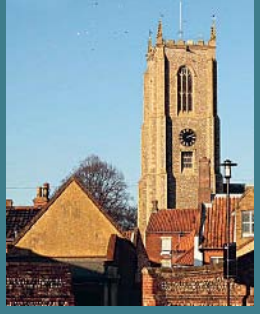
FAKENHAM PARISH CHURCH

A ROCHA SILVER AWARD WINNER 2024 ECO CHURCH



August 2026

THE BEACON

Church and Community Magazine



FAKENHAM ARTS FESTIVAL 26

SHOP FAKENHAM · INDIE RETAILERS · MARKETS · HISTORY · EVENTS · FOOD&DRINK

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* Arts Festival * Olivet Pics

* FADLOS and UKES * Old Fakenhamian

Church Contact Details

www.fakenhamparishchurch.org.uk

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Revd Tracy Jessop
The Rectory, 21 Gladstone Road
Fakenham NR21 9BZ 01328 862268
Email: rector@fakenhamparishchurch.org.uk
Or: admin@fakenhamparishchurch.org.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers:
Elaine Burbidge 01328 851848 – Fakenham

Church Wardens
Gail Allcock 07769 811554 – Fakenham
Andrew Lee 01328 878870 – Fulmodeston

Parish Safeguarding Officer:
Anne Peppitt 01328 878355 – Fakenham
Email: anne.peppitt23@gmail.com
Gill Lee 01328 878870 – Fulmodeston
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Beacon Deadline
Editorial content to Audrey Sharp by 1st of every month
Advertising artworks to Dee Jackson by 1st of every month
Bundles available for deliverers on the last Thursday of every month

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Audrey Sharp
aes22@btinternet.com

Advertising
Dee Jackson
deejackson@btinternet.com

Beacon Distribution
Alison Harding
fakenhambeacon@gmail.com

Parish Prayers

2 August Industrial estates. *All reliant on tourism.*

9 August New developments. *Work of worldwide Mothers' Union.*

16 August Church Lanes, Red Lion Court, Lichfield St, Rosemary Terrace.
Police and all involved in law enforcement.

23 August Norwich Road, Orchard Close, Langham Court, Folly Court, Peter Barrett Close.
Students receiving exam results.

30 August Mission Lane, Barbers Lane, Victoria Lane, Heath Way and Heath Lane.
People on holiday, that they may return refreshed.

From the Parish Registers

Weddings

11 July Benedict Johnson and Solveig (Kostja) Junglas

Funerals

29 June David Charles Pratt

6 July Brenda Jean Watson



Cover photo:
The Revd Tracy Jessop

Reflection



Art is often a means of expressing thoughts and understandings that lie beyond words. Through a wide range of materials and mediums, artists seek either to communicate a message or to challenge us, inviting us to see the world differently and think more deeply.

This August, the Fakenham Arts Festival offers a wonderful opportunity to explore parts of the town that it is all too easy to pass by. It also provides a welcome invitation to step away from the demands of everyday life, to reflect, engage our senses, and make space for creativity and contemplation.

Art can also hold a mirror to life. One of the paintings on display this month is Asphodel Meadow, a contemporary oil painting by the artist Jarome. The work has been generously donated to raise funds for the Fakenham Community First Responders.

The painting takes its name from an ancient Greek myth in which those who lived ordinary lives entered the afterlife and were welcomed into a luminous meadow, where they would spend eternity. When I first encountered the painting, I was struck by its sense of peace and hope. The colours evoke calm and reassurance, while the composition seems to draw the viewer through the meadow towards a light beyond.

Reflecting on the work, Jarome said: "The colours are reminiscent of the uniform of the first responders, whose very presence lends a sense of calm reassurance to those in need. In a time when the world needs heroes, Asphodel Meadow is a reminder that heroes are often found in the ordinary people around us who dedicate their time to serving others."

For a town the size of Fakenham, having its own Arts Festival is a special privilege. I hope we can all find time to discover that one picture that speaks to us personally—one that inspires, challenges, comforts, or encourages us. And, of course, great art brings joy.

The Revd Christine Wheeler





Churches around Fakenham welcome *you* in August

Parish Church **Upper Market Place, Fakenham NR21 9DY**

Sun 2	10am Holy Communion
Sun 9	8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 10am All Age Worship 6.30pm Choral Evensong
Sun 16	10am Holy Communion
Sun 23	10am Café Church Holy Communion
Sun 30	10am All Age Holy Communion
Other Services	9.30am every Thursday Holy Communion, a short, quiet service. 9.45am every Monday (except Bank Holidays) Stepping Stones for pre-school children with a grown-up. (Including free children's clothes Swap Shop)

Salvation Army **Oak Street, Fakenham.**
Every Sunday morning at 10.30 am

Methodist Church **Chapel Lane, Sculthorpe. NR21 9QB**
Morning service of worship 11am each Sunday

Fakenham Baptist Community Church
Every Sunday 10:30am Fakenham Community Centre in Oak St.

St Anthony RC Church **Wells Road, Fakenham.**
Sunday Vigil Mass every Saturday at 6.00pm
Sunday Mass at 10.45am and Tues-Fri at 10.00am

Orthodox Church of the Holy Transfiguration, Scarborough Road, Gt Walsingham
Every Sunday morning 10.00am Hours 10.30am Liturgy.
Holy Transfiguration patronal festival (transferred). Sat 8 August 6.00pm Vespers.
Sun 9 August 10.30am Liturgy, followed by picnic

Holy Trinity, Hempton
Sunday Mass at 9.30am. Wednesday Mass at 9.30am.

We continue to pray for peace for all the people of Gaza, Israel, Iran and throughout the Middle East at this time.
We continue to pray for peace for the people of Ukraine and all areas of conflict.
"God of peace and justice, we pray for the laying down of weapons in every place of war. We pray for all those who fear tomorrow, that you would hold and protect them".

Floodlighting Sponsorship - helping our light shine

8 July *Happy Birthday to Pat (Rosemary and Brian Dear)*

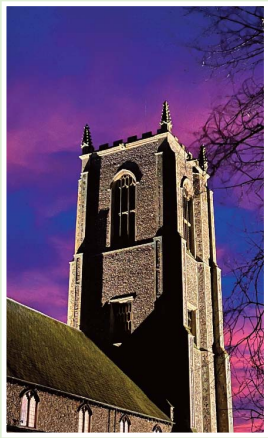
11 July *To celebrate the wedding of Kostja and Ben (Libby Moore)*

14 Aug *Happy Birthday to Ella, Harrison & Natalie (Rosemary and Brian Dear)*

23 Aug *To celebrate the diamond wedding anniversary of Eric and Christine Brickles*

You can keep our Church beautifully lit by sponsoring one of our floodlights for £15 a week, perhaps to celebrate a special occasion or to remember a loved one.

If you would like to sponsor our floodlighting, please use the form available from church or on our website or call us on 01328 862268 for more information.



Town Council News

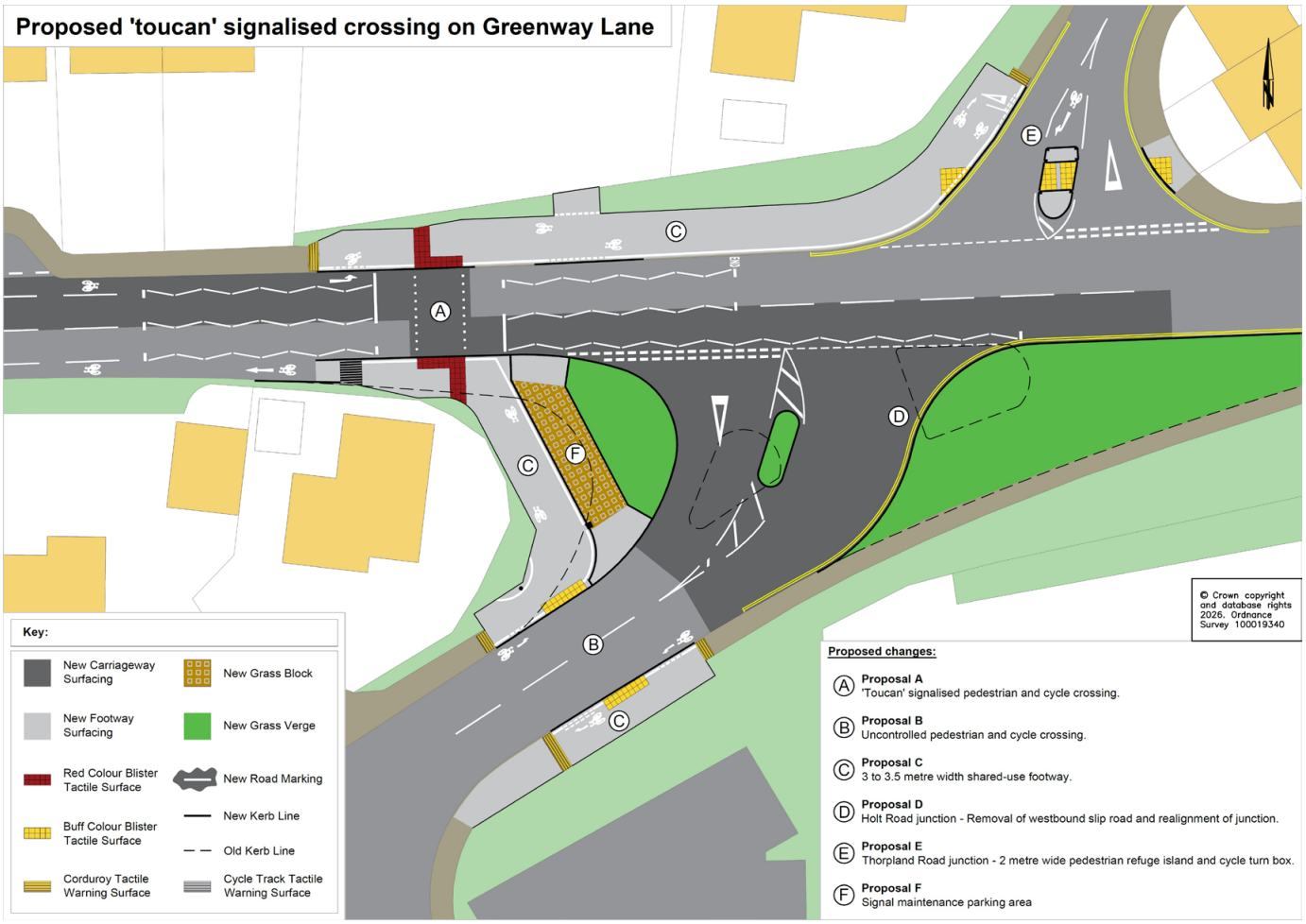
PROPOSED TOUCAN CROSSING, GREENWAY LANE, FAKENHAM

Norfolk County Council (NCC) are proposing to construct a new Toucan crossing on Greenway Lane at Fakenham near to the junction with Holt Road. Alterations are also proposed at the Holt Road and Thorpland Road junctions with Greenway Lane where shared use paths and a refuge island would be installed, narrowing the junctions. This is being proposed to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists travelling through the area and crossing the road at this location. A plan showing the proposals is available to see on the town council website: www.fakenhamtowncouncil.gov.uk or you can call to the office at the Connect Building to view a hard copy.

As part of this proposal NCC are holding an informal consultation and are currently inviting the local community to share their views. You can email your feedback to TOSchemefeedback@norfolk.gov.uk or write to the council at Highways Design Team, Floor 1, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH.

Please reference Toucan Crossing - Greenway Lane in your response. **All responses must be received by Tuesday 1 September 2026.**

Angela Glynn, Chairman, Fakenham Town Council



Let's meet… Jennie Dyke



Jennie Dyke is the on-site manager of Fayregreen, 34 retirement bungalows in Fakenham, for those aged 55 upwards. She has lived here for five years, but was born in Mansfield to a young teenager, who felt she was too young to be a mother. Jennie was subsequently adopted but sadly her new mother died when she was 2/3 years of age. Her father felt he couldn't continue looking after her, so she was adopted again and placed with a farming family, describing a 'beautiful childhood', loving the farming life. However, her new mother also suffered ill health and the farm was given up.

Thirteen years later, Jennie took the NCA certificate in agriculture at Nottingham Trent University. Prior to that, she had felt somewhat obliged to pursue music, as her parents wished to develop her existing skills in both piano and oboe. She got a scholarship to Worksop college, but her heart was never in it.

Jennie eventually decided to join the WRAC, becoming a data telegraphist. She served in West Germany, married, and had a son.

The marriage didn't work out and she left the army to work for the Ministry of Defence as a civil servant. Unfortunately, Jennie's 'third' mother died just before the birth of her grandson.

Then Jennie made a further change in becoming a secretary for the Earl of March, at the Duke of Richmond's estate at Goodwood. However, her life/work balance was difficult with her new family to look after.

Jennie moved to Lincolnshire and worked in commercial valuation, which she loved. Her father expressed a desire to share a house with Jennie and her son. She switched occupations following the 2008 financial 'crash' and became a communications officer in the Diocese.

When her father died, she and Mark, whom she married in 2004, moved to Suffolk to be closer to his parents. She got a job in Felixstowe in a scheme for later-life living, and this proved a good springboard for her current role.

What services does Fayregreen offer? I am present from 9am until 2.30 pm each weekday, and on call during those hours. I respond to urgent alarms from pullcords, pendants or wrist alarms, and smoke detectors. Outside hours are covered by a 24-hour dedicated scheme. For those that require it, I give a daily call and I walk the site regularly to keep check on the fabric of the scheme.

If you could change one thing about yourself? I could be less impatient.

Who has influenced your life? Firstly, my father, who remained alert throughout his life. The other influence was that of David Attenborough, who infectiously shared his passion for life on earth and informed the world about global warming.

What is your greatest strength? I'd say doing the right thing, morally and ethically… and weakness ? Outside work, I can be slightly inflexible, especially if I think I'm right!.

What has been your biggest challenge? Physically, I had back surgery a few years ago and had several rods and pins inserted. I am always careful about my back, Mentally, a second challenge is dealing with the loss of parents and of course the residents. I might be the last person to see them.

Have you ever been grateful for the kindness of a stranger? At the start of my post, all the residents gave me such a welcome, and I was unknown to them.

What do you like best about your work? Gaining the residents' trust and respect. And least? The amount of red tape.

What concerns you about modern life? Both the lack of consideration to older people, and the over-reliance on technology, and how it cuts out the elderly.

Do you have a pet hate? Yes, it's selfishness.

Is a religious faith part of your life? No, I am an agnostic.

What might you buy on impulse? If I had the funds, I'd buy a national hunt racehorse.

What was your biggest extravagance? A hand-made woollen rug and I love it.

What might your husband say about you? That I always do what I said I'd do.

What do you no longer worry about? The colour of my hair.

What is your earliest memory? I was four years old and the family went to see Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. I found it so very scary.

What's the one thing that you're good at? Being a listening ear.

Did you have a favourite piece of music? Freebird by Lynyrd Skynyrd.

Your favourite holiday destination? An old RAF base, converted into a small hotel in the Maldives.

Where else would you like to go to? The Falkland Islands.

And advice you'd like to pass on? Don't be lazy. You only get out of life what you put in.

Kay Hathway

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Old Fakenhamian

Covid is blamed for many things, but in my case, it introduced me to the joy of jigsaws; I say 'joy', but it is frankly close to an addiction. I have just completed one entitled A Pictorial History of England – and jolly interesting it was too. It starts with the Stone Age and ends with Elizbeth II 1952… (the jigsaw is dated 1990) and the pictures in that section include a black and white TV showing the Coronation and a ration book (rationing having ended in 1954) plus a picture of Prince Harry's christening with his family around him.

In between is the stuff you remember vaguely from school, like the Wars of the Roses, the Battle of Waterloo and the Charge of the Light Brigade. I would have been hard-pressed to remember the dates of all these and under whose reign they occurred. Apart from all the wars, battles and massacre, there is plenty of killing and dying due to plague or fire, or beheading and burning at the stake. It really is a ghastly record of man's inhumanity to man through the ages, most often the result of greed and overweening ambition.

It tells of the discovery of new worlds starting in the reign of Henry VIII with the discovery of America and the rounding of the Cape of Good Hope providing a sea route to India and in 1577 during the reign of Elizabeth I with Drake's circumnavigation. Also, of inventions – starting with Caxton's printing press in 1476 (while the War of the Roses was going on) and including Stephenson's Rocket in the reign of George IV four centuries later.

You had to feel for poor George VI whose reign was dominated by the Second World War, ending with Hiroshima (1945) just seven years before his untimely death.

Taking this walk through history inevitably makes you think of the history that is being created as we live now. The post war period in England was one of improvement and advances on so many fronts: education, housing, health and so much more and, significantly, relatively free of conflict. Now we have the war in Ukraine lasting longer than the First World War and the horrors in the middle east still continue. It really isn't a Brave New World. How blessed we are to live in this beautiful and kind part of the world, and this magazine you are reading is testament to that.

P.S. The jigsaw described above will soon be available in a charity shop near you – I haven't yet decided which one!

Gilly Foortse

Active Fakenham Arts Festival - 1 – 28 Aug 2026

https://www.activefakenham.org.uk/new-fakenham-arts-festival-for-2026

The brochure for Fakenham Arts Festival 2026 is now available online.

There will be:

- **Over 45 artists displaying work in 60 venues** across Fakenham.
- Art in shops, businesses, the parish church, community spaces and public areas, creating a free arts trail for residents and visitors to enjoy throughout August.
- Biographical arts films about **Frida Kahlo, Caravaggio, Turner and Constable at Fakenham Central Cinema.**
- A newly decorated public space for art in the passageway in the **Upper Market Place**, which **Active Fakenham** has arranged to be lit from **5pm until 11pm.**
- **A free community arts trail** with eleven stops across the town, a prize draw and free packs for children, encouraging families to explore the festival together.

Active Fakenham is also working with **Fakenham Community Centre** to organise and fund a theatre experience for Years 1 and 2 from **Fakenham Infant School**, helping younger children enjoy live performance as part of the wider festival programme.

Richard Crook

Active Fakenham | 07887 803091 | www.activefakenham.org.uk

FAKENHAM ARTS FESTIVAL 26

The story of a hymn - Take my life and let it be.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836 – 1879) was an English hymnwriter and religious poet. Take My Life and Let It Be is one of her most well-known hymns. She also composed hymn melodies.

She was born into an Anglican family in Worcestershire, Her father and brother were clergymen, one a hymnwriter and the other an organist. Frances herself had several hymn collections printed. Aged 37, she read T. Rebford's book,' All for Jesus' which had a profound and positive influence on her life.

Frances gave all her jewellery and precious artefacts to the Church Missionary Society, keeping a brooch for everyday wear and a locket in memory of her parents. It is recorded that she said, referring to her giveaway of jewellery, 'I don't think I need tell you , I never packed a box with such pleasure.' She can be said to have lived out the line in the hymn: "take my silver and my gold not a mite would I withhold".

The writer of the music was Henri A Cesar Malan (7th July 1787 -May 18th 1864) who was a Swiss Protestant Minister and hymn writer. He was a significant figure who was suspended from his ministry for a sermon he wrote in justifying belief by faith alone; this concept was frowned upon at the time. He composed the music in 1827, but I'm unclear how the marriage of words and melody came about. It's just good that it did.

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my silver, take my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Sources: Christopher Idle, Famous Hymns and their stories; Wikipedia.

Kay Hathway

Christ Church, Fulmodeston

Throughout the summer you will find a lively and varied selection of books for sale in the church. Come along, have a browse and take a few home with you: donations to church funds welcome.

On Saturday August 8th we'll be holding our traditional 'Coffee at the Crossroads' in the churchyard from 10.00am until at least 1.00pm. Come and enjoy the range of stalls, including the home-baking and produce, tombola, and a cup of tea or coffee on the house – and our good old-fashioned community spirit. This is a great social occasion and puts the church truly at the heart of village life, whatever the weather: and golly haven't we had some of that this summer. We'll be so pleased to see you.

August Services

Sunday 2nd	6pm	Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
Sunday 9th	11am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
Sunday 16th	10am	Parish Communion at Fakenham
Sunday 23rd	6pm	Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
Sunday 30th	10am	Parish Communion at Fakenham

Carolyn Thomas-Coxhead



August Walks with Fakenham Ramblers

Please note that ALL walks now start at 10am.
Bring a packed lunch on Saturday walks which are generally over 6 miles. Otherwise, sturdy boots and waterproofs are all that's required. Please arrive ten minutes or so before the walk start time.

Please contact the walk leader for up-to-date walk information.

Date & Time	Venue	Grid Reference Postcode Distance	Walk Leader(s)
Sat 8th August 10am	**Aldboroug** - Park/meet at the Community Centre	OS 252/TG186344 **NR11 7AA** 9.6 miles	**Bridget** 07866 034378
Wed 12th Aug 10am	**Great Massingham** - Park/meet at Great Massingham Village Hall	OS 250/797232 **PE32 2HU** 6 miles	**Alison** 01328 712155
Sat 22nd Aug 10am	**Sheringham -** Park/meet at Sheringham Boating Lake	OS 252/TG155435 **NR26 8LG** 9 miles	**Ann** 07798 664815
Weds 26th Aug 10am	**Wiveton** - Park/meet at Wiveton Downs Car Park	OS 251/TG031421 **NR25 7LG** 5 miles	**Ann** 07798 664815

FAKENHAM AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ARCHIVE

The building on the corner of Norwich St and Bridge St, most recently occupied by Benbow's greengrocers, was once occupied by the shop pictured below. Set up by Joseph Wainwright in 1875 it was Wainwright's Music Shop, later inherited by his son Cecil (pictured). It sold musical instruments and sheet music and later gramophone records. In the 60s it became the Larder Delicatessen, a self-service food store and then in the 80s it turned into Benbow Greengrocers, first set up by Brian Benbow from Stiffkey, then inherited by his son Nigel and more recently run by daughter Denise.

This photo was donated by the Fakenham Local History Society. If you'd like to see any more of our huge collection of photos, as well as browsing through lots of scrapbooks, looking at displays and watching slide shows all about Fakenham's past then come to one of our meetings in church, from 2.00 to 4.00 on the last Tuesday of every month. You may also have a look at them online, at www.fakenhamcommunityarchive.weebly.com.



Howard Young



Fakenham Food Market

FFM is proud to welcome all the local producers to our town.

Stark Herdwick: breeding flocks of pure-breed Herdwick sheep since 2017, producing mutton and lamb to sell. From Wood Norton.

Martin's Farm: specialising in rare breed pork and free-range poultry, from their farm in Hindolveston.

Royal Blue Meat Co: traditional butchers serving local meats including a selection of marinated BBQ meats, in Terrington St Clement and Wisbech.



Fakenham – Olivet Twinning Exchange Visit

The Fakenham Twinners enjoyed a long weekend in June with our French hosts in Olivet, near Orleans. We were spoiled rotten as usual by our generous and kind hosts and took part in a busy sightseeing programme in the local area. The warmth of the reception was exceeded only by the warmth of the temperatures, which were the low 40s. We got through it with elegance and dignity and the pleasure of spending time with such welcoming people, made the whole trip a delight.

We give a gift to each hosting household, and another to the town of Olivet presented to Olivet's Mayor at a civic reception.

We chose the Norfolk Tea Towel from The Tapping House Online Shop for our hosts, and a framed print of "Fakenham Mill", by Sheringham-based artist, Brian Lewis, for the town of Olivet. Olivet's gifts to Fakenham over the years, are displayed in the Council Offices.

Our French friends will be visiting us in 2028 so check out the twinning website or keep an eye on The Beacon for further information, if you'd like to get involved.

Sally Rumbles



Community Noticeboard

BRISLEY
HERITAGE WEEKEND

St. Bartholomew's Church, Church Street, Brisley, NR20 5AA

11th - 13th Sept. 2026

Friday 6.30pm-8.30pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm.

Opening talk at 6.30pm on Friday 11th Sept. by **Charlotte Paton**, researcher and historian.

The heritage exhibition this year will focus on life in Brisley through time with stories and photos of village life, work and play, including details about the working life of one particular family, focussing on the wife / mother and how her role changed during the period after The First World War.

Do you have an interesting story, or perhaps historic photographs or documents that you would like to share? If so, we would love to hear from you!

Contact: marycarden1@icloud.com

heritage open days





Tech Skills for Life

Do you live in Norfolk?

Do you need to book appointments, buy things online, or apply for jobs, but struggle with your device or data? Do your children need to do their homework, but you do not have a laptop or internet access at home? Need some help with a task like filling out an online form? Or want to learn more about staying safe from scams? Whether you're a beginner or have been online for a while, Tech Skills for Life is here to help!

Our friendly community tech coaches will help you find new ways to use the internet that will help you in your everyday life.

They can:

- Give you the skills and confidence to be safe online and use your tablet, laptop, or smartphone however you want
- Help you find out how to borrow a smartphone, tablet or laptop or talk through options to access a device to keep if you are eligible.
- Help you get internet services like free mobile data, cheap broadband tariffs, and much more
- Suggest other things, like social groups or learning, to help you along the way

Whether you are completely new to digital technology or want to build on existing skills, we will support you at your pace. It's easy to get in touch. You, or someone you trust, can call us on 01485 536420. The line is open Monday-Friday, 9 am-5 pm, and a community tech coach will answer your call, or you'll be able to leave a message, and they'll call you back as soon as possible.

We also have a quick online form on our website that you or someone you trust can fill in at https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/38923

After you contact us, we will arrange to meet you in a trusted space where you feel safe, like the library or a local coffee shop, where we will provide you with help and information.

Why not get in touch today with Tech Skills for Life?

Wild Flower Spectacular

Last month we asked you to get in touch if you enjoyed the wild flower seeds given away recently by the Town Council (or wild flowers in general) Here are some examples from readers -



"We planted our wild flowers in a cattle trough and are now being enjoyed by all the bees and butterflies and also ourselves. Thankyou." *Garry & Debby Hopper.*





Thank you to everyone who planted the seeds and who are now enjoying the wonderful sight of flowers and butterflies.

Pauline Elley collected her wildflower seeds on walks around Walsingham and she and husband Richard are enjoying not only the flowers, but the butterflies too.



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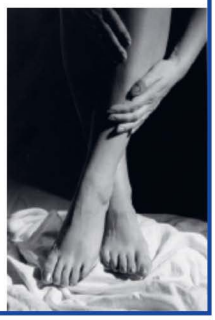
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