

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 577

July 2025



“The world is very beautiful “ - the opening words to an old infant school hymn. I wonder how many of you used to sing it? Those five words are so true aren't they? Each day we can see this beauty in our villages and along the coast. Within this natural beauty we also have architectural splendour, ten church buildings, nine of which are open every day.

We are at the beginning of the holiday season when many come to enjoy nature, architecture, space, friendship, fun and peace and quiet! Holidays are a personal choice. Many who visit the churches sign the visitors book, leaving comments of gratitude at finding an open church and expressing enjoyment. This is a rich heritage, the natural beauty and ten churches representing Christian worship over the years.

Today in July 2025 we have just experienced the joy of Easter, the resurrection and ascension of Jesus and are now in the season of Trinity. We continue as those before us. May we all, residents and visitors benefit from the surrounding beauty and enjoy the summer time together.

Eiler.

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

In the Coastal Group of Parishes, we take safeguarding seriously. If you have a concern about the safety of someone or the actions of a person working with children or vulnerable adults, please speak out and stay safe.

- To register a concern please go to <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/safeguarding/how-do-i-report-a-concern/>
- To contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer call.....RHENA BRANCH 01692 597 117 or email rhenabranh@gmail.com
- To contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team call 01603 882345 or email safeguarding@dioceseofnorwich.org If you think someone is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.

Rhena Branch is the parish safeguarding officer for Bacton, Walcott, Witton, Happisburgh, Hempstead with Lessingham and Eccles, Sea Palling with Waxham and Hickling Tel 01692 597117. Richard Barker is parish safeguarding officer for Ridlington.

At a special service at Happisburgh in May we said thank you to Elwyn who has retired from playing the organ for services. Elwyn has played for many years at several of the churches in our group and we are all very grateful for all that he and Joyce have contributed to church life. Thank you both!

Joyce writes: On behalf of Elwyn and myself I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Service on Sunday 18th May at Happisburgh Church. Both of us were overwhelmed by the number of people who came to the service. Your support and kind gifts are very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you soon. Love from Joyce & Elwyn.

Rector: Revd Coryn Stanforth

email: revdcoryn@btinternet.com

Tel: 07436 992347

SERVICES FOR JULY

Sun 6th July <i>Third Sunday after Trinity</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	Afternoon Service	Ridlington
Sun 13th July <i>Fourth Sunday after Trinity</i>	10.00	Holy Communion	Lessingham
	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
	11.00	Morning Worship	Hickling with Sea Palling
	11.30	Morning Prayer	Witton
Sun 20th July <i>Fifth Sunday after Trinity</i>	9.30	Holy Communion	Walcott
	10.00	Morning Worship	Bacton
	11.00	Holy Communion with Prayers of Love and Faith	Happisburgh
	11.00	Morning Worship	Sea Palling with Hickling
Sun 27th July <i>Sixth Sunday after Trinity</i>	10.00	Morning Worship	Hempstead
	10.00	Holy Communion	Bacton with Walcott
	11.00	Morning Worship	Sea Palling
	11.00	Morning Worship	Hickling
	11.30	BCP Holy Communion	Witton

Funerals

20th May - Bernard Sheppard (Doddo) - Interment of ashes - Hickling

2nd June - Joan Rivett - Hickling

3rd June - Beverley Deary - Sea Palling

5th June - Jenny MacLennan - Interment of ashes- Walcott

5th June - Hazel Lightfoot - Interment of ashes- Hickling

Mobile Library Dates for July

Hickling: Tuesday 8th

Happisburgh/Walcott/Bacton/Ridlington/Witton: Tuesday 15th

Hempstead/Eccles/Lessingham/Sea Palling/Waxham: Weds 23rd

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.

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST NEWS SHEET:

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

WITTON St. Margaret's

Thanks to all who have supported services in recent months. Yet again there has been a steady flow of very appreciative visitors to St Margaret's, judging by many favourable comments in the visitors book.

Not so many bats in the church so far this summer, nor have we seen so many outside during the evenings. Not such a good year for them?

July services are Morning Prayer at 11.30am on Sunday 13th and BCP Holy Communion on 27th. All most welcome.

Looking ahead to August, at the moment there will be only 1 service which is a change from the recent pattern. If all goes well, this will be Witton's Harvest Festival at 3pm on Sunday 17th, a Harvest Festival with a difference. If the weather plays ball, during the Service and after, the Vintage group intend to be harvesting in the field next to the Church. The plan is to have a "bring your own Picnic" in the field after the Service. In days long gone, during harvest time the wives would bring their menfolk a snack and often a pop bottle filled with tea wrapped in an old sock! Those were the days! Of course, if it is a wet day, the binders will be under canvas and the picnic will be in the Church. Watch out for further details nearer the time.

Enjoy the summer!

Charles and Gillian Owles 01692 650223

HAPPISBURGH ORGAN FESTIVAL 2025

Nearly fifty people came to hear Matthew Bond play on 7th June and they were treated to a very wide-ranging programme beautifully performed as ever. This month we will be very pleased to welcome Timothy Patient back to the organ console for his sixth consecutive appearance since we started the organ festival in 2019. Tim has been a great supporter of our events and his recital is on Saturday 5th July at 7pm. Free entry and refreshments at the conclusion. Donations for the organ fund always very gratefully received. The final recital this year will be given by David Berwick on Saturday 2nd August at 7pm. The Organ Festival Committee renews its thanks for your continued support. As ever, we guarantee you a warm welcome and a relaxing evening spent amongst friends. More information at www.organrecitals.uk. David Berwick

HICKLING

The Greyhound Bible Discussion Group will meet at the Greyhound Inn NR12 0YA at 3pm on Tuesdays 8 and 22 July 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 second Tuesday of the month. In July we shall meet 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 July.

On Wednesday 16th July, from 10.30am-12.30pm we shall hold a meeting for Prayer-through-Art in All Saints Church, Catfield, NR29 5DA. You are invited to join us in this quiet space prayerfully to draw the images and architecture. This is not a class: it is an opportunity to look at the familiar in more focus. Pencils, felt pens etc will be available. Simply bring paper or board. No paint, please. I ask you to consider a donation as a thank-you. Should anyone wish to find out more, do contact me, Zephney Kennedy, at 01692 598179.

HAPPISBURGH

St Mary's Church St. George's Chapel - this is our war memorial chapel on the left aisle of the church. If you could help for a few minutes each week, to keep the altar and small carpet area clean and tidy, please contact Gilbert and Joan 01692 650728, joanlarter123@btinternet.com

St Mary's Church Tower will be open from 1pm - 4pm on Sundays 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th July and Wednesday 30th July, weather permitting. Minimum height 4ft 7inches.

Happisburgh School Summer Fete Saturday 12th July, 12 - 3pm. Raffle, games, food, coffee van, ice cream, craft stalls and more. Cash only. Everyone welcome!

Cream Tea Come and enjoy home made scones and tea or coffee and a chat. Thursday 10th July 2pm - 4pm, at Happisburgh church rooms. Raising funds for Happisburgh and Sea Palling lifeboats.

Happisburgh Pop-Up Tea Room

A warm welcome, a free cuppa and a chat, and even a slice of cake! Tuesday 1st July, 2.30 - 5.30 at the Church Rooms. Part of Norfolk & Waveney Mind's Sustain Project.

Happisburgh Acorns

A parent-led stay & play group for under 5s at Happisburgh School Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays during term time from 9am-11am. £1 per session. Refreshments for the adults and a snack for the little ones. We would love to see you!

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 meeting for July is on 14th between 2 & 4 pm. Learn a new skill or just pop in at the Sports Pavilion for a cup of tea.

The Happisburgh and Walcott Bowling Green is now open for roll ups on Saturday afternoons 2-4pm. New members welcome, come and give it a try and have a friendly cup of tea too. Matches weekly in 3 leagues.

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 Wennevens@gmail.com

Quiz Night at The Wenn Evans Centre, 2nd Saturday of the month. 7pm. Book on 07904 379391. Bring own refreshments.

Prize Bingo at The Wenn Evans Centre, last Friday of the month. Eyes down 7.30pm, lots of prizes. £6 for 10 games.

Scarecrow Festival & Open Front Gardens

Sunday 3rd August 11am till 4pm. Would you like to be involved, make your own Scarecrow or open your garden to the public? Email wennevens@gmail.com to find out more.

SEA PALLING WITH WAXHAM

Sea Palling Community Hub will be open on Saturdays 5th & 19th July from 10-12 with good coffee/tea/chocolate + bacon butties in the Nissen Hut. Preloved clothes, books and bric a brac. All welcome.

SEA PALLING with WAXHAM COMMUNITY TRUST

School uniform grants of £120 available for students entering year 7 (must be full-time resident in the parish). Application forms from millstedpg@btinternet.com or ring 598408.

Sea Palling & Waxham Parish Council

Next Meeting: Tuesday 15th July, 6.30pm, Sea Palling & Waxham Village Hall. Please note there is no meeting in August.

Parish Clerk: Becky Furr, clerk@swp.pc.gov.uk (updated email address). Tel: 07588 398621.

A parish council suggestion post box has been fitted outside Sea Palling Post Office where you can post any suggestions or concerns about parish matters. We welcome your comments.

SEA PALLING & WAXHAM VILLAGE HALL

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

FUN CASINO NIGHT - Saturday 12th July at 7.30pm. With fun money provided you can experience Roulette and Black Jack tables hosted by professional croupiers with a prize at the end of the evening for the person who has won the most fun money. Full guidance on how to play. Finger Buffet with beer & wine available, Raffle. Tickets £15 from Sea Palling PO & Stores or from Margaret on 01692 598828.

QUIZ NIGHT - Saturday 19th July. Booking essential. Please check for availability as spaces are limited or for more information call Margaret on 01692 598828.

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

CAN YOU HELP? Our village hall has a small team of volunteers who put together these events throughout the year and we are not getting any younger! So we are looking for anyone who can spare just a couple of hours per month to help us. If this is you please call Margaret or Clive on 01692 598828 for a chat.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - SUNDAY 10TH AUGUST - FAMILY FUN DOG SHOW at the village hall. More details next month but if you would like to book a stall, please call Margaret on 01692 598828.

Wild Touch (Mill Common Road, Ridlington) ask for donations of newspapers, cleaning clothes, dustpans and brushes, brooms etc as they are having lots of injured or abandoned baby birds. They are urging us not to use chemical pesticides as they have recently had poisoned baby birds admitted to their care. Alternatives can be sourced by searching online.

Wild Touch's website has good clear instructions on what to do if you find a baby bird or any wild animal you are worried about <https://wildtouch7.wixsite.com/Wildtouch>

WALCOTT VILLAGE HALL

The booking clerk is John Paul and can be contacted on 07791804872 or 'e' mail - bookwosvh@gmail.com. All bookings will be confirmed by John with the individual concerned and it is requested not to use the calendar in the village hall until confirmed. There are bookable spaces available during the week and weekends at £8 per hour all inclusive.

Weekly groups:

Mondays 6.00pm Yoga with Virginia 07413 199718 £6
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

New Pilates trial – Tuesday 1st July at 1130am – Sonia will be holding a trial Pilates session in the hall. Everyone is welcome. 45 minutes at a charge of £5.

The Walcott village show is on Saturday 9th August 2 – 4pm. It is a truly village show including classes for plants, photographs in the categories on the list and a coloured section of anything brown, needle craft projects, prize vegetables and blooms. All photographic entries will be submitted for the annual Maurice Gray award. Full entry and detail forms will be available from the beginning of July from the village hall. We will receive entries both Friday evening and Saturday morning of the show. Wishing you all a very successful summer crafting and growing.

Book swap cupboard – The cupboard is 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.

Keep an eye on our notice board & Facebook page: Walcott-on-sea Village Hall for detailed posters.

RIDLINGTON St. Peter's

Sea Fever

*I must go down to the seas again,
to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and
a star to steer her by;*

*And the wheel's kick and the wind's song
and the white sail's shaking,*

*And a grey mist on the sea's face,
and a grey dawn breaking. John Masefield*

Our Benefice Service on 29th of June will be at St Peter's when we shall welcome the Rev. Dr. Stephen Cherry, Dean of King's College, Cambridge as preacher. This is quite an honour and should be a memorable occasion. Could everyone please bring a small plate of snacks for us to enjoy after the service.

Our July service will be on the 6th at 3pm as usual and we shall offer a strawberry tea afterwards, hopefully outside. All welcome as always.

Another diary date; on the weekend of August 16th and 17th we shall hold an exhibition and sale of paintings, mainly depicting Norfolk scenes. A friend of the church has kindly donated the pictures which will be very reasonably priced. Proceeds towards church funds. Tea and cake will be available as well.

Barbara Penn 07564536262

SEA PALLING INDEPENDENT LIFEBOAT

Summer's almost here - wow, this year is certainly flying by! May brought with it International Volunteer Day, and it was inspiring to see social media pages from across the country celebrating the incredible contribution of volunteers from all walks of life.

As an independent lifeboat station, we're entirely dependent on our own dedicated volunteers – from boat crew, launch vehicle drivers, and medics, to fundraisers and behind-the-scenes support. Quite simply, we couldn't operate without you. If you've ever thought about getting involved, maybe lending a hand with fundraising or admin, or offering your skills in another way, we'd love to chat. Just an hour or two a week can make a big difference.

Save the Date – Lifeboat Day! Sunday, 10th August, 11am–4pm
Join us on the beach for a day of fun, community spirit, and vital fundraising!

We're thrilled to welcome back the incredible Newfoundland Working Dogs, who were a huge success last year—watch them in action as they showcase their amazing water rescue skills!

Are you a local business and want to be involved? This is your chance to be part of something special! Set up a stall on the beach, showcase your business, and support a fantastic cause. For details, call Dave, our Station Manager, on 07774 804848.

We need your help! We're looking for donations of raffle prizes, baked goods (please list ingredients), and other items to make the day a huge success. Every contribution, big or small, helps support our lifesaving work! Please contact rita@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk

Enjoy the fun! BBQ & cake stall, children's games, live music, boat displays, raffle, and more—an unforgettable day for all ages! Help make this year's Lifeboat Day better than the last.

LESSINGHAM AND HEMPSTEAD WITH ECCLES

Coffee morning for church funds on Saturday June 28th, 10.00-12.00 at Lessingham Village Hall. Cake stall and selection of local photographs. All welcome.

We think of Paradise as a place of contentment, though currently it is the title of a television series. The origin of the word is from the ancient Persian pairi (around) and daeza (a wall). In other words, a walled garden. We in our parishes have our own walled enclosures open to all, church graveyards. All our medieval churches have one and are a place to sit in contentment and contemplate. To recommend just one, Hempstead St. Andrew's is amazingly sheltered on the south side considering how close it is to the North Sea. Welcome to our own places of paradise. *Margaret Henderson 581858.*

LESSINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

The Lighthouse Cafe is open at the Chapel on the second and fourth Wednesday each month, from 10.30am to 1pm where we shall be serving hot drinks and light lunches. There is no charge, but any donation would be very welcome.

There will be a joint **Celebration of Anglicans and Methodists Together** on the weekend of 9/10th August. We shall eat together at lunchtime on the Saturday at the Chapel and worship together on Sunday in Hempstead Church.

The **Lessingham Chapel Quilt Show** will be held from 3rd to 6th September this year. A small number of Sales tables are available. Please book with Ros Peedle ros.peedle@live.co.uk as soon as possible. Further details of the Show will follow.