



*The Yoxmere  
Fisherman*

**November 2024**

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2024

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### Saturday, 2nd November

3pm Westleton All Souls' Service

### Sunday, 3rd November ~ All Saints

10.00am Peasenhall Benefice Service  
with Holy Communion

### Sunday 10th November ~ Remembrance Sunday

9.30am Yoxford Holy Communion &  
10.45am Remembrance Day Service  
with Peasenhall & Sibton

10.50am Darsham Remembrance Day Service  
with Dunwich & Westleton

10.50am Middleton Remembrance Day Service

10.55am Theberton Wreath laying

11.15am Remembrance Day Service

12 noon Westleton Wreath laying at Memorial

### Sunday 17th November ~ 2nd Sunday before Advent

9.30am Yoxford family@church

9.30am Westleton Holy Communion ~  
Archdeacon Rich Henderson

9.30am Theberton Morning Praise

11.00am Peasenhall Holy Communion (BCP)

3.30pm Darsham Evensong

### Sunday 24th November ~ Christ the King

9.30am Yoxford Morning Prayer

9.30am Westleton Informal Worship & croissants@church

11.00am Peasenhall Morning Worship at the  
Methodist Chapel

11.00am Middleton Holy Communion with Theberton

11.00am Darsham Holy Communion

3.30pm Sibton Evensong

### Sunday 1st December - Advent Sunday

10.00am Westleton Benefice Advent Carol Service with Communion

### Every Wednesday

10.00am Yoxford Holy Communion

### LECTIONARY

*3rd November, white*

Isaiah 25.6-9

Revelation 21.1-6a

John 11.32-44

*10th November, red*

Jonah 3.1-5, 10

Hebrews 9.24-28

Mark 1.14-20

*17th November, green*

Daniel 12.1-3

Hebrews 10.11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Mark 13.1-8

*24th November, white*

Daniel 7.9-10, 13, 14

Revelation 1.4b-8

John 18.33-37

*Thanks to Jeremy Branch for the cover photo. (See P. 4)*



### Memory

About fifteen years ago a young man called Joshua Foer attended the US memory championships. He was a journalist and had been curious to find and interview the cleverest person alive. But that was a hard task to achieve — because absolute intelligence is hard to judge. But memory *could* be judged in competition, and memory is an important

component of intelligence — or so he reasoned.

Competitors were remembering the order of shuffled packs of cards, and hundreds of digits of pi. In breaks, Josh would find competitors and ask “When did you discover you had a great memory?” He was surprised by the usual answer: “I don’t.”

And that led Josh to discover a world of techniques by which you can leverage your memory to hold onto difficult stuff. So, numbers are hard to remember, but objects and places are not, so by translating numbers into objects in places they become much more memorable — better suited to a hunter-gatherer brain that was focused on tracking deer and gathering roots and fruit. Repetition is another tool — the things you repeatedly rehearse stick in your memory eventually.

The next year, Josh competed in the finals of the memory championships. He had learnt his lessons well. All this is chronicled in his book *Moonwalking with Einstein*. It’s a good read, I promise.

I had a go at putting this into practice, to see how well it works. I learnt the kings and queens of England — including their dates of accession. I learnt the periodic table: not just in order, but so that you could say a number and I could tell you what element it was and vice versa. I can’t do it now — if you don’t practise, you forget again.

Knowing how to remember is very useful, but it is a different sort of memory to that which we practise in November. All Saints and All Souls remember the great examples of the Christian faith, and remember the faithful departed. On 5th November we remember gunpowder treason and plot, while Remembrance Sunday commemorates the courage and self-sacrifice of those who gave their lives in the wars, but also the awfulness of war, lest we forget.

Remembering a pack of cards is impressive. Remembering the lessons of the past is vital. Forgetting phone numbers is a nuisance. Forgetting the lessons of the past is tragic. This November, I pray that we remember well.

*Blessings, Tim.*

## FROM THE REGISTERS

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### Funerals

Peter James Steer, aged 91 years, on 2nd October at St Peter's, Westleton

### Interment of Ashes

Gill and Tony Hickman, on 14th October at St James, Dunwich

### Marriages

Alexander Egerton Levett-Scrivener and Iona Margaret Eleanor Taylor, on 25th October at St Peter's, Sibton.

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## PRAYER AMONG THE RUINS

The cover photo shows members of our churches and others in the Saxmundham Deanery gathered at Greyfriars Priory in Dunwich for "a time of prayer, thinking and thanking God for the past, listening and reflecting on what is happening now and praying for revival."

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**family@church**

Sunday 17th November 9.30am  
Yoxford Church

**The Fruit of the Spirit -  
Self Control**



 **An informal family-friendly service for  
the young and the not so young**

mothers  
union

 **Christian care for  
families worldwide**

**Thursday 21st November**

**Meet Our Archdeacon**  
**Archdeacon Rich Henderson**

**Westleton Church**  
**2.30pm**

All Welcome

Contact Sue Norrington 660280 or  
Jennifer Clough 648597  
for more information

## DISABILITY ADVICE SERVICE

The Disability Advice Service (East Suffolk) has been working across the East Suffolk and Ipswich communities for thirty-seven years supporting children and adults with disability related problems, including their family carers. We provide practical solutions to address the financial issues which impact on the wellbeing of our clients.

The following case study illustrates the kind of support we can provide. Denise (not her real name) contacted us as she was assessed by the DWP as having zero points for her PIP (Personal Independence Payment). As a result of an assessment by DAS, we raised a Mandatory Reconsideration action with the DWP. A member of the DAS appeals team then spent time going over the client's case with her and identified areas where she might be able to better present the impact of her disability to the DWP.

Unfortunately, following a PIP re-submission the assessment was not altered, so the DAS appeals officer then submitted a formal appeals application. Following this, the DWP awarded the client allowances for "enhanced rate daily living" and "enhanced rate mobility". Denise also received £7278.23 in arrears. The whole process took three months and considerable work, but the end result more than justified the effort!

Do you know of someone who might benefit from our help? Based in Martlesham, over the past six months we've started outreach services in Leiston, Felixstowe, and Ipswich. Phone on 01394 387070, or email [advice@daseastsuffolk.org](mailto:advice@daseastsuffolk.org). Find more at [www.daseastsuffolk.org](http://www.daseastsuffolk.org) or on Facebook.

Disability Advice Service - East Suffolk  
14 The Square , Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 3SL

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### ***THE YOXMERE FISHERMAN - Guidelines for contributors***

The *Yoxmere Fisherman* is published for the Yoxmere Benefice, which comprises the Church of England parishes of Darsham, Dunwich, Middleton, Peasenhall, Sibton, Theberton, Westleton and Yoxford.

Visitors may find more information at [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

**SUBMISSIONS** should be sent by the 14th of the preceeding month, and preferably by email to [yoxmerefisherman@gmail.com](mailto:yoxmerefisherman@gmail.com)

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### **VIRTUAL FISHERMAN**

The current edition and a few months of previous issues can be found at <https://westleton.onesuffolk.net/church/yoxmere-fisherman/>





### The problem of evil

Right from the earliest pages of the Bible we are presented with the big problem that needs to be solved. God is good, and creation is good, and yet there is evil. If God created all things, *did God create evil??* And, given that we mostly don't accept that premise, where did evil come from, and what is the solution?

In Genesis, we read about Adam and Eve, directly after the account of creation. They may eat any fruit they like except one. The snake comes and tempts them and they eat this forbidden fruit. Eating this reveals to them that they are naked — they feel ashamed, hide from God, and God expels them from Eden. Thereafter the descent into evil is rapid: Adam and Eve have sons Cain and Abel, Cain kills Abel out of jealousy, and from there evil spreads as rapidly as humanity spreads. And the Bible does not gloss over the evil actions of its protagonists.

Today, as much as at any point in time, we ask: if God is good, how does he allow so much evil?

A good answer is not straightforward. One explanation, offered by many belief systems, is that the struggle between good and evil is fairly equal — neither side wins, and so we keep on fighting for order and justice against selfishness and disorder. Christianity (and Judaism) doesn't accept this somewhat depressing answer. God is creator and sustainer of the world. We do not accept that God could lose this battle. Another explanation is required, and it is found within the Adam and Eve story.

God has made all things good, and also given humankind free will. Adam and Eve have choice. They can choose to eat the regular fruit... or they can choose to disobey God. They are tempted and succumb to temptation and disobey. Once they have disobeyed, disobedience becomes easier.

Are they tempted by the fruit itself? Or the chance to be like God, knowing good and evil? The story suggests it is a bit of both. The snake hints that God might be keeping the best for himself, and so he sparks envy, and envy leads into wrongdoing.

Now, without free will they could not sin, but with free will, they did. One of the conundrums here is that free will seems very important to us. What if you were put in prison before you had done anything wrong? Would that seem justified?

Would that seem good? No. We prize our freedom very highly. So does God.

This will sound trite to many. What if God were to give us all freedom, but at times to stay the hand of the most evil aggressors? To an extent the Bible suggests that this *can* happen: in Exodus God compels Egypt's Pharaoh to release the Hebrews from slavery. He intervenes again as this small tribe reclaims the land they had once lived in, and again at times when Israel would be wiped out by neighbouring nations. All distinct interventions by God. **But**, God is parsimonious in these interventions — apparently unwilling to stay the hand of Hitler, Stalin or any other evil power. Why?

There are two things here. If God intervened relentlessly, we would not really be free, and we would never learn.

To go back to the first point: God has made us capable of great good and great evil. We have that choice. God would like us to choose good over evil, but he does not compel us. He does not threaten to punish us for our evil although he does allow us to suffer the consequences of our actions. If God wielded his power too regularly and obviously, humankind would comply to the law out of fear, not out of free will or love.

Instead, God seems to expect humankind to learn and mature. To learn that sin has repercussions, just as playing with matches gets you burnt.

“What about law?” you ask. “Religion has always dictated the law!” You are right. The ten commandments outline both the worst excesses of evil — murder, adultery, robbery, deceit — and also the principles of keeping your thoughts and behaviour in check: by honouring the Lord, respecting your parents, and not coveting your neighbour's property.

The problem is: law doesn't do a very good job of keeping sin in check. It guides, but doesn't really change our nature.

What we really need is a change of heart, so that we are free to do evil, but choose not to. This is where Jesus comes in: Jesus' death on a cross may not seem like the solution to the problem of evil, but next month we will discuss why it just might be.

*Blessings, Tim*

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## **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

The next meeting will be on Monday 4th November, and Monday 2nd December at 2pm in Westleton Village Hall Foyer. This is a safe space for those who have been bereaved to be as open as you wish about your experiences, both emotional and practical, following loss. Tea, coffee and biscuits supplied and no charge. More information from the Revd Tim Rogers, or feel free to just turn up.

## ADVENT 2024 – MOTHERS' UNION TRAVELLING NATIVITY

Last year the Mothers' Union nativity set travelled around Yoxmere Benefice during Advent, staying one night in each home. If you would like to host the nativity set during Advent this year, please phone:

Sue Norrington 01728 660280, Jan Belton 01728 660111 or Kathryn Branch 01728 648140 so we can book a date with you. We bring the set to you and collect it the next day so that it can move on to the next host. If you have children in your house, it is great to have them put the figures out but any household is welcome to look after our Nativity Set, on its Advent journey around Yoxmere Benefice.

*Sue Norrington*

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## A TIMELY UPDATE FROM CATS

At CATS (Coastal Accessible Transport Service) based at Colonial House in Leiston, we have extended our opening hours to include Saturday bookings between 9am and 12.30pm. This

means that you can book a journey with for the very same day or the week ahead. We operate in many towns and villages in East Suffolk on various services such as Katch, Connecting Communities and Wheels within Wheels. All our vehicles are wheelchair accessible and enable people who may need a little more assistance to remain independent and get out and about. We have many different types of journeys being taken every day: getting children safely to school, you to and from work, and - when the weather's lovely - trips to the seaside. We also hire out minibuses to local community groups for use for their activities.

However, we still desperately need volunteer drivers so that we can help provide transport for those unable to drive or who cannot physically use public transport. You can give anything from a few hours to a whole day; you can either use your own car (vehicle expenses will be covered), or we can get you trained to drive one of our minibuses.

Contact us on 01728 830516 or visit our website at [www.cats-paws.co.uk](http://www.cats-paws.co.uk)

*Benjamin Gulliford*





## Westleton Bookshops!

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# DARSHAM

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Darsham Villagers - on 2nd November (All Souls Day), between 10am and 12noon, the church will be holding a Gift Day. Do come along and see our lovely church and take a look at the beautiful windows. There will be fact sheets available to tell you about this wonderful building and a fun booklet for the children to come and complete too. We will also have a book open for you to record your memories of the church over the years — events, occasions and people that are part of the story of this church for you.

Keeping historic churches in good repair, insured and open is not cheap, and there is not help in this from outside the parish. This year we are turning our attention to the (many) trees which are in need of attention. We are currently receiving specialist advice on how best to take this forward.

Times are hard for everyone but we would love to see you on 2nd November for a cup of tea and a chat, and any contributions, no matter how small, will be gratefully received.

*Blessings, Revd Tim and the team.*

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## WHAT'S ON AT DARSHAM VILLAGE HALL – NOVEMBER 2024

### Classes & Clubs

Sequence Dancing – every Tues. & Thurs. from 1pm (Carol 01986 784642)

Yoga – every Fri. 10.30-11.30am (Debbie 07906 346545)

Table Tennis – every Thurs. 7-9pm (Alan Holland 01728 668451)

Carpet Bowls – Every Friday 2.30pm (Heather Shipp 01728 668251)

Baby Sensory Group – Every Tues. 9.30 -10.30 and 11.00 to 12.00 (contact Megan Mayes – 07521 318146)

Crafty Club – Mon. 4th - 9.30am (contact Heather Ballantine 07860 278955)

Darsham Pétanque – Every Tuesday 4:30pm (Ron Clark 07423 399406)

### Events and Meetings

- Coffee Morning – Sat. 9th at 10am hosted by the Pétanque Club
- Film Night – Sat 9th at 7pm – *The Fall Guy* (see details below)
- Parish Council Meeting – Tues. 12th at 7pm
- Textile Temptations – Wed. 13th at 10am (contact Sally Goodacre 07900 522577)
- Authors' Group – Mon. 18th at 2pm (contact Russell 07496 096056)
- Art Classes – Mon. 18th 9.30am to 12.30pm (contact Colin on 07528 515214)

### Darsham Village Hall Film Night

Saturday 9th November *The Fall Guy*

Action/Comedy/Romance based on the 1980s TV Series stars Ryan Gosling and

Please contact Anne on 01728 668270 or 07852 237389 if you have any queries.

Saturday 16th November at Darsham Village Hall to help raise funds for the club. Doors open 6.30pm. Quiz starts at 7.00pm. Maximum six players per team, cost is £2 per person. General knowledge, music and picture rounds. Great prizes to be won, plus a raffle. Feel free to bring your own refreshments. For further info or to book a place, please email Byron Davies - [bjd20c@gmail.com](mailto:bjd20c@gmail.com).

The harvest service at St James, Dunwich was very well attended and much enjoyed by all. The generous pile of food donated and the service collection will go to the local foodbank. A huge thank you to all involved, especially to the Elsey family for donating the fish and chip meals.

*Christine Palmer*

*Heather Cook.*



Become a member of the Dunwich Community Heritage Centre!  
Support your local museum and community hall for £10 a year.  
Email us at [membership@dunwichmuseum.org.uk](mailto:membership@dunwichmuseum.org.uk)

We will be holding our Winter Fair in the Dunwich Reading Room from 11.30-4pm. Find a perfect holiday gift, browse the wonderful creations of our craft folk, and enjoy a slice of cake and a glass of mulled wine! If you are a craftsperson

interested in having a table at the fair, email us at [chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org.uk](mailto:chronicles@dunwichmuseum.org.uk).

We are grateful to the National Lottery for their support and offer players a free Dunwich Museum pencil if they can show us proof of purchase.



## MIDDLETON

### MIDDLETON ANNUAL VILLAGE HALL QUIZ



**Friday 15th November**

**7pm Village Hall, Mill Street**

Teams of up to 6, £5 per head

Licensed bar Raffle

Home-made soup supper

Contact [barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.barker.t21@btinternet.com) to book.



### MIDDLETON WI NEWS

At our September meeting President Irene welcomed all members and introduced our speaker Mary Newton, a forensic biologist.

Mary gave us a talk entitled “Blood, Sweat and Fears” about her forty-year career in the Forensic Science Service at the London Laboratory in Lambeth, although for the final seven years she was as an independent consultant on how to investigate rape cases, which took her all over the country. Mary wanted us to know that forensic science is difficult and mundane - not as glamorous as on CSI. No assumptions can be made and you must be meticulous and tenacious and work as part of a team. She loved it. At first she went out to crime scenes with very little protective clothing, but that has now changed to the scientist wearing a coverall, two pairs of gloves, a facemask and boots. The rise of DNA technology since 2003 made this imperative as the investigator should not leave any of their DNA at the scene. DNA sequencing can be used on blood, semen, saliva, hair and skin cells. Evidence from old cases can be re-examined when needed.



Mary then talked about how she and her team worked on two well known murder cases: those of Lin and Meghan Russell in Kent and Stephen Lawrence in London. The evidence was examined, and then re-examined as the DNA techniques became more advanced. Mary was also a consultant on the first series of *Silent Witness*. The TV production team didn't listen to her advice but made the portrayal of forensics much more dramatic than it is. It was a fascinating talk. Irene thanked her for entertaining us.

In November our meeting will be an afternoon AGM on the 20th at 2.30pm.

*Lynne Venn*

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**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH –  
MIDDLETON CUM FORDLEY**

**Dickens and Scrooge:  
The writing of a classic  
Christmas story**

An illustrated talk by  
Mark Mitchels

**Tuesday, 10th December 7pm**

*Silver collection  
towards church funds*



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## PEASENHALL

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH - 2024 CHRISTMAS CARDS

We have Christmas cards for sale showing the church as below (but in colour). The greeting inside is:

*May the Peace and Joy of Christmas  
be with you today and always.*

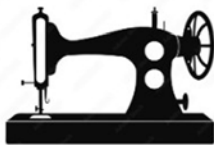
Our cards are available from Peasehall Village Stores, Weavers Tearoom and Emmerdale Farm Shop at £5 for a pack of 10 cards and envelopes. They are also available from Sue Norrington on 01728 660280.



### ***Upholstery and clothing alteration services***

#### ***Services include:-***

- Upholstery around the home
- Automotive upholstery
- Clothing alterations



***For all enquiries, contact Lydia on  
07527372719***

### **SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST RIDE AND STRIDE**

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the ride and walk, and for all those who sponsored or donated to the event. Also for those who sat in church on the day to sign people in. The weather was perfect with very little wind and lovely sunshine. We had the most people taking part for a long time and raised an excellent total of £1,112. Thank you everyone and look forward to next year's event.

*Mike Thickitt*

## **PEASENHALL ASSEMBLY HALL. WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER.**

**Film Club Friday 1st November, *The Fall Guy*.** Doors open at 7pm. No need to book, entry by donation. Raffle and bar.

If you have any requests or would like to hear about future films, please subscribe to our mailing list: [peasenhallpicturepalacefilmclub@gmail.com](mailto:peasenhallpicturepalacefilmclub@gmail.com)

**Craft Club 4th and 18th November 2-4pm.** If you are interested in any type of needlework, crafts, painting or drawing, come along and join us. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. No need to book, £3 per session. More info from Jane – [theassemblyhall19@gmail.com](mailto:theassemblyhall19@gmail.com)

**Low Impact Keep Moving Class is held every Tuesday -5th, 12th, 19th and 26th November 11-12.30pm.** The class will include elements of strength, balance and stability and is suitable for all abilities. Booking essential. Please call Marcus on 07757 528208 or email [zenenergy777@gmail.com](mailto:zenenergy777@gmail.com)

**Dance Fit Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th November 6-7pm.** For further details email [fleighactivewear2020@gmail.com](mailto:fleighactivewear2020@gmail.com).

**Pop up Café Wednesday 6th November 10am – 12pm.** Hosted by the wonderful Weavers Team of Sara and Beth. Tea, coffee and biscuits with lots of chat.

**NEW Pilates Class. This will be held every Thursday (7th, 14th, 21st & 28th November) 9.45-10.45am.** Suitable for all abilities. To book, or for more information, contact Emma on email [pilatesbodyharmony@aol.com](mailto:pilatesbodyharmony@aol.com) or 07914 535448.

**Save the date: Wreath Making Saturday 7th December 1-4pm.** Make your own Xmas wreath. Mulled wine and mince pies provided.

As always, we couldn't host any of our events without YOU the community and we thank you for your continued support. All proceeds from events go towards the upkeep of our community space.

To book the hall, please telephone 01728 600010. For general enquiries please contact Jane Collins (Chairman) on email [theassemblyhall19@gmail.com](mailto:theassemblyhall19@gmail.com) or 07767 167968.

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[www.peasenhall.onesuffolk.net/peasenhall-assembly-hall](http://www.peasenhall.onesuffolk.net/peasenhall-assembly-hall)

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## **CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR THE OVER-70S**

The Christmas lunch for the over-70s in Peasenhall, sponsored by the Peasenhall United Charities, will take place on Wednesday 11th December at the Village Hall. Guests should arrive from 12.30 on the day. The lunch is available for anyone aged

70 or over, living in Peasenhall. Carers under that age are also welcome. As last year, the meal will be a traditional three-course Christmas lunch.

Places are limited to 30 participants so booking early is essential. To book your place please contact one of the following:

Beth Benstead – 07412 538784

Jane Collins – 07767 167968

Barry Rowing – 07876 302401

Tony Sore – 01728 660335

Revd Tim Rogers – 01728 668951

Chris Norrington – 01728 660280



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## **PEASENHALL AND SIBTON METHODIST CHURCH**

### **Coffee Morning and Christmas Sale**

**Saturday 30th November**

**10am – 12noon**

Lots of Christmas decorations, gifts, festive bakes and treats!

*Everyone welcome*



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## **PEASENHALL PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING at 7pm, Wednesday 4th December, at The Assembly Hall, Peasenhall.**

**For:- Mabel's Walk open space/play area, The Causeway, Peasenhall.**

Peasenhall Parish Council invites Peasenhall residents to attend a council meeting in respect of play equipment that they would like to see installed in Peasenhall. The Parish Council has a limited budget available for this and would like to submit a planning application, showing which equipment we would like to install once the land is transferred to the Parish Council. The views of all Peasenhall residents are valuable to us at this early planning stage.

*Peasenhall Parish Council.*

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## **PEASENHALL CHRISTMAS TREE ILLUMINATION**

**Sunday 8th December at 5pm**

This year, we will be installing the village tree in front of the Village Hall. The 'switch on' event will be held outside, but with the added luxury of retreating indoors should the weather be unkind to us. Joining-in with carol singing will be optional!! & the usual refreshments will be available. Wrap-up warm!

*Peasenhall Parish Council.*

## THEBERTON

### CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

This year's Christmas Tree Festival will be held in Theberton Church on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th December from 11am to 4pm. There will also be a Christmas Bazaar in the Jubilee Hall on the same days.

This festival has become part of our Christmas in Theberton and we hope you will all come along to see this magical display of decorated trees. For information about providing a tree please contact Joan on 01728 830710.



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### FIREWORK DISPLAY

Theberton Playing Field, Saturday 2nd November. Barbeque and hot drinks available from 6pm and the display starts at 6.30pm. Need more info, give Sally a call on 01728 832386 or 07394 968139.

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### QUIZ NIGHT

Theberton Village Hall, Saturday 23rd November, doors open 6.30 for 7pm start. £5 per person, max 6 per team. Food included but bring your own drinks, also a raffle will take place. To book a table please call Sally on 01728 832386 or 07394 968139.

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### A Children's Christmas Party

will take place on  
Saturday 14th December at  
Theberton Village Hall.  
Please contact Shell for all the  
information on this event  
on 07887 409086.



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## WESTLETON

### APPEAL UPDATE

We are so grateful for all who so generously donated to our 'Access for All' Repairs and Improvements Appeal. We have already reached 44%, £16,000. Just a little more, £2,500 and we can apply to some of





the bigger grant funds who expect us to achieve 50% before we ask for their help...  
A Big Thank You

*Jeremy Branch*

---



### **WESTLETON COMMON EVENTS NOVEMBER 2024**

The last **Nature Walk** of the year will be held on  
**Saturday November 2nd 10.30am - 12 noon (approx)**  
when we hope to see plenty of fungi, and identify  
as many as possible.

There will be a **Working Party** on  
**Saturday November 16th 10am - 12.30pm**

*All Welcome*

Tools are provided.  
Bring your own tough gardening gloves.  
~ Refreshments at half time ~



For both these events, please meet near the main Common Noticeboard,  
at the top of Mill St down a short track on the right.

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### **WESTLETON GARDENERS - OPEN TO ALL**

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 19th November in Westleton Village Hall. This month Sara Mattocks will be talking to us about a very different and interesting subject - '**Gardens to Remember - The Work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**'.

We are a small friendly Gardening Club with no annual membership subscription but a 'pay on the door' system with the fee at £4 each, so feel free to come along to the talk.

Doors open at 7.15pm and before the talk there will be refreshments and time to chat.

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### **WESTLETON VILLAGE HALL NOVEMBER 2024**

On Saturday 2nd November the **Community/Wheelbarrow Market** will be in the Foyer from 10am-12.30pm, alongside the **Big Book Sale!** Open 10am-4pm and Sunday 3rd November 10am-2pm.

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£1 for hardbacks. 50p entry, under 16s free. Light refreshments available in the Foyer. All proceeds to the Hall funds. Book donations are much appreciated, until Friday 1st November. Please contact Annie (details below).

**Film Night** is on 9th Nov this month, at 7pm for 7.30pm, showing *The Angel's Share*, a 2012 comedy-drama set in Glasgow, "the Scottish *Full Monty*"! Tickets are £5 and available on the door. Bar and ice creams will be available.

This year's **Christmas Fair and Lights Switch-On** is on Saturday 30th November 2-5pm, with beautiful local handmade crafts and produce, as well as mulled wine, mince pies and other refreshments available in the Foyer. The lights will be switched on at 4.30pm.

We always have a wonderful Christmas Hamper, full of festive goodies, which we raffle at the end of the fair, as well as a Village Hall stall which sells pre-loved Christmas decorations and nick-nacks. If you are having a clear out of your old decorations or would like to donate to our Christmas hamper, then please drop off them with one of Foyer hosts, 10am - 12pm each weekday morning. All money raised will go towards the running of our much loved Village Hall.

**Foyer Art Exhibition:** Linda and Andy Gilmour from Westleton, are displaying their art for sale in the Foyer during November. Both are art-school trained with Linda going into teaching and Andy to textile design. Both offer a very different style, Linda producing works in acrylics and beautiful textile art, and Andy using gouache with a very graphic style. The Foyer is open 10am-12noon weekdays for viewings and sales.

**3D4ALL:** the group will continue to run every 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Foyer, this month on 12th November. Come and have a go at some clay sculpture! If you have any questions please email John at [wvsculpt@gmail.com](mailto:wvsculpt@gmail.com)

**Westleton Writers' Group:** will be meeting monthly on the 4th Wednesday of each month 7-8.45pm (27th in November). An inclusive and friendly group, everyone is invited to attend, whether currently writing or not, and this can be anything from poetry to novels, and all in between. The idea is to support each other by sharing ideas, thoughts, maybe reading out loud what you have written, and the group will develop as it goes, possibly with a theme each month for those who might find that helpful. The first session is free, and thereafter £1.50 per session, to cover Foyer hire costs. We look forward to seeing you. Contact Sue Evans for further information, or just turn up! [evanssusan587@gmail.com](mailto:evanssusan587@gmail.com)

**Tech Table:** bookings are open again and in hourly slots from 9.30am – 11.30am (3 sessions) via [centremanager@westletonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:centremanager@westletonvillagehall.co.uk) or call to book on 01728 648354.



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**Consultation Room: Reflexology** is here on Saturday 30th November 9.30am – 1.30pm. Contact Juliet Overton: 07930 341901, [www.julietoverton.co.uk](http://www.julietoverton.co.uk)  
We have a pet and human registered **Physiotherapist** Emma Strachan regularly (variable days). Contact her to book on 07821 055404.

To see our latest timetable of varied activities, events and groups please see our **events page** on our website: [www.westletonvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.westletonvillagehall.co.uk) and join us on Facebook and Instagram. You can also pick up a copy of the monthly What's On in the Foyer, view it at the inside and outside hall notice boards. For more information or to go on our mailing list contact Annie - Centre Manager on 01728 648354 or email [centremanager@westletonvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:centremanager@westletonvillagehall.co.uk)

*The Foyer is open 10am-12noon every weekday for light refreshments, information and chat with our friendly volunteers. The Chess and Coffee Group runs on Wednesday mornings. For more information please contact Annie above.*

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### **YOXMERE MODEL RAILWAY CLUB EXHIBITION – A GREAT SUCCESS!**

To celebrate ten years since its inception, Yoxmere Model Railway Club held its first model railway exhibition on Saturday 24th August in Westleton village hall. Four top-notch visiting layouts from model railway clubs around Suffolk and Norfolk accompanied YMRC's own principal club layout 'Kelvedon'.

150 visitors passed through the doors with about 20% of those being under 16s, which is very encouraging for a hobby that is going through a change of demographic after years of being dominated principally by 'retirees'. This also showed in two of the visiting exhibits, which were both expertly constructed and manned by lads in their 20s.

All five layouts offered something different in terms of scale and theme, ranging from the smallest gauge (2mm = 1ft) to the largest (7mm = 1ft). There was much interest in the continuing developments of the club's main layout, which has come from bare bones to an eminently presentably scenic success in just two and a half years. This is quite an achievement given that YMRC members meet for only four hours each Wednesday afternoon.





The positive feedback from the public and overwhelming encouragement from the visiting club layouts means that YMRC is actively considering a repeat performance next August. The membership has, for a bunch of 'elderly gentlemen', worked extraordinarily hard to make the exhibition a success but we could still do with enlisting some younger members. (Phone 07989 615953 for details.) Lastly our very great thanks go to Kathryn Branch and Irene Lucas who provided hot drinks and a splendid array of tasty cakes all day for visitors and exhibitors alike.

*Dennis Adams, Club Chairman*

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## **WESTLETON WI**

Our October meeting is organised by the members to thank the Committee for organising a year's programme. Committee members were treated to a jacket potato with a variety of fillings and salad.

Dessert was an old-fashioned fruit, jelly and evaporated milk!

The theme of the evening was the Women's Land Army. Unfortunately, the speaker was unable to make the evening due to Covid, but the quiz on that subject left us wanting to know more, so we plan to have the talk in the future. Instead, we were entertained by the first episode of the series, *Home Fires*. It was quite engaging and many of us were keen to watch more. Thank you to Monica, Marilyn, Pam and Francesca for organising the evening. We also celebrated the success of our Annual Jumble Sale where our takings at present exceed £1,300! Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

*Gill Wood*



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## **WESTLETON PARISH COUNCIL**

Many thanks to all of you who completed the Housing Needs Survey earlier this year. The results showed a need for affordable housing, and 93% of respondents also supported the development of a small number of affordable homes for people from or connected to the parish. Orwell Housing Association (OHA) is now revising its plans based on the needs identified by the survey and will hold a joint 'drop in' consultation event on Monday 9th December between 3.00 and 7.00pm in the Village Hall Foyer to present the scheme to residents and to answer questions. East Suffolk District Council officers will also be present to register residents' interest for the new homes and to explain the application process. OHA will submit their planning application to the District Council following this consultation.

Suffolk County Council (SCC) has funds to enhance existing bus services and has invited applications from parishes for new services where demand can be proven and has the potential to be self-financing in the longer term. The Parish Council accordingly ran a survey in the village shop which has shown that there is

significant interest in a bus service to Leiston, Saxmundham and Halesworth. The Council will therefore make a submission to the SCC. Residents may still submit interests by sending an email to the Parish Clerk on [clerk@westletonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westletonparishcouncil.gov.uk).

The next Sizewell C Northern Transport Forum will be held on 6th November. Please contact the Parish Clerk ([clerk@westletonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westletonparishcouncil.gov.uk)) if you have questions you would like to be asked at the meeting.

The October Parish Council surgery will be on Monday 28th October - 10.30-11.30 in the Hall Foyer. November's surgery will be on Monday 25th November. Please do feel free to attend to ask questions or raise matters with Councillors. These are also opportunities to raise questions for the SZC Northern Transport Forum.

*Andrew Turner, Chair, Westleton Parish Council*



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## YOXFORD

### A REFLECTION FROM ST PETER'S CHURCH

Most mornings I walk into Yoxford village. I am aware of each changing season and now the mellow mists of Autumn. I hope the summer brought joy with local festivities and events and much needed rest and recreation for many here in Yoxford. We had three weddings at St Peter's during the summer with beautiful decorations in the church. The village has supplied vegetables, eggs, flowers and plants by honesty boxes to have been enjoyed and I thank those for growing and sharing these.

At St Peter's we have just celebrated Harvest Festival and gathered in our produce. We are grateful indeed for all the good gifts around us, and we give special thanks to the Black Dog Deli for donating bread for our harvest festival.

Our Pebbles group for babies and toddlers continues to grow. Do come along to meet us for fellowship, fun and coffee! (see details below). On the third Sunday of the month we hold family@church - a lively and informal service, even including a puppet show! (See poster on page 4) We would love to welcome new families.

St Peter's is the heart of the village. All are welcome to worship or visit.

*Lynne Putland, Churchwarden*

### PEBBLES @ ST PETER'S

In the church, every Wednesday during term time 11am-12noon.

A stay-and-play group for children under 4 and their carers.

Refreshments available for adults. Suggested donation of 50p per family.



---

### YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL - WHAT'S ON

#### Autumn/Winter 2024

Meet-Up Tuesday Group - Tuesdays – 11.00am – 12.00pm

Meet-Up Lunch Group – last Tuesday of every month

Table Tennis – Tuesdays – 7.00pm – 9.00pm, £4 per session. 07737 905208

Outreach Post Office Mobile Van - Wednesdays - 9.15am – 10.15am

Art Classes – Thursdays – 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Youth Club - Thursdays – 6.00pm - 8.00pm - 11-18-year-olds

Parish Council – first Thursday of the month - 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Community Film Nights, Yoxflicks – monthly – dates published separately

Community Pub Night (licensed bar) – last Friday of the month 6.00pm – 11.00pm

Boules/Pétanque Pistes – available for community use. No need to book.  
Tennis Courts – to book, contact Laura Greenberg on 07867 521697  
Hall and Marquee Hire – to book, contact Hazel Wheeler on 07748 784909.

---

## NEWS FROM YOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

### October 2024

Have you embraced Autumn yet? Nature's colours are turning and I smell woodsmoke when I walk in the village. It's so beautiful, isn't it? Keep warm everyone. If the cold weather ahead is a worry for you, please get in touch. We will treat your contact with respect and sensitivity and may be able to help.

### VILLAGE MATTERS

#### Parish Council Business

At October's meeting, it was confirmed that the newly ordered *traffic measures* (mentioned in last month's village newsletter) are scheduled to be completed by Suffolk County Council by January 2025.

As part of the Suffolk Climate Action Team '**Keep the Heat**', if you'd like your property surveyed (free of charge), please contact the Clerk who'll add you to the list and be in touch once further information is available. Cllrs Roper and Walford will be undertaking the surveys.

The PC is exploring options to improve the **cemetery**. Quotes will be gathered for a survey of suitability for a wildflower garden as well as for the siting of one or two additional benches to support visitors to sit awhile and just be. To develop an earth-kind and green(er) policy, councillors also approved a no-plastic approach and so, from January 2025, new burials will only be permitted biodegradable/compostable flower and plant arrangements. From June 2025, all plastic/non-compostable/non- biodegradable arrangements are to be removed.

Work has begun to ensure that the Parish Council's **riparian responsibilities** are discharged fully. Liaisons and work have begun with other landowners to ensure that the River Yox is cleared. The wet weather seems to have returned and so it's important that everyone works together to ensure that flood risks are minimised. Householders who live riverside have their part to play by ensuring their surface water drains are clear.

Christmas? It's never too early to talk about **Christmas**...there are plans afoot to gather around the tree, sing and make merry.... More information is coming soon.



The Parish Council is coming to you! From January, Council will trial a three-monthly surgery where **Councillors will be available to meet with residents** on a one-to-one or small-group basis. A schedule is being put together but it's hoped that this will give you the chance to ask your Council for information and/or support on any topic that's important to you. More information next month.

---

## YOXFORD VILLAGE HALL

### Join us for our organised monthly events:

With the confirmed and very exciting news that The Kings Head is due to re-open, the Sole Trustee will cancel its pub night to support the return of this fabulous pub. **Its own village Community Pub Night will return on November 29th.**

Want to know more about the work of your Parish Council and events and activities in Yoxford?

- Come to a Parish Council meeting...on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm at the Village Hall.
- Take a look at pages of information on the **Village Website:** <https://www.yoxford.org.uk/>
- Subscribe to the village newsletter, **The Yapper** by emailing: [yoxfordyapper@gmail.com](mailto:yoxfordyapper@gmail.com)
- Check out the **Noticeboards:** outside St Peter's Church and in the Village Hall
- Take a peek in **Horner's** notices window

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- Read the **Parish Council Monthly Newsletter** via the village website, on noticeboards, collect a copy from the Village Hall or contact the Parish Clerk for your own emailed copy
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## **SING OUT!**

### *Your Local Community Choir*



We meet at St. Peter's Church, Yoxford at 7.00pm each Wednesday during term time. We sing a wide range of songs from musicals, choral to pop. Whether you are new to singing, have sung in a choir before or read music or not all are welcome. Especially those with a lower singing voice range!

For more information, please email: [singoutyoxford@gmail.com](mailto:singoutyoxford@gmail.com)

Website: [singoutyoxford.co.uk](https://www.singoutyoxford.co.uk)

*We hope you will come along even just to try it out!*

## RAGTIME RUGGERS EXHIBITION

Unitarian Meeting House in Framlingham, Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd November 10am-5pm. Rugs, cushions, bags, Christmas goodies and paintings by members of the group. Come and watch a wool-spinning demonstration and have a go at rug making.

The group meets on the last Thursday of the month, 10.00am-1.00pm, in St John's Church Hall, Saxmundham. New people always welcome. More information from Babs Maycock on 07766 001903.

---



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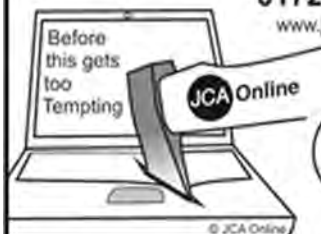
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