

...YOUR FREE LOCAL NEWS

NOVEMBER 2023

LEISTON OBSERVER



PART OF THE **TIDE COLLECTION**

ALDEBURGH TIMES WOODBRIDGE TALK SOUTHWOLD ORGAN SAXMUNDHAM NEWS LEISTON OBSERVER HALESWORTH HOOT



Fri 3rd Nov at 5.00pm
Sat 4th & Sun 5th Nov at 3.00pm

PAW PATROL THE MIGHTY MOVIE U

Sat 4th Nov at 7.15pm
Tues 7th Nov at 3.00pm

Laura Linney, Kathy Bates and
Maggie Smith in

THE MIRACLE CLUB 12A

Mon 6th, Tues 7th
& Thurs 9th Nov at 7.15pm

John David Washington in

THE CREATOR 12A

Wed 8th Nov at 7.30pm. Tickets: £7.00

FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

Fri 10th & Sat 11th Nov at 7.15pm
Sun 12th Nov at 6.00pm

Denzel Washington in

THE EQUALIZER 3 15

Mon 13th - Thurs 16th Nov at 7.15pm

Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro
and Lily Gladstone in

KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON 15

Fri 17th & Sat 18th Nov at 7.15pm
Sun 19th Nov at 6.00pm

Mon 20th - Thurs 23rd Nov at 7.15pm

THE HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS AND SNAKES 12A

Sat 25th Nov at 7.00pm
Sun 26th Nov at 3.00pm

Tickets: £14.95, Support Club: £13.95

CLIFF RICHARD: THE BLUE SAPPHIRE TOUR

High Street, Leiston, Suffolk. IP16 4BZ
Tel: 01728 830549, or visit:
www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

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BOOKING**

Team B Productions invite you on a magic carpet ride to Old Peking this January, when they bring you a fabulous family Pantomime worth wishing for. When the wicked Abanazar learns of a magical lamp, that could transform him into the most powerful sorcerer in Pantoland, he tricks Aladdin into retrieving the lamp from a cave. But when a glamorous Genie appears, an adventure begins that will see Aladdin, the Twanky family and the beautiful Princess Jasmine in a battle between good and evil.

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TOM HORTON

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theatre in ages."

Aladdin



Appearing **LIVE** at Leiston Film Theatre
Friday 12th - Sunday 14th January 2024

Fri 12th: 7.30pm | Sat 13th: 3pm & 7.30pm | Sun 14th: 11am & 3pm

01728 830549 | www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk



Saturday 2nd December at 7.00pm
Sunday 3rd December at 3.00pm

Join us for a seasonal celebration, guaranteed to fill you with festive cheer, as André Rieu invites you to his winter wonderland to enjoy an array of merry music, Christmas carols, romantic waltzes and beautiful songs from around the world. Cinema audiences also have a backstage pass, as cinema host, Charlotte Hawkins chats with André about creating his magnificent production.

Sat 25th Nov at 7.00pm
Sun 26th Nov at 3.00pm

CLIFF RICHARD: THE BLUE SAPPHIRE TOUR

Indisputably Britain's all-time greatest hit-maker, the ultimate pop star, Sir. Cliff Richard celebrates his 65th anniversary in the music industry with special cinema screenings of his 2023 Blue Sapphire tour.

Tickets: £14.95, Support Club Members: £13.95



A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



We are now in the run-up to Christmas which seems to start earlier every year I'm sure! The cost of living crisis will no doubt affect spending but businesses should still benefit from the gift/ outfit-buying and celebrations most of us undertake at this time of year so, if you are in retail or have seats to fill at festive events please get in touch about letting people know what you have to offer by advertising in the Observer or any of our other five titles, spread the word! A few more purchases or bookings should cover the outlay hopefully! We hope this will bring lots of offerings creating a lovely festive feel to our December edition whilst supporting our local businesses and the more advertising

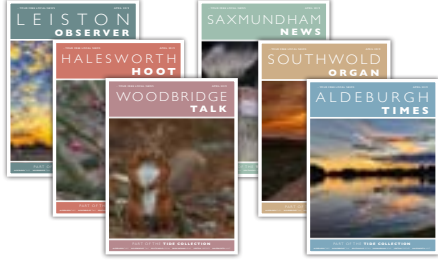
we have the more pages and editorial we can add – bringing more news and information to the community. My email is: lou@tidecollection – for advertising enquiries and anything else you would like to share with our readers.

Louise Gissing

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.

Aldous Huxley



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Including a magical Winter Wonderland 'Playmobil' layout

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Aldeburgh library supports this vital campaign to try and prevent violence against women

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COMMON GROUND THEATRE COMPANY

Common Ground Theatre Company present *Miss Mimple meets the Ice Wolf* by Pat Whymark

Common Ground are touring the region once again this Xmas & New Year, with another of their hilarious genre-spoof panto alternatives.

This year, they are mashing up amateur sleuthing, gangsters and werewolves. Renowned amateur sleuth and part-time dog trainer Miss Jean Mimple takes a hiking tour of the Italian alps. In a remote hostelry, she meets Dr Bridges, assistant to the mysterious Professor Ramekin, who lives in nearby Castle Pandoro.

One of the servants at the castle has been found torn into fettuccine. And so, ignoring the locals' warnings of The Ice Wolf, or 'Bestia Gelato' - half man, half wolf, half frozen dessert - which has terrorised the region for several months, the plucky Miss Mimple sets off to investigate.

Audience members said of last year's "A Murder at St Muttley's: "What a fabulous funny show!" ... "a brilliant and entertaining evening" ... "Uproariously funny with stunning special effects" ... "My face aches from laughing so much!!" ... "brilliant script and impeccable timing" ... "the mad cap style is an absolute winner!... "the schtick and 'business' actually gave me belly laughs, and I'm old enough to know better!" Common Ground has been touring East Anglia for the last

16 years, building up a loyal following for their "wonderfully whacky...terrifically original" (Libby Purves) style of music theatre.

They've been doing a grand job of keeping small-scale theatre alive and well in East Anglia, presenting shows that are entertaining, first and foremost. The genre spoof Xmas shows they produce each year have become the go-to alternative to panto, described by Andrew Clarke in the EADT as "A glorious piece of Christmas fun".

Directors Pat Whymark and Julian Harries cut their teeth creating many Xmas productions for Eastern Angles Theatre Co. They were the creative team behind *Stoat Hall*, *The Mystery of St Finnigan's Elbow* & many more, and it is that sense of playfulness that runs through all their work. As an actor, Julian will soon be seen on TV in the major new Sky historical drama *Mary & George* (starring Julianne Moore) and in the next series of *Father Brown* (playing a mad novelist). He has performed with The Royal Shakespeare Company, Royal National Theatre and in the West End.

The tour takes in Harkstead (13th Dec), Woodbridge (15th - 16th), Laxfield (19th), Stowmarket (20th - 23rd), Felixstowe (27th - 29th), Gt Hockham (30th), Aldeburgh (1st - 3rd Jan), Hadleigh (4th - 5th), Diss (6th), Colchester (8th - 10th) & Ipswich (11th - 20th Jan). Call 07807 341364 or go to www.commongroundtc.co.uk





Aldeburgh Music Club Choir

A CEREMONY OF CAROLS

by Benjamin Britten

&

CAROLS for CHOIR and AUDIENCE

TOM APPLETON *Conductor*
MIRIAM KEOGH *Harp*
ADRIAN NICHOLSON *Organ*

Saturday 16th December
3.00 p.m

St. Bartholomew's Church, Orford

Tickets £10,
£5 under 18 (unreserved)
available at
www.aldeburghmusic.club
or on the door

Aldeburgh Music Club
is a registered charity no. 1000990
www.aldeburghmusic.club

LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

Dual waste bins will help us to achieve Net Zero

Leiston Net Zero is an aspiration shared widely with our residents. To help us on our path to becoming a cleaner, greener town we have introduced several new bins in our town centre and in some of our open spaces. The bins collect material suitable for recycling separately to the non-recyclables. So, when you use the bins please treat them exactly as you do your domestic bins and place your cardboard, paper and plastic in the correct compartment. With our residents' help we can demonstrate that Leiston is a shining example of good practice with our waste disposal. We also hope it will help our youngest residents to understand the importance of recycling, so even our toddler playground in Victory Road Recreation Ground has a dual bin! Responsible recycling is the way forward. Thank you for your continued contribution to Net Zero Leiston. We are extremely grateful to SZC Co. for sponsoring the new bins.

Leiston's Annual Remembrance Day Plans

11 November falls on a Saturday this year and in a break from the tradition of previous years, the two minutes' silence will be observed in the recently created Church Square, so you can stop off for a moment of reflection while visiting the town centre. The maroon will still be fired on Victory Road Recreation Park to mark the beginning and end of the two minutes' silence at 11am.

The Remembrance Parade on Sunday 12 November will muster at the Leiston Cadet Centre in Victory Road at 10.20am, ready to march to St Margaret's Church at 10.30am. The march will be led by the Royal British Legion Band Leiston. All are welcome to attend and follow the march.

D-Day Commemoration - 6 June 2024

As we approach the winter months during an unseasonably warm autumn (as we write), it seems impossible to imagine early summer 2024. But Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council is doing just that. The 80th anniversary of D-Day is on 6 June next year and we are working up our ideas to make it a memorable occasion. Watch out in future editions for more details on the exciting plans we have for the event. It promises to be an 'enlightening' evening!

Leiston Neighbourhood Plan

What is a Neighbourhood Plan? A Neighbourhood Plan gives communities the power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and to shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided. The plan will influence planning decisions for new buildings, to help ensure the town is in control of what goes ahead and just as importantly, what doesn't. The existing Leiston Neighbourhood Plan was made in 2017 and we have begun work to review the plan to ensure it is fit for purpose for the next few years. We would like your help.....

Look out for the date of our first consultation event which will take place in a few weeks. We will then continue to engage with residents in 2024 as we further define sections of the plan.

We will continue to engage with residents next year as we further define sections of the plan.

You can view a copy of our existing plan at <https://www.leistontowncouncil.gov.uk/residents/neighbourhood-plan/>

[leistontowncouncil.gov.uk/residents/neighbourhood-plan/](https://www.leistontowncouncil.gov.uk/residents/neighbourhood-plan/)

We are still looking for one more councillor!

We are delighted that after a shortfall of six councillors at the May elections, we have recruited a further five - but we still need one more. If you'd like to have a chat about the role of a town councillor you can call Helen, our town clerk (01728 830388) or speak to any of the councillors. Alternatively have a read about it online: The role of a town councillor <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/councillor-and-officer-development/councillor-hub/>

Why not join us?

County Council News

We are conscious that residents are concerned about the general standard of the roads, pavements and open spaces in the town - as are your councillors. Meetings with Suffolk County Council and their contractors happen on a regular basis and we do keep up the pressure to address these concerns. We therefore welcome East Suffolk Council's pledge to form a task force to tackle the standard of street cleansing and maintenance throughout the district. It is also worth noting that new contractors, Milestone, are now responsible for Suffolk County Council Highways as of 1 October. We hope this new contractual arrangement will see some improvement. Please continue to use the reporting tool on the Suffolk County Council website to report highways issues, such as potholes and flooding.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/report-a-highways-issue>

For all our Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council information you can visit <https://www.leistontowncouncil.gov.uk/> where you will also find office opening hours. Or you can contact the clerk, Helen Greengrass on 01728 830388.

"at the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them"

**The Band of the
Royal British Legion Band Leiston**

Conducted by Peter Gray

**With Special Guest Performer
Ms. Lily Kemp**

**Proudly present the 2023
Festival of
Remembrance**

**Appearing at:
Leiston Film Theatre**

On: Wednesday 8th November at 7:30pm.

**Tickets £7 NOW Booking
At the box office**

Tel: 01728 830549

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November Events

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**Saturday 18th
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LEISTON WORKS RAILWAY MODEL RAILWAY SHOW

Building on the incredible success of their last two very popular model railway shows, the Leiston Works Railway (LWR) are delighted to announce the date for The Third Leiston Works Railway Model Railway Show, which is taking place on Sunday 3rd December 2023. Admission to the show is £4 per adult, with children under the age of 16 getting in for free.

Once again the family friendly show is taking place at the Sizewell Sports and Social Club in Leiston, King George's Aven, IP16 4JX. Free car parking is available at the venue. The show will be in the main hall of the venue and will be open from 10am until 4pm.

In the hall there will be a selection of various gauge model railway layouts from different eras of railway history. The LWR will also take the opportunity to bring everyone up to date, with an exhibition showing the progress that has been made so far with the project. Also available, to help with LWR funds, will be model railway

items, railway books and magazines to purchase at reasonable prices. Please note: The LWR cannot be held responsible for the unavailability of any model railway exhibit or exhibitors on the day.

A very popular addition to the last Model Railway Show, especially enjoyed by the children, was the early 'Playmobil' Railway Layout from the 1980s, complimented by Playmobil accessories. The LWR are pleased to welcome this layout back to the Show and to fire up the children's imagination, the layout will take on the look of a magical winter wonderland. Children will be able to take control of the trains on the layout (under the supervision of adults).

The Sizewell Club has a bar and offers a carvery on Sundays and will be serving on the day.

Do you own a model railway that you have been painstakingly building? Have you ever considered

showing it at a model railway show? If so, the Leiston Works Railway would like to hear from you, so that they can get in touch for future model railway shows. (number below). Also, if you are thinking of building your own model railway, Orwell Model Railways from Ipswich will be having a stand at the show, selling various items. Perhaps a good opportunity to buy a Christmas present for the railway Modeller in your family!

For more details about the show please contact 07769 906 035. You can also follow the progress of the LWR on the Leiston Works Railway Facebook page. The Leiston Works Railway look forward to seeing you there!



THE BAND OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, LEISTON

The Band is licensed under the banner of The Royal British Legion. It is however, reliant financially on fundraising and fee-paying engagements. We are pleased to share the details of the street collections we have made this summer.

Southwold Promenade, Sunday 1st June: £172.40 & 30th July: £350.66

Aldeburgh Promenade, Sunday 9th July: £229.33 & 17th Sept: £209.22

Total raised = £961.61

The band would like to thank those who kindly donated. 10% of these collections will be donated to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (£96.16). The remainder will be used by the band to train and support new/existing players and provide them with suitable instruments, music and uniforms. We also fund the rental fee of our band room, the upkeep of instruments, purchasing new music and updating uniform items.

Our main Band Practices are held on Mondays & Thursdays between 8 and 9.30pm. We currently have our Training Band Practices on Thursday evenings between 7 and 7.45pm.

Whether you are a brass player or a drummer looking for a band, an ex-player looking to rekindle your hobby or even if you have never played before, but are interested in learning, please contact me or visit our website for more information.

Nikki Glennon-Bird, Band Secretary

Email: secretary@leistonband.org Visit: www.leistonband.co.uk
The Band Room, 17 Victory Road, Leiston, IP16 4DQ

LEISTON OLD FOLKS' OUTING

After a four-year break, the 83rd Leiston Old Folks' Outing took place on the afternoon of Saturday 7th October. Thirty five guests (Leiston residents aged 70+) were collected from their homes by eighteen volunteer car drivers and taken to the assembly point at the Sizewell Club car park. Upon arrival there, the cars were marshalled into three



groups by David Dix and Paul King and, once a big red bow had been attached to each vehicle, they were on their way - our lead drivers being, once again, Ron Geater, Trevor Hawkins and Roger French.

After their journey through the villages of Theberton, Middleton, Westleton and Dunwich, they arrived at the mystery destination - Darsham Village Hall, a lovely venue in which to enjoy a delicious afternoon tea, served by Coastal Catering, at tables decorated with colourful dahlias kindly donated by David Brown. Musical entertainment was provided by singer/guitarist Kevin Barry, who is well known to many from his appearances at the Sizewell Club. Kevin treated us to a fantastic selection of music including lots of requested favourites. Then, upon leaving the hall, everyone was given a small gift of shortbread to take home with them.

Many thanks to everyone who supported this year's outing in any way, especially our loyal drivers without whom this annual event would not be possible.



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BARCLAYS' BEST

A tribute to Lynda Kemp and Sandra Coleman

As you may or may not know I spent many years working at Barclays Bank in Leiston and sometimes Saxmundham and Aldeburgh. Many of those years were spent working with Lynda Kemp and Sandra Coleman, who have recently retired after many, many years of service.

I wanted to mark this occasion and pay tribute to two stalwarts of Barclays Bank as banking goes through a major transition period with branches closing on the High Street, as many people prefer to do their banking online or on their mobile phone, although I'm happy to say Leiston is still going!

I know many of you (probably more than one generation in many cases!) will have been helped and advised by Lynda and Sandra over the years. I know both have always been very professional and have always put their customers' needs first and acted with integrity.

On a personal note, I can say that they have both always been caring and supportive colleagues, Lynda worked at Saxmundham branch on the day I joined Barclays (1978!) and was so welcoming. Sandra I believe I didn't meet until I went to Leiston branch, it's so long ago it is hard to remember! We have watched each other's lives change and families grow – (Sandra's daughter became a much-appreciated babysitter when my children were younger). Despite many changes in our lives and banking over the years I don't think I have ever had a cross word with either Lynda or Sandra.

Lynda has had a particularly tough few years personally, losing her much loved dad and you may recall an article I wrote a while back – 'Becky's Story'? Becky is Lynda's daughter. I'm happy to say Becky is

very well now but some worrying times for the family of course.

Lynda and Sandra held a joint retirement 'do' at the Sizewell Sports & Social Club where colleagues past and present gathered to wish them both well.

I would like to wish Lynda and Sandra a very long, happy and relaxing retirement, although I suspect both will have much to occupy them!

Enjoy, you deserve it...

Louise Gissing



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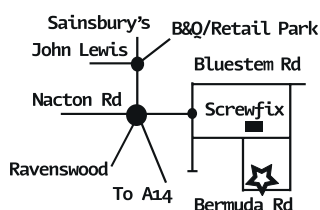
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OPEN DAY SUCCESS

Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group

On Saturday, 7th October the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group held our first Open Day since immediately before Covid in 2020. Previously we had these annual events at the Long Shop in Leiston but this year was a change of venue – to our new home at Saxmundham's Fromus Centre. Its larger hall gave us the welcome opportunity to invite about six similar groups and individuals to join us with their stalls - an offer that was taken up so enthusiastically that we had to book the Fromus' conference room as well, for individual visitors' family history research enquiries. These were answered over several hours by some of our members.

Benhall & Sternfield History Group presented their research on transport through the years, whilst Yoxford History Group looked back to the 20th century with faces from living memory and places that were familiar but strangely different.

Our own John Martin and Angela Skelcher had researched the personal histories of the Fallen of the two world wars listed on Leiston Grammar School's wooden memorial plaque (photo below), which for many years hung in Leiston's old Council Chamber - now the repository for our archive. As well as displaying the war memorial information, John brought sports, class and panoramic whole-school student photos, many retrieved from a skip some years ago, others donated or lent by alumni attending school reunions. We have over 200 of these (which can be made available

to view on application to us at LGS@avsfhg.org.uk).

From further afield, Martlesham Heath Aviation Society brought a selection of their memorabilia, mostly original equipment from the Second World War, whilst their publicity officer Howard King, dressed in camouflage gear, regaled us with facts and reminiscences about the airfield, and its part in conflicts since the earliest days of the Royal Flying Corps.

As usual, there was a long queue of people wanting to see our Secretary Janet Huckle, who dated photographs brought in by some of the 100+ visitors - who came from as far afield as Bishops Stortford, Newmarket and London. Janet has offered this useful service for several years now, but this time she also brought her research into the names listed on Halesworth's war memorial.

Saxmundham Museum joined us from across the road with a comprehensive display of old views of the town. It was especially interesting to see how the High Street and North Entrance had changed bit

by bit over the years. And Saxmundham & District Local History Society displayed a selection of their own views of the town, and photograph books from their 'Sax Stories' series.

Our member Janet Barnes presented her research on the farming community of Middleton Moor over seven centuries. She was herself a subject of the neighbouring display by Aldeburgh and District Local History Society, featuring their Aldeburgh Voices oral history project - as well as their excavations over some years of the Saxon cemetery at Barber's Point on the River Alde.

Although entry was free, visitors and exhibitors alike kindly gave donations that healthily covered our hire of the main hall, and of the conference room that we had to spread into as well. All in all, a day of great interest and satisfaction for visitors and exhibitors alike, and we are grateful to our members and exhibitors for all their contributions and hard work that made the day such a great success – thank you all.

Steve Stocks and Maggie Strutt



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOV 4 Christmas Craft Fair at St Margaret's Church, Leiston.

A wide variety of handmade goods and unique gifts as well as Christmas cards, decorations and festive foods. There will also be a raffle for church funds and delicious homemade refreshments sold throughout the events. Admission is free and there is plenty of parking. 10am – 2pm.

NOV 12 Alde Valley Ramblers. Woodbridge, Grundisburgh and Hasketon 7.2 mile walk. Meet Seckford Hall Road and park in street at 10am TM25452 48358. For more details email: walks.aldevalleyramblers@gmail.com.

NOV 25 Theberton Lionesses Jazz Night. Featuring Three of a Kind - & Friends (two saxophones, trumpet, drums, bass and guitar). 18:30 - 23:00 at Westleton Village Hall, The Street, Westleton, IP17 3AD. Tickets: £25 to include free drink on

arrival, two-course homemade meal. Bar. Bookings for full table of six gets free bottle of wine! Raffle and mini quiz. Tickets from Suzi Cooper 01728635736 or WhatsApp 07879685136: email thebertonlionesses@hotmail.com. Raising awareness and funds for East Anglia's Children's Hospice and St Elizabeth Hospice.

NOV 25 Knodishall Cancer Research UK Support Group Annual Christmas Fayre. Enjoy a free glass of mulled wine and a mince pie, bring the children to visit Father Christmas and receive a gift (cost £2). We have CRUK Christmas Cards, Plants, Produce, Christmas Cakes, China, Homemade Fudge, Handmade Soap, Seaglass Jewellery, Bric a Brac, Christmas Gifts, a Grand Draw and lots more. All proceeds to Cancer Research UK. 11am - 3pm at Knodishall Village Hall on from. Lunches, Cakes and drinks served all day. For more info on this group email: j.mayhew2@sky.com or Telephone 01728 831748.

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WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN 2023



Suffolk Libraries is supporting the national White Ribbon Campaign this year. This year's campaign runs from Saturday 25 November through until Monday 11 December.

Did you know? 1 in 5 UK residents had personal experience of abuse as an older

person aged 65+ or knew an older person who had been abused. This indicates that almost 2.7 million older people may have been affected by domestic abuse across the country in 2020.

White Ribbon is the UK's leading charity engaging men and boys to end violence against women and girls. The reality is that most violence against women is committed by men. Their mission is to prevent men's violence against women and girls by addressing its root causes - harmful and dominant masculine norms. They strive to change long-established attitudes, behaviours and systems around masculinity that perpetuate gender inequality and men's violence against women. White Ribbon UK's work is preventative, they want to end violence before it starts.

White Ribbon works to make sure all men realise that they can take responsibility for thinking about their own actions, promote equality and respect, and are prepared to call out harassing, sexist and violent behaviour when they see it in others.

This year, individuals and organisations are being encouraged

to make consistent choices and actions to #ChangeTheStory for women and girls to live their lives free from the fear of violence. Violence experienced by women and girls takes many forms. Some behaviours and words may seem 'harmless' but normalising them ignores the short and long-term effects on women and can lead to more extreme violence. Being allies with women every day shouldn't be underestimated, even the smallest actions can affect big change.

In Suffolk, using the same theme of #ChangeTheStory, White Ribbon would like to focus on the population in Suffolk who are older/ retirement age. Each year, Suffolk partners and organisations show their support to the national campaign by sharing and promoting the campaign, raising awareness of local Suffolk Domestic Abuse Services and running a social media campaign. This year, in Aldeburgh Library there will be resources about the national campaign available as well as information and leaflets about local services in Suffolk which you may find useful. If you would like any further information on the campaign in Suffolk, please contact; Community. Safety@suffolk.gov.uk

Christmas Cards are here. We don't have the huge range of cards from Cards for Good Causes that we've had in previous years, but we do have a good selection of Charity Christmas Cards supporting many of the UK major charities, including the Suffolk Wildlife Trust selection which are always so popular.

NEWS FROM KNODISHALL METHODIST CHURCH

Thank you all for supporting our Yard Sales this summer. We really do appreciate you coming along to buy things, without your support we would not keep going. They will restart in the spring. In the meantime we will have a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 25th November, 10am - 2pm, with crafts, cakes, refreshments (maybe including bacon sandwiches), nearly new clothes, and so much more...

Here at the Methodist church we have regular activities to which you are very welcome to come along. Our Midweek get together is on a Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 pm. Generally there are games, or quizzes, lots of chat and laughter, a cuppa and a friendly welcome. Once a month we hold Messy Church. This is aimed at children and their families and is usually the second Saturday in the month (contact Helen Barker on 01728688662 for details). Our Jigsaw Library is now up and running, with loads of choice, this can be accessed during Midweek get together. And of course we are open for Worship each Sunday at 10.30am.

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Calling all communities. Support this important cause.
Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Germany are implementing offshore grids and Britain is dawdling behind, plundering our countryside for no good reason, dumping its offshore wind energy infrastructure around the Southwold Aldeburgh area.

The offshore system is **EASIER, CHEAPER** and **FASTER**.

Write to the Secretary of State and Minister Bowie
to challenge these irrational plans. Copy Therese Coffey...
Template letter at www.suffolkenergyactionsolutions.co.uk/campaign-with-us/



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DEBT – 'THE TICKING TIME BOMB'

Quite simply the household time bomb is about to explode! It is a worry but it is a worry we can help you manage.

Millions of people across the country are suffering with the current cost of living crisis and living off empty.

Our local debt advisors are seeing more and more clients whose sums just simply don't add up. And no, it's not just people who are spending more than they can afford, but more that basic bills have increased rapidly. Arrears on general household bills are estimated to be over £22 billion, which is an all-time high at present. It is a staggering figure to think that 1 in 4 people are behind on their basic household bills.

Citizens Advice East Suffolk have qualified money and debt advisors to help guide clients through a journey that is often very

distressing to deal with alone. We offer a holistic approach and offer many avenues through which clients can seek advice such as face to face, phone, video link or email. This gives client flexibility and makes clients feel comfortable about how they can access our services.

In the last financial year CAES helped 610 clients with debt advice, which is an increase from the previous year and is likely to keep rising. In this period, we successfully wrote off £424,458.00 of debt. The top three debt issues of 22-23 were: council tax, water bills, fuel bills. This shows how the scales have tipped and how credit card and loan debt have been overtaken by energy and council tax arrears.

There is also no doubt that this crisis affecting households across East Suffolk is starting

to impact on other areas. When people are struggling to pay bills and keep a roof over their heads it has a knock-on effect which can lead to marital disputes, child welfare issues, gambling and other addictions and mental health problems to name a few.

At Citizens Advice East Suffolk, we believe people should be helped and supported to stay on their feet financially when they start to feel pressure. Our money and debt advisers are supported by benefit, housing and employment specialists and we are also able to help people review their household budgets to see if there are any extra sources of income or any reduced expenditure that can be applied. We are here to help, support and encourage anyone feeling trapped, anxious or worried about their finances.

LEISTON ALLOTMENT HOLDERS & GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

November

The November weather is usually much the same as October, so no time to rest! Just enough daylight hours to clear and tidy up. Shorter days with colder weather can make getting ahead with the digging best done in short spells when the soil is not too wet. Don't leave any remainder of crops to rot, which could harbour pests and diseases over winter. Start collecting fallen leaves which can make leaf mould, construct a small 'cage' approx 1 metre square then stack your loose leaves in it. Before removing or turning over the leaf mould, be aware of hedgehogs which may be hiding inside the heap.

Vegetables: Start lifting parsnips and early sprouts after the first frost. Cut savoy cabbages. Sow your broad beans if possible on or near 11 November - this has been my choice for many years with great success! Fruit: Now is a good time to plant new fruit trees and bushes. Soft fruit bushes can also be moved if needed. **Lawns:** Continue aeration treatment. Apply autumn fertilizer if not already done. Bring mowing machines in for overhaul, as in most cases the final cut for winter will have been made.

Greenhouse: Remove all old cucumber and tomato plants and put on compost heap. Pick a dry day to remove all old trays and compost bags and any other 'junk'. Brush glazing bars, clean all glass inside and out,

and replace any broken panes of glass. Also make sure your greenhouse is as windproof as possible. Secure all vents, and make sure the door is closed correctly.

Flowers: Dahlias: Examine stored tubers, cut away any with signs of rot and dispose of - but not on your compost heap. **Sweet peas:** Prepare next year's planting site by double digging. Apply 3 to 4 handfuls of bonemeal per square yard on the 'top spit'. **Roses:** Prune for winter, but don't cut too far back. Prune as soon as they lose their leaves, this should help give them a new lease of life. **Bulbs:** Plant tulips and hyacinths in pots or in open ground.

Roderick Linsell

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