

The Coastal Group of Parishes

Bacton, Happisburgh, Hempstead with Eccles and Lessingham,
Ridlington, Sea Palling with Waxham, Walcott, Witton And Hickling

www.coastalgroup.org.uk

News Sheet 572

February 2025



We are fortunate to live in such a beautiful place and should appreciate the natural environment that we enjoy with awe and wonder. From the intricacies of a flower to the grandeur of seascapes, to the great diversity of birds and animals with habitats in our benefice; it is all the work of God the creator. In the Bible humanity is charged with caring for creation and acting as a steward of the natural world. So it is the responsibility of humanity to safeguard the beauty and balance of God's creation.

Caring for the environment is more than a nice thing to do, it is part of worshipping God. Caring for creation will both preserve the environment and is a way of showing our gratitude for all the abundant blessings God showers upon us. Unfortunately, human beings have not always been very good at caring for creation. We need to consider the impact of our actions on the environment, and strive to leave a positive legacy for future generations.

There is a need to respond to many contemporary challenges such as climate change, pollution, and loss of biodiversity with compassion and action. We began thinking about the wonder of the natural world and how to care for it in a wonderful benefice service at Hempstead back in September.

It is now the time to think further as to how we can play our part as a benefice, as village communities and as individuals in caring for creation in all its complexity, diversity and wonder. To assist us with this task, Barbara Bryant, the Diocesan Environmental Officer is coming to speak about what we can do as a benefice in practical terms. This will be on Tuesday 25th February at 1.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall. All are welcome. You do not need to be a churchgoer but we would welcome anyone who wants to join in with the vital task of caring for creation and the natural world.

Revd Coryn

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sun 2nd Feb	9.30	Morning Worship	Walcott VH
<i>Candlemas</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Sea Palling
	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
	11.00	Morning Worship	Happisburgh
	11.15	Holy Communion	Hickling
	15.00	Afternoon Service	Ridlington
Sun 9th Feb	10.00	Holy Communion	Lessingham VH
<i>4th Sunday</i>	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
<i>before Lent</i>	11.00	Morning Worship	Hickling with Sea Palling
	11.30	Shrove Tuesday service	Witton
Sun 16th Feb	9.30	Holy Communion	Walcott VH
<i>3rd Sunday</i>	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
<i>before Lent</i>	11.00	Holy Communion	Happisburgh
	11.00	Morning Worship	Sea Palling with Hickling
Sun 23rd Feb	10.00	Morning Worship	Lessingham VH
<i>2nd Sunday</i> <i>before Lent</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Bacton with Walcott
	11.00	Morning Worship	Sea Palling
	11.00	Morning Worship	Hickling

Funerals

23rd December - Paul Jones - Walcott - Burial of ashes

10th January - Donald Marsh - Sea Palling

Mobile Library Dates for February

Hempstead/Eccles/Lessingham/Sea Palling/Waxham: Weds 5th

Hickling: Tuesday 18th

Happisburgh/Walcott/Bacton/Ridlington/Witton: Tues 11th

Broadland Community First Responders News

Happy New Year from Broadland Community First Responders – what a year we had in 2024 and the figures are now in. We cover mainly the area bordered by Eccles, Stalham, North Walsham and around to Trimmingham and in that area we were called by the Ambulance service to over 300 calls which are calls requiring a blue light ambulance. Sometimes we would be on scene for 2 -3 minutes before the crew arrived and others 2 – 3 hours depending on the pressure. We start 2025 with 4 new volunteers joining the team so we can offer even more hours of availability. Last year we were available for over 7000 hours between us.

We have to fund raise for some of our kit and one of the big events is our annual plant sale on Saturday May 10th at Walcott Village Hall. We will be very grateful for any plant donations and anything that we can sell on our “middle aisle” tables so if you are having a spring clean before May 10th and have anything you are willing to donate please contact George on george@vistatraining.co.uk and he can arrange collection.

WITTON St. Margaret's

It has been pleasing to note a steady stream of visitors to St Margaret's over the Christmas holiday period.

The Plough Sunday service saw 17 brave the very icy conditions underfoot and fortunately there were no broken bones! Thank you to Graham K for bringing the Norfolk Gallus plough for the service which was manufactured in Randells foundry in North Walsham in the very early 20th century. Thanks to Coryn for the putting the service together and to Paul for playing and increasing the volume of the organ! We hope all who came to the lunch after the service enjoyed the warmth and company. Our thanks to all who made this a success.

At the time of writing snowdrops and daffodils are emerging despite the frosty weather so let's hope for a warmer February.

The next service at St. Margaret's is scheduled for Sunday 9th February at 11.30am.

All welcome, and Best wishes for 2025.

Charles and Gillian Owles 01692 650223

The Coastal Walking group

Our next walk will meet at Honing Church car park on the 4th February at the usual time of 9-30 am. Everyone is welcome including dogs on leads. For more information I can be contacted on 01692 651609. *Ray Allcoat*

HAPPISBURGH ORGAN FESTIVAL 2025

A reminder of the recital dates for your new diary. NB All recitals start at 7PM this year!

3rd MAY, David Dunnett, (Organist, Norwich Cathedral); 7th JUNE, Matthew Bond, (Organist, North Walsham Parish Church); 5th JULY, Timothy Patient, (Director of Music, Eye Parish Church, Suffolk); 2nd AUGUST, David Berwick, (Associate Organist, Happisburgh Parish Church & St. Helens, Norwich). David Dunnett is leaving the cathedral this summer so this may be his fourth and final appearance at our festival. After twenty-seven years of exceptional service at the cathedral he will be greatly missed. Do join us on 3rd May to wish him all the best for the future. This year Matthew makes his second visit to us and Tim, who has played at every festival thus far will be making his sixth appearance. The Organ Committee warmly renews its thanks to you for your great support last year, and would love to see you again in 2025. Visit www.organrecitals.uk for more information. *David Berwick*

Coastal Group Prayer Chain

If you would like to be prayed for or know of someone who would like to be prayed for (with their permission) please contact John Prince: 01692 581841.

To sign up for a weekly email with reminders of upcoming services and events in the Coastal Group churches, please contact me on the email address below. Thanks, Emma

DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWS SHEET:

Please send your contributions for the March news sheet to Emma at eclawrence@btinternet.com no later than February 13th. Thank you.

HAPPISBURGH

COFFEE MORNING in Happisburgh Church Rooms. Thursday 13th February at 11am-12.30. Proceeds to Happisburgh RNLI and Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat.

Happisburgh Community Hub at the Wenn Evans Centre

Every Wednesday from 11.30am till 1.30pm. Homemade light lunches, cakes, teas and coffees (donations towards providing this always appreciated). Community library open. Occasional guest Speakers. Everyone welcome. If you, or someone you know, needs help with transport please call Malcolm on 07831 204346 and he will sort it!

Happisburgh Knitters and Stitches

Our next meetings are on 10th and 24th February in the Pavilion (next to the Wenn Evans Centre) between 2 and 4 pm. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet do come along to one of our meetings.

Wenn Evans Centre, Happisburgh, What's On When

(Please be aware there is a charge for the various clubs)

Mondays: Seated Zumba with Nicola 2pm till 3pm
Pilates with Sonya 4.30pm till 5.20pm

Tuesday: Short Mat Bowls 10am till 12pm
Table Tennis 2pm till 4pm

Wednesday: Happisburgh Community Hub 11.30am-1.30pm
Fitness Yoga with Sonya 4.30pm till 5.30pm
Judo with Paul 6pm-9pm

Friday: Short Mat Bowls 2pm till 4pm

For details of how to book, email Wennevans@gmail.com

Quiz Night at The Wenn Evans Centre, 2nd Saturday of the month. 6.45 for 7pm start. Max 6 per table, £4 each, bring own nibbles/drinks. Call/WhatsApp 07904 379391 to book.

Prize Bingo at The Wenn Evans Centre, last Friday of the month. Eyes down 7.30pm, lots of prizes. All welcome.

Join us for an evening of entertainment from The Pot of Gold Shanty Crew - Saturday 31st May 7.30pm

A fabulous night of sea shanties and songs of the sea performed live in our very own Wenn Evans Centre! Tickets only £12 each, and there are a limited amount available, so they must be booked in advance at www.ticketsource.co.uk/wenn-evans-centre Bring your own refreshments.

Scarecrow Festival & Open Front Gardens

Sunday 3rd August 11am till 4pm. Would you like to be involved, make your own Scarecrow or open your garden to the public? Email wennevans@gmail.com to find out more.

Happisburgh Acorns

We are a parent-led stay & play group for under 5s. Come along every Thursday morning during term time from 9am-11am. £1 per session. Refreshments for the grown ups and a snack for your little ones. Find us at Happisburgh Primary School - we would love to see you!

SEA PALLING WITH WAXHAM

Sea Palling Community Hub is open every Saturday 10-12 with good coffee/tea/chocolate + bacon butties in the Nissen Hut. Preloved clothes, books and bric a brac. All welcome.

SEA PALLING & WAXHAM VILLAGE HALL

PRIZE BINGO - on Friday 7th February. Eyes Down at 7.30pm. Cash accumulator restarts this month at £25. Raffle. Refreshments available.

COME ON IN - Please join us on Wednesday 26th February for a cuppa, chat and perhaps make new friends with a game of cards or dominoes. Everyone welcome, a warm welcome awaits and all free.

THE SEA PALLING TABLE TENNIS CLUB meets on Wednesdays from 2pm - 4pm. All equipment provided. £2 per person. Everyone welcome.

ZUMBA CLASS - On Wednesdays 7pm - 8pm. For more information please call Tina on 07341360389 or find her on Facebook at "Zumba with Tina".

THE SEA PALLING CARPET BOWLS CLUB meets on Thursdays from 2pm - 4pm. Beginners welcome. For more information, please call John on 01692 598478 or Steve on 01692 598052.

YOGA - on Thursday mornings. See www.yogabreeze.co.uk for full details, or contact Clare 07557 353723

We are currently working on our programme for this coming year. Any ideas or suggestions for events would be most welcome. Please contact us via the village hall e-mail - seapallingvillagehall@gmail.com

SEA PALLING INDEPENDENT LIFEBOAT

The winter months are generally quieter at the lifeboat station which allows us to carry out our annual maintenance checks. The crew continue to train both at sea and in the classroom, including brushing up on their chartwork and navigational skills.

Being an independent lifeboat station means we have to raise our own funds so that we may continue our mission of saving lives at sea. Our amazing fundraising team are the linchpin of the station and without them we really couldn't operate, but we could do with some more help. Be that selling our merchandise on the beach stall or at local events, or helping to organise other events to raise money. Our beach stall predominately runs Sunday mornings May to September when the weather is a bit warmer, but we'd love to get the stall out more often in the summer months. If you would like to help or for further information, please contact rita@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk

We are planning our events for 2025 so keep an eye on our social media pages and future editions of this newsletter for further details. We will look forward to seeing you on the beach very soon.

HAPPISBURGH PARISH COUNCIL - DATES FOR MEETINGS 2025 (At 7.30pm in the Wenn Evans Centre unless otherwise stated)

Happisburgh Parish Council meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of 'normal' months! There is no meeting in August.

13 January; 10 February; 10 March; 14 April; **12 May** (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and Pavilion and Playing Field Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting); 9 June; 14 July; no meeting August; 8 September; 13 October; 10 November 8 December

Members of the public are welcome to attend to ask or raise any matters of concern with the Councillors.

WALCOTT

Childrens' Society Boxes: This year brought in a total of £180.40. As the result of the sad death of Tot Larter, the Walcott organiser, Walcott will now join with the Happisburgh Group.

Lepra: Cookies for Cures! There will be a coffee morning - fund raiser for this deserving charity in Walcott Village Hall on Friday 21st February 10.30-12. Coffee - delicious cakes - raffle.

A chance to chat as you make a donation. £25 cures one person - so we have a target!

World Day of Prayer: Friday March 7th at 2pm in Walcott Village Hall. This will be an informal and interesting service put together by the Christian women of the Cook Islands.

Do come and join us - or take part if you wish. *Eiler 651393.*

WALCOTT VILLAGE HALL

The booking clerk is Mr John Paul who can be contacted on 07791804872 or 'e' mail - bookwosvh@gmail.com. All bookings will be confirmed by John with the individual concerned - please don't use the calendar in the village hall until confirmed. There are spaces available during the week at £8 per hour all inclusive. Visit our Facebook calendar on the Walcott on Sea Facebook page or contact John, the booking clerk above.

Weekly groups:

Mondays 6.00pm Yoga with Virginia
Tuesdays 10.30am Ballet Bums with Carol 07748 825748
7.15pm Zumba Gold with Loraine 07748 985940
Thursdays 10.00am Seated Zumba with Nicola 07901 982414
1-3pm Spiritual Development Pauline 07435798959
Saturdays 11.15am Zumba Gold with Loraine 07748 985940

Yoga – new for 2025 Yoga with Virginia Wood – experienced yoga teacher on Mondays at 6pm price £6 – any level welcome – bring a mat if you have one – some spare ones are available. Come and try it if you have never done it before.

Walcott Warblers – the village hall would like to thank the Walcott Warblers for their wonderful donation of £750 for hall funds from the Christmas show. If you wonder what you missed come and see the Walcott Warblers country show on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th April – join us for some foot stompin' fun. Doors open at 7pm bring your own drinks, snacks etc; tea and coffee will be available during the interval. Tickets will be available from early March at £7.50 from Sheila on 07826033801 or pick up from Paul (Pru's hair salon) in Bacton. See yr' all there!

Advance notice - Broadland First Responder annual plant sale is Saturday 10th May – please see separate article.

Wild Touch – There is a white wheelie bin at the entrance on the Bacton end of Mill Common Road for any donations. Dry biscuits and cans of cat food appreciated for their winter hungry rescued birds and animals.

Book swap cupboard – The cupboard is to the right of the hall entrance and can be accessed at any time. Please only leave books if they can be placed in the cupboard due to the inclement weather.

Unwanted jewellery - We are still collecting any unwanted jewellery whether damaged or not in the red bucket in the hall for Alzheimer's UK.

Used postage stamps – we are now again collecting used postage stamps in aid of the RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People). The collection point is in the hall and the book swap.

RIDLINGTON St. Peter's

The Darkling Thrush

I leant upon a coppice gate

When Frost was spectre-grey,

And Winter's dregs made desolate

The weakening eye of day.

The tangled bine-stems scored the sky

Like strings of broken lyres,

And all mankind that haunted nigh

Had sought their household fires Thomas Hardy

We enjoyed a well attended Nativity Service on Christmas Eve, thank you Coryn, it was so good to see our young people from the village with their parents. Thank you also Richard for the amazing mulled wine, very welcome on a cold evening. On 5 January we celebrated Epiphany Sunday with Holy Communion. Our next service will be on Sunday, February 2nd at 3 o'clock as usual. Refreshments in church afterwards. All welcome. *Barbara Penn 07564536262*

LESSINGHAM AND HEMPSTEAD WITH ECCLES

Saturday March 1st at Lessingham Village Hall 10.30am-3pm. Exhibition commemorating the end of World War 2 in 1945. Photographs, maps and information. Light refreshments including soup and roll. Cakes etc. All welcome.

Thank you to everyone who is involved with the distribution of this magazine. We try to deliver to all houses in the parish. There are always copies in both Hempstead and Lessingham Churches. If you know of someone who does not receive one but would like to please phone Margaret 581858 or email margaret@bobhenderson.plus.com giving details. *Margaret Henderson 581858.*

HICKLING

The Greyhound Bible Discussion Group will meet at the Greyhound Inn, Hickling NR12 0YA, at 3pm on Tuesdays, on the 4th and 18th February. We welcome visitors and those who might join us. We are still making our way through The Psalms, and will begin a new topic yet to be confirmed.

The Julian Meeting for Silent Prayer will meet at St Mary's Church, Hickling NR12 0BQ, at 10.30am on Tuesday 11th February. Everyone is very welcome to join us for a cuppa and tranquil silent Christian prayer.

On Tuesday 25th February we shall once again do our outdoor Prayer Walk around the NWT Hickling Reserve starting at 10.30am. Please bring your proof of Hickling address or NWT membership and meet in the Visitors' Centre. Should the weather be unfavourable, we shall meet at the Visitors' Centre, and together go elsewhere sheltered. Should anyone wish to find out more, do contact me. *Zephney Kennedy 01692 598179*

LESSINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Coffee mornings 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 10.30 - 12 noon.

Monthly hot lunches on the third Thursday each month, cost £7.00. Booking for this is essential with Lay Pastor Ros Peedle 07976 720440/email ros.peedle@live.co.uk at least by the Monday of that week.

Sunday Worship at 11.00am every Sunday. Everyone is welcome to any or all of these events.