



LINE DANCING ST MARGARET SOUTH ELMHAM

SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

DEC-JAN 2025

ISSUE No 251



St MARGARET S,E

SANTAS VISIT DEC 21

St PETERS

CHRISTMAS LUNCH DEC6

St JAMES

CAROL SERVICE DEC 21

Mag 1125 **REP SALLY REMBLANCE 01986788947**

EDITORIAL



It's the festive time of year coming, and although its dark and damp outside ,don't forget there is always someone worse off than you make an effort, visit or just phone them . Although a festive time it can also be a lonely one too, make some ones day . **HAPPY CHRISTMAS.**

Thank you to Jackie Gibbons for delivering the magazines to the Sawmills for several years, enjoy your retirement. Jumping in the take her place is Jeanette Rice thank you.

ST MARGARET DIARY

FRI Nov 14 FUN QUIZ 7.30 refreshments £8 bring your own drink.
Teams 6 Raffle. To Book 07974126902 before Nov11

Thur Nov20 Hand bells village hall 7pm

FRI Nov21 7.30pm BOWLS Village hall

Nov29/ 30 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL at the CHURCH Games
.refreshments ,lights and more 2pm-6pm

Thur Dec 4 Hand bells Village hall7pm

Fri Dec 5 Bowls VILLAGE HALL 7.30pm

SUN Dec14 CHRISTMAS LUNCH 1200-.12.30 BAR RAFFLE and
Santa £12 . To book 07974125902 . BEFORE DEC9

SUN DEC14 CAROL SERVICE at 6.00pm ,lights and refreshments.
Hand bell ringers

MON Dec 22 at 6pm SANTA'S trip through St Margaret South Elmham



Fri JAN 16 Horse Racing 7 .30 pm £6 bring your own drink and nibbles

Sun Feb 1 Breakfast 10am all invited

Fri 6 Film night 7.30pm £6

Feb 20 Bingo 7.30 bring your own drink and nibbles

MOLE

Busy time , we had a litter pick, hand bell ringing with Gail at which new people come to every practice, Bingo, a Coffee morning for McMillian, village hall Open day just to start with. Thankfully due to the vigilance of the many walkers ,who pick up the litter there was not a lot to clear ,but thank you to those who combed the verges and ditches. Durrants ran a clay shoot raising £1439.50 for EACH (East Anglian Children's Hospice) at St Margaret S.E. Thank you to all who sponsored Phillip Kidner in the Ride and Stride cycle event to the amount of £600. The St Margaret Village hall held an Open Day to display the make over , from a Suffolk County council grant . thank you to all who attended. The hall was packed for the Harvest lunch, as 60 friends and neighbours enjoyed the summer fare ,thank you to Annabelle ,Charlotte and Mabel. The ghostly Halloween party was bedecked with spider webs ,witches ,ghosts and other scary objects ,or you could enjoy Jannine's soup ,even try to eat a doughnut on a string. Thank you to Eric and co from the Appollo Club for bedecking the hall. Remembrance Sunday Service was held at St Margaret Church where 2 silhouette soldiers have been prior to the well attended service. Thank you to Joe Hamilton for trimming the hedges and churchyard.

FROM THE TRACTOR CAB

The weather at the moment is very unseasonal , butterflies flying during the Remembrance service on Nov9 , roses and many flowers in bloom, some bulbs putting up shoots that would normally only happen in March. The winter crops are up and looking well ,all earlier than normal. Some of the birds have not got the winter plumage such as the Pheasant, they need cooler temperatures to hasten the change. .Deer seem to become tamer I had 4 follow me and when I stopped and turned round they kept coming and passed me not 10feet away , and they were not reindeer!!Ronnie is coming

LINE DANCING



Do you like to dance a little and socialise as well, if so come and join us at St Margaret ,South Elmham Village hall for Line Dancing. We are all learning together and having some fun along the way. £3.00 per person next few dates are, 13th Nov, 4th Dec & 18th December (this will have a few Christmas extras in the refreshments). Look forward to seeing you all there

St Peter

Daylight Saving has ended and the evenings are closing in. Dogs are being walked at dusk. Our vegetable plot and greenhouse have done their best to overwhelm us this year and now it's time for a tidy up. If only I'd finished building our compost bins...

The annual Saints charity bike ride seems to have been a success again. The weather was decent, if a little chilly and windy. St Peter had two riders, raising £125. Half of this goes to Suffolk Historic Churches and the other half to St Peter's Church for maintenance of the fabric of the historic building.

We were sad to hear of the passing of one of Caroline's dogs, Guinness, during October, at the tender age of 14. We hope that she and Barley are doing OK and we wish them well.

There have been two spectacular fireworks displays already, at the time of writing (not yet November 5th), one of which coincided with Diwali, in a neighbouring parish. This caused consternation amongst horse owners in the parish as the event was quite unexpected, here in St Peter's at least. There was another at Low Farm, who did warn this parish. Perhaps wider use of the Suffolk Saints Facebook group, to pre-announce events that affect a wide area, would be a good idea.

On the subject of celebrations, the Rev. Leon Collyer conducted the wedding of Esther and Tom at St Peter's Church on Wednesday October 1st, followed by a reception at St Peter's Hall. I can't remember the last time such a thing happened at the church, but then I can't remember what I had for breakfast. Anyway, we wish the happy couple well in their lives together.

The 49 Club was won in October by Mark Kelleher and Tim Bonnett.
Subs are
due and there are still numbers available for those who fancy a flutter.

We are looking forward to a sumptuous parish Xmas meal at St Peter's Hall on
December 6th. Now that it's only open for special events, it's a rare
opportunity to sample their excellent, creative cooking. If you haven't
been, give it a whirl. With more support, it may be able to open its doors
more frequently.

A reminder, if you needed it, that the Xmas carol service at St Peter will
be at 6pm on Sunday 21st December.

Merry Christmas to all our parishioners and may 2026 be good to you.

DIANE HARPER

The funeral of Diane Harper was held at St Margaret South Elmham Church. Diane with her partner formed Tobar and Hawkins Bazaar moved it to nearby Elm Fram. Diane was a bell ringer and keen member of the Rumburgh Morris dancers. Sadly she went to visit Sweden in 2019 and was stuck there in Corvid ,then developed Alzheimer's disease , and passing away in 2025. RIP

THREE SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL

All meetings are held in Rumburgh & St Michael Village Hall, Rumburgh IP19 0JD

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Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.30 pm

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Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7.30 pm

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Wednesday 13th May 2026 at 7.30 pm *Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting*

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Wednesday 8th July 2026 at 7.30 pm

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Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7.30 pm

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Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7.30 pm *The agenda is displayed on village noticeboards and published on TSPC's website*

(<https://threesaints-pc.gov.uk>) three days before the meeting. Planning meetings and additional meetings may be arranged as needed. ~

Members of the Public are Welcome to Attend all Meetings ~

For further details contact the Clerk:

Email: clerk@threesaints-pc.gov.uk or Tel: 07774

Harleston Choral Society

Harleston Choral Society has been singing and entertaining residents and visitors at their twice-yearly performances for more than 25 years! We have over 70 members – and not just from Harleston. They travel from as far as Lowestoft in the East, Bressingham in the West, Wingfield from the South and Great Yarmouth from the North.

Members come from all walks of life and have very varied musical experience; some play musical instruments and read music but plenty of others do not. However, we all have one thing in common – our love of singing!

We welcome all ages but are in particular need of a few more tenors at the moment! So, if you would like to try us out, please do come along to the London Road Church in Harleston from January 5th 2026 on Monday nights from 7.30pm – 9.30pm for an uplifting and enjoyable experience.

Our next performance will be in the Summer of 2026 when we will be performing Schubert's Mass in G and Puccini's Messa di Gloria under the guidance of our wonderful and talented Music Director, Justin Bindley. Rehearsals will begin on Monday 5th January 2026.

For more information contact Caroline Rodbourne at caroline@rodbourne.org.uk ...or take a look at our website: www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk

ALL THINGS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL at ST MARGARET

SOUTH ELMHAM CHURCH SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER

AND SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

COME AND ENJOY THE TREES BY TWILIGHT

IN OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCH

2PM TO 6.00PM each day

Entrance £1, children free

REFRESHMENTS, MINCEPIES, CAKES, TOMBOLA, WREATHS, FIND THE ELVES

DENTAL CARE

Urgent care dental appointments are available across Suffolk within 1 to 7 days by contacting NHS 111. Adults and children experiencing dental pain, infection and other urgent issues can access NHS care seven days a week, including in the evenings. Go online at 111.nhs.uk or call 111 for an appointment

HOMERSFIELD

A few Councillors and parishioners took part in a village litter pick on 11 October 2025. Seven bags of rubbish were collected for East Suffolk Council to remove, and two instances of fly-tipping were reported.

Homersfield Parish Council would like to thank everyone who helped to keep our village looking lovely and cared for.

HOMERSFIELD

The weather has been very kind to us this autumn, an abundance of blackberries, conkers and enormous fungi, beautiful sunsets and stunning autumnal colours. The resident Tawny Owl in Church Wood has been making himself heard (very loudly) every evening.

We will be having our Carol Service on Monday 22nd December. There will be refreshments and mulled wine. Please feel free to bring anything edible to share if you wish. Hopefully we can get our band of volunteers together to clean and decorate the Church on Saturday 20th December around 10 a.m.

The village has been awarded some daffodil bulbs by East Suffolk Blooms Scheme, if anyone would like to help plant them please email Lucy Hammond at lucyhammondpc@gmail.com

Dates for your diary:-

Sunday 6th December. Wood tidying volunteers meeting at the picnic bench at 10 a.m. Saturday 20th December. Cleaning and decorating the Church around 10 a.m.

Sunday 21st Holy Communion at 10 a.m. with coffee.

Monday 22nd December. Carol Service 6 p.m.

Saturday 10th January. Wood tidying volunteers. 10 a.m. at the picnic bench.

Sally

St Cross News

The Festive Season Approaches

Traitors has concluded, Bake Off has been won and Strictly is in full swing...so Christmas must be just around the corner!
Here's to a happy and peaceful Christmas for our community and a good New Year ahead.

Road Signage

New signs have been ordered for Mill Lane/Sandy Lane. The signage should read 'Slow Horses' and also 'Unsuitable for HGV's'. We hope this might dissuade large vehicles following SatNav instructions and travelling along this narrow, little road.

Thanks to Paul, David and Will for clearing the fallen tree from the corner of Hall Road. The small tree had helpfully fallen across the road and posed a real hazard to traffic. It's so good to have people with the right kit and 'know how' to deal with these incidents.

News From Flixton

Road Drains and Culverts

It appears that the Environment Agency is carrying out drainage ditch clearance in the floodplain area behind the Buck pub and are planning to also carry out clearance along the beck adjacent to The Street . It's a bit of a shame that no-one was able to come up with photographs or video evidence of the bad flooding which occurred in the past at the junction of Church Road and The Street as this would help to prioritise the overdue culvert cleaning by SCC Highways . I'm just dumbfounded that the Environment Agency don't keep some records of emergency attendances . We have to hope that we don't get any prolonged , heavy rain but action is always better than hope .

Village Support

I believe the 18th October litter pick morning went well . There seems to be less discarded rubbish along The Street so maybe cleaner verges

discourage this lazy behaviour , good news . The next couple of months will see a need for leaf clearance work , as Autumn takes full effect . Most of the residents volunteering for this kind of work are not getting any younger and we know that there are still some physically able people in the village who would be most welcome , so DON'T BE SHY . In addition , the Community Speed Watch Team is still looking for volunteers . Give me a call .

Speeding

Despite the hard work of the Speed Watch Team , this problem is ever present . Worst times in The Street are around 3.30 to 4.30 pm when the “race track” seems to open . Many are cars , so parents don't seem to worry about speed limits unless the problem is on their “turf” and the next biggest number are smaller work vans for some reason . The odd thing is that during the logical rush hour when the traffic is still pretty dense , about 5.00 until 6.00 pm , there seems to be less speeding . I've recently dealt with two HGVs speeding . One was Bartrums Transport and the other was Whites Environmental Waste , the latter having always been a problem . I reported both and was assured they'd be dealt with . Sadly , I'm confident that Whites will continue to ignore speed limits .

On the same subject , someone we know was fined £100 and given 3 penalty points for doing 32 mph in a 30 limit . This was in Suffolk . Yet no Speedwatch Team can report “speeders” below 34 mph (?) . I'd be interested to read the appropriate Suffolk Constabulary minutes which record a policy change and what the reasoning is . When our Police can't stop people doing 45 mph plus in our village , fining someone for doing 32 mph looks more like a “revenue stream” idea than focussed Policing .

Peter George Boothby

A message from Peter's family . Peter , formally of Threeways , Church Road , Flixton has sadly passed way at the age of 89 . A long standing resident of Flixton over 60 years , Peter his wife Brenda and daughters Karen , Katrina , and Claire spent many happy years living in the bungalow which Peter proudly built for his family . His daughters have such happy memories living there . Peter was a much loved husband , dad , grandad and great grandad and he will be sadly missed .

Contact Pete Madder-Smith on 896828 .

FLIXTON 100 Club

Here are the 100 winners

Sep 25

1st	Rachel Pearce	2
2nd	Derek Pearce	66
3rd	Vi. Hall	98

Oct 25

1st	Teddy Ely	13
2nd	Alison Meas	35
3rd	Michelle Pearce	56

NEWS FROM ST JAMES November 2025

Church News

The **Harvest Festival**. A big thank you to all who helped to decorate the church this year. It was beautiful and was complemented by the scents of the fruits and flowers. A good number attended to enjoy the singing of our traditional hymns and although it was too nippy to have them outside this year, all enjoyed the refreshments after the service and stayed for a chat with friends and neighbours. Although the **Remembrance Service** was not at St. James this year, the church was dressed for the occasion and our soldiers put on parade. Our next event is the **Carol Service at 6pm on Sunday 21st December**. Weather permitting for those able to, we will start from the village hall at 17.55 to walk to the church singing carols on the way. For those not able to, Brenda will be playing in the church waiting for everyone to arrive. We are again being joined by The Waveney Brass Ensemble and an added guest this year will be Matt Corry, an internationally renowned singer with an amazing voice. He will be singing a solo at the start of the service.

As usual, hot and cold refreshments will be served after the service (donations welcome), so please come and join this incredible evening for some wonderful music, good company and tasty food and drink. There is parking at the church.

For any other details please contact Jane on 01986 782413.

Hall and Village News

In September, Soul Alliance once again delivered a great evening of music and dance, enjoyed by ever-increasing numbers. Look out for the next music evening which will be **Paddy's Legs** returning in **March 2026**.

In October, the **Quiz Night** was fully booked and pizza, puddings, and a great raffle went down very well. Nearly £300 from the raffle proceeds was donated to Macmillan Cancer funds.

Both the monthly **Crafternoons** in the Hall and the Music for All continue to be very popular.

Future Events

Still to come in our programme :

First our **Photo Competition**, on Sat November 15th for judging. Entries to be with Grange Barn by the beginning of the preceding week.

Judging is done by those who attend and there will be an **Art and Craft** exhibition in the hall at the same time. 10.30am - 4pm

Coffee and cake will be available.

The last session of **Music For All** (Musical Lifelines) will be on December 8th at the usual time of 10.30 – 12 noon and this will be followed by the last **Crafternoon** of Christmas Wreath making at 2pm.

Last, but certainly not least in 2025, the annual **Christmas Lunch!** For family and friends.

Sunday, 14th December From 12.30 for 1pm sit down.

As those of you who usually come, will know, this is very popular, so early booking is essential.

Book with Lynda 782582, Caroline, 782545 or through the Village WhatsApp.

Cost - £10 pp, under 16s free.

To include a 3-course meal, drinks on arrival and great raffle prizes for all (adults, children and even dogs...)

A reminder that, as you read above, the **Carol Service** at the church will be on **Sunday, 21st December**.

Some events to put into your new 2026 calendars:

Music for all will start on Monday, 12th January

In late January, we hope to organise a Games Evening, Details in the Jan magazine.

Crafternoons will restart on Monday, 9th February

In February, probably towards the end of the month, a **Curry Night, Bring and Share** a dish evening.

The above will all be advertised in the January Community News, as well as by leafletting through your door.

We hope to see as many as possible at the Christmas lunch, so don't forget to book early!

BENIFICE SERVICES REV LEON COLLYER 01986781345



Saints Benefice Barn Nativity Service

Saturday 13 December 3.00pm Church Farm, St Nicolas SE

Carol Services

Sunday 7 December 3.00pm Ilk St John

Sunday 14 December 6.00pm St Margaret South Elmham

Monday 15 December 6.00pm St Michael South Elmham

Tuesday 16 December 5.30pm (with School) Ilk St Lawrence

Thursday 18 December 6.00pm Rumburgh

Friday 19 December 6.00pm St Cross South Elmham

Sunday 21 December 6.00pm St James South Elmham

Sunday 21 December 6.00pm St Peter South Elmham

Monday 22 December 6.00pm Homersfield

Christingle Service

Tuesday 23 December 4.00pm Flixton

Christmas Services

Wednesday 24 December 3.00pm (Crib Service) Ilk St Margaret

Wednesday 24 December 11.00pm (Midnight Mass) Flixton

Thursday 25 December 10.00am (Family Communion) Ilk St Lawrence

16/11/25 Second before Advent

10.00am HC - CW St Peter

4.00pm EP - BCP Homersfield

23/11/25 Christ the King

10.00am HC - CW Flixton

4.00pm EP - CW Rumburgh

30/11/25 Advent 1

10.00am HC - CW St Cross

4.00pm Advent Carols St Lawrence