WICKHAM MARKET PARISH NEWS

IP13 0

YOUR FREE NEWS AND INFORMATION BOOKLET

From Wickham Market Parish Council

May 2025

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Meets on the third Monday alternate months

Ivor French (Chair)
David Chenery (Vice Chair)
Robin Cooke — Gemma Dempsey-Gray
Gloria Creasey — John Horsnell
John Day — Dick Jenkinson

Contact us:

Chair: Ivor French: *ivor.f@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk*
Clerk: Al Besly: *clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk*
Deputy Clerk: Leanne Castle: *deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk*

For more information: *https://wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk/*

Social Media

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

Parish Council Committees and Groups

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

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

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

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

Village Hall Modernisation Committee: Meets on 1st or 2nd Tuesday monthly. Schedule published on our website. Working to modernise the village hall.

Environment & Leisure Working Group: Meets on the second Monday alternate months and advises on the Cemetery and other environmental issues.

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

Emergency Plan Working Group: Responsible for developing plans to manage emergencies in the parish.

WELCOME TO SPRING!

Another booklet filled with information and things to do, showcasing some of our village clubs that are open for anyone to join. Have a look through and decide what you would like to do this year!

We have has a bit of an update at the Parish Council with a new web domain of: *https://wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk/*
All our email addresses are now "*@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk*" in line with Government recommendation.
We have also adjusted the printing schedule for Wickham Market Parish News which will now be published every two months starting in May 2025

The print deadlines for the July issue are below

Ivor French
Chair, Wickham Market Parish Council
ivor.f@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

IN THIS ISSUE

P4 News Roundup
P6 Markets report
P8 Community Policing
P10 Playing Field Bowls Club
P12 Flowers and Fashion
P12 Regain your Strength and Flexibility
P13 - 17 Local Business and Information pull-out
P18 Exercise Classes for Parkinson's Communities
P18 Wickham Market Good Neighbours Scheme
P20 Wickham Market Primary School
P22 Wickham Market Tennis Club
P23 Silver Swan Ballet
P24 From the Archives - The Blue Boar
P26 Gardening Club

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH NEWS
Produced by
WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL
Printed Locally by
Suffolk Digital on **FSC PAPER**
DELIVERED FREE
to all addresses whose postcode begins **IP13 0**
Space for FSC Logo

PRINT DEADLINES:
Content for the July issue by 6 June
Delivery: Over a two week period commencing on 7 July 2025
Contact for contributions:
clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk
Please email your text with good quality pictures as separate attachments

NEWS ROUNDUP

A HUGE THANK YOU

Ivor French and David Chenery of Wickham Market Parish Council recently presented Linda Merriam with flowers and thanked her for her work as cemetery clerk. For almost 19 years Linda has coordinated burial and cremation plots with funeral directors, stone masons and families.

Ivor commented, “Since 2006 Linda has seen the new Garden of Remembrance be established and new technology has streamlined the role. On behalf of the village, we thank Linda for being a calm and friendly face at a difficult time for many people.”

Linda said, “Thank you so much for my lovely presents and for coming to my cottage to give them to me. I have thoroughly enjoyed the role of cemetery clerk but am now glad to hand it on.”

From the 1st March the deputy clerk of Wickham Market Parish Council, Leanne Castle will be managing the interment process at the cemetery. The contact email is *cemeteryclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk*

CHILDREN’S PLAY AREA CLEANED

The playing field children’s play area has had its annual professional clean including graffiti removal from the table. The hedge has also been trimmed to keep the whole area maintained. Our litter picker checks the area twice per week.

NEW RUBBISH BIN FOR CHAPEL LANE

This new bin is situated at the pedestrian exit from Morris Road to Chapel Lane. It is a duel general waste and dog waste bin which will be emptied regularly. Please use it!

BUS SHELTER SPRING CLEAN

The bus shelter on the Hill has had it’s spring clean by Roy Care, leaving the glass work sparkling. The brick work will need some attention later this year.

ROADSIDE PATH CLEARED

Many thanks to Simon, our volunteer footpath warden. He has cleared the sides and surface of the path alongside the B1078 from the BT building up to the crossover point

5:30AM ON SATURDAY MORNING!

Thank you residents on the Hill for leaving the car park clear for the Spring Market!

WICKHAM MARKET SPRANG INTO SPRING!

The Spring Market took place in Wickham Market on 22nd March. The many visitors browsed the 40 stalls selling a wide range of hand-crafted goods, homeware, gifts, fashion, pottery, crafts, food and drink.

There was a lively atmosphere and during the morning the Barley Brigg Morris Dancers and their band performed twice, inviting the public to join them. They danced in memory village resident, Phil Wilsher, one of their members who recently passed away and who is sorely missed.

The Wickham Market Community Choir sang a selection of songs, the school PTA offered facepainting for the youngsters and the Climate Action Group gave away 100 free 'Field to Fork' gift bags containing vegetable seeds and flower seed 'bombs'.

Leanne Castle, Deputy Clerk for Wickham Market Parish Council commented, "It was great to see so many residents and visitors enjoy themselves, coming together to celebrate the start of spring. We are delighted to announce our Summer Market will be held on Saturday 21st June on The Hill. We are always pleased to welcome new stall holders, if anyone is interested in booking a £15 pitch, please email *deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk*

COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM

I am PC 799 Claire Cox and have recently taken over the patch of Wickham Market and Woodbridge.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, I first Joined Suffolk Constabulary in April 2007. I have had various roles within the force since that time but I am now currently part of the Community Policing Team of which I am thoroughly enjoying.

I am very much looking forward to meeting you all whilst I am out and about in the village so please if you do see me do come say Hi.

I plan to be available for regular surgeries at Wickham Market Resource Centre, next to the library, please see ajoining page for dates

I am aware that every village comes with their own concerns/issues and I am hoping to provide you all with some reassurance.

If you are wanting to report a crime or incident please see below for options:-

Emergency – 999
Non emergency is 101
Online via the website - www.suffolk.police.uk
Email - cpt.ipswicheast@suffolk.police.uk

PC Claire Cox 799
CPT
Southern Area Policing Command

POLICE SURGERIES

At Wickham Market Community Rooms,

Chapel Lane, Wickham Market

2025

Wednesday 25th June 10:00 – 12:00

Wednesday 30th July 10:00 – 12:00

Wednesday 20th August 10:00 – 12:00

Thursday 10th September 10:00 – 12:00

If you have any Police related issues or would like advice on Crime, ASB or careers, please come along.

PC 799 Cox & PCSO 3166 Billett

WICKHAM MARKET PLAYING FIELD BOWLS CLUB

The Wickham Market Playing Field Bowls Club has been playing green bowls on our outdoor green just beyond the Playing Field children's play area for over 70 years since its formation in 1952. We are a small but active, friendly and welcoming, club which is still thriving. The outdoor green bowling season runs from late April to early September.

Bowls (also known as Green Bowls) is a game with a long and vibrant past. From humble beginnings in the 13th century bowls has become a sport which is played today in over 50 countries. The world's oldest surviving bowls green (in Southampton) dates from 1299. You may have heard that Sir Francis Drake allegedly determined to finish a game of bowls before he went off to fight the Spanish Armada. Bowls survived a royal ban during the reigns of Edward III, Richard II and other monarchs because people played it in preference to practising archery – which was then an important skill for battle. Conversely Henry VIII was a keen bowler. The game of bowls was codified (common rules published) after 1830 and modern rules were finally fixed in 1864.

But bowls is bang up to date – witness its championships featuring live on national TV. Bowls is often characterised as a game for the elderly but this is a total fallacy for it offers opportunity and activity for both sexes and for age ranges from upper primary school through secondary school to Senior Citizen.

Once again members have put their shoulders to the wheel in the necessary maintenance and improvement of the club's buildings and facilities – green maintenance, repairs and decoration of the pavilion etc - to ensure that we are ready for the season's games. So Wickham Market Playing Field Bowls Club will be up and running once again for the 2025 season. We play in two local evening leagues (usually Wednesday and Thursday) and offer a weekly Club Night (just for fun) each Monday during the season. We had a very successful season in 2024 finishing fourth (of eight) in Division C of the Wednesday evening Ipswich Triples League against much bigger clubs having scores of members. In the Thursday evening Fynn league, which mixes established bowlers with new players learning the intricacies of bowls on grass rinks, we managed to win two (of ten) games – again generally against bigger clubs.

Why not give us a try? Just turn up for a friendly and informal 'roll-up' (bowls speak for a practice/ trial/ taster session)? Our green opens for the new season on Saturday 26th April 2025. This will be an Open Day for all-comers from 2pm to 4pm or you can turn up at one of our weekly informal Monday club nights which will run from Monday 28th April 2025 commencing at 6.30pm. Or you can contact us for a one-to-one session at times for your convenience.

We offer experienced bowlers to assist newcomers to the sport and can also loan all necessary equipment apart from footwear. We have a number of sets of bowls of various sizes (including smaller bowls specifically designed for young people or those of smaller stature). All you would initially need to provide are flat soled shoes (most trainer type footwear will be fine).

Just contact Bruce Laws, Club Secretary, by phone or text on 01728 746715 or 07929 647 660 or Barrie Cracknell, Club Captain, on 01728 746300 and we will get back to you with information and an invitation to meet at the green.

FLOWERS AND FASHION

The recent Wickham Market Flower Club 'Spring Selection' demonstration saw more than 40 members and visitors enjoy an interesting evening as Roger Woolnough from Aldringham created some inspiring and imaginative arrangements.

There will be an 'open meeting' on Thursday 24th April at Wickham Market Village Hall (IP13 0HE) with the title 'Flowers, Fun and Friendship'. The doors open at 6.30pm and the evening starts at 7pm. The cost is £5 for members and £10 for visitors: there will be a sales table, raffle and refreshments and everyone is most welcome.

The Flower Club Fashion Show will take place on Friday 16th May, again at the village hall; working with Chaffinch, an independent shop in Woodbridge which sells a wide range of stylish and affordable clothing and accessories. Pop the date in your diary and look out for more details and posters nearer the time.

Wickham Market Flower Club is thriving and would welcome others to join their team of organisers. For more information please call 01394 384803.

REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH AND FLEXIBILITY

Now it's spring, most people want to get outdoors to walk, tackle the garden as well as enjoy the chance to relax. Often the reality is different, over the winter months, stuck in doors in front of the TV or desk, we may have lost some flexibility and strength. It needn't be the end of the world; fitness can be regained.

Cathie lives in Wickham Market and has a background in medicine and sport, she is a qualified British Wheel of Yoga teacher and 27 years ago discovered yoga to return herself to health - it brought her from dis-ease to well-being. Cathie holds group yoga classes in Bredfield, Hollesley and Harkstead and one-to-one sessions in Wickham Market as well as a weekly 'Breath and Meditation' class on Zoom.

"Yoga is so much more than flexibility and power poses" commented Cathie, "I want to help people, whatever their present physical condition to find the form of yoga which suits them. My teaching is non-judgemental, my aim is to help people improve how they move and breath, and to help them relax. In the process, they can gain in both mental and physical health and happiness." To find out more

visit *www.returntostillness.co.uk*
email *cathie@returntostillness.co.uk*
call mobile 07734469038,
landline 01728 747001

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FALLEN TREES: 0345 606 6171

HIGHWAY FLOODING: SCC 0345 606 6171 or 0300 1235000 *www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk*

STREET CLEANING/CLEARING: 0333 016 2000

POWER CUTS: Power Networks call: 105 or 999

DANGEROUS STRUCTURES: 01394 444 219 or 0800 440 2516

MANHOLE PROBLEMS that are considered an emergency: 0345 606 6171

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

EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL Emergency out of Hours: 0800 440 2516

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ALL IN AUTO SERVICES
Vehicle service and maintenance
Riverside View Industrial estate
01728 746999
allinautoservices@btconnect.com

BAYFIELDS DIGITAL
TV Aerials, Satellite TV, WiFi, CCTV
9 Riverside View Industrial Estate
01728 745745
www.bayfieldsdigital.com

BELLISSIMA BEAUTY
Beauty treatments/gifts
46 High Street 01728 746981
www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk

THE BENGAL
Indian Restaurant/Takeaway
70 High Street 01728 747767
www.the-bengal.co.uk

BLUE CROCUS TEXTILES
Textiles, lampshades, curtains, blinds & fabric designs,
179C High Street 01473 487844
www.bluecrocustextiles.com

CAFÉ 46
Cakes, coffee, lunch and more
46 High Street 01728 746690
www.cafe46.co.uk

COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET
14-18 High Street 01728 746313
www.coop.co.uk

EAST ANGLIAN TRADITIONAL ART CENTRE
48 High Street 01728 747050
www.eatac.co.uk

EAST COAST ADVENTURES
Group Outdoor Activities and Events
www.ecadventures.co.uk
07388 091459

ENGLISH GRAIN
Bespoke Kitchens and Furniture
181 High Street 07850 416487
https://www.englishgrain.co.uk/

THE FLAMING FRYER
Fish & Chips
75 High Street 01728 901222

GELHAM HALL FLOWERS
Growers of seasonal flowers
Gelham Hall, Wickham Market
07495 156955

HAIR AFFAIR
Hairdressers
73 High Street 01728 746616

HIGH HOUSE CHILD CARE
Day Nursery, baby sitting
220 High St 01728 746970
highhouse1@hotmail.co.uk

IN-HOMECARE SUFFOLK
Community and Live in care
34 High Street 01728 746416
sue.rose@in-homecare.co.uk

METHOD FIT
Personal Training, Group Fitness Classes and Parkinson's Support.
The Barn, Bridge & Ivy Farm, IP13 0AA
www.methodfit.uk 07801 653085
fiona.hering@icloud.com

PETER HALL FLOORING
77b High Street
www.peterhallflooring.com

K C AUTO SERVICES
MOT and vehicle maintenance
Riverside View Industrial estate
01728 747279 / 07747 831535

LILY CHRISTINA Bridal Boutique
Bridal Collection (by appt only)
77B High Street. 07737 488368
lilychristinabridalboutique@gmail.com

JIM MALTBY
Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Probate
11 Observers Road 07765 253756
jimemaltby@hotmail.com

MORRISONS DAILY
Convenience Store
79A High Street 01728 747413
www.morrisons.com

THE NEW PEACH BOWER
Chinese Restaurant/Takeaway
56 High Street 01728 747901
www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk

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

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

OFFSET FILMS
Film and Video Production
179D High Street. 01473 598669
www.offsetfilms.co.uk

OLD SCHOOL ANTIQUES
Unit 1, Riverside View IP13 0TA
01728 746700
www.theoldschoolantiques.co.uk

THE ORCHARD CAMPSITE
Campsite plus fully equipped Safari Tent
28 Spring Lane, 07818 034729
www.orchardcampsite.co.uk

THE PARLOUR
Brows, lashes and nails
179 High Street 07872 070522
theparlour179@icloud.com

E R & R T RACKHAM LTD
Solid fuel & animal feed merchants
Deben Mills IP13 0RG
01728 746207 *www.rackhamltd.co.uk*

REBECCA'S REFLEXOLOGY AND WELLNESS
32 High Street. 07845 599256
www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk

RETURN TO STILLNESS
Yoga classes and one to one sessions
www.returntotillnes.co.uk
cathie@returntostillnes.co.uk
07734 469038, 01728 747001

E W REVETT & SON
Butchery/Fine food and wine
81 High Street 01728 746263
www.revett.co.uk

RISE AND SHINE
Window cleaning, domestic & commercial
Featherbroom Gardens
07811 201039

ROLAND PLASTICS
High Street, Wickham Market, IP13 0RF. 01728 747777
www.RolandPlastics.com

DA RUSE PLUMBING & HEATING
Plumbing, heating, tiling. Bathroom & kitchen installations.
42 Barhams Way, IP13 0SR.
07999250203 01728564132
www.daruseplumbingandheating.co.uk

ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE
Charity Shop 54 High Street
www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk

SAXON VETS
22 High Street 01728 747427
www.saxonvets.com

ANNA SHAND
Chiropodist / Podiatrist
64 High Street 01728 745010

SOUTH EAST ANTIQUES
Buy, Sell & Value Antiques & Jewellery
Unit 7, Riverside View, IP13 0TA
www.southeastantiques.co.uk

SVRC DOG WASH
Riverside View industrial estate
07921 586339

TEA POT TEA ROOMS
Dine-in/Takeaway
70A High Street 01728 748079

VALLEY FARM EQUESTRIAN LEISURE
Horse Riding, Visitor Centre, Holiday Lodge, Camping
https://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/

WICKHAM MARKET DENTAL CLINIC
2 Crown House 01728 746220
www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk

WICKHAM MARKET PHARMACY
68 High Street 01728 746267

WICKHAM MARKET POST OFFICE
and Stores
36 High Street 01728 746201

USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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

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

Disability Advice Service
(East Suffolk): 01394 387070

Good Neighbour Scheme: (GNS)
Available to residents in Wickham Market parish only. Transport to medical and social appointments. Friendship and support with shopping, posting letters, filling forms, computers, dog walking, DIY, 07914 494108.

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

Men's Shed: Behind the Village Hall. Social and creative centre.
Mondays 2 pm
www.wmshed.org.uk 01728 747782

INTERESTS

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

Football Club and Social Club, behind the Village Hall. 01728 747731
www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk

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

Bowls Club (playing Field):
01728 746715

Red Triangle Bowls Club:
01728 604491

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

VALLEY FARM

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

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

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

VILLAGE HALL

Lettings:
lettings.wmvillagehall@gmail.com
Also at the Village Hall

Bingo
Tuesdays 6pm
Tina Clack 01728 746846

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

Gardening Club:
Monthly third Thursday 7:30 pm
wmgardenclub27@gmail.com

Toddler and Baby Group
Wednesdays during school term
9:00 - 11:30 (£2.50 per family)
stephanieworne@gmail.com

WI
Second Thursday each month at 7.30

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Crown Lane, IP13 0SA
01728 748224
warden@wickhammarketchurch.org
www.wickhammarketchurch.org

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

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

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

BEEHIVE BUILDING Crown Lane

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

WICKHAM MARKET LIBRARY

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

Regular Events at the Library:

Family History Guidance By Appointment: Tuesdays 10am - 1pm

Morning Book Group:
1st Tuesday monthly 10am,

Tots Rock: - active songs and rhymes for preschool children:
Thursdays 9.45am - 10.15am,

Sewing Group:
Thursdays 1.30pm - 4.30pm,

Lego Club:
Saturdays 10am - 12pm.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB

01728 746915

WM PRIMARY SCHOOL and LITTLE AVOCETS NURSERY:
01728 746405

RESOURCE CENTRE Chapel Lane, IP13 0SD: 01728 747782

Resource Centre Gardening Group
2nd Wednesday monthly at 10am.
Barbara Harrington: *sbharrington@outlook.com* or come along.

ARCHIVE CENTRE:
Local history, archives and artefacts
Philip Tallent 01728 746058

WHICH COUNCIL DOES WHAT?

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL:
Highways, Recycling
https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/ 0345 606 6067
Reporting any highways issue including: potholes, street lights, drains, hedges, gritting, pavements *https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/*

EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL:
Waste collection, Pay car parks, Planning *https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/*
0333 016 2000
Sally Noble *sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk*
District Councillor for the Wickham Market Ward.

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL:
Cemetery, Playing Fields, Children's Play Area, Allotments, Markets, Footpaths (with SCC).
footpaths@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk
https://wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk/
clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

EXERCISE CLASSES FOR PARKINSON'S COMMUNITIES

Method Fit Introduces New Exercise Classes in Wickham Market for Parkinson's Communities.

A new weekly exercise class has been launched in Wickham Market to help people with Parkinson's stay active. The classes, offered by Method Fit Personal Training, take place every Wednesday at 2pm at Wickham Market Village Hall.

Fiona Hering of Method Fit said, "The sessions are designed to be both fun and social; we aim to encourage physical activity for those living with Parkinson's and provide support and guidance. We welcome people whether they live in Wickham Market or further afield."

"We are extremely grateful to Wickham Market Parish Council who have generously donated £350.00 to enable us to purchase specific equipment to use with our Parkinson's group."

Qualified personal trainer Fiona also provides a range of strength and conditioning classes suitable for all fitness levels. The morning and evening sessions focus on full-body workouts and are held at The Barn, Bridge and Ivy Farm (next to the Play Barn), IP13 0AA. Fiona also offers one-on-one personal training sessions six days a week.

For more information regarding the Parkinson's sessions or general fitness classes contact Fiona on 07801 653085 or email *fiona.hering@icloud.com.*

WICKHAM MARKET GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME

WHAT THE GOOD NEIGHBOURS CAN DO FOR YOU:
We can drive you to appointments at Ipswich or Aldeburgh hospitals, the GP surgery, the dentist, day care centre and other health clinics; to social clubs or society meetings; to the hairdresser or to visit a friend or relative.

We can provide a helping hand now and then for things such as: taking your repeat prescription to the surgery and collecting medication from the pharmacy; we can change that battery or light bulb you can't quite manage; we can do local shopping for you; or we can help with that minor DIY job that is a little too much for you.

NOTE: Sadly we are no longer able to offer a befriending service to any new clients due to a lack of volunteers.

MARKET:
We hope to have a stall at the summer market in June, do come and see us for a chat.

STAIR LIFT:
We have been donated a second hand stair lift which is free to anyone who might be in need – it is for a straight, single storey flight of stairs. It will be supplied as is and any alterations or fitting costs will be for the recipient to fund. If you are interested please contact the number below to discuss.

If you need our assistance, or would like to volunteer – we are always in need of more drivers – please call us on 07914 494108

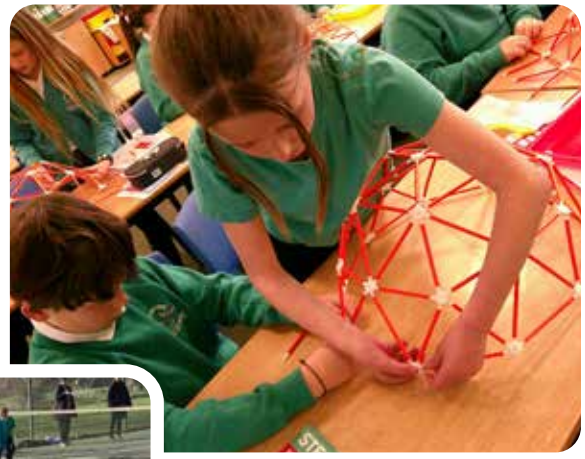
The phone is manned Monday – Friday between 9.00am and 5.00pm (not bank holidays) or you can leave a message. Please give us several days notice to arrange a lift (if you can) and longer for hospital or other longer appointments.

Please note that we only provide our services to residents of Wickham Market parish, we do not cover neighbouring villages.

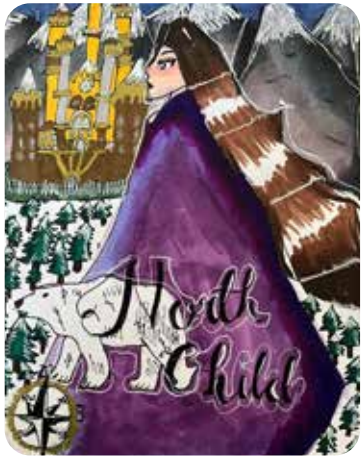
Children and staff at Wickham Market Primary School have enjoyed an exciting and busy Spring Term with a range of engaging curriculum work as well as a range of special days, visits and visitors.

We always like to embrace opportunities to link with other community organisations and facilities. We are very grateful to our neighbours, Wickham Market Tennis Club, for granting us the use of their courts this term. Year 4/5 have been so excited to play tennis on proper courts each week and they have made great progress with their tennis skills as a result. Children in Key Stage two have also been busy producing some work to be included in a time capsule which is due to be buried within the site of The George Pub.

There have been many opportunities for children to develop their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) skills. As part of British Science Week, year 4/5 took part in a range of science experiments at the Sizewell B Visitor Centre. They made electrical circuits, experimented with friction and completed a range of hands-on activities to learn about different types of energy and the work which is done at Sizewell to produce electricity. They also took part in the inter-school KNEX challenge, working together to build fairground rides with moving parts. Year 6 also enjoyed their second workshop with Skill Supply (provided by Sizewell C); exploring drones in the morning and building domes in the afternoon.



We are currently looking for community members to join our friendly school Local Governing Body (LGB), formally known as school governors. This a voluntary but rewarding role, which will help you acquire new skills and make a positive difference to children's education. Full training is provided. Do you have approximately 3-4 hours a month to offer to provide challenge and support to school leaders? If you are interested in finding out more please email myself or our chair, Jo Ashburn at wkt.admin@eastmat.org.



Do you have a child who is due to turn three before September 2025 and are looking for a nursery place? With wrap around care available from 7:45am to 5pm we welcome children from age three onwards and allow parents to use their funded hours flexibly. If you would like to find out more and have a tour of the school to see what we have to offer, please contact the school office (01728 746405, wkt.admin@eastmat.org) to make an appointment convenient to you.

We embraced the annual World Book Day celebrations in school again this year. Teachers were challenged to decorate their classroom doors with a book theme, children were invited to enter a selection of competitions including designing new front covers for favourite books and staff and children came into school dressed in pjs or comfy clothes to enjoy shared reading activities.

Jo Harris

Head of School

WICKHAM MARKET TENNIS CLUB

One of the best kept secrets in Wickham Market, (if you are newish to the village) is the three, well maintained, hard tennis courts at Simon's Cross Playing Field.

In a picturesque location they can be found at Orchard Place, Wickham Market IP13 0RU. There is free parking too, (for considerate parkers). The courts are available to non-members to hire; you can book a pay and play session for £5.00 per hour online or in person at Wickham Market Library which is based behind the Medical Centre (cash only and please check their opening hours). Rackets and balls are available to use for visitors free of charge – great if friends, family or holidaymakers are staying.

You can join as a member, and there is a half price, first year membership offer of £20. As a member of Wickham Market Tennis Club, the courts are free to use and there are regular fun coaching sessions for all standards on Saturday mornings and regular social tennis for members and non-members.

To find out more about the Wickham Market Tennis Club or to book an online pay and play session for £5 please go to
clubspark.lta.org.uk/WickhamMarketTennisClub

In August the club will be running a third Tennis Xpress course for beginners and 'rusty rackets'. This will run on Wednesday evenings at 6pm.

For coaching and Tennis Xpress details please call Martin 07702 559412 or email *madautoparts@gmail.com*

ADULT SILVER SWAN BALLET CLASSES WICKHAM MARKET

Lily Turner Smith runs LTS School of Dance, a newly established dance school.

Lily is a registered ballet teacher with the Royal Academy of Dance. Her ethos is to make ballet inclusive and accessible, and she provides Silver Swan adult ballet classes at Wickham Market Village Hall on Thursdays from 10.45am-11.45am. Designed specifically for older learners, it's a great way to keep fit and have fun.

Lily said, "It doesn't matter if someone has never danced before or hasn't danced for many years, the Silver Swan classes have something for everyone, and no special equipment or clothing is required."

Classes in Wickham Market cost £9 per session or participants can pay for an advance booking block of classes for £8.50 (minimum of 4 classes).

To find out more visit
ltsschoolofdance.com/adults/
or contact Lily at
ltsschoolofdance23@gmail.com

THE BLUE BOAR

The next public house in our tour of Wickham Market is The Blue Boar, which was on the corner of The Hill and Broad Road, and is now the St Elizabeth Hospice charity shop.

Inns of this name often started life being known as the White Boar, which was king Richard III's badge, but after his death in 1485 they hastily changed their name to the Earl of Oxford's Blue Boar, he being a supporter of the new king Henry VII.

The Blue Boar was the first port of call for travellers from Letheringham, Easton and Charsfield.

It was one of the oldest pubs in the village. There is a reference to it in 1644, in a record of the “trial" of Robert Large, a curate from Charsfield, Letheringham and Hoo. His case was being heard by “The Suffolk Committee for Scandalous Ministers” and it was alleged "That the said Mr. Large hath been drunke at the Blew Boare in Wickham Markett and divers* times at Letheringham Abbey and once at Dallinghoo he was so drunke that he fell into the fire and that he hath been distempered divers* tymes beside with beere or wyne. Thomas Brookes saw him fall into the fire, Anthony Burwood saw him fall into the fire and afterwards into a bushe, having drunke, as he supposed, too much."
Unfortunately we don’t know what happened to Mr Large.
[* An old word meaning several]

There is also a record in 1652 which says "One night's quarter for 9 soldiers at 4d a man at the Blew Boare" and "At the Blew Boare for 4 soldiers for 2 nights on a march through the towne and for two of the same for one night on their return back, 8d."

In the 18th century it was the reputed to be the 'clearing house' for Richard Arnold, also known as Little Dick, who was a notorious smuggler who lived at Quill Farm, Campsey Ashe. A report in The Ipswich Journal of January 1807 says he died after a fall from his horse.

This is what was reported about The Blue Boar in the Woodbridge Reporter and Wickham Market Gazette of 29th March 1894:

“At the sign of the Blue Boar”, such was the designation of the house on the hill now occupied by Mr Henry Roe, and which many years ago was a public house. At the present day it has an extensive cellarage. Here probably in the days gone by, contraband goods would find their way, and a drop into which exciseman never put his dipstick was partaken of by those who frequented this ancient hostlery. It is just possible that “little Dick” of smuggling notoriety, who resided at Quill Farm, Campsey Ashe, knew where the Blue Boar was situated. Dick was a trouble to the Government Officials in his day, but seemed one too many for them. Report says he would cross the Deben at the quill and the firing of a pistol was a signal that he was coming.

The Blue Boar flourished in the days probably when a man was thought to be a gentleman if he drank till he rolled under the table. It is to be feared its attendants had not heeded the scriptural injunction, “Neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under feet, and turn again and rend you”. Surely the Blue Boar made sad havoc of those who were in the habit of attending his jollifications. But the Blue Boar has long passed away, and for a number of years the business of Grocery and Drapery has been carried on.

By the nineteenth century it had closed as a pub, and was used as a grocery and drapery shop, trading for many years as "Roe's", "Lawn's Top Shop", "Fine Fare" and so on. In 1988 it became the Old Coach House, selling china, then Sweet Dreams, selling lingerie, before becoming the Hospice Shop.

We have no pictures of The Blue Boar as a pub, but this one shows it when it was a grocery store run by Henry Roe, showing his staff and dog.

Wickham Market Area Archive Centre will soon be recommencing our popular bi-monthly talks. The first one will be in The George at 7:30pm on Wednesday 14th May. I will be talking about “Crumbs and Curiosities”, explaining how to research your family history and showing how one small detail can lead to discovering a fascinating insight. Numbers will be limited, so watch out for details of how to secure yourself a place.

Philip Tallent, Chairman, WMAAC

WICKHAM MARKET & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

PLANT SALE

Thursday 15th May

Doors open 7.15pm
Selling begins 7.30pm

Wickham Market Village Hall

Cash payment only

GARDENING CLUB SPEAKERS 2025/26

March 2025: Complete Guide to Clematis, Peter Skeggs-Gooch, Thorncroft Clematis

April 2025: Mary Owles, Suffolk Heritage Garden at Hollesley

May 2025: Plant Sale

June 2025: Jan Michalak, Plant adaptation for dry/ drought

July 2025: garden visit (to be confirmed)

August 2025: members summer garden party

September 2025: Annual Show

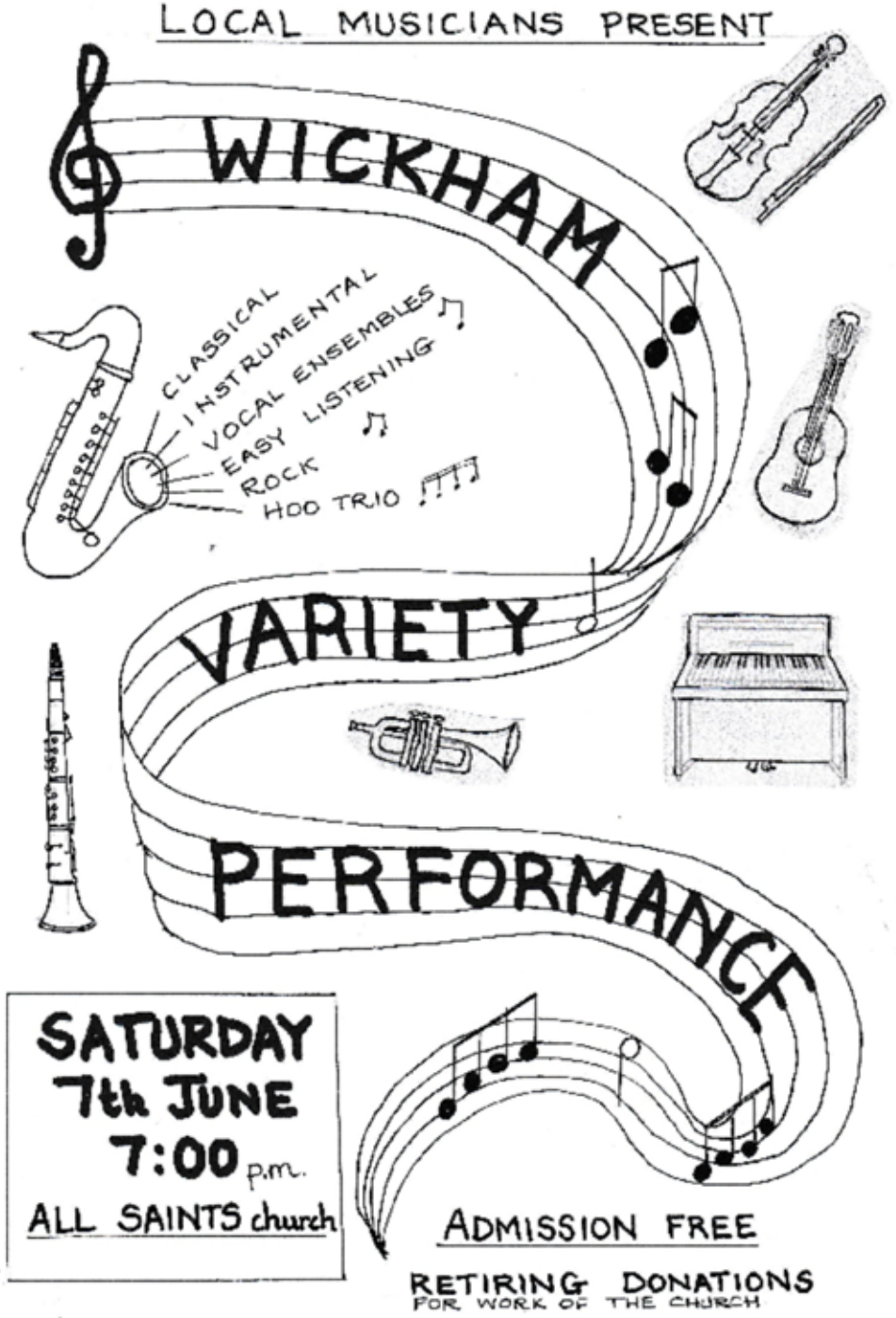
October 2025: Chris Wiley – Hellebores

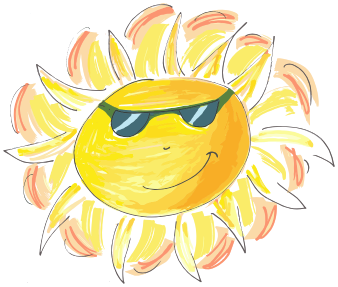
November 2025: ZOOM – Geoff Hodge – The 12 month garden (Colour all year round)

December 2025: Xmas Quiz

January 2026: ZOOM – Claire Hart – Growing to Show (veg)

February 2026: AGM





SUMMER MARKET

SATURDAY 21st JUNE

9:00 - 2:00

Wickham Market Parish Council

wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk