

MOVING HOUSE

SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

Issue No. 247

April - May 2025

ST JAMES

ST PETERS

ST MARGARET S.E VE CELEBRATIONS 5TH MAY VE CELEBRATIONS 4TH MAY **TIM MAYCOCK RETIRES!!**

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SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

April - May '25

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Thank you to those who send contributions, they help keep this magazine going and FREE to over 400 households.

Next copy deadline May 7th

The views and comments printed herein are not necessarily the views of the Editor or this publication

EDITORAL

Tim Maycock has retired, thank you Tim, 15 years hardly a blink of an eye, fortunately young Jez Donaldson has stepped in to the vacancy, Thank you. Tense times, with Trump at large, let alone his mate Putin and the rest of the world not knowing what they will say or do next. Bullies shouldn't be allowed to win. We are, at the moment, the lucky ones, as we are not in Ukraine. Sadly, it's a bit like a school yard scrap, he says this, they said that. You feel that a few heads need to be knocked together to get some sense into them. In the past these battles have been over oil now it's rare metals. The usual vice GREED.

GPC www.flixton.one.net

The Grouped Parish Council Flixton, St Cross and St Margaret South Elmham met at St Margaret S.E Village Hall on 13th January at 7.30pm.

GPC, continued....

District Cllr Toby Hammond outlined the proposed Devolution, which would abolish the District and County Councillors and councils. They would be replaced with Councillors and a Mayor. Cllr Warne gave a report from The Buck Quarry Liaison group. A request from Flixton Community Self Help group for a Defibrillator seminar was awaiting a date and time. Cllr Skinner has volunteered to take on the Flixton VAS machine. Next meeting 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm, Batemans Barn, St Cross.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

St Margaret S.E	Monday 7th April at 7.30, Village Hall.	
St Cross	Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm, Batemans Barn.	
Flixton	Tuesday 15th April at 7.30pm, Village hall.	
	ALL WELCOME	

MOLE

Thank you to all those who contributed on the occasion of the editors 70th birthday, £900 was raised for and spilt between YANA and the RABI. Brilliant. Another milestone. Bingo at St Margaret, with bigger balls to the delight of all those who attended, including one 'young' lady in her 90's for whom this was her first time. The fun quiz held in the hall was the most tables hosted for several years and was won by the SWIM-MERS. Badminton continues with the ever-shrinking Rodney, gliding across the court. At St Cross I hear that the multi-talented David Hill has added Pony whispering to his CV. Down at Homersfield a Tractor Run, starting from Seething, stopped for lunch at the Black Swan the 75 tractors raised over £1000 for Cancer charity. Up at St James, young Jack Pipe passed his driving test, congratulations. Sadly at Flixton, Alan Mann passed away sympathies to the family.

FROM THE TRACTOR CAB

The cock pheasant has his best finery on, as he struts his stuff trying to win the young ladies. There was a herd of 40 red deer beside Totties Hill and encounters with munjac, Chinese deer and fallow are a daily experience, sadly, the numbers have got out of control and this has resulted in a lot of damage particularly to young trees. If they can browse the tops and the tree or bush are in guards, they push them over and eat the bark or the tops out, in many cases killing the tree.







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Snails (see cover) can live for 3 to 5 years, top speed is 0.048 kmh. They make their own shells using calcium from the soil. In times of cold or heat they withdraw into their shells and can hibernate. The hares are busy 'Box-ing', the Skylarks are singing, Spring is here!

St MARGARET DIARY

Fri 21st March	Fun Quiz, 7.30pm, Village Hall, £8 a head, teams of
	6, raffle, refreshments, bring your own drink
Sat 22nd March	Litter Pick, 2pm, meet at Village Hall
Fri 28th March	Bowls, 7.30pm, Village Hall, equipment provided
Mon 7th April	ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING, 7.30
	VILLAGE HALL, all welcome
Fri 18th April	Easter trail, 11.00am – 2pm, starting at Village Hall
Mon 28th April	AGM, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Mon 5th May	VE celebration Lunch 12.00pm -2pm
	BRING FOOD TO SHARE and your own drink.
	Tea & coffee will be available.
	Dress of the period if desired, raffle and cake.
Fri 20th June	Countryside Evening, 6-8pm, Beck Valley
Sat 21st June	Classic Vehicle Event, 10-4pm, Beck Valley
	Cars, tractors stalls bar teas. Entrance £5.
	Vehicles to book Ring Rodney 01986782409
Saturday 12th July	FLIXTON AND SOUTH ELMHAM FLOWER AND
	PRODUCE SHOW, St Margaret South Elmham
	Village Hall. Entries Jenni Baker 01986782377
Saturday 19th July	6pm - 10pm, St Margaret South Elmham Village
	BBQ bar, games. On the ALFIE DAY GREEN
Sunday August TBC	Afternoon tea, Redhouse Farm
Sunday Sept TBC	Harvest Lunch, Village hall

FROM BERNARD AND SUE

I'd like to thank the young man driving a black truck who kindly stopped and picked up my husband Bernard when he fell off his bike last Thursday, early afternoon, on the Halesworth-Homersfield road. You then brought him and his bike home. I'm afraid I don't know who you are to contact you directly, but I hope this message of thanks reaches you. SUE PS Bernard is fine now!





Jayne Rayner - Manager

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FLIXTON VILLAGE MEETING UPDATE

On February 19th, there was a brief meeting at the Buck, primarily to finalise the layout of a wall planner for village events. The first copy should be out and about in the very near future. Please help your community by keeping the planner in a visible location at home and using it as a useful reminder of events you can be involved in.

As a quick update, the next litter pick will be on 22nd March, so please keep the date in your diary and meet up in Church Road by the bus-shelter at 10am with the small band of volunteers who help to keep our village clean.

Flood risk issues were also discussed and we have seen further improvement being made by the Environment Agency along the Beck in The Street during late November. Unfortunately, the road-drains blocked by too much straw is still a problem with trailers dropping more straw along The Street in late December and early January, despite the issue being passed to the Parish Council for discussion with local farmers and farm contractors. This just seems to be an ongoing issue, showing no concern for the village or its residents.

I had a quick meet with a SCC representative Hugh Healy in Church Road, to try and clarify responsibility for keeping the culverts clear. Hugh has promised to come back with clear information, although this may take some time. He is also going to take a look at Abbey Road's surface water issue which he actually believes is the responsibility of SCC. So, watch this space.

DOG BIN

Well, "you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink"!! Or you can provide a highly visible dog bin but, some people who show absolutely no community spirit or civic responsibility will treat the village with contempt. There are clear means to address this issue and the local authority has told me that they will prosecute if residents will just provide the evidence. Reporting residents will not need to be directly involved. It's now up to people to get together and let those responsible suffer the consequences of their own laziness.



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'Walnut Cottage - Suffolk'

Flixton continued... COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Don't forget, the speed watch team could do with some extra help and it's the village which benefits. So contact Terry Hunt on 01986 892177 if you're interested and willing to lend a hand.

Jan 25			Feb 2	5	
1st	Ben Brogan	88	1st	Alfie Doughty	87
2nd	Michelle Pearce	56	2nd	Caden Hennesey	18
3rd	Paul Hunt	45	3rd	Amy Howard	47

COFFEE & CAKE MORNING ON SATURDAY

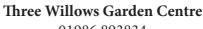
29th March, 10.30 - 12.00 at Flixton Village Hall with monies raised going toward St Mary's Church, Flixton.

HOMERSFIELD

We're finally into Spring and Church Wood has a lovely carpet of snowdrops. The wood is beginning to look much better with the removal of brambles, which were taking over. New trees (20 hornbeams) have been planted. We briefly had a visitor in the wood.... a small, very attractive cockerel for a few days but where he came from and where he went to remains a mystery! The village playground will reopen on 20th April. It will be nice to see it used again.

We will be having a stall raising money for the Church at The Black Swans Grand Summer Fete on 2nd August. If you have any donations for our stall, things you no longer need that someone else may find useful, I would be happy to collect them 07780911193 or they can be left in the Church or on my doorstep at 9 Glebe Cottages. Sadly some 'character ' stole the Henry vacuum cleaner from the church in broad daylight and even asked a resident to help him put it in his car, before driving off!! Hopefully the police may recover it as the registration of the vehicle was taken. Sally







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ST PETER

After 15 years, Tim has handed over responsibility for reporting on all things St Peters for this newsletter. (Sadly not long enough for the Gold watch). We thank him for his dedication. As your new correspondent, I will do my best to maintain his standards.

The year started well, with many residents of the village gathering around the church for the annual 'taking down of the Christmas star' ceremony. The hazardous task was completed fairly uneventfully and the responsibility for future mounting and dismounting was passed onto a new generation.

On the topic of new generations, we congratulate Ben and Beth on the birth of James Elliott Bear on 24th January. The population of St Peters is booming.

This year's bric-a-brac sale at St Peters Cottage, next to the church, is on 17th May, between 10am - 2pm. There is always a friendly welcome and a brilliant selection of plants available. Mark your diaries.

While you have your diaries out, we can now reveal that the date for the 11th popular fun boules tournament is Sunday 20th July at Ilketshall St Andrew village hall. All ages and abilities are welcome. You don't even need to know the rules! All you need is a team of four. The event lasts all day with games played in leagues in the morning. In the afternoon, teams play a knockout competition. The best teams play for the cup and the less fortunate teams play for the plate, so you will all get plenty of games. There will be food and drink available and the village hall bar will be open. Details have already been sent to those who have previously entered or shown interest, so don't delay. Entries are capped and there are no entries allowed on the day. This really is a fun day out so give it a try. Entry forms are available from tim.maycock@btinternet.com or 07768 061 228.

There was a drive-by shooting in the Northern Precinct of St Peters, as council workmen fired shovelfuls of loose tarmac and gravel at our cavernous potholes, from a fast-moving truck. This was promptly churned back out of the potholes by the lorries that grind their way along the road on a daily basis. We look forward to 2026's road repairs.

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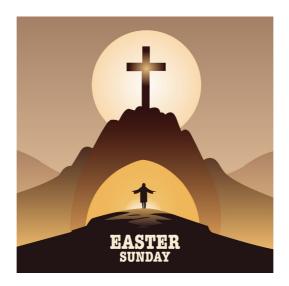
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> Telephone: 01986 783988 Mobile: 07836 504416

Church Services Rev Leon Collyer 01986 781345

23/03/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	Flixton
	Evening Prayer	4.00pm	Rumburg
30/03/25	Mothering Sunday Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 5.00pm	St Lawrence St Cross
06/04/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	St John
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St James
13/04/25	Palm Sunday Holy Communion Baptism	10.00am 2.30pm	Ilk St Margaret St Margaret SE
20/04/25	Easter Sunday Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 5.00pm	Homersfield St Peter
27/04/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	Rumburgh
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Flixton
04/05/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	St James
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St John
11/05/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Margaret SE
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Ilk St Margaret
18/05/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Peter
	Pet Service	5.00pm	St Homersfield
25/05/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Michael
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Rumburgh

01/06/25	Babtism	10.00am	Flixton
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St John
15/06/25	Baptism	10.00am	Homersfield
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Peter
22/06/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	Rumburgh
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	Flixton
29/06/25	Holy Communion	10.00am	St Cross
	Evening Prayer	5.00pm	St Lawrence



St Peter continued...

The 49 club was won in February by Caroline and in March by the Church.

It's always a pleasure to see buzzards circling, although I wonder at the intentions of the two that seem to loiter ominously at the end of our drive. Red kites are still a fairly rare sight in these parts, although others around The Saints may see them more often. We are mounting a couple of Swift boxes on the barn this year and hope to see them enthusiastically adopted. Ideally by Swifts.

As I write, the first daffodil flowers are bravely emerging through early March's crisp morning frosts. February is over, the sun is shining and Spring is truly under way, although I'm sure there will be another bout of winter before long. We all look forward, with keen anticipation, to whichever day Summer occurs on this year.

ST CROSS

Be Aware!

On 15th February a stolen van crashed at the bottom of Fox Hill. The thieves abandoned the vehicle and stole a car and trailer parked in the village to make their getaway. Do be aware that even in our lovely rural area crime happens. If you see anything suspicious report it to the police.

Sunshine!

At the time of writing this the sun is shining! After all the gloomy weather we've endured it seems like spring is coming. The birdsong definitely reflects this and the daffodils and primroses are looking beautiful. No doubt we will all be getting busy in our gardens.

For a bit of inspiration or just a trip out in wonderful surroundings with the option of a nice cup of tea and cake, make a note of the open garden at Squires Barn on Sunday 29th June (11 - 4).

ST JAMES CHURCH NEWS

Please reserve this date in your diary.

On Sunday 4th May the village is going to hold a commemoration to mark the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW11 in Europe. This will be held at the church but will be put together by the PCC and the village hall.





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St James continued...

Details are to be sorted but early indications are a service at 10am and then afternoon tea etc in the churchyard. If anyone would like to help decorate the church to fill it full of colour or with refreshments please contact Jane on 01986 782413

Posters and flyers will be distributed with all details of the event in due course.

HALL AND VILLAGE NEWS

The hall year started with a Crafternoon of Needle Felting and with a fully booked class, it was a great success. The next, Book Making, is already full. Look out for details of the following one in the May magazine.

MARCH 22ND

The Harleston Choral Society's annual quiz with hot supper, still has some space for teams. Contact Caroline on 01986782545 for details.

MARCH 29TH - MUSIC NIGHT

The following hall event will be a music evening by Paddy's Legs, an Irish music style band which promises to be good fun and a bit different for St James. Tickets, £10 on the door or best call 07778204113, to include hot refreshments.

BYO alcohol. There will be a Raffle.

MAY 10TH BARN DANCE

This will feature the very popular Norfolk based band The Whirligigs. We are lucky to have booked them, as they are always in demand throughout the region.

£15 to include a hot supper and glass of wine (you are welcome to bring your own alcohol if wished). There will be one of our ever-popular raffles and numbers will be limited, so early booking advisable. Contact Caroline on 782545 for details and booking.

10TH MAY OPEN GARDEN AT THE LABURNUMS

The open garden at The Laburnums in February was a huge success and the weather was relatively kind to us. We welcomed 297 visitors to the garden and some went to visit the church also for more Snowdrops. A very big thank you to all who helped put the day together and for the help on the day. £1,800 was raised for the charities.

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St James continued....

The next event will be on Saturday 10th May at The Laburnums in the usual format running from at 10am to 5pm, when the garden will look very different and includes an all-day BBQ, the band concert in the afternoon and a variety of stalls, including of course the large plant stall.

Information can be found in a variety of places including BBC Suffolk Radio, Park Radio Diss and EastSuffolkOne.com.

5TH JULY

A very early notice that the Village Summer Lunch will be held on Saturday, July the 5th on the Village Green, weather permitting. Details nearer the time.

We were very sorry to hear that David Duncan of Brook Farm Cottage, passed away peacefully at home in his sleep on Boxing Day 2024. David would have been 92 on the following day. We send our condolences to his family.

SOUTH ELMHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Thursday 27th March

"The Boy who burned the Barn - Crime and Punishment in 19th Century Suffolk" by Dr J Belsey

Thursday 24th April "The Elizabethan House of Gt Yarmouth - If walls could talk" by Stuart Burgess

Meetings are held in St Margaret South Elmham Village Hall, IP20 0PJ at 7.30pm. Everyone is most welcome, you do not have to be a member to attend. £3 on the door, £1 members including refreshments.



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chris@maddoxmaintenance.co.uk www.maddoxmaintenance.co.uk HARLESTON & DISTRICT U3A invites you to our April 2025 talk Walking into Grandma's Kitchen in 1940s Madras, given by Jenny Mallin. Jenny was winner of "Best in World Cookbook" by the Gourmand World Cookbook Society for 2017 and she is a regular speaker to a broad variety of groups looking for an interesting and unique talk on her British Raj family. We'll discover how enticed they were by those exotic ingredients found in India, which with the help and careful consideration of their native cook, produced a different kind of cuisine.

Visitors welcome, admission £3.00 including refreshments. Further information about this and all Harleston & District u3a's activities is on our website www.harleston.u3asite.uk or contact Kim Poulton on 01986 788149.

HARLESTON CHORAL SOCIETY will be on full speed ahead when we return from our Easter break on Monday 28 April. We'll be well into our 25th anniversary year and the high point will be our Summer Concert on Saturday 28th June in Harleston Sancroft Academy, when we'll be singing Carl Orff Carmina Burana with professional soloists and orchestra, and the school's choir. It's not too late to join us on 28th April for the last term of rehearsals and to celebrate 25 years of wonderful music: come at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start, in The London Road Church (formerly The Harleston Methodist Church) at London Road, Harleston, IP20 9BH. Parking is available in The Original Factory Shop (TOFS) car park opposite on London Road, Harleston, IP20 9BZ.

Another enticing date: a 'Come and Sing Messiah' day on Saturday 16th August, in St James Village Hall, IP19 0HP, open to all. And to round off the year, our Christmas concert on Saturday 6th December, back in St John's Church. Throughout the year we'll also be setting up display panels in various locations, showing HCS's history, the many people who've been involved with the choir over the years, and choir members' memories.

See the Home Page and the About Us and Location and Contact sections of our website www.harlestonchoral.org.uk for more information about HCS or from our joint Chairs: Caroline Rodbourne caroline@ rodbourne.org.uk and Jo Curry, jo.curry@sky.com

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The Rural Wildlife and Heritage Police Team from Ipswich advises:

- For uncollected dog fouling (get photographic or video evidence if possible), noise, smell and any other problems affecting neighbours contact the Environmental Protection Agency and/or Environmental Health tel: 0333 016 2000.
- If a dog has been injured or mistreated contact the RSPCA tel: 0300 1234 999.
- For illegal hunting of wild animals: Get video or photographic evidence if possible. This includes loading vehicles with dogs and poaching equipment. If seen actively poaching e.g. lamping or hare coursing ring 999. Be firm, as this will be the local Police and insist they come out immediately as a crime is being committed.
- If possible use the three words system to give the Police the location of the event. If the activity can be narrowed down to a regular time and place for the illegal activity contact the RWP team and they will organise a sting. Inform any activity seen to the RWP Team by email: rwp@ suffolk.police.uk and they will compile a dossier. Even if it is not possible to make an arrest this information can be used for a Community Protection warning letter and/or a visit from the Police.

HELLO SPRING!!!

How lovely to see the sun again, A welcome change from the cold and rain. We're all waiting for our world to turn green For the last few months brown's been the theme, Brown roads and cars, brown bushes and trees, Mud on your boots, nearly up to your knees! But all change now, time to get outside, We've had enough of being inside So fire up the lawnmower, dust off the rake, No more watching TV and eating cake. Firstly, fill in the holes the dog has dug, She's started her own quarry, little humbug! Springs here at last...busy times No time to sit here writing rhymes. Sally (HOMERSFIELDS PAM AYRES)



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