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OCTOBER 2026

LEISTON OBSERVER



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A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



The football season is now in full swing and don't forget your local team, Leiston FC play at a very high level for a small town, so if you haven't been along to a game before why not pop up to Victory Road? The Fixture list is on page 9. You could even book a 'Matchday Experience' package!

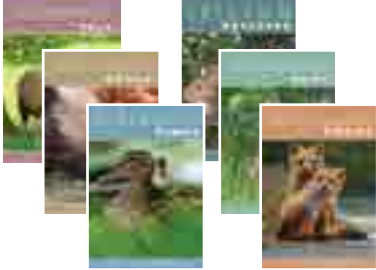
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Quote of the month

Don't go through life, grow through life.

Eric Butterworth



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Workshop on community renewable energy in Leiston

Come along to a conversation about how **community-led renewable energy** in Leiston could work. Discuss how it could **benefit your community**, for example through investment in local projects.

**Thursday 8 October
6pm - 8.30pm**

Leiston Community Centre,
Sizewell Road IP16 4JU

Everyone is welcome - you don't need any prior knowledge. There will be a **complimentary buffet**.

For more event info contact
communities@cse.org.uk
or call **0117 934 1400**



Scan to book or visit
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FROM LEISTON-CUM-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL

Please join us in giving a very warm welcome to **Councillor Sandra Ellis!**

Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council is delighted to welcome Sandra Jean Ellis as our newly elected Town Councillor following the election held last week.

We would like to thank everyone in our community who took the time to vote and participate in the democratic process.

Congratulations, Sandra, and a very warm welcome to Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council! We look forward to working with you as we continue to serve and support the residents of Leiston-cum-Sizewell.



Meet Your Town Council – Come and Have Your Say

Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council is inviting residents to come along to its next Meet Your Town Council event on Saturday 10th October at the White Horse Hotel, Leiston. Following the positive response to the Council's previous event, this informal session provides another opportunity for residents to meet their Town Councillors face-to-face and talk about the issues that matter to them. Residents can simply drop in between 10am and 11am, while 11am to 12 noon will be reserved for pre-booked appointments for anyone who would prefer a dedicated time to discuss a particular issue.

Whether it's a concern, an idea for the town, a question about the Council's work or simply an opportunity to get to know the people representing Leiston-cum-Sizewell, everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be available, so come along, have a chat and help keep the conversation going. To book an appointment, contact the Town Council offices on 01728 830388.

NEW Love Leiston Newsletter!

Our new newsletter is all about celebrating our town, our community and our people – your regular round-up of local news, events and activities that celebrate everything happening across our town and community. Each edition will bring together community news and upcoming events, local heritage, parks and green spaces, independent businesses, local organisations and community support contacts most importantly, the people who help make Leiston such a special place to live, work and visit. From celebrating local achievements and discovering more about Leiston's fascinating past to highlighting new projects, community groups, volunteering opportunities and things to see and do, Love Leiston aims to keep residents connected with what's happening on their doorstep. It will also shine a spotlight on the many businesses, organisations, volunteers and individuals who contribute so much to life in the town. There is always something happening in Leiston – and plenty to be proud of. Sign up to receive the newsletter via the Visit Leiston website: www.visit-leiston.co.uk or the Town Council website: www.leistontowncouncil.gov.uk

An update from our Mayor, Cllr Nicky Corbett

I was delighted, and indeed honoured, to be invited to attend some joyous occasions over the last few weeks. On 6th September, I attended the installation of our new Curate-in-Charge, Revd. Caitlin Harland. It was a lovely afternoon celebrating her arrival in Leiston with her husband Josh and their three little girls.

We wish them well and hope they will enjoy living in our community for many years to come.

On 11th September, I joined the leaders and volunteers from 1379 Squadron (Leiston) Air Cadets for their annual Battle of Britain Dinner at The Parrot and Punchbowl in Aldringham. It was the perfect balance of reverence alongside celebration. And even more poignant on the 25th anniversary of the appalling attack on the twin towers.



Two great events celebrating our Leiston community.

Dates for Your Diary

Keep an eye out for more information on upcoming community events, including monthly Charity Coffee Mornings and Quiz Nights organised by Leiston Events Group.

Mayor Corbett's Thought for the Month

The first film shown at Leiston Film Theatre was a Keystone production called 'Wanted, a House' on 27 October 1914, with supporting short films, 'The Battle of the Week' and 'Memories that Haunt'. It was a silent film with a live piano music accompaniment played by Leslie Tolhurst and it featured renowned comedy actress, Josie Sadler. It was a short, slapstick comedy exploring the humorous mishaps and challenges of homeownership. (Nothing changes then!) And only three months after the country became involved in the First https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0433171/

For further information, please contact: Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council projects@leistontowncouncil.gov.uk 01728 830388

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ALDEBURGH LIFEBOAT YOUTH ACTIVITY SCHEME

Charlie is the first recruit on Aldeburgh Lifeboat Station's Youth Activity Scheme, having joined in April 2026. This initiative gives local young people, aged 16 to 18, the opportunity to take part in the activities at Aldeburgh Lifeboat Station, generating an interest and aiding the transition to join the volunteer crew when they reach the age of 18. Under the scheme the youth volunteers can undertake a limited number of tasks in support of lifeboat operations. Charlie has been assisting and learning about the launch and recovery of Aldeburgh's Atlantic 85, Ralph and our inshore lifeboat, Susan Scott at Thursday evening and Sunday morning training exercises. Charlie has witnessed helicopter operations at a joint training exercise with HM Coastguard. He has spent a training session in the cab of the Talus, the amphibious tracked launch vehicle, to see the tractor driver's role up close. Charlie has learnt about the Personal Protective Equipment both afloat and on shore and assists with the post recovery checks done by the boat crew and shore crew. He has undertaken some of the shore crew training, including learning the nine knots of which the crew have to be proficient.

All being well, in June next year on Charlie's 18th birthday, he will join as volunteer and will commence his boat crew training having obtained the basics as a youth activity volunteer. If you are aged 16 – 18 and want to join the Youth Activity Scheme at Aldeburgh lifeboat station, please send your contact details to linda_hall@rnli.org.uk

If you are aged 18 – 70 and would like to join the Aldeburgh Lifeboat crew please visit: rnli.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.

Jo Litt
Volunteer Press Officer



Charlie. Photo: Susie Potter

RNLI Carnival Day Beach collection

The Aldeburgh & District RNLI Guild wishes to thank all those who contributed most generously to the Aldeburgh Beach Collection on Monday 17th August 2026. The total amount raised was **£1197.99**. The organisers would like to thank all who helped and worked so hard to achieve this result.

Launching the Atlantic 85. Photo: Susie Potter



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LEISTON FOOTBALL CLUB

SHIRT DEAL RENEWED

Our current successful partnership with Flick & Son and their CEO, Paul Gray, enters another season, and at Leiston FC we couldn't be more delighted.

Flick & Son not only sponsor our main stand at our home ground, The Flannery Stadium, but their branding also sits proudly on our home and away first-team shirts.

"We have a wonderful relationship with Paul and his team at Flick & Son," said Leiston chairman, Andy Crisp.

"They have been, and continue to be, great supporters of our Club and we are pleased to be associated with such a professional and successful business."



On board with the Blues: Pictured is CEO of Flick & Son, Paul Gray, left, and Leiston FC chairman, Andy Crisp.

With the season in full swing now, games come thick and fast at the Flannery Stadium, in Victory Road.

The first team have made a solid start to their season in the Southern League Premier Division Central, while the U23s are impressing in their new league, the Suffolk & Ipswich League.

Our U18s have also begun their campaign.

U23 games at the Flannery Stadium in Victory Road are free to enter this season, and the young team would love your support.

At our recent home game with Grays Athletic in the FA Cup, striker Adam Mills netted a hat-trick in a 5-0 win over the Essex-based team.

For information on all things Leiston FC, head over to www.leistonfc.co.uk or follow Leiston FC on X, Facebook, WhatsApp, TikTok, Linked In and Instagram.

Sponsorship packages, including our popular Matchday Experience package, are now available. Contact chairman, Andy Crisp on 07769 904555.

The Club is proud to run three senior football teams, the first team playing at the highest level of any non-league club in Suffolk, as well as many youth teams, from U8s to U16s, including girls' teams.

We are very much a community club, with a hall for hire for your occasion or meeting venue. Pop up and see us at a game. We'd love to see you.



Jake Walton (from Lacons Brewery) presenting Adam with his award from Lacons and the match ball.

LEISTON FC — 2026/27 FIXTURES — SOUTHERN LEAGUE PREMIER CENTRAL		
AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
Sat 8 Anstey Nomads (A)	Sat 5 Emirates FA Cup 9Q	Sat 3 HALESOWEN TOWN (H)
Tue 11 BISHOP'S STORTFORD (H)	Sat 12 Banbury United (A)	Sat 10 Racing Club Warwick (A)
Sat 15 RUSHALL OLYMPIC (H)	Sat 19 Emirates FA Cup 2Q	Sat 17 STRATFORD TOWN (H)
Sat 22 Stourbridge (A)	Tue 22 PETERBOROUGH SPORTS (H)	Tue 20 Kettering Town (A)
Sat 29 REDDITCH UNITED (H)	Sat 26 Izzu FA Trophy 3Q	Sat 24 Izzu FA Trophy 1
Mon 31 Bury Town (A)	Tue 26 Real Bedford (A)	Tue 27 Peterborough Sports (A)
		Sat 31 ALVECHURCH (H)
NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2027
Sat 7 Bromsgrove Sporting (A)	Sat 5 STAMFORD (H)	Sat 2 BURY TOWN (H)
Tue 10 REAL BEDFORD (H)	Sat 12 BANBURY UNITED (H)	Sat 9 Hitchin Town (A)
Sat 14 Leamington (A)	Sat 19 Halesowen Town (A)	Sat 16 RACING CLUB WARWICK (H)
Sat 21 LEIGHTON TOWN (H)	Sat 26 Nuneaton Market (A)	Sat 23 Stratford Town (A)
Tue 24 HITCHIN TOWN (H)		Sat 30 KETTERING TOWN (H)
Sat 28 Worcester City (A)		
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
Sat 6 LEAMINGTON (H)	Sat 6 ANSTEY NOMADS (H)	Sat 3 Redditch United (A)
Sat 13 Leighton Town (A)	Sat 13 Rushall Olympic (A)	Sat 10 WORCESTER CITY (H)
Sat 20 WOODGROVE SPORTING (H)	Sat 20 STOURBRIDGE (H)	Sat 17 Stamford (A)
Sat 27 Alvechurch (A)	Fri 24 Bishop's Stortford (A)	
MAY		
Son 16 Izzu FA Trophy Final	Mon 29 NEEDHAM MARKET (H)	
Sat 22 Emirates FA Cup Final		

HOME AWAY
*FIXTURES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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October

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Sat 17th - Cool Remedy

Sun 18th - Ace Karaoke

Sat 24th - DISCO



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A POSITIVE DAY IN CHURCH SQUARE

If you were in town on Wednesday the 19th of August you may well have heard some 'bang, bang, banging' and wondered what on earth was going on. Although a bit loud, the noise was a very positive one because the person making it was Community Land Trust member Simon Merrett, who had set himself the task of replacing the damaged cladding above the bifold doors of the United Reformed Church.

The previous cladding had become cracked and unsafe due to some younger members of the community using it as some sort of football target. Fortunately, the Police have reported that because our CCTV cameras provide some of the best footage in the entire town and they were able to download images, which they took to the local schools. The culprits have now been identified and will be 'spoken to'.

As is often the way, Simon's project encouraged a flurry of community support and activity: the Longshop got involved by lending him their climbing tower, the United Reformed Church helped out by providing a working storage space and Project 40Seven assisted by providing endless cups of coffee to keep him going. The Council were also involved because whilst on site Simon noticed the bins were overflowing, and after a quick call to the council offices, Carl – the town's resident cleaner – was on site within a couple of hours sorting out the problem and from his nod and thumbs up we are optimistic that he will keep an eye on those bins in the future.

Leiston Community Land Trust have engaged local tree surgeon Shaun Wright to give the silver birch in the square a jolly good haircut, and that work should have taken place by the time you read this.

Meantime, Mark Robinson, the Square's volunteer gardener, will be helping to keep the garden in order. All in all (despite the noise) a wonderful day in Church



SIZEWELL C RAISES £88K FOR ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE

Sizewell C has raised a total of £88,657 for St Elizabeth Hospice during its official partnership – providing a vital funding stream for the independent Suffolk charity over the last two years.

In August 2024, Sizewell C chose St Elizabeth Hospice as its first official charity partner, guaranteeing funding for the charity which supports patients and families living with progressive and life-limiting illnesses across East and Mid Suffolk, Great Yarmouth and Waveney.

Over the course of the two-year partnership, Sizewell C staff organised or participated in over 30 fundraising events, including football matches between staff, sponsored walks, cycle challenges in Majorca, quiz nights, golf events, and Christmas jumper days.

The £88,657 raised is equivalent to funding four months of care on the hospice's Inpatient Unit, giving patients access to specialist palliative support from consultants, doctors and nurses.

Sarah Stafford, Corporate & Sponsorship Fundraising Manager at St Elizabeth Hospice, said: "Their support has made a significant difference to our services and to the patients and families in our care, helping us provide compassionate support when it matters most."





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ALDEBURGH PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

The next meeting of the Aldeburgh Photography Group will be held on **Wednesday 21 October** at 7.30pm in the Aldeburgh Library.

This month we are very pleased to welcome Kevin Sawford to our club. Kevin is a professional wildlife photographer based in Suffolk. The subject of his talk will be '20 nature projects throughout the year'. He will take us on a pictorial journey to enthuse and stimulate our interest in nature. From in and around our home to specific projects or seasonal ideas, this presentation will provide us with plenty of suggestions for photographing the natural world around us and across the year. Kevin runs an array of photographic courses for the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and at RSPB Minsmere.

He has won multiple awards in national and international competitions including the European Wildlife Photographer of the Year, Bird Photographer of the Year, British Wildlife Photography Awards and International Garden Photographer of the Year.

Kevin is one of the RSPB agency photographers whose work is regularly seen in the RSPB magazine and other RSPB literature and merchandise. His website, www.kevinsawford.com showcases his imagery and lists his current available courses. Kevin's social media pages are:
Instagram – [kevin_sawford_photography](https://www.instagram.com/kevin_sawford_photography)
Facebook – Kevin Sawford Photography

We are a friendly group and we are keen to welcome everyone from beginners to experienced photographers, from users of smartphones to the latest DSLRs.

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).



THORPENESS
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Credit: Images By Anna

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ALDE VALLEY SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Members' Stories

On **19th October** three of our members will give short talks about their research into the lives of their ancestors.

Jean Laidlaw will talk about Samuel James Robert Legerton who was the first coxswain of the Lifeboat at Clacton. He received medals from R.N.L.I. and was honoured by the French government.

Janet Huckle will tell us about 'Soldier, General, Policeman' - three people in her research. She will tell how researching an old newspaper cutting led to a story of heroic action by a family member on May 10/11 1941.

John Deans will talk about Alfred Francis Edward who died in Eritrea during the war and how John managed to obtain images of his final resting place.

These talks will take place on **Monday 19th October** at 2.30pm, in person at the Fromus Centre, Street Farm Road, Saxmundham, IP17 1AL (behind the library) and, for members only, on Zoom. The speakers will be talking to us in person. No need to book – just turn up - free for members and £5 for visitors, including refreshments. Good, free car-parking. Only members can take part in our meetings on Zoom, but it only costs £10 for a year's membership – see <https://www.avsfhg.org.uk/join-us?section=register> and Zooming is free.

Family & local history heritage open day – 12th September 2026

We were back at the Fromus Centre in Saxmundham this year for our annual Open Day. Smaller than last year's event at the Long Shop in Leiston, we hosted nine other organisations, including for the first time: Parham Airfield Museum and Dunwich Museum, both of which produced interesting displays – Dunwich even brought fossils and a cannon ball!

This year our Open Day was part of the Heritage Open Days Events organised by the National Trust with the support of FindMyPast – and one of our exhibitors, the Benhall and Sternfield History Group, had been shortlisted for FindMyPast's 'Everyday History Hero' competition – the only shortlisted group from Suffolk! Sadly they didn't win the competition – Holkham Estate in Norfolk was the overall winner – but their display about Ted Ayden, renowned past resident of Benhall, attracted a lot of interest.

As in the past, Janet Huckle's expertise in the dating of old family photographs was popular with visitors, as was Peter Drew's enormous collection of old postcards.

Visitor numbers were down on previous years, no doubt because of competition from other Heritage Days events, as well as the Suffolk Historic Churches Ride and Stride fundraiser, on the same day, but our team of researchers was kept busy pretty much non-stop all day and their customers seemed to go away happy!

Some had even come from as far as Norfolk and Cambridge specifically for our free family history advice and have now also joined AVSFHG as members.



104 year old Manette Baillie inspecting Aldeburgh & District Local History Society's display



Friston History Group



Dunwich Museum



Parham Airfield Museum



Martlesham Heath Aviation Society

Further Programme: at the Fromus Centre, Saxmundham, at 2.30pm

Mon 16 Nov: 'Epidemic Diseases and our Ancestors' by Janet Few

Mon 14 Dec: '200 Years of Farming History' by Ashley Cooper

Mon 18 Jan: 'Social media for family history' by Kelly Cornwell

Mon 15 Feb: 'The real Basil Brown' by Sarah Doig

Mon 15 March: 'History of Saxtead Mill' by Jonathan Sullivan



Mon 5th & Tues 6th Oct at 7.00pm
Wed 7th Oct at 2.00pm
Thurs 8th Oct at 7.00pm

**DE GAULLE:
LIBERTE** 15

Wed 7th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 11th Oct at 3.00pm
Wed 14th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 17th Oct at 3.00pm

PRACTICAL MAGIC 2 12A

Fri 9th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 11th Oct at 6.00pm

RUNNER 15

Mon 12th Oct at 2.00pm
Sun 18th Oct at 3.00pm
Wed 21st Oct at 7.15pm

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY PG

Mon 12th & Tues 13th Oct at 7.15pm
Wed 14th Oct at 2.00pm
Thurs 15th Oct at 7.15pm

BAD APPLES 15

Fri 16th & Sat 17th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 18th Oct at 6.00pm
Mon 19th & Tues 20th Oct at 7.15pm
Wed 21st Oct at 3.00pm
Thurs 22nd Oct at 7.15pm

HEART OF THE BEAST 12A

Fri 23rd, Sat 24th, Tues 27th &
Thurs 29th Oct at 7.15pm

DIGGER 15

Sat 24th Oct at 1.00pm & 3.00pm
Sun 25th Oct at 3.00pm
Mon 26th - Thurs 29th Oct at 2.00pm

**SHAUN THE SHEEP: THE
BEAST OF MOSSY BOTTOM** U

Mon 26th - Fri 30th Oct at 11.30am

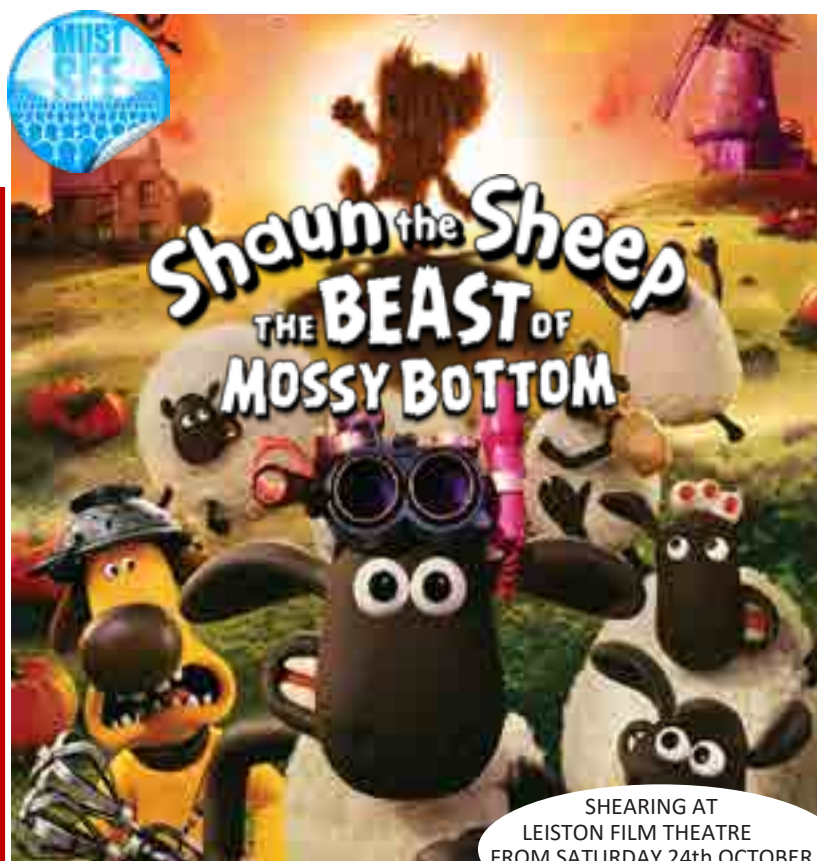
**DISNEY JUNIOR
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Sun 25th Oct at 6.00pm
Wed 28th Oct at 7.15pm

PRESSURE 12A

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OASIS - OASIS TRIBUTE

Wednesday 4th November, 7.30pm
FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

Saturday 14th November, 7.30pm
THE COLDPLAY TRIBUTE

Friday 27th November, 7.30pm
DS:UK ... IN TRIBUTE TO DIRE STRAITS

Saturday 28th November, 7.30pm
HONEY AND THE BEAR

Friday 8th - SUNDAY 10th January 2027
PANTOMIME - SLEEPING BEAUTY

Saturday 16th January 2027, 7.30pm
SHANIA LIVE! SHANIA TWAIN TRIBUTE

www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk

LEISTON & SAXMUNDHAM SCOUTS

Saxmundham lost their Scout leader due to ill health so we are looking to fill this vacancy as at the present time the Scouts have transferred to the Leiston troop. We also need Cub assistant volunteers and also a trustee to join the group Trustee board to complete our governance with the Charity commission. This can be anyone not involved with the Scout group.

The Leiston group is now running four sections with the opening, last term, of our Explorer Scout section for 14 to 18 year olds which is open to any young people living in the area. They meet on a Tuesday evening at Leiston Scout hut.

Our Beaver and Cub sections are also looking for extra volunteers to help or take on a leader role, just send us an email for any further information.

Through the Sizewell C contractor forum we were able to have our Scout hall painted and some minor repairs completed by the CMT Group, our thanks go to them for this work.

We also received a grant from Sizewell C, so we now have a lovely new box trailer to enable us to transport all our equipment to camps and other activities.



We would like to say a big thank you to Persimmon Homes who have made a £2000 donation to the group from their Community fund, a cheque was presented to us at their show house on Abbey road.

Activities coming up: County Thorpeness Meare day for Scouts; Link camp for Cubs and Scouts; Cub District cooking competition; Jamboree on the Air (International radio contact) for all sections. So plenty to look forward to!

For any further information please contact:

Steve.burch@suffolkscouts.org.uk
07889799415

1stsaxmundham@suffolkscouts.org.uk
1stleiston@suffolkscouts.org.uk

CITIZENS ADVICE EAST

Mediation: a better option than going to court: When a couple decide to divorce or separate, they invariably ask: What are the best arrangements for our children (if any), and how will we divide our money and property? If a couple can't agree, they may feel going to court is their only option. Court proceedings are costly, time-consuming, and can strain relationships between ex-partners. This in turn can have negative impacts on children. Using mediation is often a better option. Mediation is not relationship counselling; it focuses on helping both parties agree on child arrangements and dividing money and property. Mediators are impartial professionals with knowledge of family law and court considerations.

Using mediation to help make child arrangements: When a couple split up, they must decide where their children will live, when each parent sees them, and how to pay for their expenses. The two parties can speak with the Mediator jointly or separately, in person or by phone or video. A Mediator can also talk to any children about what they want, if agreed by both parties and the children themselves. When agreements are reached, the Mediator draws up a document that summarises what has been agreed. This serves as a record for both parties. They need do nothing further. However, to make the agreement legally enforceable, they can instruct a solicitor to draft a 'Consent Order'. This document is then submitted to the court, where it will be reviewed and, if approved, made legally binding. For more details see <https://www.gov.uk/looking-after-children-divorce>

Using mediation to help with dividing money and property: When divorcing or ending a civil partnership, both sides will need to agree on how to split their finances.

Their assets may include pensions, property, savings, and investments, held jointly or separately. Unmarried couples with children need to arrange child maintenance. A useful resource in deciding about dividing money and property is Money Helper's 'Divorce and Money Calculator'. This gives both parties an overview of their financial situation: what they have, what they owe, and how they might split assets and finances: <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/family-and-care/divorce-and-separation/divorce-and-money-calculator?source=mas#>

As with child arrangements, the Mediator will talk to both parties and draw up a document showing what they have agreed. They may use this to draft a Consent Order and apply to the court to make their agreement legally binding. For more details see: <https://www.gov.uk/money-property-when-relationship-ends>

Finding a family mediator: To find a local accredited family Mediator see: <https://www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk/find-local-mediator/>

Charges for mediation depend on the time needed and individual circumstances but will be a small sliver compared to the thousands charged if a divorce goes to court. These two websites give useful information on charges, including the government's voucher scheme: <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/blog/life-events/how-much-does-a-divorce-cost> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/family-mediation-voucher-scheme>

For help with this or any issue please visit: www.caes.org.uk/ email-service or tel: 0808 278 7866 (lines open 10 - 2 Mon-Fri). You can also make an appointment at one of our offices.



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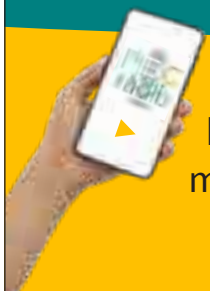
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THE BAND OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION, LEISTON

The Band, proudly licensed under the banner of The Royal British Legion, is thrilled to announce the success of their public collections held over this summer on the seafronts in Southwold and Aldeburgh.

Aldeburgh: Sundays, May 31st: **£334.54**; July 12th: **£396.39**; August 16th: **£286.64**

Southwold: Sundays, June 14th: **£199.86**; September 6th: **£288.98**

Total raised this summer: **£1506.41**

The band would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to the collection. As part of their commitment to supporting The Royal British Legion, 10% of all collections will be donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. (**£150.64**)

The remainder of the funds raised will directly support the band's continued efforts to nurture and develop new and existing players.

These funds help cover the costs of instruments, music, uniforms, and essential expenses such as the rental fee for our band room and instrument upkeep. The Band is dedicated to fostering local talent and providing musical opportunities for all.

Our main band practices are held on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 – 9.30pm, with a dedicated Training Band practice on Thursday evenings from 7 to 7.45pm at The Band Room, 17 Victory Road, Leiston, IP16 4DQ

Whether you're an experienced brass player or drummer, an ex-player looking to return to your passion, or someone new to music and interested in learning, we welcome you to join us! For more information, please visit our website or contact Nikki Glennon-Bird, Band Secretary, at secretary@leistonband.org.

Thank you again for your continued support!

Email: secretary@leistonband.org

Website: www.leistonband.org

EDGE LAND COMMUNITY PROJECT

Suffolk's changing coast is the subject of an exhibition of new art and writing at the Long Shop Museum in Leiston which the organisers say celebrates the beauty of the coast and its hinterland, while exploring dramatic change due to the construction of new energy infrastructure and on-going erosion.

"Art and writing help us process our experience of a changing landscape, erosion for example, the large-scale energy construction sites and, of course, the recent devastating wildfire at Dunwich Heath," says project lead Jen Hall, whose etching, *Erosion at East Lane*, will be shown for the first time at the exhibition.

"With the Long Shop's fascinating collection of industrial heritage and historic artefacts alongside Edge Land work, we hope visitors will enjoy different perspectives and come away with a renewed love for this beautiful landscape," she adds.

The exhibition runs until Sunday 1 November.

Themed writing workshops at the Long Shop Museum during October with opportunities to meet and work with Edge Land artists and writer, are as follows:

Sat 3 Oct, 10.30am – 2.30pm: Place and Change. Writing from memory, place and the museum's artefacts.

Sat 17 Oct, 10.30am – 14.30pm: Writing from the Edge. Prompts inspired by letters, maps, paintings and curiosities from the Long Shop collection.

Sat 24 Oct, 10am – 1pm: Once Upon a Picture. Story making inspired by museum exhibits and Edge Land artworks.

Fri 30 Oct, 10am – 4pm: Celebrating Our Trees. Free children's drop-in. Mixed media art celebrating trees and their habitats. Working with Edge Land artists, children, with their parents and carers, will make their own tree art can and contribute to a community artwork.

Sat 31 Oct, 5 – 6pm: Reading Event. A free reading event featuring work by Edge Land writers and poets together with workshop participants. Open to all.

Workshops are funded by Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape Sustainable Development Fund.

Thank you to our host, The Long Shop Museum. Edge Land website funded by The Arts Society, South East Suffolk.

"Edge Land is very much a community project," says landscape writer Elizabeth Ferretti, one of the workshop leads

"we're looking forward to sharing our deep-rooted love of the Suffolk coast in the writing workshops, and we're grateful to the Suffolk & Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscapes Sustainable Development Fund for ensuring an accessible price of £6 per session. Whether you have previous writing experience or not, write fiction, non-fiction or poetry, all are welcome," she adds.

Places on the writing workshops can be booked via the Long Shop Museum website.

"With a maximum of 12 places per session, we're advising early booking," says Elizabeth Ferretti.



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LEISTON ALLOTMENT HOLDERS & GARDENERS ASSOCIATION - OCTOBER

October is just about here. This is not the month for gardeners to think that this is the start of a 'no season', when everything is asleep or dead. After any hot dry season, rain is welcome in short spells. Now the gardener's friend is frost. It can destroy tender plants, but usually these can be protected. Frost can also destroy many pests, also diseases – a few benefits for gardens in winter.

Vegetables: Harvest parsnips, but wait until after the first frost, as this turns the starch to sugar and they taste better. Harvest pumpkins, squash, beans and carrots. Any tomatoes outside will have had it after the first frost! Cut any bunches and put in greenhouse to finish ripening.

Fruit: Continue to harvest apples and pears as they ripen. Take care not to damage or bruise the fruit and only set aside the best fruits for storage. Clean up strawberry beds.

Flowers: Sow sweet peas indoors for early blooms next year. Keep the young plants in a cold frame to prevent 'leggy plants'.

Lawns: Clear away fallen leaves, aerate if not already done.

Greenhouse: Clean all glass inside and out. Clean staging and tidy up. Now put in a sulphur candle (a large greenhouse may need two candles) and keep vents and door closed overnight.

After this, bubble wrap can be used as insulation before returning any plants back inside.

Outside: Clear plots and beds which need clearing, and prepare for next year's crops to help get good results later.

Growing Tip

Whatever you grow, if you can run the beds from North to South you will give your crops even levels of sunlight!

Roderick Linsell

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2026



Following the VJ Day Commemoration at the Leiston Long Shop Museum on 15th August 2026, thoughts turn to the annual Remembrancetide campaign to raise funds for the RBL Poppy Appeal.

This year the house-to-house collections will take place between Saturday 24th October and Saturday 7th November

There will also be collectors in the Leiston Co-operative Store in the two weeks preceding Remembrance Sunday on 8th November.

I would welcome all offers of help with this year's campaign. Those who usually assist with the collections will be contacted nearer the time but new helpers are always needed.

The annual RBL Poppy Appeal helps to provide thousands of modern veterans, service men, women and families with vital advice and support. Your help, if only for one hour, will be much appreciated.

If you are able to offer help, please contact me, the honorary organiser for the Leiston and Sizewell Poppy Appeal. Mrs. Pat Carter, 42 Haylings Road, Leiston. IP16 4DN, tel: 01728 831852, email: pm42carter@gmail.com.

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SUFFOLK COUNTY MUSIC SERVICE



Suffolk County Music Service has enjoyed a flying start to the new academic year, with staff working hard to welcome hundreds of young musicians back to lessons and ensembles across the county.

September is always one of the busiest times of the year, and the Music Service team has been busy processing instrument hires, arranging lessons and supporting schools as children return to making music. From first-time beginners picking up an instrument to experienced young performers continuing their musical journey, the excitement for the new term is already evident. The start of the new term follows an exceptional summer for Suffolk's County Music Groups, with two ensembles returning from highly successful European tours with the Suffolk Youth Orchestra wowing Sweden and Suffolk Youth Wind Band delighting Spain.

Our young musicians represented Suffolk with professionalism, enthusiasm and outstanding musical talent, gaining invaluable experiences through performances and cultural activities.

The performances culminated in the County Music Groups' Gala Concert on Sunday 6 September at the renowned Snape Maltings, which brought together young performers and supporters for an inspiring showcase of music-making.

Attendees praised the quality of the performances, the commitment of the young musicians and the high standard achieved across all the ensembles.

Benjamin Chadwick, Head of Suffolk County Music Service, said:
"The dedication shown by our young people and staff has been remarkable."

"The European tours and Gala Concert demonstrated not only the exceptional musical talent we have in Suffolk, but also the confidence, teamwork and resilience that music helps to develop. We are incredibly proud of every young person who took part and are delighted to begin the new academic year on such a positive note."

With lessons underway and ensembles preparing for another exciting year of performances and opportunities, Suffolk County Music Service is looking forward to a successful and musical year ahead. Places are still available in two of our County Music Groups:

Suffolk Youth Wind Band
Suffolk Young Strings.

Please visit our website: www.suffolkcountymusicservice.co.uk/take-part, where you can learn more about our County Music Groups and the wide range of activities we offer your children and young people at various locations across Suffolk.

Follow us on our social media pages for more updates and find out how you can join in!

Facebook: [suffolkcountymusicserviceSCC](https://www.facebook.com/suffolkcountymusicserviceSCC)
Instagram: [suffolkcountymusicservice](https://www.instagram.com/suffolkcountymusicservice)

Photo: County Music Groups ©Suffolk County Music Service

LEISTON TOWN BOWLS

You snap your fingers and another year has gone, we are now well into September, where did 2026 bowling season go? Its been a great year, successful year, enjoyable year, we still need to build but we are closing in fast on our nearest competitors. Our first team finished 2nd in the Woodbridge league missing out by .05 of a point, in Saxmundham Division one we were runners-up again, in three wood Fynn league we came 5th and coming up at the bottom of the Bob Wright league.

In all leagues we are competitive. In the Bob Wright our committed bowlers enjoy the challenge, results don't justify their skills, with many games being lost only by the odd shot or two. The season closes with our Open Pairs championship, renamed the Peter Baggott Memorial Pairs Tournament.

We lost our dear Peter this year, a stalwart, year after year, maintaining the high standard of bowls green where bowlers from far and wide come back to play again and again. Mick learnt Peter's green keeping skills, providing a green he would have been proud of, attracting successful bowlers from, Ipswich, Eye and beyond. Winners were Pat Gilbert & Ali Leeks, runners up Richard Newson & Carl Johnson, with third place going to Matt & Ed Parker. Thanks to our team of ladies (refreshments) and the draw etc we were able to bank over £500.

2026 was a great season, with non-stop sunshine, only one cancelled game and one thorough soaking in a thunderstorm! Roll-on 2027! Reminder: Our AGM is on **Wednesday October 7th** at 7pm in the Bowls pavilion.

Ditcher

PROJECT UPDATE

OCTOBER 2026

We have awarded contracts for the main construction works to deliver the Two Village Bypass to family-owned Suffolk company Breheny Civil Engineering, and the contract for the Sizewell Link Road to Kier. Construction of the roads remains on schedule.

As part of our commitment to bring 60 per cent of our materials to site by train and sea, the new rail line that bypasses Leiston is now operational, with new level crossings at Buckleswood Road and Abbey Road in Leiston. The first commercial trains are now starting to arrive at site overnight to avoid disrupting the daytime passenger service, delivering materials and aggregates. We will be changing the weekly traffic management update to include train times and movements, Sizewell C related traffic

management, road closures and rail movements – sign up on the Sizewell C Works Tracker.

On Sizewell Beach, construction has begun to install support piles that will hold the Marine Bulk Import Facility (MBIF) structure in place in the seabed. Onshore, the temporary sea defence wall (783 metres) is now complete, and we are preparing to begin construction of the rock armour flood defences at the southern end of the site that will enhance protection for both Sizewell B and the Sizewell C site.

The Park and Ride work capacity continues to increase at the Wickham Market and Darsham sites, with more of our workers parking their cars and accessing our sites on Sizewell C buses. The roundabout at the park and ride in Darsham is complete, with the required traffic management now lifted at peak times and all local roads are open to all traffic.



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:

Community Forum

Thursday 22 October 18:00, at the Sizewell Visitors Centre

Northern Transport Forum

Wednesday 4 November 18:00, at the High Lodge, Darsham

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.



'ONCE UPON A TIME IN SUFFOLK'

Suffolk folklore comes to life as *Once Upon a Time in Suffolk* hits the cinemascreens - by John West

Suffolk has long been regarded as one of England's most mysterious counties, where history, folklore and superstition are woven into the landscape. From the phantom hound Black Shuck to the Green Children of Woolpit, its legends provided the inspiration for *'Once Upon a Time in Suffolk'*, an anthology created by Julien Mery, Matthew McGuchan and Nick Woolgar of FILM Suffolk.

The project began in spring 2023 with an open call for short-film scripts. More than 100 submissions were received and assessed by a panel of producers, filmmakers and script specialists.

Following development, directors and cinematographers joined the project, with everyone working voluntarily around their professional and personal commitments.

A successful crowdfunding campaign enabled principal photography to begin in summer 2024. Filming took place across Suffolk, supported by hundreds of local people who contributed as cast, crew, location owners, service providers and supporters. Two years of post-production followed, encompassing editing, sound, music, visual effects and additional photography.

The resulting anthology brings together several very different tales.

'Crossing the Earth' follows a grieving boy who believes a local sculpture can heal his fractured family, with Yoxford providing the main setting. In *'The Painters'*, a young John Constable encounters the fairy-tale princess Rapunzel, against the backdrop of Dedham. *'Mawhini'* sees a property developer confront a sinister cult protecting an ancient scarecrow, with Offton providing the setting.

'Briar and Daughter' centres on a dangerous fairy bargain involving a child and was shot in Ipswich. In *'A Mid-Suffolk Night's Dream'*, mischievous fairies disrupt an amateur production of Shakespeare, with Great Finborough standing in for the action. *'Red'* offers a darkly comic twist on Little Red Riding Hood, with Lowestoft featuring prominently, while *'Widdershins'* takes a young girl into Suffolk's past to save her brother's future, journeying through Playford and Nacton Shore. Finally, *'Ethel'* explores the legend of the Wild Man of Orford, with locations around Woodbridge and Felixstowe.

'Once Upon a Time in Suffolk' received its world premiere at Abbeygate Cinema, Bury St Edmunds, on 4 September. Further screenings are being held across East Anglia. Details are available via linktr.ee/ouatis and FILM Suffolk's Facebook page. A streaming release is planned for 2027.



FLIPSIDE FESTIVAL

Booker Prize-winning novelist Samantha Harvey, celebrated travel writer Colin Thubron and writer and biographer Sara Wheeler are among the writers coming to Framlingham on **Saturday 3 October** for the 2026 FlipSide Festival.

Taking place at the historic Old Theatre from 10am to 6pm, this year's festival, Travels in Time and Space, explores journeys, migration, language, memory and the ways books carry us through place and time.

From the origins of language to the experience of migration; from landscapes that inspire fiction to journeys across continents and into inner worlds, FlipSide 2026 will bring an exceptional range of perspectives to Suffolk.

The programme features:

- Laura Spinney, science writer and author of *Proto: How One Ancient Language went Global*, exploring the origins and movement of language in *Words in Motion*.
- Colin Thubron, travel writer, novelist and past president of the Royal Society of Literature, discussing the relationship between place, fiction and fact in *Passage to Page*. His latest novel, *Passage*, was published in August 2026.
- Colin Grant, historian and Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, on *What We Leave We Carry*, his oral history of migration to Britain, published this year.

- Samantha Harvey, whose novel *Orbital* won the 2024 Booker Prize, in conversation with Dan Franklin, FlipSide trustee and former publishing director of Jonathan Cape, about *Other Worlds*, from outer space to the landscapes of the inner life.
- Sara Wheeler, travel writer and biographer, whose *Jan Morris: A Life* was published this year, in conversation with novelist and biographer Lucy Hughes-Hallett about the life and writing of Jan Morris.
- Blake Morrison and Ian Patterson, two leading poets, critics and memoirists in conversation about the connections between reading, writing and the lives we make through books.

The day will be introduced and hosted by FlipSide's curator Gareth Evans.

Chris Maloney, Chair of FlipSide Trustees, said: "We've brought together writers who come at the idea of travel from completely different directions – from language and migration to fiction, memory and outer space."

"It's an extraordinary group of people to have together for one day in Framlingham. The programme takes the idea of a journey well beyond just moving from place to place."

Tickets, including full-day, half-day and low-price options, are now on sale. Full programme and booking information: <https://www.flipsideuk.org/>

THE IRIS PROTOCOL

My name is Joe Love, a filmmaker and recent Film graduate. I grew up in Ipswich and attended Suffolk One before going on to study Film at Solent University.

I recently wrote and directed '*The Iris Protocol*', an independent short film which was partly filmed at Bentwaters Park near Woodbridge. The film has already received recognition at my university's film awards, where it won Best Film and Best Producing, and it has now been selected to screen as part of the Suffolk Shorts – EAST x EAST Festival. I'll also be taking part in a Q&A following the screening on **22 October at the Riverside, Woodbridge**, giving audiences the opportunity to hear more about the film and its production.

'*The Iris Protocol*' is a dark post-apocalyptic drama following 17-year-old Iris, who has spent years living underground with her father following an unexplained catastrophe.

What initially appears to be a story about survival gradually becomes something much darker, exploring themes of control, trust and conformity.

A significant portion of the film was shot at the former RAF Bentwaters site, making Suffolk an important part of the film both behind and in front of the camera and as someone who grew up in Ipswich, it's particularly exciting for me to now have a film I wrote and directed returning to the Suffolk area to be screened as part of a local festival.



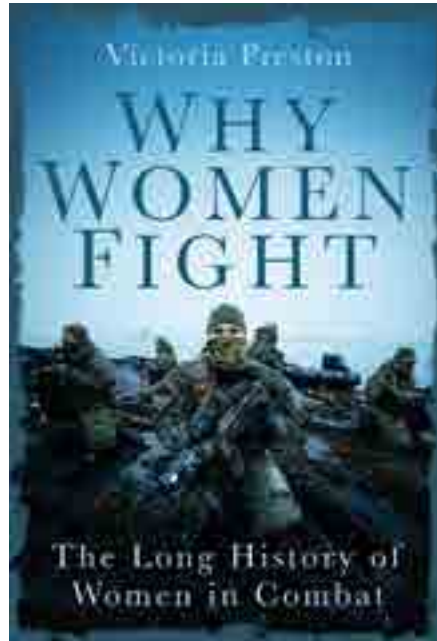
WHY WOMEN FIGHT – THE LONG HISTORY OF WOMEN IN COMBAT

I've been researching women in war for several years now and my new book 'Why Women Fight – The Long History of Women in Combat' was published by the History Press this summer. It tells of women throughout history, starting in ancient Babylon and concluding with the women fighting in Ukraine today, including some trained here in East Anglia.

I wanted to find out more about women from this region who served both on and off the battlefield. Some, like Diana Youngman (nee Gemmell), from Charsfield, served as a cryptanalyst at the top-secret Bletchley Park without any expectation of glory, only sharing her story decades later.

Diana's daughter Lulu recalled how her mother worked without thanks or feedback. *"Neither was she allowed to discuss the task with others. She learned to work in silence and simply get on with the job."*

She said it was a lonely and thankless business, but the women at Bletchley knew they were making an important contribution. That's what kept them at it."



Others, like Sue Ryder, who lived in Cavendish, was a volunteer with the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in WWII and a member of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, (known as the FANY). As the FANY were not constrained by rules which prevented military women from going behind enemy lines, several worked as wireless operators in occupied France and Poland, at enormous personal risk.

Next time you pass a Sue Ryder charity shop, think of her, and of Diana Youngman and the other valiant Suffolk women who helped keep us safe through Britain's darkest hours.

Victoria Preston

Victoria Preston will be discussing the topic of women and war at the Social Bar in Saxmundham in October. Visit: www.visitsocialbar.com for details. Victoria will also be at Aldeburgh Book shop at 6pm on **Friday 13th November**.

HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES AT SOUTHWOLD ARTS CENTRE

Science week is returning to Southwold Arts Centre this year with some old favourites as well as new workshops.

Monday 26th, 11am & 1.30pm:

An entertaining science magic show revealing the science and engineering behind spectacular magic tricks, with demonstrations that encourage curiosity, observation and experimentation.

Tuesday 27th @ 11am: Halloween Science Experiments Workshop

Tuesday 27th @ 1.30pm: A fun mix of storytelling, magic, adventure and animal facts, ending with a special Halloween treat.

Wednesday 28th, 11am & 1.30pm:

A hands-on workshop for ages 6–10 exploring acids, alkalis and chemical reactions through colourful experiments using everyday substances.

Thursday 29th, 11am & 1.30pm: Step inside the award-winning Auriga Star Dome for an immersive, presenter-led journey through planets, stars, galaxies and the wider universe.

Friday 30th, 11am & 1.30pm: Fun, hands-on STEM workshop exploring space science through gesture-controlled robots, water tornadoes and glow-in-the-dark constellation building. Children will develop scientific enquiry, creativity and problem-solving skills while learning about forces, motion and our solar system.

For the older scientist we have two evening talks:

Tuesday 27th @ 7.30pm: A talk by Jim Laws on Colour Music. Explore the connection between music and colour in this practical session using theatrical lighting techniques to visually express the emotions of music.

Thursday 29th @ 7.30pm: A talk by Professor Michael Rowan-Robinson who will explore the role of dust and molecular cocoons surrounding stars, the Sun and Earth, from the 1815 Tambora eruption to nuclear winter and climate change.

The talk connects discoveries in astronomy with the urgent challenge of reaching net zero.

Day workshops are just £3 per person, Evening talks £5 per person. Booking advisable at Southwold Arts Centre. Tel: 01502 722572; Email: info@southwoldartscentre.co.uk

child. Limited space, book your place today!

Tel: 01502 442817; Email: southwold.library@suffolk.gov.uk; Visit: www.ticketsource.co.uk/southwoldlibrary

Saturday 28 November 7.00pm
Snape Maltings Concert Hall

Aldeburgh Music Club presents

CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

BY JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Aldeburgh Music Club Choir

Elenor Bowers-Jolley *soprano* Diana Moore *mezzo soprano*
Jonathan Hanley *tenor* Mark Saberton *bass*

Suffolk Baroque Players
Tom Appleton *conductor*



Tickets £15, £12, £20, £10
Under 18s half price
Tickets available from:
www.brittenpearsarts.org

Aldeburgh Music Club
Incorporated in England, Registered Office: 11, Church Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP20 9EJ



Presents J.S. Bach's **CHRISTMAS ORATORIO**

at Snape Maltings Concert Hall

Saturday 28th November at 7pm

Following their sell-out performance of Messiah at Snape Maltings Concert Hall last year, **ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB** return to Snape on 28th November with another great choral masterwork for Christmas, J.S. Bach's **CHRISTMAS ORATORIO**.

Written in 1734, the Oratorio tells the story of Christmas - the birth of Jesus in a manger, the announcement of the birth by the Angels, the visit of the shepherds, and the arrival of the Wise Men with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Telling this eternal story, the choir will be accompanied by the Suffolk Baroque Players, and conducted by their musical director, Tom Appleton, with a great line up of professional soloists - Elenor Bowers-Jolley (soprano), Diana Moore (mezzo soprano), Jonathan Hanley (tenor) and Mark Saberton (bass).

Tickets for the concert, which starts at 7pm, are available from Snape Maltings Box Office, or online at:
www.brittenpearsarts.org.

Tickets for under-18s are half price.

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FRAMLINGHAM AND SAXMUNDHAM CATS PROTECTION

Next year sees the start of celebrations for Cats Protection's 100th Anniversary and to celebrate this milestone, one of our volunteers, Kim is taking on a huge challenge, running 100 km in 100 days, which she started on 1 September 2026.

Kim is a dedicated fosterer, microchip secretary, and fundraising volunteer for the Framlingham & Saxmundham branch.

Every penny raised by her will go directly to helping our local cats and kittens receive the care, safety, and love they deserve. If you can spare a donation, big or small, you'll be supporting cats who need us more than ever. Find out more and donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/kim100kmin100d>



Kim with her cat Figgy

Dates for your diary: Stock up on Christmas cards and gifts at our festive events:

Saturday, 7 November: Fram & Sax Christmas Fair, Reydon Village Hall, 10am-1pm

Saturday, 14 November: Fram & Sax Christmas Fair, Fromus Centre, Saxmundham 10am-12noon

Tuesday, 17 November: Leading Lives Coffee Morning, Fromus Centre, Saxmundham 10am-12noon

Cats Looking for Homes: Black and black and white cats are often the hardest to home, even though they are every bit as adorable as their more colourful cousins.

Underneath their sleek coats, they are just as cheeky, lovable, affectionate, playful, and full of fun. These are just a few of the gorgeous monochrome cats currently looking for new homes.

Please don't overlook them! 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 for more information about the many ways you can support us. Also find us on Facebook and Instagram



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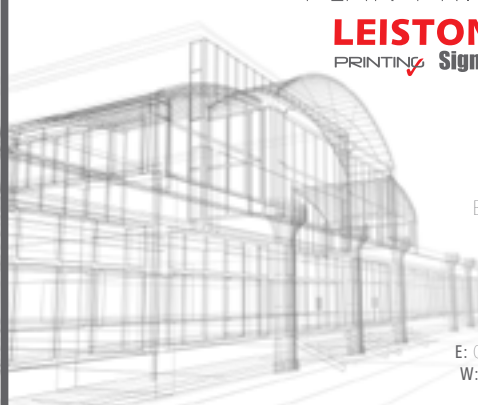
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WOODBIDGE & MELTON SOCIETY

Talk: *'Protect and Survive: Cold War Archaeology of East Anglia'* By Dr Rik Hoggett

The next Woodbridge & Melton Society talk will be Dr Rik Hoggett, heritage consultant, describing the extent and impact of the secret activities in this area during the Cold War at The Quay Church, Woodbridge, on **Wednesday 7th Oct 2026**, at 7:30pm. Entry for members of the Society is Free, Non-members are very welcome, just £5 on the door. Bring your friends along.

East Anglia was home to a disproportionately large part of Britain's infrastructure for a potential nuclear war. It included V-bomber bases, one of the country's two nuclear bomb stores, Thor missile sites, Royal Observer Corps bunkers and much more.

This talk examines the archaeological evidence for the Cold War in East Anglia, with a particular emphasis on south-east Suffolk, and places it into its national context.

Dr Richard Hoggett is a freelance heritage consultant, lecturer and writer with over 25 years' experience in the academic, commercial and local authority heritage sectors. He speaks regularly on a wide range of archaeological and historical subjects to groups and societies across the eastern region, is an elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

More details: WoodbridgeAndMeltonSociety.org.uk

Cliff Hoppitt

www.woodbridgeandmeltonsociety.org.uk

Orford Ness



BAWDSEY RADAR MUSEUM

The Block continues to open on Thursdays and Sundays until the end of October. We then have a rest over the winter period. 2026 has been a really busy year with very high visitor numbers.

We hope to again be offering conducted tours of the former RAF Bawdsey site and Bawdsey Manor over the winter period. Details and booking availability will appear on our website as and when confirmed.

There will also be a fundraising general knowledge quiz on **Friday 13th November** starting at 7.30pm at Newbourne Village Hall. Teams of up to 6 people would be very welcome. Again, further details will appear on our website nearer the time.

Finally, series 2 of the acclaimed podcast series 'Echoes of Bawdsey' is now available on the website and from wherever you stream your podcasts.

New volunteers will always be welcome at the Museum. If you are interested in finding out more, then please contact the number below or see our website.

Further details of all our activities may be found on our website: www.bawdseyradar.org.uk

For more information contact info@bawdseyradar.org.uk or phone 07821 162879.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



OCT 8 Sunset Stroll at RSPB Minsmere. Experience Minsmere at the best time of day. With luck, thousands of starlings will gather in their amazing swirling flocks, or a dozen or so Marsh Harriers will settle to roost in the reeds. As darkness gathers, we'll turn detective and use technology to help us to identify Minsmere's night-time residents. Please bring a torch as it will be dark when these walks finish. 4.30 – 7pm. Visit: www.rspb.org.uk

OCT 11 Alde Valley Ramblers. Orford, Gedgrave 7.3 mile walk. Meet at Market Hill Square off B1084 Front Street at 10am. Free parking on the streets nearby or at Orford Quay car park paying. TM421499. For more details visit our website at www.aldevalleyramblers.org.uk.

OCT 18 Flea Market. Collectables, vintage, good quality pre-loved items and affordable antiques. Something for everyone! 10am – 3pm at Westleton Village Hall, The Street, Westleton. IP17 3AD. 50p entry. Under 16s free. Light refreshments available. Enquiries: Tel: 01728 648354.

OCT 25 Alde Valley Ramblers. Wenhaston five commons walk 5.2 mile walk. Meet at Wenhaston Village Hall, Narrow Way off The Street, Wenhaston at 10am TM425754. For more details visit our website at www.aldevalleyramblers.org.uk.

OCT 26 Lunchtime Classical Concert Series. The highly successful Lunchtime Classics Concert Series in aid of Save the Children continues with a Birthday Concert with family and friends to include works by Bach, Beethoven and Berlioz, played by Helen Stanley (Violin) and Nadia Lasserson (Piano). Admission is free, with a retiring collection for Save the Children. All very welcome. 12 noon at Aldeburgh Parish Church

OCT 28 Free Health Walk at RSPB Minsmere. Meet like-minded people on a lovely walk around Minsmere. During the Health Walk access to the reserve will be free. We will take a coastal, woodland or reedbed route. No dogs allowed, except assistance dogs on a short lead. Part of the One Life Suffolk health walks programme. 11am – 12.30pm. Email: minsmerer@rspb.org.uk, phone: 01728 648281

NOV 4 Leiston Festival of Remembrance. Tickets £7, under 18s free, available from Leiston Film Theatre. All proceeds to The Poppy Appeal. 7.30pm at Leiston Film Theatre, IP16 4BZ.

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

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Contacts/advertisers/Editorial:

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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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