

EASTON VILLAGE NEWS



The Hamilton Bloodhounds at their Opening Meet in November

February 2023

Useful Contact details

Parish Councillors:

Sue Piggott T: 01728 746622 (Chair & Highways/Cemetery/Burials)

Fiona Siddall T: 07970 450245 (Vice Chair & Joint Play Area Officer)

Bob Gibbon T: 01728 746866 (Emergency Officer)

Maureen Birt T: 01728 747242 (Joint Play Area Officer)

Ian Palfreyman T: 07775 652820 (Footpaths Officer)

Derek Balcombe T: 01728 768215

Gary Edwards T: 01728 747970

Alison Bramall T: 07736 169780 E: parishclerk@eastonpc.org.uk

Parish council website <http://easton.suffolk.cloud/>

Suffolk County Councillor:

Elaine Bryce T: 07955 434440 E: Elaine.bryce@suffolk.gov.uk

East Suffolk Councillor:

Lydia Freeman E: Lydia.freeman@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

All Saints Church

Jane Woodbury-Eggins (Churchwarden) T: 01728 746667

Village Hall

Ian Palfreyman (Bookings) E: eastonvillagehall@icloud.com

Village Hall website www.yourhall.co.uk Search Easton

Village Website www.easton.onesuffolk.net

Village News Editor

Clare Owen T: 01728 745015 E: clareeowen@tiscali.co.uk

If you have something to put in the Village News, please submit it by 14th of each month.

Editor's Introduction

Welcome to your new Easton Village News! I do hope you enjoy it.

I'd love to hear your ideas for future content. I want the magazine to be a work in progress.

My aim with the new magazine is to inform, interest, and hopefully entertain. I feel very strongly that the magazine should not become controversial or political. There are plenty of social media platforms out there that do that.

Amongst other things, I am going to try and feature each month one of the many excellent organisations or facilities we have in Easton. This month I am delighted that James Chadwick has written a great feature explaining more about the Hamilton Bloodhounds. Fi Siddall also brings us up to date with what's happening at Easton Farm Park this winter.

Someone in the village has also suggested a regular feature 'A Sense of Place'. What is it about Easton that drew you to live here in the first place and now you're here, what is the most important aspect of the village (eg countryside, wildlife, history, people?) that gives its sense of place for you?

What features would you like to see regularly (eg gardening?) and would anyone be prepared to contribute — not necessarily every month.

Does anyone have any interesting hobbies, or a career in the past that they'd like to tell us about?

I have lots of other ideas which I hope to incorporate as time goes on so watch this space!

The magazine will be free to all households in the village for the first year, supported by advertising which will pay for the cost of printing.

I would like to thank Sue Piggott in particular for her wisdom, support and enthusiasm for this new venture. It's been a bit daunting getting going, but here we are!

Easton Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation Event

Saturday February 4th – 10am to 2pm



Village Hall
HAVE YOUR SAY



Easton Neighbourhood Plan is entering S.14, this stage is where the Draft Neighbourhood Plan document is put out to public consultation. The consultation lasts 6 weeks and will start on Saturday February 4th with an information display exhibition in the village hall.

There has been a huge amount of work involved to bring together the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. The pandemic that compromised so much over 2020 and 2021 created a stalling of the Neighbourhood Plan works. During 2022, work has involved the co-ordination of the authorities and outside bodies, together with government teams to provide the supporting documentation needed to reach completion of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. A new consultant has been appointed, and the steering committee are now looking to reach the 'finishing line' in 2023, new government funding is now in place

Whilst the numbers of housing are dictated by East Suffolk Council, design and location can be controlled by the Neighbourhood Plan once it is adopted. Following S.14 public consultation will be S.16 (submission of all documents to East Suffolk Council), independent examination and then the village referendum. Easton Neighbourhood Plan will rely on a majority vote at the referendum for it to be adopted.

There will be a copy of the Draft Plan with supporting documents and supply of response sheets available over the 6 week period in the Church porch, these will also be available with online forms on the Parish Council website, (<https://easton.suffolk.cloud/neighbourhood-plan/>)

Easton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group looks forward to seeing you at the Village Hall on Saturday 4th February, there will be information boards, response comment sheets to give feedback, and refreshments.

Sue Piggott, Chair Easton NP Steering Group



Easton Neighbourhood Plan Community Consultation Event

Saturday February 4th – 10am to 2pm

Village Hall

HAVE YOUR SAY

What's On in February



Village Hall

Mondays:

Yoga with Ellie 9.30—11 am

Pre-booking

E: eleanorpenlo@gmail.com

Tuesdays:

50+ Keep Fit Class 10-11 am

£7 per session (block payment per term of 6/7 weeks)

Contact Clare Hassler on

01728 621247/07769 716761

for more information

Pilates for Riders with Dawn

7—8 pm

Pre-booking

E: dfkcoaching@hotmail.com

Wednesdays:

Pilates with Kelly

Advanced 9.15 am

Beginners/Intermediate 10.30 am

Pre-booking

E: pilateswithkelly@hotmail.com

Table Tennis

6:30pm £5 per session

Contact John on 746644

Thursdays:

Rabble Chorus

8pm

E: Kirsty@rabblechorus.co.uk

Fridays:

Yoga with Ellie 9.30—11 am

Pre-booking

E: eleanorpenlo@gmail.com

Sunday Café

19th February

Village Hall

10—11.30 am

**BREAKING NEWS !
EASTON MAY FAIR
SAT 13TH MAY**

Mobile Library at Easton Farm Park 12.25 to 12.45

Wednesday 8th February

Hamilton Bloodhounds Season

As I'm sure some of you are aware, we had our Opening Meet here in the village back in November. We are extremely grateful and proud to be able to do this in our home village of Easton. We couldn't do this without the great support from the landowners and support from the pub, so thank you to the Kerr family and the Aitcheson family for allowing us to cross the land, to Vernon at the Easton White Horse for hosting us, and those of you in the village who came to support.

What I thought I might do is explain how a day works for us and what is different about what Bloodhounds do compared to the more traditional trail hunting.

So, Bloodhounds follow what is called the 'clean boot' which simply means they follow the natural scent of a human being. Think of Sherlock Holmes or Great Expectations, following a human scent in order to locate someone - this is very similar to what we do, just with a few more hounds and following on horse back, except not all our runners are escaped convicts!



We have a very keen group of runners that volunteer to do this for us, and we are always welcoming new keen runners. The runners for the day will get into the trailer with the hounds for ten minutes or so, so that the hounds get to know the smell/scent of the people they are tracking for the day; again similar to putting a smelly sock in front of the nose of a Bloodhound from the person you're trying to look for.

The runners are then driven to the start of their first run, which they have been shown the day before, and have a map. They usually run two to three miles a run and are given 20 minutes or so head start. Meanwhile, we get on our horses, come to the pub, have a glass of port, greet everyone, and then set off. I take the hounds (usually 15/17 in total),

to where the runners have started, where they usually start baying because they have scent, and I let them go! They then use their very sensitive noses (1000 times more sensitive than a human's) to track down our runners. Some may ask, what happens if animal scent or another person's scent comes into play?

Well, from when they're born the Bloodhounds are trained not to follow any other scent than a person's (instinct helps) and because they have always been used to this, there is no instinct to follow or look at hares or deer or anything else that has crossed the line. The same with footpaths and other people - because they know which people they are looking for, they usually know not to follow anyone else. They are very specific over the scent of their runners! It also helps that I know where the runners have gone so if they go off course, we can stop them and send them off in the right direction, but I would say 99% of the time we are on course! Usually, the weather plays a massive part in this and wind isn't always that helpful when it blows the scent around.

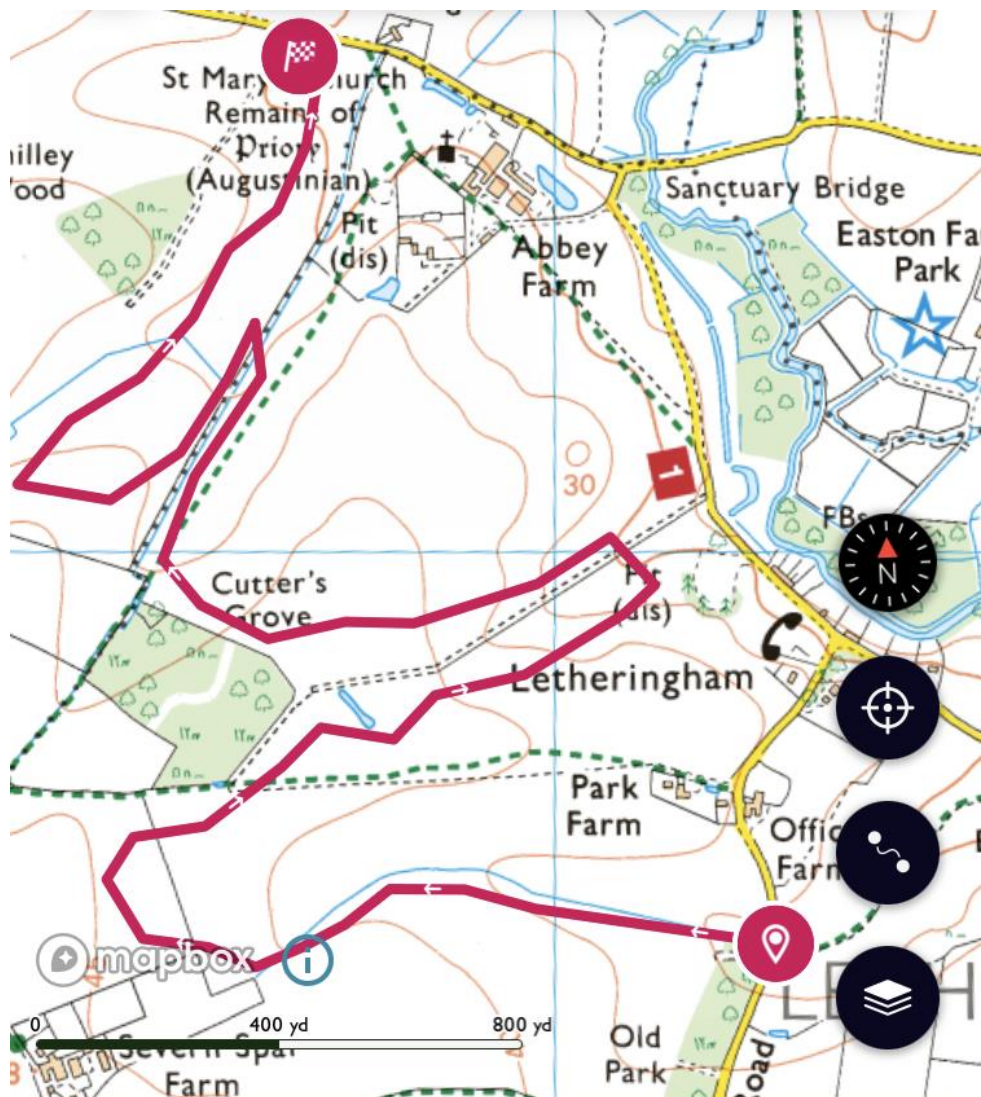
When the hounds get to the end of the run, where the runners have finished, they get a kiss and a cuddle from the hounds, and in return for finding their runners, the hounds are given gravy bones as a reward to say well done! We then do the whole thing again, 3 more times! So, we cover around 12-14 miles in a day. We are very lucky to have a good following, for example on Opening Meet here we had 50 riders and lots of support on foot too.

So, in essence this is how a meet with us works. Although it may look like traditional hunting, it is very different to trail hunting and drag hunting. Please, if you are interested in seeing what we do, visit our website, Facebook page or Instagram to see videos/pictures of what we do, or come out with us. Our meet card is open to the public on our social media and website. Equally, any keen runners do get in contact with us, especially if you don't mind a bit of slobber!

We go out every Sunday and Wednesday between September and April covering South Norfolk, Suffolk and North Essex. All other days you may see us, we are out exercising the hounds and horses.

www.hamiltonbloodhounds.com Facebook/Instagram: The Hamilton Bloodhounds

James Chadwick



Opening meet '22' 1



2.9 mi



29m



Almost a Royal Wedding!

The nominal 'King and Queen of Easton', Graham and Margie Ransome, were delighted to welcome back from New Zealand their lovely daughter Nicola who married Shaun Dalgetty from Edinburgh at Easton Grange on 18th December. Shaun and Nicola met in New Zealand, working for the same company, and fell in love. They have now returned to New Zealand, Margie tells me. We wish them every happiness.



Bottom Photo : Sophie Ransome, Amy Letcher and Lana Dalgetty were bridesmaids and Louis Ransome (a very handsome page boy) with two flower girls (Shaun's nieces).

Easton Table Tennis Club

The club saw its beginnings some twenty years ago when a group of villagers first started playing table tennis. At that time they travelled and hired tables at sports centres in local towns. With the village hall available for hire the question was asked “why not play in Easton?” Money was put into a pot to purchase a table and Easton Table Tennis Club was born.

At that time conditions were not ideal but the refurbishment of the hall led to a vast improvement and a second table was added, donated by one of the members



More recently a robotic practice partner has been donated by a member enabling players to practice on their own with varying degrees of speed and spin.

Over the years, players have come from not only Easton but surrounding villages, some as far away as Saxmundham, In some cases it has been the first time they have picked up a bat.

The club meets on Wednesdays from 6.30pm to approximately 8pm and a session costs £5. If you fancy giving it a go, contact John on 01728 746644. Your first session is free and equipment is provided.



DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

In the first instance, I hope you all had a very happy and peaceful festive season and my best wishes to you for the New Year ahead.

We all want to ensure that our children and grandchildren have good homes to live in. We also recognise the need for new housing developments where there is a need, and to ensure that there are affordable new homes, including social rented houses, built as a part of larger new developments. However, I have always firmly believed that decisions about new housing developments should be taken locally, and that brownfield development should be prioritised ahead of building on the countryside.

I am pleased to say that it is these principles that now underpin our planning laws. When I was first elected as an MP in 2010, the Government introduced the Localism Act to support local councils to develop evidence-based housing plans according to local housing need.

Suffolk's towns and parishes now also have the power to develop their own neighbourhood plans. Thanks to these important Government reforms, the top-down regional housing targets were rightly scrapped, and Whitehall civil servants, many of whom have never set foot in Suffolk, lost the power to impose massive new housing developments on our area.

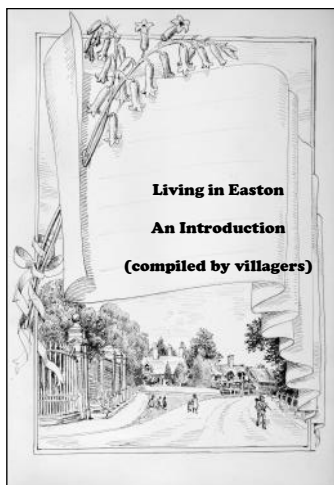
It is because of my belief in protecting the countryside from over-development, and letting councils take the lead in developing evidence-based housing growth plans based upon local need, that I recently worked with other MPs to block suggested changes to the planning system which would have potentially reintroduced a form of regionally set housing target by the back door, as well as fast-tracked developments in certain areas without proper local consultation or scrutiny. These changes were wrong and I am pleased to have played my part in stopping them from happening.

I remain firmly of the view that we must continue to better protect local consultation and decision making in the planning process. I am currently fighting to ensure that new laws are introduced to allow a community right of appeal against a planning decision. Currently, developers have the right to appeal but communities do not. It is time to level the playing field. Bad planning decisions need to be challenged, and residents deserve the right to do so.

Over the past few years, there have been developments recommended and granted for approval because of the fear of the cost to the council of defending an appeal. Levelling the playing field by creating a new community right of appeal would support council planning officers and councillors to make the right planning decisions - decisions which are in the best interests of the local community rather than decisions that best protect the council from the costs of a planning appeal.

I shall continue to do all that I can to ensure our local councils have all the tools they need to make the right planning decisions in the future.

Written January 2023



New to the Village?

Please let me know if you are aware of anyone who moves into the village. We have always warmly welcomed newcomers and I am now very happily taking on this role. We can also provide the introductory booklet 'Living in Easton' which has lots of helpful information.

Brian Boon, Orchards, School Lane

T: 745057

E: bsb64293@gmail.com

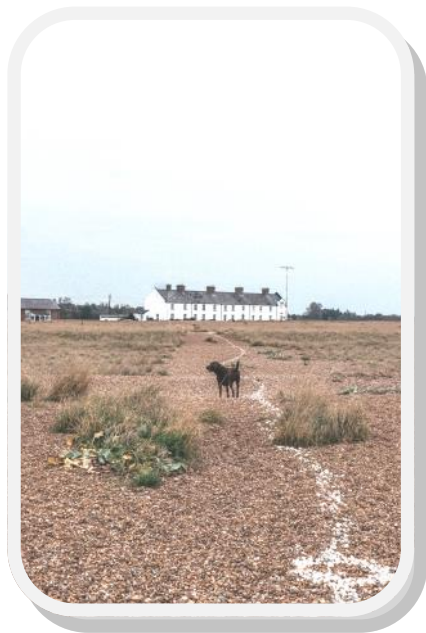
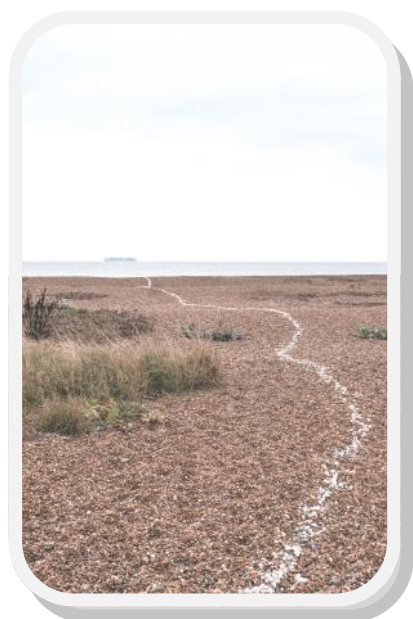
A FASCINATING LOCAL STORY:

THE SHINGLE STREET SHELL LINE

Stretches of shingle lined with coastguard cottages lie at the end of a narrow lane. It feels like the back of beyond and has a peacefulness that can only be found in these curious places along the English coast that it seems time forgot.

It's at this expanse of shingle beach that you will find a single line of white shells that circles a coastal plant and then carries on its journey 300 yards across the shingle where it trails off somewhere near where the tide stops. The Shingle Street Shell Line has a wonderful story - two friends, now 70, who grew up in the Netherlands together were diagnosed with cancer within months of each other. At the time of their breast cancer diagnosis Ms Bottema was a ceramicist in Zutphen and Mrs Kindersey was a letter cutter in Cambridge. On meeting on Shingle Street beach during their respective treatments in 2015 they sat and chatted and while they did so arranged shells round a plant. The Shell Line started here and as the friends continued to meet while they both underwent treatment they added to the line and it started to grow.

But as the line grew, their cancers went into remission and the line continues to be a sign of the strength and support of their friendship. 20,000 white whelk shells mark their journey and the therapy the building of the line gave them at a time when they needed a meditative task. Both women are now cancer free and continue to return to the beach to repair the line every six months, sometimes taking a week to repair it. It's a symbol of friendship and strength and a lovely thing to walk alongside. Curiously, up close the shells look scattered and sparse but the line is definite and clear when you take a few steps back. Enjoy.



Article and photos by kind permission of Emma Croman, posted originally in June 2022 in the publication TIDE.



Met Police Hit Back

Operation Elaborate is the UK's largest ever proactive fraud operation. The Met has led an international investigation targeting a website that enabled criminals to disguise their phone number and commit fraud, a practice known as spoofing. Criminals try to steal personal information by making it look like they're contacting you from a trusted organisation, such as a bank or building society.

The Met has taken down a website that was used to make 10 million spoof calls between June 2021 and July 2022. They have worked with international partners to track down the owner of the website and locate and arrest those suspected of using it to commit fraud.

The Fraudster's tactics

Criminals can disguise their phone number to make it look like anyone they want.

They can call you with what looks like a genuine phone number, either using a computer or human voice.

They will keep your landline open by not hanging up and even play a dialling tone over the phone.

They can send text messages requesting you call them, click on a link, or enter a One Time Password (OTP).

These scam messages can appear alongside your genuine messages and send website links which can steal your data and money when you click on them.

Don't trust the Caller ID display on your phone, a phone number is not proof of ID.

What to do

Criminals are experts at impersonating people or organisations (like banks, the tax office or even the police).

They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment. Stop and think. It could protect you and your money.

Stop: Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

Challenge: Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

Protect: Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud. Tel: 0300 123 2040

* * *

Suffolk Fire Service

A message from the fire service: If you have time to read this, then you have time to test your smoke alarms!

Push the button to make sure your smoke alarms are working. Perhaps you can also help an elderly neighbour or relative test theirs?

John Owen

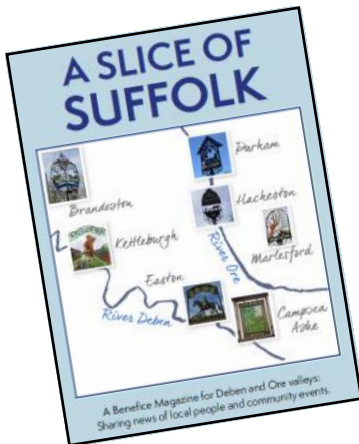
E: jkowen.jo@gmail.com



A Slice of Suffolk

The benefice magazine

With all you need to know about church services and what's going on in the other villages.



Please send me any items of interest about your village by 21st of the month and if you can keep your article to less than 120 words that would help enormously.

janebaldwin325@gmail.com

The magazine covers Campsea Ashe, Brandeston, Parham, Hacheston, Kettleburgh, Marlesford and Easton.



All Saints Church



Services in Easton

There will be Morning Prayer on 12th February and Holy Communion on 26th February both services at 11.00 am.

Christmas Services

Our Carol Service was well attended and so was our Christmas Eve Nativity for children. We even had a real baby as Jesus!



Discussion Group

The Discussion Group meets again on 1st February. Our topic is "Light and darkness". We shall be meeting this month at Ash Grove, New Road, Framlingham at 10.30 am. New members are always welcome. (If you need a lift, please phone 01728 746667)

Services on Zoom

There will be a Zoom service on 19th February at 9.30 am. If you would like to join this online service, please register with Bill Clark so that he can send you the link (bill78@btinternet.com).

Jane Woodbury-Eggins

Sunday Café

**Sunday 19th February
10—11.30 am
Village Hall**



Come and join us for delicious home made goodies, bacon rolls (bacon from Revetts and rolls from The Bakehouse), croissants and our exciting ‘specials’ board, many locally sourced. Read the newspapers, chat to friends, and make new ones in a lovely relaxed atmosphere. If you haven’t tried it yet, what are you waiting for?

EVERYONE WELCOME

WE NEED YOU!

We need more bakers to help provide the goodies each month. If you could make something occasionally, please call Bev on 07500 978469.

We are proud to announce that during 2022 we were able to donate £400 to church funds, £100 to World Vision Ukraine and £200 to Children in Need.

We don’t aim to make a profit, rather to provide a regular community get together and cover costs, but it’s so good to know any spare money we do make can go to good causes.

Thank you so much.

Sunday Café is sponsored by All Saints Church

JOHN HARGREAVES

(12th October 1932 - 20th December 2022)



John's funeral took place on 9th January 2023 at Easton church. During the service members of his family and close friends paid tribute to John and all that he had achieved in his life.

Born in 1932, John was a proud Yorkshireman. He had two sisters and as a schoolboy he enjoyed growing vegetables (that remained a life-long interest) and helping on a local farm. He went to grammar school where he played football for his school and then his county. He also played for the University of Bangor where he took an honours degree in agriculture.

In 1955 he was called up for the RAF where he did officer training and became a Mess Officer. When he left the RAF in 1956 he joined Fisons. He also joined the Young Farmers where he met Margaret and they were married in 1958. They moved to Lincoln and their daughters Susan and Sarah were born there.

With John's promotion in 1970, the family moved to Easton. In 1983 he became Secretary of the Suffolk Show and ran the annual event until retiring after the 1994 show. During that time he hosted members of the Royal Family including Princess Diana in 1986. He also hosted Prince Charles, now King Charles, at an agricultural show in Debenham where he introduced him to Suffolk horses. He was a leading figure in the Suffolk Horse Society and also a past president of the Framlingham Horse Show.

John was also a committed Freemason and was especially active in their charitable work both nationally and internationally.

He was a proud grandfather and great-grandfather. His children and grandchildren particularly enjoyed stories he made up for them.

We send Margaret and all the family our sincere sympathies and best wishes. May John rest in peace.

Jane Woodbury-Eggins

Easton Farm Park

Winter on the Farm

The Farm shuts to visitors on Christmas Eve and opens up again for February half term and beyond. We had a wonderful time in December as we were lucky enough to have Father Christmas with us. The children enjoyed making wreaths for the front door, meeting Santa's animals, decorating Christmas cookies with Mother Christmas and meeting the Christmas elves, as well as, of course, a meeting with Father Christmas and a visit to his Toy Shop.

During the winter months when we are closed, the focus is on the animals and our maintenance programme. There is always lots to do, including fencing, painting, upgrading facilities and servicing all the kit on-site. Many of the animals prefer to be indoors during the colder weather so much of the time is spent keeping them fed, watered and cleaned out.

We are awaiting the arrival of our new lambs which should start appearing towards the end of January. You may have seen the cows and the sheep are all up in the paddocks near the entrance to the farm, away from the marshes and meadows which we leave to flood during the "wet" season.

Easton Pre-School provides us with our children-fix as they are with us four days a week and use the farm as their playground – it is lovely to still hear the sound of children having fun.

We also use the closed time to plan our events and activities for the upcoming season, including new attractions and fun for our visiting families and schoolchildren. We host children's birthday parties through the closed months and our holiday cottages are available all year, but generally the conditions are such that a farm visit is more enticing when the nights are a little shorter and the weather a little warmer.

2022 was a busy year as we re-built our café kitchen, improved lots of the site facilities and fencing (although fencing seems like a never-ending task with Suffolk Punch horses rubbing their rather large bottoms against the rails all the time!) and introduced lots of additional fun events for our visitors, including a Wild West Summer, Easter Spring Babies Carnival and extended our Halloween Half Term and Pumpkin Festival.

Whilst it is lovely to have a chance to breathe during January, our main passion is to bring families to the farm to enjoy the countryside and learn a little bit about farming life. We can't wait to welcome visitors back from 11th February and have some fun fairytale and Valentine activities during half-term to delight both young and old.

Fi Siddall



Some Christmas photos



FEBRUARY FUN ON THE FARM

Stroll through the Magical Woods

Indoor Arts & Crafts

Meet the Lambs

Ride the Lovebug

Decorate a
Valentines Cookie

Meet our animal families
over in Cupid's Corner

11th-19th
February
£12.50
PER PERSON

EARLY BIRD
TICKETS

£10

PER PERSON
BOOKED IN
JANUARY



For more details visit eastonfarmpark.co.uk

RE-USE, REDUCE, RECYCLE

We all know that we need to reduce waste. Around 35% of all non-recyclable rubbish is wasted food. In fact, 52,000 tonnes of food gets thrown away in Suffolk every year. Recent polling has shown that households are keen to tackle this problem, with most people worried by food waste and 53% feeling guilty about throwing food away. In response, Suffolk and Norfolk have launched the #foodsavvy challenge for residents, with regular email updates with tips and useful links to help reduce food waste and save money.

It's obviously vital to put the right items into the at-home recycling bins. Currently around 20% of the items collected in Suffolk are rejected, costing Suffolk taxpayers over £1M a year to clean up spoiled items; this includes TetrPaks which need to go to a recycling centre. Recycling is the best way too to dispose of electrical items that are faulty or beyond repair. Much of this material can be used again: there's enough steel in an iron for instance to produce 13 steel cans! All Suffolk Recycling Centres are currently accepting TVs, monitors, PCs, Sky boxes, DVD players, consoles, laptops, audio, power tools, bikes, Dysons, Henrys, mowers and strimmers. In addition all sites accept good quality items for re-use which are collected by nominated charities, including The Benjamin Foundation who operate the Re-use Shop at Foxhall Recycling Centre.

Finally, if you think Suffolk's general (non-recyclable) waste goes to landfill—think again! Since 2014, this gets taken to the Great Blakenham energy-from-waste facility which uses the waste as a fuel to produce energy for the grid.

See overleaf for details of what can be taken to a recycling centre.

My thanks to Jo Denton in Dennington for this article. Ed.

All sites can recycle...



electricals



batteries



**printer
cartridges**



**mobile
phones**



**mixed light
bulbs**



books



cardboard



paper



**mixed glass
bottles & jars**



flat glass



**household plastic
packaging**



rigid plastics



**garden
waste**



textiles



spectacles



cartons



cooking oil



dvds & cds



furniture



bicycles



metal



**car
batteries**



**used
engine oil**



**wood
& timber**

COFFEE BREAK—DINGBATS

(Answers overleaf)

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18

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Dust**

CHESS

MOTHER

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pride ANGER pride anger
greed greed envy
sloth envy anger pride
sloth anger pride

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1 All over the world	2 Children in need	3 Flat Iron
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4 High Seas	5 Peace be with you	6 Round Robin
boy → yob	ccrreeaamm	ever ever Thursday ever ever
7 Altar boy [Alter boy!!]	8 Double Cream	9 Forever and a day
Henry bored	Read Read Read IT Read Read Read	EACK
10 Man overboard	11 Read all about it	12 Cake mix
BUS BUS	Dust Dust Dust	CHESS
13 Double decker bus	14 Dust to dust	15 The game is up
MOTHER	Lounge	gluttony greed gluttony pride ANGER pride anger greed greed sloth envy sloth envy anger pride
16 Maximum [Maxi Mum]	17 Room at the top	18 A multitude of sins

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- ✦ Even if you have a low credit score or have complex borrowing needs, we can still help.
- ✦ We help people from all walks of life, from employed to self employed, retired to expats and everyone in between.

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Please be aware your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

Victoria Bradfield



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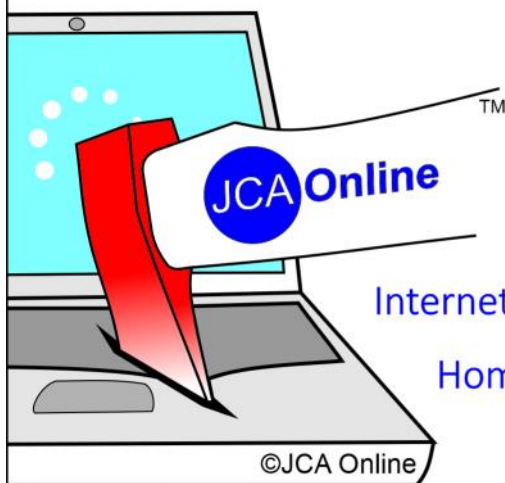
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