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AUGUST 2026

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A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



Lots to keep youngsters occupied in Southwold during the long summer holidays, as well as the beautiful beach of course - this year's Maize Maze ('Fields of the Future') celebrates the exciting advancements in modern farming and the library, as always is offering lots of entertainment with visits from local authors of children's books, Crafts, My Little Village and much more with some being free activities. Have a wonderful summer!

Please drop me a line to boost your business by advertising with us, in any or all of our six titles, or if you have any news or events you would like to share with our readers.

Email: lou@tidecollection.com

Quote of the month

Experience is simply the name we give our mistakes

Oscar Wilde



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SOUTHWOLD & REYDON SOCIETY

Our first Southwold & Reydon Society Southwold Sandcastle Competition took place on the beach in front of Gun Hill on Saturday 11th July. It was held as a free to enter family-friendly sandcastle-building competition for local residents and visitors.

We are pleased to report that we had 24 teams (with over a hundred participants) enter the competition and everybody seemed to have a lot of fun taking part.

There was a very high standard from all the teams so it was extremely hard for the judges to come to decisions but the winning entries were as follows:

Best Decorated Teams: Bing's Dad and Foxy

Best Animal Teams: Daisy and The Big Potatoes

Best Southwold Theme Teams: Birds and Chicken

Best Ball Run Teams: The Rusty Buckets and Josh

Overall Winners' Teams: Sunbeam Seaside and Bananas.

The following further teams entered the competition, all of whom produced fabulous sandcastles: Elsie; Volcano; Strawberry; Catchpole; Mack; Turner; Atlanta; Carter; Purple; Sandy Lambs; Cosby Massive; The Sausages; JWT and Red Division. Congratulations to everyone who took part!

We are very grateful for the support from the following local businesses who generously donated prizes:

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LOCAL CHARITY OPENS EUROPE'S FIRST ELEPHANT SANCTUARY



The Pangea Trust, a local charity based in Wenhaston, has just opened the gates to the first large-scale elephant sanctuary in Europe. Its 1,000-acre reserve in the Alentejo region of Portugal exists to help zoos and circuses rehome elephants in need.

Julie, Portugal's last circus elephant, became Pangea's first resident last month. Taken from the wild in southern Africa as a young calf, she spent more than 40 years performing in a Portuguese circus before a national ban on wild animals came into force in 2024. Her owners agreed to rehome her to Pangea, where she is already thriving.

She will soon be joined by Kariba, another female African elephant, wild-caught in the 1980s and currently living alone at a zoo in Belgium.

Julie's habitat is already more than ten times the size of an average European zoo enclosure, and Pangea are now raising funds to open a further 70 acres to give her space to roam this year. The photos are of Julie's first day at the sanctuary.

Find out more or support Pangea at www.pangeatrust.org/



DICKENS FELLOWSHIP

The Southwold and District branch of the international Dickens Fellowship provides a forum for all who love the works of Charles Dickens. The branch was founded in March, 1989 by Mrs Bette Clark and Mrs Betty Goodwin. The branch received its charter as a member of the worldwide Dickens Fellowship in July, 1990. The Fellowship has 47 member branches worldwide, of which 15 are in the UK including 3 in East Anglia. The local branch met in the Guide Centre, Cautley Road, Southwold. It originally had 24 members, all residents of Southwold and Reydon and one from Walberswick. Membership eventually peaked at 30 before declining to 18 recently. Branch activities have included readings from Dickens's works (sometimes dramatised), film shows, celebrations of Dickens's birthday and of Christmas, and trips to places associated with Dickens. Some members occasionally represented the branch at the annual international conferences of the Fellowship in UK or abroad.

A particularly memorable year was 2012, the bicentenary of Charles Dickens's birth; the branch hosted a public event with dramatised readings (in costume) of favourite extracts from the novels, a quiz on famous Dickens quotations and a big birthday cake.

The branch was even represented at a special reception at Buckingham Palace, hosted by Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, and attended by worldwide Fellowship members, descendants of Charles Dickens, writers and theatre representatives.

Given the declining resident population of the Southwold area, acquiring new (in particular, younger) members is a challenge. Even more of a challenge is succession for the officers. Although this situation is not unique to this organisation, it is particularly pressing for the current chairman who, in his 90th year, really needs to be put out to grass!

Therefore, unless a white knight (or dame) comes to the rescue, the branch's next season may well be their last. Anyone with an interest in Dickens, or 19th century literature, and willing to help with organisation, would be most welcome.

On present plans, the Southwold branch's new 2026/27 season starts on Tuesday, 22nd September at 2pm, in the Cardinal Newman Hall, Southwold. This is a change of venue as the Guide Centre is no longer available to us. Meetings are held monthly, usually on the afternoons of the fourth Tuesday. Fuller details will be published next month. The annual subscription is just £10 which includes free entry to the Charles Dickens museum in London.

Further information is gladly available from Bill Wallond (01502 722212 or email: wjwallond@hotmail.com).

Bill Wallond

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SOUTHWOLD MAIZE MAZE

Southwold Maize Maze has revealed its 2026 theme - *'Fields of the Future'* - celebrating the exciting advancements in modern farming. The seasonal tourist attraction is based on a former dairy farm, located in an attractive position by the Suffolk Coast and River Blyth estuary. With Will Hall recently returning to the family business to join his Mum Bella, this year's design takes inspiration from the local landscape and the site's heritage. Now in its 21st year, the design of this year's maize maze explores the exciting ways modern farming is changing to adapt to new technology and protect the planet. Turning the countryside into a hands-on adventure, this year's mazes demonstrate to visitors how technology, sustainability and clever new ideas are helping farmers grow food in smarter and greener ways. With the recent popularity of Clarkson's Farm, which in its latest series sees Clarkson and the team trial modern technology such as the AgBot T2 driverless tractor and the FarmDroid FD2 on Diddy Squat Farm, this year's theme expands on this exciting new curiosity of modern farming. Across the maze, visitors can discover interactive boards on soil health, pollinators, water conservation, farming technology and more. With child-friendly challenges and a stamp trail woven through the pathways, *'Fields of the Future'* brings tomorrow's farming to life in a way that's playful, positive and fun.

This year's theme has three maze designs for visitors to explore. The mini maize, designed especially for younger children, is a sunflower design, with a different coloured finger stamp to collect on each petal. The big maze this year has two parts; a pig design, taking inspiration from the local landscape and exploring the role that livestock plays in agriculture and soil health, and a tractor design, representing the advancements in technology, crop health, weather and water management.

Will Hall is delighted to welcome visitors to Southwold Maize Maze in his first summer season since joining the family business.

"It has been an exciting time preparing for this year's summer season, working alongside my mum to design the mazes, decide on the themes, challenges and information boards," says Will.

"It's really special that the theme this year links back to the farm's heritage and the local area. The Suffolk Coast is known for its outdoor pigs, and visitors may even spot some on their journey to the maize maze in the fields only a short distance from where we are situated."

"It's particularly relevant that we're spotlighting the role of technology in modern farming, as the maize maze itself was planted using precision technology back in May, using satellite technology to map out the design and the walkways," he adds.

The mother and son team have also been making a few other modernisations this year, including the website, which has seen a few changes, and the new online ticketing platform, making it easier to book online ahead of time.

"We're looking forward to welcoming local visitors and tourists to our spot on the Suffolk Coast and hope this year's design brings a new challenge and a fun day out for many!" says Will.

Entry to the maize maze includes access to all facilities within the Play Park, plus the pedal go-kart track within the maze. This includes three jumping pillows, double zip line, ride on tractors, nest swing, climbing towers and slides, Downpour Derby water play, two giant sand pits and outdoor play kitchen and café. With multiple food options, including Old Hall Café, which is now under the management of local bakery business Tudor Bakehouse, the Snack Shack within the play park, and The Pizza Parlour, it's the perfect destination for a fun-filled day out.



Southwold Maize Maze will be open for the summer season every day until Sunday 6th September. For further information about the upcoming summer maize maze season and to book tickets: <https://www.southwoldmaizemaze.co.uk/>



Maze by torchlight - 21st August at The Old Hall Café, Southwold for The Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research. 6 - 9pm - last entries at 7.30pm.

We'll be collaborating with the team from the Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research UK to bring you an evening of fun in the maze and garden games in the park for the whole family whilst raising money for a fantastic cause. A magical way to experience the beauty of the maze at dusk. Navigate your way around the maze as the sun sets over the beautiful Blyth - a fun challenge by torchlight.

The Café will be open for snacks & drinks, as will the Pizza kitchen also open (prebook tables in café for this by calling cafe on 01502723091).

Tickets available on the night but advance booking is advisable **All tickets are £9, infants 0 - 2 are free with all proceeds going to Halesworth Branch of Cancer Research UK.**

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR OWN TORCHES!



Fri 7th Aug at 6pm
Sat 8th & Sun 9th Aug at 3pm

MOANA PG

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9th AUG IS THE SING-A-LONG VERSION

Sat 8th Aug at 6pm
Sun 16th Aug at 3pm

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Fri 14th Aug at 7pm
Sat 15th at 5pm
Tues 18th - Thurs 20th Aug at 7pm

THE ODYSSEY 15

Fri 21st Aug at 12pm
Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd Aug at 3pm
Mon 24th - Thurs 27th Aug at 12pm

PAW PATROL: THE DINO MOVIE U

Fri 21st Aug at 7.15pm
Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd Aug at 6pm
Mon 24th - Thurs 27th Aug at 7.15pm

SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY 12A

Fri 28th Aug at 7.15pm
Sat 29th & Sun 30th Aug at 6pm
Mon 31st Aug, Tues 1st &
Thurs 3rd Sept at 7.15pm

THE END OF OAK STREET 12A

Fri 4th & Sat 5th Sept at 7.15pm
Sun 6th Sept at 3pm
Mon 7th Sept at 1pm
Tues 8th Sept at 7.15pm
Wed 9th Sept at 3pm
Thurs 10th Sept at 7.15pm

HOLY DAYS 12A

Sun 6th Sept at 6pm

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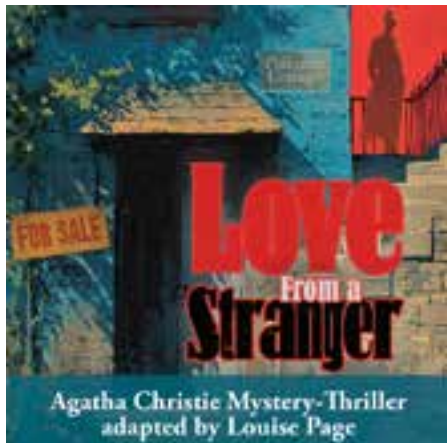
ON SCREEN IN AUGUST - André Rieu's 2026 Summer Concert: Viva Maastricht. This year, André Rieu celebrates a spectacular milestone — the 20th anniversary of his iconic summer concerts on the magnificent Vrijthof square. Captured live in his beloved hometown, this brand-new cinema event marks two decades of music and unforgettable magical summer nights. Joined by his world-renowned Johann Strauss Orchestra and a vibrant ensemble of artists, André brings the spirit, culture, and warmth of his hometown to life in a dazzling new concert filled with emotion and wonder. From timeless waltzes to soul-stirring classics, this landmark anniversary concert promises an evening of passion, joy, and togetherness.

COMING UP AT SOUTHWOLD ARTS CENTRE

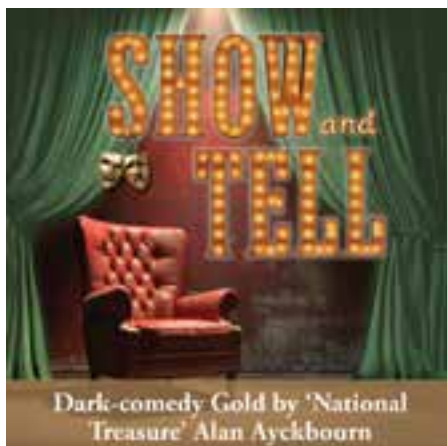
29th July - 1st August and 5th August - 8th August: Described by the author as, "A Trivial Comedy for Serious People", Wilde's genre-crossing masterpiece of Romcom meets Satire has everything.



12th - 15th August: A nerve-jangling Mystery Thriller, adapted from a short story by the Queen of Crime.



19th - 22nd August and 26th - 29th August: By special arrangement with Sir Alan Ayckbourn, this UK Regional Premier of his 2024 hit is pure, dark-farce gold from UK Theatre's National Treasure. Presented by Aldeburgh Classic Theatre.



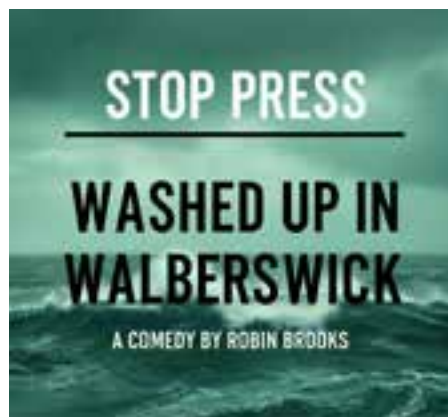
2nd - 5th September: Best of British roaring-twenties farce by Will Evans and Arthur Valentine.



11th September: The UK's leading New Orleans style clarinettist Adrian Cox and swing guitar specialist Honey Boulton are joined by the Chris Ingham Trio for an unmissable evening of swinging early jazz entertainment.



12th to 17th September: Anything can wash up on the North Sea coast..will there be concrete mixers? Will there be small boats? Potholes? The cost of living? The plight of the people of...? Ah, who knows.



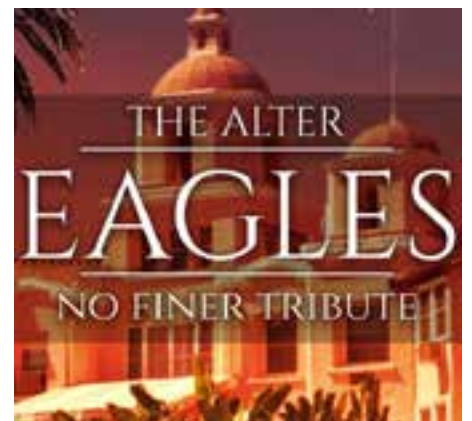
18th September: Not The Rolling Stones are clearly a member of the Premier League of tribute bands. A truly international act.



Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th: Join Michael Rowan-Robinson, the Chair of Trustees, to explore the history and heritage of Southwold Arts Centre. Exhibition on the history of the centre will be open from 11am onward.



19th September. The Alter Eagles have established themselves as one of the country's top tribute acts.



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BLYTH VALLEY ROTARY CLUB

Blyth Valley Rotary Club's inaugural Brass on the Grass concert brought music, community spirit and a summer atmosphere to Halesworth Town Park on Saturday 4th July 2026.



Despite warm temperatures, visitors enjoyed an afternoon of excellent live brass band music in the park's relaxed setting. The band's varied programme was well suited to a summer afternoon and was warmly received by those who attended.

The event followed weeks of planning by a small team of Rotary members, Friends of Rotary and volunteers. Stalls, gazebos and bunting helped transform the park into an inviting venue, and many visitors commented on the welcoming atmosphere. Kelly from Halesworth Town Council praised the event's appearance and the calm, summery ambience created by the organisers.

One organiser said, *"Seeing the park filled with music, smiles and people enjoying themselves made all the hard work worthwhile."*

Refreshments, crepes, ice creams and pizza proved popular throughout the afternoon, while the teddy stall attracted visitors of all ages.

Rotary collection buckets, together with generous donations from the public, stallholders and members of the public, helped boost the day's fundraising. All profit from the event will go to Cardiac Risk in the Young @Tobyforever23 (Halesworth Group). C.R.Y, or Cardiac Risk in the Young, is a national charitable organisation helping to raise awareness of young sudden cardiac death, including sudden arrhythmic death syndrome. C.R.Y was established in May 1995 by Alison Cox MBE and is based in the United Kingdom. <https://www.c-r-y.org.uk/>.

We are unable to share with you at this point how much was raised from the event.



Blyth Valley Rotary Club extends sincere thanks to everyone who helped before, during and after the event. Particular thanks go to the honorary Rotarians, Friends of Rotary, volunteers and supporters who collected and erected gazebos, decorated the park, served refreshments, ran stalls, welcomed visitors and helped clear everything away afterwards. The event showed what can be achieved by a small but dedicated team working together. Special thanks also go to the band for providing such a high-quality afternoon of entertainment. Their excellent musicianship and carefully chosen programme were enjoyed by all.

While organisers would always welcome more visitors, it was encouraging to see so many families, friends and park users stopping to enjoy the music. Many people were pleasantly surprised to discover the event taking place, which gives the club plenty to think about as plans begin for next year.

Blyth Valley Rotary Club would like to thank everyone who supported Brass on the Grass and helped make its first year such a success. The club hopes the event will become a regular feature of Halesworth's summer calendar. For more information about Blyth Valley Rotary Club or to find out how to get involved in supporting local community projects, visitors are always welcome at future club meetings and events. info@blythvalleyrotary.co.uk

Rotarian Chris Caswell

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FROM JENNY RIDDELL-CARPENTER, MP



Recently, I led a Westminster Hall debate on the contribution of nationally significant energy infrastructure projects to communities, building on my ongoing work on the impact these developments are having across Suffolk Coastal. This is an issue that continues to be particularly relevant for communities across our area, where major energy projects are already changing the local landscape and placing real pressure on roads, access and day-to-day life. In the debate I made two key points. First, that the level of community investment being offered in some cases needs to better reflect the scale of the infrastructure being delivered locally. For example, I raised concerns that the proposed community investment for Sea Link - set at 0.1% of the project value and split between Suffolk and Kent - feels out of step with the level of impact these projects have on our area.

Second, I highlighted the very real, immediate pressures being felt by local businesses during the construction phase of Sizewell C. While the community investment framework is focused on long-term legacy, many businesses are telling me they are struggling now as a direct result of disruption from construction works. I gave examples of businesses such as Theberton Lion and Leiston Refill Store, who are not opposed to the projects themselves, but are finding it difficult to withstand the day-to-day impact of roadworks, closures and reduced access.

The message I heard clearly is that future benefit only matters if businesses are still there to see it. Following the debate, I have already been contacted by the Minister and a follow-up meeting has been arranged to look at these issues in more detail. As ever, I am grateful to everyone who has shared their experiences and evidence with me.

This work is ongoing, and I will continue pushing for a fairer approach that ensures communities hosting this infrastructure are properly supported both now and in the long term.

You can read more about my wider work on energy infrastructure here: www.jennyforsuffolkcoastal.org/energy

Contact:

jenny.riddellcarpenter.mp@parliament.uk

01394 330260

www.jennyforsuffolkcoastal.org

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SOUTHWOLD LIBRARY SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Wednesday 5th August @ 11am: Meet Local Kids Author Marjoke Henrichs with her new picture book 'Again! said Rabbit' plus Bunny Crafts! Rabbit is off to the seaside for the day with his mum and dad. Free event, no need to book.

Thursday 6th August @ 11am & 2pm: Party with the Snow Sister @ Stella Peskett Millennium Hall. Party games and magical fun with the Snow Sister from Lucy's Princess Parties. £3 per child. Book: southwold.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk www.ticketsource.co.uk/southwoldlibrary 01502 442817

Wednesday 12th August, 11am: Meet Local Kids Author Emma Graham with her new picture book 'Tyranno – ROAR- us Rex' plus Dino Crafts! Introducing Rex. He is rather grumpy and rather loud. Free event, no need to book.

Thursday 13th August 9.30am, 11am & 1pm: My Little Village @ Stella Peskett Millennium Hall. Let your child's imagination run wild in our pop-up role play village! What will they choose to be today? A firefighter, a vet, a singer or maybe a chef. Role play sessions for walkers to 5 years. £4 per child for 1 hour's play! Event costs subsidised by the Friends of Southwold Library. Book: southwold.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk www.ticketsource.co.uk/southwoldlibrary

Wednesday 19th August @ 11am & 2pm: Seaside Stories & Crafts with Southwold Library @ Alfred Corry Lifeboat Museum. Make a sandcastle decorations, surfboard bookmarks & keyrings, crabs and much more! Free stories, games & fun.

Thursday 20th August @ 11am & 2pm: Mini Monsters: Creepy Crawly Roadshow @ Stella Peskett Millennium Hall. Come and meet the mini monsters: minibeasts, reptiles and invertebrates. Find out fascinating facts about the animals before getting up close and personal with each species. £2 per child. Open to children 5+. Book: southwold.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk www.ticketsource.co.uk/southwoldlibrary

Wednesday 26th August @ 11am & 1.30pm: Forensics & Crime Solving Workshop for Kids with Kinetics Science @ Stella Peskett Millennium Hall: Take fingerprints, exam a crime scene, dress as CSIs and work out who the criminal is and how the crime was committed. Aimed at 5 years and above. £2 per child. Please do not wear your best clothes. Book: southwold.library@suffolk.gov.uk www.ticketsource.co.uk/southwoldlibrary

Thursday 27th August @ 11am & 2pm Stella Peskett Millennium Hall: Summer Pottery Painting with Gallery Thea & Southwold Library: Mugs, Plates & Bowls. £15 per child. Book: southwold.library@suffolk.gov.uk www.ticketsource.co.uk/southwoldlibrary

Friday 28th August @ 11am & 2pm: Dragon Crafts @ Southwold Boating Lakes & Tearoom with Southwold Library. Make dragon masks, suncatchers, gliders, magnets and much more! Free stories, games & fun.

Creature Crafts Every Tuesday 11am & 2pm: 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th August: Woodland Creature. Free Crafts Provided by the Friends of Southwold Library. No need to book.

Charlotte Clark

Executive Library Manager, Southwold Library
Tel: 01502 442817

231252

Bramfield Village Fête

Saturday 1st August • 12pm-4pm

Black Deek Band

The Pretty Grim Border Morris Dancers

Tea • Cakes • BBQ • Hog Roast

Children's Games • Stalls

In aid of St. Andrew's Church, Bramfield Village Hall & Bridge Meadow Playing Field

(Sorry No Dogs)

Village Green, Bridge Meadows, IP19 9HZ



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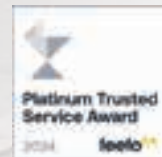
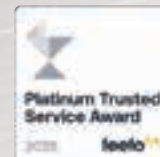
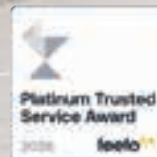
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SOUTHWOLD RAILWAY UPDATE

Our next Open Day will be on **Sunday 9th August** 1 - 4pm. Blyth will not be in steam on this day but it will on **Sunday 16th August**, then again on **Sunday 30th August**. We cannot afford to have Blyth in steam every open day as our funds are limited and we have other projects to carry out.

We are still looking for generous donations to enable us to have a replica passenger carriage made. This will enable us to give rides and therefore increase our fundraising. This is going to cost around £100,000 and although we have a pledge of money from the Southwold Trust we are severely short of the target, can you help?

We are inviting our Junior members (10 - 18yrs) to join us on **Saturday 1st August**, 11am - 3pm to learn about the railway and to start an experience which could lead to being a driver on the BVLR. It costs just £7.50 for junior membership, this includes further experiences on the railway plus four magazines. If you are interested please ask for a membership form.

If you can help. In anyway, you can donate through our website or send an email: treasurer@southwoldrailway.co.uk

Volunteers are also welcome on any Wednesday at Steamworks.

Bob Mole



HALESWORTH TO SOUTHWOLD NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY CHARITY

As mentioned in last month's Southwold Organ, our planning application to extend the railway a short distance westwards from Blythburgh Station is now live. If any Organ reader would like to support us, then contact East Suffolk Council Planning Public Access on <https://publicaccess.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>. Their reference is DC/26/2129/FUL. Positive opinions from Southwold and Reydon residents are particularly sought, as you all live in the town for which the original railway was built! Our Charity was prevented from gaining permission last year by the Parish Council, who applied for a Public Right of Way along the trackbed (which would prevent the railway being re-instated). We therefore provided an alternative footpath a few metres from the trackbed, but that was not accepted by the Parish. Therefore, we will be using the diverted footpath, now not needed as such, on which to build the track. This will start to fulfil the Charity's legal and moral obligation to comply with our stated Charitable Aim – restoration of the Victorian railway.

Our volunteers have been looking after Blythburgh Station over the last month, as well as maintaining the track sections at The Folly, Halesworth Millennium Green, and the station at Walberswick.

Our heritage train is getting on nicely, with the luggage van 42 being painted, and our second passenger coach (confusingly called 'Coach 1'!) having its 1941 underframe grit-blasted and painted, so that air brakes can be fitted and then the body. We are raising money for the Building Regulations compliance, and the services and foundations, for our Visitor Centre at Blythburgh, for which we already have permission.



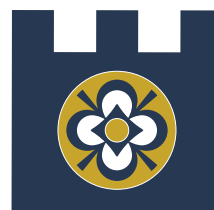
Our next Event at Blythburgh will be the Open Day and Model Railway Show on **Sunday September 13th**, between 10.30 and 15.45. It is part of Southwold's Heritage Open Days.

As usual, entry and light refreshments are free, with a small charge for the train ride. You can join our charity on the spot, for only 19p per week! Membership includes an illustrated colour newsletter which is sent out every two to three weeks. We'd very much welcome Southwold visitors, who can get an idea of how the railway looked between 1879 and 1920 – although at the moment we do not have steam (most trains are run using a vintage solar-charged battery-electric locomotive). However, you can see the Southwold Railway Trust's 'Blyth' in steam at Steamworks, Blyth Road, Southwold between 13.00 and 16.00 on **August 2, 16 and 30**, and **September 20th**.

James Hewett, Trustee



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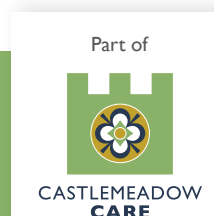
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**Full review available on carehome.co.uk*



LEISTON BOOK FESTIVAL

The 2026 Leiston Book Festival on **Saturday 19th September** promises to be a day of adventure and exploration, taking you beneath the grounds, up in the air and out into the countryside. Your day will begin right here in East Suffolk, with Jacky Collis Harvey talking about her book *Thoughtlands* in which she walks familiar local lanes with almost forgotten local writers.

Other authors include Deborah Tomkins, Matt Gaw, Robert Ashton and Louis de Bernières, who will reflect on everyday life with the warmth and eccentricity for which he is known. His latest book *Smelling of Rooks* will be published a few days before the festival.

The festival, in its third year, takes place in the town's Edwardian film theatre, which has 240 seats. Last year's festival sold out, with people travelling from as far away as California and London to attend. Tickets cost £35.00 for all six sessions: <https://www.leistonbookfestival.co.uk/>

Robert Ashton (right)





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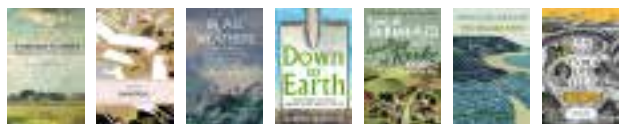


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LEISTON BOOK FESTIVAL



Join us for the 2026 Leiston Book Festival featuring inspiring authors whose books explore the ground beneath our feet, the gulls that soar above our heads and the weather that envelops us. You'll learn about the spirituality of walking, and Louis de Bernières will give us an insight into how he sees the landscape around his Norfolk home.



Sat 19 Sept - Leiston Film Theatre
For more info and tickets scan the QR code or visit [leistonbookfestival.co.uk](https://www.leistonbookfestival.co.uk)



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PROJECT UPDATE

AUGUST 2026

We are committed to bringing 60 per cent of construction materials by sea and rail. The Marine Bulk Import Facility (MBIF) is being built in the Sizewell C harbour to accommodate deliveries by sea during construction.

The structure will extend 500 metres from the beach into the North Sea. We have now reached the sea and the landing stage is already established in the harbour. Public rights of way are open, with marshals ensuring safety of beach users and our workers.

Friday Street and Yoxford Roundabout construction is now complete. Road safety improvement works along the A12 continue in Marlesford, which includes a new pathway and signalised crossing. The western arm of the works is now complete, we have switched the traffic management requirements to the other side of the road as we build new footways along the eastern section of the A12.

The Park and Ride work capacity has now increased at the Wickham Market site with more of our workers using the site to park their cars and access our sites on

Sizewell C buses. The roundabout at the park and ride in Darsham continues to progress, with the required traffic management now lifted at peak times. We are sorry that the opening of Willow Marsh Lane has been delayed by a few weeks due to technical issues, we anticipate the road reopening by mid-August. During August the A12 will be closed at nights between The Street, Darsham and Westleton Road (10 August to 14 August, 21:00 – 06:00 and 17 August 21:00 – 06:00) to enable road improvements including resurfacing and construction of a new pedestrian crossing. Details of the works can be found on the Sizewell C Works Tracker.

The rail link works continue at pace with all track installed on the temporary rail line around Leiston, and trains beginning to run in and out of the temporary construction area. Throughout August the B1122, Station Road in Leiston will be closed to enable Cadent Gas to install new gas mains ahead of the installation of new level crossing gates. Traffic management is also required on the B1122 as the Sizewell Link Road roundabout to the site plaza is constructed.

Along the B1122, Pretty Road has now been closed throughout the construction of the Sizewell Link Road, Hawthorn Road will also shortly be closed and Fordely Road will also be closed in the late summer.



All our works and planned road works can be accessed on our Works Tracker. Please sign up to receive bespoke alerts via email or SMS. Thank you for patience during these works. To find out more about the progress of the works, the next round of community forums are:

**Northern
Transport Forum**

Wednesday 5 August 18:00,
at the High Lodge, Darsham

**Southern
Transport Forum**

Wednesday 2 September 18:00,
at the Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre

For more information and for more forum dates visit sizewellc.com/community/forums

*Calls to 0800 numbers are free from UK landlines. Call costs from mobile and international numbers may vary.



Sizewell C

VIEW TO THE NORTH

On one of my morning walks I spotted some strange tan coloured 'droplets' on a fence wire. I was perplexed as to what they were and turned to Google Lens for identification. They were cocoons of the burnet moth and I was fortunate to see one emerging a couple of days later. It is a day flying moth and the larvae feed mainly on Bird's-foot Trefoil. The photo shows the remnant of the cocoon.



There have been lots of butterflies because of the warm weather, there are plenty of red admirals, peacocks and meadow brown. The gatekeepers should emerge soon and I have seen a few small copper, which I find particularly attractive. I have not seen the barn owl reappear, but the marsh harriers are frequent visitors.

I showed a picture of the North Road wildflower patch last month. I am pleased to see it flourishing. The teasel seeds that I donated have germinated and are in flower. Ragwort provide a food source for cinnabar moth caterpillars. I love the colour of cornflowers, and these have appeared recently together with white campion and foxgloves; it seems a particularly good year for foxgloves.



We have had clear skies, but mid-summer is not good for astrophotography; the daylight hours are too long, and the sky does not get pitch black. Nevertheless, I have had some success. The Hercules Globular Cluster (Messier 13) is a collection of hundreds of thousands of stars. It is located in the constellation Hercules and is around 25000 light years away.

It was discovered in 1714 by Edmond Halley and catalogued by Messier in 1764.



It will be easier to target deep sky objects in the coming weeks as the hours of darkness become longer. I will be exploring new galaxies and nebulae.

I took the drone to Old Hall Farm in Reydon to take some aerial shots of the maize maze. I am pleased to report that the maize is growing well and by the time this is published should be open to the public. At an altitude of 120 metres, the drone captures good images of the Blyth estuary, and it is easy to see how the large expanse of water gives the strong currents in and out of the harbour mouth.



Halcyon

YOGA IN THE PARK

A new free outdoor yoga programme in Halesworth has got off to a flying start, with nearly 60 people attending each of the first three sessions. Yoga in the Park, organised by Halesworth Town Council, takes place **every Sunday from 10am to 11am in Halesworth Town Park** and is open to people of all ages and abilities. The sessions will continue until the end of September. The initiative is funded by Sport England and The National Lottery and supported by Active Suffolk. Sessions are delivered by local yoga teachers. For those new to yoga or without their own equipment, yoga mats are available to borrow free of charge.

The strong turnout at the opening sessions highlights growing interest in activities that support both physical and mental wellbeing while bringing people together in a relaxed outdoor setting.

A spokesperson for Halesworth Town Council said: "We are delighted with the response so far. It's been fantastic to see so many people enjoying the sessions, meeting others and making the most of our beautiful town park. Whether you're an experienced yogi or trying yoga for the very first time, everyone is welcome."

The sessions are free to attend and no booking is required.



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The HALESWORTH BOOKSHOP

FRIDAY 28TH AUGUST, 7PM



Join us for an exciting evening at the Halesworth Bookshop as Bren Gosling discusses his compelling debut novel, *Street Sweeper*, in lively dialogue with 'writer & encourager of writers' Greg Mosse, novelist and founder of the Criterion New Writing theatre program. Together they'll explore the intriguing themes of Bren's new book and the fascinating intersection of literature and drama. Don't miss this unique opportunity to witness their insightful conversation.

STREET SWEEPER

When Almir, a twenty-one-year-old Kosovan ex-boy soldier, is relocated to London with a new identity, flashbacks undermine his ability to keep his job as a street sweeper. Then he meets Roland, a forty-year-old British Jamaican, a Council surveyor trying to escape his Pentecostal upbringing, and a failed relationship with Shiril with whom he has a fifteen-year-old son.

Roland and Almir become closer as Roland offers first friendship, then sex, yet Almir remains secretive about his past, and struggles to identify as gay, forcing Roland to question their relationship. And who is Muzaffar, the name Almir repeatedly shouts out during frequent nightmares? As tension builds, Almir confronts his involvement in a war atrocity, which threatens to destabilise his sanity and his new UK life. But, against all these powerful obstacles, Almir and Roland's love for each other continues to grow.

Is it strong enough to last?

FRIDAY EVENING WITH WINE

Art @ The Canteen



Exhibition by Nadia Koo
 Contemporary Artist
 Jungles & Inner Landscape Paintings
30th June - 30th August
The Canteen Southwold
 Open 8:30am - 3pm, Tues - Sun

SOLE BAY MEN'S SHED

Sole Bay Men's Shed continues to be busy, you can even follow us on Facebook.

The antique garden bench has now been totally refurbished and soon to be delivered to Southwold Sailors Reading Room, for members to use in their private garden. Work has begun on a complete new build of 'Ginger's bench'.

The elements had really got to the original one, making it uneconomical to repair and unsafe to use. The latest projects in the Shed are Bug Hotels, in the shape of and painted like beach huts, priced at £20. If that appeals to you, or anything else we make, like Bat Boxes and Swift Boxes, pop along to the Shed during our open sessions - Thursday 2 - 5pm or Saturday 9am - 1pm.

If you would like to join our Men's Shed, it's open to men from the age of 18, just email John at solebaymensshed@btinternet.com.

Membership is just £20 per year. No experience needed, training is given and skills are shared.

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

Southwold Organ is your free local paper, 2000 copies are printed every month.
 We distribute the magazines door to door and to many varied outlets.

The next issue will be published on Tuesday 1st September deadline 14th August -
 but the earlier the better to ensure inclusion

Contacts/Advertisers/Editorial : Louise Gissing at Leiston Press, Unit 1b Masterlord Industrial Estate,
 Station Road, Leiston, IP16 4JD lou@tidecollection.com Tel 01728 833003

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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