The Messenger



Issue 166
December
2025

Serving Gislingham, Mellis and the Thornhams

WINNER
NATIONAL
PARISH
MAGAZINE
AWARDS

CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION WINNERS



Winner of the 9-11 years category:
Sophia Whatling, Gislingham



Winner of the 5-6 years category:
Eula Stribling Gislingham

More on inside back cover...

WELCOME TO THE MESSENGER



Welcome to the December issue!

Our December issue wouldn't be the same without the Children's Christmas Artwork competition. This year we chose Margot Ross's submission from 14 entries. A full list of winners and runners-up can be found on Page 21. We would like to thank all those children who took the time to submit some excellent pieces of artwork. And of course, the Gislingham resident who every year donates Book Tokens for the winners!

There are numerous events to enjoy in December from a Christmas themed Book Sale in Gislingham, a Christmas Fayre at the Walled Garden and a Festive Ceilidh in Thornham Parva. There are also carol services in all three villages. And, since we don't publish a January edition, you will also find we have included some local events in January to enjoy. In particular, if you're a fan of Downtown Abbey and you haven't yet seen the latest film, Thornhams Parish Hall have secured for their first film night of 2026 'Downton Abbey - The Grand Finale' on Friday 16th January.

But if you more interested in knowing when the bin men are due to visit, the Messenger is still essential reading, as I have included the 'Christmas and New Year waste collection schedule' on page 41!

I would like to thank everyone who has helped contribute to the magazine this past year. We do appreciate the time and effort taken in submitting articles and photographs, so that we can try and cover as many local topics and events as possible. Also, this is the perfect time to thank all my colleagues on the Messenger team, who all give up a great deal of their spare time to fulfil their various roles and to help publish the magazine and update our social media. Not forgetting of course our staunch group of 21 distributors who every month deliver in all weathers to over 925 households. Thank You!

Finally, a reminder that we do not publish in January, but we will be back with a February edition. ***Please note, to ensure our efficient distribution each month from production to door step, we will be bringing our deadline date forward by two days every month. So instead of the copy deadline being on a Monday, it will now be a Saturday. The deadline for the next issue is Saturday 10th January.***

In the meantime, on behalf of the Messenger team, we wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a peaceful, happy and healthy 2026!



Jeff Norman, Editor e) themessengereditorial@gmail.com

Cover image by Margot Ross of Mellis, winner of the age 7-8 category

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News, features and advertised events in the Messenger magazine are added daily to the Messenger Facebook page at:
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Next issue: February 2026
Copy deadline: <u>Saturday</u> 10th January

E-mailed or hand-written submissions always welcome.

The editor reserves the right to edit, amend or omit submitted items at his discretion.

Digital copies of each issue can be downloaded from the Messenger website at:
www.the-messenger-online.com

The Messenger pages are printed on paper that is part of the Woodland Trust Carbon Capture scheme and the covers on paper that is part of the World Land Trust Carbon Offset scheme.

Disclaimer: The articles published herein do not necessarily represent the views of The Messenger. They are the opinions of individual contributors and are published with a view that free expression promotes discussion and interests.

DIARY & LOCAL EVENTS



DECEMBER

Tuesday 2nd December: Rural Coffee Caravan
- Mellis Memorial Hall: 10.00am-12.00 mid-day.

Saturday 6th December: Special Christmas Book Sale (mulled wine, mince pies & raffle)
- Gislingham Village Hall: 10.00am – 12 noon. See page 19 for details

Saturday 6th December: Festive Ceilidh
- Thornhams Parish Hall. 6.30pm. See page 31 for details

Sunday 7th December: Christmas Fayre
- Beyond The Wall at Thornham Walks. 12.00noon – 3.00pm. See page 32 for details.

Wednesday 10th December: Christmas Carol Service
- Mellis Church: 6.00pm. See page 55 for details.

Wednesday 10th December 2025: Gislingham WI - Christmas lunch
- The Bull at Bacton: 12.30pm.

Friday 12th December: Quiz Night
- Thornhams Village Hall. 7.00pm. See page 14 for details.

Saturday 13th December: Christmas Quiz Night
- Gislingham Village Hall: 7.00pm. Don't forget your Christmas jumper!

JANUARY

Saturday 10th January: TCT Quiz Night
- Gislingham Village Hall: 7.00pm. See page 12 for details.

Friday 16th January: Film Night – "Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale"
- Thornhams Parish Hall: Tickets £6 pay on the door. See page 42 for details.

Wednesday 21 January 2026: Gislingham WI - open meeting - speaker Adrian Tindall 'A Handsome Little Town - a virtual tour of Bury St Edmunds' - Gislingham Village Hall: 7.30pm. Guests welcome - £4 payable on the door.

Saturday 24th January: Jumble Sale
- Thornhams Parish Hall: 12 noon – 3.00pm. 50p admission. See page 33 for details**.**

Saturday 31st January: Horse Racing fundraiser
- Gislingham Village Hall: Racing starts 6.30pm. Tickets £3 each. See page 37 for details.

WHAT ARE THE NEIGHBOUR'S DOING?

Saturday 6th December: Christmas Bingo
- Yaxley Village Hall: 6.30 for 7 pm, Free Entry, Bingo books £5 for 6.

Wednesday 24th December: Crib Service
- Yaxley Village Hall: 4pm. Everybody welcome.

Please note, any event changes after the magazine goes to print are updated on our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/themessengergismeltho

Our next issue is February 2026. The "What's On" Diary deadline is: Saturday 10th January

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REMEMBERING KATHRYN



It is with great sadness and grief that I have to share the news of the passing of my wonderful wife Kathryn on 19th October 2025.



Kathryn and I were married for nearly 32 years and have three wonderful children, Josie, Torie and John and we are all struggling to come to terms with the loss.

Kathryn was diagnosed with bowel cancer in November 2019 but managed to live with cheerfulness enthusiasm and love for most of the following six years. She hated to be referred to as fighting a battle, but that is what she did facing chemotherapy and radiotherapy with equanimity.

Kathryn was the rock on which our family rippled, involved in everything that everyone did, whether it was sporting events, plays, performances, speeches or parties. She was also a key player in many village activities, such as the Playgroup, Playbus, Mothers & Toddles, Variety Club, and Jubilee. She was a founding member of the Reading Group and always enjoyed new adventures and involvements.

Kathryn was also a brilliant hostess, dating back to her days at Aberdeen University when her room was the focus of everyone every lunchtime. Apparently, she was able to continue working whilst friends milled around her. She threw herself into student life and quickly joined the OTC and the Scottish Dance troop ending up winning the Northern Lights dance competition and taking part in the display at the Berlin Tattoo in 1989.

Throughout our lives together Kathryn revelled in being the hostess. Dinner parties and parties were always fun occasions with some stand out events, such as hosting sixty-four people for dinner in our house when the Twinning Association from Tinteniac arrived or a seven-course black tie dinner for my 50th birthday.

New Year was always a special occasion, not only with dinner but then copious games involving all ages and even some Scottish Dancing. And as far as Kathryn was concerned, midnight was never the end of the festivities, so a full cooked breakfast would be served at 00:15 for any survivors. New Years Day always started quite late!

But overall, Kathryn was a loving, caring wife, mother and friend. She took delight in walking her dogs, Milo and then Barney whether on her own or with friends and family. She leaves a big hole in many people's lives and we will hugely miss her.

Kit Wells

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GISLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NOTES





On Sunday 8th November I attended a remembrance service at St Marys Church sympathetically conducted by Jean Archdeacon, and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council along with Chris Pitt who also laid a wreath on behalf of the PCC to remember those that gave their lives in service of this country. Cllr. Saunders. also attended as did a good number of residents.

You will all have seen the playpark survey being conducted by our clerk, once finalised and the results analysed, we will determine what is available that has been suggested within our budget, and hopefully work can commence early next year.

We have been very fortunate to have been gifted a second defibrillator unit and this will be put in place near to the village shop end of the village subject to the appropriate permissions being secured.

Crime continues to be at a low level in our village and most of the surrounding villages, and The Messenger is doing a sterling job keeping us all appraised of the latest scams currently circulating.

I along with other councillors and our clerk will be attending the Community Liaison Group meeting in November in order to get updated information regarding the ongoing position regarding the Norwich to Tilbury Pylon proposal and also the Suffolk Solar farm plan for Gislingham and Mellis.

Further questions have been posed and hopefully these will also be a point of discussion / debate. I will of course report back in the near future.

Finally, I would like to pay my personal respects along with those of the Parish Council to the family of Kathryn Wells following her recent passing. I had the privilege of working with Kathryn on the Parish Council. She as our clerk, and I as Vice Chair and I am grateful for her wisdom and advice combined with her contribution to this village. She will be sorely missed but always remembered.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish all residents a very Happy Christmas and all the best for The New Year.

As the first point of contact, our clerk has a new email address: clerk@gislinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk Tel: 07833 705915.

Christopher Tranter, Chair, Gislingham Parish Council



The Hidden Gardens of Mellis 2026

Do you live in Mellis and love your garden?
Do you enjoy showing it to your friends?
Exchanging ideas and plants?

We are planning an

OPEN GARDENS EVENT

In May or June 2026 and are looking for volunteers to open their gardens to raise funds for the Memorial Hall and St Mary's Church, Mellis.

We are keen to have a variety of gardens and there is already a great deal of interest.

To find out more with no obligation, please contact
Rebecca - rebngord@hotmail.com
Sonia - s.charnley@btinternet.com
Helen - Helen.timmons@hotmail.co.uk

Any offers to help at the event would also be much appreciated

MELLIS PARISH COUNCIL NOTES



On Sunday 12th October, Mellis residents turned out to do the autumn litter pick resulting in several bags of rubbish some wood and 2-wheel trims now removed from our verges.

Littering seemed to be worse on the concrete pad by Rectory Road railway crossing and the verges around Dam/Drury Lane, consisting of broken bottles, cans, McDonalds packaging and lots of plastic.

Unfortunately, there has also been mindless fly tipping on the corner down from Drury Lane.

To report fly tipping in Mid Suffolk online, go to: https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/report-fly-tipping or call 0300 123 4000 (option 7).
Fly tipping costs Suffolk tax payers £250,000 a year!

My sincere thanks go to Sophie, Jon, Jenny and John, as well as those parishioners who tirelessly collect litter throughout the year.

Removing this waste means there is less risk of injury to the children playing in our village and to our wildlife rummaging for food as the cold weather is setting in, our village looks much nicer, our waterways are clearer which keeps water flowing rather than flooding and helps prevent pollution. Job well done and see you in the Spring.

Councillor Farley





JAN
10
2026

TCT QUIZ NIGHT



All proceeds to be donated in memory of Jack Cook and will stay local to this area. Thank you for your support

WE ARE HOLDING OUR QUIZ WITH A PRIZE RAFFLE FOR TCT ON SATURDAY 10TH JANUARY

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM FOR A 7:30PM START AT GISLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

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Kevin on 07542 065807
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Julie on 07918 611737
to book your tickets

NEWS FROM GISLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

The long-awaited kitchen and toilet refurbishment is due to commence on Monday 5th January 2026. There will be some upheaval and we would ask everyone to bear with us during this project.

FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday 13th December: Christmas Quiz Night
Doors open at 7.00 pm. Tickets £5.00 per person. Bring your own Food, Drinks and Glasses. Email: gislinghamvillagehall@gmail.com Don't forget your Christmas Jumper!

Saturday 10th January 2026: Quiz Night in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust.
- Tickets available from Kevin Cook at kevincook431@btinternet.com or 07542 065807
- Tickets £10 per person. Includes a cold meat and cheese platter.

Saturday 14th February 2026: Jumble Sale - Details to follow

Saturday 28th March: Music Quiz Night - Details to follow

Saturday 25th April 2026: Bingo Night - Details to follow

Saturday 16th May 2026: Charity Auction - Details to follow

Saturday 27th June 2026: Gisfest - Details to follow



The Hall is available for hire at a cost of £10 per hour, which includes tables, chairs, lighting, heating, water etc. There are also village hall assets available for hire at an additional cost. These include, a sound system and a large screen television. Additionally, there are tables and chairs and a marquee which can be used outside of the hall.

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TO BOOK EMAIL:
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NEWS FROM THORNHAM PARISH HALL



FUTURE EVENTS:

Saturday 6th December: Ceilidh – traditional family folk dancing.
6.30pm: £12 pp. (Children free). Pay on the door. Booking text: 07707 530340.

Friday 12th December: Quiz Night
7.00pm. £5pp, max team of 6. BYO snacks – bar and ice creams available.
Bookings: events@thornhams.org

Friday 16th January: Film Night – "Downton Abbey : The Grand Finale"
– beautiful scenery and a heart-warming film. 7.30pm. Tickets £6 pay on the door.
Bookings: email: films@thornhams.org

Saturday 24th January: Jumble Sale – great annual event.

Sunday 15th February: Sunday Breakfast Club. – details to follow.

Friday 20th February: Film Night – details to follow

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

Pilates (gentle with no floorwork). Classes on Tuesdays 10.00am.
Booking is essential at hello@yapl.co.uk

EveryBody Strong, Stretch, Relax –mix of Pilates, yoga and functional exercise.
Thursdays 10.00 am. Booking is essential at hello@yapl.co.uk



To book please contact Beth Fredrikssen-Jones, the Booking Clerk,
using hallhire@thornhams.org

Follow us at https://www.facebook.com/ThornhamsParishHall

THE WHITE LION COACHING INN AND HOTEL, EYE

DOWN Memory LANE

The White Lion in Broad Street, Eye was a former 15th-century coaching inn and commercial hotel that was a significant hub for travellers and local life before its closure in 1986. Once a key stopping point for coaches traveling between Norwich and London, it played a vital role in the town's social and commercial life, even housing a ballroom and a CAMRA-recognised pub in its final years. The building, which features a 16th or 17th-century core, has since been converted into a number of flats.



Kerrison School Band outside the White Lion Hotel c1910

Before the building of the railway in the mid-nineteenth century, Eye had been a major stopping place on the road to London, with the coaches from Norwich and from Great Yarmouth both changing horses at the White Lion inn. It had been a coaching inn since at least the 15th century. In the early part of the 19th century the “Monarch” coach called there on the way from Norwich to London and back, while the “Star” went from Yarmouth via Beccles and Bungay with major halt at Eye.

I should think that most people who travelled the whole way from Yarmouth to London or to Ipswich went by sea; for those who were going to the capital from the inland stops on the way, and who were wealthy enough to afford the journey, it was the coach with the stop at Eye. It is true that the turnpikes had made the roads much better by 1830, and by road you were less at the mercy of the weather. By boat your journey was probably slightly more comfortable if you didn’t suffer from seasickness, and it was certainly cheaper. It was also a bit slower by sea, but by coach it took well over half a day. By the late 19th century paddle steamers were the inexpensive option for tourists going on their annual holiday from London to Yarmouth. Going by boat was still a real option for travellers from the capital before the First World War, and although it was faster by railway it was also more expensive.

Eye was by no means the only posting place near the borders of Suffolk on the road to London. The 17th century inn at nearby Scole was a fine alternative, used by the “Herald” coach en route from Ipswich to Norwich. Another route to the capital took travellers from Norwich via Wymondham, Thetford and Bury St Edmunds or Barton Mills, the way that later became known as the A11.

When the railway arrived in Ipswich in 1846 travel to London became a fast and smooth journey, and the cost by Parliamentary train was a penny a mile. This was still quite expensive, but much less than going by coach. Previous generations had lived and died in single village, but now they could spread their wings and seek work anywhere in the land. Travel became an option for all,

instead of just for the seriously wealthy. As the railways spread to almost every corner of the country the people of East Anglia were liberated from their enclosed communities.

Eye lost out to Diss as a stop on the main line from London to Norwich. The worthies of Eye lobbied hard for the line to go through the town instead, but without success. Instead of being on the main route to London the town became a backwater. Unlike Eye, Diss had not been a coaching stop, and while the Norfolk town grew while the Suffolk one dwindled. Eye later got a short branch from Mellis, but it was on the way to nowhere and it was never very successful. The line closed to passenger traffic in 1931 and it completely closed in 1964.



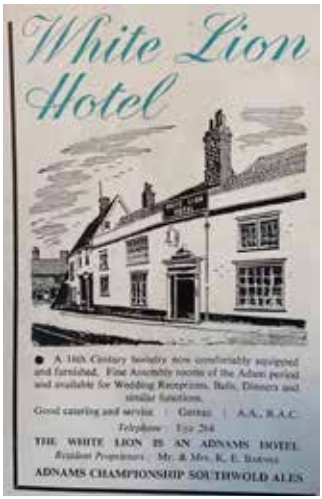
Postcard c1950's



The White Lion, Broad Street in 1956 by H. Ashley

Leonard Thompson describes The White Lion Inn in his book, 'Old inns of Suffolk' in 1946 as follows:

"The most interesting feature is the Ball Room… The whole graceful elegance of this apartment, with its snug musician's galley, tall Georgian window, dignified Adams mantlepiece and its chaste, white enamel panelling… belongs to another age... The files of the Suffolk Chronicle also contain many 19th century advertisements for events at the Eye White Lion and all of these point to the fact that the inn was a pivot around which social life in this little Suffolk town revolved. Assemblies, soirées, routs, crushes and drums... there was also the Eye Harmonic society... where in 1810 chops, kidneys, rabbits and oysters may have been amongst the more popular supper dishes on offer. In 1830 a review of the Suffolk Yeomanry at Eye was followed by a retreat to the White Lion where dinner was provided at 2s and 6d a head including as much wine or port as each man could swallow. The White Lion held an annual ball and hosted meetings of the local Freemason Lodge. Built in 16th century the inn has been linked to the Honing family, who then had close connections with the town. In 1776 it was sold by auction and was listed with a garden, stables and convenient outhouses, plus a tenant paying £40 per annum, a brewer paying £6 4s per annum and a shopkeeper paying £1 per annum. By the end of the nineteenth century the town markets and races had gone, but the resilient inn was then hosting private parties and weddings."



Magazine advert

Jeff Norman

Source material: 'The History of Eye' by Clive Paine and 'Old Inns of Suffolk by Leonard Thompson.

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CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION WINNERS 2025



The Messenger Team would like to thank all the children who submitted entries for this year's competition.

There was a slightly disappointing number of entries this year – only 14 in total!

However, to those that took the time to submit artwork, it is very much appreciated and it is never an easy task choosing a winner in each age group. The judging panel of four took time deliberating and on the merits of the various entries. But we finally came to this conclusion.







Age Group 5-6:
Winner – Eula Stribling (Age 5)
Runner Up – Florence Rossell (Age 6) - top right.

Age Group 7-8:
Winner – Margot Ross (Age 8) – which was also chosen for our cover this month.
Runner Up – Tabitha Ross (Age 8) - middle right.

Age Group 9-11
Winner – Sophia Whatling (Age 9)
Runner Up – Alice Collier (Age 11) - bottom right

In addition, the following artists's entries were highly commended and these are all featured on the inside back cover: -
Sadie Pearce, Eli, Lily Foulger, Theia MacLachlan, Lucy Chown, Eva Rossell, George Chown and George Rossell.

The winner in each age category will receive a Certificate, a Book Token and some festive goodies before Christmas.

But if you didn't win this year, please enter again next year!

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GISLINGHAM FOOTPATH REPORT – DECEMBER 25



This is a quick update of the current situation with the footpaths.

Footpath Maintenance:
Following my appeal last year, the Parish Council have now recruited a local gardener to cut the footpaths not covered by Suffolk County Council (SCC). He has arranged to cut these paths twice a year, so we will not have any issues in the future.

Ploughed Fields:
If any footpaths have been ploughed and sown with the new crop, but the footpaths have not been reinstated please let me know, so that I can report to SCC.

New Dog Mess Signs:
As I identified that some dog owners were not picking up their dog mess on certain footpaths, the Parish Council approved the purchase of special signs and posts to be sited at these footpaths.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you for all your reports and concerns and I would like to Wish You All A Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful 2026.

If you need to get in touch, please see my contact details below:
Home: 01379 788998
Mobile: 07900 147912
email: martyn_bryant@hotmail.com

Martyn Bryant, Gislingham Footpath Warden

WALKING FOR HEALTH





As 2025 draws to a close, we would like to thank everyone for their feedback and suggestions for new walks. We hope that you have enjoyed our little trips and staycations.

As you have probably realised, we do tend to end at a watering hole, well we do work up a thirst!

Since we first starting writing up our walks during Covid, we have accumulated over 40 walks. My plans to publish some of these walks are still in the planning stage, so watch this space.

We would both like to say a big thank you to our fellow walkers and wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and that 2026 brings us all renewed walking legs and joy.

Emma & Martyn Bryant

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Saturday 6th December 8.30pm BACKTRACKIN'

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Thursday 11th December 8.00pm CHRISTMAS OPEN MIC

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Tuesday 16th December 7.30pm CHRISTMAS CAROLS

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Mulled Wine & Mince Pies

Thursday 18th December 7.30pm CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Cash Prize & Free Festive Snacks. Booking is Essential.

Christmas Eve 8.30pm CHRISTMAS KARAOKE DISCO

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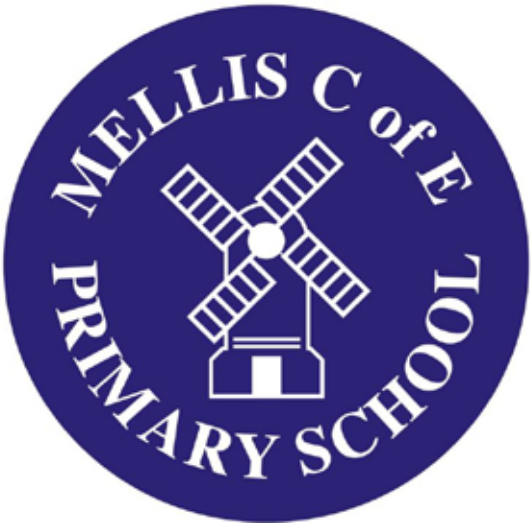
Saturday 28th December 8.30pm COUNTRY NIGHT

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New Year's Eve 8.30pm BLOCKBUSTER

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UNUSUAL HAPPENINGS AT GISLINGHAM'S ST. MARYS CHURCH!

If you happened to be out on the evening of the 31st October trick or treating, you may have noticed that all St Mary's lights were on. You may also have been wondering what was going on in there.

If you were one of the many visitors to St Marys that evening, you were in for a treat! There were no tricks, just a dry, safe, light filled church in which to have a rest, a chat, and catch your breath. For the younger visitors there were opportunities for some fun, and for their weary parents and carers, a chance to sit down and watch the fun.



This included apple bopping, a lucky dip, a selfie spot, and craft involving lots of colouring and jewel stickers to make masks.

There was also a festival tent, opened up with cushions inside, for those who wanted to relax and have some time out.



Everyone was welcome to our "House of Light". And we certainly welcomed in plenty of wonderfully dressed up characters! Adults and children alike, seemed to enjoy themselves and we were pleased to have opened up the church for them. We think we had about 80 people turn up.

Although we all have different opinions about Halloween, we were really happy to open up our church on this night. It didn't matter what characters or costumes were being worn, everyone was, and is always welcome in the House of God.

Hopefully see you next year!

Di Herbert







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NATURE NOTES by Darrel Charles



Hello everyone and welcome back to Nature Notes

As you may have already guessed from the photos below, this month we have a visit report from a far away place, courtesy of Chris Pitt. Many of us know Chris who recently arranged Gislingham's latest Safari Supper. Here we have a rather different safari - I'll let Chris explain.

Last month Jo and I stayed in a suburb of Nairobi, Kenya with family and took a day to visit Nairobi National Park – just 15 mins from where we were staying. The range of animals we saw, all within the shadow of Nairobi itself, was astonishing. We quickly spotted crocodile, hippo and ostrich. Whilst driving around we also saw a very venomous puff adder slither across our track. We also were lucky enough to see a couple of rhinos by the side of the track and multiple giraffes, zebra and impala. We rounded off the day by seeing a lioness and finally, much too close for comfort, heard the roar of a lion in bushes next to where we were. Not the routine Nature Notes *but nature on the "wild side".*

Thanks for sharing, Chris!



Impala



White Rhinoceros



Giraffe



Plains Zebra

Even further afield than Nairobi, 56 million miles away in fact, is a comet making its way around the sun. This one is designated *Comet C/2025 A6 Lemmon* and was discovered last January by staff at the Lemmon observatory in Arizona, USA. It's in orbit around our sun but won't return for 1,300 years. I managed to get a photo of the comet in early November when it was low in the western sky before it disappeared below the horizon. This comet has an impressively long purple-ish tail that contrasts with its green coloured nucleus.



Comet C/2025 A6 Lemmon

Returning to earth, as I write we're still enjoying beautiful autumn colours. Here's a shot taken during a walk in Eye towards Brome Hall where the beech trees are especially colourful.

Whilst out walking around Gislingham in early October, I was delighted and surprised to come across a couple of Clouded Yellow butterflies fluttering about in the afternoon sunshine near Burgate road. They were taking nectar from what I believe to be Flatweed flowers. I had never seen this species in Gislingham before.



Brome Hall Walk, Eye

Finally, there's just space left to include this photo of a splendid Grey Heron I saw whilst walking around Halvergate Marshes in Norfolk last month.



Grey Heron



Clouded Yellow Butterfly

Until next time, happy wildlife watching and Happy Christmas!!

See these and other photos at my Flickr site: flickr.com/photos/darrelphoto/

See Tony Clarke's monthly list of local bird sightings at The Messenger on Facebook.

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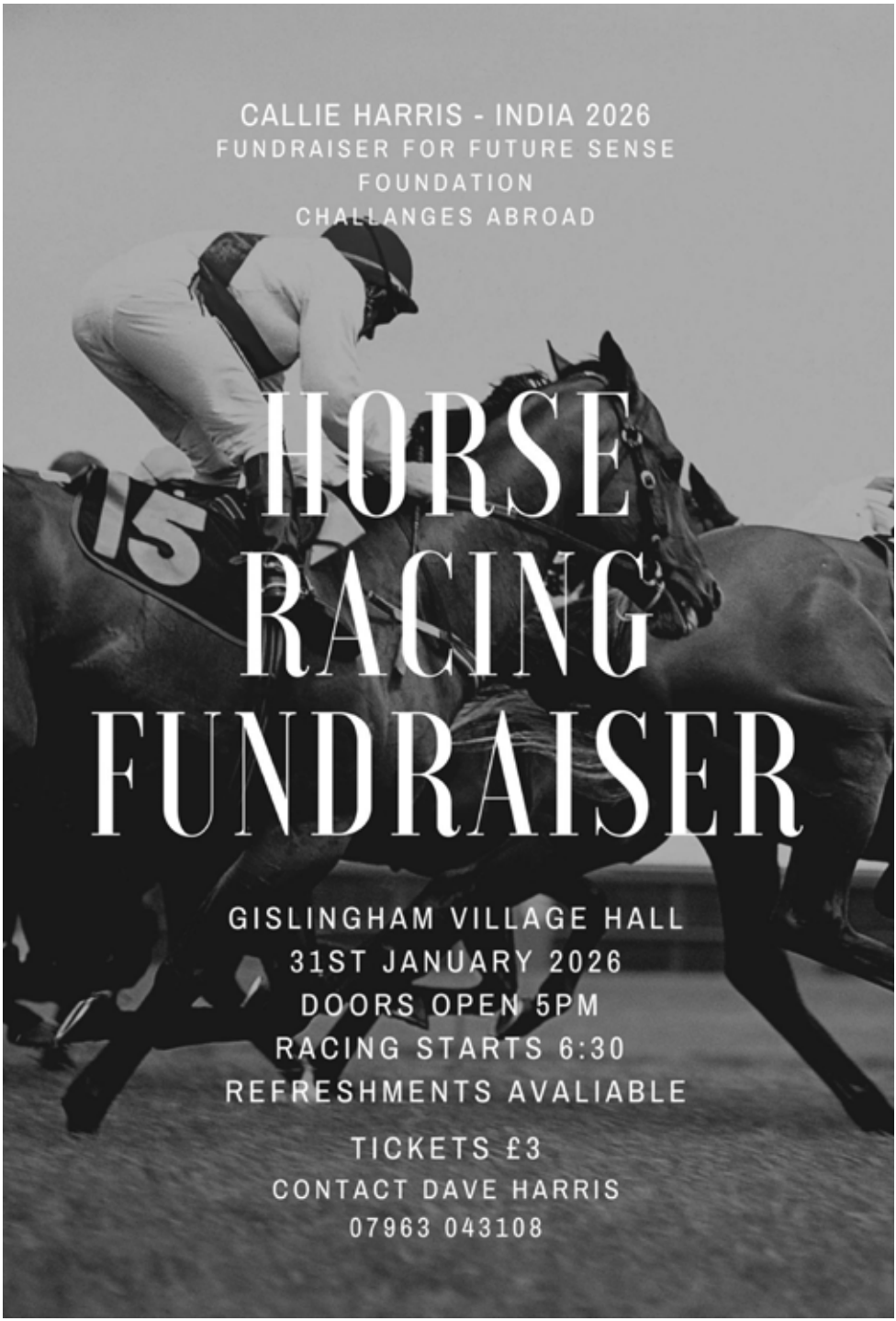


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DI'S BOOK BLOG



"A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens

During the mad rush leading up to Christmas, it is always a treat taking some time out and being able to curl up with a hot chocolate and a Christmassy book, especially an old favourite. Mine is the above well-known classic.

Some of you may have seen various film, tv and even musical adaptations. The David Lean film starring Alistair Sim, is a personal favourite. I also love "The Muppets" take on it, and as for Rowan Atkinson's "BlackAdder" version - brilliant!!









But, if you have a chance to read the original book, it is well worth it. The story, which was written in 1843, moves along as if it's being read out loud, as it would originally have been done, by Dickens. He is very skilled in producing a readable story with wonderful descriptive writing that takes you into the heart of the action.

The story occurs on one magical Christmas Eve. It focuses on Ebenezer Scrooge, an extremely miserly and mean-spirited old man, and how his outlook on life is completely turned around. He encounters with four different ghosts - the ghost of his former business partner - Jacob Marley, and then in turn, the ghosts of Christmas past, present and yet to come. Scrooge is shown the pattern of his own life - the decisions he made at each stage, how those decisions affected other people and what those affected thought/think of him.

Then finally, at his own death, if and how he will be mourned or even remembered. Scrooge finally realises that his own future is very bleak indeed.

Themes covering treatment of the poor, child poverty, greed and selfishness run through the story. But then ultimately, so do the themes of redemption, kindness, love, forgiveness and second chances. The story concludes on a very positive, heart-warming note.

It also paints an interesting picture of Christmas within the different Victorian social classes. In fact, popular opinion is that Dickens influenced the way Christmas is celebrated even today.

So, hopefully you'll have a chance to sit back and read this wonderful old classic.

A Merry Christmas to you, and in those famous final words...

.....God Bless us, Every One!!

Di Herbert



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MID SUFFOLK

Christmas and New Year Waste Collection Schedule 2025-26

Refuse (general rubbish) and recycling collections

Collections will take place as normal up to, and including, Wednesday 24 December 2025.

From Thursday 25 December 2025 to Saturday 10 January 2026, refuse and recycling collections will be on an amended schedule, as below.

From Monday 12 January 2026, refuse and recycling collections will return to the normal schedule.

	Usual collection date	Amended collection date	Change
Refuse	Monday 22 December 2025	No Change	None
	Tuesday 23 December 2025	No Change	None
	Wednesday 24 December 2025	No Change	None
	Thursday 25 December 2025	Saturday 27 December 2025	2 days later
	Friday 26 December 2025	Monday 29 December 2025	3 days later
Recycling	Monday 29 December 2025	Tuesday 30 December 2025	1 day later
	Tuesday 30 December 2025	Wednesday 31 December 2025	1 day later
	Wednesday 31 December 2025	Friday 2 January 2026	2 days later
	Thursday 1 January 2026	Saturday 3 January 2026	2 days later
	Friday 2 January 2026	Monday 5 January 2026	3 days later
Refuse	Monday 5 January 2026	Tuesday 6 January 2026	1 day later
	Tuesday 6 January 2026	Wednesday 7 January 2026	1 day later
	Wednesday 7 January 2026	Thursday 8 January 2026	1 day later
	Thursday 8 January 2026	Friday 9 January 2026	1 day later
	Friday 9 January 2026	Saturday 10 January 2026	1 day later

Garden waste (brown bin) collections

Collections will take place as normal up to, and including, Friday 19 December 2025.

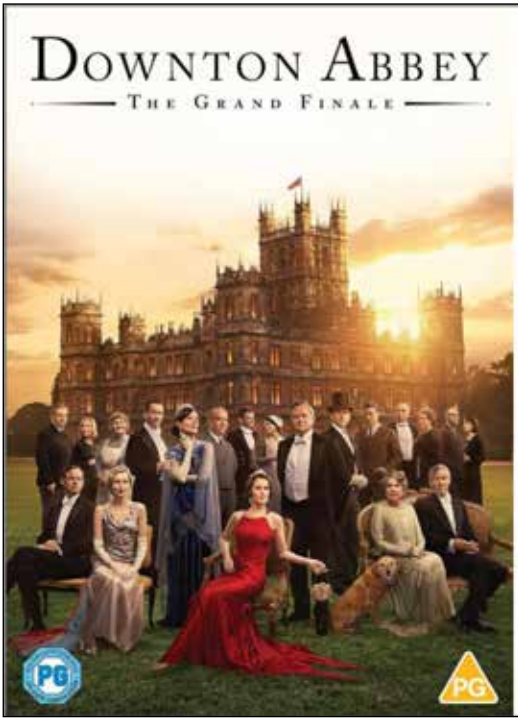
From Monday 22 December 2025 to Sunday 4 January 2026, there will be **no** garden waste collections.

From Monday 5 January 2026, garden waste collections will return to the normal schedule.

Please put your bin out by 6.30am

Check for delays and report a missed collection
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All applications are treated in the strictest confidence and in accordance with GDPR Data Protection Regulations.

GUC Trustees meeting dates for 2026 are as follows: 9 January, 13 March, 8 May, 10 July, 11 September, 13 November.

Applications, together with the necessary supporting documentation, should be received **seven working days before the meetings** to allow Trustees time to consider applications and request additional information if required. In the event of emergency applications, Trustees will consider an application when received and, if necessary, will call a special meeting to review the application.

Application forms can be obtained from: The Clerk, Lilac Cottage, Mill Street, Gislingham, IP23 8JR
Tel: 01379 783380, Email: gislinghamunitedcharity@gmail.com
Or can be downloaded from the "Organisations" page on the Parish Council Website:
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Oliver! at Gielgud Theatre - 25th February - £110pp
Kew Orchid Festival - 26th February - £66pp
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Items needed as follows:

- Christmas cakes/Iced fruit bars
- Tins of salmon, gravy & packets of stuffing
- Tins/cartons of custard, Birds trifle mix
- Large tubs of chocolates (Hero's, Quality Street, Celebrations etc.)
- Packets of crisps, Twiglets, cheese savouries etc.
- Packets of nuts, Pringles, biscuits for cheese
- Christmas chocolate logs
- 1lt. Cartons of fruit juice
- Instant hot chocolate
- Variety packs of cereals
- Large tins of ham and corned beef
- Packets of jelly and Angel Delight

Everyone who receives a food parcel is touched by people's kindness and appreciates the fact that there are people who care about them.

Your donations can be left in the box at the Village Shop or at Milestones, Burgate Road, Gislingham. Or I can collect. Thank you.

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Ingredients:

- 225g SR flour
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tbsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp mixed spice
- 100g butter or baking spread
- 100g black treacle
- 100g golden syrup
- 100g light brown sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 275ml full fat milk



Method:

1. Line a 9 x 12in traybake tin with baking paper. Preheat oven to 180 / 160fan / Gas 4.
2. Measure the flour, bicarb, ginger, and mixed spice into a large bowl.
3. Measure the butter, treacle, syrup and sugar into a small saucepan and heat gently until the butter has just melted. Set aside to cool.
4. Pour the mixture from the saucepan into the dry ingredients. Add the beaten egg and beat until combined. Gradually add the milk (ensure you use full fat milk) beating to make a smooth batter. The mixture will appear much runnier than a traditional cake.
5. Pour the batter into the prepared baking tin. Bake for about 35 mins or until dark golden and springy to the touch. Once cool cut into squares.

Gislingham WI meets on the third Wednesday of every month at Gislingham Village Hall, 7.30pm. If you would like more details, please phone Margaret on: 01379 783903.

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Gislingham Village Hall	Wednesdays	10:15am
Westhorpe Village Hall	Wednesdays	12:15pm
Gislingham Village Hall	Thursdays	7:10pm

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Westhorpe Village Hall	Fridays	10:00am

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TERRAPIN NEWS



A few days ago, I was asked by a resident: "What about Net Zero then?" I had to reply there has been much progress made but it still remains a challenge.



Looking through the 2025 "State of the District Report" – viewable on-line in full at: https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/research-and-insight - it is clear that Mid Suffolk's total greenhouse gas emissions across its estates and operations have fallen by almost 50% since 2005.

The two main sources of emissions are our sheltered housing and our leisure centres, 34 % and 33% respectively. The fleet of vehicles used to collect our rubbish, and recycling would be a major contributor too but the continued use of HVO, Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil from waste products has resulted in a fall to 14% of its 2020/21 rate of emissions.

Our Social Housing Stock is much improved only 1 property out of a total of 3332 properties is below EPC E, the majority, 2049 are EPC C or above. The higher the EPC, the more affordable it is to heat, and potentially lower emissions.

As a related issue, in Mid Suffolk 16% of privately rented properties fall into EPC bands F and G with 20% of properties in Mid Suffolk estimated to have an excess cold hazard (against a national average of 2%) and for the private sector with rents nearly twice that of social housing, 11% of households are in fuel poverty.

The leisure centres use of energy is under review; the existing use of batteries and solar cells is being optimised through improved data collection and timing of processes. However, weather and usage remain very influential factors.

As the interventions become more difficult and potentially costly it is becoming necessary to consider the long-term benefits. For example, some council properties have been considered uneconomic to bring up to an acceptable standard so disposal or rebuilding have become options.

Mid Suffolk's emissions do not include SUEZ, the energy-from-waste facility, that incinerates 295,000 tonnes of domestic and commercial waste each year – generating enough electricity to power 50,000 homes, waste diverted from landfill. However, better recycling, to be introduced next year is expected to reduce how much residual waste Mid Suffolk and the other councils send to SUEZ. Emissions are unlikely to fall overall as SUEZ already imports waste from other authorities, but Mid Suffolk's contribution will fall.

Nor do Mid Suffolk's emissions consider private household efforts to reduce their electricity bills through adopting PV and Battery storage, nor do they take into account the numerous Village Halls that now have PV Cells on their roofs and battery storage. Mellis Memorial Hall was fortunate in securing a grant from Progress Power to enable such an installation and found that that it has dramatically reduced its electricity bill.

Mid Suffolk is committed to helping its residents improve their homes and business through grants and advice. The new Skills Centre on Gateway 14 will offer training to meet demand for workers in new emerging "green" industries and gives active support in the form of new grant and growth programmes to reinforce trends in business formation and diversification.

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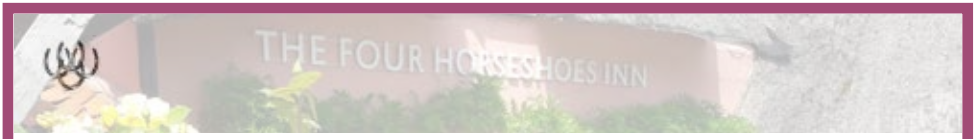
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TIP OFF, RIP OFF!



8 SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF THIS CHRISTMAS

Citizen's Advice are urging consumers to be on their guard against scams as the festive shopping period gets underway.

Here are eight types of scams prevalent at this time of year – learn the tell-tale signs so that you can protect yourself against them:

Delivery scams: These scams are very common. Typically, you get a text or email saying a parcel couldn't be delivered for some reason. You're then asked to click a link to pay a fee to reschedule delivery – enabling the fraudsters to steal your personal and financial information. Never click on the links in delivery texts or emails. If you are expecting a parcel from a delivery company, track it and contact them through their genuine website.

Black Friday/Cyber Monday scams: Fraudsters send out emails and social media ads promoting great deals in the run up to Christmas, but in reality, the offers are fake and just a way to tempt you to give out your personal and financial information.

Fake shopping website scams: Fraudsters can create websites that look identical to reputable retailers but are in fact fake. They then lure shoppers in with deals that are too good to miss – but after paying for a product, you will probably never receive it, and the fraudsters can steal your financial information.

Deals that are too good to be true: We're all looking to avoid over-spending when it comes to Christmas but remember that old saying – if it looks too good to be true, it probably is. Scammers lure shoppers in with online ads promoting seemingly great savings – but if you fall for a fake deal the item might never arrive or might not match its description. Worse – your financial information will also be in the hands of the fraudsters.

Holiday scams: Dreaming of escaping the British winter for sunnier climes? Or yearning for a winter getaway? From fake accommodation listings to bogus booking websites, fraudsters resort to all sorts of tricks to try and steal your money.

E-card scams: E-cards can be a convenient way to send a greeting and fun for the recipient to open – but beware of bogus e-cards that could infect your computer and steal your financial or personal information.

Ticket fraud: Ticket fraud has been in the news this year with fake tickets to the Olympics and Oasis and Taylor Swift concerts among the biggest scams around. So, if you're planning to buy tickets for a sports match, concert or any other event, know how to protect yourself – otherwise you could end up not only missing the event but worse, compromising your financial information.

Loan fee scams: Christmas can be an expensive time but if you're after a little extra cash to help out, beware of loan fee fraud. The fraudsters ask for a fee for a loan, but once the fee is paid, the loan offered never materialises – leaving you out of pocket and with your financial information in the hands of criminals.

You can find more scams advice on the Citizens Advice website. Report suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk and forward scam texts to 7726.

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NEWS FROM GISLINGHAM PLAYGROUP

We have been very busy since starting back in September with New children joining us taking us to full capacity on some sessions.



We have been enjoying the weather being outside in our garden harvesting the apples from our tree and making delicious apple crumble.

We still enjoy our walks around the village and a visit to the park and a ramble across the fields looking at the change in the seasons, spotting the wildlife and taking in the natural environment we live in.

We are now practicing our songs for our Christmas Sing A Long Which takes place on Tuesday 2nd December in the school hall at 2pm. We are getting excited as Pixie the Elf will be visiting us to play games/sing songs.



We will be selling hamper squares at £1.00 each.and these are available to purchase at the playgroup door.

We would like to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



GISLINGHAM PLAYGROUP



We provide a safe, warm, friendly and caring setting for children aged 2-5 years, in a purpose built building on the same site as Gislingham CEVCP School, with whom we work closely to provide an excellent education.

Breakfast Club 8.00am - 8.45am

Morning 8.45am to 11.45am

Lunch Club 11.45am to 12.45pm

Afternoon 12.45pm to 3.45pm

"Children arrive with a 'spring in their step' and are welcomed by friendly staff. They immediately join in with their friends and explore a well resourced and fun environment." Ofsted, May 2022.

Please visit our website www.gislinghamplaygroup.com
or phone us on 01379 788934

THE MESSENGER NINE LETTERS QUIZ

The first letter of each answer will spell out an anagram. What is it?

1. What element has the symbol SN?
2. What highly toxic poison was once used as a cosmetic?
3. Who accompanied Boo Boo?
4. What is a twelve-sided polygon called?
5. What 1970's band was Jimmy Pursey the lead singer?
6. What is the name of an Arabic face covering?
7. What Christian festival occurs twelve days after Christmas?
8. Where did Sherlock Holmes apparently meet his death?
9. In 1889 what took over as the world's tallest structure?
10. The answers are...?

Answers appear on page 63.

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

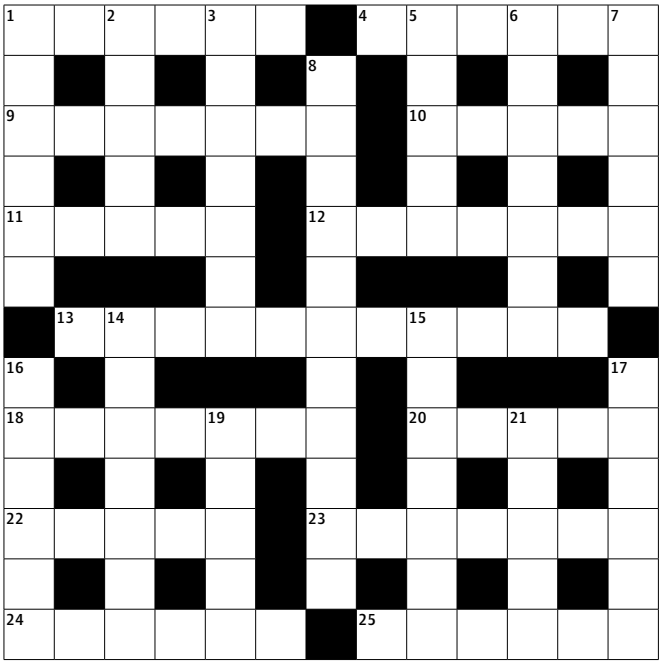
5				2	9			
	1						8	
2		3						4
			6	3		8	5	
9			1		8			3
	8	4		9	5			
4						1		7
	3						4	
			4	6				2

Each 3 x 3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9

Last issue solution

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

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE



Across

1 Table cloth? (6)
4 Tree with yellow or white flowers (6)
9 Very active (2,3,2)
10 Pour water on (5)
11 Familiar name for Handel's Ombra ai fu from Serse (5)
12 Saved money (4,3)
13 Wool-gathering (11)
18 Praise God! (7)
20 Bounder (5)
22 Period preceding an event (3-2)
23 The Acropolis, for example (7)
24 Knot and colour (fabric) (3-3)
25 Practitioner of music or sport (6)

Down

1 Improvise music – ramen ingredient (6)
2 Saint at the Pearly Gates (5)
3 Freezing (3-4)
5 Military unit (5)
6 Dining hall – water flask (7)
7 Get even for (6)
8 Face – sanction or approve (11)
14 What makes the heart grow fonder (7)
15 Connubial (7)
16 Drinker's motivation (6)
17 One among those you might put out when curious (6)
19 Chilly (5)
21 Experiencing dizziness (5)

Last issue solution

■	A	L	L	I	T	E	R	A	T	I	O	N
A	■	I	■	N	■	G	■	F	■	D	■	O
B	L	A	N	K	■	G	A	L	L	E	O	N
B	■	I	■	S	■	N	■	U	■	A	■	C
R	U	S	H	■	C	O	S	T	E	L	L	O
E	■	O	■	M	■	G	■	T	■	■	■	M
V	E	N	D	O	R	■	H	E	L	I	U	M
I	■	■	■	U	■	M	■	R	■	N	■	I
A	L	B	A	N	I	A	N	■	S	H	U	T
T	■	E	■	T	■	N	■	C	■	A	■	T
I	N	S	T	A	N	T	■	H	A	L	V	A
O	■	O	■	I	■	E	■	A	■	E	■	L
N	O	M	E	N	C	L	A	T	U	R	E	■

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NOTICES

GISLINGHAM ALLOTMENT AND GARDEN ASSOCIATION (GAGA)

We still have one remaining vacant plot available.

If you live in Gislingham and would like to have fun growing your own produce, fruit, veg or flowers, with like-minded, helpful and friendly neighbours, please give me a call on: 01379 788998 or by email: emma-ed@hotmail.co.uk

Emma Bryant

JEAN ARCHDEACON

Jean Archdeacon, our Reader, was presented with a gift and flowers from members of the Parochial Church Council at her last Worship for All service on Sunday 16th November, in recogni-tion of Jean's long association with the church over many years. A more detailed article will ap-pear in the February issue.

Ann Cottee, St. Mary's Church, Gislingham
Photo by Simon Bell



U3A DISS

The monthly meeting takes place on the morning of the first Thursday of each month at the United Reformed Church in Mere Street, Diss, IP22 4AD. Forty-five minutes are allocated to refreshment, socialising and catching up on the interest groups and notices. This is followed by a talk from an interesting guest speaker.

Doors open at 9.45am and the meeting commences at 10.30am. Refreshments are available FOC until 10:15am. Visitors/Non-Members are welcome. We ask for a £3 donation towards refreshments and the speaker

Our final meeting of the year is on the 4th December - Speaker Jane Hoggar Le Belle Epoque.

Find out more about Jane's Life as a bluebell girl cabaret artiste, Can – Can dancer, singer, magicians assistant and as a mum. For information visit: https://diss.u3asite.uk/

RESPONSIBLE & DEPENDABLE TEENAGER SEEKING LOCAL, CASUAL WORK

My name is Mae-Li and and am a 16 year old resident of Gislingham. I am currently looking for casual evening or weekend jobs to earn some extra money to put towards driving lessons when I turn 17. I already have experience of dog walking, pet sitting, house sitting, and baby sitting but would be happy to run errands or do any other tasks that I could fit in around my studies. If you would like to meet me to discuss please call 01379 783 380.

Answers to the Connection Quiz on page 60.

The answers are: 1. TIN, 2. ARSENIC, 3. YOGI BEAR, 4. DODECAHEDRON, 5. SHAM 69, 6. YASMAK, 7. EPIPHANY, 8. REICHENBACH FALLS, 9. EIFFEL TOWER. The anagram spells out YESTERDAY.

SOUTH HARTISMERE BENEFICE



LIFE CHANGING

I have recently been listening to podcasts by Dr Sian Williams as she invites people to share their stories of life-changing moments.

It is fascinating and deeply moving to hear people's stories of release from addiction, coping with loss, grief and circumstances way beyond my own experiences. Many of the stories tell of how their life changing moment was the encouragement of a particular person, a short encounter. For some, a moment of a choice, to either step into a place of darkness or to be positive and seek the path of hope.

As I listened, I thought of my life and asked the question 'when was my life changing moment?' As I have looked back there are several places where the course of my life changed after a moment of choice.

I am choosing to share my Christmas life changing moment. As with the podcast I start with a back story. I was a single young mum of two and was struggling with the feeling of shame and being a bit lost. Through my door a card was dropped - an invitation to a carol service. I enjoyed singing and went along. There was nothing about the service, the talk or the songs that I particularly remember, but what I remember was how I felt. I was aware of an encounter with someone, a presence beyond the visible, an encounter with what I would now say was with Jesus by the Holy Spirit. I came back to my home without the feeling of shame and had a strong desire to find and read the bible. I did, and as I read I felt this presence again. God had met with me, and my life was changed, and I had found peace.

Throughout the stories of Jesus, we find him meeting people and their lives are changed. A woman healed of haemorrhaging, a tax collector finding generosity, a blind man receiving sight.

These encounters happened because God decided to come to earth and to experience life as a human. The birth of Jesus – Immanuel – God with us - is a life changing moment in history. Whether we choose to believe in him or not, for millions of people worldwide today and through history, he has brought hope.

As we enter the season of Advent, I think of Joseph. I wonder about his life changing moment. Joseph is a young Jewish man, a craftsman, of the ancestral line of King David. He is engaged to a young woman, and I imagine excited at the prospect of being a husband and starting a new life with Mary.

Then one day, Mary comes to him and tells him she was visited by an angel, and she is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, the baby is a boy and is the Son of God – Yeshua – God saves. How easy was it for Mary to tell him? What was his reaction? What emotions passed through his mind as he tried to comprehend what was said?

This is indeed a life-changing moment. He has a choice to make. He must lay down his expectations and accept Mary's words and agree to be the father of this baby. He must stand by her when there are whispers, and gossip. He had to trust the words she spoke and believe God had chosen them to be the earthly parents to God's Son. Joseph's decision was indeed life changing. Not just for himself, for Mary, or for Jesus. His decision is part of the bigger story of a loving God who brings hope and life through his son Jesus.

May the light and peace of Jesus be with you all.

Rev. Debbie

DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026

Sunday 7th December	Gislingham	10.30am	Holy Communion
2nd Sunday of Advent	Wetheringsett	3.00pm	God and Play
Weds 10th December	Mellis	6.00pm	Carol Service
Sunday 14th December	Thornham Parva	10.30am	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday of Advent	Stoke Ash	3.00pm	Carol Service
	Thorndon	3.00pm	Christingle workshop
	Thorndon	4.00pm	Christingle
	Wetheringsett	6.00pm	Community Carols
Thurs 18th December	Gislingham	7.00pm	Carol Service
Friday 19th December	Thornham Parva	7.30pm	Carol Service
Sunday 21st December	Mellis	10.30am	Holy Communion
4th Sunday of Advent	Thornham Magna	3.00pm	Carols with the Gislingham Silver Band
	Thorndon	5.00pm	Carol Service
Weds 24th December	Gislingham	10.00am	Reflective Service
Christmas Eve	Gislingham	3.00pm	Crib Service
	Yaxley Village Hall	4.00pm	Crib Service
	Thornham Parva	9.00pm	Bethlehem Communion
Thurs 25th December	Thorndon	10.00am	Family Worship followed by Holy Communion
Christmas Day			
Sunday 28th December	Wetheringsett	10.30am	Benefice Holy Communion
1st Sunday of Christmas			
Sunday 4th January	Thorndon	10.00am	Together @ 10
2nd Sunday of Christmas	Gislingham	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 11th January	Mellis	10.30am	Holy Communion
1st Sunday after Epiphany	Stoke Ash	10.30am	Worship for All
Sunday 18th January	Thorndon	10.30am	Holy Communion
2nd Sunday after Epiphany	Thornham Parva	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Gislingham	3.00pm	God and Play
Sunday 25th January	Thornham Magna	10.30am	Holy Communion
3rd Sunday after Epiphany	Wetheringsett	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Yaxley	10.30am	Worship for All

Telephone Church BCP Holy Communion is on Thursdays at 11.00am

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

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LOCAL INFORMATION

BUS TIMETABLES

GISLINGHAM AND THORNHAM BUS TIMETABLE

Route No. VC0001: Gislingham to Stowmarket (Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays)
Leaves Gislingham 09.45 / Arrives Stowmarket, Bury Street 10.26. **Returns** from Stowmarket, Bury Street 13.00 / Arrives Gislingham 13.41

Fairline Bus (Wednesday only – Market Day) to Bury St. Edmunds:
Leaves Thornham Magna (Four Horseshoes 09.46 / Gislingham (Shop) 09.46 / Arrives BSE (Bus Station) 10.48. **Returns** from Bury St. Edmunds 13.25 (Bus station) / Gislingham (Shop) 14.32 / Thornham Magna (Four Horseshoes) 14.36.

Fareline Bus 460 (Thursday only) from Eye to Stowmarket
Leaves Thornham Magna (Four Horseshoes) 09.25 / Gislingham (Shop) 09.31 / Stowmarket (Argos) 10.02. **Returns** from Stowmarket (Argos) 12.15 / Gislingham (Shop) 12.45 / Thornham Magna (Four Horseshoes) 12.52.

Simonds Bus 72 (Fridays only) Gislingham (via Thornham) to Diss
Leaves Gislingham Village Hall 09.30 / Thornham Magna Four Horseshoes 09.41 / Diss Bus Station 10.05. **Returns** from Diss Bus Station 13.00 / Thornham Magna Four Horseshoes 13.30 / Gislingham Village Hall 13.35.

MELLIS BUS TIMETABLE - https://www.simonds.co.uk/local-bus-times)
110 – Eye to Diss
Eye – Diss (Monday to Friday) – **leaves** Mellis, opp. Railway Tavern: 10.46
Diss – Eye (Monday to Friday) – **leaves** Diss, adj. Bus Station: 13.30



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Mobile Library: Gislingham
2026 visits will be on the following Wednesdays: 28 Jan, 25 Feb, 25 Mar, 22 Apr, 20 May, 15 July, 12 Aug, 9 Sept, 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec, 30 Dec.
Times: Broadfields Rd: 15.10-15.45
Mill St.: 15.50-6.05



Thank you to everryone who entered a picture.

The standard was very high and it was very hard to choose the winners.

The pictures below were HIGHLY COMMENDED.

















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