

# WICKHAM MARKET PARISH NEWS

IP180

February 2024

**YOUR FREE NEWS AND  
INFORMATION BOOKLET**

From  
Wickham Market Parish Council

# Wickham Market Parish Council

Meets on the third Monday alternate months

Gemma Dempsey-Gray (Chair)  
David Chenery (Vice Chair)  
Robin Cooke  
Gloria Creasey  
John Day  
Niki Fowler  
Kelvin Gray

Ivor French  
John Horsnell  
Pauline Huggins  
Dick Jenkinson



## Contact us:

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For more information: <https://wickhammarketpc.com/>



Social Media

- Wickham Market Parish Council Suffolk
- @WickhamMarketPC
- Wickham Market Parish Council updates
- wickhammarketparishsocials

## Parish Council Committees and Groups

**Finance & General Purpose Committee:** Meets on the first Monday alternate months. Responsible for grants and managing financial reporting and budgets.

**Environment & Leisure Committee:** Meets on the second Monday alternate months and responsibilities include the Cemetery, Allotments and Footpaths.

**Planning Committee:** Meets as required and reviews and comments on all planning applications for the Parish.

**Staffing and Personnel Committee:** Meets as required and advises the council on all employment matters.

**Sizewell C Committee:** Advises the Council on the impact of Sizewell C.

**Climate Change Working Group:** Responsible for the Climate Action Strategy and advising the Council on Climate Change actions.

**Village Hall Working Group:** Working with the Village Hall Trustees to manage the hall

## WICKHAM MARKET ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Friday 12 April 2024

Village Hall

7pm refreshments available

7.30 start

Everyone welcome

Come and see what village organisations have been doing

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## WICKHAM MARKET PARISH NEWS

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## WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

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[clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

Please email your text  
with good quality pictures  
as separate attachments

# IN AND AROUND WICKHAM MARKET

Gemma Dempsey-Gray

## CHRISTMAS TREES

I am so proud of the volunteers that we have in Wickham Market, who come out in the freezing cold, to help make our village look pretty. Thank you to John Horsnell for his great co-ordination bringing us together to get the Christmas trees erected, including chopping them all down to fit in the brackets, and then coming back a week later to go around and turn each small tree lights on individually.



Plus you then gathered a team to help take them all down again in early January!! Amazing work by all, and a special thank you to Turner for your help as well, great to see the youth getting involved.



## COMMUNITY CHOIR

We had another great outing this Winter at our Christmas Market, we came and sang numerous festive numbers to get everyone into the spirit of things. We have grown in numbers again over this last term, which is great! We would love to see even

more people join us, we are offering a free choir for our community to bring us together, so please come along! We meet term time, Wednesday evenings, between 8pm and 9pm in Wickham Market Village Hall.

A much smaller group of us went to sing a few songs at Wickham House for some of the residents there, which was nice to have the opportunity to do, so thank you to the hard-working staff there.



## CHRISTMAS MARKET

We had another fabulous day at the annual Christmas market this year.

Well done to Alison, our deputy clerk on organising another successful market for us.



And another well done to Al, our Clerk, for taking the training to allow him to take care of our road closures for us for all future events!



The Parish Council had a stand where we were giving out hot spiced apple drinks and mince pies. Lots of people enjoyed the hot spiced apple, so here is the (not very) secret recipe! Apple juice, brown sugar and the amazing Schwartz Mulled Cider Spice sachets! Simple yet very tasty and very festive! A massive thank you to all who came and enjoyed the market, the market traders and once again, all you wonderful volunteers who came and helped in the minus degree weather.

## LITTER COLLECTION WALK

We went out for a Litter collection walk on Saturday 25th November, 3 of us braced ourselves for the horribly cold wind and managed to pick up so much litter!

We found lots of discarded alcohol cans and bottles, plus lots of spent vapes and cigarette butts around the village hall and toilet blocks. Both areas have bins, please use them. Bushes aren't bins!

Please join us for our next Litter collection walk on Saturday 23rd March, meeting outside the sheds at the rear of the village hall at 10am.





## THE VILLAGE HALL

**Hello there Wickham Market, we hope that we bring you good news!**

We have been formulating a plan over the last few months, on top of the years of hard work done by so many, on a path for our beloved, Village Hall. We have listened and we are aware that many of you, really love the Village Hall we have. You have felt frustrated at the speed in which things were moving to make better use of the space we have here. We think that we have found a way to remedy these situations!



We would like to confirm a programme of modernisation, meaning that works can be done in stages, as and when the money is available. This means that we may be able to make some changes quite quickly!

The Parish Council and the Village Hall CIO have been meeting, and more recently, representatives from East Suffolk Council, to focus our attention on the future of the Village Hall. There are of course items that will need to be ironed out as with any project, but we believe that with the right guidance and team supporting us, we will be able to deliver on a much better shared community space.

We would always welcome your views on anything to do with our lovely village, so feel free to email us on [clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com) with any comments you may have.

We would like to thank John H and David C, for their hours of work on getting the paperwork ready for us to be able to get this far. Volunteers like these, are hard to come by.

**Gemma Dempsey-Gray**

# SPOTLIGHT

On Ray  
Lewis



**Hello to you Ray, thank you for allowing us to shine our spotlight on you for this edition of the Parish News.**

*Please could you introduce yourself to us, and tell us a little bit about yourself and your history in Wickham Market?*

My life in Wickham began in 1980 when I was offered promotion and a career move to BT Adastral Park. I had previously worked in the cities of Liverpool and Manchester so coming to sleepy Suffolk was a bit of a shock at first for a city boy like me. Looking for somewhere to live was the number one priority for me and my wife and young family. We needed to find somewhere not too far away from Martlesham, so I was able to get to work easily. I remember us getting a map out and drawing a 10-mile radius circle around Martlesham and we started house hunting for anything within that circle. We didn't search for long and were very fortunate to find Lynn House on the market. It was well out of our price range, and maxed out our mortgage, but we fell in love with it and just had to have it. At the time, it felt that Lynn House and Wickham wanted us to live here.

Lynn House needed so much work doing to it, and I recall going to work each day and coming home in the evenings and having to start work on the house. Weekends were similarly taken up with restoration work. This went on for several years, but we worked our way through all the jobs and still managed to find time to make new friends and get involved in Wickham life.

*We are always seeing you around the village and involved in a range of activities, helping where you can. Can you tell us a little about your projects and why you volunteer so much of your time?*

I have long held an interest in church bell ringing but never had an opportunity to have a go, and soon after moving to Wickham I was chatting to a couple of bellringers, Ernie Steward and Ted Tindale-Biscoe, who were trying to recruit new ringers for the soon to be restored bells at All Saints. The bells had been out of action for several years and they no longer had a band to ring them. So along with a few others, I volunteered to learn to ring and was trained at Easton church. After 6 months, we were sufficiently competent to be allowed to ring for the dedication service of the newly rehung bells on All Saints Day, 1980. This was a major milestone for me and the start of a long love affair with bellringing. As Tower Captain, I really enjoy teaching others to ring church bells. So, if you know of someone who is interested, then please contact me.

My other passions are sailing and the RNLI. When we moved to Wickham, I brought with me, my 14-foot dinghy and began sailing it on the local rivers with my family. I swapped my dinghy for a small yacht a few years ago which I now keep on a mooring on the river at Woodbridge and sail it whenever I can.

My passion for the RNLI started in Llandudno where my uncle was Coxswain of the lifeboat there. As a young boy, I loved the sea and boats, and he used to take me round the lifeboat and the boathouse. I can remember witnessing the lifeboat being launched from the beach on a rescue mission and see it return later with lives it has saved. It wasn't until we moved to Wickham, and I resumed sailing, that it rekindled my interest in the RNLI, and I joined the committee of RNLI Woodbridge Branch of which I am now Secretary. I have now been a member of the Branch for over 35 years and have recently been honoured to receive a gold award and a long service medal from the RNLI.

Closer to home, I have been involved in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan and have been on the committee since its inception in 2015. After the successful referendum result, the plan has now been 'made' and is to be used by ESC when making decisions on planning applications in the area.

I am also one of six trustees of the Wickham Market Partnership which is a charity that was set up in 2002 to improve Wickham Market and surrounding areas. It has enabled and supported many local projects and initiatives since it was formed most notably the setting up of the Library and Resource Centre, a web hosting service, the Men's Shed, the Wickham Market Round Robin, and moving the Archive Centre to a new location in the garden of the Resource Centre. I have been a regular volunteer at the library for over 10 years now where I offer free IT support, problem solving and advice.

Last but not least. I have an allotment on the Glebe and spend as much time as I can tending my plot. Along with the joy of growing your own food and flowers, it's a great way to stay fit and healthy and to socialise with fellow ploholders. My wife would say that I spend more time yacking than I do gardening! And she's probably right! I am on the Allotment Association committee as secretary. If you know of anyone looking for an allotment, then please contact me.

*How would you describe Wickham Market and what it means to you, and the volunteers that we cherish here?*

We have now lived in Wickham for 44 years, and we have genuinely loved every one of those years and been very happy here. My two girls have grown up here, went to primary school here, and later caught the bus to Thomas Mills. And now my grandchildren are following the same path. There is so much going on for people to do and get involved with. It is a shame that more people don't come forward to get involved and volunteer. They are missing out.

*Lastly, we'd love you to share anything else we should know and an inspirational quote that you like to fall back on....*

For me, I am a great believer in the power of positive thinking and Norman Vincent Peale's quote says it all. "The way to happiness: Keep your heart free from hate, your mind from worry. Live simply, expect little, give much. Fill your life with love. Scatter sunshine. Forget self, think of others. Do as you would be done by."

# PARISH ENVIRONMENT GROUP AND THE GREEN GYM

Our informal group of volunteers have been busy working around the village with planting projects, young tree care, and planting the 500 daffodil bulbs supplied by East Suffolk Council.

Over the next two months we will continue adding trees to the new community wood in Pettistree: The Java Lodge Spinney. The spinney at the end of the Green Lane track off Chapel Lane is continuing to receive our care and more trees will be added very soon.



Some of the trees planted are now well established, one day they will be landscape features, providing havens and corridors for birds and wildlife, adding to local biodiversity and enhancing the environment and local climate of the Parishes.



On Sunday 7th January working at the Simons Cross sports field, I was reminded how many years young trees need our attention. After 25 years the trees still need our care, maintaining, removing plastic, pruning, and adding more trees. A verdant line of oak, ash, chestnut, cherry, plum, spindle, hawthorn, blackthorn, holly, hazel, pop-

lar, and field maple are making a shelter belt for the football and tennis players and a fabulous habitat and corridor for birds and bees.

Sadly, our green spaces attract litter! A determined volunteer filled three large bags of litter on Sunday from the field and around the trees and seats. What a shame people don't use the bins provided or take their rubbish home!

Most work parties are held at the weekend (Saturdays and Sunday mornings), but some are held on weekdays. We aim to enjoy the time outside and help the environment in good company. All ages welcome!



In addition, two-hour work parties are held in the Parish Cemetery on the last Thursday of each month at 10am. Tasks includes tidy ups, tree TLC and mulching, hedge, wild flower management and adding bulbs.

Look out for the early spring drifts of snowdrops planted over the last 25 years



The drifts of daffodils (Narcissi Carlton) should be seen flowering in Spring at the Cemetery, the Pightle Green and at the end of Broad Way.

If you wish to get involved, growing trees, planting, caring, ideas for the future and any donations please get in touch!

Look out for updates on specific dates via the Wickham News round robin (email: [news@wickhammarket.co.uk](mailto:news@wickhammarket.co.uk)) and local Facebook pages.

Contact Anne Westover Tree Warden (with Sonya Exton) for further information and to find out how you can help.  
07586 266553 and  
01728 747689.

Email:  
[ennaoverwest@btinternet.com](mailto:ennaoverwest@btinternet.com)

**Anne Westover**



# WICKHAM MARKET 73RD ANNUAL VILLAGE SHOW

Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th August 2024,  
Village Hall, Save the date!



We look forward to the Wickham Market Annual Village Show this summer and hope this year will again prove popular amongst the community. Last year saw a record 82 entrants and 370 entries with an amazing colourful and creative display in the hall!



We have decided on the theme of BEES this year. Bees are beautiful and an essential part of a healthy and biodiverse environment. We must encourage them with flowery corridors to ensure that they can pollinate flowers and help produce the food, fruit and vegetables that we eat. We felt it would be appropriate to celebrate them once again.

The Bee theme will be incorporated into classes throughout the various categories in the show, children's classes, photography, floral art, handicrafts, arts and cookery.

We will make an announcement when the class schedule and entry forms are available for residents both local and further afield.

This event could not happen without our amazing team of volunteers so please let us know if you would like to help in any way this year.

The 2024 Village Show team: Anne Westover, John Horsnell, Gloria Creasey, Rosemary Hammond-West, Ali

Montgomery, Alison Calvesbert-Reardon, Philip Wilsher, Sue Williams and Jenny Labbett.  
Call 07586 266553 or 01728 747689

Look out for updates in the Wickham News round robin (emails) and our WM Village Show Facebook Group.

**Anne Westover**

## WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Your LOCAL Business and Service pull out

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

SCAN HERE TO ACCESS ONLINE



### ALL IN AUTO SERVICES

Vehicle service and maintenance  
Riverside View Industrial estate  
01728 746999  
[allinautoservices@btconnect.com](mailto:allinautoservices@btconnect.com)

### BAYFIELDS DIGITAL

TV Aerials, Satellite TV, WiFi, CCTV  
9 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
01728 745745  
[www.bayfieldsdigital.com](http://www.bayfieldsdigital.com)

### BELLISSIMA BEAUTY

Beauty treatments/gifts  
46 High Street 01728 746981  
[www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk](http://www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk)

### THE BENGAL

Indian Restaurant/Takeaway  
70 High Street 01728 747767  
[www.the-bengal.co.uk](http://www.the-bengal.co.uk)

### BLUE CROSS TEXTILES

Textiles, lampshades, curtains, blinds  
& fabric designs,  
179C High Street 01473 487844  
[www.bluecrocostextiles.com](http://www.bluecrocostextiles.com)

### CAFÉ 46

Cakes, coffee, lunch and more  
46 High Street 01728 746690  
[www.cafe46.co.uk](http://www.cafe46.co.uk)

### COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET

14-18 High Street 01728 746313  
[www.coop.co.uk](http://www.coop.co.uk)

### EAST ANGLIAN TRADITIONAL ART CENTRE

48 High Street 01728 747050  
[www.eatac.co.uk](http://www.eatac.co.uk)

### THE FLAMING FRYER

Fish & Chips  
75 High Street 01728 46361

### HAIR AFFAIR

Hairdressers  
73 High Street 01728 746616

### PETER HALL FLOORING

34 High Street 01728 746416  
[www.peterhallflooring.com](http://www.peterhallflooring.com)

### INSPIRATIONS

Wickham Market Unique products  
75 High Street 01728 747577  
[www.wminspirations.co.uk](http://www.wminspirations.co.uk)

### K C AUTO SERVICES

MOT and vehicle maintenance  
Riverside View Industrial estate  
01728 747279 / 07747 831535

### LILY CHRISTINA

Bridal Collection (by appt only)  
77B High Street 07717 448509  
[www.lilychristinabridal.com](http://www.lilychristinabridal.com)

### MORRISONS DAILY

Convenience Store  
79A High Street 01728 747413  
[www.morrisons.com](http://www.morrisons.com)

If you have a business located in Wickham Market and would like to list your details here FOR FREE, please let me know: [clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)



# LET'S KEEP IT LOCAL!

## THE NEW PEACH BOWER

Chinese Restaurant/Takeaway  
56 High Street 01728 747901  
[www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk](http://www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk)

## NR RESTORATIONS

Property renovations, refurbishments.  
Nathan Reay 07432 241101  
nrrestorations@icloud.com

## NULIFE FURNISHINGS

Curtains, blinds, soft furnishings, upholstery  
Riverside View Industrial estate  
01728 747745

## OFFSET FILMS

Film and Video Production  
179D High Street. 01473 598669  
[www.offsetfilms.co.uk](http://www.offsetfilms.co.uk)

## OLD SCHOOL ANTIQUES

Unit 1, Riverside View IP13 0TA  
01728 746700  
[www.theoldschoolantiques.co.uk](http://www.theoldschoolantiques.co.uk)

## R & S HARDWARE AND GARDEN

62 High Street 01728 747394

## E R & R T RACKHAM LTD

Solid fuel & animal feed merchants  
Deben Mills IP13 0RG  
01728 746207 [www.rackhamltd.co.uk](http://www.rackhamltd.co.uk)

## REBECCA'S REFLEXOLOGY AND WELLNESS

32 High Street. 07845 599256  
[www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk](http://www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk)

## E W REVETT & SON

Butchery/Fine food and wine  
81 High Street 01728 746263  
[www.revett.co.uk](http://www.revett.co.uk)

## ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE

Charity Shop 54 High Street  
[www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk](http://www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk)

## SAXON VETS

22 High Street 01728 747427  
[www.saxonvets.com](http://www.saxonvets.com)

## ANNA SHAND

Chiroprapist / Podiatrist  
64 High Street 01728 745010

## SOUTH EAST ANTIQUES

Buy, Sell & Value Antiques & Jewellery  
Unit 7, Riverside View, IP13 0TA  
[www.southeastantiques.co.uk](http://www.southeastantiques.co.uk)

## SVRC DOG WASH

Riverside View industrial estate  
07921 586339

## TEA POT TEA ROOMS

Dine-in/Takeaway  
70A High Street 01728 748079

## VALLEY FARM EQUESTRIAN LEISURE

Horse Riding, Visitor Centre, Holiday Lodge, Camping  
<https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/>

## WICKHAM MARKET DENTAL CLINIC

2 Crown House 01728 746222  
[www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk)

## WICKHAM MARKET PHARMACY

68 High Street 01728 746267

## WICKHAM MARKET POST OFFICE

and Stores  
36 High Street 01728 746201

# EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**FALLEN TREES:** 0345 606 6171

**HIGHWAY FLOODING:** SCC  
0345 606 6171 or 0300 1235000  
[www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)

**STREET CLEANING/CLEARING:**  
0333 016 2000

**POWER CUTS:** Power Networks call:  
105 or 999

**DANGEROUS STRUCTURES:**  
01394 444 219 or 0800 440 2516

**MANHOLE PROBLEMS** that are considered an emergency:  
0345 606 6171

**WATER LEAKS:** Anglian Water: 24/7  
0345 145 145

**EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL** Emergency out of Hours: 0800 440 2516

# USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

**CITIZENS ADVICE EAST SUFFOLK:**  
14 Colonial House, Station Rd, Leiston IP16 4JD  
Open Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 10 - 2 pm

**Wickham Market drop in service:**  
Resource Centre (next to the Library)  
Tuesday 1.30 - 3.30 pm.  
[www.leistoncab.org](http://www.leistoncab.org)  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)  
01728 832193 or 0808 2787868 (Free)

**Disability Advice Service**  
(East Suffolk): 01394 387070

**Good Neighbour Scheme:** (GNS)  
Provides transport to medical and social appointments. Friendship and support with shopping, posting letters, filling forms, computers, dog walking, DIY, 07914 494108.

**Wellbeing Tree Café** at The Aspire Centre. Relax, chat and make new friends over a hot drink and cake.  
Wednesdays 10.30 - 12.30.

**Men's Shed:** Behind the Village Hall. Social and creative centre.  
Mondays 2 pm  
[www.wmshed.org.uk](http://www.wmshed.org.uk) 01728 747782

## INTERESTS

**Youth Football Club,** Simon's Cross Playing Field, IP13 0ST.  
Steph: 07778 880735.

**Football Club:** 01728 747731

**Sport and Social Club,** behind the Village Hall.  
[www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk)

**Tennis Club,** Simon's Cross Playing Field: 01728 746736

**Bowls Club** (playing Field):  
01728 746715

**Red Triangle Bowls Club:**  
01728 604491

**GLEVERING HALL IP13 0EU**  
**Badminton Club at 7:30**  
Thursday: Ladies / senior school students  
Monday: Men / senior school students  
07860 402288

Do you run a community service or club located in Wickham Market that could be added here? Contact:  
[clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)



## VILLAGE HALL

Lettings: Alison 07653 226760  
[lettings.wmvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:lettings.wmvillagehall@gmail.com)  
**Also at the Village Hall**

### Bingo

Tuesdays 6pm  
Tina Clack 01728 746846

**Community Club:** social activities and support for those new to the area, Friday mornings  
Val Mann: [val@penpal.me.uk](mailto:val@penpal.me.uk)  
01728 747078

### Gardening Club:

Monthly third Thursday 7:30 pm  
[wmgardenclub27@gmail.com](mailto:wmgardenclub27@gmail.com)

### Toddler and Baby Group

Wednesdays during school term  
9:00 - 11:30 (£2.50 per family)  
[stephanieworne@gmail.com](mailto:stephanieworne@gmail.com)

### WI

Second Thursday each month at 7.30

### Wickham Market Movies

3rd Saturday monthly  
19:00 for 19:30 start  
Pete Holden 01728 747229

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Crown Lane, IP13 0SA  
01728 748224  
[warden@wickhammarketchurch.org](mailto:warden@wickhammarketchurch.org)  
[www.wickhammarketchurch.org](http://www.wickhammarketchurch.org)

**Open Pantry:** Fresh food and household goods shared with anyone in need.  
Thursdays 9 - 11 am.

**Open Door:** coffee, tea, biscuits and friendship.  
Fridays 10am to noon

**Bell Ringing:** Monday Evenings  
from 7:30 - 9pm

## BEEHIVE BUILDING

 Crown Lane

**Rainbows** (age 4-7), **Brownies** (age 7-10), Linda Payne: 01728 604491  
**Guides** (age 10+)  
Jacquie Goodwin & Tracy Burch

## WICKHAM MARKET LIBRARY

Chapel Lane, IP13 0SD. Open  
Tuesday to Friday: 9.30 - 5.30  
Saturday: 10 - 12.30 then 1 - 4.30  
[help@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:help@suffolklibraries.co.uk)  
01728 747216

### Also at the Library:

#### Sewing Group:

Thursdays 1.30 - 4.30 pm.  
01728 747987

#### Lego at the Library:

Monthly third Saturday 10.30 - 4pm.

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB

01728 746915

## WM PRIMARY SCHOOL and LITTLE AVOCETS NURSERY:

01728 746405

**RESOURCE CENTRE** Chapel Lane, IP13 0SD: 01728 747782

### Resource Centre Gardening Group

2nd Wednesday monthly at 10am.  
Barbara Harrington: [sbharrington@outlook.com](mailto:sbharrington@outlook.com) or pop along on the day.

### ARCHIVE CENTRE:

Philip Tallent 01728 746058

## VALLEY FARM

**Pony Club** <https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/pony-club>

**Tots Pony Club** <https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots>

**Young Equestrians Club**  
<https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/young-equestrians>

## WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?

**SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL:** Highways, Recycling  
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/> 0345 606 6067

**Reporting any highways issue including:** potholes, street lights, drains, hedges, gritting, pavements <https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/>

**EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL:** Waste collection, Pay car parks, Planning  
<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/> 0333 016 2000

**Sally Noble** [sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)  
District Councillor for the Wickham Market Ward.

**WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL:** Cemetery, Playing Fields, Children's Play Area, Allotments, Markets, Footpaths (with SCC).

[footpaths@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:footpaths@wickhammarketpc.com)

<https://wickhammarketpc.com/>

[clerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:clerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COUNCIL SERVICES:

<https://wickhammarketpc.com/useful-links/>



## ALL SAINTS CHURCH

It was lovely to see so many from the village joining us at the Christmas services. Carol singing on the hill, children making Christingles at our Together@11 service, carol service and Christmas Day service were all full of joy and celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Easter will be celebrated at the end of March and we would love you to join us as we remember the death of Christ on the Cross on Good Friday and his rising again on Easter Day.

Our regular monthly pattern of services is:-

1st Sunday: 11.00 Communion

2nd Sunday: 11.00 Contemporary Service  
15.00 Oasis (Informal service with tea and cake)

3rd Sunday: 09.30 Communion  
10.30 Coffee/Tea & toast followed by an informal family service Together@11  
18.30 Praise and Prayer

4th Sunday 11.00 Contemporary Service with Testimonies

5th Sunday 11.00 Contemporary Service

Information about all services and other activities can be found on our web site,  
[www.wickhammarketchurch.org](http://www.wickhammarketchurch.org)



**Alison Elliott**

# WILD ABOUT WICKHAM

Welcome to the first edition of Wild about Wickham!

As we saw at our very cold festive market on the 2nd of December, winter has well and truly arrived.



We hope that you have had a wonderful break and wish you all the best for 2024. Just to mention that this time of year our wildlife rely on piles of leaves, hedging and log piles to hide under, and find food in, so please leave a wild area in your garden and think of the little things needing our support this winter.

Many of you took away our hedgehog hole surrounds that we gave out, in order to help our wildlife move from garden to garden without having to risk the roads and people.



We were very pleased with the number of families who responded favourably, and over 20 of the surrounds have found homes with local people who have made gaps in fencing or gates or dug a 13cm trench under their boundaries to enable wildlife to pass.



Here are some images our amazing fellow villagers have sent in, showing their new highway surrounds. Please take a moment to email us with your favourite image and the most voted for photo will receive a little gift!

If you want to see a new highway in action, here's a video showing a hedgehog finding a newly made hedgehog highway.

<https://youtu.be/av7WgBYxMgY>

Remember to keep leaving clean water out for wildlife, as if a hedgehog does hibernate then wake up, they need to hydrate and find food urgently. Puddles are often frozen at night or have traces of poison such as antifreeze in, which can kill all wildlife.

We will be doing more for the Biodiversity of our village over the coming months, with the support of our ES Councillor Sally Noble, so if you or your children would like to take part, please contact us [Niki.f@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:Niki.f@wickhammarketpc.com)

[hedgehogcottage18@gmail.com](mailto:hedgehogcottage18@gmail.com).

Wickham Market Hedgehog Help

[@WickhamHedgehogCottage](https://www.instagram.com/WickhamHedgehogCottage)

Telephone 07827 785507 **Niki Fowler**



## REMEMBERING WICKHAM MARKET'S PAST

In this, the third of three articles, Philip Tallent, of the Archive Centre explains more about a serviceman from Wickham Market who died in the Second World War and is buried in a Commonwealth War Grave in the village cemetery.

### STANLEY GEORGE HALL.

Stanley was born on 21 Jun 1920 at Saxtead, the son of Edith Emily Hall.

He enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) on 9 September 1940, with Service number 411775. (I have not been able to find out why Stanley joined the Australian Air Force, so any information that anyone may have, would be extremely useful).

He was stationed at RAF Balderton, in Nottinghamshire, from August to November 1943 with 1668 Heavy Conversion Unit, before being posted to 617 (Dambusters) Squadron at RAF Woodhall Spa in Lincolnshire, where he served as a Wireless Operator. (He arrived after the famous Dambusters raid in May 1943.



*This photo was taken at RAF Station Bottesford, Leicester. It shows the crew of a Lancaster bomber of no. 467 squadron RAAF, the second RAAF Lancaster squadron to be formed in the UK. Flight Sergeant (later Flying Officer) Stanley George Hall, is on the left of the picture.*

On 12 February 1944, a Lancaster bomber took off to carry out an attack on the Antheor Viaduct in Southern France. Having completed its mission, the aircraft was returning to base after refuelling at RAF Station Ford, West Sussex, when it crashed 10 miles north east of Chichester at 0830 hours. Seven on board were killed and the Squadron Leader was injured, but later died of his injuries.



Flying Officer Stanley George Hall, the Wireless Air Gunner, was a member of the crew, who died on 13th February 1944 at the age of 23.

Flying Officer Hall's name is listed on War Memorials in Sussex and Canberra, Australia, as well as our own, in Chapel Lane.

His grave is in Wickham Market cemetery and is the easiest of the three Commonwealth War Graves to find – it is on the left of the main drive.

His mother lived at 3 Sandy Lane, Wickham Market.

### WICKHAM MARKET AREA ARCHIVE CENTRE

Find out more about Wickham Market's history by joining our Facebook group. Just search for WMAAC and ask to join. Our member, Sue Canfer, is doing a wonderful job, posting photos and information on a daily basis.

### WICKHAM MARKET CEMETERY is a recognised Commonwealth War Graves location



## CLIMATE CHANGE GROUPS SPRING TIPS

This edition, with Spring on our minds now, with days stretching longer, we thought that Spring cleaning might be on your minds, and so, we thought we should give you the low down on sustainable, nature friendly cleaning!

Let's start with some home-made options....

- Through our research, we have found that by varying the amounts of bicarbonate of soda and white vinegar, and scenting with natural oils with some water, occasionally throw in some lemon, those ingredients are all we really need!
- Recipe for toilet cleaner – Good glug of white vinegar, a good shake of bicarbonate of soda, and around 10 drops of your natural oil, leave for 5 mins, use the loo brush to clean around the basin and job is a good'un.
- Recipe for oven cleaner – 4 tablespoons of bicarbonate of soda, 1 teaspoon of salt. Slowly add water, until it is a paste, then cover your oven with it, leave overnight and then scrub and wipe down the next day.
- Recipe for microwave cleaner – A small cup of vinegar and the juice of 1 lemon inside the microwave, and then pop it on for 2 minutes, leave another 2 minutes for the steaming, then wipe around inside.
- Just Google – home-made cleaning products – and pages of ideas will pop up!



What about some lovely brands that are changing the way we clean?

- Smol – We love Smol, they send out refills via post for their products, such as all purpose cleaner, which comes as a tablet that you just add water to! They do laundry, dishes, deodorant, cleaning products, the list goes on. You sign up and they deliver regularly, but it is very easy to change the date or cancel, there is no contract. No plastic.
- We have heard great things about laundry sheets, that go in and dissolve in the wash, that are chemical free, plastic free and planet friendly such as those from The Green Company.
  - Some brands you can pick up at the supermarket such as Method and Ecover. You can also look on ethical super-store to see what products they are recommending.



We hope you have enjoyed a look into what is out there, we always recommend testing any home-made products in a discreet area first.

*Gemma Dempsey-Gray*

## RIVER DEBEN WATER QUALITY UPDATE

Regular water sampling and testing, at least once a month, for E.coli and for phosphates in the non-tidal River Deben has continued through the winter months at key locations including Debenham, Easton, Wickham Market, Rendlesham and Ufford.

The very high pollution levels following Storm Babet have fallen away although the Wickham Market sewage treatment works continues to discharge "treated water" with very high levels of E.coli - more than 30,000 colonies per 100ml (compared to the healthy bathing limit of 900 colonies per 100ml). The phosphate levels at most locations are also well over the accepted limits.

At a meeting with Anglian Water in late November we heard about their plans for phosphate removal investment in 5 sewage treatment plants - Debenham will be an early location with others following into 2025 and beyond. Although welcome, this is still too long to wait for our river to be cleaned up. There seem to be no plans to improve water treatment for E.coli and related bacteria.

A pop-up exhibition on 'Water and our River' at the Deben Climate Centre in Woodbridge went live on 26th November and ran until Christmas. This featured information boards about the state of the River Deben and about water abstraction in the non-tidal section from Wilford Bridge up to Brandeston. An evening meeting of the water quality volunteers was held on 18th December and was joined by Dr Nick Tucker from the University of Suffolk; he shared the latest insights from their studies of E.coli related toxins found in the Deben.



Several new volunteers have joined the sampling activities but more are welcome especially to support Gemma Dempsey-Gray's water testing hub in the Wickham Market area.

*David Findley,  
Deben Climate Centre*

# WICKHAM MARKET LIBRARY

There's something magical about a library and it's certainly true of Wickham Market where there is something for everyone according to local users:



*'It's friendly and there is always someone there to help.'*  
*'I like to bring my grandchildren along.'*  
*'I'm just a bookworm and like coming in every week.'*  
*'It's 'local'.'*



Wickham Market Library is off Chapel Lane, just behind the medical centre and is open Tuesday to Saturday. The day to day running of the library is in the hands of Lynn Colbear, supported by a group of volunteers.

The library is 'a lovely warm space' for children, young people, adults and families. Whether you want to read or be read to, borrow books, have a place to

study or work, make use of the computers or are looking for somewhere to spend some time and meet others, the library is the place for you. When the weather is right, there is a lovely garden to read and relax in.

Choose from thousands of books - the latest fiction, crime, romances, thrillers, non-fiction and local popular choices. For younger readers there are picture books, stories, young adult fiction and information books. If you have health or mobility issues, books can be delivered to you.



Local community information is available to help you find the services you need. The wider Suffolk Library Services network means that you can order books online and stream eBooks and Audiobooks directly to your phone or tablet.



Regular library events include school visits and the Summer Reading Challenge as well as a weekly sewing group and the Saturday Lego Club. Coming soon are a Book Club and for preschool children and parents - Tots Rock.



Start your year with a visit to Wickham Market Library and get your borrower card online or at the library. All you need is proof of name and address. For more information about the library drop in, phone 01728 747216 or go to [www.suffolklibraryservice.co.uk](http://www.suffolklibraryservice.co.uk).

**Wickham Market Library Friends Group**

## QUIET LANES UPDATE

Signage has now been installed at Chapel Lane which completes the current phase of the Quiet Lane roll-out.

**WHEN YOU SEE THE SIGN, PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME**



## WICKHAM MARKET PRIMARY SCHOOL

The last couple of months at school have been as busy as ever, with classes across the school involved in a wide variety of trips, visitors, competitions and performances.

Our Year 3/4 class have had the fantastic opportunity to visit Brandeston Prep School and take part in their Ancient Egyptians Day dressed either as Ancient Egyptians or Egyptologists, in preparation for their work on the Egyptians later in the year. Throughout the day, children learned many fascinating facts about the Ancient Egyptians, their leaders and their beliefs. They had the opportunity to handle Ancient Egyptian artefacts, play Ancient Egyptian board games, take part in the Pharaoh's "funeral" and to play a target hitting game.



The Year 1 class visited The Red House in Aldeburgh to learn about the childhood of Benjamin Britten as part of their history topic about toys. They were able to handle and examine real artefacts and toys from when Britten was a child, explore poetry that inspired him, and then work together to develop their own performance.

Our Year 2/3 class enjoyed a fantastic immersive experience dressed as Victorian school children at Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse as part of their history work on school life in the past. During the day they experienced some Victorian style lessons and learnt about some of the traditions of Christmas in the Victorian era.



Children have also had the opportunity to represent the school in a number of performances and competitions. A group of our Year 6 students participated in a highly challenging maths competition at Framlingham College. Despite facing tough competition from teams representing various schools, our Year 6 pupils emerged victorious. Teams from

Year 5 and 6 took part in two tag rugby competitions and a group of students from across the school participated in a Panathlon competition again coming first. Our school choir has enjoyed performances at the village Christmas market and at Wickham House.

It is always such a pleasure to take our pupils out into the community and we look forward to more opportunities to do this as we move into the warmer weather in the Spring.

**Mrs Jo Harris**  
**Head of School**



## MARKETS ON THE HILL

### Your LOCAL Market in Wickham Market

Markets take place on The Hill every Wednesday and Saturday morning with large whole-community markets filling the market-place three times a year.

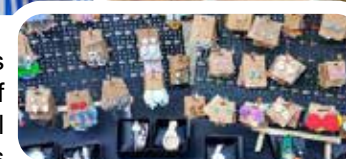
This year we're launching a new "Spring into Spring!" market on Saturday 16th March and this will launch our 2024 season of **Monthly Makers' Markets** (every 1st Saturday of the month) and **Fine Foods Markets** (every 3rd Saturday of the month), April – November. Look out also for our Summer Market (August) and Christmas Market (early December).

Shopping at our regular markets supports our other LOCAL BUSINESSES on The Hill and helps keep the centre of our super village a viable and vibrant commercial space.

During the smaller markets FREE PARKING is available in the short-stay car park on The Hill itself (30 minutes – just get a ticket to show your arrival time) and for our larger events FREE PARKING is also available at the local primary school. Besides, the market couldn't be nearer the bus stop, so why not hop on the 64 or catch Katch up to Market Hill: it really is easy to support our village and its business hub!

Don't forget that in addition to the excellent produce on the market, you'll also find Revett's the Butchers (+ baked goods and fine wines), hardware and gardening supplies at R & S, gifts and homewares at Inspirations and other essentials at Morrisons, the Post Office or the Co-op. And why not make a morning of it by stopping for a cuppa and some lovely snacks at Café 46 or The Teapot Tearoom?

If you are a maker, producer, artist, local trader or just have a creative hobby, reasonably priced pitches (and gazebos if you don't have your own) are available for all of our markets, so for further information and to book a pitch (no regular obligation required), contact: Alison to check availability: [deputyclerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:deputyclerk@wickhammarketpc.com)  
Text 07653 226760 or scan this QR code to email Alison





**Spring into Spring  
Market  
on the Hill  
Wickham Market  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Join us for our large outdoor market on Market Hill

9.00am – 2.30pm

Lots of stalls including crafts, charities, local groups,  
food and drink and other treats

To find out more or request a pitch, contact:

[deputyclerk@wickhammarketpc.com](mailto:deputyclerk@wickhammarketpc.com)

or visit:

<http://wickhammarketpc.com/markets>