The Messenger



80

VE DAY
80TH ANNIVERSARY
8 MAY 2025

Issue 159
May
2025

Serving Gislingham, Mellis and the Thornhams

WINNER
NATIONAL
PARISH
MAGAZINE
AWARDS

THE MESSENGER TEAM



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News, features and advertised events in the Messenger magazine are added daily to the Messenger Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/themessengergismeltho

Next issue: June 2025
Copy deadline: Monday 12th May

E-mailed or hand-written submissions always welcome.

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

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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.

WELCOME TO THE MESSENGER



Welcome to the May issue!

Firstly, apologies if this issue looks a bit top heavy with posters/event adverts throughout; but with 20 local events to promote we've somehow managed to cram them all in, without removing any of our usual articles and content.

So where do I start?

This year marks the 80th anniversary of VE Day, and Gislingham is celebrating this anniversary by organising a celebratory event at the village hall on Sunday 11th May (see Page 8 for details). We also have a special VE Day article on pages 6 & 7 where we remember the seven men from our villages who lost their lives in WWII.

Thornham Parish Hall are holding their first ever 'Thornham Art & Craft Show' where local artists will be exhibiting their work. This event will take place over three days from 2nd to 4th May (see page 14)

That's just two of the 18 events that are included in this issue and which you can support and enjoy this month. This is a record and is also a testament to all those helping to organise these events for our communities and, in some cases, are also raising money for charitable causes.

In other news, you may or may not know that the Yaxley Village Hall is currently closed for refurbishment but the re-opening date in imminent. When it re-opens, they will be holding one or two key events each month. Supporting village halls and local groups is hugely important in all communities and I have agreed to collaborate with the Editor of the 'Yaxley Messenger' magazine by sharing details of all events held in our respective villages. As a result, I have agreed to list their events in our 'What's On - Diary & Local Events' on page 4 and, in return, the Yaxley Messenger will list the events being held in our villages. The 'Yaxley Messenger' has a circulation of 250 printed copies so, going forward, this will mean events will be seen in 1250 magazines every month!

Once again, the next issue has an early deadline - Monday 12th May for contributions to the June issue. Please note, this is the "copy deadline" and doesn't necessarily guarantee inclusion. Obviously the sooner the better to ensure inclusion.

I hope you enjoy this issue!



Jeff Norman, Editor e) themessengereditorial@gmail.com

Cover design: Jo Clifford

DIARY & LOCAL EVENTS



Friday 2nd May: Pub Night
Gislingham Village Hall: Doors Open 5.00 pm. Last Orders 9.45 pm.

Weekend 2nd, 3rd & 4th May: Thornham Arts and Craft Show
Thornhams Parish Hall: See page 14 for opening times over the 3 days.

Saturday 3rd May: Book Sale
Gislingham Village Hall: 10.00am – 12 noon

Saturday 3rd May: Open Day at Thornham Magna Bowls Club
Thornham Bowls Club: From 10.00am – See page 17 for details.

Sunday 4th May: Spring Fair
The Walled Garden at Thornham Walks. 12.00 – 3.00pm. See page 19 for details.

Tuesday 6th May: Rural Coffee Caravan
Mellis Memorial Hall: 10.00am –12.00 midday.

Friday 9th May: VE Day Barbecue
Yaxley House Care Home. 5.00pm to 7.00pm. Details 01379 888140.

Friday 9th May: Film Night – 'Conclave' – starring Ralph Fiennes
Thornhams Parish Hall: 7.30pm. See page 35 for details.

Saturday 10th May: Grand Charity Hat Sale
Gislingham Village Hall: 10.30am – 2.00pm. See page 12 for details.

Saturday 10th May: Horse Racing Fundraiser
Gislingham Village Hall: Doors Open 5.00pm. See page 31 for details.

Sunday 11th May: End of War in Europe celebrations (VE Day 80) Gislingham Village Hall: 11.00am – 3.00pm. See page 8 for details.

Friday 16th May 2025: Pub Night
Gislingham Village Hall.
Doors Open 5.00 pm/ Last orders 9.45pm

Saturday 17th May: Quiz Night
Gislingham Village Hall: Doors open at 7.00 pm. Entrance Fee £5.00.

Sunday 18th May: Mellis Litter Pick
Mellis Memorial Hall. 11.00am. See page 10 for details.

Wednesday 21st May: Gislingham WI – 'Lucie Clayton 'Simply ice cream'
Gislingham Village Hall: 7.30pm

Friday 23rd May: Friends of St. Mary's AGM etc. St. Mary's Church. 2.00pm – 3.00pm. See page 43 for details.

Friday 23rd May: Film Night – 'A Complete Unknown' – Bob Dylan's early days
Thornhams Parish Hall: 7.30pm. See page 35 for details.

Bank Holiday Monday 26th May: Special Afternoon Tea Party
Thornhams Parish Hall: 2.00pm. See page 45 for details.

Saturday 31st May: Cake Sale in aid of the British Heart Foundation
'Woodberry', High Street, Gislingham. (Opp. Six Bells Pub). 10.00am – 2.00pm. See page 51 for details.

Saturday 31st May: FREE Mellis Film Night – 'Wilding' –the story of a young couple who bet on nature for the future of their failing, 400 year old family estate. Mellis Memorial Hall at 7:00pm. See page 11 for details.

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 June 2025. The "What's On" Diary deadline is: Monday 12th May

CLUBS, CLASSES & REGULAR EVENTS

GISLINGHAM

Baby and Tots Group for the Under 2's: Primary School**.** Every Wednesday 9.45am – 11.00am. Contact Debbie Nicholls: 07931 665 205

Carpet Bowls Club: Village Hall. Every Monday 2.15pm to 4.15pm. £3.00 per session. All equipment provided.

Pilates Classes: Village Hall. Wednesdays 9.15am and 10.15am and also Thursdays 7.10pm. Becky Cruickshank: 07734 414151

Total Fitness: Village Hall. Every Thursday 6.15pm - 7.00pm. A cardio fitness class that can be adapted to all abilities. Becky Cruickshank: 07734 414151

Gislingham WI: Village Hall. Meet the third Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm. New members welcome. For more details contact Margaret: 01379 783903 or Terrie: 01379 788521.

Gislingham Silver Band: Band Hut. Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Contact Iris Debock: 01379 788066 or debock.iris@gmail.com

French Classes: Village Hall. Every Thursday 10.00am – 11.30am. Contact Karen 07952 908125 / fluent.fast@outlook.com

Yoga Classes: Gislingham Village Hall. Tuesdays 7.00pm - 8.30pm
And via zoom on Thursdays 7.00pm – 8.00pm. Both term time only
Contact Clare Hall on 07704 570877 or email: thornhamyoga@yahoo.com

Gislingham Variety Club: A local multi-talented group who perform twice a year in the Village Hall. If you are interested to join us, please contact by email: gislinghamvariety@gmail.com

THORNHAM

parkrun: Thornham Walks
Every Saturday at 9.00am. 5k. www.parkrun.org.uk/thornhamwalks/

Pilates Classes: Parish Hall. Tuesdays 10.00am - Pilates Seated & Standing (no floorwork). Contact: Michelle via email hello@yapl.co.uk

Thornham Bowls Club: Thornham Road. New Members welcome. For more details contact Keith: 01379 871881

Bellringing: Thornham Magna Church. Mondays 7.30pm – 9.00pm. For details contact Sylvie: 01379 788130

MELLIS

Circuit Training Fitness Class: Memorial Hall. Mondays 7.30pm – 8.30pm
Gus: 07540 473203 / anguswilkinson@btinternet.com

Mellis Canicross: Memorial Hall. Meet Saturdays 7.30 am Autumn/Winter; 7.00am Spring/Sumner. Jog with your dog. Check out our Facebook page for updates. Contact Lorraine on 07913 183534

VE DAY (VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY) – **8 MAY 1945**





VE Day (or Victory in Europe Day) celebrates the end of the Second World War in Europe with the formal surrender of Nazi Germany on May 8, 1945. The occasion remembers the contribution of British, Commonwealth and Allied armed forces' personnel - those who contributed to the war effort and those who safeguarded the Home Front. This year's eightieth anniversary, as well as marking the Allied victory, is an opportunity to pay tribute to those who have served and continue to serve in the UK Armed Forces.

In his radio broadcast from Downing Street on that famous day eighty years ago, Winston Churchill told the nation, "This is your victory! It is the victory of the cause of freedom in every land. In all our long history we have never seen a greater day than this."

"My dear friends, this is your hour. This is not victory of a party or of any class. It's a victory of the great British nation as a whole. We were the first, in this ancient island, to draw the sword against tyranny."

"Everyone, man or woman, has done their best. Everyone has tried. Neither the long years, nor the dangers, nor the fierce attacks of the enemy, have in any way weakened the independent resolve of the British nation. God bless you all."

VE Day was a day of intense joy and relief for families that took to the streets for spontaneous celebrations, including parties, dancing, singing and even bonfires. Men, women, children and families were given a sense of hope that they would be getting back to some sort of normality when their loved ones returned home. Not all service personnel returned home immediately though, as the demobilisation of soldiers was gradual and continued through





to 1946. For many returning home however, it would take years to recover from their physical and psychological injuries.

Amongst the joy and festivities, many families mourned the loss of their loved ones, with life never returning to normal for them.

In our own villages, the war memorials remember those that made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Seven men from the Second World War are named on these memorials: one in Gislingham's churchyard; two on the Portland Stone Celtic Cross in Thornham Magna (the name of one of these men's father sadly inscribed on the same memorial in the list of First World War dead), and four men from Mellis - of these, Sergeant Denys Guy Sims perished in a Blenheim IV plane crash in Scotland in March 1941 and Private John Wilfred Wicks died aged 21 in June 1944 in Burma. Earlier in the war, in the days leading up to the Dunkirk evacuation of May 1940, the village had mourned the loss of two of its young men within a week of each other. Private Harold Knights has no known grave and is commemorated on the Dunkirk memorial, while Private Frederick Douglas Rice, aged 21, is buried near Lille; his parents choosing his headstone message, "Always faithful, Always kind, A beautiful memory Left behind".

In his VE Day broadcast, Churchill reminded the nation, "we may allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing, but let us not forget for a moment the toils and efforts that lie ahead", mindful that Japan was still undefeated and that the war raged on in the Far East.

Indeed, thousands of prisoners of war were being held in appalling conditions in Japanese custody (including in Southeast Asia, Japan, Taiwan and Sumatra) and were not freed until the Japanese formally surrendered on 15 August 1945 (VJ Day). Many troops, such as those of 'The Forgotten Army' in Burma, did not return from distant places for another year.

As we approach this, the 80th anniversary of VE Day, and the events of that terrible conflict move towards the edge of living memory, it is right that we remember the sacrifice of those prepared to give their lives for others.

GC & AC


END OF WAR IN EUROPE
CELEBRATIONS
Gislingham Parish Council & local groups welcome you to celebrate
Gislingham Silver Band
Gislingham Variety Club
Hog Roast, BBQ,
Barrel & Bridle Bar
Tea/Coffee & Ice Cream Van
Gislingham Village Hall
11th May 2025
11.00am – 3.00pm

GISLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NOTES



You will be pleased to see that the Bus Stop bench is now fully installed and we hope that it will prove both useful and helpful for residents.



We have numerous projects underway / discussions taking place about actions that we feel are required to further improve some things in the village that we believe require some TLC. An update on these will follow in the near future.

Please note, we have organised VE Day celebrations on Sunday 11th May.

Time: 11.00am to 3.00pm / Venue: Gislingham Village Hall

In attendance will be Gislingham Silver Band, Singers, Gislingham Variety Club, Barrel and Bridle Bar, Dave Harris's fabulous Hog Roast, Tea / Coffee, ice cream van .... weather permitting it promises to be a great commemorative event and one we should not forget. See poster opposite.

Proposed pylons and solar farm

We have been corresponding with Parliamentarians and others regarding both the proposed pylons and the solar farm. An update will follow as soon as we have responses.

Crime

Whilst no major crime has been reported in the village; I am advised of a few burglaries / shed break-ins in the surrounding area. Please be vigilant and if it has a lock, then please lock it up!

Vacancies

We still have two vacancies for councillors, so if you think that it is something that you would like to consider then please feel free to contact me: - Christophertranter@gislinghamparishcouncil.com or contact the Parish Council's clerk at RFO@gislinghamparishcouncil.com

If you wish to discuss any of the above or want more information about your Parish Council then please contact us on either of the above noted email addresses.

Enjoy the sunshine.

Christopher Tranter - Gislingham Parish Council (Chair)

Mellis Community



Litter Pick

Mellis Memorial Hall at 11.00am on

Sunday 18th May 2025 & **Sunday 12th October 2025**

Equipment provided Organised by your Parish Council

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Please take a look at my website
www.martinroper.co.uk





FREE

FILM NIGHT AT MELLIS MEMORIAL HALL
SATURDAY 31ST MAY AT 7:00PM



Wilding tells the story of a young couple who bet on nature for the future of their failing, 400 year old family estate.

They battled entrenched tradition and dared to place the fate of their farm in the hands of nature.

Ripping down the fences, they set the land back to the wild and entrusted its recovery to a motley mix of animals, both tame and wild. It is the beginning of a grand experiment that will become one of the most significant experiments in Europe.

Entry is free, a raffle will be arranged to help raise money to support MMH and donations of course are welcome.

Soft drinks, snacks and ice cream available BYO alcohol and cushion to sit on.

To reserve your spaces email: bookmellishall@gmail.com

GRAND CHARITY HAT SALE

Have you ever wanted to try on lots and lots of hats?

We have a collection of about 200 hats in every colour and style.

Come and try them on and, if you want one, it will probably cost you £10 (apart from a few very special hats).





PLUS: A large selection of Dolls House figures and furniture (also being sold for charity)

Gislingham Village Hall,
Saturday May 10th, 10.30 to 2.00

All proceeds to

Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund

NEWS FROM GISLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

FUTURE EVENTS

Friday 2nd May & Friday 16th May: Pub Nights
Doors Open 5.00 pm. Last Orders 9.45 pm. Again, we would like to point out that under the terms of our licence, only drinks purchased at the bar can be consumed on the premises.

Saturday 17th May: Quiz Night
Doors open at 7.00 pm. Entrance Fee £5.00. Bring your own Food, Drinks and Glasses.

Saturday 14th June: Gisfest - Watch this space for details.

Saturday 19th July: Quiz Night
Doors open at 7.00 pm. Entrance Fee £5.00. Bring your own Food, Drinks and Glasses.

Saturday 27th September: Bingo Night – Watch this space for details

Saturday 18th October: Quiz Night
Doors open at 7.00 pm. Entrance Fee £5.00. Bring your own Food, Drinks and Glasses.

Saturday 13th December: Quiz Night
Doors open at 7.00 pm. Entrance Fee £5.00. Bring your own Food, Drinks and Glasses.



Follow us at www.facebook.com/GislinghamVillageHall/ PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE HALL

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.


THORNHAM MAGNA PARISH HALL
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PRIVATE VIEW
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INCLUDES BUBBLES & CANAPÉS
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SATURDAY 3RD MAY 10-4PM
SUNDAY 4TH MAY 11-3PM
THORNHAM PARISH HALL, IP23 8HB
EVENTS@THORNHAMS.ORG

NEWS FROM THORNHAM PARISH HALL



FUTURE EVENTS:

Weekend 2nd, 3rd & 4th May: Arts and Craft Show
Friday 2nd May: Preview Evening - to include wine & canapes: 7.00pm – 9.00pm: £8.00
Saturday 3rd May: 10.00am – 4.00pm
Sunday 4th May: 11.00am – 3.00pm

Friday 9th May: Film Night Extra – 'Conclave' – The Oscar nominated papal election saga starring Ralph Fiennes. 7.30pm: £6. Booking: films@thornhams.org

Friday 23rd May: Film Night – 'A Complete Unknown' – Bob Dylan's early days
7.30pm: £6. Booking: films@thornhams.org

Bank Holiday Monday 26th May: Special Afternoon Tea
2.00pm: - in aid of Oncology Day Unit Ipswich Hospital with fun events for children

Friday 13th June: Quiz Night - tbc

Friday 20th June: Film Night – tbc

Sunday 13th July: Tea – Wimbledon Men's Final

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

Pilates Classes on Tuesdays 10.00am - Pilates gentle with no floorwork



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

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY BOWLS?

Would you like to play bowls? If so, THORNHAM MAGNA BOWLS CLUB will make you welcome!

No one is too young or too old (but under 16's need to be accompanied by an adult). Bowls is a good way of meeting people and socialising with others. **OPEN EVERY SATURDAY, MAY TO SEPTEMBER 10.00AM to 1.00PM**

If you are interested, then why not make a telephone call to 01379 871881 or 07979 771303 to find out more details about us and when you could come and give it a try. We can guarantee that you will be made most welcome.

WE ALSO HAVE AN OPEN DAY ON SATURDAY 3RD MAY FROM 10.00AM.

The address of the Bowls Club is: Gislingham Road, Thornham Magna, IP23 8HH. You can find us opposite the estate farm entrance.

All you need to play is some flat shoes, everything else will be provided.



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Join us for our Spring Fayre, celebrating the end of our growing year
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CHARITY NUMBER 292229

EYE AIRFIELD

Originally part of an American family's Cornwall Estate. Eye Airfield was a standard Class A airfield for heavy bombers during WWII. The U.S. Army 829th Engineer Battalion began construction of this WWII air base in September 1942, with the 827th Battalion arriving that December to assist. The 859th Battalion arrived in May 1943 when the 829th Battalion left. The bulk of the work was done in the summer of 1943 with the 827th setting records in pouring concrete while the 859th made their mark in building construction. Additional work was performed by British contractors.



During construction it was known as Brome Airfield. Eight of the hard standings are situated on the west side of the A140 road. This meant a permanent guard was needed to halt traffic on the A140 when aircraft taxied from them, as well as gates. Technical and admin buildings and living quarters were on the NE side and Eye church lay on the approach to the southern end of the NW-SE runway.

The flying field was situated in a triangle of land bounded by the B1077 to the east, the Eye-Yaxley Road and a London North Eastern Railway branch line to the south and the A140 to the west. There were two Type T2 aircraft hangars, one each on the west and east sides of the flying field. Bomb stores and an ammunition dump were situated on the western edge of the flying field.

The airfield was declared operational and turned over to the U.S. Army Air Forces on 7 December 1943, two years after the attack on Pearl Harbor. The airfield was opened on 1st May 1944 and was used by the United States Army Air Forces Eighth Air Force 490th Bombardment Group. The group flew Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses and Consolidated B-24 Liberators as part of the Eighth Air Force's strategic bombing campaign.

The 490th BG entered combat in June 1944 with B-24s, bombing airfields and coastal defences in France immediately preceding and during the invasion of Normandy. They targeted bridges, rail lines, vehicles, road junctions, and troop concentrations in France, in support of ground forces near Caen in July and near Brest in September 1944.



The 490th Bomb Squad

The group converted to B-17s in October and operated primarily against strategic

targets until the end of February 1945. The 490th mounted attacks against enemy oil plants, tank factories, marshalling yards, aircraft plants, and airfields in such cities as Berlin, Hamburg, Merseburg, Münster, Kassel, Hanover, and Cologne. They interrupted strategic missions to attack supply lines and military installations during the Battle of the Bulge, December 1944-January 1945. Beginning in March 1945, they attacked interdictory targets and supported advancing ground forces.

DOWN Memory LANE

After V-E Day, they carried food to flood stricken areas of the Netherlands and transported French, Spanish, and Belgian prisoners of war from Austria to Allied centres.

The 490th returned to the US on 3 September 1945.



Above: Ground personnel of the 490th Bomb Group work on a B-24 Liberator (serial number 42-94837) nicknamed "The Jinx 13" at Eye.

Postwar RAF use

With the war over, Eye transferred to RAF Bomber Command on 1 November 1945 and was inactivated on 7 November 1945. The airfield was gradually run down and was finally sold by the Air Ministry during 1962/63.



Above: A B-17 Flying Fortress (serial number 43-38729) of the 490th Bomb Group moves into take off position at Eye.

Current use

With the end of military control, Eye airfield was converted into an industrial estate. There is a natural gas pumping station in the centre of the former airfield. The world's first poultry litter-fuelled generating plant was built on the site in 1992. It produces 12.7 MW of power and consumes 140,000 tonnes of chicken litter a year and is owned by Energy Power Resources (EPR). Many of the old taxiways and runways remain, along with a T-2 hangar and various wartime buildings in various states of repair and use. These days, Eye Airfield is home to more than 50 businesses.

Source material: Suffolk Heritage Explorer & Wikipedia



Above: Boeing B-17G-85-BO Fortress Serial No. 43-38400 "Alice Blue Gown" of the 851st Bomb Squadron. This aircraft completed 67 missions.

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THE RAILWAY TAVERN

MELLIS

Thursday 1st May 7.30pm ***POP MUSIC QUIZ***

A fun music quiz. 1960's to 2000's. Maximum six people per team. £2 per person.

Saturday 3rd May 8.30PM ***UNCOOL SAM***

Ex Makeshifts playing driving R&B including Dr Feelgood & The Rolling Stones.

Thursday 8th May 8.00pm ***OPEN MIC NIGHT***

Calling all musicians and singers. Come along and have a go, hosted by Mike & Jemma

Saturday 10th May 8.30pm ***KARAOKE DISCO***

Musical merriment with Video Disco & Karaoke

Thursday 15th May 7.30pm ***PUB QUIZ***

A fun general knowledge quiz. Maximum six people per team. £2 per person.

Thursday 22nd May 7.30pm ***BINGO***

£1 a card for cash prizes and Final game £2 per card for CASH JACKPOT.

Sunday 25th May 8pm ***JAX & CO***

The new sound Jax & Co still playing Johnny Cash Classics amongst 60's & 70's.

Thursday 29th May 7.30pm ***ROCK & ROLL BINGO***

Like normal bingo only with music instead of numbers. A fun sing along night.

Saturday 31st May 8.30pm ***COUNTRY & WESTERN***

THE REDNECK RODEO with LIVE MUSIC from JOHNNY B GOODE



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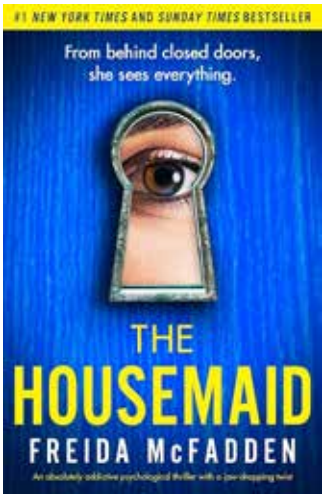
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DI'S BOOK BLOG



"The Housemaid" by Freida McFadden

I hadn't previously heard of this book - voted the Sunday Times bestseller, and already being adapted for a film. It was introduced to me as it was chosen by my book group. The group met earlier in March to discuss it, so I am including some of the group's comments in this review.



"The Housemaid" contains 3 main characters - Millie who is newly employed as the live-in maid, Nina - the mistress of the house and Andrew - Nina's husband. The story runs over a few months and is set in present time. Each chapter is told from the perspective of one of the main characters.

They live in a beautiful house, have a young daughter, and a gardener. Millie arrives to begin her new job and all seems normal. Then she is shown her room and at this point things slowly start to turn more sinister.

The prologue does warn the reader that something strange has happened in the house, but it doesn't fully prepare us for the horror that unfolds.....

I read this book in 2 days and I really enjoyed it. Comments from the other book group members included... 'page turner', 'a holiday reading book', 'I couldn't put it down', 'an easy read', 'really good unexpected ending', 'definitely want to see it at the cinema'. One person had this interesting view - 'Felt it threw up lots of questions and it took until the second half to get to the point of it'.

Personally, I found it gripping, exciting and very clever. I loved that each character turned out to be the exact opposite to how they originally presented. The twist at the end literally left me open mouthed and I found myself thumbing back for clues leading to this ending. And as for the epilogue.... wow!!

Di Herbert

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GUC Trustees meeting dates for 2025 are as follows: Friday 11th July, Friday 12th September, Friday 14th 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
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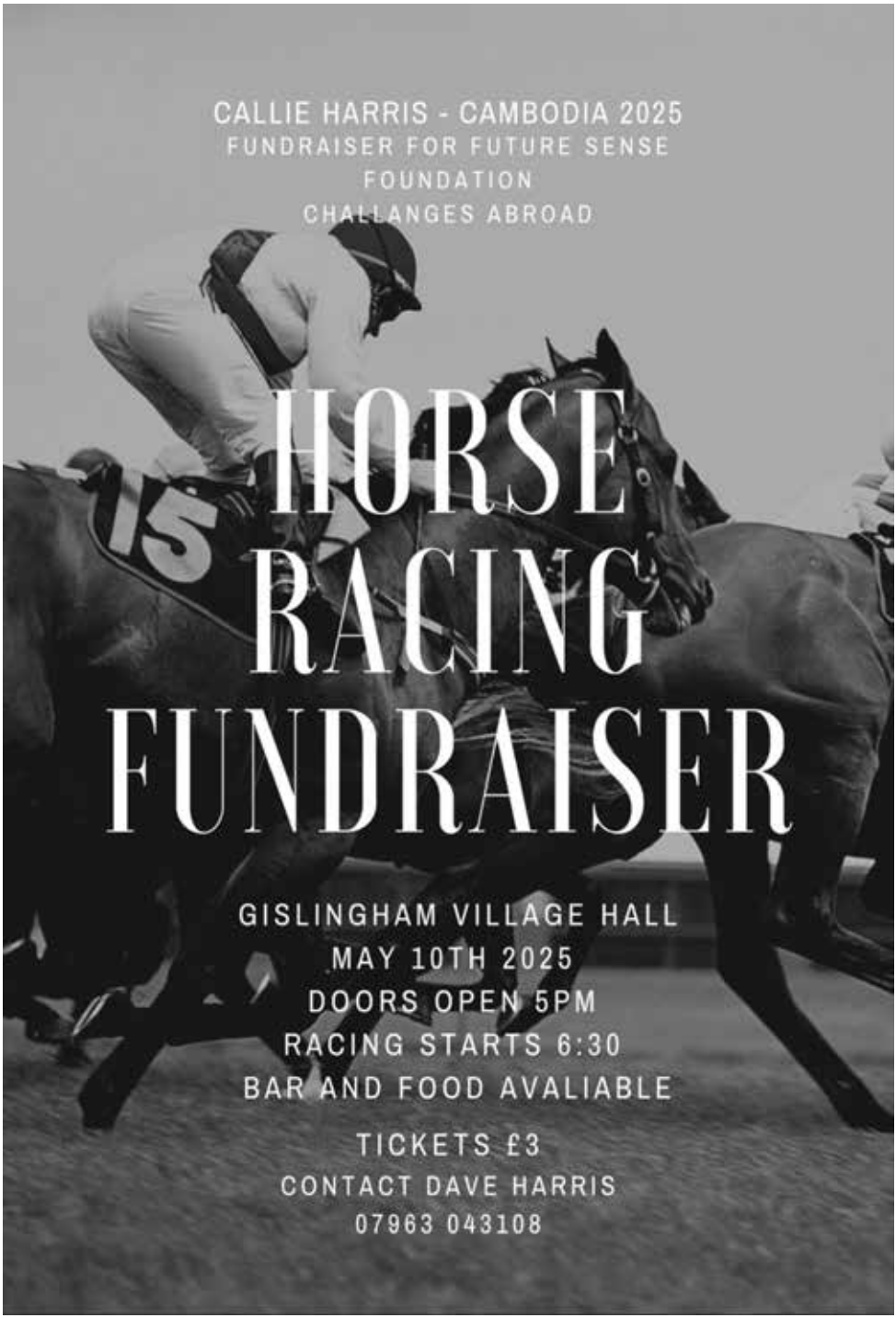




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NATURE NOTES by Darrel Charles



Hello everyone, welcome back to Nature Notes

During a visit to Lowestoft some weeks ago I came across the two remarkable structures that have been built 1 km or so off the beach, close to the town's pier. These structures, one of which is shown below, are intended to provide nesting accommodation for Kittiwake seabirds. Why, you may ask, is this necessary? Well, the Kittiwake, a medium sized gull, is an extremely vulnerable species, being rated Red on the UK Birds of Conservation Concern list, ie: at risk of extinction. Furthermore, the plight of these birds has been potentially exacerbated by the building of the Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm that will include 231 individual wind turbines, each of which has a rotor diameter of a whopping 236 m, much larger than land based turbines. Given the number and size of these turbines, a government assessment was undertaken to determine any adverse effects upon seabirds. That assessment highlighted concerns about the "integrity of Kittiwake populations" due to the birds colliding with the turning turbine blades. Consequently, a plan was put in place to offset those losses by providing Artificial Nest Structures (ANS) for the Kittiwakes. Two of those sites are off Lowestoft, one is offshore from Minsmere whilst a fourth is located at Hartlepool, Teesmouth. Each ANS has capacity for 500 breeding pairs of birds.



One of two Artificial Nest Structures at Lowestoft



An Adult Kittiwake and Chick on a Traditional Nest

The Hornsea 3 development is notable as being the first offshore wind project requiring ecological compensation plans to offset potential impacts on Kittiwake populations.

The first Kittiwake chick was born on one of the ANSs last summer. Let's hope it's the first of many, whilst sparing a thought for those that come to grief on a swirling rotor blade.....For further info see: www.niras.com/projects/orsted-ans-kittiwake/

Whilst returning from holiday in the Lake District last month, Christine and I decided to break our journey home with a visit to family in Yorkshire. Whilst there, we took a walk alongside the river Wharfe, where we came across this spectacularly coloured duck going about its business on the river with his mate. The ducks are Mandarin ducks, which are not a native species but one that was introduced to the UK from China. Unusually, these ducks nest high up in trees. If you would like to see a Mandarin a good place to go "locally" might be Pensthorpe Nature Reserve up in Norfolk, close to Fakenham.



Female (left) and Male (right) Mandarin

In the garden, spring is now in full flow and our feathered friends are busy gathering materials for their nest building. Blue Tits and Chaffinches seem particularly active, which I hope bodes well for their future families.



Chaffinch (male)

I mentioned last month that we are now in galaxy season - that time of the year when the Earth's position around the Sun gives us the best view of those parts of the sky where many galaxies are located. One such viewing opportunity lies in the constellation of Leo, currently in the eastern night sky. Here lie a group of three galaxies, collectively named the Leo Triplet and that is where I turned my telescope on 25th March. These three galaxies are about 30 million light-years from earth and my photo is the result of an exposure of 2.6 hrs. Although we've had some beautiful clear nights recently, we've also had a bright moon - not ideal for astro-photography. Hopefully, the clear skies will remain after the moon has set….

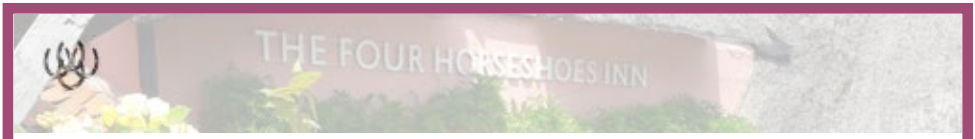


The Leo Triplet of Galaxies

Until next time, happy wildlife watching!

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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HOMITY PIE



Homity Pie is a traditional British open vegetable pie. There is little known on the exact history of this dish. It is sometimes called 'Devon Pie', deriving from the belief that it is an English country recipe originating from Devon. Its origins are also claimed to date back to the Women's Land Army of the Second World War when lots of our old British favourites had to be transformed into vegetarian equivalents, due to the restrictions imposed by wartime rationing, when there was a shortage of meat. So, our newly sprung victory gardens sent vegetables to the forefront of national dinner tables.

What is known however is that the dish's mainstream popularity came from Cranks Vegetarian Restaurant, which opened in London in 1961, when vegetarianism gained support from the hippie subculture.



Ingredients:

- 1 x 20cm/8in Flan Dish or about 6 individual foil dishes
- 300g/10oz Short crust Pastry
- 350g/12oz Potatoes peeled
- 250g/1/2lb Onions peeled and chopped
- 250g/1/2lb Leeks washed & cut into pieces
- 3 Tablespoons vegetable oil
- 25g/1oz Butter + a little to grease the flan dish
- Small bunch Parsley/ large pinch Thyme
- 300g/10oz Grated Cheddar Cheese
- 2 Medium cloves garlic, peeled and finely chopped
- 2 Crisp dessert apples cored & cut into pieces - skin left on
- 60ml/4 tablespoon Milk
- 2 eggs lightly beaten
- Salt/Pepper to taste
- Pinch Cayenne Pepper.

Method:

- Lightly grease tins if using, roll out pastry and line dish/tins.
- Chill the tins whilst making filling.
- Gently boil potatoes until tender, drain and cut into bite sized pieces. Lightly fry onions, leeks in vegetable oil until soft. Add the apple and mix in, add the garlic, potatoes butter, parsley and thyme, the eggs, half the cheese and the milk.
- Season with salt and pepper and combine the mixture well.
- Fill the pies and cover with the remaining cheese.
- Bake in a pre-heated oven 220C/425F/Gas 7 for 20 mins or until golden. Serve warm.

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.

CIRCULAR WALK IN THE WAVENEY VALLEY ALONG THE ANGLES WAY



O/S Map: 230 - Distance: 7.5 km/4.6 miles

This will be a return visit to Mendham Village; however, we will be walking in a different direction. As before park in the free Village Car park, which is around the corner from the Sir Alfred Munnings pub. This walk you will have to climb over several stiles and is half footpath and half quiet road. This also takes in the views of two ancient mills.

Leave the car park and turn right to the crossroads where the village sign is located. Turn left and go past the Primary school. Interestingly, on the building is the engraved door entrance for the 'Girls and Infants' on the left side and to the right, is the entrance for 'Boys' which is now part of the adjoining house.

Just before the school is the road to Mendham Mill. There has been a watermill on this site in Mendham for over 1000 years – the 1086 Domesday Book records the mill. The current building dates from 1800 with later additions and ceased milling in the early 1930's. An 1863 sluice gate under the building still controls the flow of water under the wheel. In 2008 it was turned into a home while also creating five luxurious holiday cottages which make the most of this exceptional setting. The painter Sir Alfred Munnings was born in The Miller's House in 1878.





Continue out of the village and just past a road to the right, on the left, go over the stile, marked Angles Way. Continue across the meadow crossing a wooden bridge with gates at both ends. Continue and then go over the next stile and bear left. To your right is Target Hill. Continue along the footpath until you reach Downs Farm. To your left in the distance and reached by the track from the entrance to Downs Farm is Wortwell Mill.

Whilst there is a record of a mill at Wortwell from the time of the Domesday book, when it was known as Limbourne Mill, the current mill dates from around 1750. Amongst many others, there are references to the mill as part of a manor owned by the Benedictine Nunnery of Bungay around 1100, and later in conveyances of 1364 and 1767. Many years later these were bought by Alexander Adair of Flixton Hall along with



Downs Farm. A conveyance of 1364 included two mills called Lymburghmilles, but it is probable that it was the one building with two pairs of stones.

At the entrance to the farm, at the track, turn left and walk past the barn until you get to a metal enclosure. Keep right, go over a stile, turn right, continue along Angles Way and walk across the meadow. You will see a bridge ahead of you, but ignore, head for the right-hand corner of the meadow and go over the stile. This part of the walk you will see a stream to your left and the walk through this woodland is very pretty. Please watch out for the exposed tree roots, which can be a tripping hazard. At the end of the path, turn left onto the road and keeping to the road that bears right, continue past Valley Farm and Valley Barn, which has a very attractive thatch.



When you reach the crossroads, sign posted Elmham Hall & Minster, turn right and head up the hill and as the road drops down, just before the turn off for Flixton and Bungay, take the footpath to the right and continue along the footpath with the deep ditch to your left. Go over a sleeper bridge and when you reach the road, turn right and continue until you reach the top of the hill, bear left onto the adjoining road. After about 1km as the road weaves to the left, to your right is the other side of Target Hill. As you continue along this road, you will then reach the stile that you crossed earlier, so continue back to the village.



The Sir Alfred Munnings pub is closed on a Monday, but open all day for the rest of the week. We again had a very nice sandwich. Can highly recommend the hand cut ham or the brie and cranberry.

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TERRAPIN NEWS



At the MSDC meeting on 10th April the Council Leader, Andy Mellor was able to announce that: "the Housing Regulatory Notice issued to Babergh and Mid Suffolk in early 2023 had been officially removed in the last couple of weeks, as we continue to build a stronger, more resilient housing service for our communities and council tenants. Over the last two years, the housing service has undertaken a comprehensive review and transformation of its building services, implementing some significant improvements. We have established a new compliance team, created a dedicated repairs and maintenance team, implemented a new job management system introduced, new fleet and materials contracts, procured 30 new contracts across various service areas, developed new policies and procedures to enhance service delivery. We know there is still work to do, but I would like to recognise the good work of our teams in reaching this significant milestone."

The council's response to the Government consultation on the proposed creation of a Mayoral Combined County Authority (MCCA) for Norfolk and Suffolk was also debated.

"To ensure that the interests of our residents and places in Mid Suffolk are represented in any future devolved structures."

The government claims that: decision making will be streamlined, the mayor will be "embedded" in government, their may be more funding from government, a proposed 30-year financial settlement will enable more long-term planning. Finally centralised government might lead to better public services and infrastructure development.

On the other hand, rural areas may feel underrepresented compared to the urban centres Ipswich and Norwich, managing such a large and diverse region will be complicated and resources may well be disproportionately allocated.

A lot will depend on the quality and skills of the mayor elected, there are concerns that because of the expected number of candidates representing different political parties and the preference for a "first passed the post decision" that the final elected mayor could politically only represent a minority of the electorate.

The mechanisms in place to influence mayoral decisions will be the Combined Authority Board representing eventually the unitary councils of Suffolk and Norfolk, perhaps another argument for the present county and district councils to form more than a single unitary council per county.

There will be audits, legal and regulatory frameworks to ensure transparency and accountability.

There is in the white paper a great deal of emphasis on public consultation to allow residents to voice their concerns and raise priorities. To influence decision making is going to require greater public participation at a Parish Council level as the district council, and councillors are replaced by larger unitary councils and fewer councillors with much larger wards.

Parish Councils and Meetings should, I think be gearing up for the changes to come, become more inclusive and representative if possible. For ambitious Parish Councils and Meetings there may well be opportunities to claim on behalf of their communities.

The District Council is focussed on ensuring that the kind of focus that is needed to make improvements like those it has made for our social housing residents is retained.

Rowland Warboys, MSD Cllr. Gislingham Ward

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WAVENEY FOODBANK: PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SUPPORT TO COMBAT FOOD INSECURITY

Who We Are and How to Get Help

Waveney Foodbank, a registered charity (1151679), has been dedicated to feeding local residents since 2012. Annually, we assist approximately 10,000 individuals facing food insecurity.

Understanding Food Insecurity

Food insecurity is defined as the lack of consistent access to sufficient food for an active, healthy life. This condition can be temporary or prolonged, often linked to poverty, unemployment, and economic challenges. Other contributing factors include rising food prices, natural disasters, and health issues. Individuals experiencing food insecurity may: Skip meals or reduce meal sizes; rely on less nutritious, cheaper food options; worry about running out of food before being able to afford more; face difficult choices between paying bills and buying food.

Addressing food insecurity involves ensuring everyone has access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and preferences for an active and healthy life. Waveney Foodbank provides emergency food assistance to those in need.

How to Get Help

Waveney Foodbank, in collaboration with Trussell Trust, offers vital support to individuals and families facing food insecurity in the local area. If you or someone you know needs assistance, follow these steps:

- Contact Citizens Advice: For those in financial crisis, the first point of contact is Citizens Advice. Call their free helpline at 0808 208 2138 (available Monday to Friday, 9 am-5 pm). Trained advisers will confidentially discuss your situation, help you maximize your income, navigate the benefits system, and identify any additional grants you might be entitled to.
- Obtain a Foodbank Voucher: If necessary, you will be issued a foodbank voucher, essential for receiving an emergency food parcel from Waveney Foodbank. This voucher system ensures targeted support for those most in need.
- Collect Your Food Parcel: Visit any of our centres to collect your food parcel. You will be directed to the nearest centre and provided with opening times. If you are unable to visit a centre due to a disability or other valid reasons, we may be able to deliver a parcel to you.

You will receive a parcel containing a minimum of three days' worth of nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food items, designed to provide essential nutrition and support during your time of need. Please let us know if you need any non-food items e.g. pet food, hygiene products, baby products, cleaning items, or toiletries.

Community Support

Waveney Foodbank relies on the generosity of the local community for food donations, volunteering, and financial support. If you are in a position to help, consider donating food, volunteering your time, or making a financial contribution to support our vital work.

For more information, visit the Waveney Foodbank website at: www.waveney.foodbank.org.uk or contact us by phone at 07484 394749.

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Gislingham Village Hall	Wednesdays	9:15am
Gislingham Village Hall	Wednesdays	10:15am
Westhorpe Village Hall	Wednesdays	12:15pm
Gislingham Village Hall	Thursdays	7:10pm

TOTAL FITNESS (45 mins):

Gislingham Village Hall	Thursdays	6:15pm

GENTLE FITNESS (45 mins)

Westhorpe Village Hall	Fridays	10:00am

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TIP OFF, RIP OFF!



Scam Alert - Be aware for fake QR codes

We are reminding residents to be alert for fake QR codes.

Quick Response (QR) codes are the black and white patterned squares which when scanned with a smartphone take you to a linked website. These provide a quick way to find a website for information or access to services but can also be used by fraudsters looking to divert you into fraudulent versions of genuine sites. "Quishing", also known as QR code phishing, involves tricking someone into scanning a phony QR code with their phone or device



In 2024 Action Fraud received 1,386 reports about QR scams.

One frequently reported use of fake QR codes is around paying for car parking. Reports from around the UK have been made of fake QR codes being applied to pay and display machines or on parking information signs with the QR codes leading to fraudulent websites including fake versions of well-known legitimate parking payment platforms.

In March, Mid-Suffolk District Council reported a scam QR code placed on a parking meter in a Stowmarket car park.

The QR code then takes the user to a fraudulent website that might download malware or ask for sensitive information. It's the latest trend used by scammers to get to your hard-earned cash.

QR codes are often found on things like parking machines, charging points, emails, even restaurant menus. Once scanned, scam codes will take you to a bogus website where you innocently input your details thinking you're paying for a service or visiting the genuine site, when in fact, you're sharing all your personal details with the scammers.

How to avoid the scam

- Check if the QR code is in an unusual place or printed in good quality - often it can be a sticker above another QR code.
- Ensure you're using a legitimate website - look at the URL and see if it matches the name of the parking facility
- If in doubt, download the app from the official Google or Apple store or search the website on your phone's internet browser, rather than scanning a QR code to take you there. It may take longer, but it's more secure

If you think you may have given financial details to a scammer, contact your bank immediately. You should also report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/

THE MESSENGER NINE LETTERS QUIZ

The first letter of each answer will spell out an anagram (a Suffolk village).

What is it?

1. Tony Stark is also known as …….?
2. Who was the first US President to receive the Nobel Peace Prize?
3. Which island group include Yell and Unst?
4. Who said “You’ve never had it so good”?
5. Name the hairy creature that is said to live in the Himalayas?
6. Who was the first Tudor King?
7. What spice was once considered more valuable than gold?
8. What is the largest US state by area?
9. What South American country is known as the “Land of Lakes and Volcanoes?
10. The answers are...?

Answers appear on page 59.

SUDOKU CHALLENGE

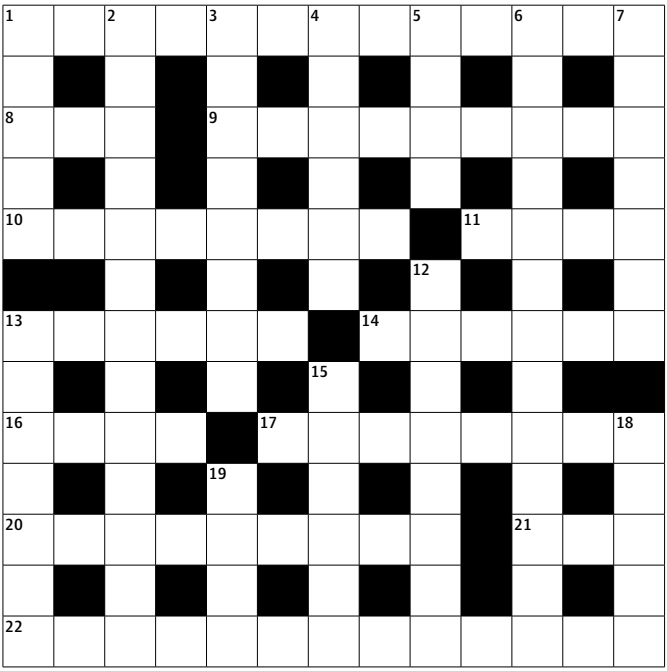
	4	7						1
8			7	2				
	6			9		7		
4		8				9		
		6	8	7	2	1		
		3				8		6
		5		4			8	
				3	9			5
7						6	1	

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

Last issue solution

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

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE



Across

1 Helpful (13)
8 Town on Scotland's southwest coast (3)
9 Source of sustenance (9)
10 Hilly, uncultivated countryside (8)
11 Pack away (4)
13 Not excessive (6)
14 Spirited (6)
16 Condemn to death (or failure) (4)
17 Means of transport (8)
20 Peripatetic (9)
21 Small (Scottish) (3)
22 Aggressive, predatory attack (7,6)

Down

1 Warning signal (5)
2 Greenhouse gas (6,7)
3 Unthinking (8)
4 Excursion (6)
5 In the thick of (4)
6 Very similar sibling (9,4)
7 Escape (after a crime) (7)
12 Costlier (anag) – secluded setting (8)
13 Navel-gazer's focus? (7)
15 Island off the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia (6)
18 Run-down, disreputable (5)
19 Skilled or skimmed? (4)

Last issue solution

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

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NOTICES



As part of the village's commemoration of the 80th anniversary of VE day to be held on Sunday, 11th May, there will someone in the church between 12.00 and 2.00pm to give residents an opportunity to light a candle.

Also, some residents will remember we bought a remembrance book in 2018 to allow them to enter their family members contribution to the 1st World War, this book will be available in church throughout this year for residents to add the details of family members who took part in the 2nd World War, civilian or military.

On Sunday, 17th August at 10.30 there will be a service of commemoration in church to mark the 80th anniversary of end of the 2nd World War on 15th August - VJ Day.

Jean Archdeacon



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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.

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Please visit our website www.gislinghamplaygroup.com
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1) IRON MAN, 2) THEODORE ROOSEVELT, 3)SHETLAND ISLES, 4) HAROLD MACMILLAN, 5) YETI 6) HENRY V11, 7) CINNAMON, 8) ALASKA, 9) NICARAGUA, 10) The anagram spells out HYACINTHS

Answers to the Connection Quiz on page 56.

SOUTH HARTISMERE BENEFICE



The F Word

Over the last few weeks, I have heard the F word a lot: in the media, at school in Church and at the Cathedral.

The F word is Forgiveness. It was the value that the pupils at the school were thinking about and discussing last term. With the children discussing what it means to them and learning how we can all make mistakes, the importance of saying sorry and forgiving their friends.

During Lent St Edmundsbury Cathedral had an exhibition on Forgiveness their theme of Lent was 'Unforgivable', along with an exhibition -The F Word: Stories of Forgiveness. A thought-provoking collection of images and written accounts, the exhibition explored restorative justice and forgiveness in the face of atrocity. With examples of restorative justice (victims and perpetrators meeting each other) in England and Northern Ireland, and examining forgiveness in South Africa, America, Israel and Palestine. Looking at forgiveness as a healing process, a path out of victimhood and, ultimately, a journey of hope. The resources used are from The Forgiveness Project, founded in 2004 by journalist, providing resources and experiences to help people examine and understanding that forgiveness has the power to transform lives; not only supporting people to deal with issues in their own lives, but also building resilience, hope and empathy.

In their Lent course they also asked - Are there things that are unforgivable? In our day to day lives we often ask for forgiveness and forgive daily. Sometimes it's easy and quick and doesn't take much effort to either say sorry or to forgive, for example for bumping into someone in a shop or for getting irritated with someone because once again they have left a wet towel on the bathroom floor.

But what about when someone has betrayed you, or committed a crime against you. Being able to truly forgive in those circumstances can be harder. Sometimes it is hard for a person to admit they have done something wrong or made a mistake, they can't see the other person's point of view. In reverse it can also be difficult to find forgiveness, especially if the other person doesn't say sorry. Or doesn't admit they have made a mistake. Do we ask why? To ask for forgiveness and be forgiven are both important for us in different ways.

Mentally, forgiveness can lead to a reduction in stress and anxiety. Holding onto grudges and bitterness is not good for us. Forgiveness allows us to release these burdens, offering peace, healing and liberation. It promotes healing and emotional well-being. It enables us to move past hurt and resentment, giving us empathy and understanding towards those who have wronged us. Why they did what they did. This can help improve our mood and enhance all our relationships.

Spiritually, forgiveness connects us more deeply with God. It allows us to mirror God's mercy, so can we have a closer relationship with Him. By forgiving, we obey God's command, to receive His forgiveness. In the Bible, forgiveness is a powerful act of love and obedience. When Jesus teaches us how to pray In Luke chapter 11 v1-4 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.'"

In **Matthew chapter 18 v21-22**, Jesus teaches Peter about the extent of forgiveness, saying, ***"I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven."***

Ephesians chapter 4 v32 "be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

Words for us to use in our daily lives.

Emma Morris - Lightwave Schools and Families Minister

MAY 2025

Sunday 4th May	Thorndon	10.00am	Together @ 10
3rd Sunday of Easter	Gislingham	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 11th May	Stoke Ash	10.30am	Worship for All
4th Sunday of Easter	Thornham Parva	10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 18th May	Mellis	10.30am	Holy Communion
5th Sunday of Easter	Thorndon	10.30am	Holy Communion
	Gislingham	10.30am	Worship for All
	Thorndon	4.00pm	CONNECT
Sunday 25th May	Wetheringsett	10.30am	Worship for All
6th Sunday of Easter	Yaxley	10.30am	Worship for All
	Thornham Magna	10.30am	Holy Communion
Thursday 29th May	Mellis	7.00pm	Ascension Day Service
Ascension Day			

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 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

Fareline Bus (Wednesdays only – Market Day) to Bury St. Edmunds:
Leaves Gislingham 09:46am / Arrives BSE bus station 10.48
Returns from Bury St. Edmunds leaves 13:25 / Arrives Gislingham 14.32

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

Thornham Bus Timetable
Fairline Bus 320 (Wednesdays only)
Thornham Magna (Four Horseshoes) 09:40am / Arrives BSE bus station 10.48
Returns from Bury St. Edmunds 13:25, arriving back at Thornham Magna 14:36



Post Van: Gislingham
Fridays at Village Hall:
12.15 – 14.15



Mobile Library: Gislingham
21 May, 18 Jun, 16 Jul, 13 Aug, 10 Sep, 8 Oct, 5 Nov, 3 Dec, 31 Dec.

Times:
Broadfields Road: 15.10 = 15.45
Mill St.: 15.50 – 16.05

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Anglian Water Emergency	0800 145145
Botesdale Health Centre	01379 898295
Church Wardens: Gislingham - Ann Cottee Mellis - Vacant (TBC) Thornham Magna and Thornham Parva - James Fawcett	01379 788633 01379 788130
Citizens Advice Bureau Diss	01379 640530
Clerk (Parish) (Gislingham) clerk@gislinghamparishcouncil.com	07833 705915
Clerk (Parish) (Christine Moore - Thornham Parva)	01379 783226
Connecting Communities = Suffolk Passenger Transport	01449 614271
Crime Stoppers	0800 555111
District Council - Cllr Rowland Warboys rowland.warboys@midsuffolk.gov.uk	01379 783412
Electricity Emergency	08007 838838
Essex & Suffolk Water Emergency	08457 820999
Eye Health Centre	01379 870689
Hall Bookings: (Gislingham - Terry Williams) email: gislinghamvillagehall@gmail.com (Mellis - Helen Timmons) email: bookmellishall@gmail.com (Thornham Parish Hall - Beth Fredrikssen-Jones) email: hallhire@thornhams.org	 01379 783903 01379 783449
Mellis Parish Council Chairperson (Lawrie Read) mellisparishcouncil@gmail.com	01379 788248
Mendlesham Health Centre	01449 767722
Member of Parliament - Adrian Ramsey adrian.ramsay.mp@parliament.uk	07534 933356
NHS Direct	111
Suffolk Doctors On Call	03001 303066
Suffolk Fire Service & Community Fire Safety	01473 260586
Suffolk County Council -Cllr Jessica Fleming jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk	01449 711065

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