

The Coastal Group of Parishes

Bacton, Happisburgh, Hempstead with Eccles and Lessingham,
Ridlington, Sea Palling with Waxham, Walcott, Witton And Hickling

www.coastalgroup.org.uk

News Sheet 574

April 2025

At the time of writing, the benefice is coming to life as we enjoy the signs of spring. Colourful spring flowers are coming into bloom, buds on trees are waiting to burst into life, wobbly legged lambs are appearing in the fields, the sound of birdsong fills the air and we can finally feel warmth from the sun after a lengthy winter.

As you read this the season of Lent will be coming to an end. Christians will be remembering Jesus' final meal, his Last Supper that he shared with his disciples. Later Jesus and his disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. There he was betrayed by Judas, one of those with whom he had shared that meal. After an unjust trial Jesus was sentenced to death by crucifixion. On Good Friday he was crucified with two criminals on the hill of Calvary, just outside Jerusalem.

Jesus' death on the cross was not the end of the story. His body was taken down and placed in a stone tomb. Tradition states that this tomb was situated in a garden. A large stone was placed at its entrance.

Early on the morning of Easter Sunday, Mary Magdalene and the other women who had followed Jesus came to the tomb to put spices on his body. They arrived to find the stone rolled away and the body missing. Two angels told them what had happened: 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.'

This is the good news of Easter: Jesus rose from the dead. Death did not defeat him. The chocolate eggs that we enjoy at Easter are one way of remembering and celebrating the new life of his resurrection.

In the benefice you are invited to journey towards the cross and to celebrate Jesus's resurrection at Easter. Please join in whatever services you are able. Maybe you would like to go to a service you haven't attended before or a church in the benefice that you aren't familiar with.

Monday 14th April: 6.30pm- *Compline- All Saints', Walcott - a short, quiet, candle lit service.*

Tuesday 15th April: 6.30pm- *Stations of the Cross- St Peter's, Ridlington - a chance to move around the church with readings, prayers and reflections relating to the final days of Jesus' life.*

Wednesday 16th April: 8.30pm- *Tenebrae- St Mary's, Hickling - a beautiful service linking the final events of Jesus' life to the extinguishing of candles - bring a torch.*

Maundy Thursday- 17th April: 6.30pm- *Maundy Thursday Eucharist- St Margaret's, Sea Palling - Holy Communion focussed around Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples.*

Good Friday- 18th April: *Good Friday services at 10.30am at All Saints', Lessingham and St Margaret's, Sea Palling; 2pm- Walk of Witness with Hickling Methodists starting from St Mary's, Hickling and ending with a short service at Hickling Methodist Church; 2.30pm- An hour at the cross- St Andrew's, Bacton. All the Good Friday services remember the events of Jesus' death.*

Holy Saturday (19th April) *is a day of waiting.*

Easter Day- 20th April: *Sunrise service- 5.45am Sea Palling beach - as the sun rises, we will gather around a fire on the beach to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. There will be an opportunity to remember our baptism and share bread and wine in Communion. This is an informal service followed by breakfast and is suitable for all the family.*

Easter Day Holy Communion services at 9.30am- St Mary's, Hickling; 10am- All Saints', Walcott; 11am- St Mary's, Happisburgh and 11.30am- St Margaret's Witton. All the Easter services celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Wishing you all a joyful Easter! Revd Coryn.

SERVICES FOR APRIL

Sun 6th April <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	9.30	Morning Worship	Walcott
	10.00	Holy Communion	Sea Palling
	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
	11.00	Morning Worship	Happisburgh
	11.15	Holy Communion	Hickling
	15.00	Holy Communion	Ridlington
Sun 13th April <i>Palm Sunday</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Hempstead
	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
	11.00	Morning Worship	Hickling with Sea Palling
	11.30	Morning Worship/Baptism	Witton
Mon 14th April	18.30	Compline	Walcott
Tues 15th April	18.30	Stations of the cross	Ridlington
Wed 16th April	20.30	Tenebrae	Hickling
Thur 17th April	18.30	Maundy Thursday Eucharist	Sea Palling
Friday 18th Apr <i>Good Friday</i>	10.30	Good Friday service	Lessingham
	10.30	Good Friday service	Sea Palling
	14.00	Walk of witness	Hickling
	14.30	Hour at the Cross	Bacton
Sun 20th April <i>Easter Day</i>	5.45	Sunrise service	Sea Palling beach
	9.30	Holy Communion	Hickling
	10.00	Holy Communion	Walcott with Bacton
	11.00	Holy Communion	Happisburgh
	11.30	Holy Communion	Witton
Sun 27th April <i>Second Sunday of Easter</i>	10.00	Morning Worship	Lessingham
	10.00	Holy Communion	Bacton with Walcott
	11.00	Morning Worship	Sea Palling
	11.00	Morning Worship	Hickling

Funeral

3rd February - Jenny Maclennan - Walcott

Interment of cremated remains

21st March - Margaret Sanders - Happisburgh

Mobile Library Dates for April

Hempstead/Eccles/Lessingham/Sea Palling/Waxham:

Wednesdays 2nd & 30th

Hickling: Tuesday 15th

Happisburgh/Walcott/Bacton/Ridlington/Witton:

Tuesday 8th

WITTON St. Margaret's

How spring has "sprung" this year with such a spectacular display of snowdrops seemingly everywhere but perhaps the daffodils are saving up their energy for next year's display. St Margaret's bats are gradually waking after their winter's slumbers so it will soon be back to the brush and duster!

Once again we are very grateful to Paul for playing the organ which seems to have benefited from the recent spell of much dryer weather so that the stops can be used again.

Services in April will be held on Palm Sunday, 13th at 11.30am Morning Prayer and on Easter Sunday, 20th 11.30am Holy Communion, as ever all very welcome.

It was a great pleasure to welcome the Bishop of Thetford on his recent fact-finding day visiting the Coastal Group of parishes, to hear about all the problems of small rural parishes with an ageing population and maintaining the upkeep of their many centuries old church buildings! We look forward to future visits.

Charles and Gillian Owles 01692 650223

HAPPISBURGH ORGAN FESTIVAL 2025

Only four weeks before this year's festival lift-off recital by our great friend and supporter David Dunnett. He retires this summer as Organist of Norwich Cathedral where he has served for 27 years. This may be the last time he will be able to play for us so please do come and give him a great welcome and send off on Saturday 3rd May at 7pm. Please note the earlier start time for all the recitals this year.

On 7th JUNE we welcome back Matthew Bond (Organist St. Nicholas' North Walsham); On 5th JULY Timothy Patient (Director of Music at Eye Parish Church, Suffolk) will play for us, and on 2nd AUGUST David Berwick (St Mary's Happisburgh, & St. Helen's, Norwich) will be marking his 60th anniversary as an organist in Norfolk. The Organ Festival Committee renews its thanks to all last year's supporters and would love to see you again this year. If you have yet to attend a recital, please give us a try. You are guaranteed to get a warm welcome. More information at www.organrecitals.uk. *David Berwick*

Coastal Group Prayer Chain

If you would like to be prayed for or know of someone who would like to be prayed for (with their permission) please contact John Prince: 01692 581841.

To sign up for a weekly email with reminders of upcoming services and events in the Coastal Group churches, please contact me on the email address below. Thanks, Emma.

DEADLINE FOR MAY NEWS SHEET:

Please send your contributions for the May news sheet to Emma at eclawrence@btinternet.com no later than April 17th. Thank you.

HAPPISBURGH

New Church Electoral Roll

Every parish is required to prepare a new church electoral roll in 2025. To be on the church electoral roll you will need to complete an application form. Those on the previous roll will need to reapply to be included - inclusion is not automatic. The application form explains the eligibility requirements. For Happisburgh the deadline for applications is 15th April 2025. Application forms for Happisburgh are available in the church porch, inside the church, by emailing the PCC secretary Amanda May (amandamay2@me.com) or by asking a churchwarden.

Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday 19th April 2pm. Meet in St Mary's Church Porch. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes to be served in the Church Rooms. Look out for posters!

Thank you On behalf of the villagers and visitors who use the path that runs alongside the main road can we offer a grateful thanks to Mr. Gilbert Larter who tirelessly and voluntarily keeps the path clear of debris and leaves each year to ensure it is safe to use.

Coffee Morning in Happisburgh Church Rooms on Thursday April 17th from 11 am to 12.30. Proceeds to Happisburgh RNLI and Sea Palling independent lifeboat.

Happisburgh Community Hub at the Wenn Evans Centre

Every Wednesday from 11.30am till 1.30pm. Homemade light lunches, cakes, teas and coffees (donations towards providing this always appreciated). Community library open. Occasional guest Speakers. Everyone welcome. If help with transport is needed please call Malcolm on 07831 204346.

Happisburgh Knitters and Stitchers

Our next meetings are on 14th and 28th April in the Pavilion (next to the Wenn Evans Centre) between 2 and 4 pm. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet do come along to one of our meetings. Our **EASTER CRAFT SALE** is on Saturday 12th April 1- 4 pm. Coffee, Tea, Cakes and raffle. All welcome.

RNLI Happisburgh Lifeboat Open Day, Sunday 13th April, 11am-4pm, Happisburgh Lifeboat Station Cart Gap NR12 0QL. See the boat, meet the crew, Live music from Pot of Gold Shanty Crew, Tombola Fun for All, Water Safety Activities, BBQ and Refreshments. Find out how to join the RNLI Happisburgh One Crew during your visit. You can speak to any of the crew about the rewarding opportunities on offer. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Wenn Evans Centre, Happisburgh, What's On When

Mondays: Seated Zumba with Nicola 2pm till 3pm
Pilates with Sonya 4.30pm till 5.20pm
Tuesday: Short Mat Bowls 10am till 12pm
Table Tennis 2pm till 4pm
Wednesday: Fitness Yoga with Sonya 4.30pm till 5.30pm
Judo with Paul 6pm-9pm
Friday: Short Mat Bowls 2pm till 4pm
For details of how to book, email Wennevans@gmail.com

Pot of Gold Shanty Crew Saturday 31st May, 7.30pm

Tickets £12 each, bring your own drinks & nibbles.
if you are unable to book via ticket source please email Wennevans@gmail.com or ring Julie on 07904 379391.

Quiz Night at The Wenn Evans Centre, 2nd Saturday of the month. 6.45 for 7pm. Call/WhatsApp 07904 379391 to book.

Prize Bingo at The Wenn Evans Centre, last Friday of the month. Eyes down 7.30pm, lots of prizes. All welcome.

SEA PALLING WITH WAXHAM

Sea Palling Community Hub is open every other Saturday 10-12 with good coffee/tea/chocolate + bacon butties in the Nissen Hut. Preloved clothes, books and bric a brac. All welcome.

Sea Palling & Waxham Parish Council

Next Meeting - Tuesday 15th April 2025 at 6.30pm at Sea Palling Village Hall. All welcome. *Becky Furr, Parish Clerk, clerkseapallingpc@gmail.com 07588 398621*

Fancy growing your own fruit, vegetables and flowers? Sea Palling has **ALLOTMENT PLOTS AVAILABLE NOW!** Full plots are £30 a year and Half plots are £15 a year. You are welcome to come and see what we have available. Please phone Sue on 07780 985425.

SEA PALLING & WAXHAM VILLAGE HALL

PRIZE BINGO - on Friday 4th April. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Refreshments and raffle. Everyone welcome.

QUIZ AND SUPPER EVENING - Saturday 26th April. Please note that due to Easter, this is one week later than usual. Booking essential. Please check for availability as spaces are limited or for more information call Margaret on 01692 598828.

COME ON IN - Join us on Wednesday 30th April for a cuppa, chat and perhaps a game of cards or dominoes. All welcome all free.

THE SEA PALLING TABLE TENNIS CLUB meets Wednesdays from 2pm-4pm. All equipment provided. £3 per person. All welcome.

ZUMBA CLASS - On Wednesdays 7pm-8pm. For more information please call Tina on 07341360389 or find her on Facebook.

THE SEA PALLING CARPET BOWLS CLUB meets on Thursdays from 2pm-4pm. Beginners welcome. For more information, please call John on 01692 598478 or Steve on 01692 598052.

YOGA - on Thursday mornings. See www.yogabreeze.co.uk for full details, or contact Clare 07557 353723

CRAFT FAIRS - at the village hall will be held on the last Sunday of every month up to October. Refreshments available.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - VE Day Commemorations at the Village Hall on Saturday 10th May. This will be an afternoon tea, street party style, & live music from the era sung by Carol Nicholls. We do hope that you can join us 3pm-5pm. Free admission.

SEA PALLING INDEPENDENT LIFEBOAT

At the start of March, we had our second shout of the year, a multi-agency incident at Sea Palling. The crew was paged at 11:50 PM, launching both the Inshore Lifeboat and Cannon Portal. After searching the shoreline both boats were stood down by Humber Coastguard at 1:40 AM.

On Sunday 23rd March there will be a small remembrance service held at St Margaret's Church to remember the lives of Simone Royal and Samuel (Sam) Sheldon who both died in March 2015 and who between them dedicated over 40 years' service to Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat. The church service will commence at 11am, with the remembrance section at the end of the church service. All welcome to attend and if anyone would like to speak at the service please get in touch: mick@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk.

We are planning our events for 2025 so keep an eye on our social media pages and future editions of this newsletter for details. We look forward to seeing you at our events and on the beach when the weather is a bit warmer and we get the beach stall out again.

We are looking to recruit volunteer members for various roles, including boat and shore crew, fundraising and maintenance. No experience necessary. For further information please email Info@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk or visit the Station on Thursday evening or Sunday morning and we would be delighted to have an informal chat, without any obligation to you.

WALCOTT

Lepra. The coffee morning held on February 21st raised £600. A wonderful total, enough to cure 24 sufferers from the disease. This is due to your generosity.

Spring Fayre In Walcott Village Hall on Saturday 3rd May at 2.30 - 4pm. There will be games, stalls, raffle and refreshments. Come and join in. Proceeds to Walcott Church.

WALCOTT VILLAGE HALL

Spaces are available during the week at £8 per hour all inclusive. Contact John on 07791804872 or 'e' mail - bookwosvh@gmail.com.

Weekly groups:

Mondays 6.00pm Yoga with Virginia 07413 199718
Tuesdays 10.30am Ballet Bums with Carol 07748 825748
7.15pm Zumba Gold with Loraine 07748 985940
Thursdays 10.00am Seated Zumba with Nicola 07901 982414
Saturdays 11.15am Zumba Gold with Loraine 07748 985940

Walcott Warblers –The Walcott Warblers country show is on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th April – join us for some foot stompin' fun. Doors open at 7pm bring your own drinks, snacks etc; tea and coffee will be available during the interval. Tickets will be available from early March at £7.50 from Sheila on 07826033801 or pick up from Paul (Pru's hair salon) in Bacton. See y'all there!

Plant sale - Broadland First Responder annual plant sale is Saturday 10th May – two things wanted please – anyone sowing plants if they are willing to sow a couple more and donate for us to sell and if anyone has any preloved items we can sell in our "middle aisle" please email george@vistatraining.co.uk

Wild Touch – Dry biscuits and cans of cat food welcomed for their winter hungry rescued birds and animals - also needed are dustpans, brushes and washing up sponges if anyone can help.

Book swap cupboard – to the right of the hall entrance and can be accessed at any time. Please only leave books if they can be placed in the cupboard due to the inclement weather.

Unwanted jewellery for Alzheimer's UK and **used postage stamps** for RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) are being collected at the hall.

The Coastal Walking group

For April's walk we will meet at Barton Turf church on Tuesday 1st April at the usual time of 9-30am. The church is quite easy to find, turn left off the A1151 Wroxham road to Barton Turf and then left again along Church Lane. The walk will be about four miles and first featured in the EDP quite a few years ago. Everyone is welcome including dogs on leads. For more information I can be contacted on 01692 651609. *Ray Allcoat*

Save Happisburgh Campaign

On Thursday 10th April there will be a meeting for people who would like to help to stop Happisburgh going into the sea but who don't want to have a public presence but are seriously interested in helping by writing letters/emails to key government figures and local papers. This important function keeps the campaign in the public eye and could make a real difference. The meeting will be held at Old Coastguard House, Beach Road, Happisburgh NR12 0PR at 6.30pm to, not later than, 8pm.

Ring 07787 843495 for more details.

RIDLINGTON St. Peter's

April in Paris

I never knew the charm of Spring

I never met it face to face

I never knew my heart could sing

I never missed a warm embrace

Till April in Paris, chestnuts in blossom

Holiday tables under the trees

April in Paris, this is a feeling

That no one can ever reprise

E Y Harburg & Vernon Duke

..... with a salute to Ella. I write this early in Lent during lovely Spring weather, such a treat after the long Winter. Our March service was led by Maureen, many thanks to her for that and our April service will be on the 6th at 3 p.m. when we shall celebrate Holy Communion. Refreshments in church afterwards as usual. Then we have Easter! Look out for all the services across the benefice during Holy Week, there will be a service somewhere every day. *Barbara Penn 07564536262*

LESSINGHAM AND HEMPSTEAD WITH ECCLES

The PCC thanks everyone who supported the WW2 commemoration exhibition. The amount raised was £581.15. This will be put towards our Parish Share (the levy every parish has to pay the Norwich Diocese). This year the amount this parish has to pay is £7,114. Some of the parishes in the Benefice pay more, some less. Hempstead and Lessingham having two churches to insure and maintain need to raise over £10,000. This is hard work with a small congregation. If anyone, though not a church member would like to make a donation to maintain the heritage of our two churches that can easily be arranged and would be gratefully received.

There will be a service at 10.30am at Lessingham Church on Good Friday. This will be of Bible readings appropriate for the day. It will be followed by tea/coffee and hot cross buns. All welcome. *Margaret Henderson 581858.*

HICKLING

The Greyhound Bible Discussion Group will meet at the Greyhound Inn NR12 0YA at 3pm on Tuesdays 1, 15 and 29 April 2025. We welcome visitors and those who might join us. We are making our way through The Psalms at each meeting and a topic for discussion.

The Julian Meeting for Christian Silent Prayer takes place at St Mary's Church, Hickling NR12 0BQ, at 10.30am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. In April we meet at 10.30am on the 8th. We start with a friendly cuppa and a chat before settling for prayer.

Our Prayer Walk will start at the NWT Hickling Reserve Visitors' Centre at 10.30am on Tuesday, 22nd April. Please contact Zephney on email at zlkndy@gmail.com should you wish any information about these meetings.

LESSINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Coffee mornings 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 10.30 - 12 noon.

Monthly hot lunches on the third Thursday each month, cost £7.00. Booking for this is essential with Lay Pastor Ros Peedle 07976 720440/email ros.peedle@live.co.uk at least by the Monday of that week.

Sunday Worship at 11.00am every Sunday.

Everyone is welcome to any or all of these events.