



# Wenhaston



# Word

Village Newsletter delivered free to all houses in Wenhaston and in Mells. Also available at Halesworth Library. Online at

[www.wenhastonword.co.uk/](http://www.wenhastonword.co.uk/) where each issue is displayed in its entirety at no extra charge to advertisers.

Series:2, Issue:33  
December 2009

## **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Wenhaston Word readers, advertisers and distributors.**



Thank you to all contributors to Wenhaston Word for submitting their reports and items of interest. Heartfelt thanks go especially to the 25 loyal, local residents who voluntarily undertake to deliver your monthly Wenhaston Word. We all rely on their goodwill and kindness. Between them they distribute around 440 newsletters and inserts throughout Wenhaston and Mells.

All Wenhaston Word income is from advertising and donations. As costs increase donations are most welcome. Realistically, if it were not for the many and varied advertisements in each issue Wenhaston Word could not exist. Please support our advertisers and let them know you found them in Wenhaston Word and please encourage your group to place advertisements for their events etc, or even to consider Wenhaston Word when looking to raise funds for a local good cause.

All newsletters are collated, laser printed, stapled and folded at Blythweb every month, with Blythweb funding staff time of several days a month for this work.

Don't forget that Wenhaston Word is also available online in its entirety on its own website [www.wenhastonword.co.uk/](http://www.wenhastonword.co.uk/). All issues back to April 2007 are on the website. Statistics show that the newsletter is regularly downloaded more times than the number printed (ie 662 times during October 2009) and from an astonishing variety of countries worldwide.



### **Carol Concert**

**Blythburgh Church**

**Tuesday 22nd December, 7:30pm**

**Free Admission**

**Come And Sing!**

**Donations to Blythburgh Church**

Wenhaston Village Hall



## **Christmas Bazaar**

**Saturday 5th December**

**2pm - 4pm**

**Santa's Grotto, Refreshments,**

**Festive Stalls, Grand Raffle**

**All Welcome**

### **Muck & Magic Organic [www.muckandmagicorganic.co.uk](http://www.muckandmagicorganic.co.uk)**

Enjoy organic beef, lamb and pork this festive season from our Soil Association certified organic farm at Wenhaston. Order now for Christmas and New Year, by phone 01502 478792, by email (see website) or call in the farm shop. Open Thursdays and Fridays 9am - 6pm, including 17th and 18th December, and open 22nd December for collection of Christmas orders.

## The Queen's Head Taps into WaterAid!

Since June 2008 staff at the Queen's Head in Bramfield have been encouraging their customers to make a voluntary donation to WaterAid when they request tap water.

The Tap into WaterAid campaign is a simple way for restaurants, cafes, pubs and their customers to help bring safe drinking water to the 884 million people without it worldwide. Customers are invited to make a voluntary donation for a glass or jug of tap water, all of which go towards WaterAid's life-saving water, sanitation and hygiene education projects in the developing world.

Amanda Corcoran, landlady of the Queen's Head said "Tap into WaterAid campaign has been really popular with our customers - they seem to love the idea! Even small donations will make a huge difference to communities living without clean water. So far we have raised £1,023.62 in just over a year! I hope more restaurants and pubs in Suffolk will feel inspired to get involved."

Since its beginning in 2005, this initiative has been taken on by over 100 restaurants and an amazing £23,000 has been raised, enabling more of the world's poorest people to access safe water and sanitation for the first time. It costs just £15 for WaterAid to bring safe water, sanitation and hygiene education to someone in poverty. Please keep tapping into WaterAid! To find out more, please go to [www.tapintowateraid.org](http://www.tapintowateraid.org) or contact Amanda Corcoran on 01986 784214 [qhbfield@aol.com](mailto:qhbfield@aol.com) .



### Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet Parish Council

Claret Engineering has started work on the drains/sewers at the Drift. The work will take about 16 weeks, at the end of this time Blackheath Road may have to be closed for a few days for the connection of the pipes. Any damage to Well Green will be put right.

Anne Powell, a Community Watch Liaison Officer, spoke to the Parish Council about Neighbourhood Watch. If anyone is interested in being a co-ordinator for your street/area please get in touch with the Clerk. Leaflets are available at the Post Office about Police Direct and stickers with important telephone numbers.

PCSO Newson reported that there were no reported crimes from 21st October to 15th November.

Planning Application C09/1643 Wyncroft Farm Bungalow was supported by the Parish Council. Cllr. Edwards is forming a small committee to review the Village Action Plan. If any Parishioners have thoughts as to what they would like in the village, please get in touch with a member of the Parish Council.

*Mary Pennock, Clerk*

[www.wenhaston.net/parishcouncil/](http://www.wenhaston.net/parishcouncil/)

### Bell Ringing

The Wenhaston practice night in December is on Friday 11th between 7:30pm and 9:00pm at St Peter's Church. *Becky Canham*

### Wenhaston Gardeners

Things were all of a flutter down at the Village Hall as Ben Potterton and his feathered friends entertained us. Such well behaved birds, too. Apart from the two blue parrots which had their own agenda.

It was a fascinating talk - not only about birds but ranging right across Ben's experience of dealing with animals of all kinds.

Christmas Party time approaches. Yes, really! Tuesday December 8th at the Village Hall. *Cherry Wilkinson*

### Wenhaston Village Hall Bookings

Bookings for affiliated clubs are now being added in the 2010 diary. If you have not already done so, please contact me on 01502 478842 or email [villagehall@wenhaston.net](mailto:villagehall@wenhaston.net) to confirm your chosen dates as outside bookings are also being taken. Also a reminder to affiliated clubs to please regularly check your allocated pocket at the Village Hall. *Becky Canham*

## Useful Information

18th December - last posting date 2nd Class  
21st December - last posting date 1st Class

### **Christmas Closing:**

#### **Blythweb**

Closed for Christmas and New Year from Monday 21st December. For urgent computer, website or IT problems call 01502 478712 or email [mail@blythweb.net](mailto:mail@blythweb.net).

Re-open Monday 4th January 2010.

#### **Queen's Head, Bramfield**

Open every day serving meals and drinks over Christmas and New Year excluding Christmas Day evening and all day Boxing Day.

#### **Muck and Magic**

See front page. Open from 31st December.

#### **PJN Motor Engineering**

Closed Wednesday 23rd December.

Open again from Monday 4th January 2010.

For motor emergencies call 07802 965 746.

### **Hot Off The Press!**

'Bwanakula Thandi...the story of the building of Kaputula School' has recently been published by local author Moira Cooke. Described as a 'tale of blood, sweat and tears', the book tells the story of the building of a community school in rural Zambia.

Though the project was never going to be easy, yet had Moira and husband Robert any inkling of the problems involved, they might well have caught the first plane back to the UK! That a school stands there today, is evidence of grit and determination. Read the book to find out whose!

As for the title, it means 'grandmother of Thandi', the honorary name the community gave Moira on the birth of her first grandchild.

'Bwanakula Thandi' is available price £7.99 from Moira Cooke, Belmoor, Blackheath Road, Wenhampton, Suffolk IP19 9DH. 01502 478503 or email [moiracooke@belmoor.plus.com](mailto:moiracooke@belmoor.plus.com).

Cheques payable to: Moira Cooke. Also online from major internet booksellers.

*Moira Cooke*

Boxing Day  
at



**THE STAR INN**  
Wenhampton

~~~~~  
Treasure Hunt 12:15pm  
~~~~~

Cold Buffet 1 – 4pm

Baked Salmon – Ham – Turkey – Salads

Jacket Potato – Pickles & Chutneys

Mince Pies & Brandy Butter

£7.50 per person

To book: 01502 478240

Christmas Day – Noon – 2pm

Boxing Day – Noon – 11pm

### **Hot Off The Press!**

Bwanakula Thandi...

..the story of the building of Kaputula School

by local author: Moira Cooke

Price £7.99 + p&p £2.00

(free in Halesworth area)

To order contact: Moira Cooke,  
Belmoor, Blackheath Road, Wenhampton IP19 9DH

or [moiracooke@belmoor.plus.com](mailto:moiracooke@belmoor.plus.com)

or from major internet booksellers...

**Order Now For Christmas!**

### **Stocking Fillers**

Stocking fillers available from Blythweb's office in The Street, Wenhampton :

4Gb Pendrive £13.06

USB2 Card Reader £14.00

Optical Mouse £11.50

Wenhampton Archive 2009 DVD £10.00

'Hall Farm Remembered' £5.00

Wenhampton Archive notelets, 8 for £6.00  
(handy for those thank-yous!)

Other computer items, equipment and peripherals also sold.

Phone 01502 478712 or call in.

*"For a child has been born for us...and he is named...Prince of Peace." (Isa 9:6)*

Rev'd Anna Wright sends her warmest Christmas Wishes  
to everyone in Wenhashton.



In lieu of sending cards individually, I shall be contributing to Water Aid,  
a charity that provides clean and safe water in developing countries.



### Christmas Greetings

Seasons Greetings and all Best Wishes  
to all my friends in Wenhashton.

**Sylvia Barrett**

## Wenhashton Methodist Church

### December Services

6th 10:30am Margaret Gooderham  
13th 10:30am Rev'd Robert Soanes S  
20th 4:00pm Carols by Candlelight  
27th No Service  
Christmas Day 9:30am United Family Service

Tuesday Meetings at 2:30pm

1st Women's Fellowship Rev'd David Read  
8th Bible Study  
15th Women's Fellowship Carols and Tea  
22nd No Meeting

No 'Pray a While' this month

## Wenhashton United Football Club

Home Fixtures for December **PTP**

5th	Res	v	Melton	KO 1:30pm
12th	1st	v	St Edmund's	KO 2:00pm
19st	1st	v	Stanton	KO 2:00pm
26th			No Matches	

## St. Peter's Church Services

### December

6th No Service (9:30am at Halesworth)  
13th 9:30am Parish Communion  
18th 7:00pm Village Carol Service  
20th No Service (4pm we join the Methodists)  
24th 11:30pm Midnight Service  
25th We join the Methodists  
Christmas Morning Service  
27th No service (10:30am Spexhall)

## Footpath Walking

As usual for December there will be one walk only. This will be followed by a bookable lunch at Hinton High Lodge to which all past and present walkers, and their partners, are invited. Those wishing to walk first to meet at Hinton Grange on Tuesday 1st December at 10am. Non walkers arrange to be at High Lodge Hinton for 12:30pm lunch. May I wish all walkers, landowners, caterers and publishers who have helped make the walks so enjoyable a Happy Christmas and New Year.

For any other help contact Heather Phillips  
01502 478545. **HPP**

## Commons Work Parties in December

Tuesday 8th - Vicarage Grove. Meet 10am at entrance

Sunday 13th - Blackheath. Meet 10am by seat on south side of common for our Yuletide Work Party. Work will include maintenance of areas cleared in 2007, and some further gorse clearance in heavily overgrown areas.

Sunday 27th - Blackheath. Meet 10am on slope adjoining area recently fire damaged. *Please note this is a change from the location previously published in our annual work party programme.*

Work will include cutting and raking bracken litter, and if enough volunteers, removal of further fire damaged gorse. **Jonathan Alder**

## Wenhaston After-school Club

A brand new after-school opportunity is now available for families living in Wenhaston and the surrounding area.

Wenhaston Community Play Scheme has extended its age range to welcome children in Years 5 and 6 at Halesworth Middle School to their After School Club which is open from 3:15pm-6:00pm at Wenhaston Primary School.

The HMS bus stops conveniently right outside Wenhaston School at around 4:00pm each day and Club Leader Jayne Pearce is there to collect the children and take them into the After School Club.

Once inside, there is always something interesting going on - activities, crafts, and games - plus drinks, snacks and just a chance to chill out and relax after a hard day at school! The after-school club is open every weekday

term-time except Thursdays and discounts are available. If you are interested in a place and would like more information please call Sarah Foster on 01502 478012. *Lindsey Savage*

### Wenhaston After School Club



**Sports, Crafts, Games  
and Competitions**  
*Come along and have some fun*

Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday  
3:15pm - 6:00pm  
for 5 - 11 year olds

£5.50 per session or £2.50 per hour  
various discounts available

contact Sarah for more information  
or bookings on 01502 478012

## Local Services *(More on pages 9 and 11)*

### Personal

#### Julie Grooms.

Mobile Hairdresser & Beauty Therapist.  
Tel: 01728 454394 Mob: 07713 733422

#### Beauty Treatments & Therapies.

Beverley Crichton, MBIAE ITEC IHBC  
Gift Vouchers available. Narrow Way.  
Tel: 01502 478720

#### Home Visiting Reflexologist.

Wenhaston. Tel 07852 513041.  
Christmas gift vouchers available.



**Chiropody (Podiatry).** Sue Welby MBChA,  
by appointment, Narrow Way.  
Tel: 01502 478541

### Retail

#### Maggie's Discount.

16A Thoroughfare, Halesworth, Suffolk  
IP19 8AH. Children's & Baby Wear. Knitting  
Yarns and Ladies Clothes. Tel:01986 874652  
Proprietor: Margaret Ferrari.

### Newsagent

**Patrick's.** Market Place, Halesworth.  
Delivers in Wenhaston from 6:30am.  
Tel: 01986 875229

### Funeral Services

#### Rosedale Funeral Home.

Arcadia House, 19 Market Place, Halesworth.  
Tel: 01986 875588

### Private Hire

**Rodney Fosdike.** Holton, Halesworth.  
One-way or return. Tel: 01986 872829.  
8-seater vehicle if required at any time.

### Accommodation

**Trish Gower.** Local holiday cottage  
accommodation, short breaks / extra beds for  
family reunions available. Tel: 01502 478078  
[www.suffolkcoastalcottages.co.uk](http://www.suffolkcoastalcottages.co.uk)

### Vehicle Bodywork

**Kevin Aldridge.** Holton Workshop.  
Bodywork and accident repairs.  
Tel: 01502 478171 Mobile: 07801 291795

## Wenhaston WI

This was our Annual meeting and proved to be a busy evening. It was pleasing to see how well attended it was. Our WI adviser complimented us on our scrap book commemorating our ninetieth year and for all the extra activities we are involved in.

Dilys gave an amusing and informative report on the gravestone survey. 1707 is the oldest tombstone with a macabre carving of a skull, crossbones, and an hourglass on top. Some stones gave interesting information: Sarah Ellis died aged 6 from an inoculation. Elizabeth Ann Young formally lived at 35 Baker Street London W1. William Nolloth was massacred at Cawnpore, India, and his brother, Abraham, died on passage to Australia.

Fifteen shoe boxes were sent to Romania and knitted blankets are being made for Chernobyl.

As several officers had stepped down from the committee new ones had to be elected. Helen stays on as our President. Margaret is to be our new treasurer and Jane and June are going to share the onerous task of secretary. Our grateful thanks go to them.

Next meeting will be fun! There will be a Christmas card exchange; Christmas refreshments will be served; Douglas Baker will be speaking on 'The Swing Era.' Bring your dancing shoes girls!! **FJJ**

### Music Corner by Chris Dunn

Saturday 5th December 7:30pm St Edmund's Church, Southwold, "Heart-warming Festive Fare" by Soprano, Tenor and Bass soloists. Includes a wide range of light music. Tickets £10 (incl refreshments) 01502 726161

Friday 18th December 7:30pm The Cut Arts Centre, Halesworth, "Deck the Hall" Wenhaston Girls Choir, Music to launch you into the festive spirit. Tickets £8 The Cut Box Office 0845 673 2123 or [www.newcut.org](http://www.newcut.org)

## Small Ads

### For Sale

**Hover Mower** 12" With extension cable.  
£25 ono. Telephone Tony: 01502 478977.

*Advertise items for sale and wanted  
for just 25p per word (min £3).*

### For Sale

**Refurbished PC £100 inc VAT**

- Windows 2000
- AMD Sempron 2800+
- 1gb RAM
- 250gb hard disk
- DVD drive
- mouse & keyboard
- 17" CRT screen
- 3 months RTB warranty

Good basic Windows PC with good spec. Could be upgraded to Windows XP. Fine for basic jobs - internet, email, word processing.

**Refurbished PC £80 inc VAT**

- Xubuntu 9.10 (latest)
- AMD Athlon 2000+
- 1gb RAM
- 200gb hard disk
- DVD drive
- mouse & keyboard
- 17" CRT screen
- 3 months RTB warranty

A basic spec PC but a great performer with Xubuntu installed. Fantastic range of software included or easily downloaded for free. Superb internet and general purpose PC. Xubuntu is fast and stable but quite different from Windows - must be seen!

Blythweb Ltd, The Street, Wenhaston  
01502 478712 [mail@blythweb.net](mailto:mail@blythweb.net)

## BlythWeb

Established 1994

### Need Anti-Virus For Your Computer?

Blythweb supplies and supports  
products for all levels of  
computer security



**01502 478712**

[www.blythweb.net](http://www.blythweb.net) [mail@blythweb.net](mailto:mail@blythweb.net)

## Dates for Your Diary

31st December 2009/ 1st January 2010  
See in the New Year at Wenhaston Village  
Hall and/or at Bramfield Queen's Head  
15th January WEA Spring Course  
20th January Deadline for February WW  
23rd January Sports Club Jumble Sale

For events in the local area go to  
[www.blythweb.net/calendar/](http://www.blythweb.net/calendar/)

## Wenhaston Archive Project Update

Work is still progressing and images are still being added to the website! Arthur will be out with the digital recorder again this winter talking to some of our older residents about the changes in our village. We hope to have edited versions of some of these conversations available on CD at our next Archive Exhibition which will be in October 2010 - watch this space for details of the dates!

The Archive Project will have a stall at the Wenhaston Christmas Bazaar on 5th December with the Wenhaston Notelets, Village Views DVDs and a new line of framed village photos. Do come and see us when you come to the Bazaar on 5th December.

For more information see the website:  
<http://archive.wenhaston.net> *Tim Heaps*

<http://archive.wenhaston.net>

The Wenhaston Archive Project Website

**Your local  
Pre-School needs  
you!**



**We are currently recruiting for a new Chairperson and committee members. Everyone welcome.**

These are very rewarding voluntary positions assisting the running of a vital local resource. For further details please contact the Preschool located behind Wenhaston Primary School. We are open Monday to Friday 9-11.30am

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new staff....Lisa - Supervisor, Molly - deputy and our latest recruit Emma.

## Wenhaston Village Hall

*presents a village*

## New Year's Eve Party

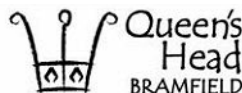
7:30pm - 12:30am

Buffet supper included  
Bar ~ Raffle

Children's Fun with  
The Tricky Twister  
Dancing to Huggy's Disco  
*all ages welcome*

Tickets ~ Adults £10 ~ Children £3

Entry by ticket only in advance  
from Wenhaston PO or  
Jill & Michael ~ 01502 478016  
*proceeds to Wenhaston Village Hall*



See in the New Year with

Live music

Matt Shepherd & Jon

Free admission

Meals served from 7pm

Tel 01986 784214

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

## Wenhaston WEA Spring Course

'Astronomy For Beginners'

with Glenn Barrett as tutor

A basic course looking at  
*The Solar System And Beyond*

*No mathematical knowledge is required*

The Course begins on Friday 15th January 2010

10:00am in the Church Room

*We look forward to seeing you then*

*Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year*

For further details contact

Kathleen Orme on 01502 478708



### **Village Hall Surgery**

There will be no Southwold Surgery  
at Wenhaston Village Hall on  
Thursdays 17th, 24th or 31st December.  
Contact 01502 722326

### **Wenhaston Archive Project**

Available to buy online  
<http://archive.wenhaston.net/dvd/index.php>  
and at Blythweb office, The Street, Wenhaston.

Village Views 2009 DVD £10.00  
Archive Notelets £6.00 (for 8)  
Hall Farm Remembered £5.00

*Purchases support Wenhaston Archive Project*

### **Wenhaston Energy Support Group**

#### **Warmer Wenhaston**

The deadline was December 1st, so the forms are now being processed. Once this is completed, the materials will be bulk purchased and you will be able to collect from the Village Hall at a date to be notified. So maybe you should be getting that loft cleared!

#### **Village Second Carbon Audit**

Coming next month, with an opportunity to fill in your form at the Star or the Maurice Stammers Community Room at the Village Hall. Watch this space.....

#### **Recycling News**

We seem to be coping well with the new system.

Dog poo and cat litter should go in the grey-lidded bin, suitably bagged. It shouldn't go in the brown bin, so there is no need to worry about using compostable bags.

Film, including bubble wrap which cannot be used, can go in with the plastic bags at the Household Waste Sites such as Leiston or Lowestoft. If you would like someone to take this for you, then do let us know.

And don't forget the excellent facility at Blythweb for batteries.

*Janice Claxton* [www.wenhastongreen.org](http://www.wenhastongreen.org)

### **Thank You**

Thank you for your support at the Quiz Night in aid of Wenhaston Archive. £115 was made. Well done John Blades (Quizmaster) and thanks to Carl and Virginia.

*Arthur Musk*

### **SHCT Sponsored Cycle Ride**

We are grateful to Andy and Sue Norrington for cycling for St Peter's, and for their sponsor money of £66 collected. Congratulations to Dilys Grimwade who cycled for the Methodist Church and raised the magnificent sum of £334.50.

*Margaret Bloomfield*

### **Mothers' Union**

The November meeting took the place of a DIY session - no speaker - but discussions on various topical subjects such as 'what does Wenhaston lack?', the difficult situation between step children and parents, the dilemma concerning the treatment or otherwise of greatly disabled children, and several other interesting talking points. The room was a hubbub of chatter for several minutes and we always find this meeting a pleasant change from the usual speaker.

In December we have our Christmas Party at 3pm in the Church Room on the 9th. Members are asked to bring along a small plate of food, and are invited to bring a guest. Also there will be a raffle, proceeds of which will be sent for the MU Emergency Fund for the drought affected people of Uganda and surrounding area.

At the Christmas Bazaar on December 5th, we will have a Mystery Parcel stall - please bring your parcels to the Hall, wrapped with an indication of how much to sell them for, and whom they would be suitable for. Thank you.

The MU will be providing mince pies to be served with mulled wine at the Village Carol Service on 18th December commencing at 7pm.

*Margaret Bloomfield*



## Wenhaston Word Deadline Date

13th December 2009  
for January 2010 issue

[www.wenhaston.net](http://www.wenhaston.net)

The Wenhaston Website

### Need to send a fax in the UK?

Faxes sent from just £2.00  
Call into Blythweb, The Street, Wenhaston

## Local Services *(More on pages 5 and 11)*

### House and Garden

**Adam and Barbara Gill** your local carpet and upholstery cleaners. Environmentally aware.  
Tel: 01502 476427

**Allen's Clean Sweep Vac & Brush.**  
All appliances catered for. Woodburning stoves a speciality. Carpet and upholstery steam cleaning and all other methods used.  
Tel: 01986 784426 or 07966 505880

**David Baker.** Plumbing and Heating. Bathrooms designed and fully installed. Kitchens fitted. All your tiling needs. Free estimates. Tel: Mob: 07850 236189  
Wenhaston 01502 478663

**Carpenter & Joiner:** David Cox, Blackheath Road, Wenhaston. Tel: 01502 478668

**Martins Garden & Property Services**  
Wenhaston. Garden and property maintenance work undertaken. RHS Level 2 qualified. Please call 07881 950333 for estimate.

**Painting & Decorating:** Karl Andrews.  
26 Maltings Close, Halesworth.  
Tel: 01986 874926

**Roger Best.** Garden Design, Planting Plans. Consultation and Landscaping.  
East Nook, Hall Road. Tel: 01502 478305  
Mobile: 078866 17745

**S Rudd Drain Services.**  
High pressure jetting. Blocked drains/toilets and sinks cleared. Patios/driveways cleaned. Drains and soakaways repaired.  
24 hour service. Tel: Shaun 07786332707

**Wenhaston Tiling:** All floor and wall tiling undertaken. Call Robert on  
01502 478740 Mob: 07941 381206



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- Qualified Chainsaw & Plant Operators
- Timber Milling

**Woodland products & services**  
Telephone: 01502 478615  
Locally sourced, sustainably managed

### Food and Drink

**Family Butcher: K.W. Clarke.** Bramfield. Well-stocked village shop with freezers and greengrocery. Opening times: 8am to 5pm. Half-day Saturday. Tel: 01986 784244

**Market Fields,** Holton Road, Halesworth. Grocers/greengrocers, freezers & off-licence. Seasonal local produce. Household items. Tel: 01986 872134

**Marybelle Milk Products.** Will Austin. Fresh milk to the door. Tel: 01986 784458

 **PJN Motor Engineering**  
[www.pjn-motor.co.uk](http://www.pjn-motor.co.uk)  
[paul@pjn-motor.co.uk](mailto:paul@pjn-motor.co.uk)

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in our fully equipped workshops  
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**Air Conditioning Service now available**  
Also stocking Aquasol salt tablets  
for water softeners  
**Tel: 01502 478642**  
**Mobile: 07802 965746**  
Unit 1, Wash Lane, Wenhaston, Suffolk IP19 9DX

## Local History Matters: 23

### Entertainment

Church Ales were a means of making money for the church. Plays were performed probably on a stage on the back of a farm cart, travelling around near villages. In the Walberswick Accounts for 1493 there is 'Item payed for bread and drink when the Wenhaston game (play) was shown here - threepence'. Church Ales were sometimes in a form of a wake, for example Alice Foxe in her will of 1546 left instructions that a barrel of beer and food were to be distributed to the parishioners of Wenhaston.

We never had a Fair, but annually there was a show including a donkey race between the Queen's Head, Blyford, and The Star Inn.

During the last World War in the 1940s, Mrs Ethel Pearce formed a concert party called 'The Wenhaston Warblers' which toured locally raising funds for the war.

In 1948 Elizabeth Ashton formed a group called 'Patchwork Players'. First they appeared in The Hut, forerunner of the Village Hall. They

became the 'Wenhaston Players', touring local villages. A newspaper cutting of 1963 informed us that a large audience at Uggeshall Village Hall enjoyed a very 'creditable' show by the 'Wenhaston Players'. It opened with a Mexican farce, followed by dances and songs and finally the younger members played 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'.

In November 1978 local talent produced a brilliant show 'The Wenhaston Pier Show' with the programme entitled 'A Guide To Wenhaston Pier 1910'.

'Blyth Players' were formed around 1988 and started with a repeat 'The Second Pier Show', and later a Southwold Railway theme and Christmas Shows, as did the Womens Institute.

Eastern Angles appeared in the Village Hall from 1982 starting with 'The School for Scandal' and performed there twice a year, but now are only to be seen at The Cut. However we still look forward to Circle 67 acting a Shakespeare play at Church Common on a July afternoon. *Keith Johnceline*

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### RBL Wenhaston Branch

The AGM was held at the Star Inn. Meeting opened with exhortation and in our silence we remembered our late Chairman Derek Doy, who passed away the previous week.

The President Marjorie Onyett welcomed everyone. She sent her deepest sympathy to Derek's family and said how well he had run the Branch as Chairman. She thanked Sue Doy, Secretary, for her hard work during the year, and Mick Nichols, Treasurer and Poppy Appeal organiser, who has done a grand job.

We have had another good year. John Levy won the County Standard Bearer Competition and attended rallies, Suffolk Show etc. Our late Chairman led the RBL Leiston Band at the Newmarket races. This was Derek's last performance with the band which he led with pride and loved. We held our Poppy Appeal Quiz. Poppy crosses were planted at the War Memorial on 11th November. A good turn out for Remembrance Sunday. We had our Annual Branch Lunch at the Star Inn. We have £792 in Benevolent Fund and £466 in General Fund.

The Election took place. Appointed President: Mrs Marjorie Onyett. Elected Chairman: John Levy, Vice Chairman: Ron Manning, Treasurer: Mick Nichols, Secretary: Sue Doy, Standard Bearer: John Levy, Deputy: Miles Savage. We then went on to the Branch meeting.

Menus are being sent to the Secretary for our Branch lunch in January at the Star Inn. Names to Sue Doy. No meeting in December. *Sue Doy*

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### **Thank You**

I would like to thank everyone who attended the coffee morning in aid of "Help For Heroes" on 11th November and all the friends who helped, and the many very generous gifts and donations.

Thanks to you all we raised the marvellous sum of £660. Well done!

**Lillian Spindler**

### **Thank You**

Many thanks to all the stall holders of the recent Table Top Sale, held on 7th November. Many thanks also to all the shoppers who came along to pick up bargains and to everyone else involved in organising this event. £410.00 was raised in aid of Village Hall funds.

**RLC**

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