

# **WICKHAM MARKET**

## **PARISH NEWS**

**IP13 0**



**YOUR FREE NEWS AND  
INFORMATION BOOKLET**

From  
**Wickham Market Parish Council**

**February 2025**

## WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Meets on the third Monday alternate months

Ivor French (Chair)

David Chenery (Vice Chair)

Robin Cooke

Gloria Creasey

John Day

Gemma Dempsey-Gray

Kelvin Gray

John Horsnell

Dick Jenkinson



### Contact us:

Chair: Ivor French:

Clerk: Al Besly:

Deputy Clerk: Leanne Castle:

**For more information:**

[ivor.f@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:ivor.f@wickhammarketpc.com)

[clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

[deputyclerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:deputyclerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

<https://wickhammarketpc.com/>



Social Media



Wickham Market Parish Council Suffolk



@WickhamMarketPC



Wickham Market Parish Council updates



wickhammarketparishsocials

## Parish Council Committees and Groups

**Finance & General Purpose Committee:** Meets on the first Monday alternate months. Responsible for grants and managing financial reporting and budgets.

**Planning Committee:** Meets as required and reviews and comments on all planning applications for the Parish.

**Staffing and Personnel Committee:** Meets as required and advises the council on all employment matters.

**Sizewell C Committee:** Advises the Council on the impact of Sizewell C.

**Village Hall Modernisation Committee:** Meets on 1st or 2nd Tuesday monthly. Schedule published on our website. Working to modernise the village hall.

**Environment & Leisure Working Group:** Meets on the second Monday alternate months and advises on the Cemetery and other environmental issues.

**Climate Change Working Group:** Responsible for the Climate Action Strategy and advising the Council on Climate Change actions.

**Emergency Plan Working Group:** Responsible for developing plans to manage emergencies in the parish.

**Front Cover: John Day**

**Welcome to another packed edition of Wickham Market Parish News! There is so much going on in our thriving village.**

Just look at all our local trades people and voluntary organisations in our centre pages! Pull them out and stick them on your wall for future reference!

Your Parish Council is also very busy managing the public areas around the village, the allotments, the cemetery together with planning the Village Hall modernisation and developing our markets. We have had

a few changes recently with two of our team stepping down, which means there is an opportunity for **YOU** to join the council! The process is very simple, email our clerk to find out more [clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com).

Linda Merriam, Wickham Market's Cemetery clerk for over 18 years will be retiring at the end of February, the time, effort and dedication Linda has put into the job will be hard to replace, we the Parish Council wish her well for the future with many thanks.

**Ivor French**

**Chair, Wickham Market Parish Council**

[ivor.f@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:ivor.f@wickhammarketpc.com)

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### Contact for contributions:

[clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

Please email your text  
with good quality pictures  
as separate attachments



# NEWS ROUNDUP

## COULD YOU BE A COUNCILLOR?

There is a lot going on in Wickham Market and we have vacancies available for Councillors.

- Are you passionate about what happens in your village?
- Do you want to make a difference to the quality of life of local people?
- Do you want to help shape the future of our community for the better?

Wickham Market Parish Council can only be as effective, relevant and vibrant as the people elected to run it.

Find out more! Email our clerk at [clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

## CLERK OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to our Parish Clerk, Al Besly, for receiving a highly commended award in the Clerk of the Year category at the Suffolk Community Awards



## SIZEWELL C TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES FOR WICKHAM MARKET

These road safety measures have been driven by Wickham Market Parish Council to help keep our village safe during the construction of Sizewell C.

The latest drawings can be viewed on our website at:

<https://wickhammarketpc.com/parish-council/sizewell-c/>

## BE WELL BUS WILL BE ON THE HILL, WICKHAM MARKET

East Suffolk District Council invites you to visit the bus and find out about the wide range of advice, services, and organisations available including information on money management, exercise, care at home plus details regarding Alzheimer's disease and sight loss support.

The Be Well Bus will be at 60 High St, Wickham Market, IP13 0QU, 10am to 2.30pm on the following Thursdays:

12 June 2025

14 August 2025

16 October 2025

11 December 2025

12 February 2026

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## CEMETERY CLERK

Linda, our Cemetery Clerk has decided to retire at the end of February after 18 years conscientiously looking after our cemetery administration for the Parish. We all wish her a long and happy retirement!

Leanne, our Deputy Clerk, will take on this role for the future.

## CEMETERY WORKS

We have been levelling out some of the older graves in accordance with our cemetery regulations. This will allow the mowing machinery to have a clear run through, which will give a much better cut. While the area may look a little bare at the moment, when the grass seed germinates it will enhance the look of our lawn cemetery.



## LITTER PICKING

We have received a number of complaints about the amount of litter that accumulates at the Pightle, the recreation ground, footpath from The

George to Spring Lane and Little Lane footpath.

We have therefore appointed Jennie for four hours a week to look after these areas and hope this will alleviate the problem and help keep Wickham Market a lovely place to live.

The work of our volunteer litter pickers is hugely appreciated and hopefully they will continue to collect litter from other areas when possible. We would like to encourage everyone to please use the many litter bins around the village and we will be monitoring the situation.

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# WICKHAM'S SEASONAL MARKETS HIT THE SPOT

**The Christmas Market held on The Hill at Wickham Market on Saturday 30th November was a hit with stallholders and visitors alike.**

There were 40 stalls and a wide range of goods for sale from artisan beer to handmade homeware, wreaths to pottery; some stalls sold out, they were so successful. The atmosphere was fantastic helped by many visitors of all ages who had the opportunity to buy unique gifts as well hear the Community Choir sing a range of carols.

The Wickham Market Primary School PTA pulled out all the stops with the very



popular Santa's Grotto and the pupils hung their hand painted Christmas decorations on the tree before singing to an appreciative audience.



Leanne Castle, deputy parish clerk commented, "The Spring Market will take place on The Hill on Saturday 29th March, 9am until 2pm, just three weeks before Easter. There will be more than 35 stalls showcasing local, talented producers and makers; visitors can expect gifts, crafts and a tempting range of food and drink including fresh coffee, handmade cakes, savouries, jams, artisan beer, fudge, fruit, and vegetables. With some special events planned the morning promises to be a wonderful celebration of spring."







## ALL CHANGE AT WICKHAM MARKET POST OFFICE AND STORES!

On Tuesday 7th January the village community said an appreciative farewell to Nicola and Anthony who had run the Post Office in Wickham Market for seven years.

Off to pastures new, they were overwhelmed by the warm send off they received. On behalf of the village, Wickham Market Parish Council presented the couple with a bouquet and a thank you card in recognition of the couple's kindness and good works.



As Nicola and Anthony had their possessions loaded into the removal lorry we welcomed the new owners of the Post Office and Stores, business partners, Chandu and Maddy. Chandu commented, "Whilst we have plenty of business experience, this is our first joint venture. With our team, Vasanth, Ravi and Hasini we have been learning the intricacies of running a Post Office, just as Nicola and Anthony did when they arrived."

The store has extended its opening hours which are now 8am to 8pm, Monday to Sunday and they can also sell stamps, take cash in and pay cash out as well as provide vehicle tax. The full range of Post Office services is available 9am until 5pm, Monday to Friday and 9am until 1pm on Saturdays.

Chandu and Maddy are planning a Premier Store refit in the spring to bring a wide range of affordable products into the shop. Maddy said, "With good parking and longer opening hours we look forward to welcoming the community as well as providing them with a high level of service."

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH WELCOME CHARLOTTE

Hi, my name is Charlotte, and I'm really pleased that during February I will be moving to Wickham as the Vicar of All Saint's Wickham Market and St Peter and St Paul Pettistree.

Writing that sentence makes me think the rest of what I write should be inspiring, but for now, I think it's better to just say 'hello' and that I'm looking forward to meeting and getting to know you all.

I'm originally from north-west London, living there all my life until I moved to the Peak District to work as the Assistant Curate in the Derby Diocese. I've had a great time there, though I did notice that for some reason I always seem to be going uphill, never down.



When I visited Wickham Market and Pettistree in October, I did love the comparative flatness and am very much looking forward to much gentler undulating walks!

Other vital information about me is that I love a cup of tea and am always grateful to anyone who gives me an excuse to put the kettle on. Do say 'hello' when you see me out and about or queuing in the Co-op!

*Rev. Charlotte*

### Our regular monthly pattern of services is:-

- 1st Sunday: 11.00 Communion
- 2nd Sunday: 11.00 Contemporary Service  
15.00 Oasis (Informal service with tea and cake)
- 3rd Sunday: 09.30 Communion  
10.30 Coffee/Tea & toast followed by  
an informal family service Together@11  
18.30 Praise and Prayer
- 4th Sunday 11.00 Contemporary Service with Testimonies
- 5th Sunday 11.00 Contemporary Service





## VILLAGE HALL MODERNISATION

### Sizewell C Community Foundation Grant Application

Village Hall Modernisation grant application of £600k was issued to Sizewell C Community Foundation early October 2024 with all supporting information and documentation

We received notification from Sizewell C Community Foundation on 17th December 2024 that the Independent Awards Panel had met and considered our application for this round of funding and provided feed-back in relation to their decision. The Panel felt that more detail was needed before a final decision could be made on our application

Modernisation Working Group will review the Independent Awards Panels comments and feedback thoroughly and re-submit the additional information requested to meet the suggested review panel date of 20th April 2025.

One of the Awards Panel's recommendations was that we contact (CAS) Community Action Suffolk who could provide technical support with our grant application as at the date of this report we have contacted CAS and await confirmation of arranging a meeting date.

A further recommendation was that the Review Panel would like to see further scrutiny of the project plans and costings and we therefore have contacted a (QS) Quantity Survey who could provide more accurate cost plans to support the project's budget prices previously submitted with our grant application. We await the QS cost for this element of work.

Our current position is that by NOT receiving Grant Funding from Sizewell C Community Foundation at this round of funding the modernisation project is still far short of funds needed to commence major works on the Village Hall Modernisation Project as we previously hoped this would commence Spring of 2025.

The Modernisation Working Group continue to explore every opportunity of

grant funding with support from ESC Councillor Sally Noble, Communities Officer Sam Kenwood and Community Action Suffolk.

Modernisation Committee Terms of Reference has been agreed by the Parish Council at their meeting on 20th January 2025. User Groups were updated on the Village Hall Modernisation Plans at the last Village Hall CIO meeting held on Friday 6th December 2024. Village Hall parking remains an issue for those attending functions with people not attending village hall functions using the playing field as an unauthorised overspill parking area causing damage to the playing field.

*Cllr John Horsnell*

*Village Hall Modernisation Committee*

## SPRING MARKET 29 MARCH 2025

**Barley Brigg North-West Morris Dancers will be performing at the Spring Market on The Hill, Wickham Market on Saturday 29th March.**

They are instantly recognisable in their red, white and blue outfits and impressive flowery hats. Barley Brigg are looking forward to welcoming in spring, see you there! (The market is open from 9am until 2pm and Barley Brigg will be performing twice from 10.30am.)





## DO YOU HAVE A SPARE ROOM THAT COULD BE MAKING YOU MONEY?

**Sizewell Housing grants could be the key to you making that space work for you**

The Construction of Sizewell C will bring workers into the area who will be looking for accommodation around Sizewell and that includes Wickham Market. If you own your property and have a spare room, annexe, garage or property that could make safe and comfortable living space for a Sizewell C worker you may be eligible for a grant to assist towards getting the room/property up to a lettable standard. All grants are subject to you obtaining the necessary Planning and Building Regulations approvals.

### Minor Works Grants

Minor Works Grants of up to £3,000 per bedspace are available to bring an unused bedroom into use within an existing home to be accommodated by a Sizewell C worker. All works must be carried out by a suitable trades person as DIY applications will not be considered. The accommodation must be made available to use for 5 years from the date of completion otherwise the grant is subject to repayment in full. Conditions will be linked to the property via a deed of agreement lodged as a local land charge.

### Renovation Grants

Renovation grants of up to a maximum of £7,000 per bedspace are available to assist with the conversion of annexes, garages or non-residential buildings or conversion of existing homes into licensable standard HMOs (3 or more bedrooms) to provide safe & suitable residential accommodation for Sizewell C workers. Works must be carried out by a suitable trades person. DIY applications will not be considered. The grants will be subject to conditions which will be linked to the property via deed of agreement lodged as a local land charge. The Grant will be subject to repayment if the accommodation is not available for use for the first 10 years from the date of completion.

### Energy Performance Certificate (EPC)

Where a current valid Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) is not in place we can help towards the cost of obtaining one. In addition to this up to a maximum of £2,500 can be applied for to carry out recommended works towards the property obtaining an EPC rating of C\*

*\*All available Government and OFGEM promoted grants must be applied for first, where available.*

### Further queries or to apply

Search 'Sizewell C Housing Grants East Suffolk Council'

To make further enquiries please email: [szchousinggrants@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:szchousinggrants@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)  
Please include your name, address and preferred contact details along with the address of the property you are looking to obtain a grant for and a brief description of the accommodation you are hoping to offer e.g. room to let, room with ensuite, apartment, flat, house or HMO (House of Multiple Occupancy).

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**FALLEN TREES:** 0345 606 6171

**HIGHWAY FLOODING:** SCC  
0345 606 6171 or 0300 1235000  
[www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)

**STREET CLEANING/CLEARING:**  
0333 016 2000

**POWER CUTS:** Power Networks call:  
105 or 999

**DANGEROUS STRUCTURES:**  
01394 444 219 or 0800 440 2516

**MANHOLE PROBLEMS** that are considered an emergency:  
0345 606 6171

**WATER LEAKS:** Anglian Water: 24/7  
0345 145 145

**EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL** Emergency out of Hours: 0800 440 2516

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY



### ALL IN AUTO SERVICES

Vehicle service and maintenance  
Riverside View Industrial estate  
01728 746999  
[allinautoservices@btconnect.com](mailto:allinautoservices@btconnect.com)

### BAYFIELDS DIGITAL

TV Aerials, Satellite TV, WiFi, CCTV  
9 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
01728 745745  
[www.bayfieldsdigital.com](http://www.bayfieldsdigital.com)

### BELLISSIMA BEAUTY

Beauty treatments/gifts  
46 High Street 01728 746981  
[www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk](http://www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk)

### THE BENGAL

Indian Restaurant/Takeaway  
70 High Street 01728 747767  
[www.the-bengal.co.uk](http://www.the-bengal.co.uk)

### BLUE CROCUS TEXTILES

Textiles, lampshades, curtains, blinds & fabric designs,  
179C High Street 01473 487844  
[www.bluecrocustextiles.com](http://www.bluecrocustextiles.com)

### CAFÉ 46

Cakes, coffee, lunch and more  
46 High Street 01728 746690  
[www.cafe46.co.uk](http://www.cafe46.co.uk)

### COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET

14-18 High Street 01728 746313  
[www.coop.co.uk](http://www.coop.co.uk)

### EAST ANGLIAN TRADITIONAL ART CENTRE

48 High Street 01728 747050  
[www.eatac.co.uk](http://www.eatac.co.uk)

### EAST COAST ADVENTURES

Group Outdoor Activities and Events  
[www.ecadventures.co.uk](http://www.ecadventures.co.uk)  
07388 091459

### ENGLISH GRAIN

Bespoke Kitchens and Furniture  
181 High Street 07850 416487  
<https://www.englishgrain.co.uk/>

### THE FLAMING FRYER

Fish & Chips  
75 High Street 01728 46361

**GELHAM HALL FLOWERS**

Growers of seasonal flowers  
Gelham Hall, Wickham Market  
07495 156955

**HAIR AFFAIR**

Hairdressers  
73 High Street 01728 746616

**HIGH HOUSE CHILD CARE**

Day Nursery, baby sitting  
220 High St 01728 746970  
[highhouse1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:highhouse1@hotmail.co.uk)

**IN-HOMECARE SUFFOLK**

Community and Live in care  
34 High Street 01728 746416  
[sue.rose@in-homecare.co.uk](mailto:sue.rose@in-homecare.co.uk)

**PETER HALL FLOORING**

77b High Street  
[www.peterhallflooring.com](http://www.peterhallflooring.com)

**K C AUTO SERVICES**

MOT and vehicle maintenance  
Riverside View Industrial estate  
01728 747279 / 07747 831535

**LILY CHRISTINA Bridal Boutique**

Bridal Collection (by appt only)  
77B High Street. 07737 488368  
[lilychristinabridalboutique@gmail.com](mailto:lilychristinabridalboutique@gmail.com)

**JIM MALTBY**

Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Probate  
11 Observers Road 07765 253756  
[jimemaltby@hotmail.com](mailto:jimemaltby@hotmail.com)

**MORRISONS DAILY**

Convenience Store  
79A High Street 01728 747413  
[www.morrisons.com](http://www.morrisons.com)

**THE NEW PEACH BOWER**

Chinese Restaurant/Takeaway  
56 High Street 01728 747901  
[www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk](http://www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk)

**NR RESTORATIONS**

Property renovations, refurbishments.  
Nathan Reay 07432 241101  
[nrrestorations@icloud.com](mailto:nrrestorations@icloud.com)

**NULIFE FURNISHINGS**

Curtains, blinds, soft furnishings, upholstery  
Riverside View Industrial estate  
01728 747745

**OFFSET FILMS**

Film and Video Production  
179D High Street. 01473 598669  
[www.offsetfilms.co.uk](http://www.offsetfilms.co.uk)

**OLD SCHOOL ANTIQUES**

Unit 1, Riverside View IP13 OTA  
01728 746700  
[www.theoldschoolantiques.co.uk](http://www.theoldschoolantiques.co.uk)

**THE ORCHARD CAMPSITE**

Campsite plus fully equipped Safari Tent  
28 Spring Lane, 07818 034729  
[www.orchardcampsite.co.uk](http://www.orchardcampsite.co.uk)

**THE PARLOUR**

Brows, lashes and nails  
179 High Street 07872 070522  
[theparlour179@icloud.com](mailto:theparlour179@icloud.com)

**E R & R T RACKHAM LTD**

Solid fuel & animal feed merchants  
Deben Mills IP13 0RG  
01728 746207 [www.rackhamltd.co.uk](http://www.rackhamltd.co.uk)

**REBECCA'S REFLEXOLOGY AND WELLNESS**

32 High Street. 07845 599256  
[www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk](http://www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk)

**E W REVETT & SON**

Butchery/Fine food and wine  
81 High Street 01728 746263  
[www.revett.co.uk](http://www.revett.co.uk)

**RISE AND SHINE**

Window cleaning, domestic & commercial  
Featherbroom Gardens  
07811 201039

**DA RUSE PLUMBING & HEATING**

Plumbing, heating, tiling. Bathroom & kitchen installations.  
42 Barhams Way, IP13 0SR.  
07999250203 01728564132  
[www.daruseplumbingandheating.co.uk](http://www.daruseplumbingandheating.co.uk)

**ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE**

Charity Shop 54 High Street  
[www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk](http://www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk)

**SAXON VETS**

22 High Street 01728 747427  
[www.saxonvets.com](http://www.saxonvets.com)

**ANNA SHAND**

Chiropodist / Podiatrist  
64 High Street 01728 745010

**SOUTH EAST ANTIQUES**

Buy, Sell & Value Antiques & Jewellery  
Unit 7, Riverside View, IP13 OTA  
[www.southeastantiques.co.uk](http://www.southeastantiques.co.uk)

**SVRC DOG WASH**

Riverside View industrial estate  
07921 586339

**TEA POT TEA ROOMS**

Dine-in/Takeaway  
70A High Street 01728 748079

**VALLEY FARM EQUESTRIAN LEISURE**

Horse Riding, Visitor Centre, Holiday Lodge, Camping  
<https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/>

**WICKHAM MARKET DENTAL CLINIC**

2 Crown House 01728 746220  
[www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk)

**WICKHAM MARKET PHARMACY**

68 High Street 01728 746267

**WICKHAM MARKET POST OFFICE**

and Stores  
36 High Street 01728 746201

**NOTICE** Clerk to the Wickham Market Village Charities

The Trustees of the three Wickham Market Charities, the Town Lands Trust, Relief in Need and Barker Educational Foundation, are looking for someone locally to take over from our present Clerk.

The role involves communications with local people and organisations seeking grants, as well as the Trustees, the bank and the Charity Commission. Tasks involve minuting the annual meetings held to decide on the provision of funds locally, following up on actions decided and maintaining financial records. This may sound onerous and time consuming, but actually it isn't! These are small village charities, and what is important is having an interest in local matters and a heart for the people in the village.

The post is voluntary with a small amount given for expenses. We envisage a 'hand over' period over 2025 and into 2026 to enable a smooth handover. Please contact the current Clerk, Roger Theobald, for further information. (01728 76979)



## USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

### CITIZENS ADVICE EAST SUFFOLK:

14 Colonial House, Station Rd, Leiston  
IP16 4JD. Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 10-2pm

### Wickham Market drop in service:

Resource Centre (next to the Library)  
Tuesday 1.30 - 3.30 pm.

[www.leistoncab.org](http://www.leistoncab.org)

[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

01728 832193 or 0808 2787868 (Free)

### Disability Advice Service

(East Suffolk): 01394 387070

### Good Neighbour Scheme: (GNS)

Available to residents in Wickham  
Market parish only. Transport to  
medical and social appointments.  
Friendship and support with shopping,  
posting letters, filling forms, comput-  
ers, dog walking, DIY, 07914 494108.

### Wellbeing Tree Café at The Aspire

Centre. Relax, chat and make new  
friends over a hot drink and cake.  
Wednesdays 10.30 - 12.30.

### Men's Shed: Behind the Village Hall.

Social and creative centre.

Mondays 2 pm

[www.wmshed.org.uk](http://www.wmshed.org.uk) 01728 747782

### INTERESTS

#### Youth Football Club, Simon's Cross

Playing Field, IP13 0ST.

Steph: 07778 880735.

#### Football Club and Social Club, be-

hind the Village Hall. 01728 747731

[www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk)

#### Tennis Club, Simon's Cross Playing

Field: 01728 746736

#### Bowls Club (playing Field):

01728 746715

### Red Triangle Bowls Club:

01728 604491

### GLEVERING HALL IP13 0EU

#### Badminton Club at 7:30

Thursday: Ladies / senior school students

Monday: Men / senior school students

07860 402288

### VALLEY FARM

**Pony Club** <https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/pony-club>

[co.uk/content/pony-club](https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/pony-club)

**Tots Pony Club** [https://www.valley-](https://www.valley-farm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots)

[farm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots](https://www.valley-farm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots)

#### Young Equestrians Club

[https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/](https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/young-equestrians)

[young-equestrians](https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/young-equestrians)

### VILLAGE HALL

Lettings:

[lettings.wmvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:lettings.wmvillagehall@gmail.com)

**Also at the Village Hall**

#### Bingo

Tuesdays 6pm

Tina Clack 01728 746846

**Community Club:** social activities  
and support for those new to the area,  
Friday mornings 01728 747078

Val Mann: [val@penpal.me](mailto:val@penpal.me) uk

#### Gardening Club:

Monthly third Thursday 7:30 pm

[wmgardenclub27@gmail.com](mailto:wmgardenclub27@gmail.com)

#### Toddler and Baby Group

Wednesdays during school term

9:00 - 11:30 (£2.50 per family)

[stephanieworne@gmail.com](mailto:stephanieworne@gmail.com)

### WI

Second Thursday each month at 7.30

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Crown Lane, IP13 0SA

01728 748224

[warden@wickhammarketchurch.org](mailto:warden@wickhammarketchurch.org)

[www.wickhammarketchurch.org](http://www.wickhammarketchurch.org)

#### Open Pantry: Fresh food and household

goods shared with anyone in need.

Thursdays 9 - 11 am.

**Open Door:** coffee, tea, biscuits and  
friendship.

Fridays 10am to noon

**Bell Ringing:** Monday Evenings

from 7:30 - 9pm

### BEEHIVE BUILDING Crown Lane

**Rainbows** (age 4-7), **Brownies** (age

7-10), Linda Payne: 01728 604491

**Guides** (age 10+)

Jacquie Goodwin & Tracy Burch

### WICKHAM MARKET LIBRARY

Chapel Lane, IP13 0SD. Open

Tuesday to Friday: 9.30 - 5.30

Saturday: 10 - 12.30 then 1 - 4.30

[help@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:help@suffolklibraries.co.uk)

01728 747216

#### Regular Events at the Library:

**Family History Guidance** By Ap-

pointment: Tuesdays 10am - 1pm

#### Morning Book Group:

1st Tuesday monthly 10am,

**Tots Rock:** - active songs and

rhymes for preschool children:

Thursdays 9.45am - 10.15am,

#### Sewing Group:

Thursdays 1.30pm - 4.30pm,

#### Lego Club:

Saturdays 10am - 12pm.

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB

01728 746915

### WM PRIMARY SCHOOL and LITTLE AVOCETS NURSERY:

01728 746405

### RESOURCE CENTRE Chapel

Lane, IP13 0SD: 01728 747782

### Resource Centre Gardening Group

2nd Wednesday monthly at 10am.

Barbara Harrington: [sbharrington@outlook.com](mailto:sbharrington@outlook.com) or come along.

### ARCHIVE CENTRE:

Local history, archives and artefacts

Philip Tallent 01728 746058

## WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?

### SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL:

Highways, Recycling

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/> 0345 606  
6067

**Reporting any highways issue in-**  
**cluding:** potholes, street lights, drains,  
hedges, gritting, pavements [https://](https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/)  
[highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/](https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/)

### EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL:

Waste collection, Pay car parks, Plan-  
ning <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/>  
0333 016 2000

**Sally Noble** [sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)  
District Councillor for the Wickham  
Market Ward.

### WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL:

Cemetery, Playing Fields, Chil-  
dren's Play Area, Allotments,  
Markets, Footpaths (with SCC).

[footpaths@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:footpaths@wickhammarketpc.com)

<https://wickhammarketpc.com/>

[clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)



## EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL COMMUNITY SUPPORT

*Sam Kenwood Communities Support Officer writes*

There are lots of great things happening in the community and I along with local councillors including Cllr Sally Noble (East Suffolk Councillor for Wickham Market) try and support community work as much as possible.



Firstly, it might be helpful to know what a Communities Officer does. There are nine of us in East Suffolk covering different areas and I cover Wickham Market, Framlingham and Kelsale and Yoxford wards; this totals 40 parishes. We work with local councillors, health, Police, community and voluntary organisations, schools, youth services and others to support communities as best we can. This might be around community safety, local projects, health and wellbeing, cost of living or transport. It is all about supporting and enabling communities to meet needs in their local area.

For instance, let's briefly look at transport. As we know, this can be a difficult challenge for some within the community. There are community transport options available which is useful to be reminded about. These are listed below:

### Connecting Communities

This can be booked where there is no regular bus available. It can pick you up from your village and take you to your nearest train station or in some cases, your final destination. Pop in a booking request of where you want to go and Coastal Accessible Transport Service (CATS) will get back to you with details and fare. Visit [www.communities.suffolkonboard.com/book-a-journey/suffolk-coastal/](http://www.communities.suffolkonboard.com/book-a-journey/suffolk-coastal/) or call 01728 635938



**Katch**

- Framlingham
- Parham
- Hacheston
- Wickham Market
- **Wickham Market Station** (for Campsea Ashe)
- Tunstall
- Snape Maltings
- Snape

### Katch

On-demand community bus between Wickham Market, Framlingham, Hacheston, Parham, Campsea Ashe (train station), Tunstall and Snape. It takes a call to book (01728 635 939) and select your time and pick-up and drop-off stop. For more information and fare details, please visit [www.katchlift.com](http://www.katchlift.com).

This might be a great way to pop to Garnetts Gardens, into Framlingham and Wickham Markets for markets, pop to the Library, the Co-op, or to head to the train station!

### Community car schemes

There is a Wickham Market scheme operating and one in the wider area too. These always need volunteer drivers – you can drive your own car, you are reimbursed 45p per mile, you are given appropriate training and you can commit as much or as little time as you can spare! This is a great way to help local neighbours. If interested, please call Wickham Market Good Neighbours on 07914 494108 or CATS on 01728 830516



**WICKHAM MARKET GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**

To get in touch, please email [sam.kenward@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sam.kenward@eastsuffolk.gov.uk) to contact me or for Cllr Noble, [Sally.Noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Sally.Noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)





# WICKHAM MARKET PRIMARY SCHOOL



It is always a pleasure to put together an article for the parish magazine as it prompts me to review and reflect upon all of the exciting things that have been happening at school over the last couple of months.



Towards the end of the year our key stage one classes took part in some great trips to enhance their history work in the classroom. As part of Year 1's learning about the history of toys they visited the Red House in Aldeburgh, where they explored the life of Benjamin Britten, particularly his childhood and were able to try some of the toys he would have played with. Year 2 had been learning about the history of school and took a visit to Gressenhall Farm and workhouse. They spent the day dressed as Victorians and learnt about what life would have been like for children at the workhouse, experienced a Victorian schoolroom and made some treats to bring home.

At the end of November, after weeks of rehearsing (including workshops led by singing specialists from Britten Pears Art) year 4 and 5 took part in the Big Sing event at Snape Maltings. They sang with enthusiasm alongside many other Suffolk schools, a great experience I am sure they will remember for many years to come.



The lead up to Christmas in school provides many opportunities for the children to develop their performance skills. Our school choir performed a selection of songs to entertain the public at the Wickham Market Christmas Market in the square and also visited Wickham House to serenade the residents. Our nursery and reception children performed a traditional nativity play, while key stage one performed a slightly less traditional play of Christmas with the aliens.

We are very lucky to have our own on-site woodland and make the most of this facility by offering weekly Forest School sessions for pupils. Forest school provides many opportunities for learning across the curriculum, as well as developing the skills needed to work as a team and assess risk. This half-term is Year 6's turn, they have been exploring animal tracks and learning to use tools safely.

***Jo Harris Head of School***





## FROM THE ARCHIVES: 14 APRIL 1699

This month we deviate from the previous series about Wickham Market's old pubs. **WARNING:** This article contains information that some people may find upsetting

**What is the significance of 14th April 1699? Apart from being nearly 326 years ago, it was the date of the last known hanging in Wickham Market, and the last use of the gibbet at Potsford.**

The gibbet post still remains, in the woods, but the sign in front of it has fallen into disrepair, so the Archive Centre has obtained a new sign, which will be fixed in time to "commemorate" the anniversary of this event. A new walk leaflet will also be launched at the same time, with a walk which will take in a visit to the gibbet.

The following extract from the Woodbridge Reporter and Wickham Market Gazette of 22nd March 1894, explains what happened:

*"On the hill from time to time various scenes have been enacted. Near two centuries ago an execution took place. From an old record we quote the following: - "A man named Jonas Snell was hanged in Wickham Market street for the murder of John Bullard, his master, and John Bullard, his master's father, at Letheringham Mill [Note: father and son were both called John Bullard]. His body was afterwards hanged in chains upon Potsford's Hill by the road leading from Wickham Market to Letheringham". Tradition says that his skeleton hung in the wood many years, and birds built their nests in his skull.*

*The gibbet posts remained until recent years, and when the main road went by the spot, it was avoided at night by superstitious persons. In his confession as published by B. Smith, of Woodbridge, Snell says that he obtained leave from his master to visit his brother, but only proceeded as far as the Ufford Crown, where he drank one mug of beer. He then returned home and secretly entered the mill. Having ransacked his master's clothes for money in vain, he kept an eye on him to find where his money was secreted. Afterwards he took one of his master's bottles and went to Easton Street and bought a pint of clover water and some biscuits. He returned about midnight and found his master playing cards with neighbours. After they were gone, he says, "I went into the mill and took from thence a sledgehammer called a maul, and did strike him (the father) one blow on the right side of the head. I afterwards struck him (the son) on the hinder part of his head, and after that I struck both of them several times. I then took the door off its hinges and went towards my brother's and about three o'clock in the morning I got to Wickham and designing to cross the nearest way I wandered up and down until morning light, thinking I had been near Ipswich, when I was not*

*above two or three miles from the place where the murder was done".*

(This hammer is still used in Letheringham Mill and is known by the name of Jonas).

While in Bury gaol, Snell is said to have composed the following lines:

*The father's grey and aged head,  
Received the leading blow;  
Then, as I was by Satan led,  
I struck the son also.  
Who straight arose and likewise cried,  
I had his father killed;  
And ere I could be satisfied,  
Their dearest blood I spilled.  
He staggered and could hardly stand,  
Having received a wound;  
Then with the hammer in my hand,  
I fell him to the ground.  
I gave him many cruel blows,  
Till they were murdered quite;  
Which done I packed up all their clothes,  
And so I took my flight.  
With bleeding heart and melting eyes,  
My crime I do bewail;  
Good God be pleased to hear my cries,  
Tho' in a loathsome gaol.*



After Snell's execution, a sermon was preached in Dallinghoo Church by Thomas Smyth, an affectionate lover of souls, on "Good, charitable and well pleasing hopes of the Penitent Murder's Pardon and Salvation A.D. 1699."

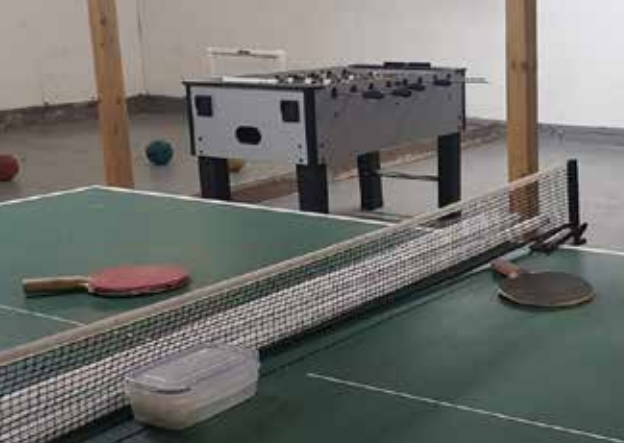
After the hanging, Jonas Snell's body was dragged behind a cart down the steep Draggards Hill, to the gibbet. Today, this name has been changed, and people sometimes refer to it as Drag Arse Hill.

Snell's body hung on the gibbet in an iron cage for 40 years, as a deterrent, until his remains were buried at the base of the gibbet.

Watch out for more information about the new walk.

**Philip Tallent, Chairman WMAAC,**  
[chairman.wmarchives@gmail.com](mailto:chairman.wmarchives@gmail.com)





## YOUTH SHED @ THE BEEHIVE!

I visited the Youth Shed  
@ The Beehive, Crown  
Lane, Wickham Market  
one wet and windy night  
in November.



The welcome was warm and bright. It's held in two buildings, The Beehive and a fantastic, shed set up with easy chairs and various equipment. Emma and Dom lead the Youth Club and bring a wealth of experience. Emma's both a senior schoolteacher and a parent; both organisers are members of All Saint's Church.

I asked Emma why she had decided not only to give up an evening on a regular basis but put in all the time required to prepare? "As a mum, I was fed up seeing moans on Facebook about the kids, who I know are a great lot but have nothing to do after school; so, I decided to do something positive to give teens somewhere to go and do."

That evening there was a mix of activities and choices for the young people (who are in the 11 to 18 age group). Emma said, "We usually start with something physical to burn off a bit of steam." There was an outdoor water transportation challenge (it looked great fun, and no one got soaked), plus indoors there was a keen match of football taking place alongside air hockey, table tennis and hanging out.



Later there was the option of a craft for those interested and something good to eat for everybody!

A team of volunteers help Emma and Dom run the Youth Shed which at present is held monthly on a Thursday evening from 7pm until 9pm. There is plenty of space for more young people to come along so if you are interested look out for the Youth Shed posters around the village.

The next meeting dates are 20th February 20th March and 24th April. for more information email [wmyouthshed@gmail.com](mailto:wmyouthshed@gmail.com)

**Leanne Castle**



# **SUFFOLK'S SECRET ARMY**

## **THE 'SPECIAL DUTIES' BRANCH.**

**If the German invasion had occurred 1940, or thereabouts, it was recognised that although the Operational Patrols had gone underground into their underground Bases to disrupt enemy communications: destroy fuel and ammunition dumps and to harass the enemy in any way possible but not to damage the essential infrastructure of the country.**

Bridges: rail and road links; canals and waterways: telephone lines and other lines of communications were to be left intact and in working order, as the Army counterattack would be much easier if it did not have to contend with blown bridges and destroyed roads.

About the same time as the Operational Patrols were formed, trained and their underground bases constructed, a second, but an entirely separate organisation was formed to operate above ground after the invasion had occurred, this was the 'Special Duties' branch.

The modus operandi of the 'Special Duties' branch was, despite operating 'behind the lines' in what was effectively territory occupied by enemy forces, was to supply information to a secret wireless station network situated underground within the occupied area, where civilian operators transmitted reports to an Army HQ outside the occupied area.

The 'Special Duty' operatives were essentially men and women who acted as 'spies' and had to go about their normal business daily and be capable of operating under enemy occupation; typically, they were postmen: midwives: doctors: vicars: farmers: shopkeepers and housewives. They had no uniform and if caught, would have been shot as spies.

Their primary task was to collect information about the enemy troops (with specific reference to the insignia the troops were wearing thereby identifying whether they were Wehrmacht or S.S.): estimating the numbers of enemy trucks and tanks in their 'area' and any other information that could be fed back to Army HQ outside the occupied area.

A report would be written up by a 'spy' and delivered to a concealed 'letter box' which could be a hollow in a tree: an empty can: a drainpipe etc. The report would then be collected by a 'runner' and deliver the report to the secret wireless station run by civilians (trained by military intelligence) via a hidden entrance in the ground.

The report would then be transmitted to Army HQ outside the occupied area. The radio sets and batteries were initially concealed in boxes with detachable lids sunk into the ground and camouflaged; this method of concealment has its disadvantages as operators were open to discovery whilst transmitting reports to Army HQ.

Realising secrecy was of prime importance during enemy occupation all wireless stations went underground in purpose build underground bases stocked with rations: paraffin heaters etc.

The bases were usually concealed in woods, the entrance consisting of a flat platform supported on two metal tubes with pulleys and counterweights so that the platform was raised vertically by the release of a concealed catch, thus retaining its horizontal position together with the undergrowth which concealed it.

The interior of the base consisted of a small room lined with storage racks from floor to ceiling which were stacked with items to give the impression that it was an underground storage depot for the Home Guard. One set of racks was a blind as on the release of a concealed lever, it could be swung open to reveal the entrance door to the transmitting room. The room was equipped with bunks, paraffin heater and Army K rations. In some bases there was a further room containing a motor generator for charging the batteries and an escape tunnel to allow the operatives a means of escape in the event of discovery by the enemy occupational forces.

If the invasion had occurred, it had been estimated that the life of a man in one of the Operational Patrols would have been three weeks; one wonders what the life expectancy of 'Special Duty' person would have been or those civilians operating the secret wireless stations....

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**Wickham Market**

**SPRING**

**MARKET**

**SATURDAY**

**29<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

**9:00 - 2:00**



**Wickham Market  
Parish Council**

[wickhammarketpc.com/markets](http://wickhammarketpc.com/markets)

