

...YOUR FREE LOCAL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2026

ALDEBURGH TIMES



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ALDEBURGH TIMES

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Client & Professional References Available

A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



A huge well done to the organisers and volunteers for another outstanding carnival, a great atmosphere with many people embracing the theme and their inner cowboy/girl! There are plenty of photos on pages 6 & 7 courtesy of Aldeburgh Photography Group, thank you!

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

You come up against challenges in life, and it's how you deal with them that defines you.

Harry Kane

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OLD GENERATOR STATION

WHATS ON

FROM FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER
BREAKFAST @ THE OGS
FRIDAY 7AM-11.30AM
SATURDAY 7AM-11.30AM

NEXT SUNDAY LUNCH = SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST 12.30-2.30PM
PLEASE BOOK

FOOD SERVED
FRIDAY 5-7PM
SATURDAY 12-7PM
SUNDAY 12-4PM

BIG SCREEN SPORT EVERY WEEKEND

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YOUR CLASSES ARE GLOWING UP!

There's something exciting happening this September...

The classes you've come to know and love are entering a bright new chapter, and Coral is delighted to introduce the Groove & Glow family.

Formerly known as Zumba®, your much-loved dance fitness classes are evolving into a fresh new brand that reflects everything you've always believed in, moving with joy, exercising with confidence and leaving every class feeling happier than when you arrived.

While the name is changing, the heart of the classes remains exactly the same... in fact, it's even better!

Look out for the exciting new programme:

Groove & Glow Fitness – high-energy dance fitness with exciting playlists, easy-to-follow choreography and a Latin-inspired party atmosphere.

Groove & Glow Gold – all the fun, music and movement at a gentler pace, ideal for those returning to exercise or simply preferring a lower-impact workout.

Groove & Glow Toning – combining dance fitness with strength and toning exercises to help improve muscle definition, posture and overall fitness.

Stretch & Glow – the popular chair-based class, designed to improve flexibility, mobility, balance and wellbeing in a friendly, supportive environment.

Pilates & Glow – a calm space where you can reconnect, move with confidence and progress at your own pace. Each session offers a thoughtful blend of gentle strength, mobility and mindful movement.

Whether you're looking for an energetic cardio workout, a gentler class to build confidence, or simply an hour of laughter, music and movement with wonderful people, Coral has a Groove & Glow class waiting for you.

Expect uplifting new playlists, simple dance moves, plenty of smiles and that feel-good atmosphere that has always made our classes so special.

To celebrate the September relaunch, everyone attending their first Groove & Glow class of the new term will receive a special welcome gift as a thank you for joining Coral on this exciting new journey.

Classes are held each week at Aldeburgh, Walberswick, Leiston, Martlesham and Stratford St Andrew. Contact Coral for more details.





Groove & Glow FITNESS

**Great Music, Great Fun,
Great Dance Fitness Workout**

Starting Monday September 7th
Aldeburgh Church Hall
Monday 9.30-10.30pm
Starting Thursday September 10th
Leiston St Margaret's FC
Thursday 6.00-6.45pm



Groove & Glow TONING

**Focused resistance training
to sculpt and tone to addictive
music tracks**

Starting Thursday September 10th
Leiston St Margaret's FC
Thursday 6.50-7.20pm



Groove & Glow GOLD

**A Popular Fun Dance Fitness
Class at a Calmer Pace for the
older active adult**

Starting Thursday September 10th
Leiston St Margaret's FC
Thursday 3.00-3.45pm



Stretch & Glow CHAIR

**The Chair Exercise Experience as
Recommended by Medical Professionals
Keep Smiling, Keep Active, Keep Moving**

Starting Monday September 7th
Aldeburgh Church Hall
Monday 10.45-11.15am
Starting Tuesday September 8th
Wenhaston Village Hall
Tuesday 11.45-12.15pm
or call 01728 830468



coralstebbingdance@gmail.com

ALDEBURGH COMEDY WEEKEND

Jack Dee, Jo Brand and Joanna Lumley Lead Aldeburgh Comedy Weekend's Return

The man who helped create Blackadder, Spitting Image and QI will be honoured in Aldeburgh this October as the town's Comedy Weekend returns with its biggest line-up yet.

Following a sell-out debut in 2025, Aldeburgh Comedy Weekend returns from Friday **16th to Sunday 18th October 2026** with an expanded programme bringing some of the biggest names in British comedy to the Suffolk coast. Jack Dee, Jo Brand, Ed Byrne and John Lloyd lead this year's line-up at Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall, with Joanna Lumley appearing at neighbouring Aldeburgh Cinema. Half of the Weekend's eight events are led by women, and a new 'Have I Got New For You' strand will introduce Aldeburgh audiences to rising and less familiar names, beginning with Sofie Hagen.



Created by comedy producer Paul Schlesinger and writer Jon Canter, the Weekend launched in October 2025 with three days of stand-up, satire, improvisation and comic theatre, selling out performances across the programme. Its return firmly establishes the event as an exciting new fixture in Aldeburgh's cultural calendar.

The 2026 programme brings together established favourites, influential comedy-makers and a wider cast of performers.

Jack Dee brings his masterfully dry observations, Jo Brand her sharp, subversive humour, and Ed Byrne the intelligent, quick-witted stand-up that has made him an audience favourite for more than three decades.

On Sunday 18th October, John Lloyd will receive the Lunchtime Achievement Award at a special event sponsored by The Suffolk.

The producer and writer behind Blackadder, Spitting Image and QI has helped shape British comedy for more than 40 years and the event offers a rare opportunity to hear from one of the industry's most influential creative figures.



On the same day, Joanna Lumley will appear at Aldeburgh Cinema in Desert Island Comedy Flicks, sharing her wit and the stories of her remarkable career, completing a weekend rich in comic talent.

Aldeburgh Comedy Weekend producer, Paul Schlesinger, said: "After the reception Aldeburgh gave our first Comedy Weekend, we couldn't wait to return.

This year's expanded programme brings together an extraordinary line-up of performers and comedy-makers, some of whom we have admired for decades and others who are rising stars, across two of the town's most characterful venues."

Writer Jon Canter said: "We are delighted to honour John Lloyd's exceptional contribution to British comedy and grateful to The Suffolk for generously sponsoring this special event. There can be few better places than Aldeburgh to spend an October weekend laughing."

Emily Mummery, General Manager of Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall, said: "The first Aldeburgh Comedy Weekend filled the Hall with laughter and brought us new audiences. Its return with such an exceptional line-up is wonderful news for the town and a real vote of confidence in Jubilee Hall as a home for outstanding live entertainment."

Full details are available at www.aldeburghjubileehall.co.uk



ALDEBURGH JUBILEE HALL

Thursday 3rd September, 6pm
OPEN REHEARSAL: JABBERWOCKY

Thursday 10th September, 7pm
EASTERN ANGLES PRESENTS THE GO BETWEEN

Sunday 13th September, 2pm
JAZZ @ JUBILEE PRESENTS CLARE TEAL AND THE JAZZ @ JUBILEE TRIO

Wednesday 16th September, 6pm
TALK - PROFESSOR CHRISTOPHER SCULL - RENDLESHAM & THE EAST ANGLIAN KINGDOM

Thursday 17th September, 7.30pm
CABARET: WOMEN ON THE EDGE

Saturday 18th + Sunday 19th September, 3pm & 7pm
WASHED UP IN WALBERSWICK

Friday 25th September, 7.30pm
JUBILEE GOES GLOBAL PRESENTS THE FONTANAS

Saturday 26th September, 7pm
TALK: CUSTODIANS OF LAND & SEA WITH MIKE WARNER & RICHARD NEGUS

Sunday 27th September, 3pm
ACROSS THE SQUARE: AN IMAGINED ENCOUNTER BETWEEN MILLICENT FAWCETT & LADY OTTOLINE MORELL



Clare Teal



The Fontanas



Across the Square

www.aldeburghjubileehall.co.uk

[Tel: 01728 454 022](https://www.facebook.com/AldeburghJubileeHall)

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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CARNIVAL!

So - another fabulous & successful Aldeburgh Carnival and what an amazing Carnival is has been for one of the longest running and greatest Carnivals to be held across East Anglia.

The Carnival committee set up its HQ just outside Moot Hall and this is where Sally Watts, Carnival Director and her team ran the logistics of the 82nd Aldeburgh Carnival.

We had an amazing **Carnival Saturday** with so many stalls and attractions for all ages along the seafront. The fabulous Kites were amazing, blowing in the breeze throughout the day and they really came alive when they were lit up for an amazing display in the evening. One of the very popular attractions was the duck racing on the pond, this year we 'hatched' 500 new ducks and retired some of our older ducks and Jane our Carnival 'Duck Queen' made this extremely popular event and even more popular, if that is even possible. In the afternoon we were entertained by local bands who were super talented and gave the crowd some wonderful entertainment and the Carnival crowd a great chance to sing and dance to the bands. The younger members of the audience had a ball.

On **Carnival Sunday** we had our famous Mini Marathon which this year attracted over 300 runners which is a record for us. Winners were first place (male) **Ryan Davidson** and (female) **Alice Keen**. We then had more spectacular kite flying, a Punch and Judy show, which drew a very large crowd, another duck race on the pond which attracted another 500 and duck sales which all contribute to our local charities, then we finished on the pond with the super popular egg and boat race.

Carnival Monday - the finale, we welcomed our procession of floats which were led down the high street by the Essex Caledonian Pipe Band, closely followed by our Carnival Queen, Izzie and her attendants, Mabel & Delilah in their custom made carriage, fit for a Queen and her attendants. We continued with the festivities into the afternoon and evening with dancing in the high street to the Samba band and then Country music and line dancing. The final show of the 2026 Carnival was of course the traditional lantern parade which started at 8.45pm from the high street and continued to Fisherman's car park where we were entertained once again by The Essex Caledonian Pipe Band.

If you would like to join the Aldeburgh Carnival Committee or simply be a volunteer in 2027 please go to: volunteer@aldeburghcarnival.com or the Aldeburgh Carnival website – go to the about tab and scroll down to the red ivolunteer box – click and this takes you to a choice roles and ways to volunteer for 2027.

Once again, we are super excited to plan another successful Carnival in 2027 and without volunteers, sponsors, public services and the attendance of local and further afield people and we could not run a successful Carnival which raises much needed funds for many local charities.

THANK YOU for your continued support of Aldeburgh Carnival.



Photo: Rob Clayton



Photo: Liz Clayton



Photo: Anne Molyneux



Photo: Moira Andrew



Photo: Liz Clayton



Photo: Rob Clayton



Photo: Moira Andrew



Photo: Anne Molyneux



Photo: Nicki Fenton



Photo: Peter Crabb



Photo: Kathy Ellis



Photo: Liz Clayton



Photo: Alec Brown



Photo: Kathy Ellis



Photo: Nicki Fenton

ARTISTS ON TOUR

A collective of long-standing artist friends is hosting a pop-up art exhibition in Aldeburgh from **18-27 September, 2026**.

Each artist brings a distinct professional background; from architecture, acting, writing, printing and garden furniture design, and have a shared history of raising families, building careers and creating side-by-side. They are all great friends, connecting through painting and a love of the outdoors, particularly the New Forest.

They have taken over the iconic Aldeburgh Beach Lookout and Arthouse, once a coastal watchtower but now cleverly converted into an artists' residency and gallery to showcase a selection of their latest work. Expect paintings of abstract wild swimmers from Lucy Bennett, vibrant screen prints from Jessica Scott, Geraldine Somerville's delicate pieces of ceramics. Caroline Burvill, Daphne Pigott and Lizzy May specialise in depicting the landscape in oils, and sweeping skyscapes from Candida Meyrick inspired by her experiences of flying her hawk – her insightful book on the subject, 'Be more Bird', will also be available. There is much to see and enjoy.

Throughout the week, the artists will be in the gallery on rotation, happy to talk about their work, their inspiration and the evolution of their practice.

Aldeburgh Beach Lookout and Arthouse, 31 Crag Path, Aldeburgh IP15 5BS.



Daphne Pigott



Jessica Scott
@jessicascott.artist



Caroline Burvill
@carolineburvill

ARTISTS ON TOUR

A collective of artists and long-standing friends are hosting a pop-up art exhibition in Aldeburgh Beach Lookout, Suffolk from 18-27 September.

Open daily 10am - 5pm
www.aldeburghbeachlookout.com



Lizzy May
@lizzymayartist



Candida Meyrick
@candida_meyrick



Lucy Bennett
@lucybennettartist



Geraldine Somerville

THE WOLLASTON CONSORT

The Wollaston Consort (Julie Harmer - flute, and Peter Clayton harpsichord) have become well-known for their baroque music concerts at Sibton Church. They will be returning to Sibton on **19th September** at 3.30pm. Much loved and admired by audiences, their music is perfect for the acoustics at Sibton. The repertoire includes music for flute and harpsichord and often includes music for Sibton's historic organ. Composers represented this year are Bach, Bavet, and Quantz.

Teas follow the performance and as always, tea is included in the cost of a ticket. Tickets: Adult £15, U8s £10.

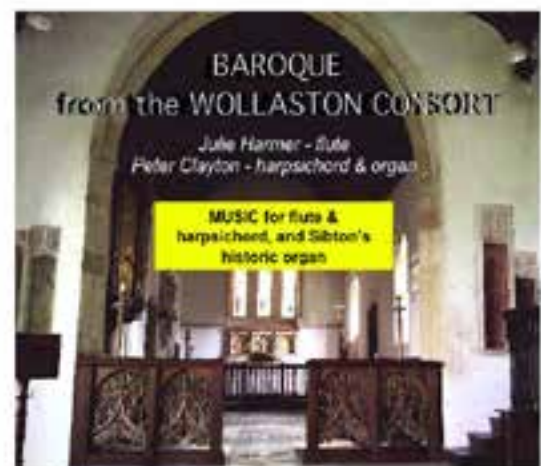


St. Peter's Church, Sibton

IP17 2NB Car park IP17 2LX

Saturday September 19th 2026 at 3.30pm

CONCERT



An afternoon including music by
Bach, Blavet, Quantz
followed by tea and cake

Tickets Adults: £15.00
Under 18s £5.00

Tickets on sale for cash only at Peasenhall General Store;
The Weavers Tearoom; and on the door

Organised by the Friends of St Peter's Church, Sibton (Reg. charity No. 1063822)
In aid of repairs to the roof of the nave of Sibton Church

ALDEBURGH YACHT CLUB NEWS

By the time you read this, things will be a bit quieter on the Alde.

We have been welcoming new sailors onto the water over the summer with our Friday evening sessions for young members and non-members, giving the opportunity to go afloat with an experienced helmsman and get to know the club and the river. We were also pleased to see six of the primary school children who participated in the AYC Schools Sailing Trust programme going on to join our summer training courses. All six achieved new RYA certificates and two were awarded the Stay in Suffolk Seamanship Certificate. We hope to see them back on the water soon. We were thrilled that 6 of the students at Saxmundham Primary's Year 6 Leaver's gathering, reported that their day at Aldeburgh Yacht Club was their best!

We held our annual Iken Race to raise funds for the Trust: the rules require entrants to sail within the withies that mark the river channel and this always makes for exciting and close competition. 17 of our younger sailors were kindly hosted by Waldringfield Sailing Club in a team racing event on 14th August.

The historic Aldeburgh Lapwing fleet held its annual championships on 1st/2nd August, with eleven boats contesting four races in near-perfect conditions. Designed by Francis Morgan-Giles in 1947, the clinker-built Aldeburgh Lapwing remains a thriving local class. Around 20 boats are still in active use, and a small number are renovated each year.

ALDEBURGH LIFEBOATS

Congratulations! Everyone at Aldeburgh Lifeboats wishes good luck to one of our helms, Luke Cousins, who is joining the RNLI full-time, where he will train to be a Coxswain Afloat Mechanic on two classes of All-weather Lifeboat in the North and East Region.

Luke was born in Aldeburgh, and from an early age he dashed to the beach when he heard the maroons that announced the launch of the lifeboat. He told his junior school teacher that he wanted to be a lifeboat volunteer when he grew up. That teacher was Alison, a member of the lifeboat crew. She arranged for him to go afloat on the all-weather lifeboat, *Freddie Cooper*, at a family lifeboat day and he was hooked. Luke joined the voluntary crew on his 17th birthday.

By the age of 27 he was boat crew on the all-weather lifeboat and had worked consistently to become helm of the D-class inshore lifeboat. When the new Atlantic 85 lifeboat was delivered, Luke, along with the three other helms, dedicated evenings and weekends to swiftly pass out (qualify) to ensure the lifeboat could go on service. Luke will be missed at the lifeboat station. As a helm he helps train the newer crew, always making people feel welcomed and valued. Good luck! If Luke's story has inspired you to volunteer at RNLI Aldeburgh, visit rnl.org/support-us/volunteer/volunteering-opportunities or pop to the beach on a Sunday morning (launch approximately 9am) and have a chat with the shore crew.

Their survival owes much to skilled local boatyards and to committed owners who tackle the many running repairs demanded by dinghies approaching 80 years of age. Three of the ten competing boats remain with the families that originally commissioned them. Ian Robson was winner in Hummingbird. Rob and Tanya Ritchie secured second place aboard Tufted. Sarah Davies and Charlotte De Milne in Tringa edged out Steve Liddell to claim third place.

Much of what goes on at the club would not happen without our generous annual sponsors and so we would like to record thanks to Soak Insure, holidaycottages.co.uk, Suffolk Yacht Harbour and Compass Yacht Rigging.

Looking ahead, we have an 'Inspiring Supper' talk on 3rd October with author and broadcaster Humphrey Hawksley. We will be adding more powerboat courses to our training programme for the autumn: please check our website for details.



The Aldeburgh & District RNLI Guild wishes to thank all those who contributed most generously to the Aldeburgh street collection on Saturday 18th July 2026.

The total amount raised was **£1247.72**. The organisers would also like to thank all who helped and worked so hard to achieve this result.



Common Ground Theatre Company have been delighting East Anglian audiences for many years now with their hugely popular mix of classic stories and hilarious, surreal comedies and spoofs - "madcap comedy gold", as The Stage puts it. With their unique brand of music theatre, they've been described by Libby Purves as "One of the best things on the road in East Anglia right now...A proper treat."

This autumn, they're taking to the road again, with **THE PHANTOM OF FRIAR STREET**. Part ghostly tale, part murder mystery, part love story, this show has it all! We'll be performed in theatres, community centres and village halls across Suffolk, Essex & Norfolk, visiting Diss, Southwold, Framlingham, Woodbridge and many more. Then for Xmas/New Year, after the huge success of last year's **SHERLOCK HOLMES SMELLS EVIL!**, they return in full bonkers mode with their traditional festive comedy caper, which this year will be **FATHER BROWN & THE CARNIVAL OF FEAR!** A haul of Roman artifacts, The Hiddenham Hoard, has been stolen whilst in transit to the British Museum. Father Brown's investigates but is distracted by the arrival of Mozzarella's Carnival. How will he find the thief before the precious Hoard is spirited away?

A classic Yuletide mystery with all the Common Ground trimmings - sparkling wit, ingenious staging, hilarious songs, and surreal flights of festive fancy. Featuring live original songs performed by the talented band of actor-musicians, who also play a host of increasingly bizarre characters. With a liberal helping of one-liners, puns and sight-gags, it's the perfect panto alternative - from **December 8th to January 24th**. Visit their website www.commongroundtc.co.uk or call 07807 341364 for full details and booking for both shows.



Trio Asteri
plays Max Richter

Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall
Saturday 3 October
7 pm

TICKETS: £15

BOOK AT BOX OFFICE

01728 454022
Phone or in person:
Tues & Thurs 10am-12pm
AJH Corner Office

BOOK ONLINE



Profits will help Pomegranate Creative Therapies continue its work to support emotional wellbeing in the community

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A true freehouse at the heart of the Aldeburgh community.

Traditional pub with a warm welcome!
Located at the top of the town as you come into Aldeburgh, just a 5 minute walk to the beach.



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- Great choice of lagers, ales, spirits and cocktails
- Dogs welcome
- Disabled access + facilities
- Pool table, dart board, cards and games available!
- Rooms and Food coming soon!

Our opening times:

Mon - Thurs 12-11 | Fri + Sat 12-12
Sun 12-10:30

 [therailwayinnaldeburgh](https://www.facebook.com/therailwayinnaldeburgh)  [therailwayinn_aldeburgh](https://www.instagram.com/therailwayinn_aldeburgh)

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Angela Hicks *Soprano*

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Sam Browne *Lute & Theorbo*

May Robertson *Virtuoso Vielle*

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2026

Music at 6.30pm · Prosecco & canapés served from 5.45pm

TICKETS £50.00

including prosecco and canapés

Please book through our website at www.orfordmuseum.org.uk

*This event is being sponsored by the TEZMAE Trust,
to whom Orford Museum is very grateful.*

BUTLEY PRIORY · BUTLEY · SUFFOLK

ALDEBURGH PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

After the excitement of photographing the various events at the carnival last month, we are back on **Wednesday 16 September** at our usual venue, the Aldeburgh Library and at the usual time of 7.30 pm.

This month we are very pleased to welcome again Simon Reid. Earlier this year Simon gave a very interesting talk on his life as a motorsport photographer. This time Simon will lead a discussion and give practical instruction on how to explore and develop the creative skills of editing images on smartphones and tablets mainly using the free app... SnapSeed (from Google). Simon has been working as a freelance photographer and has been editing his own photos, or working as a photo retoucher for over two decades.

Digital photography is often considered a two part process; capturing images and then editing them.

He will also briefly discuss composition and exposure options while taking photos.

Finally he will give a practical demonstration of how, even on your phone, you can edit photos to fit a creative or artistic aesthetic and will include a comparison between SnapSeed and Lightroom or Photoshop.

A reminder that we are a friendly group and we are keen to welcome everyone from beginners to experienced photographers, from users of iPhones to the latest DSLRs.

We do not run competitions, which put too many amateur photographers off joining local photography groups. Instead, we aim to help each other learn and improve our work.

If you want to know more, or if you want to check for up-to-date information on our meetings, please contact us through our website www.aldeburghphotographygroup.org.uk



FEEL GOOD SUFFOLK

Can you step up this summer? New volunteer leaders needed for wellbeing walks across Suffolk.



Feel Good Suffolk is looking for volunteers to lead more walks across the county that help people with their wellbeing and physical health.

Feel Good Suffolk runs around 90 regular walks in Suffolk in partnership with The Ramblers. Over 1,000 people take part in walks every month from Haverhill to Lowestoft, with locations including the coast, countryside and town parks. The wellbeing walks are a fantastic way of becoming more active, improving your wellbeing and meeting new people, all whilst exploring the Suffolk countryside.

There's a walk to suit everyone. Walks have different levels of ease and accessibility, from gentle strolls to more brisk routes and take from between 45 to 90 minutes. Most walks run during the week with some taking place every week and some, every one or two months.

Each walk is led by friendly, experienced volunteer walk leaders in a welcoming and supportive environment. Feel Good Suffolk is looking for more of these leaders to support existing walks or to help set up new walks across the county. Walk Leaders would be encouraged to plan and set up new walks in their area.

Their role is to ensure walks are safe, inclusive and enjoyable and to be welcoming and friendly, creating a positive experience for everyone taking part. Sonny Baldry, Wellbeing Walks Coordinator with Feel Good Suffolk, said: "We'd love to hear from anyone keen to help us set up new walks which people across Suffolk can enjoy."

"We're looking for friendly, reliable and confident volunteers who enjoy being outdoors and want to help others improve their health and wellbeing. Leading a walk is really rewarding and you can help to make a real difference to other people in your community."

Anyone interested in volunteering can email sonny.baldry@ipswich.gov.uk

Phil is a volunteer for a walk in Shotley. He says: "I volunteer to keep my fitness and mobility going. You get a chance to meet new people and make new friends. There is a lot of socialising as we go along."

Gerald is a walk leader for a regular walk in Woolpit, he says: "I volunteer because I enjoy walking and I wouldn't do this if it wasn't important. Socialising is definitely part of wellbeing and these are wellbeing walks which encourage that."

You can find out more about the walks near you at feelgoodsuffolk.co.uk/wellbeing-walks

PLATINUM AWARD FOR ALDE VALLEY ACADEMY YOUNG CARERS

After achieving Bronze, Silver, Gold in the past 18 months, in the Suffolk Family Carers Awards, Alde Valley Academy's young carers have now achieved the top Platinum award!

Julie Dawes, Young Carer Lead at Alde Valley Academy says *"I am immensely proud of what our Young Carers have achieved to reach the Platinum Schools Award in such a short period of time, especially as there are only a few schools that have achieved this within Suffolk."*

"We have a lovely mix of students across the whole school who are a lifeline to those who they care for."

She added *"We have now completed our recipe book, kindly sponsored by the Suffolk Freemasons, and this will shortly be in print so we will be able to give a copy to each Young Carer as well as being able to sell them to enable us to take them on more well-deserved adventures."*

THE CUT SESSIONS

The Cut, Halesworth's arts centre, has announced Season 3 of The Cut Sessions, the new music series of curated gigs by original artists, for autumn 2026. After the sellout success of the second season, three great concerts are planned for October and November 2026.

Season 3 opens with **FLOOK** on **Friday 9 October 2026**. The iconic Anglo-Irish band bring their inimitable trademark sound, where traditional Celtic folk meets a contemporary vibe, to Halesworth for the very first time. A celebration you don't want to miss!

The season continues with **LINDISFARNE** on **Wednesday 4 November 2026**. The legendary '70s' folk-rock pioneers with a classic five-piece line-up of long-time members fronted by founder-member Rod Clements and a repertoire of unforgettable songs like Meet Me On The Corner, Fog On The Tyne, Lady Eleanor and Run For Home, Lindisfarne are guaranteed to get the crowd on their feet.

The season ends with **COLOSSEUM** on **Wednesday 25 November 2026**.

British jazz-rock legends and pioneers of progressive music at its most fearless, virtuosic and vital - essential listening, and an unmissable live experience. Led by soulful powerhouse vocalist and 60s icon, Chris Farlowe, and featuring blues guitar virtuoso Clem Clempson.

Aafke Groenewald, Manager of The Cut said: *"We are so excited to be presenting these three world-class gigs here at The Cut, complimenting the rest of our eclectic programme. Get your tickets early!"*



L to R: Sue Henry (Suffolk Family Carers) middle: Sander Van Den Berg (Young Carer Ambassador) and right Julie Dawes.

THE CUT SESSIONS
CURATED GIGS | ORIGINAL ARTISTS
WWW.THECUT.ORG.UK The Cut Arts Centre, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8BY

Nick Dodds, programmer of the Cut Sessions said: *"Selling nearly 1,300 tickets for the first two seasons shows there is demand for great music in Halesworth, with sell-out audiences coming from far and wide to see original artists in the intimate setting of The Cut. We are building a reputation that brings bigger and bigger artists to the town"*

FROM JENNY RIDDELL-CARPENTER, MP



Woodbridge and Martlesham

I'm delighted to share that I have been appointed as the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Nature and Rural Affairs at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

This is a role that feels incredibly personal to me, because both nature and rural communities have been at the heart of my work since I was elected as your MP.

Suffolk Coastal is one of the most beautiful parts of the country, with a landscape shaped by our coastline, estuaries, rivers, heathlands, farmland and ancient woodlands. We are incredibly fortunate to live in an area that is home to such a rich variety of wildlife, from rare species and important habitats to internationally significant landscapes.

I have often said that Suffolk is the wildlife and nature capital of the UK, and I truly believe that. Our natural environment is not just something to admire - it is part of what makes our community and local area so special. It is a critical national natural infrastructure for biodiversity and wildlife, and it is also vital to our local economy and society - attracting tourism, improving our own wellbeing and giving our towns and villages their distinctive character.

From the back benches I have worked to ensure that nature and environmental issues were properly recognised in decision-making, and that the experiences of local communities were heard. From raising concerns about the impact of development on our environment, to highlighting the importance of nature recovery and working with local organisations, these issues have been a central part of my work as your MP.

I have also spent a great deal of time listening to rural communities across Suffolk Coastal. Rural areas have huge strengths, but they also face particular challenges - from access to services and transport, to pressures on farming, water, housing and infrastructure. Too often, rural communities feel that decisions are made without properly understanding the realities of living and working in the countryside.

Taking on this ministerial role gives me an opportunity to bring those local experiences into national decision-making. Andy Burnham talks about having a "Makerfield test" when making decisions in Government. For me, it will be the "Suffolk Coastal test" - making sure the experiences of rural communities like ours are reflected in the decisions we take, while delivering better outcomes for nature nationally and internationally.

I know many people locally care deeply about nature and rural issues, and I want that knowledge and passion to continue shaping my work. Whether it is protecting our rivers and coastline, supporting rural communities, or ensuring nature recovery is delivered in a way that works for people as well as the environment, I will continue to make sure Suffolk Coastal's voice is heard.

I'm incredibly proud to take on this new challenge, and I look forward to getting started in the role.

As always, if there is anything my team or I can help with, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Contact:

jenny.riddellcarpenter.mp@parliament.uk
01394 330260
www.jennyforsuffolkcoastal.org



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ALDEBURGH & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The 2026 -27 Aldeburgh & District Local History Society programme starts on the **16th September 2026** when Professor Chris Scull will be giving a talk on *'Rendlesham and the East Anglian Kingdom'*

In 2007 illegal metal-detecting alerted archaeologists to a site of exceptional importance at Rendlesham in south-east Suffolk – the 7th-century East Anglian royal centre mentioned by the Venerable Bede in his Ecclesiastical History of the English People.

Archaeologist Christopher Scull, who helped lead the project, will be guide us through the 15-year investigation, which has revealed the largest and wealthiest settlement of its time known in England and changed how we think about the earliest English kingdoms and their rulers.

The event will be held in the Jubilee Hall Aldeburgh on Wednesday 16th September 2026 starting at 6pm.

Tickets £5 available from the Jubilee Hall.

Jonathan Hodrien



Photo: Jim Pullen © Suffolk County Council

NEW CO-CHAIRS FOR JUBILEE HALL

Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall has appointed trustees Emma Lloyd and Steve Saltaire as joint Co-Chairs of its board, with effect from 1 September 2026. The shared leadership model will guide the historic arts and community venue on the Suffolk coast through its next chapter.

The two bring complementary backgrounds to the role. Emma Lloyd is Managing Director of We Are Relish Ltd, a management consultancy advising organisations on communication strategy and engagement and brings marketing and not-for-profit board experience to the role, having served as a trustee and advisory panel member for other charities. Steve Saltaire brings a City and boardroom background, with 22 years at 3i Group plc followed by a career as a non-executive director managing change in small and medium-sized companies, and 15 years as Chair of Birmingham Contemporary Music Group.

They succeed Ann Barkway, who steps down as Chair after four years leading the board and nine years as a trustee, and who will continue to serve on the Board.

Emma and Steve will work with fellow trustees, staff and volunteers to develop the Hall's artistic programme and its role in the town.

Co-Chair arrangements are increasingly common across the charity sector. Sharing the role widens the range of skills at board level and spreads the demands of leading a busy organisation.

Emma Lloyd said: *"Ann leaves Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall in good health, which is a real gift to inherit. My focus is on strengthening our connection with the community, ensuring the Hall remains welcoming and giving more people across Aldeburgh and the surrounding area a reason to enjoy all it has to offer."*

Steve Saltaire said: *"A venue like this only thrives if it is run on sound finances. Our job is to keep the Hall financially secure and well governed so it can go on taking creative risks with its programme for years to come."*

Ann Barkway said: *"My role at Jubilee Hall has been to help ensure that it remains a thriving place for future generations. I'm incredibly proud of what we have achieved together over the past four years, and I hand over knowing that Emma and Steve will bring the right blend of experience, judgement and enthusiasm to lead the Hall into its next chapter."*





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REPAIRING THE RIVER WALLS

Over recent months, the Alde & Ore Community Partnership, Alde & Ore Estuary Trust and East Suffolk Water Management Board have been working with the Environment Agency to find a way to progress works to repair and strengthen the river walls across the entire estuary. They have developed a programme which is achievable within current cost and planning constraints, and which will see work started in early 2027.

The programme is being funded jointly by the East Suffolk Water Management Board, the Alde & Estuary Trust, and the Environment Agency, with additional fundraising to secure future activity. Currently, the East Suffolk Water Management Board are conducting an extensive survey of the state of all the river walls using all possible data from a wide range of sources and on-the-ground investigation.

This work, which is almost complete, will inform the programme so that areas of greatest weakness are prioritised. Public meetings later in the autumn will provide opportunities for all those affected to question and understand the detailed proposals. Dates will be announced nearer the time.

The Alde and Ore Community Partnership includes representatives from all the communities at risk from overtopping or breach. We welcome additional volunteers who might be interested in helping to progress this important project.

Details of the ongoing project can be found at [ESWMB Alde & Ore Estuary Maintenance Programme - Water Management Alliance : Water Management Alliance](#)

Alde & Ore Community Partnership www.aocp.co.uk

Alde & Ore Estuary Trust <https://www.aoetrust.org/progress-for-the-alde-and-ore-estuary>

Frances Barnwell, Chair

Email: frances.barnwell@gmail.com

Alison Andrews, Hon Secretary

Email: aldeblackburn@aol.com

Alde and Ore Community Partnership

ALDEBURGH GARDENING CLUB

Well, what a depressing nightmare July has been. I don't cope well with the heat anyway and to have to sit and watch while my garden dies in front of my eyes is enough to drive me to desperation. I am writing this in the middle of August so hopefully by the time you read this we will have had at least some rain but it is becoming hard to believe this dry weather will ever end.

We all have hosepipe bans now. I have never watered my lawn but do usually water my veg patch and occasionally, when desperate, any suffering plants and shrubs. I try to be frugal and am very mindful of how lucky we are in this country to have relatively plentiful water. There is also the consideration that pumping water uses power and producing power in turn produces carbon dioxide which adds to the climate guilt. My frugality is aided and abetted by the fact that my right ankle has become more and more arthritic over the last few years and walking while dragging a hose is painful. Carrying watering cans even more so. So, one comes to the point where giving up and letting it all die becomes a more attractive option. Some of it is dying anyway, in spite of my efforts. Two questions arise. The first is choosing which plants to try and save using my limited ability.

Of my many mature shrubs some are becoming senescent anyway and would have to be replaced in a few years. Group 1 - let them die. More vigorous shrubs get watered with a couple of cans each week, more if they look poorly, or they get demoted to group one. Try making a small heap of soil in a circle around the plant in which to throw the water and prevent it running off to evaporate elsewhere.

Many biennials, foxgloves, dames violet, verbascum will reappear from seed in the autumn and although I may not get any flowers next year they will be there in the longer term. Common and easily replaced perennials may have to die. Some will survive underground and resprout I hope when we get some rain. Others, more precious or maybe it is harder to find the exact variety a second time, may need a bit of coddling. I have quite a few alpines that come into this category. I have dug small pits next to clumps of these and water into them or as I get round to it I have put plant pots into the ground next to them. Fill to the level of the surrounding soil and the water will go down to the roots and the pot helps prevent it evaporating. So far this is working, my fingers are crossed.

Question number two is, why do I garden, why bother?

I do love individual plants and they sometimes feel like special pets but I appreciate them en masse too. I mulch and trim and clear the weeds around them. I propagate from seed and cutting and pass them on. Many were gifts from family or friends and neighbours or gleaned from memorable visits to gardens and nurseries or purchased after seeing them on holidays or TV. They have history. I also continue to garden because it is a craft I have learned with hard work over my lifetime and I am good at it. I make views and combinations that look good all year as I practise that craft. It is a creative art form and I hate to see it suffer. Please weather gods send some rain. The picture shows a small perennial chive-like allium just coming up to flower alongside its sunk pot. Maybe only part of the plant will survive but hopefully it will regrow from there.

Karen Mountford

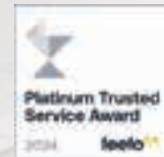
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SEPTEMBER AT ALDEBURGH CINEMA

It has been the hit of the summer and Christopher Nolan's **THE ODYSSEY** looks fantastic screened via our 4K projector. The movie is a mythic action epic shot in locations across the world, which brings Homer's foundational saga to the big screen like never before. A 4K experience not to be missed.

At the time of going to print, our September programme is not yet finalised. Please visit aldeburghcinema.co.uk for full details about what's on and when. There, you can also book tickets and easily sign up to our regular email newsletter. We're also on X, Instagram and Facebook. We currently plan to show:

In the tense 72 hours before D-Day, and with the fate of the free world hanging in the balance, **PRESSURE** follows General Dwight D. Eisenhower (Brendan Fraser) and Captain James Stagg (Andrew Scott) as they face an impossible choice - launch the largest and most dangerous seaborne invasion in history or risk losing the war altogether.

From Focus Features and Working Title comes an irresistible new take on Jane Austen's iconic **SENSE AND SENSIBILITY** - a charming, witty, and deeply relatable story of love and sisterhood starring Daisy Edgar-Jones and Esmé Creed-Miles.

LATE FAME stars Willem Dafoe as Ed Saxberger, a forgotten New York poet who works in the post office. Beckoned into a coterie of twentysomething admirers who anoint him as a rediscovered genius and intoxicated by the attention, Saxberger gradually reckons with the authenticity of his newfound poetic circle. This thoughtful, witty feature provides a wistful yet unromantic look at a lost idea of downtown New York.

DON'T LOOK BACK IN ANGER charts Liam and Noel Gallagher's triumphant reunion tour, Oasis Live '25, one of the most anticipated rock 'n' roll comebacks of our time. The film is an unapologetically uplifting account of the biggest musical event of 2025, capturing the experience and emotions of the band and their fans across the world.



Set on a remote Scottish island, **THE INCOMER** follows the story of two siblings who survive by hunting, retelling the stories of their ancestors, and defending the isle from dreaded 'Incomers'.

Their world is upended with the arrival of an awkward council worker who has come to uproot them from their homeland.

Based on Gary Owen's much lauded and widely performed monodrama, "*Iphigenia in Splott*", **EFFI O BLAENAU** is director Marc Evans' cinematic interpretation set against the wide-open landscapes of North Wales. The film follows Effi, a young woman desperate to escape a town where the pubs are closed, the jobs have vanished and her grandmother works night shifts in the local chip shop just to get by. A chance encounter in a Llandudno nightclub with an injured soldier briefly opens a door to something better.

Award-winning Cornish director Mark Jenkins' **ROSE OF NEVADA** returns to our screen, telling the story of a fishing boat that mysteriously reappears in the harbour of a forgotten Cornish village, 30 years after it was lost with all hands. How will the community react and what will they do next?

Set and filmed in the South Asian and Middle Eastern community in Luton, **ISH** follows 12-year-old best friends, Ish (Farhan Hasnat) and Maram (Yahya Kitana) who are navigating childhood against a backdrop of political tension and personal loss. The film is less contemporary urban drama and more a classical coming-of-age story.

DE GAULLE is a powerful two-part account of Charles de Gaulle's journey during World War II, from his rise as a military leader to his emergence in French politics between 1940-1945.

From Academy Award-winning director Alex Gibney, **KNIFE: THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF SALMAN RUSHDIE** explores author Salman Rushdie's life, career and recovery following a harrowing attempt on his life in 2022.

THE INVITE - With their marriage on thin ice, Joe and Angela (Seth Rogan and Olivia Wilde) invite their enigmatic upstairs neighbours (Penélope Cruz and Edward Norton) for a dinner party. But when the night spirals into unexpected places, have they reignited the spark in their marriage... or lit the match that burns it all down?

Dustin Hoffman, Leo Woodall and Havana Rose Liu star in **TUNER**, where a gifted piano tuner's meticulous skills lead him to discover an unexpected aptitude for cracking safes, turning his life upside down.

NT LIVE: THE MISANTHROPE

Tuesday 22 September – 7.00pm. Sandra Oh and Paul Chahidi star in a hilarious modern update of Molière's classic, directed by Indhu Rubasingham.

EOS: JAMES MCNEILL WHISTLER

Tuesday 15 September, 7.30pm

Sunday 20 September, 2.00pm

In an era of great change and great beauty emerged the character of James McNeill Whistler. Considered by some to be one of the great innovators of 19th century art, he was a contemporary of the Impressionists, much admired by Van Gogh and Manet. Tate Britain is now holding the first major retrospective of Whistler in three decades and Exhibition on Screen is bringing these stunning works and the incredible story behind them to cinemas.

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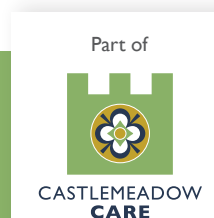
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SUFFOLK DOG DAY

Join us on **Sunday 13 September** at Trinity Park, to celebrate all things canine at Suffolk Dog Day hosted by St Elizabeth Hospice.

Sponsored by Skinners, Suffolk Dog Day is a popular event which celebrates man's best friend and will feature a range of fun dog classes, dog agility and scurry activities as well as over 50 stalls full of doggy goodies, Crufts style competitions, children's entertainment and plenty of food and drink stalls for attendees to enjoy. Gates open to the public at 10am and close at 4pm. Proceeds from ticket sales and donations will go to St Elizabeth Hospice's care in the local community.

James Fox-Golding, Events and Challenges Manager at St Elizabeth Hospice: *"Suffolk Dog Day is a much-loved event, and we are excited for it to return in September."*

"The day brings together the local community to celebrate our love of dogs and raise vital funds for the hospice. Tickets are on sale now, so don't miss out on this year's event which is set to be the best yet!"

All ticket proceeds and donations from Suffolk Dog Day will go to St Elizabeth Hospice, which every year provides support to over 4,000 patients & families living with life-limiting illnesses in East & Mid-Suffolk, Great Yarmouth and Waveney.

Annually, these services cost around £12 million to deliver, with 70% of these funds being generated by the local community's support of the hospice's income streams.



To book Suffolk Dog Day tickets and for more details, please visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk/get-involved/events/all-events-challenges/suffolk-dog-day-2026/. To find out more about St Elizabeth Hospice call 01473 727776 or visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk.



Ellen Sutcliffe with Tig - Best in Show winner in 2025

'MAD ABOUT BOOKS' SHOW LAUNCHES ON ABC RADIO

East Suffolk radio station Alde Blythe Community Radio has launched a new weekly book show 'Mad About Books'. The show is aired on Wednesdays at 6pm and repeated on Sunday mornings.

The show is hosted by regular presenter Brad Young, with local authors Robert Ashton and Simon Eyre.

Non-fiction author Robert Ashton, whose latest book *Down to Earth* was published in July by Wilton Square Books takes a different author onto the beach each week, where they talk about books, writing and their favourite music.

Novelist Simon Eyre, author of the popular Daniel Sawyer thriller series, will share his tips on successful self-publishing, focusing on a different aspect of the writing journey each week.

Over the coming weeks the team will also interview booksellers, festival organisers and anyone who like them, is mad about books. To find out more about 'Mad About Books' visit www.ABCradio.co.uk where you can listen to the show live or download to listen to later.

L to R: Simon Eyre, Robert Ashton, Brad Young at the desk



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CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND & SEA

By Clare Negus – *The Hedgelayers' Wife*

Whilst 'Suffolk Boys' Mike Warner and Richard Negus experience life and work over the border sometimes, their heads, hearts, and hands are firmly rooted in their home county.

Mike's father instilled in him a deep-seated passion for the shallow seas of the Suffolk coastline and all that dwelt therein. As a boy, he marvelled at the indigenous flora and fauna of the intertidal zone. And as he grew up, he acquainted himself with the practices and skills of the inshore fisherman; lobstering, long-lining for bull-headed cod and thorny roker, and hooking for whiting, dabs, bass and pouting.

Mike quickly learned the ways and phraseology of the old boatmen. Summer after summer spent on the beach in a sun-soaked idyll, where time and tide were the masters. Mike believes he must have been baptised in salt water, as some 50-odd years later, the pull of the sea is ever-strong in him. For the last ten years, Mike has purposely immersed himself in the UK fishing industry, to reconnect with all the history, heritage and culture that's associated with this way of life. He's spent countless hours with fishermen - at sea, on quaysides, in fish markets, in pubs and cafes, and in their homes - absorbing what affects them and their businesses on a daily basis.

Mike is an insatiable activist for the UK seafood industry and hands-on ambassador for the fishermen, and women, their communities and the wonderful net-to-plate eateries. He celebrates and advocates for this rich and diverse sector, which, along with farming, underpin our food security and environment.

Mike and Richard first met on a podcast. I remember listening to this episode and being absolutely hooked by their charismatic story-telling and finding myself with an urgent desire for some Suffolk herrings! Mike is like Richard's slightly saltier older brother. The passion Mike has for the sea and fishing is mirrored by Richard's love of the land, farming and wildlife. They share decades of hands-on experience working the land and sea, championing its custodians, telling their stories, and fighting the cause for sustainable farming and fishing industries.

Mike and Richard will be in conversation at Aldeburgh Jubilee Hall on Saturday 26th September, 7pm (same weekend as the Aldeburgh Food & Drink Festival). Tickets are £15 from www.aldeburghjubileehall.co.uk / 01728 454022.

Richard Negus is a professional hedgelayers, conservationist, writer, and author of *WORDS FROM THE HEDGE* – A hedgelayers view of the countryside.

For more about Richard visit www.richardnegus.co.uk and follow him @troopersnooks.

Mike Warner is a fisherman, British seafood and fisheries ambassador, and food writer. For more information about Mike visit www.apassionforseafood.com and follow him @apassionforseafood.

Young Mike



Mike at sea



CITIZENS ADVICE EAST

Local Welfare Assistance Scheme: As part of the Government's Crisis and Resilience Fund, which was launched in April 2026, Suffolk County Council has continued to run its Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (LWAS). This scheme is designed to help low-income households experiencing financial hardship. There are lots of reasons why someone might be in financial hardship and the LWAS is there to help those who are most in need with essential household costs. These costs can include items such as food, clothing, toiletries or white goods. Alternatively, it can help people who are struggling to afford their energy, water or phone bills. To receive financial support from the LWAS you must live in Suffolk, be over 16 years of age and able to demonstrate that you are in financial hardship. Your combined household income should be under £30,000 and your savings below £1,500. (Savings limit for those aged 66 or above is £6,000).

Details of the scheme and how to apply can be found on the link below: Crisis and Resilience Fund - Suffolk County Council

Here at Citizens Advice East Suffolk, we have a dedicated team of advisors who support clients in making LWAS applications. These advisors will contact a client to gain an understanding of their personal circumstances, check their eligibility to apply and to gather the necessary supporting documents. Last year we helped 1,250 households, who have been significantly impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, to receive financial support from LWAS. Alongside this support, we also offer debt, budgeting and housing advice, with a view to helping households become more financially resilient in the longer term.

If you would like more information on the LWAS or help with making an application, please email us from our website: www.caes.org.uk/email-service. Or you can phone us on 0808 278 7866 (lines open 10-2 Mon-Fri).

Our website also gives details of our drop-in outreach sessions and how to make an appointment at one of our offices.



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FRAMLINGHAM AND SAXMUNDHAM CATS PROTECTION



The summer has been all about kittens in our foster pens. At the time of writing, we have 30 kittens in our care, all needing socialisation, feeding, litter training and vet visits before they can be rehomed. Every kitten adopted from Fram and Sax Cats Protection is health checked, treated for fleas and worms, vaccinated, microchipped and neutered (or goes home with a neutering voucher if under 16 weeks) plus four weeks' free insurance via PetPlan. While the love and attention are freely given, veterinary treatment, neutering and microchipping are not. Our adoption fee of £95 for kittens under six months goes some way to cover the cost and helps us continue our vital work.

Buying kittens from online ads or social media can be risky and may fuel indiscriminate breeding. Private ads rarely mention the mother's health, how often she has been bred, or whether she has been vaccinated and regularly checked by a vet.

Always be wary if you cannot see the mother. Ask for proof of vet treatments. If a kitten is said to be vaccinated, you must be given the vaccination card.

A responsible seller will also ask questions about you and your home.

Most importantly, ensure your kitten is neutered to prevent yet more unwanted litters. If you or someone you know is looking for a kitten, please adopt rather than shop.

Still time to book your places for our Quiz Night on **Friday, 25 September 2026, 7pm for 7.15** at the Fromus Centre in Saxmundham.

Free parking on site. Teams of up to six people are welcome, and tickets are £5 per person. To book your places or find out more, email: fundraising@framandsax.cats.org.uk

Cats Looking for Homes: These beauties are one year old Georgia and her 12 week old daughter Dakota. Georgia is long, sleek and striking, with a graceful, almost aristocratic look. She's very friendly and chatty, loves her food, and enjoys joining in games. Dakota is a bold, cheerful little girl who is always happy to roll over for tummy tickles and adores fuss and attention. We are looking for a home where Georgia and Dakota can stay together.

They will need a safe garden to explore in an area away from busy roads. You can see them and all our cats and kittens here: <https://www.cats.org.uk/framlingham-saxmundham#adopt-all>

Website: www.cats.org.uk/framandsax, email: enquiries@framandsax.cats.org.uk, or telephone 01728 723499.

Also find us on Facebook and Instagram.



Georgia



Dakota

CALLING ALL BRASS PLAYERS!

Have you started learning a brass or percussion instrument? Have you always wanted to play a brass instrument?

Then come and join The Band of the Royal British Legion's Training Band!

The Training Band has recently been growing in number but we'd love even more players!

The band is suitable for anyone aged around 9 and upwards, including absolute beginners.

The band can provide instruments to borrow and tuition, including learning to read music.

For anyone learning a brass instrument at school it's a great way to practise, improve playing skills and make friends. There are no membership fees for the Training Band, so come along and give it a go.

The band rehearses weekly on Thursdays from 7 – 7.45pm at The Band Hall, Victory Road, Leiston. Contact leistonband@gmail.com for more information.



PROJECT UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2026

Works to improve and install infrastructure to facilitate the construction of Sizewell C progresses well. We are aiming to reduce disruption as much as possible as the works continue and thank the East Suffolk community for their patience.

The B1122, Pretty Road is closed for the construction of the Sizewell Link Road, along with Hawthorn Road and Fordely Road.

The two-village bypass continues to progress, with the new roundabout at Tinker Brook Lane beginning to take shape. Earthworks continue with piling at the Alde bridge.

Road safety improvements along the A12 continue in Marlesford, including a new pathway and signalised crossing. The western arm of the works is complete, we have switched the traffic management requirements to the other side of the road as we build new footways along the eastern section.

Park and Ride capacity at Wickham Market has increased, and more workers are using the buses. The roundabout at the Darsham park and ride continues to progress, and track management is now lifted at peak times. Both Park and Rides will be operating at full capacity by the autumn.

The B1122, Station Road in Leiston closed in August so Cadent could install new gas mains before new level crossing gates are fitted. Track management is also required as the Sizewell link road roundabout is constructed. We will continue to update the Sizewell C Works Tracker on a daily basis.

Leiston now has a refurbished BMX pump track thanks to Sizewell C contractors and Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council. Teams from Jackson Civil Engineering, Toppesfield, Ovenden, Lynch and ATM volunteered to transform the facility with a new riding surface, landscaping improvements and enhanced safety features.

All tracks are laid to the temporary rail line around Leiston and trains are running to the temporary construction area. There is an engineering train running from Saxmundham Road level crossing to the TCA over the next few weeks to consolidate track ballast and place the track in its final alignment.

The Marine Bulk Import Facility (an offshore loading platform) at Sizewell beach has reached the shoreline and is now progressing across the sea, with work due to be complete in early 2027.

The final sheet pile on the 783m Temporary Sea Defence wall has been installed, ending this phase of work. This helps to protect the site and allows the next phase to go on. The steel installation on our campus steel structure is complete, and the next stage includes the foundations for the first 8 accommodation blocks. Cladding for the amenity building begins Q3-26. The concrete batching plant is progressing well - the first of 4 is due to be operational in September.

East Suffolk Council has granted planning permission for College on the Coast. The new two-storey facility will be built on King George's Avenue and will accommodate 150 students, 20 full-time staff and a dedicated drop-in hub for 50 apprentices. Delivered with Suffolk New College, it will offer technical and vocational courses in engineering, digital skills, business and logistics.

Archaeological work began in August, with main construction to start as archaeology progresses. Teaching and training are scheduled to begin in 2027, before expanding further in following years.

Our thoughts are with communities affected by the Dunwich Heath wildfires. We continue to support the emergency services that have worked incredibly hard at the scene.



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 your patience during these works.

To find out more about the progress of the works, the next round of community forums are:

Southern Transport Forum

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

Main Development Site Forum

Wednesday 7 October 18:00,
Leiston Town Athletic Association

Sizewell C

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

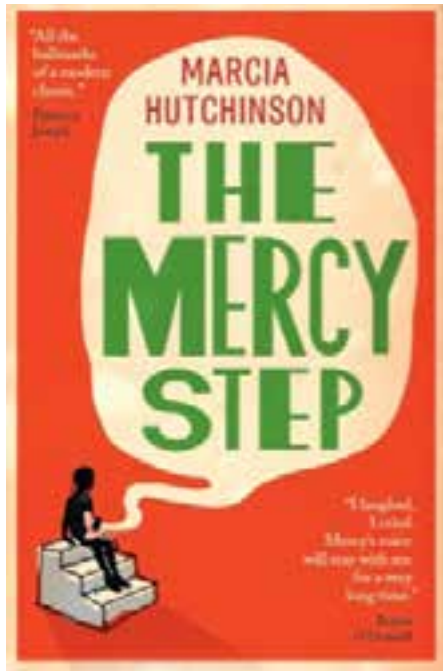
*Calls to 0800 numbers are free from UK landlines. Call costs from mobile and international numbers may vary.

BOOK REVIEW

'The Mercy Step' by Marcia Hutchinson

We try and choose wildly different books each month at The Aldeburgh Bookshop Book Club. It's easy to read more of the same, and, while I did like the winner of The Women's Prize for Fiction - The Correspondent by Virginia Evans - I was more intrigued by this shortlisted title: The Mercy Step. Twelve of us discussed the book as our August choice, and, possibly for the first time in a decade, everyone was unanimous in their admiration and appreciation of this compelling book.

It follows the life of Mercy from (literally) womb to age eleven. Mercy's parents are the Windrush generation and are bringing up their five children in damp and crowded conditions in Bradford in the 1960s. Two more children have been left behind in Jamaica..



Mercy is the middle child and feels like an outsider in her own home.

We see the world through her precocious eyes, watching it all from the third step on the staircase with her beloved Dolly clutched in her arms.

Life is tough, violence is a constant in their family life, but when she discovers the town library, then she can begin to see her way out.

Mercy's voice is a wonder, her sharp-witted observation and her fierce imagination make this book a moving and emotional read. It is funny and moving.

The author Marcia Hutchinson is a lawyer and politician. She was the first pupil from her comprehensive school in Bradford to go to Oxford University. She was awarded an MBE for her services to cultural diversity.

Mary James, The Aldeburgh Bookshop

ALDE VALLEY SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Local and Family History Heritage Open Day - 12 September 2026

Following on from last September's event at the Leiston Long Shop, the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group will be holding another Family and Local History Open Day, but this time back at the Fromus Centre in Saxmundham, on Saturday 12th September 2026, when at least a dozen other groups will be taking part. Among the exhibitors, new this year we are delighted to welcome Parham Airfield Museum and Dunwich Museum.

There will be free advice and assistance with personal family history research, using computers, Internet and DNA. Just turn up with your family tree queries.

Janet Huckle's help with dating photographs will again be in demand. Bring your old family photographs for her expert opinion.

Forever popular, Peter Drew has kindly agreed that his historic local postcards will also be on display.

This year our Open Day will be part of the Heritage Open Days Events organised by the National Trust with the support of FindMyPast – and one of the exhibitors, the Benhall and Sternfield History Group, has been shortlisted for FindMyPast's 'Everyday History Hero' competition – the only shortlisted group from Suffolk!

Free entry. 11am - 4pm. Good, free car parking. Light refreshments. Railway and bus stations nearby.

'Hands Across the Sea' – Helen Baggott

In September the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group will welcome back Helen Baggott to give them more stories from her collection of historic postcards.

Helen is an author, freelance editor and researcher from Dorset. She has published three collections of stories behind postcards sent over 100 years ago, the latest entitled 'Posted in the Past, Hands Across the Sea'. Helen has been recognised in national newspapers as "postcard detective" and "heirloom detective."

'Hands Across the Sea' tells the story of a solo traveller who went across Europe and Asia and includes the story of an Indian Prince who played cricket for England.

The talk takes place on **Monday 21st September** at 2.30pm, in person at the Fromus Centre, Street Farm Road, Saxmundham, IP17 1AL and, for members only, on Zoom.

No need to book – just turn up — free for members and £5 for visitors, including refreshments. Free car-parking. Membership only costs £10 per year. Visit: <https://www.avsfhg.org.uk/join-us> and Zooming is free.

FRESSINGFIELD SOUNDS



Fressingfield may be a small village, but its musical horizons have expanded dramatically thanks to Fressingfield Sounds, a remarkable Community Interest Company bringing outstanding classical performers to rural Suffolk. Founded in 2023, the organisation has already established a reputation for artistic excellence, full houses and a warm, welcoming concert atmosphere.

At the heart of Fressingfield Sounds is a simple mission: to enrich the community by presenting exceptional live performances.

But its ambitions reach beyond the concert platform. This young organisation fosters a growing commitment to education, outreach and engagement — from audience-facing events such as ‘Classical Coffee’ encounters, to deeper partnerships with local schools. Plans include sponsoring a weekly choral teacher at Fressingfield Primary School to help young people experience the joys of singing together.

It’s a model built on access without compromising quality, and on nurturing curiosity as much as performance.

Audiences across Suffolk will have the chance to experience that quality of Fressingfield Sounds’ concerts first-hand. The 2026 Autumn Series opens in Chapel Hall Arts, Fressingfield on **12 September** with The Mancunium Consort, one of the rising stars of the choral scene, performing music from Tallis and Byrd to Górecki, MacMillan and Rachmaninov.

On **10 October**, the acclaimed Piatti String Quartet, resident at Kings Place, London, brings Mendelssohn, Purcell, Finnis and Dvořák’s much loved ‘American’ Quartet.

The season concludes on **14 November** with violinist Tamsin Waley-Cohen and pianist Huw Watkins, offering Debussy, Clara Schumann, Watkins’ own Violin Sonata, and Beethoven’s radiant Sonata No.10.

Tickets £25 are available via the website www.fressingfieldsounds.org.uk, with discounts available for those under 25, or in receipt of social benefits.

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Credit: Images By Anna

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 Mon 7th Sept at 1.00pm
 Tues 8th Sept at 7.15pm
 Wed 9th Sept at 3.00pm
 Thurs 10th Sept at 7.15pm
 Wed 23rd & Thurs 24th Sept at 2.00pm

HOLY DAYS 12A

Sun 6th Sept at 6.00pm

HANDA OPERA **VERDI'S LA TRAVIATA** PG

Fri 11th Sept at 7.00pm
 Sat 12th Sept at 6.00pm
 Sun 13th Sept at 2.00pm
 Mon 14th & Tues 15th Sept at 7.00pm
 Wed 16th Sept at 2.00pm
 Thurs 17th Sept at 7.00pm

DE GAULLE: **RESISTANCE** 15

Sun 13th Sept at 6.00pm

FUNNY GIRL **THE MUSICAL** PG

Fri 18th, Sat 19th &
 Sun 20th Sept at 7.15pm

SPA WEEKEND 15

Mon 21st & Tues 22nd Sept at 7.15pm

ONE NIGHT ONLY 15

Fri 25th - Sun 27th Sept
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MOURNING CAMPERS

Sun 27th Sept at 6.30pm
 Mon 28th Sept at 1.00pm & 7.15pm
 Tues 29th Sept at 7.15pm
 Wed 30th Sept at 2.00pm & 7.15pm
 Thurs 1st Oct at 7.15pm
 Fri 2nd Oct at 2.00pm & 7.15pm
 Sun 4th Oct at 6.00pm

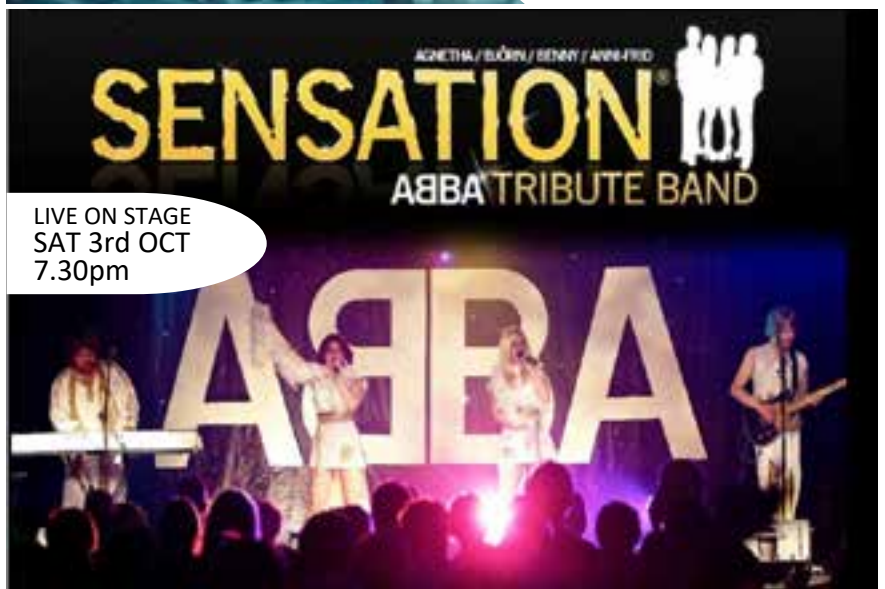
PRESSURE 12A

Sat 3rd Oct at 7.30pm
LIVE ON STAGE

ABBA SENSATION

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www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk



SIZEWELL A CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF HISTORY AND ACHIEVEMENT

Sizewell A has marked 60 years since first generating electricity, bringing together current employees, former colleagues, partners, stakeholders and members of the local community to celebrate the site's contribution to the region and the UK's nuclear industry. Since first producing electricity in 1966, Sizewell A generated around 110 terawatt hours of low-carbon electricity over more than 40 years of operation, enough to meet around a third of East Anglia's electricity needs on any given day.



As part of the anniversary programme, Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS) took its interactive roadshow trailer into the heart of the local community. The trailer visited Leiston on 29 and 30 June before attending the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) and Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) community outreach event at Leiston Town Athletic Association on 1 July. The events gave residents and visitors the opportunity to learn more about Sizewell A's history, its achievements and the work taking place on site today.

Marianne Fellowes, Chair of the Sizewell SSG, said: "As we celebrate 60 years of Sizewell A, it was wonderful to see the community, former employees and stakeholders come together. The SSG exists to help ensure local voices are heard and this event provided a valuable opportunity to engage with residents and reflect on both the site's history and its future."

John McNamara, Director of Communities and Stakeholder Engagement at the NDA, said: "This year marks over 20 years of Site Stakeholder Groups, which continue to play a vital role in helping communities stay informed and involved in decisions affecting their local sites. It was fitting to celebrate this milestone alongside Sizewell A's 60th anniversary and continue the conversations that help keep local communities at the heart of our work."

Alan Walker, Site Director at Sizewell A, said: "Reaching our 60th anniversary is a significant milestone for everyone connected with Sizewell A. It has been an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of past and present employees and thank the local community for its continued support and understanding."

"While we are proud of our history, we are equally focused on the future. Our teams remain committed to safely decommissioning the site while creating career opportunities and benefits for the region."

The celebrations included a special event at the site, where guests reconnected, shared memories and learned more about Sizewell A's transformation over the past six decades.

During their visit, former colleagues saw how the site has evolved, including the significant change to the skyline following the turbine hall demolition in 2025. Visitors also heard how Sizewell A continues to support the region through skilled employment, apprenticeships, volunteering opportunities and socio-economic investment.

As Sizewell A continues its decommissioning mission, the anniversary has provided a fitting opportunity to celebrate the people, achievements and community partnerships that have shaped the site's first 60 years and will help define its future.

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

Aldeburgh Times 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 Thursday 1st October, copy deadline is 14th September - 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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