

The Sexton's Wheel

Issue 233

The magazine for Long Stratton & Wacton



June 2023

Long Stratton Village Hall - Booking Information



The hall can be booked as follows:

Via our facebook page, search Long Stratton Village Hall

Via our website www.longstrattonvillagehall.org.uk

Email us at longstrattonvillagehall@outlook.com

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Email: bookings@wactonvillagehall.co.uk, or Tel: **Angie Baldwin 01508 536639**

Licenced bar available through Wacton Social Club. Contact taylor169@btinternet.com

Church Contacts

St Mary's Steve Dugdale - (01508) 530717

St Michael's Rosemary Bennett - (01508) 530296

All Saints' Angie Baldwin (01508) 536639

Congregational Church June Braddock (01508) 470701

Church Parish Office

Due to a change in circumstances the Parish Office will no longer open.

If you know of anyone who is unwell or would benefit from a visit from a member of our ministry team, please contact the team vicar: Revd. John Madinda on 01953 789240.

Long Stratton Town Council, The Pavilion, Manor Road, Long Stratton

Usual office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday between 10am and 2pm and by appointment on Wednesday.

Tel: Clerk Becky Buck 01508 530524 E-mail: clerk@longstrattoncouncil.info

For general enquiries Email: office@longstrattontowncouncil.info

The Editors reserve the right to edit or decline any material submitted for publication. While every effort is made to ensure that the contents of the magazine are accurate, no responsibility can be taken for errors and omissions. The material printed does not necessarily represent the views of the magazine committee and no recommendation of products or services is implied. While the committee take reasonable care when accepting advertisements for publication, it cannot accept responsibility for any unsatisfactory transactions. Errors and omissions excepted.



Lets hope June brings lots of lovely sunshine for the begining of summer.

The Sexton's Wheel Team

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ST MARY'S CHURCH AND ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH IN LONG STRATTON

St Mary's Church and St Michael's Church have been a centre for many activities as is the case with many churches around the country.

We have just come out of our Annual General Meetings as we begin our new church year. Apart from the regular services every Sunday at St Mary's and every other Sunday at St Michael's we have the special services for baptisms, wedding and funerals. We continue to realise that the church is not just a building but it is about the people and without the people the church finds no place and purpose. That is the reason we try to have other mid week activities and if you are at all interested to find out please contact the Churchwarden or the Vicar on addresses provided in this publication.

However our wonderful historic churches have been going through challenging times one of them being COVID which meant that we had to close and even following the re-opening our numbers have continued to struggle. With this came the departure of our Rector Rev Heather Wilcox who [together with Revd John Madinda looked after a group of 8 churches], moved to Essex. We were therefore left with one part time vicar Revd John Madinda. Since then we have been going through a series of consultations within the benefice, the deanery and the diocese on how to pave our way forward. With the fall in the number of clergy in the country and as we later discovered, other churches are going through the same experience, it has taken time to move forward.

With the help from all levels, we have come to a point that it has been decided for the two churches in Long Stratton, to team up with the church in Tharston and together recruit a vicar to replace Revd Heather Wilcox.

We are therefore looking forward to the new development. Our church is still looking for anyone who feels called and is willing to help us and volunteer in any way, and please join us in our regular Sunday worship.



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2nd Long Stratton Brownies



One evening the Brownies celebrated the King's Coronation by dressing one of each of their group up as a king using newspapers. The Brownies also decorated a crown onto a biscuit to take home and we played some 'royal' games to finish the night.

All the Brownies received a special pencil and the official Girlguiding Coronation badge to mark the coronation of King Charles 111.



This month we say a big WELL DONE to Evie and Sofia on gaining their Gold Awards. This is the highest award that they can get in Brownies having completed the six Theme Awards: Know Myself, Be Well, Express Myself, Have Adventures, Take Action and Skills for the Future.

As part of these they gained the following interest badges:

Evie: Local history, collecting, mindfulness, grown your own, baking, painting, zero waste, jobs and archaeology

Sofia: My rights, mindfulness, baking, aviation, charities and jobs

One evening they taught the rest of the Brownie pack how to make an origami blossom flower and a bookmark and they both renewed their Brownie Promise to complete the Gold Award.



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Introducing BikeActive, Norfolk

We are a recently founded adult disability cycling group. Most of our volunteers are from the Long Stratton area , although we cycle out from Earsham village hall close to Bungay, every other Monday morning

We use adaptive bicycles to ride as a group 3.5 miles along the quiet route of National Cycle Route 30 that is bypassed by the A143 and runs along the scenic River Waveney past the otter trust. Our volunteers are trained in the use of the adapted cycles we use and our route is fully risk assessed by suitably qualified persons, and we are fully insured so as we can deliver a safe fun ride

Our group is in the process of becoming a registered charitable organisation, and our volunteers are all subject to DBS checking. You can read about the group on our website BikeActiveNorfolk.org and see what we do

If you are an adult with any type of disability, you need not reveal this to us, and would like to come out cycling with us take a look. If you have any questions please contact me through the details on the website or by phone

If you are the parent or carer of any adult with a disability and you think they may enjoy a cycle ride with our group, please take a look.

We are confident we can take most people out to enjoy a cycling experience on our many adapted cycles. Volunteers and clients often make a beeline for Grumpy's Cafe after working up a thirst on the ride as it is very close by

We are always looking for volunteers who can help deliver the cycling experience to our clients. If interested please contact me

Happy cycling

Jez Briggs 07716103072

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For a copy of the 2023 outings leaflet and for any other information regarding the services we provide please call the office: **01379 854800**, email: **adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com** or visit our website: **borderhoppa.org**





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St Mary's Church

The notice below was placed in the Church, Church noticboard and the Long Stratton Town Council noticboards on the day indicated. With the exception of the interment of ashes, the churchyard is full, the conclusion was reached after an extensive investigation including ground penetrating Radar.

Closure of St Marys Church Churchyard, Long Stratton, Norfolk

Notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the Secretary of State for Justice, acting on an application by the incumbent and churchwardens, to apply to the Privy Council for an Order requiring the discontinuance of burials in the above churchyard.

Provision would be made for the following exceptions: -

- a. in any vault or walled grave in the churchyard, burial may be allowed but every coffin in such vault or grave must be separately enclosed by stonework or brick work properly cemented;
- b. in any existing earthen grave in the churchyard, the burial may be allowed of the body of any member of the family of the person or persons previously buried in that grave, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave; and
- c. in any grave space in which no interment has previously taken place, the burial may be allowed of any person for whom, or any member of the family for which that grave space has been reserved and appropriated, with the exclusive right of burial there, but no part of the coffin containing the body shall be less than one metre below the level of the surface of the ground adjoining the grave.

Any representations about the proposed closure should be sent to the Coroners and Burials Team, Ministry of Justice, 102 Petty France, London SW1H 9AJ or by email to coroners@justice.gov.uk (quoting reference CC/APR23/010) within 21 days of this publication.

Date Notice Posted: 16th May 2023

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Janette and the Howards team are already helping lots of local clients achieve their moving dreams so far this year. They would love the chance to help you make this Summer your time for a home move. Whether up sizing, down sizing or just property market curious Janette has the inside track on what is happening and would love to talk to YOU!

The local market has continued to be boyant as the year has continued and we have already made some fantastic deals for our clients. These sales have also covered a wide range of price points which gives us confidence that our local market is continuing to thrive. None of this would be possible without a steady hand on how to market your home which is where our local expertise and approach is key.

After nearly 30 years' serving the good people of Long Stratton and the beautiful villages of our area, we have successfully sold through all market conditions and understand fully what is needed to "sell well" in a more challenging market.

So now is the perfect time to see just what your home is worth and let me help make your moving dream come true.

Best wishes

Janette Churchill

Partner & Long Stratton Property Expert

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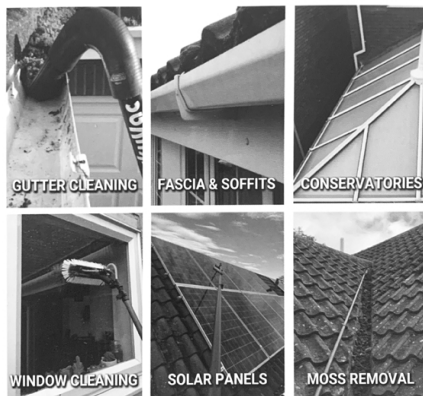
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LONG STRATTON & DISTRICT WI

There can't be many people who have not heard of, or shopped in, Jarrolds of Norwich. So it was with great pleasure that we welcomed Pete Goddrum to our April meeting. He had, over many years, researched the family company's history and, with their approval, had written a definitive history of the business.

We have an interesting programme of speakers organised right through until our year ends next March as well as visits, lunches, parties and extra events. One such "extra" in April was our walk in aid of Associated Countrywomen of the World, which we opened to guests, friends and husbands. The charity promotes work for women in third world

countries so they can support their families. Walkers gave a small donation and our cheque will be handed in to the local representative at the Federation's annual meeting in May, together with "pennies for friendship" donated voluntarily at our monthly meetings.

The three mile walk was to New Buckenham Castle ruins and was led by experienced walker and W.I. member, Bonnie.



.It was a fine day and an interesting experience, identifying wild flowers and stopping at a wayside stall selling jam and homemade produce.(See picture below)

The Coronation of King Charles III was the big event for early May and one of our members, Rosemary, was one of the group of bellringers who "rang for the King." (See photo right) Did you hear the joyful sound of the bells of St. Mary's church, Long Stratton?



Plans had long been in the pipeline to provide afternoon tea in the Pavilion at the town council's Coronation Fun Day on the Bank Holiday Monday. The day dawned with bright sunshine and we all hoped that would continue as previous reports had been of rain. After a slow start we soon found ourselves very busy serving drinks and homemade cakes to some of the many visitors to the event organised by the town council. Everyone agreed it was a huge success and a very enjoyable afternoon. (see pictures above)

A big thankyou to all our members who participated, the town councillors who set up the tables, Sally who volunteered to do the washing up and the bank holiday makers who came and enjoyed afternoon tea.



Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st June at 7.30.pm in Long Stratton Village Hall when an expert will be telling us about the work of medical detection dogs. Visitors are welcome for a small charge which includes refreshments.

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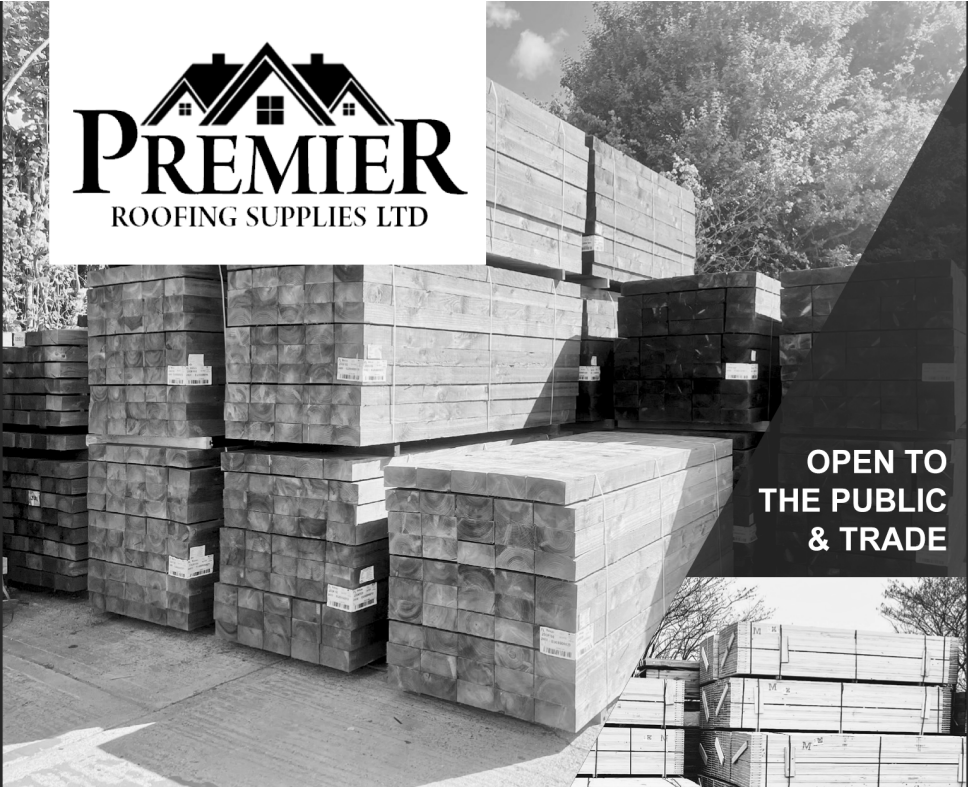
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M	T	W	T
			1 Pilates - Wacton see p14
5 Local Walk - <i>see page 36</i> Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p14	6 Coffee Morning Wacton Village Hall 10.30am Let's Chat St Mary's Church 1000-1200	7	8 Pilates - Wacton see p14 Tharston & Wacton V 7:30
12 Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p14 Long Stratton Town Council Meeting Pavillion Community Room 1930	13 Let's Chat St Mary's Church 1000-1200	14 A Cup of Hope Pop up Cafe 8:50am-11:30am Pavillion Manor Rd Playing Fields see p34	15 Pilates - Wacton see p14
19 Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p14	20 Coffee Morning Wacton Village Hall 10.30am Let's Chat St Mary's Church 1000-1200	21 Long Stratton & District W.I. L.S. Village Hall 1930.	22 Pilates - Wacton see p14
26 Pilates - Hempnall Village Hall see p14	27 Let's Chat St Mary's Church 1000-1200	28	29 Pilates - Wacton see p14

T	F	S	S
on Village Hall p14	2 Wacton Social Club open 7.00pm - 11.00pm with Bingo	3	4 A Taste of Hope 3:30pm Wacton Village Hall see p35
n Village Hall p14 District W.I. Village Hall 0pm	9	10 Wacton Church Coffee Morning 1030am. see p27	11
on Village Hall p14	16 Wacton Social Club open 7.00pm - 11.00pm pool,darts etc	17 Cake Stall 10:00am One Stop Shop	18 Community Family Breakfast 9:45am at Long Stratton Congregational Church Hall
on Village Hall p14	23	24 Messy Church St Mary's Church 9am	25
on Village Hall p14	30		

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Cervical screening awareness week 19th – 24th June 2023

In a previous issue, I spoke about the importance of cervical screening in women. In June, a week is specially dedicated to cervical screening awareness, and I felt I had to add something on this topic again. In January this year, NHS England published a news article on their website on this topic and the introductory paragraph was quite scary! It read “The NHS has issued a call for anyone eligible for cervical screening to come forward for a potentially life-saving appointment, with nearly a third, around 4.6 million, not taking up their latest test. The plea from senior NHS medics comes on the back of the health service sending a record number of invites for cervical screening in the last year, as part of its ambition to eradicate the cancer through a combination of vaccination and early identification.’

Once again, a reminder about cervical screening. Cervical screening is offered to all women and people with a cervix between the ages of 25 and 64. A letter is sent from NHS England inviting you to make an appointment. If patients do not attend their screening their GP surgery is informed, as a safety net, we take over their care and send a further invitation.

Based on our current searches these are the numbers of our patients that are currently overdue their cervical screening:

- Patients aged 25 to 34 = 135
- Patients aged 35 to 49 = 223
- Patients aged 50 to 65 = 291
- 354 of patients are currently HPV positive and have not responded to follow up requests

I encourage you to take up this screening if you are eligible, raise awareness in your family and friends circle and help in the eradication of this cancer.

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Come and join us for....

The next Messy Church is on **Saturday 24th June 9 - 10.45am at St Mary's Church**. Starting with Breakfast at 9am, followed by a story, crafts, and activities for everyone, and finishing with a short time of worship.

For more information contact Megan on **07956 715383**.

Just come along and join the fun!

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



LET'S CHAT

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The Rectors of the United Benefice of Wacton part 4

Rev Richard Lacey Webb

As far as I can find Richard Lacey Webb was born in 1909 in Bristol and he was the third son of John Davies Webb a bankers clerk. He was still in Bristol at the time of the 1921 Census.

After that he appears to have been the chaplain at Watts Navy school Elmham in north Norfolk until 1936 when he was installed at Wacton. In 1937 the young rector, along with several other local dignitaries, was the victim of a fraud by some one claiming to be collecting for a charity.

Between 1938 and 1939 Richard's parents John Davies and Ada Emily lived with him at Wacton Rectory.

In 1939 he married Frances Mary Snelling, a local farmer's eldest daughter, and they had a son, Richard O J, in 1940.

In 1941 Richard resigned his position and he moved to become rector at Castle Acre and where two further children were born. By 1949 he was on the move again this time to the position of Rector of Garboldisham. He was still at there in 1960 when he witnessed the signature of his father-in-law on the sale of the Wilderness at Wacton.

Frances died in 1999 and her monument, next to the Snelling family graves, is described in the 2004 edition of the Monuments in All Saints Churchyard. After that I can find little about Richard other than an electoral register entry for 2002 at Norwich.

After Richard's death in 2004 a new monument for both Richard and Frances was erected. Interestingly neither are mentioned in the Plan of and Register of Graves updated to 2014.

Rev Basil Stephen Maine

Basil Stephen Maine was born in 1894, the son of a tailor, at Norwich. He went to City of Norwich school and in 1911 was an clerk in an insurance firm. He would have been of suitable age to serve in the first world war but no records appear to exist.

By 1921 he was in Cambridge and after leaving he became a music critic for several newspapers and later a broadcaster. It appears he visited America in the late 1930's and in 1939 was ordained taking his first post at Playford in Suffolk in August 1940.

He stayed there barely a year, moving to Wacton in October 1941 and although he stayed here longer, by 1943 he was soon off to Cheddington Buckinghamshire.

By 1952 he was at Thelnetham in Suffolk then moved to Wareham St Mary in north Norfolk during 1956. He was still involved in music, winning a hymn writing competition in 1970 at Cromer. He died in October 1972 while living in north Norfolk.

researched and written by Robert Maidstone
robertwmaidstone@gmail.com

LIONS ON THE PROWL

What a busy and exciting few weeks we have had! You may have noticed la arge number of Lions roaming about in the Long Stratton area recently as this year's Lions District Convention was held at Dunston Hall. Our District is composed of Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, and Nottinghamshire, so with visitors from America, Canada, Germany and France, we were a very mixed bunch, and it was a most enjoyable occasion. A Banquet and Ball on the Saturday rounded off the Business sessions of all the interesting people who had spoken and entertained us during the day, including young award winners who do incredible things in their communities. I have been attending Conventions all over the country over a great number of years also International Conventions in America but never dreamed one would be on our own little patch. Having been a great success, it is returning to Dunston Hall in March next year. Long Stratton members will again be in attendance.

This was followed by the South Norfolk Big Litter Pick. Last year I was pleased that we were well down in the number of bags but this year sadly we collected 14 bags which I think is our greatest number ever, although this does include two bags from Great Moulton and three from Tharston. Again, much of it comes from discarded food containers, cans and bottles on the edges of the town, obviously thrown from cars. However, the car parks were again full of rubbish, and one of collectors complained about the number of cigarettes ends, suggesting they empty their ash trays there. We now have our own pickers and bags so can continue the good work on any occasion.



The climax and highlight of the month was the Race Night held at The Queen's Head, organised and run on our behalf by Brian and Emma. It was a rip-roaring occasion with a terrific atmosphere as punters shouted for their horse or laughed at the often amusing commentary and we all had great fun. The event raised nearly £500 and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Brian and Emma and also to their generous customers and local traders who kindly sponsored a race or gave a prize. Thanks, too, to those who came along to support the Lions on the night and spent their money so freely, to reach this terrific total. We shall soon be taking the residents of Harker House on a day trip out so this will go a long way towards it.

Roy Woodhouse
Secretary



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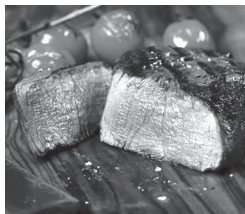
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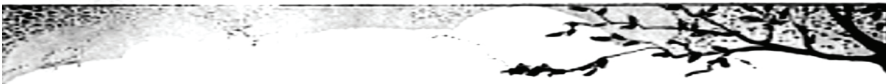
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June

**"Far up in the deep blue sky,
Great white clouds are floating by;
All the world is dressed in green;
Many happy birds are seen,
Roses bright and sunshine clear
Show that lovely June is here."**

F. G. SANDERS



Long Stratton Town Council

Pavillion, Manor Road Playing Fields, Manor Rod

Long Stratton, NR15 2XR

Clerk: Mrs B Buck

Tel: 01508 530524 office@longstrattoncouncil.info

website: www.longstrattoncouncil.info

Kings Coronation Celebrations

We are so grateful to all that came, those that had stalls, those that entertained, those that gave up their time to help set up, set down and man stalls. It is organized by office staff and volunteers and we could not do it without assistance and we are truly thankful. Thank you to all!

New playground equipment

The play area has been refurbished and there is lots of new equipment for fun to be had by all. We would welcome any feedback. Thank you for your patience during the installation. Hope you all enjoy it!

Upcoming Full Council meeting dates

The Full Council meetings are held in the Pavilion community room. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings but whilst members of the public cannot participate, a short period of time is given for members of the public to air their views on matters directly related to the Town Council.

The next two meeting dates are: 12th June 2023 & 10th July 2023

Becky Buck, Town Clerk



A Cup of Hope

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The Pavilion, Manor Road Playing Fields

Wednesday 8.50 - 11.30 a.m.

June 14th

Free drinks & cakes

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HARLESTON & DISTRICT U3A

Harleston & District u3a invites you to join us for our monthly talk, on Wednesday 21 June, at 2.00 pm in St John's Church, Harleston IP20 9AZ. Our speaker is Peter Metcalf, well known to Harleston u3a members. Peter will be telling the story of Tommies in America – Understated, Underpaid and Over There, the account of the tour of the USA and Mexico in 1943 by the British 1st Composite Anti-Aircraft Demonstration Battery RA, illustrated with photos from the period.

Further information about this and all Harleston & District u3a's activities is on our website [**www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston**](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston) or by contacting **Kim Poulton on 01986 788149**. And you might also like to take a look at Harleston Choral Society's website [**www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk**](http://www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk) to find out more about another thriving local organisation, and its forthcoming Summer Concert on Saturday 1 July, 7.30 pm in St John's Church.

HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY

Harleston Choral Society – your friendly non-auditioning community choir is now very busy rehearsing for our Summer Concert on Saturday 1 July, at 7.30 pm in St John's Church, Harleston, when we'll be singing Haydn's Stabat Mater and Mozart arias and opera choruses, plus Zadok the Priest, in the spirit of the Coronation on 6 May. Tickets (£15, to include a glass of wine or a soft drink; accompanied children go free) will be available on the door on the night, from choir members and from Harleston Information Plus. Our Autumn Term begins on Monday 4 September, 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start, and we'd love you to join us, in the London Road Church, Harleston IP20 9BH, under the direction of our Music Director Justin Bindley. Further information about this and all our activities is on our website: [**www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk**](http://www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk) or from our Chair **Stella Brownsea at heidihouse@btinternet.com**

You might also like to take a look at Harleston & District u3a's website [**www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston**](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/harleston) for information about another thriving local organisation, and their next talk on 21 June, Tommies in America.

**A TASTE OF HOPE
June 4th @ 3:30pm
A service for all ages**

Separate children's activities for school years 1-6

Wacton Village Hall

[www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk**](http://www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk)**

WOODS AND WRENS

Eight of us gathered at the entrance to Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Ashwellthorpe Wood on May Day itself. Although some of us had done part of this walk before, we were all anxious to once again see the wonderful display of bluebells, wood anemones and ransoms (wild garlic). We also found a few early purple orchids. We did notice that there seemed to be a lot more ransoms among the bluebells this year; having read that ransoms can out-compete bluebells for space, this was rather worrying. Emerging from



the gently dappled woods into bright sunlight, we passed three ponds prettily covered with the little white flowers of water crowfoot. We crossed a bridge and continued in the same direction on the far side of the hedge along a field edge and then two huge fields. A third field had a wheat crop sprinkled with "volunteer" broad beans. Volunteers are what farmers call plants from crops of previous years that have self-seeded into a quite different crop and of course you can have volunteers in your

garden, maybe from seeds dropped by birds or blown on the wind. I've got violets and pansies in my lawn. We then crossed a plank bridge and turned right into a gravelled lane lined with trees. Reaching the end of the lane we chose a change of route and turned left, away from Wreningham, then right into Long Wood. Ahead of us was a steep flight of steps we intrepidly descended to cross a disused railway line then up the other side to ramble along a woodland ride full of birdsong. We eventually reached Wreningham, a village full of charm and delightful surprises like its library telephone box with a wren mosaic floor and the village sign with its wren legends carved into it. At the end of the village a footpath through Poplar Farm took us between many horse enclosures; some wandered over to have a look at us but most of them were just happy grazing in the sunshine. A few swallows flew overhead, harbingers of the summer to come.



We were now coming back towards Ashwellthorpe and the countryside seemed to spread out before us with a wonderful feeling of peace and space. Reaching the back of the church we elected not to visit this time but carry on along the footpath towards the wood, enjoying a profusion of cowslips, before joining the road back to the car park. Eight is a good number for a walk, allowing for lots of mixing and matching for interesting conversations with all sorts of people you never usually meet.

Many thanks to Liz for arranging this lovely walk.

Bonnie

LONG STRATTON LIBRARY

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Bounce & Rhyme – Tuesdays, 2pm

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Sunday: 10am-4pm

Ryan Watts, Library Manager - Diss, Harleston & Long Stratton Libraries
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CHURCH SERVICES - June

4th June - 11:00am - All Age Worship - St Mary's
11:00am - Morning Prayer - Wacton

11th June- 09:00am - Holy Communion - St Michael's
11:00am - Holy Communion - St Mary's

18th June - 09:30am - Holy Communion - Wacton
11:00am - Morning Worship - St Mary's

25th June - 09:00am - Holy Communion - St Michael's
11:00am - All Age Holy Communion - St Mary's

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday 4th June at 10:45am – Family Service incl. Holy Communion – Bruce Thorn

Sunday 11th June at 10:45am – Family Service – Pastor Malcolm Simpkin

Sunday 18th June at 9:45am – Community Family Breakfast
10:45am – Family Service – Pat Mottram

Sunday 25th June at 9:45am – Monthly Prayer Meeting
10:45am – Family Service – Dr Rolfe King

HOPE CHURCH

June 4th- at 3.30pm - A Service for all Ages - WACTON VILLAGE HALL
Separate activities for children school years 1-6

From the Parish Registers

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or send to the **Parish Office** 8 Flowerpot Lane, Long Stratton, Norwich NR15 2TS using the form below.

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Images: Any pictures you may have to accompany editorial would be welcome. Please send these as jpgs not embedded in a word document.

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