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A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR




I'm sure the community will once again come together for the annual Easter Egg Hunt in Tide Mill Way and there is good news from the council regarding 15 Tide Mill Way which has been sold and will now host the 'Art Haven Community Interest Company', a project which will bring more creative experiences into the heart of Woodbridge.

New Street Market's 'Green Month' will bring a variety of events throughout April, featuring art, music, education, and sustainable gastronomy!

Please drop me a line to boost your business by advertising in any, or all of our six titles (including our new Framlingham Focus!). Email: lou@tidecollection.com

Quote of the month

I always tell my kids if you lay down, people will step over you. But if you keep scrambling, if you keep going, someone will always, always give you a hand. Always. But you gotta keep dancing, you gotta keep your feet moving - **Morgan Freeman**



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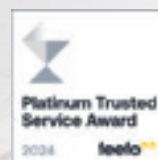
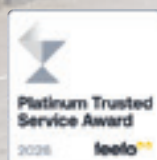
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FROM WOODBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL - MAYOR'S MONTHLY



At the February Council meeting, we marked the completion of two long running projects.

With the sale of 15 Tide Mill Way, we are delighted that this cherished building will now host the 'Art Haven Community Interest Company', an affordable and inclusive project bringing more creative experiences into the heart of Woodbridge.

And it will come as a relief to many that the renovation of the public toilets in Elmhurst Park is finally complete.

For greater resilience, most of the time 1 of the 3 toilets will be open – but at busy times in the summer and during special events we'll open more of them.

However, at our meeting, we soon had to move on from celebrations.

The threat to Woodbridge from 3 major infrastructure projects – Sizewell C, Sealink and Lionlink - is increasing.

Councillor Robin Sanders, my predecessor as Mayor, chairs the East Suffolk Community Energy Partnership that brings together parish and town councils to make sure that local concerns are heard.

In particular, we need more:

- consideration and support for all of our communities whose economies and ways of life are being upended
- more co-ordination during the construction phase.

However, it is becoming increasingly clear that we are not being listened to.

While these are all Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects it should not mean local communities can be ignored.

On a specific issue, Woodbridge Town Council issued a letter of objection to the proposed plans for upgrading the A12.

We agree that an urgent upgrade is necessary, but our view is that the plans as tabled are not fit for purpose in multiple ways. We are very specifically concerned that the proposed redevelopment of the Grundisburgh/Dobbies roundabout is dangerous.

More positively we signed off the first set of plans for Elmhurst Park as our new gardeners start the heavy work of bringing our parks back up to an acceptable standard.

We already have a team of residents who have come forward to assist with two of our smaller green spaces, and we're always keen to hear from more willing to come forward!

Check our website for more.



SPRING MAKERS MARKET

Join us at Old Hall Southwold on Sunday 3rd May as we kick off the 2026 season with our first Makers Market of the year.

With over 55 talented makers joining us, you'll find a vibrant mix of jewellery, ceramics, homeware, textiles, woodwork, fine art, cakes, cosmetics, fashion, glassware, candles and more under the cover of our Big Barn.

Alongside the stalls, enjoy live music, delicious street food, and our dog friendly café serving breakfasts, lunches, and great coffee.

The playpark will be in full swing too, giving little ones plenty of space to burn off energy on our zip wires and jumping pillows.

The market is free to enter, with plenty of onsite parking and beautiful walks along the Blyth estuary.

Come and enjoy a relaxed, creative, family friendly day out at Old Hall — we can't wait to welcome you.

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FREE ENTRY

Few pubs can claim more than a century at the heart of their community, but The Randolph has been welcoming locals through its doors for an impressive 127 years. Now, the historic pub is beginning an exciting new chapter: for the first time in its



long history, The Randolph has become a Free House. The change means the pub is no longer tied to Adnams brewery, giving the team behind the bar the freedom to carefully select a wider and more varied range of drinks. Alongside familiar favourites, customers can now expect rotating guest ales, craft beers and ciders, as well as an expanded choice of spirits and wines. The move not only broadens the selection but also opens the door to showcasing independent breweries and producers.

While the bar offer is evolving, the character of The Randolph remains firmly rooted in tradition. Known for its friendly faces, relaxed atmosphere and loyal regulars, the pub continues to offer the same warm welcome that has defined it for generations.

For a venue with such a rich history, becoming a Free House represents the perfect balance between heritage and progress — honouring the past while embracing new possibilities. As this next chapter begins, The Randolph invites guests old and new to pull up a chair, raise a glass and be part of the story.

NEW STREET MARKET ANNOUNCES 'GREEN MONTH'

Taking place throughout April, this ambitious program features curated events designed to bridge the gap between environmental advocacy and local culture. Through art, music, education, and sustainable gastronomy, 'Green Month' aims to raise vital funds and awareness for its three partners: Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Deben Climate Centre, and Transition Woodbridge.

"Green Month is the natural evolution of our mission at New Street Market," says Tim Wilson, co-owner and Green Party Councillor at East Suffolk Council. "A community venue should be a catalyst for change. By integrating environmental ethics into our music, food, and art, we aren't just talking about a greener future - we are inviting Woodbridge to experience it."

A Diverse Program for an Urgent Cause

Green Month kicks off on April 2 with a 'Green Quiz' hosted by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and concludes on April 26 with an off-site 'Landspeaking' workshop led by Charlotte Du Cann of The Dark Mountain Project. The schedule offers something for every facet of the community:

Food & Nature: On April 9, David Wright (The Breaducator) explores the cultural history of bread, followed by a prestigious 5-course tasting menu on April 10 curated by Head Chef Lawrence Fuller, showcasing the finest sustainable produce from the Suffolk coast.

Art & Performance: Art historian James Payne discusses 'Art about the Land' on April 16, while April 18 sees a double-bill of sensory exploration: nature-based performance art by Henry Fletcher and the 'Organic Matter' DJ night featuring hypnotic visuals of Suffolk landscapes.

Artistic Workshops: On April 12, Claire Hardaker leads 'Wild Weave', a technique workshop using plant-dyed yarns to create one-of-a-kind art pieces. On April 19, Femke Lemmens hosts a Melon Basket Workshop, where participants will use fresh willow to master the 'God's eye' binding and rib-weaving techniques.

Action & Advocacy: On Earth Day April 22, Transition Woodbridge hosts an evening Repair Cafe to champion the circular economy. This is followed by a dedicated evening of environmental talks hosted by the Deben Climate Centre on April 23 and a 'Ritual for the Deben River' on April 24 led by mystic Parsifal Solomon.

Celebration: The month reaches its crescendo on April 25 with an Earth Day club night hosted by the Woodbridge Festival.

Deepening Roots in Sustainability

More than just a series of events, Green Month marks a formal commitment by New Street Market to radical transparency in its food systems. The venue has solidified partnerships with local stalwarts including Railway Farm (Benhall), Maximus Sustainable Fish (Farnham), and Reuben's (Melton) to ensure that local, seasonal, and regenerative produce is the standard for their restaurant operations moving forward.

Daniel Metz, Head of Programming, adds: *"We wanted to create a program that felt vibrant and inclusive. Whether it's through a repair cafe or a DJ set inspired by creatures and plants, we want to spark curiosity about the natural world and support the incredible work of our local environmental partners."*

A portion of event proceeds and voluntary donations will be collected to support the conservation and climate-resilience projects led by Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Deben Climate Centre, and Transition Woodbridge.

EASTER EGGS AND CROQUET

Ipswich and District Croquet Club is celebrating the start of its 2026 season with an Open Day for non-members and their families on **Easter Monday, 6th April**.

The club invites you to a fun day of Easter Eggs, BBQ, various competitions and of course croquet. There will be no entrance fee, plenty of free parking, free tuition for all beginners and a picturesque picnic area.

A sport for everyone

Croquet is an inclusive sport that can be played by anyone regardless of age, gender, background or identity.

Beginners can be playing in a very short time with minimal instruction. The club provides all the necessary equipment, however flat soled shoes/trainers must be worn to protect the lawns.

A welcome awaits you

Croquet is a sport of accuracy and tactics rather than physical strength; but above all it's fun whether played casually or competitively. So why not gather up the whole family and give it a go?

Ipswich and District Croquet Club is on the Bucklesham Road opposite the back entrance of Trinity Park Show Ground. IP10 0AA; what3words/// waitress. escorting.landlords.

On Easter Monday the club's gates will be open from 10am to 4pm. For more information telephone 07780 704 792 or visit www.ipswichcroquetclub.com





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WOODBIDGE MUSEUM

We are now moving into our Summer Season, and our intention is to open every day during school holidays. During term time, the museum will be closed on Tuesdays & Wednesdays. We do need more volunteer stewards. If you can give a few hours of your time, it would be much appreciated. You don't have to commit to a set number of hours or any regular time. You will meet people from all over the UK and abroad and be part of a team helping to preserve the cultural heritage of this area. For more information, please email: Stewards@woodbridgemuseum.com or call into the museum.

The first of our guided walks around Woodbridge is on 11th April starting at the museum at 10.45am. The guided walk costs £5 and includes the Heritage Trail leaflet. If you are interested in joining this or other walks please call into the museum. If specific dates aren't available a volunteer will contact you.

On **10th April** Simon Hooten will present his talk 'Trees, Woods & People' at the Woodbridge Community Centre, 2.30 - 4pm. Guests are welcome and Friends of Woodbridge Museum enjoy a discount on the modest entry fee. Simon's love of woodlands started through conservation and volunteering. He looks at woods, their wildlife and the way we have utilised woodland products throughout our history.

Woodbridge Museum are delighted to have received a substantial archive of local maps donated by the Natural History Museum, London & University of East Anglia, Norwich. The maps range from 1905 to 1960s and are in excellent condition.

The museum is indebted to the Friends of Woodbridge Museum who have agreed to purchase a second map chest so that this valuable archive can be stored properly.

The photograph is a small section of a map, (6"to 1mile scale), showing St Audry's with the hospital marked 'County Asylum'. This is now the site of the Melton Park residential development although some of the original hospital buildings remain.



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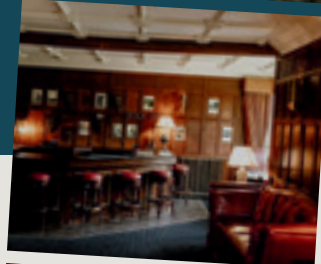
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WOODBIDGE CRUISING CLUB

The club is holding an **Open Day** on **Sunday 3rd May** from 12noon – 3pm when the bar in the club house, River Walk, Woodbridge will be open to non-members. If you want to meet friendly members, find out about the club and enjoy a drink with probably the best view in Woodbridge, do pop in.

Onshore activities continued in March, with the Fitting Out Supper, a formal occasion with a delicious three course meal. This marked the official start of the cruising season, under the talented team of Rosemary, Sally and assistants. Members are looking forward to April events including the Spice Night with six unique dishes of authentic cuisine, and the Indoor Yacht Race.

The newly established Games Night, hosted by Rosemary and Brian, with a variety of board and indoor games, are a popular addition to the winter calendar. The Beatles Quiz Night was a sellout and raised funds for East Anglia Sailing Trust, and the Music Night saw talented club members playing and singing, including the Jetsam Ukulele Band.

The Cruise meeting, hosted by Andy was a chance to hear all about the summer cruises, the raison d'être of the club. The shared experience of the unique blend of sailing, navigational challenges, great company and sociable dinners make club cruises so popular.

The model boat challenge in April/ May is the inaugural cruise and a hotly fought contest between WCC, and the Model Boat Club, organised by Alex.

The Thursday walks come to end in April. Thank you to William for organising these and all the walk leaders.

Wednesday barbecues will be running through the summer from May onwards and again are a welcome social event.

If you have a genuine interest in sailing and the sea, have a look at our programme of maritime related events on our website: www.woodbridgescruisingclub.org. New members are always welcome.



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PROJECT UPDATE

APRIL 2026

Our work along the A12 to bring forward junction improvements is progressing well and we would like to thank you for your patience as this continues.

A12 ROUNDABOUTS: We are on schedule to open the roundabout at Friday Street to traffic on Monday 30 March. Whilst the works will not be fully complete, this will be a significant milestone and will improve the traffic flow in the area and the safety of the roads at this important junction. Once the full work on the road structure of the roundabouts is complete, the community will start to see a reduction of traffic management in the immediate areas and later in the year landscaping and planting of flora will begin.

The roundabout that is being constructed at Yoxford is also progressing well and will be operational to traffic Tuesday 31 March. As with Friday Street, the roundabout will not be fully complete at this time, with landscaping and planting to commence later in the year.

PARK AND RIDES: Both the Southern Park and Ride (Wickham Market) and Northern Park and Ride (Darsham) are now open. Work will continue to increase the capacity of both car parks through to late summer 2026.

NORTHERN PARK AND RIDE (NPR): The roundabout that links the A12 to the Darsham Park and Ride is also being linked to the A12 in phases. The western arm of the roundabout is now linked to the A12 for traffic, we expect the roundabout to be operational by the end of March.

Traffic lights remain in place to pace the traffic flow. We are now working to increase the capacity at the NPR to 280 spaces.

AT THE SOUTHERN PARK AND RIDE (SPR) the access road at Wickham Market is due to open at the end of March, which is timed with the completion of the Cadent gas works that are ongoing on the slip road and roundabout. This enables us to increase our bus fleet to transport workers to and from the Park and Rides. The prescribed routes for the buses are along the A12 and B1122. Road signs will be put up on the A12 during March.

The local road improvements at Yoxford have been completed. The works included the construction of a signalised crossing across the A12 and access improvements to the High Street and the A12 (picture below). In early summer, further improvements on the A12 will commence at Marlesford and then Little Glemham; we will share further details on the Sizewell C Works Tracker.

RAIL: The improvements to the Saxmundham to Leiston rail line continue, with construction of the branch line to the Temporary Construction Area continuing at pace. Level crossing improvements and construction will require small road closures, which will be outlined via the Sizewell C Works Tracker: www.szcworkstracker.co.uk. Between 23 and 31 May Network Rail will be working on the rail line between Ipswich and Lowestoft. A bus replacement service will be in operation throughout.

Thank you for your patience as we work towards the completion of many of the road schemes and as always if you need to speak to us, please contact us via the **FREEPHONE 0800 197 6102***.

FORUM SCHEDULE

Forum timings
2026 | 18:00 - 20:00
(Arrival from 17:45)

Main Development Site Forum	Wed 15 April	Leiston Town Athletic Association
Northern Transport Forum	Wed 6 May	High Lodge Darsham

For more information and for more forum dates visit sizewellc.com/community/forums
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New Road crossing at Yoxford

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WOODBIDGE ROTARY

Woodbridge Rotary Club meet most Fridays from 12:30, in the bar of The Bull Inn, Market Hill, followed by lunch in Carlow's room. Why not come along and meet us? More information can be found at: www.woodbridgerotary.com.

The fruits of our labours during the autumn and winter months are now beginning to show. Supporting Rotary International's ongoing campaign to 'End Polio Now', we worked with the local community and the schools of Farlingaye High, Kysons Primary, St Mary's Primary as well as The Abbey Preparatory, distributing crocus bulbs to be planted and raising around £600 for this worthy cause. They are now beginning to peep through as can be seen in the photograph. To find out more about this campaign visit: www.rotarygbi.org.

We were also able to express our appreciation recently for the support given to our annual 'Ruff Stuff' off-road bike event which is a very successful fund raiser. Peter Whelan is a volunteer who has, over many years, been prepared to take on the major part of the organisation for the route and signage, so expressing Rotary's grateful thanks for that considerable achievement, Peter was given our Community Service Award.

The Club is currently organising collection points in Woodbridge to support TWAM, i.e. 'Tools With A Mission'. The dates for these collections are focussed on the weeks commencing 11th & 18th of May. Collection sites will be displayed on our website as well as Facebook page, in due course.

TWAM is a Christian charity that collects unwanted usable tools, refurbishes and sorts them into trade tool kits for livelihood creation. TWAM's mission is to empower people and groups in need, offering them a way, through tools, to put poverty behind them for good with an opportunity to begin their own sustainable careers.

The Mission also enriches our local UK communities through volunteering opportunities and reduces waste by re-cycling, thus contributing significantly to environmental sustainability.

Through TWAM's 'local to global' model, over 200 tonnes of tools annually have been prevented from unnecessarily going to UK landfills and engaged local communities, by offering volunteering opportunities that nurture skills and foster social connections. The impact of this work resonates globally, as TWAM now supply refurbished tools to over 500 organisations in the UK and Sub-Saharan Africa. These tools equip individuals with the skills needed to completely transform their lives and communities.

By refurbishing and recycling, over 1,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions can be saved annually, demonstrating a serious commitment to environmental sustainability. The toolkits produced by this re-cycling effort, serve as catalysts for change, from supporting families and education to strengthening communities.

TWAM's local efforts have a global impact, helping to create a world where everyone has the chance to thrive.

TWAM send tools to be distributed in Africa and anywhere in the UK where they identify a need for this type of support; to apply for tools for those areas, or to learn more, please visit the website: www.twam.uk.

Finally, don't forget to save the date for Woodbridge Regatta which this year will be on 19th July on our wonderful Deben riverside, no doubt, for some enthusiastic sailors that may mean in the river too!



Local community volunteers planting crocuses 2025



Peter Whelan receiving the certificate from David Houchell



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WOODBIDGE RIVERSIDE TRUST

The Rope Making courses held in the John Gibbins Gallery at the end of February were terrific. Sue Pennison was a first class (and patient!) tutor, and after course members, working as teams under Sue's watchful eye, made several 7m lengths of beautiful rope, everyone wove an individual small mat to take home (please see photos).

Woodbridge Riverside Trust is very grateful to Sue for coming all the way from Hampshire to be with us. Feedback from attendees was wonderful and the Trust was please to sponsor several free places for young people - in fact, rope making was one of many activities a group of young people had told us some time ago that they would like to see happening in The Longshed.

Sunday 5th April: Easter Egg Hunt

For the past few years the Tide Mill Museum has organised an Easter Hunt in and around Whisstock's Place and Tide Mill Way. This event is great family fun so do come along!

Saturday, 18th April at 3 pm: We will be delighted to welcome back to the Gallery Antony Bowring who will be speaking about *'The Coldest Journey, 2012-13'*. This expedition, led by Sir Ranulph Fiennes, set out to achieve the last great polar challenge – to cross Antarctica in winter. They didn't quite make it, and when you hear about the challenges involved, it is not a surprise that the expedition has not been attempted since. Antony, a hugely experienced sailor and explorer, led the marine section of the expedition, planning the ocean passages and providing an ice strengthened ship and crew. Tickets are £8 (to include tea and cake) and available from Eventbrite (no booking fee) or from The Longshed Gift Shop.

The Longshed is open most days of the year, so please come to see us when you can, and follow us on Facebook and our website woodbridgeriversidetrust.org



WOODBIDGE WILDLIFE GROUP

Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Woodbridge Wildlife Group have a Heathland walk and a fascinating talk on offer during April 2026.

On **Saturday 11 April**, starting at 9.30am, the Group have a Heathland Walk from Sutton Heath Southern Car Park. (IP12 3JD – just off B1083). Chairman Phil Smith said "We will be taking a walk around, looking at the flora and fauna in this interesting area of heathland. Participants should bring binoculars and a drink and wear strong footwear, as the ground will be uneven. Places on this walk are strictly limited and must be pre-booked by contacting Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

"The cost is £5 per person with under 25s free and bookings can be made online through www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org (events section) or by telephoning them on 01473 890089. The walk is suitable for children over 10 and lasts approximately 2 hours. No dogs except assistance dogs are allowed on this walk."

Later in the month there is an opportunity to find out more about the Barn Owl when Sally Nelson and Dave Pearsons from Barn Owl Support Suffolk give an illustrated talk - *'The future of Barn Owls in Suffolk'* at Woodbridge Community Hall, Station Road, IP12 4AU on **Thursday 16 April** at 7.30 pm.

Woodbridge Wildlife Group chairman Phil Smith said "The talk will explore how Barn Owl Support Suffolk, part of Suffolk Bird Group, is helping to secure a positive future for Barn Owls through nest box provision, habitat support and community involvement."

Admission to the talk is £4 for adults, with under 25s free. Light refreshments. Raffle. Doors open at 7pm, no need to book. Pay on the door with cash or card. For further information email: swtwoodbridge@outlook.com or tel: 01473 625630.

Helen Taylor

CITIZENS ADVICE EAST

Holiday Scams

Have you ever turned up to an airport to find you are not booked on your flight or after an exhausting journey, you find your Airbnb flat is occupied by the owner and does not exist? This is more common than you think - £12 million a year is lost to travel fraud (MSE June 2024).

Fraudsters go to great lengths to get you to part with your money. They steal images of hotels and rented flats from legitimate reputable companies e.g. Airbnb, Booking.com and create fake websites and online adverts that look completely genuine. The deal will be much cheaper than elsewhere and they will put you under time pressure to book. You will be often asked for payment through a bank or currency transfer.

If you've had a holiday cancellation, fraudsters can set up fake social media accounts inviting you to claim a refund and get your details.

Top tips to avoid a holiday scam

Do your research: Check the website URL in your browser and make sure its legitimate. Search for company details on Gov.uk website to check if it's a registered. Is there a full postal address and contact details and not just a PO Box? Look for ABTA and ABTOT logos and verify membership. Don't rely on customer reviews from their own website.

Be cautious: Take time to make a decision and if the price is low its likely to be too good to be true.

Don't click links on emails or texts and only book a holiday or flight directly with the company on their own website. Look for the padlock icon in the email address bar.

Pay safely: There are different rules about whether you can get your money back depending how you have paid. Paying by credit or debit card may give you extra protection if things go wrong. If eligible, your bank should refund up to £85,000, but not if there was a bank transfer to an account outside the UK. By using a credit card you may be able to claim money back between £100.00 - £30,000 under Section 75 of the Consumer Credit Act. Asking for payment via transfer using Western Union or Moneywise is a red flag. These payments are difficult to trace and are not refundable.

What if you are scammed? Report the details to your bank immediately. Contact Report Fraud Tel: 0300 123 2040 or <http://reportfraud.police.uk/>. For other support contact Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline Tel: 0808 223 1133. Contact us for advice on this or any other issue. Our advisors are keen to help. You can email, phone or pop into our offices or outreaches.

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NEWS FROM ORFORD C.O.E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Please see below some of the amazing things the children here at school have been doing. A reminder that our nursery takes children from the age of 2 with wrap-around care available until 5:30pm.

Class 1 - We have been learning about Mary Anning, a paleontologist. She discovered lots of dinosaur fossils a long time ago. We have also been learning our times tables and have been doing some dinosaur art in class. Our dinosaurs are on the wall in our classroom. There are lots of different ones. We are also enjoying our craft table where we can make lots of things.

This month's journalists were Ralph and Ivy.

Class 2 - In DT we have been designing different toys which are powered by air. This is called pneumatics. This involves drawing exploded drawings so you can see all of the different parts. Soon, we are going to make our own toys. In maths we have been measuring in mm, cm and m and finding out how many metres in a kilometre. We have also been learning how to find the perimeter of a shape and we have been practising our times tables up to 12x12 to become a multiplication master. In Science week we made paper aeroplanes, helicopters and gliders to see how far they fly for and how long they stay in the air. It was great fun. In English we have been writing an explanation of the water cycle, using a title, sub-headings, a picture, time adverbials and an introduction with a rhetorical question.

Class 3 - We have been learning about a whole lot of exciting things in all our wonderful lessons. In maths we have been learning about Area, Perimeter and Volume and we used isometric paper to draw 3d shapes and calculating their volume.

World Book Day - We had a thrilling word book day with a range of costumes including Winnie the Pooh, Dorothy, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, lots of people from the Midnight Gang and many others.

We also made our own stories and books by folding and cutting a piece of A4 paper in the right way! English is so fun; we were doing newspaper articles about the battles and raids of the Vikings. We wrote one article about the invasion of Lindisfarne and we are currently working on how the Vikings captured the city of York.



Science week - This year's science week was amazing. We had several different projects in the class with some intriguing names including "Slime", "Sweet but Sneaky", "Catapults", "Snake Extravaganza", "Mind Tricks", "Melting Ice", "Fizzy Poppers" and "Filamana Flow Balloon".

We also took part in a whole school investigation about different methods to make paper planes, helicopters and gliders. As part of this, we measured how far each one travelled and timed how long they remained in the air.

By Elsie and Vivi





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University of Essex Choir
Britten Pears Chamber Choir

Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

An evening of
Sacred Splendour

Joseph **Haydn**
Missa in angustiis
"Nelson Mass"

Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart**
Regina coeli

George Frideric **Handel**
Dixit Dominus

Conductor Ben Vonberg-Clark

Saturday 09 May 2026, 7:00pm
Snape Maltings Concert Hall,
Snape, Suffolk IP17 1SP

Tickets: £33, £27, £17; students & under 18s £10
Book at: www.brittenpearsarts.org/

University of Essex | BRITTEN PEARS ARTS | University of Essex Choir | Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment

Join University of Essex Choir, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and special guest soloists for: 'An evening of sacred splendour' - Saturday 9th May, 7pm at Snape Maltings

The University of Essex Choir returns to Snape Maltings this May with an exuberant programme of Mozart, Handel and Haydn. Musical director Ben Vonberg-Clark will lead the choir, who will be joined by the acclaimed Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, the Britten Pears Chamber Choir and four talented soloists [see below].

This evening of glittering sacred music unites three titans of the Baroque and Classical eras. The programme opens with Mozart's radiant Regina coeli, K.127, a work that captures his gift for combining profound spirituality with effortless melodic grace. This leads into the uplifting Dixit Dominus, where Handel demonstrates his early explorations of counterpoint and dramatic expression. The evening reaches its zenith with Haydn's monumental Missa in angustiis, better known as the 1798 "Nelson Mass", a work born from the composer's mature genius against the tumultuous backdrop of the Napoleonic Wars. Under the expert guidance of conductor Ben Vonberg-Clark, this collaboration promises to illuminate all three composers' shared commitment to music as spiritual expression.

The University of Essex Choir, renowned for their precision and musicality, will be joined by the Britten Pears Chamber Choir, with both perfectly complemented by the orchestra's period-informed approach. Soloists: Soprano: Charlotte Bowden; Alto: Rebecca Leggett; Tenor: TBC; Bass: Božidar Smiljanić



Theronda and Lucy are proud to bring to you their 3rd annual Art & Book show in Aldeburgh.

Theronda is the artist in residence at the gallery and studios of Kesgrave Arts at Kesgrave in Suffolk. She is inspired by the Suffolk skies and landscapes, particularly

of Aldeburgh and the neighbouring seaside towns.

She has a large body of work - acrylics, oils, drawings, metal sculptures and more - and has exhibited widely in the area. (see her website: www.kesgravesarts.co.uk)

Lucy was born in Aldeburgh and visits frequently from her animal rescue ranch 'Solace' in California. Lucy has an extensive background in real estate, newspaper and animal rescue and has published several books to date, most recently 'Tales from the Forest - The Adventures of Madame Dragonfly'.

She will be launching her new book - 'Chip the Naughty Seagull' at the Aldeburgh Gallery, April 16-22. Read her newspaper columns at www.LUNAbookspublishing.com

Welcome to the..
Theronda & Lucy
3rd Annual Art & Book Show
at The Aldeburgh Gallery,
Aldeburgh High Street,
(next to The Golden Galleon)
April 16-22, 10am - 5pm

Aldeburgh Memories - A collection
Theronda Hoffman

Book Launch
Chip The Naughty Seagull
Lucy Mason Jensen

For more info, contact Lucy
lucymasonjensen@gmail.com



A brand-new comedy drama is to premiere at the Leiston Film Theatre in September 2026. 'Mourning Campers' has been written by Leiston Film Theatre manager Wayne Burns and is being brought to the stage under his 'Team B Productions' banner, who also are responsible for creating the venue's popular annual Pantomimes. Inspired by the iconic sit-com, Hi-de-Hi, Mourning Campers is set in a Suffolk holiday camp in the 1980s and follows the drama behind the scenes and on stage at Archers Holiday Camp. At a time when the package holiday is growing in popularity, what can be done to keep the campers coming? Thankfully, the campsite owner has an idea and it's now up to the staff to make it a success. The idea for this comedy drama, which is deemed suitable for ages 16+, came literary out of the blue - 35,000 feet off the ground! "We were returning home from Florida in 2017 and I grabbed a few serviettes and scribbled various notes about possible characters, their mannerisms and a potential storyline to help me through the flight! These notes then sat in my panto box until 2024, when I finally started work on a draft script in earnest." said Wayne, who originally hoped to bring the show to the stage in 2025, but ended up postponing it until 2026, as he wasn't happy about one section of the script.

Wayne was a huge fan of the 1980s BBC sit-com Hi-de-Hi and in 2016 met Jeffrey Holland, who played the comedian Spike Dickson in the hit TV series. "I told Jeffrey that I was hoping to write a script about a Suffolk holiday camp and he wholeheartedly encouraged me to do it - so I did!" said Wayne.

Wayne has spent most of 2025 buying up authentic props for the production and will shortly start making a custom-built set for the play.

"Mourning Campers is something very different for us and requires a different discipline from those performing on stage. It's a very exciting exercise for us and there is already a lot of interest in this particular production." said Wayne.

Tickets are currently discounted for a limited time and available from the venue box office on 01728 830549 and via the Leiston Film Theatre website at: www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

What's On at Leiston Film Theatre

Fri 3rd Apr at 7.00pm
Sat 4th, Sun 5th & Mon 6th Apr at 3.00pm
Tues 7th, Wed 8th & Thurs 9th Apr at 2.00pm

THE MAGIC FARAWAY TREE U

Fri 3rd, Sat 4th & Mon 6th Apr at 6.00pm
Tues 7th, Wed 8th & Thurs 9th Apr at 7.00pm

PROJECT HAIL MARY 12A

Sun 5th Apr at 6.00pm

EPiC: ELVIS PRESLEY IN CONCERT 12A

Fri 10th, Sat 11th & Sun 12th Apr at 3.00pm
Mon 13th, Tues 14th, Wed 15th &
Thurs 16th Apr at 4.30pm
Sat 18th & Sun 19th Apr at 2.00pm

THE SUPER MARIO GALAXY MOVIE PG

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THE ELO ENCOUNTER

Sun 19th Apr at 6.00pm

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www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

DEBEN LEISURE CENTRE UPGRADE

To reduce carbon emissions and improve sustainability, major works at Deben Leisure Centre in Woodbridge are scheduled to begin this month.

East Suffolk Council is undertaking a major decarbonisation project at Deben, Leiston and Waterlane Leisure Centres, supporting the Council's commitment to achieving net zero emissions. The upgrades, funded through the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and by the Council, will modernise aging plant equipment, cut carbon emissions and create more efficient, futureproof leisure facilities.

Work at Deben Leisure Centre will include the installation of an electric air source heat pump system and a new solar-panelled carport generating clean, renewable power.

The improvements will ensure more reliable heating, hot water and long-term operational savings. To enable this work to be safely carried out, the swimming pool and health suite will temporarily close between 6 April and 13 July. All other areas of the centre will remain fully open.

Cllr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk's cabinet member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism said: *"These improvements are being carried out as part of our commitment to reduce emissions and lower energy use at our leisure centres and will transform this much-loved community leisure centre into a modern, high-quality, sustainable facility for the community today and for future generations. I am proud that at a time when some councils are having to shut leisure facilities because they are too expensive to operate, we are investing in ours to ensure that residents can take care of their own mental and physical health."*

"We apologise for any inconvenience caused by the temporary closure of the swimming pool and would encourage people to explore our other nearby leisure facilities whilst these works are underway."

Places Leisure, which operates the centre on the council's behalf, have notified members of the upcoming pool closure.

Those with swim only memberships will have their membership frozen, unless members choose to swim instead at Leiston or Felixstowe Leisure Centres. All other membership types are unaffected. Anyone with queries regarding their membership is asked to contact the centre via www.placesleisure.org/contact-us

A small section of the car park will close for approximately five weeks to enable the installation of the solar carport. The rear car park will stay open throughout the works.

SUFFOLK SINGERS

Our concert in January was given in co-operation with FIND: www.findipswich.org.uk. Our programme included contributions from the WestTones, a Woodbridge School ensemble also directed by Claire Weston. The concert was sold out and raised much needed funds for this worthwhile local charity.

Suffolk Singers are a renowned 'a capella' choir with members drawn from throughout Suffolk and further afield too. To find out more about us visit: www.suffolksingers.co.uk.

We will be giving two recitals in Norfolk as part of our Spring Tour. One at Wyndham Abbey on 23rd May at 4pm and the other at Binham Priory on 24th May at 3pm. The programme is an eclectic mix of sacred and secular works celebrating the enduring power of the human voice, from the luminous polyphony of the Renaissance to the rich, expressive music of modern composers.

We will be singing well-known choral anthems including Bruckner's Ave Maria and Palestrina's Exsultate Deo and we are very excited to perform a version of Albinoni's much-loved Adagio, which has been set to the words of Ave Maria and arranged especially for Suffolk Singers by Jamie John Hutchings. American composer and arranger Moses Hogan brings a different spiritual dimension to the programme through his powerful arrangements of music that draw on the legacy of African American sacred song, offering both exuberant energy and profound emotional resonance.

On a lighter note, the programme includes an arrangement of 'My love is like a red, red rose' and two Shakespearean songs which capture the charm and elegance of Victorian part-song writing. The programme reaches into the 21st century with the contemporary voice of Elaine Hagenberg and the modern harmonic language of Kim André Arnesen.

We will also be performing Three Antiphons of Hildegard of Bingen, written for the choir by Jamie John Hutchings, demonstrating that choral music continues to evolve while remaining deeply connected to its past.

The recital will last for around an hour and a retiring collection will be taken.

On Sunday, Afternoon tea will be served at The Parlour, adjacent to Binham Priory prior to the concert. Booking essential: <https://theparlourbinham.co.uk/>

More information about these delightful venues can be found on their websites, see below. Why not have a day out in Norfolk, or perhaps a weekend away, and include one of our recitals in your itinerary?

Binham Priory website: <https://binhampriory.org/>
Wyndham Abbey website: <https://www.wyndhamabbey.org.uk/>

WOODBRIDGE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Woodbridge Town Football Club runs 19 boys teams and 9 girls teams ranging in age from 8 to 16. The boys play in the Saturday Youth League, Eastern Junior Alliance and Colchester Alliance Leagues, whilst the girls play in the Suffolk Girls and Ladies League. Matches are played at Kingston Meadow, Melton Playing Field, Melton St Audry's and Ufford.

For the past 2 months Jon Wright has been Youth Chairman and with the support of Team Managers he encourages the youngsters to progress within the Club.

On Sunday April 19th at 12noon the Ladies Team will be holding a 'Fun Day' at the Club and everyone is invited to watch a game and take part in the attractions.

Forthcoming fixtures at the Club

Saturday 4th April: First Team v Great Yarmouth, 3pm
 Tuesday 7th April: Under 23 v Framlingham, 7.45pm
 Saturday 11th April: First Team v Lakenheath, 3pm

Saturday 11th April: Under 16 v Claydon, 10.30am
 Sunday 12th April: Veterans v Foxhall Town, 2pm
 Sunday 12th April: Ladies v AFC Kesgrave, 2pm
 Thursday 16th April: Under 18 v Walsham le Willows, 7.45pm
 Saturday 18th April: Under 16 v Sporting 87, 10.30am
 Sunday 19th April: Veterans v Bury Town, 2pm
 Sunday 19th April: Ladies v Kesgrave Kestrals, 2pm
 Thursday 23rd April: Under 18 v Stowmarket, 7.45pm
 Saturday 25th April: Under 16 v Witnesham, 10.30am
 Thursday 30th April: Under 18 v Framlingham, 7.45pm

In addition to the above the Suffolk and Ipswich League will hold Cup Finals on Friday 10th, 17th and 24th at 7.30pm

These dates may be subject to change dependent upon weather and cup dates.

If you or your organisation plans to hold a party, celebration, meeting or wake in the Woodbridge area please contact Paul at Wtfc-VenueBookings@outlook.com

SUFFOLK COUNTY MUSIC SERVICE

Suffolk County Music Service (SCMS) is helping thousands of children and young people across the county discover music as a source of confidence, creativity and connection. The service is committed to making high quality music education accessible to every child, whatever their background. Working closely with schools, SCMS delivers whole class and small group programmes that introduce pupils to instruments and build essential musical skills. Many young people begin their musical journey here, before progressing to individual instrumental or vocal lessons taught by specialist music teachers who nurture technique, self expression and confidence. SCMS also ensures that financial circumstances never prevent a child from learning music.



We offer a range of support options to keep lessons within reach for families. Beyond lessons, the service runs a wide range of ensembles, orchestras, bands and choirs, giving young musicians the chance to rehearse together, perform publicly and experience the excitement of collaborative music making.

These opportunities help build resilience, teamwork and friendships that often span schools and communities.

A strong commitment to inclusion underpins all SCMS activity. The service supports young people with special educational needs and disabilities, adapting teaching so everyone can participate meaningfully and benefit from music's unique power to support communication and wellbeing. By developing creativity, discipline and teamwork, SCMS equips young people with skills that last a lifetime.

Find out more at <https://suffolkcountymusicservice.co.uk/>.

This issue was designed, printed & published by Leiston Press.

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Reports, press releases; letters and other editorial contributions with news value are all welcome but are accepted on the understanding that there is no guarantee of inclusion and that they will be selected and edited at the editor's discretion.

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