and earlier, and because of their military significance as important points for naval and air defences.

The North Norfolk coastline is a particularly dynamic environment, being continually reshaped by coastal erosion and deposition. This brings the potential for some archaeological finds to be lost to the sea, but at the same time it creates the intriguing possibility of new finds being revealed.

### From Roman fortifications to Cold War installations

After the Romans conquered Britain, forts and roads were constructed around Norfolk as the Roman army became established. Just outside Brancaster is the site of the ancient Roman fort of Branodunum. The fort, built in the 230s, later became part of the Saxon Shore fortification system.

In 2012, Channel 4's Time Team carried out a geophysical survey and excavated five trenches across the site. Several previously unknown buildings inside the fort were discovered, including huge granaries, barrack blocks for the soldiers, and a possible bath house and mansio.

At Salhouse, it is possible to find evidence of iron ore smelting dating back to the Roman times. Dark pieces of iron ore slag can be found near the beach, with small air bubbles providing the main clue that they were a by-product of the Romans' charcoal-fired furnaces.

Our coastline is also rich in 20th Century archaeology, with many World War 2 air defences – such as pillboxes and spigot mortar bases – partially and fully intact at regular intervals along the coast.

At the edge of Stiffkey saltmarsh there is a circular concrete path, about 5m wide and surrounding an area with a diameter of 60m to 80m, known as The Whirlygig. This is the remains of a Cold War military installation. It was the site of a United States Army Air Force rotary launcher which launched Radio Controlled Aircraft Targets (RCATs) for the practice firing of anti-aircraft guns.

### Heritage Records Online

You can find out more about these and other archaeological sites locally by using the National Trust's Heritage Records Online website: [heritagerecords.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://heritagerecords.nationaltrust.org.uk). This free site provides access to the National Trust's archaeological and historic building database, a resource which holds information on over 88,000 archaeological sites and historic buildings on, or adjacent to, National Trust-owned land.

This important record of archaeological sites is kept up to date with the help of a team of volunteers, our Heritage and Archaeology Rangers Team (HART). Volunteers visit and explore archaeological sites cared for by the National Trust, ranging from earthworks to buildings and structures, and collect information on their condition, stability and vulnerability – information that is vital in identifying where threats may be occurring and prioritising our conservation work.

If you would like to find out more about becoming a HART volunteer, please drop our Senior Volunteering and Community Officer, Marianne Lawrence, a line at [Marianne.Lawrence@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Marianne.Lawrence@nationaltrust.org.uk).

## District Councillor's report September From NNDC

### Coast

The Environment Agency will provide extra funding for the Cromer and Mundesley coast protection works, boosting the money available from from £6.5 million to £18 million. Coastwise has been awarded £15 million for the period till end fiscal 2027. This is to transition and prepare Coastal communities at risk of erosion.

### Planning

The Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan was passed at referendum which is great news. 90% of those who voted were in favour. The Glaven Valley Conservation Area Appraisal will be out for consultation from October 4th for three weeks. , The saltmarshes north of CLEY and Blakeney are now included, as are the villages, as we had requested.

The 'relaxation' of nutrient neutrality restrictions (which is 'holding up' 100 plus applications in North Norfolk) is currently going through the House of Lords and Parliament, so watch this space.

### Benefits

Discretionary housing payments are still being administered-these support tenancies and prevent homelessness. NNDC has been allocated £100k for 23/24, of which 42% has been spent. NNDC is providing the Household Support Fund to low-income households. This comprises £80/ household for energy, food etc. 42% of this fund has been disbursed.

### Housing

There are 2529 households on housing list, of which 585 have the most urgent need. 97 homes have been let this year. There are 67 households in temp accommodation, which is up 48% from this time last year. The chief for homelessness are that friends or family can no longer help, domestic abuse and the end of private rental tenancies. NNDC is buying 11 properties for Ukrainian and Afghan refugees at a cost of £1.25 million which has been provided by the government.

A further £560k has been made available to help Afghan refugees. We expect 27 affordable homes to be delivered in 23/24. NNDC has access to almost £4 million for energy efficiency works on 'off gas' homes. The criteria have been simplified and more homes are eligible.

### Sustainable growth

Nothing new

### Environmental, waste management

There have been 2 cases of legionella in the district, one domestic, one commercial.

There are occasional issues with bins - do get in touch if you experience problems.

### Finance

NNDC is second highest at council tax collection and highest for business rates collection in Norfolk.

### Property services

Progress is being made on the replacement of the Albert Street, Holt toilets.

### Customer service

A Chatbot is being tested by Customer Service. It is hoped to introduce it for residents later in the year.'

Save Blakeney Surgery campaign - thank you all for your support with the Save Blakeney Surgery campaign. We have had a great response. As I speak, we have more than 1,200 signatures on our petition, about 500 practice surveys have been submitted and many of you have written to the practice and the integrated Care Board with your views. A decision will be made in January/February next year.

*Victoria Holliday*

***"The Glaven Ports to 1800"***

A talk by the celebrated author

**Jonathan Hooton**

as part of

**THE 2023 SHOVELL DINNER**

at

the Harbour Rooms, Blakeney  
on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November

6:30 for 7:00pm start

**TICKETS £45**  
including dinner  
in aid of Friends Of Morston Church

From Peter Tibbetts on:  
**01263 741082 or 07977 937707**  
**or [petetibbetts@aol.com](mailto:petetibbetts@aol.com)**

# NWT North Norfolk Group and Cley Bird Club

## October meeting

### **Birding Antarctica: The Last Frontier?**

Andy Clarke has a lifetime's experience of working, living, and birding in Antarctica. Long the preserve of explorers and scientists, in recent years, it has become firmly established as a destination for tourists, allowing birders to see species that once seemed unattainable, such as Emperor Penguins, Snow Petrels and Blue Whales. In this talk, Andy will introduce Antarctica and describe the spectacular wildlife to be found there.

This joint event between the North Norfolk Group of the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Cley Bird Club is on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023** at 7.30 p.m. in Cley Village Hall.

Entry £3.00 - refreshments included – no need to book. The meeting is kindly sponsored by Lynton Wines.

### **Forthcoming meetings – dates for your diary:**

What is so special about Kenya? – Nik Borrow – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Norfolk's wonderful 150 – Tony Leech – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

## Letter's & Articles

It is very often said that Blakeney is a very special place to live. I have experienced this first hand after a few weeks in hospital following a stroke. I am overwhelmed and very touched by the kindness of so many with your cards and messages of support. Thank you seems inadequate but this is the only way I can hope to reach you all to let you know how grateful I am. You are all part of what makes Blakeney the wonderful place that it is.

*Dee Welsh*



### **At School in 1951**

I was five years old when I came to north Norfolk and started my education at Langham Primary, a lovely school where the headmistress and her assistant, my mother's cousin, were gentle kind and loved us as if they had given birth to us. I enjoyed two happy years there that sadly left me ill-prepared for what was to come when we moved and I had to go to Blakeney school. Where the head teacher would have made Roald Dahl's Miss Trunchbull seem cute

and loveable. So awful is my memory of her that I had to ask my wife to confirm what I remembered; her memories were even more horrific than mine. Obese and with sufficient mass to retain an atmosphere, that only she could breathe; small insects could burn up in its outer layers, and if her gravity pulled any of us too close, we could choke, oily, glistening skin, and hands, (that you had to watch all the time) had dimples instead of knuckles and pale pudgy fingers. She was also cross-eyed, which was probably the result of her habit of inspecting what she had liberated from her nose to check if it was ready to eat then or be kept in a hanky for later. Hardly a good example for children? Having been taught properly at Langham I might have done quite well, but she took against me, which was entirely reciprocal and instilled in me a strong resentment of being hurt by spiteful adults and ensured that several future teachers came to dislike me too. She had a habit of grabbing you by the skin on the back of your neck and hitting you very hard behind the knees. I went around most of the time as if I were riding an invisible hobbyhorse. I was asked recently if she might still be alive, and while I could not guess at her age when she taught us, I suggested that as she constantly recycled herself, she could easily still be lurking somewhere. The other teacher was a small dehydrated creature in the mold of Giles's chalky. Picturing them now I get an image of the large angler fish where the male is just a small appendage tacked on the side, although in the case of Chalky, he would not have fulfilled the reason for his attachment.

As we came into the last year before moving on to secondary school she devoted all her time to the two children she thought had the best chance of getting through the eleven plus, leaving the rest of us to play with poster paint and plasticine, my first wasted year. The second came after leaving primary school when I was sent down to Kingston-Upon-Thames to live with someone I did not know, and to a school that was lightyears ahead of the system in Norfolk where the only priorities at that time were to prepare boys for work on the land and girls for the scullery.

I continued to be beaten and became evermore rebellious. But there were odd moments of payback. The wall that surrounded the boy's urinals was about eight feet high and if I held myself in check long enough, I could build enough pressure to overtop it, on one occasion fate guided her to the perfect position on the other side of it, and I got her, and away with it by getting back into the classroom before she did. How I enjoyed that squeal.

Across from the school is the plantation, which had been ceded to the school as a playground; and what a playground, how many schools had a couple of acres of woodland to play in. The north side against the graveyard wall was mostly scrubby hawthorn and other shrubs in which we were able to make dens, these had entrances too small and difficult for a teacher, however greasy to squeeze through, so we were free to indulge our smoking habits. Alexanders\* which grew in abundance provided the material to make pipes, the thicker parts would make the bowl and the thinner ones the stems. In these, we smoked a variety of substances including discarded cigarette butts and dried leaves of whatever plants were

around; nothing hallucinogenic as far as I can remember, although the view through the telescopes we also made was certainly fuzzy. And pea shooters, Alexander stems are perfect for these and the seeds make excellent ammunition. Hiding in the bushes we had both teachers and other children thinking they had been stung by wasps.

At this time just after the war, there were still gunnery batteries at Weybourne and Stiffkey and Mosquito aircraft towed nylon banners across the sky as targets, these would occasionally drift back over the land when discarded. Along with another boy, I found a great length of the towing wire, it took several days to drag it back across the marsh but with it, we marked out a circuit around the plantation's beech trees to create a week-end bicycle speedway track. I only had an old policeman's bike which was much too big for me to sit on the seat, but I remember those races as terrific fun. We even had a pit stop where the boys who did not have bikes could pretend to mend punctures. These outside pleasures more than made up for the abuse I suffered on the inside.

A friend who had an air gun was asked by the vicar if we would shoot some of the rooks that had colonised the belfry and promised to pay a few pence for everyone we shot. It did not cost him much because even though the dens provided a perfect place to shoot from, I don't remember us ever hitting anything; I'm not sure the slugs even reached the tower. Some years later I had cause to go into the belfry and it took quite a while to force the door open, when I succeeded, I found the entire belfry was up to my waist with twigs.

It is difficult when seeing how wonderful school is for my grandchildren today, to believe that what I experienced could have actually happened, that any grown-up could want to hurt a small child, and with such vengeance, it is almost incomprehensible. I say almost because in that particular woman's case it may have been because she was bitter that she had no children of her own, and that looking in the mirror every day reminded her of exactly why that was, but then in such a situation one might reasonably expect the opposite.

Alexanders locally called horse pepper has seeds that when ground-up serve as a rather inferior type of pepper. But a possible source of both names comes from further back in time to 326 BC with Alexander the Great crossed the Hindu Kush, his men were suffering from such severe hunger that they had to eat the older worn-out horses and they used Horse Pepper in the cooking as a means of tenderising the meat.

GS

## The Great Storm hits Cley January 2nd, 1953

These descriptions come variously from the *North Norfolk News*, the *EDP*, my parents, my sister Cilla Labouchere and myself. Also, from 'The Mill Book' (the history of Cley Mill from the time of its purchase--from the miller and village baker, Steve Burroughs, by our great grandmother, Gladys Wilson 112 years ago).

The big grain ships could no longer reach the Mill quay because of the silting-up of the Cley Channel. All grinding

came to a halt, and Mr Burroughs had to import flour for his Cley bakery by horse and cart from Norwich. I remember, aged 5, the pleasure of searching for his horse to feed him my apple cores. He was left to roam free at night to graze on the quay side and in the Pightle. I used to watch Mr Burroughs coming to fetch him after breakfast to harness him up for the bread delivery to the shops and pubs in the valley. He never spoke; just stood there till he knew the horse had seen him then he turned around and walked back to his cart shed. The horse simply shook his head and followed him home.

The most vivid first-hand accounts of the 1953 flood come from my dad, Hubert Blount and John Warboys who lived in Cley with his wife and 2 young boys in the 1950's. They lived in the last-and- lowest cottage in the row below the blacksmith's forge (now *Picnic Fare*). I met him 35 years ago – by then aged 91-- and discovered by chance that he had been on Coast Guard Duty up in The Watch Tower in Cley beach car park the day of that terrible 'Sea Rage'. He could remember every detail and described it, moment by moment. I sat at the kitchen table and wrote every word down as he spoke:

*I were up t' Watch Tower all that day an' niver seed anythin' nor herd anythin' like tha' afore in mi life! Coodna see nothin' out at sea 'cos of the spray. When I saw them 'lickers' cummin' over top of the beach 'bout 4 o'clock, thought t'miself 'Best scarper!!' 'Gettin' down that ladder wi' all mi papers an' stuff was the wurst. I wer blow'd over 5 times afor I cud get t' mi bike. Tha' were laid down against t' bank. Niver bin so fast in mi life ridin' up t' beach road wi' the wind behoind like a grate hand a-pushin' on mi back. Got across the Cley Road, left mi bike an' het to crawl up the loke to git t' the Coastguard House t' make mi report but course that weren't no good 'cos all the lines was down. When I gits back down t' mi bike agin there were a foot o'water racin' down the road toward the middle of the village. I thought to myself, 'do I walk or do I ride?' Then I thought 'best git home quick as I can to mi wife an' the lads, they'll be in such a fright'. The water were rushin' past me faster than I cud peddle. When I gets to Mackerel Hill I sees my neighbour layin' scaffolding planks – he were a builder – agin' the wall past our two houses to take the water back down into the marsh were that belong. But that weren't no gud! Time I got int' kichin' the water were up to mi knees. I says to my wife "best we have our tea upstairs'. Go yew an' git sumat fer us t' eat an' oi'll teck the boys up to the bedroom". We ate our tea sittin' on t' bed. It were pitch dark. We were froz, so we all git quick into t' bed together. Just a few minites later mi wife sez "I can feel the water – thas' just under the matriss!!". I sed "Aint that a bit o'luck. We can git up the iron ladder wot's fixed to the wall an' sleep in the loft" Thas what we did wi' all the blankets an' pillows we was safe on the floor till mornin' . Coudna' speak a word though; the noise of the wind an' the crashin' outside hurt our ears all through the noit. Next mornin' the water were down. It were still about 3 feet in the kichin' so I carries mi wife first then the two boys up to Mackerel Hill. The soldiers were there wi' big trucks to take all the wimmen an' children to Web'orne an' look after them there. Then I gets real worrit 'bout my sister. She live in Wiveton. She could have drowned. So I set off to be sure she were orl right. The crossin' at Glandford were too deep under water so I hed to walk to Holt and back out to Wiveton to git to her. She were orl right! When I were*

*back to mi house that night there wuz Mrs Allen from Langham kneeling in the muck in my kitchen cleanin' up the floor. I sez to her "You shouldna be doin' tha' for me - you's the gentry!" and she say to me "Don't you worry about that. You look right done in. You just sit there and drink this Lucozade which I have brought for you". So I did.*

My dad, Hubert Blount, was down on the Cley marshes with the farm Land Rover when the water started flowing up the beach road. He drove home immediately, knowing that the Mill, where an American Airman's wife, with new-born baby, were staying at the time would be flooded first. There would be no chance of her husband getting back from Sculthorpe that night. Dad left the Land Rover up the Old Hall farm driveway and ran to the Mill, getting there just as the water started flowing in under the doors. Within minutes, huge waves were crashing against the mill tower and spray shooting up onto the balcony. Dad carried baby food, water, torch, extra blankets and eiderdowns and moved them into the top bedroom – two floors up. By the time he got out of the back door the water was 4 feet deeper and he had to climb along the top of the wall then pull himself along 'the back lane' to the High Street and half swim through the flood racing through the village to get onto higher ground. My sister, Cilla Labouchere, remembers seeing, the next day, a gigantic section of marsh mud and reeds, weighing several tons, lying on the Quay just beside the Mill. What would have happened if that great weight had hit the Mill's walls?

Dad knew our mum, Polly, would be all right, so he went straight off again with torch and ladder and, from the garden at the back, managed to get old Eric Borra in the High Street, out of his bed upstairs, through his bedroom window, down the ladder and back to our house. He lived with us for the next 6 weeks, along with ins and outs of other flood refugees from the village who had found their way to our kitchen door through the farmyard that night. Eric Borra had lived alone his whole life. No family. No friends. Just two small terriers and his bike. He was the loneliest person in Cley. No-one in the village would talk to him - because he had made his living for 30 years shooting rare birds – even bearded tits -- on the Cley marshes for Roland Ward, a big taxidermist in London. Next morning in our kitchen, Eric was weeping and begging Dad to go back to his house and find the bodies of his dogs, presumably drowned, so he could bury them. Dad found the dogs alive and got bitten for his troubles. Their baskets had floated up to the bedroom ceiling along with Eric's lit candlestick - the candle making a black 'snail trail' on the plaster before it snuffed itself out. Eric's joy was so great that it 'broke him open' and he could not stop talking. Over the next weeks, everyone in and out of our house began to realise what a gentle, shy, intelligent, well-read, interesting and lovely person he was. When he was finally back in his house, now with electricity, people came popping in to see him all the time, bringing him 'sumat t'eat', chatting and laughing with him and checking he was OK. The last years of his life were so full and happy, it was like a miracle unfolding before our eyes.

The first newspaper reports about the flood . . . *"The greatest tide ever known on the North Norfolk coast swept in from the sea yesterday. Mile upon mile of desolation, mile upon mile of homes, fields, railways, roads covered in the biggest*

*national calamity to hit this community. The sudden onslaught of the sea across the mile of marshes gave the villages of Cley a night never to be forgotten. The waves broke through the banks on the marsh, hurled up to Cley in a tidal wave, smashing everything before them. Ancient flint walls that had weathered hundreds of gales crashed like nine-pins. The Mill stood firm, but the front door and flint porch crashed in, smashing all the furniture. The sofa, the chairs, the grandfather clock went out through the window, the piano and rocking horse were never seen again."*

(The dining room table was later recovered near the church and our kitchen table finally collected a week later from the top of the field beyond the Wiveton bridge road to Holt - a mile away. It was found lying beside the Blakeney Lifeboat, also upside down. Clearing the mud and wreckage inside the Mill, we found just 3 piano notes (2 white, 1 black). We also recovered the almost ruined 'Mill Book'. Now rebound and cleaned up as far as possible, it still includes the just-legible description of the Sea Rage of 1953.)

The EDP report continued... *"The scene at Cley on Monday was horrific. Heaps of furniture, much of it smashed, stood outside many of the flooded houses while their owners tried to clear up the chaos inside. Lorries, both civilian and military – some lent by the American forces at Scunthorpe -- carried furniture from the worst hit houses into storage. Children, unable to go to school because it has been flooded, stood, blue-faced with cold, helping their parents where they could. "Some of the houses in the village would never be habitable again" said Mrs Knott of Cley Hall. Water supplies have been provided by the Americans who sent in water tanks. An emergency coal issue has been made, one bucket per household. Emergency arrangements for feeding have been arranged with Red Cross workers maintaining a mobile canteen. Numerous gifts of clothing have been gratefully received but there is an urgent need for gifts of outsized clothes, bedding. Pots, pans and cutlery would be greatly welcomed. Stacks of clothing from Dereham are being handed out from Cley Hall. In the main street, Cromer fireman were pumping out houses which were still deep in flood water. The road between Cley and Blakeney was still impassible. National Assistance grants are being made available to Cley people in dire financial need. The Parish Church is storing salvaged belongings. Families were separated and, with darkness and destruction of all communication, even by road, to add to the sense of isolation, it was little wonder that there were many rumours of missing people." Mr High, the village shoe-maker, living opposite The Forge (now Picnic Fare) described how the water quickly rose window-high. "Then it began to subside, and we though the worst was past when suddenly, with a roar, the water rose several feet higher in just a few minutes. It was the tidal wave that followed the breaking' of the banks down on the marsh. Nothing we could do but rush upstairs and leave everything. My wife, she'd gone next door to help our neighbour, Mrs Brown. She never got home again that night. I didn't know whether she was alive or dead till next morning."*

*Mrs Barnett, landlady at The George Hotel, described how she heard a roar as the sea burst through the front door of*



the building completely wrecking the furniture and fittings. All she could salvage in the way of food were some water biscuits. The village was cut off both ends from the floods and the Holt road turned into what looked like a boiling inland sea, littered with furniture and the carcasses of animals. Major Blount's heifers were drowned in the salt pan, also many calves in a field in Glanford. The interior of The Swallows pub was a confused mass of tangled wreckage and the waters still lapped at the front. Dick Allen of Glaven House said he stood up the loke just above Mackerel Hill near the forge for a while, watching every conceivable article and furniture go sweeping past in the torrent. "Beds, side boards and the like, borne along like driftwood".

Relief Headquarters were set up at Cley Hall where Mrs Knott and the Rev Mr Toft, the rector, called a meeting of all the Relief Organisations. Senior boys from Gresham's School with members of staff came to help salvage valuables scattered amongst the ruins and wreckage. A medical examination was undertaken of every person who had been in the flood water. Special attention was also given to the disposal of the many rats, dead or still running around everywhere.

19-year-old, Gordon Lee, went into the allotments to release his pigs so they could get to higher ground. Before he could get away himself, he was marooned on top of the shed in the darkness. His cries for help were never heard. When spotted at first light next morning, rescue attempts failed because of the power of wind and tide. Three hours later, Ray Allen and some soldiers finally managed to get to him with a boat. He was frozen semi-conscious by the icy water and exhaustion from clinging all night to the branch of a small tree growing beside the hut and brushing off the rats climbing up the tree out of the floodwater.

Five photographs, all taken in Cley during the week after the storm, can be viewed at GVN Online. (Credit: Newscrestmco.uk) These include a photograph of the last cottage below Picnic Fayre where the family had to get into the loft above the bedroom to survive..

*Sarah Woodhouse*

## October at the Museum of the Broads

From Thursday 19 October to Sunday 29 October, you can enjoy a special Hallowe'en Trail for families. There are spooky prizes for all who complete the trail. Included with Museum entry. For those brave enough, come along to a haunting ghost story telling evening – see website for full details.

Take a unique river trip on our steam launch, Falcon, or our accessible electric boat, Marsh Harrier. Enjoy a picnic or freshly cooked panini.

The Museum is open on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There are activities for all ages, and dogs are welcome too. The Museum of the Broads, Poor's Staithe, Stalham, NR12 9DA, 01692 581681,

[www.museumofthebroads.org.uk](http://www.museumofthebroads.org.uk) on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

# Blakeney Area Historical Society

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2:30pm**

*Cley Village Hall*

**Religion and the Iceni: new excavations at the Roman temple at Caistor-by-Norwich**

*Will Bowden, Professor of Roman Archaeology, Nottingham University*

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at  
2:30pm**

*Cley Village Hall & Zoom*

**Sir John Fastolf:  
Our Norfolk Knight  
Followed by the AGM**

*Dale Wiseman*

**Free Entry**

**Donations welcome**

*Receive Zoom invites by joining the  
BAHS or sign-up for information  
emails.*

Further Information & Updates

**[www.bahs.uk](http://www.bahs.uk)**



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# Charity Music Night



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# 1953 Flood Photographs







