

# EASTON VILLAGE NEWS



Our unique and special village sign—read about its history inside.

**March 2024**

## **Useful Contact details**

### **Parish Councillors:**

Sue Piggott T: 01728 746622 (Chair & Highways)  
Fiona Siddall T: 01728 746517 (Vice Chair & Play Area Officer)  
Bob Gibbon T: 01728 746866 (Emergency Officer)  
Ian Palfreyman T: 07775 652820 (Footpaths Officer)  
Gary Edwards T: 01728 747970 (Cemetery and Burials Officer)  
Derek Balcombe T: 01728 768215  
Dave Ladbrook T: 07730 432542 (Play Area Officer)  
Clerk—Andrew Staples 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 District Councillors:**

Owen Grey (Lib Dem) E: owen.grey@eastsuffolk.gov.uk  
Vince Landon-Morris (Green) E: vince.langdon-morris@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

### **All Saints Church**

Rev. Ann Kember (Priest-in-charge) T: 07369 240252  
Note: Ann is not available Weds/Thurs/Fri E: annkember58@gmail.com  
Jane Woodbury-Eggins (Churchwarden) T: 01728 746667

### **Village Hall**

Ian Palfreyman (Bookings) E: eastonvillagehall@icloud.com  
Village Hall website [www.yourhall.co.uk](http://www.yourhall.co.uk) Search Easton

**Village Website** [www.easton.onesuffolk.net](http://www.easton.onesuffolk.net)

**Cricket Club enquiries** Tory Hughes E: easton1906@gmail.com

**Bowls Club enquiries** Mike Cattermole T: 01473 614845

### **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

With Spring just around the corner, there's lots to look forward to. It really does feel as if everyone and everything is slowly coming out of hibernation! Personally, I love seeing the snowdrops, daffodils and other spring flowers emerge, whatever the weather throws at them!

We've lots of interesting articles this month, as well as offerings from our usual contributors. The annual May Fair is only a couple of months away and Emma and Nancy would love to hear from anyone prepared to help. See information on page 4. There's plenty going on in the church with the approach of Easter; read all about the fascinating history of our village sign; Fi brings us up to speed with the Farm Park; we hear from Emily Mummery who runs her business Niche Cocktails out of Martley Hall; and much more ...

Last but not least, congratulations to James and Tegen Chadwick at the Bloodhound Kennels on the birth of their daughter



Harriet (Hetti) at 4.30 pm on Wednesday 7th February. We look forward to meeting her!

Happy Easter.

Clare

Disclaimer. The Editor of Easton Village News produces this newsletter in good faith from articles submitted by local organisations and individuals. No responsibility can be accepted for any inaccuracies contained therein which must be taken up with the relevant organisation or individual.

# What's On in March



## Village Hall

### **Mondays:**

**Yoga** with Ellie 9.30—11 am

Pre-booking

E: [eleanorpenlo@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dfkcoaching@hotmail.com)

### **Wednesdays:**

**Pilates** with Kelly

Advanced 9.15 am

Beginners/Intermediate 10.30 am

Pre-booking

E: [pilateswithkelly@hotmail.com](mailto:pilateswithkelly@hotmail.com)

### **Table Tennis**

6:30pm £5 per session

Contact John on 746644

### **Thursdays:**

**Rabble Chorus**

8pm

E: [Kirsty@rabblechorus.co.uk](mailto:Kirsty@rabblechorus.co.uk)

### **Fridays:**

**Yoga** with Ellie 9.30—11 am

Pre-booking

E: [eleanorpenlo@gmail.com](mailto:eleanorpenlo@gmail.com)

**Sunday Café**

**17th March**

**10—11.30 am**

**Village Hall**

**Parish Council Meeting**

**Monday 18th March**

**7.45 pm**

**Village Hall**

**Pub Quiz Night**

**Thursday 28th**

**7.00 pm**

**Booking Essential**

**Mobile Library at Easton Primary School 12.25 to 12.45**

**Wednesday 6th March**

# **MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU**

**Save the date!**

**Saturday 4th May is our May Fair on the Village  
Green, between 2 pm and 4 pm.**

**Can you help us?**

We need lots of volunteers and helpers, everything from setting up in the morning, manning stalls, lending gazebos, donating books, cakes, bric-a-brac, toys, alcoholic bottles, plants, jams, marmalade etc. We would love to hear from you.

Come and get involved. It's great fun and a major fundraiser for the church.

**Emma M: 07905 632927**

**Nancy M: 07776 147839**

**Thank you!**



# **The Easton Village Sign on the Green**

The sign was commissioned by the Easton and Letheringham Women's Institute and created by Hector and Mary Moore for installation in 1969. Mary created the design and artwork; Hector fabricated the iron frame and scroll work. It was the first of some fifty or more signs that the talented couple produced during their time at the Brandeston forge.

Standing singularly in front of The Agent's House on the smaller green, the sign depicts the famous crinkle crankle wall — Mary painted 350 different coloured bricks on each side which demonstrates her meticulous attention to detail — and a mounted huntsman with hounds from Easton. Incidentally, it is one hundred years since the hounds moved from their original kennels on the Framlingham Road (currently Leveret House) to their present home next to the Village Hall.

Hector's family had lived at the forge premises in Brandeston since 1760, perhaps even as far back as 1623. Hector was the subject of several articles in the East Anglian Daily Times and his story was broadcast in a radio series entitled 'End of a Line : Village Blacksmith' on Radio 4. He was described variously as blacksmith, artist, philosopher and humourist. One could add the epithet 'tutor' for there were several apprentices in his forge; one of them continues to care for a horse belonging to an Easton villager. Hector, born in 1923, toiled at the forge for 57 years. He met Mary when she came to visit a friend who was an undermatron at Brandeston Hall and Hector and she married in 1955.

Mary's background was very different to Hector's; she was born in Northern Rhodesia where her parents grew seeds for a family relation called Samuel Ryder — Mary's grandfather and founder of The Ryder Cup. She moved to England with her parents and grew up as an only child in Bushey, Hertfordshire. Mary trained formally as an artist and sculptor. After their marriage, Hector and Mary's reputation grew exponentially as their catalogue of

remarkable work evolved. This was not limited to Suffolk; there is a piece of Hector's work in Fulton USA.

During one interview, Hector related a frisky tale concerning tradition in the world of blacksmiths. Each time a customer brought a colt to the forge for shoeing, a gallon of beer should be provided. The lads would search their pockets and if they were sufficiently funded, one of their number would be despatched to the local hostelry to buy sixpence worth of gin to add to the beer. This particular potion was called a John Turner. Hector added that it had to be mild beer, not bottled, and concluded his account by adding, 'Some days there were three colts to shoe!' [Such customs might have played a part in the story of Easton's forge. It is said that Lady Hamilton required the forge to be turned 180° in order that the activities were out of sight of The Street and the Mansion!]

Services of thanksgiving for the lives of Hector and Mary were conducted at All Saints Church in Brandeston in 1999 and 2022 respectively.

Their legacy of work will remain a significant part of the tapestry of our neighbourhood for many years and Easton is fortunate to have examples of their fine artistry on private and public display.

Anon.



# Easton Farm Park

The days are getting longer and the paintbrushes and hammers are busy at the farm preparing exciting new attractions and maintaining our tried and trusted activities ready for Spring 2024. The lambs have started to pop out alongside piglets, bunnies, chicks and goat kids. We have lots of work to do in the maternity units and every healthy birth is another miracle of nature. Last year's Suffolk Punch foal, Iris, has been weaned and is growing beautifully whilst her mother, Ruby, is hopefully due to produce another foal later in the Spring. We are expecting calves and donkey foals along with more lambs, piglets, kids and chicks as the spring progresses and the countryside begins to open up again.

After a tough winter on the riverbank, we are trying to crack on with tidying and clearing the debris on the flood plain (in between floods) but with Storm Babet, Henk and others it feels like a bigger job than usual. One seasoned river dweller has been heard to say that the road at Sanctuary Bridge floods on average 3 times per year. So far this winter it has been flooded 11 times – is this a one-off or a sign of how the climate is changing?

We have also refreshed our lovely Willow Barn Café over the last 4 weeks with some fun activities for children and a cosy coffee shop area for those wanting a more peaceful vibe. The menu has evolved to include some delicious new flavours which we are all keen to sample as we welcome our first visitors of 2024 back to the farm.

Easton Farm Park was founded by my Uncle Jimmy Kerr and opened on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1974 making this our 50<sup>th</sup> year of operating as a visitor attraction. We were the second Farm Park in England, following hot on the heels of Cotswold Farm Park, opened by Jim Henson (Adam Henson's father) in 1973. He went on to set up the Rare Breed Survival Trust which is still a thriving champion of rare breeds around the country.



The Suffolk Punch is one of their At Risk breeds and we hope, via our breeding programme, to be helping to preserve and promote these rare breeds. We are also part of a project to protect a special line of Large White pigs, and have just had a lovely litter of piglets via a carefully selected AI regime (see photos below).

This year we are developing 50 things to do on the farm to celebrate our 50 years, so watch this space for lots of fun on the farm.

Fi Siddall



# **Village People**

## **Jackie Atkinson**



*How long have you lived in Easton?*

Seven years this May.

*Why did you move here?*

Mainly because my eldest son, his wife and our two grandchildren live in Kesgrave and we know the area very well.

*What's your favourite thing about living here?*

The community, the pub, lovely walks and the closeness to Framlingham and Woodbridge.

*What's your least favourite thing about living here?*

Busy main street.

*What's the most interesting job you've ever had and why?*

Definitely A.I.—and this was back in 1987 so it wasn't Artificial Intelligence but Artificial Insemination! I worked in a Yorkshire branch of the Milk Marketing Board, a small office with about twelve inseminators—ten men and two girls. I would take the phone calls from the farmers in the morning and tell the inseminators which farms to go to, which semen to take etc, including “bull of the day” which back then was £6 a shot!

*Have you ever lived in another country and if so, where and why?*

In 1996 my husband put in for a transfer and we were sent to Canada, based in Toronto. A year later he was transferred to Los Angeles CA and we lived about forty miles west of there for approximately twelve years. He retired and we moved to Florida on the Gulf Coast until we came back to England in 2017.

*If you could pass any law ...*

Seriously—the standard of driving in the UK is very poor so the road tests should be improved and maybe re-taken every few years.

*Your greatest strength ...*

Positivity.

*Your greatest weakness ...*

Cuddling my fluffy dog, Sophie!

*Your favourite TV programmes ...*

Richard Osman's 'House of Games'. I like to try and answer the unusual questions. Ben Fogle's 'New Lives in the Wild' and Simon Reeves' 'Wilderness'. Also, the old series of 'Porridge' and 'Dads' Army' - hilarious, still!

*Your favourite book?*

Can't remember, there were so many over the years.

*Your favourite place in the UK (other than Easton)?*

Any coastal area. I love the crashing waves, the beauty of beaches and high cliffs.

*The best day of your life?*

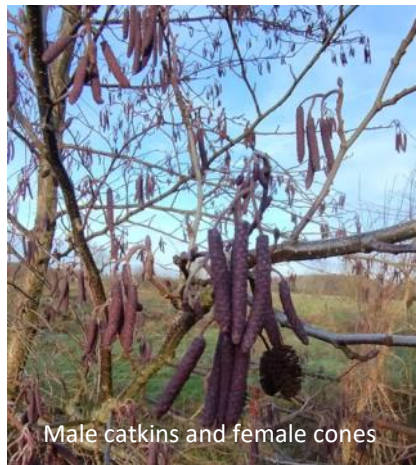
My cousin was getting married and her chief bridesmaid couldn't attend at the last minute, so my cousin asked me and I accepted. When we arrived at the church, she said 'You will like the Best Man'. And sure enough, he asked me out (he had a bet on with his friends that he would ask me out). Anyway ... eight weeks later he proposed to me, we married seventeen months later and we are still together after meeting fifty-five years ago!

# A Sense of Place and Time

## Alder – Riverside Icon

As the River Deben winds its way through Easton, it is hard to miss the Alder trees - *Alnus glutinosa* - the native deciduous tree that epitomises the river bank.

Alder is perhaps at its best and most noticeable during the winter months, when its leafless silhouette lends a touch of 'Chinoiserie' to river banks and the Easton skyline. The branches, twigs, catkins and 'mini' cones range



Male catkins and female cones

from deep brown through to burgundy and deep purple, whilst the stalked buds are a distinctive bluish mauve.

When Alder wood is cut and exposed to air, the wood turns 'flame' orange, adding another dimension to the distinctive colour palette of this tree. The deeply creviced bark is favoured by woodpeckers and tree creepers and during a cold snap, the cones attract flocks of chattering siskins, high up in the tree tops.



Alders along the Deben

Because Alder wood doesn't rot in water, it has been used to shore up river and canal banks as well as being used for making clogs.

Alder charcoal is famous for its use in the production of gunpowder and Alder coppice is often found in the vicinity of former gunpowder factories or vice versa. Alder is also a natural 'lure' for woodworm, the wood being placed in lofts and cupboards to lure woodworm away from egg-laying in other timber.

Preferring to have its 'feet in water' Alder has suffered from land drainage, often leaving it high and dry, but also in recent decades, it has attracted an invasive *Phytophthora* fungus which can cause extensive die-back.

*Acetosella*



**Suffolk**  
Wildlife Trust

It's Wildlife Live Webinar season and we have some more excellent topics planned for your enjoyment including:

The Importance of Bugs - with Kaitlyn Elverson

Monday March 4th

March Hares in Photos - with Stephen Hoare

Wednesday, March 20th

And more to come in April.....including Martlesham Wilds a Year On!

To find the full programme and book your place, please visit:

[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/wildlife-live-webinars](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/wildlife-live-webinars)  
[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/wildlife-live-webinars](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/wildlife-live-webinars)

Everyone is welcome - the webinars take place at 7pm via Zoom and cost £3, £5 or £10 to join (booking ahead is essential).

## March in the Garden

It is the first mild day of March:  
Each minute sweeter than before  
The redbreast sings from the tall larch  
That stands beside our door.



There is a blessing in the air,  
Which seems a sense of joy to yield  
To the bare trees, and mountains bare,  
And grass in the green field.

'To My Sister'  
William Wordsworth

Spring will be with us by mid-March and the frequent sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of garden- ing tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back winter shrubs and generally tidying up around the garden.

### The Ornamental Garden

Plant summer flowering bulbs such as Eucomis, Nerine and Gladioli.

Mow the lawn on dry days when needed.

Cut back willow and dog wood grown for their winter colour.

Prune early-flowering clematis once their flowers have finished and summer-flowering ones before they start into active growth

Now is also a good time to take basal cuttings of phlox and delphinium, as well as stem cuttings from chrysanthemums.

Protect new spring shoots from slugs and snails

Deadhead daffodils as the flowers finish and let the foliage die back naturally.

Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials.

Begin sowing hardy annuals such as cornflowers, stocks and marigolds undercover.

If the weather is fine at the end of the month, start half-hardy annuals such as zinnia and cosmos undercover.

Begin putting stakes in place for tall growing perennials before they need them.

## **The Vegetable Garden**

Plant shallots and onion sets at the start of the month.

Sow carrots, beetroot, radish, parsnip, leeks and lettuce straight into the bed where they are to grow.

Weed and mulch asparagus beds. Asparagus has shallow roots so weed by hand to prevent damage.

Mulch fruit trees with well-rotted manure or garden compost. Take care not to mound mulch too close to the trunk.

Sow tomatoes, sweetcorn, squash, courgettes and cucumbers undercover for planting out in April.

Towards the end of the month plant out early potatoes.

On frosty nights, cover fruit blossoms with fleece to stop the flowers being damaged.

Keep an eye out for slugs and snails. Use natural deterrents such as garlic spray and wool pellets to keep your plants protected.

*February's gardening notes from local horticulturist Nikk Slowey FdSc H who along with her husband Christian are Honeysuckle Horticulture.*





## A Footnote on Gardening Books ...

My interest in horticulture was sparked by a copy of 'Adam the Gardener' passed to me by a friend's mum when I was a teenager. I'm glad to say that gardening literature has moved on since then. Below are my current favourites I would take to my desert island.

**'The Complete Gardener' by Monty Don.** A great, easy to understand handbook for both the flower and vegetable garden.

**'The Pottery Gardener' by Arthur Parkinson.** Beautiful photography and inspiring plant combinations for small spaces.

If you have ever dreamed of an overflowing cutting garden **Sarah Raven's 'A Year Full of Flowers'** is the book for you. Featuring detailed year round sowing and growing advice and stunning colour combinations this one is a true inspiration.

My heart will always be in the vegetable garden and **Anna Greenlands' 'Grow Easy'** is a gem. Unlike lots of other gardening books this one doesn't assume you have acres of space. With sections on everything from windowsill growing to seed saving its a real encyclopedia.

All the best,  
Nikk







## DR DAN POULTER MP

Member of Parliament for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich

As an NHS hospital doctor who has worked in some of the biggest and best London hospitals throughout my medical career, I am only too familiar with the signs and symptoms of Measles. Measles is an illness with unpleasant and sometimes life-threatening complications; a virus that Britain had hoped to eradicate through a vaccination programme delivering herd immunity, but unfortunately, parents failing to vaccinate their children has resulted in a loss of herd immunity and a recent surge in Measles cases.

Until recently, herd immunity had meant that cases of Measles had been isolated to small outbreaks in London and the big cities. However, the loss of herd immunity means that we are now seeing a surge of cases throughout the United Kingdom.

Herd immunity is where the spread of an infectious disease within a population is prevented by the pre-existing immunity of a high proportion of people within that population. In Britain, herd immunity against Measles had, in the past, been conveyed by an effective vaccination program – which in recent years meant a two-dose course of the MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) triple vaccine administered before a child's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.

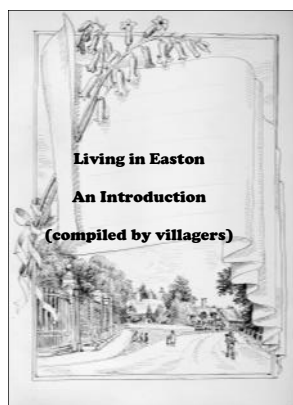
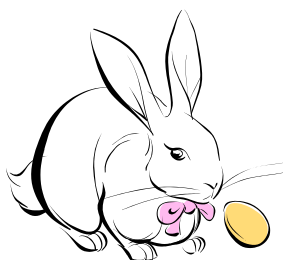
The MMR vaccine is routinely offered by health visitors and GPs. Herd immunity against Measles is achieved when 95% or more of the population have gained immunity. But in parts of London and Birmingham, less than 70% of the population have completed the MMR vaccination course by their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. In Suffolk, the picture is better, with 89.1% of children being fully vaccinated by their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday but this is insufficient to convey herd immunity, and means that over 1 in 10 children in our county are not fully protected against the Measles virus.

Measles is not an illness to be dismissed lightly. It is highly contagious with an R rate (or reproduction rate) of between 15 and 16. When compared to the R rate of the first strain of COVID-19 of between 2 and 3, it is clear that Measles spreads easily and quickly in the unvaccinated. The school classroom is particularly fertile territory for the Measles virus to spread.

The reason why vaccination against Measles is so important is because it can result in serious and life-threatening complications including pneumonia, meningitis, blindness and seizures. In pregnancy, Measles can cause miscarriage, still-birth and premature labour.

The task now is to restore herd immunity against Measles. If you or your child or grandchild has not completed the MMR vaccination course, then please book an appointment with your GP. It may just save a child's life.

*Dr Dan Poulter is the MP for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich and a practising NHS Doctor.*



## **New to Easton 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.

Peter Bennett King, 2 Black and White Cottages  
T: 747370 E: [thebks@btinternet.com](mailto:thebks@btinternet.com)

# All Saints Church



## Lent Group

This year, Ann is leading a Lent group in Hacheston Village Hall on Mondays at 2.30 pm for about an hour and a half. We shall be reading and talking about Mark's Gospel. All are welcome to attend. The sessions will run throughout Lent.

## Church Services (See table of services for full details)

The Benefice service on 3<sup>rd</sup> March will be at Campsea Ashe at 10.00 am.

On **Mothering Sunday** we shall be having a morning service which will include the traditional blessing and distribution of posies. This is at 11.00 am on 10<sup>th</sup> March. There is also a special afternoon tea and craft activities in Kettleburgh Village Hall in the afternoon.

On **Palm Sunday** (24<sup>th</sup> March) we shall be holding our Pilgrimage Service throughout the benefice. The Pilgrimage starts at 9.30 am from either end of the benefice (Brandeston and Campsea Ashe) and will be at Easton for part of the service at approximately 10.30 am. The whole pilgrimage ends up at Hacheston Village Hall at 10.55 am for tea/coffee and then we walk to Hacheston church for the remainder of the service.

There will be a service of Compline in **Holy Week** on 26<sup>th</sup> March at Easton church at 6 pm and in other churches on Monday and Wednesday that week.

On **Maundy Thursday** there will be a benefice Passover meal in Kettleburgh Village Hall at 6 pm.

On **Good Friday** the services are at Brandeston (all age) and at Parham for a Service of the Final Hour. See the table of services for details.

On **Easter Day** the Communion services are at Campsea Ashe or Kettleburgh. Again, see the table of services for times.

The Benefice service on 7<sup>th</sup> April is at Easton at 10.00 am.

## Services on Zoom

There will be a Zoom morning service on 17<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30 am. If you would like to join our Zoom services, please register with Bill Clarke so that he can send you the link (bill78@btinternet.com).

## Discussion Group

Our topic for March is the Armour of God and we are due to meet on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at Ash Grove, Framlingham at 10.30 am. New members are always welcome.

## Pilgrim Cross


This group will be visiting the church on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March as they walk to Walsingham from Essex. You may see them walking through the village at about 2.30 pm.

Jane Woodbury-Eggins

## Holy Week in Orebeck Benefice

Monday	25 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Compline	Campsea Ashe
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Compline	Easton
Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Compline	Marlesford
Maundy Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup>	6pm	Passover meal	Kettleburgh Village Hall
Good Friday	29 <sup>th</sup>	10am	All Age worship for Good Friday <i>with Hot Cross Buns</i>	Brandeston
		2pm	Service of the final hour	Parham

## Orebeck Church Services for March

3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lent 3	10am	Benefice Holy Communion	Campsea Ashe
10 <sup>th</sup>	Mothering Sunday 	9.30am	Holy Communion	Brandeston
			Morning Worship	Campsea Ashe (Station House)
		11am	Morning Worship	Marlesford
			Morning Prayer	Easton
		2.30pm	Afternoon Tea and Children's Craft Activities	Parham <i>with Hacheston</i>
17 <sup>th</sup>	Passion Sunday	9.30am	Zoom Morning Service	
			Holy Communion	Marlesford
		11am	Holy Communion	Kettleburgh
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Parham
24 <sup>th</sup>	Palm Sunday	9.30am	Benefice Pilgrimage <i>beginning at Campsea Ashe and Brandeston</i>	
31 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Sunday	9.30am	Easter Communion	Campsea Ashe
		11am		Kettleburgh

Please see our separate notice for special services for Holy Week

Compline is held at Marlesford on Wednesdays at 5pm

For an invitation to our Zoom services contact Bill [bill78@btinternet.com](mailto:bill78@btinternet.com)

# Mother's Day Family Afternoon Tea

Sunday 10th March

2.30 pm to 5 pm

Kettleburgh Village Hall



Adults £12 Children under 11 free!

Booking essential

Please contact Joan [joanmealing46@gmail.com](mailto:joanmealing46@gmail.com)

01728 724577

Enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea of sandwiches; sausage rolls; savouries; scones; jam and cream; and selection of cakes to suit all tastes – and of course lashings of tea. For that extra special treat why not add a glass of prosecco for a small extra cost?

While you relax and enjoy your tea, children will be kept busy with organised crafting activities, and will tuck into their own delicious tea.

Book now and treat the special person in your life or come and treat yourself!

Payment can be made by BACS at time of booking or cash/cheque on the day.

# *Sunday Café*

**Sunday 17th March**

**10 — 11.30 am**

**Village Hall**

**Come and join us for delicious home made goodies all made by our lovely volunteers, 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? You'll be sure of a warm welcome.**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**(Cash only please)**

Sponsored by All Saints Church





## Neighbourhood Watch News for March

### **Rogue parking ads still rife on Google, warns Which?**

We're urging people to avoid using search engines when trying to pay for parking online. Instead, you should download apps from the official Apple or Google Play app stores instead to avoid being ripped off.

### **Fake adverts targeting drivers on Google**

Which? has previously issued warnings about drivers being charged outrageous sums for unwanted subscriptions after searching for parking apps online, or accidentally giving their card details to random third-party websites .

Scammers continue to abuse online advertising to trap drivers.

In recent weeks, we've seen adverts impersonating JustPark, PayByPhone and RingGo on Google – all of which appeared at the top of search results on a mobile phone and above the genuine websites for these companies.

For example, adverts for websites called onlytelephone.com and another called homeautomationinnovators.com appeared to link to the same PayByPhone fake website. Both claim to offer a 'free download' but hide identical small print at the bottom of their websites revealing charges of £24.99 a month to an unnamed company for a 'health and lifestyle bundle subscription'.

A spokesperson for PayByPhone confirmed that these advertisers have nothing to do with PayByPhone and do not have permission to use their logos. It added that it has previously reported fake adverts but scammers simply buy a new domain.



We attempted to contact both advertisers using the email addresses listed on their websites. The message to onlytelephone.com bounced back and we received no response from homeautomationinnovators.com.

## **What about other search engines?**

We found far more examples of dodgy parking adverts on Google than other search engines, but rogue advertising is everywhere.

In fact, we appeared to find the same advert on both Yahoo and Microsoft's Bing, this time linking to a website called trendy-apps.com.

As before, this advertiser is using the PaybyPhone logo and setting up unwanted subscriptions costing £24.99 per month with no clarity about who you're paying.

We attempted to contact trendy-apps.com using the email address listed on its website but this message bounced back.

A spokesperson for Yahoo Search ads said it has a partnership with Microsoft Bing and has worked with them to block this advertiser.

## **What if I've given my card details away?**

If you think you've added your card details on a scam website, contact your bank immediately.

Keep an eye on your bank statements in case scammers have set up recurring payments. Your card provider can block further payments and issue a refund if you're unable to get your money back.

Take your case to the Financial Ombudsman Service if your bank refuses to reimburse you.

You should also report scams to Action Fraud calling 0300 123 2040

# Meet the Business—Niche Cocktails

Did you know that Easton is home to one of Suffolk's craft cocktail businesses?

Up at Martley Hall, behind the crinkle crankle wall, there are offices in a beautiful converted barn which is the base of Niche Cocktails, Boxtails and Toxin Drinks, all of which sit under the management of The East Coast Cocktail Company.

I'm Emily and am Supply Chain Manager and a Company Director. I also live in the village with my husband Oli, who is gardener to several houses in Easton. We have two children and a Labrador.



Richard and Georgie Croft are the owners of Martley Hall and have been the lead investors, directors and supporters of Niche Cocktails since day one. They converted the offices in 2021 when we moved in from our previous location in Melton. Their family investment and support hub business, CSF Group, is also run from the same building. There are other businesses also based at Martley Hall – Infotex, a digital marketing and website development agency and of course the familiar Martley Hall Stud.

Our company began with Niche Cocktails which we launched in 2020, right before the first lockdown. It was born as a solution to a hospitality problem - getting a good quality cocktail, made quickly and consistently in any venue is very difficult and requires many ingredients and skilled staff. So, our purpose was to create a range of premium quality cocktails in cans made from all natural ingredients that could easily be enjoyed either at home or in a bar.

The East Coast Cocktail Company is our parent company and is now the proud owner of two further cocktail businesses as well.

- Toxin Drinks launched in February this year - sells high quality canned alcoholic drinks to young adults and university students in partnership with a high-profile influencer and their social media platforms.
- Boxtails produces cocktails in pouches that are purchased online and can be put through the letterbox. Perfect gift sets and also available through Tesco Clubcard scheme.

Our head office is based at Martley Hall with all our drinks produced locally off site in Ipswich. We run the order fulfilment from here and employ eight members of permanent staff, as well as often taking on temporary staff from time to time, when we are busy.

Under the Niche Cocktail brand, we currently have 7 flavours, of which Raspberry Cosmo, Matcha Mojito and Pink Grapefruit Gin Fizz are our best-sellers. We also do some more wintery flavours - Manuka Honey Whisky Sour and Blood Orange Old Fashioned. We will be launching new flavours this spring and summer. Check out our website for more details.

[www.nichecocktails.co.uk](http://www.nichecocktails.co.uk)

Most of our sales are to supermarkets, restaurants, hotels and independent shops. Our biggest customer is currently the Southern Co-op. But we also sell directly to customers online.

Our plan is to grow the businesses rapidly and for Niche Cocktails to become the go-to premium ready to drink cocktail on the market nationally.

Emily Mummery



Please note my working hours: Mon 9-3 / Tues 9-5 / Weds 9-3 / Thurs 9-5

[emily@nichecocktails.co.uk](mailto:emily@nichecocktails.co.uk)

01473598268

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## Easton Cricket Club

Easton CC have been busy over the winter renovating their nets that had fallen into disrepair and so are ready for the start of the season - just around the corner!

It would not have been possible without their Sponsors: GAH, Foscett Willows and Bentwaters Parks, but a special thanks also to John Reader for his support.

Winter training has started on Sunday evenings at Woodbridge School and so if you are new to the area and would like to play we are always on the lookout for new players and so please get in touch at [easton1906@gmail.com](mailto:easton1906@gmail.com)

Jamie Harper





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# Chuckles

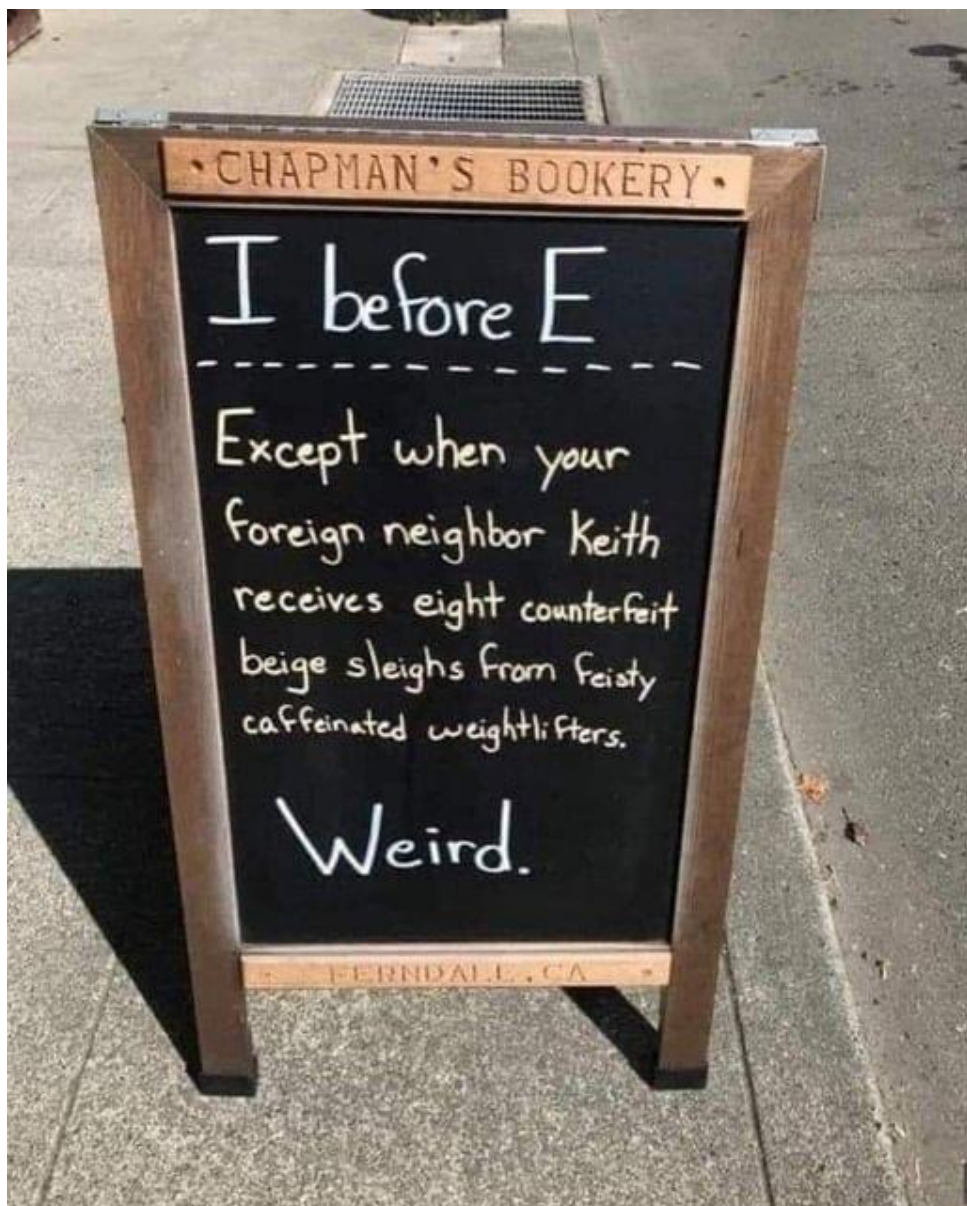
## **FAMILY TREE OF VINCENT VAN GOGH**

(Gogh pronounced 'Go')

His dizzy aunt -----	Verti Gogh
The brother who ate prunes -----	Gotta Gogh
The brother who worked at a convenience store -----	Stop N Gogh
The grandfather from Yugoslavia -----	U Gogh
His magician uncle -----	Where-diddy Gogh
His Mexican cousin -----	A Mee Gogh
The Mexican cousin's American half-brother -----	Gring Gogh
The nephew who drove a stage coach -----	Wells-far Gogh
The constipated uncle -----	--Can't Gogh
The ballroom dancing aunt -----	Tang Gogh
The bird lover uncle -----	Flamin Gogh
An aunt who taught positive thinking -----	Way-to-Gogh
The little bouncy nephew -----	Poe Gogh
A sister who loved disco -----	Go Gogh
The brother with low back pain -----	Lum Bay Gogh
And his niece who travels the country in an RV ---	Winnie Bay Gogh
I saw you smiling . . . there ya Gogh	

Thanks to Jackie Atkinson for this gem.

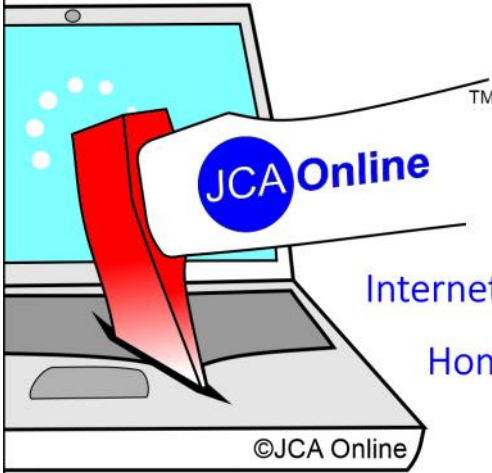




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