



THE BEACON

Beck Row, Holywell Row and Kenny Hill



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October – November 2025

Hello Readers

Autumn time is here already. I think the saying “as you get older time passes by more quickly” is definitely true.

On 15th August – VJ Day – wreaths were laid at the War Memorial and at the War Graves at St. Johns Church after a service in the church. The rev Dan Mullen gave a very interesting history lesson regarding those who served in the far east during WWII, reminding everyone that the war didn't finish for them until August 1945.

This year the Remembrance Day wreath laying will take place as follows:

Saturday 8th November: Kenny Hill War Memorial at 11.00am

Sunday 9th November:

War Memorial – Lamble Close at 10.00am

War Graves – St Johns Church at 10.30am

Remembrance Service in St Johns Church at 11.00am

While we hope that those living in our villages enjoy their celebrations for Thanksgiving, the village Christmas trees will be erected at their respective sites on Saturday 29th November.

The next issue will cover December and January, so if any readers have any celebrations over the festivities that they would like to include, please contact us so that we can include in the next issue.

The information from the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting is available to be read online at beckrowparish.gov.uk or on the parish website.

As usual it goes without saying a huge thank you to the volunteers who contribute to the Beacon and to those who deliver no matter what the weather.

Sue French

What's Going On Locally...

St John's Church

Sunday Services 9.30am

1st Sunday – Encounter Service (in hall) and follows on at 11am with Messy Church (for families)

2nd Sunday – Service of the Word

3rd Sunday – Lightwave Breakfast Church (in hall)

4th Sunday – Holy Communion



Community Events (by donation)

1st Tuesday – Lunch 12 noon
(book with Kathy 07963 958017)

2nd Tuesday – Soup and Chickenfoot 12 noon

3rd Tuesday – Coffee Morning 10am

4th Tuesday – Soup and Bingo 12 noon

Temp contact details - The best church contact is the Rural Dean, Revd Canon Chris Childs on 01638 429212 or revchilds@aol.com

BECK ROW LADIES CLUB

2pm – 4pm

2nd Monday of each month
St John's Church Hall, Beck Row

The Methodist Church

Sunday Services

Beck Row Methodist Church 11am
Holywell Row Methodist Church 6.30pm
Rev. David McAloon - 01842 753819

The Mildenhall Scale Model Club

now meets in St. John's Church Hall
7pm - 10pm
every 1st and 3rd
Wednesday
Gary Wenko • T: 01638 714543

THURSDAY CLUB

2pm – 4pm

3rd Thursday of the month
(over 50s)

at Beck Row Methodist Church

For further details please
contact Maggie Walker
on 01638 715447



St J's

Stay and Play

FREE

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9.15am to 11.30am

at St. John's Church Hall

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During the interregnum, we are being supported by Rev Mark McCaghrey, from Barton Mills, who has taken us under his wing whilst a new vicar is appointed. Currently, the vacancy is being advertised. Rev Paul Tamms and Rev Dan Mullin are as ever taking most services, and we are very grateful for them for their continued commitment to St John's.

The pattern of Sunday Services at 9.30am

continues, with the exception of Remembrance Day, 9th November, when it will be at 11am, preceded by the laying of wreaths at the War Memorials.

Maintenance work has been undertaken this summer on both the Church and the Hall, thanks to a combination of legacies and grants. Hopefully by the time you read this, everything will have been completed and the paintwork will be spick and span.

After many years of the church being run by the PCC, we are very pleased that Brian Sulman has taken on the role of Church Warden. Since then, he has undertaken a lot of jobs that have been overlooked for some time, including producing a very comprehensive Graveyard Plan, which is available for anyone to see.

A very last minute decision resulted in a programme of free Summer Activities being held for the families in the village. This comprised of craft, play, brunch and entertainment, and was very well received, with a combined total of 60 being fed and entertained at the last session. As a result, this will be repeated next year.

Lunches and coffee mornings ran as usual over the summer, and from 1st October the winter programme of Warm Rooms will start. Please see the full details in the Winter Activities section of The Beacon. Lunches require prior booking with Kathy Butcher, otherwise no booking is required.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON BINGO

at

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL, BECK ROW

2pm

£5 per book to play, refreshments and raffle

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2025: 11th October, 8th November, 6th December

2026: 10th January, 7th February, 7th March, 11th April

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Eyes on the Sky in Autumn

Autumn is a time of change in the natural world, as we move away from the long, warm days towards winter. As the seasons change, our wildlife (particularly birds) gets on the move in response - looking for better conditions to spend the next few months.

We are already seeing changes on the reserve - increased numbers of 'passage' waders like Ruff, Curlew and Greenshank passing through mid-migration to rest and refuel on the muddy edges of our pools and channels. We are also seeing fewer of our summer visitors, like Reed and Sedge warblers, and we haven't seen a Cuckoo for several weeks.

When we think of Autumn in our local area, we may not think about the Osprey a bird that is staging a steady comeback in the UK and is becoming more and more common to see locally at this time of year. In the early 1900s, following decades of hunting and persecution by humans, Ospreys were declared extinct as a breeding bird in the UK, until an enterprising and bold pair attempted to nest again in 1955.



Photo - Steve Wells

This was at what was to become RSPB Loch Garten in the Scottish Highlands. These elegant birds of prey feed exclusively on fish but cannot spend the whole year with us - the cold and turbulent wintry weather we experience means fish are so much harder to catch, so they leave the UK and migrate to West Africa and southern Spain for our winter months.

From that single pair in 1955, a steady comeback has been underway, thanks to a great deal of support from conservationists. Thanks to their tireless effort, the UK population now stands at around 240 pairs. Although Scotland remains their stronghold, there are also several pairs in Wales, a handful at Rutland Water, two at Poole Harbour in Dorset and even a pair at Ranworth Broad in Norfolk! This last pair built their own nest (next to an artificial platform made especially for them!) and raised two chicks this year (2025) to fledging. The chicks' mother is a three-year-old bird from Rutland Water, where Ospreys were reintroduced as part of the Rutland Osprey Project, which began in 1996.

As I write this, the UK's Osprey population will be migrating to Africa for winter. For this year's chicks, until now their parents have provided all the fish they need, but now it is up to them to learn how to fish for themselves on their journey. As the UK Osprey population grows, it is getting more and more likely that we will see Ospreys - young and old - passing overhead or taking a break in their journey on our local waterways - so keep an eye out in the next few weeks. We have already had one recorded here this autumn (12 September) and we may see more yet!

With best wishes for a happy Autumn.

By Heidi Jones - Visitor Experience Officer,
RSPB Lakenheath Fen,
Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk IP27 9AD

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Ingredients

- 250g salted butter cut into cubes
- 220g plain flour
- 150g light brown sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- 150g porridge oats
- 150g apricot jam



This recipe makes 12 large bars, but I cut them smaller.

Method

- 1 Put dots of butter on the base of a 20cm square tin and line with baking parchment (the butter keeps it in place, particularly in the corners) you don't want the corner flapjacks to be misshapen.
- 2 If you have a food processor tip the butter, flour, sugar and spices into it and pulse. (I use my hands until all ingredients are even and beginning to clump together.)
- 3 Add the oats and mix well or pulse more in the food processor until the mixture is well incorporated.
- 4 Put two thirds of the mixture into the tin and press it evenly with your hands.
- 5 Spread the jam over the mixture, then put the remaining third in clumps all over the jam so most of the jam is covered. Put this in the fridge for 30 minutes.
- 6 It is important to do this otherwise the bars will not be firm enough. Heat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan and bake for 40-45 minutes until they are a golden colour.
- 7 During the last 10 minutes keep an eye on them as too much cooking spoils the jam's consistency.
- 8 Cool completely in the tin before cutting into as many bars as you wish.

They will keep in an airtight container for up to a week.



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From 9th September 2025



MILDENHALL AND DISTRICT MUSEUM SOCIETY TALKS

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|--------------|--|-------------------|
| 2nd October | Mildenhall & District at War 1939-1945 | Geraint Jones |
| 6th November | The Worlingworth Fire Engine and the BBC | Geoffrey Robinson |

An extra date added to the programme, please note the date:

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|----------|
| 11th December | The Christmas Truce | Ed Lewis |
|---------------|---------------------|----------|

Talks take place at the Museum, doors open 7:00pm for 7:30pm start

£2 members £4 non-members

Refreshments available

Beatrice Carter Property

This month, I want to give a quick heads-up on something that won't apply to everyone, but if you rent out property, or know someone who does - it's worth being aware of. From 2026, landlords earning over £50,000 a year from rental income will need to start filing quarterly tax returns online under HMRC's Making Tax Digital rules. Instead of the usual once-a-year self-assessment, you'll be expected to submit smaller returns every three months through approved software.

Now, that might sound stressful, but it doesn't need to be. I've been chatting to a few landlords who fall into this bracket and their first reaction is usually, "Wait... do I need to be doing something now?" The answer is no, not urgently, but it is smart to prepare. What's worked best so far is putting landlords in touch with the right professionals, local accountants and tax advisers who keep things simple, legal, and low-stress. You don't need to learn accounting software or get buried in spreadsheets, just make sure you've got someone in your corner who understands the new rules.

I've built up a solid network of straight-talking, local experts who can walk you through what MTD means and, more importantly, what to do next and when. If you're unsure whether this applies to you, or just want a second opinion, I'm happy to point you in the right direction. (Plus, always nice to be the person who seems in the know).

Until next time, **Brad Jaggard**
Beatrice Carter Property – Local, Experienced, Straight Talking



Thursday Club

As The Thursday Club comes to the end of another year, [where does the time go?], we can look back on the varied activities that we have enjoyed, Brenda Willison speaking on the life of a Town Crier, a trip to Highways Garden Centre and Christmas shopping at Stratford. We will finish on a high at our Christmas meeting with mince pies and some lively games.

The club is not shielded from life as we have lost a couple of beloved members, and our thoughts and prayers go out to their family and friends.

The new year starts on 15th January with our new Chair Kimberly Day in charge and raring to go. Our exciting new programme is set to go too, which is due to the hard work carried out by our Programme Secretary Chris Davies. We start our first meeting with our AGM, and we continue the year with speakers, musical afternoons, trips, games - bingo and chicken foot etc., and our Christmas lunch which we have to look forward to.

If you feel you would like to join this very friendly club, which has been going for over fifty years, whether you are single or a couple, just telephone Maggie on 01638 715447 for more information or just come along on a club afternoon.

We meet on the third Thursday of the month [except August] and the time is 2.00pm to 4.00pm at the Methodist Church Hall, Beck Row.



Beatrice Carter

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We are now at the beginning of the new season for the club which starts on 20th September. No adult team alas, but lots of youngsters of different age groups from Lakenheath Youth teams coming to use the pitch on a weekly basis either for matches or training. This has been said many times but worth another mention that all children in the parish are welcome to come along and join in if they wish. Contact details are below. There will be regular league matches one after another on the same day with Lakenheath U9s and U11s. We wish them every success.

Just recently a much-needed task was completed by Ian Wiseman and Anthony Baynham with repairs to the fencing around the pitch at a cost of almost £3000. We are very very grateful for the cost being met by the Beck Row Community Association Fund administered by the Trustees. Thank you.

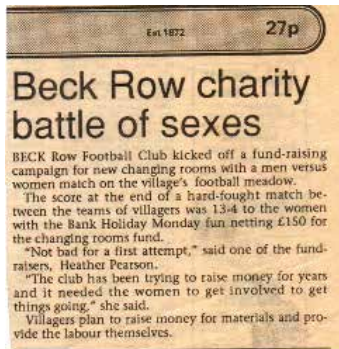


Part of fencing before Part of fence repaired

This might also be an appropriate time to acknowledge the work of the members of Lakenheath FC youth section who maintain the pitch, cutting the grass, fertilising, marking out the pitches and removing mole damage. Please note refreshments are served by Graham and Josie Rose, so if you are in the area when matches are being played you are very welcome to join us and partake of those.

Contact details are as follows – Chairman: Graham Rose 01638 714968 Youth Coach: Richard Horrex, richardhorrex@gmail.com, 07540 201 223

Another blast from the past. If you recognise yourself please email us with your thoughts on that day. We would love to publish them next time – m.j.sallis@btinternet.com.



The club house was eventually built several years later.



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Murder In The Morning

The church clock chimed six. Adelaide Woodcock, with an armful of freshly picked garden flowers, looked towards Millie's cottage and smiled to herself as she thought, 'That new baby's got a fine pair of lungs'. She was making a very early start on her church flower-arranging because she was going to see her daughter and granddaughters for the day. Her smiles soon turned to screams. She had tripped over a body in the church doorway. 'Pull yourself together', she stuttered as she frantically fumbled through her handbag to find her new mobile. With shaking hands, she tried to remember her grandson's instructions. She wasn't blessed with understanding new technology; in fact, it had taken her two years to get her head around the TV remote control.

'Is that you Bert? Oh, thank God', she breathlessly garbled.

PC Bert Latimer did not sound best pleased, 'Fincham Police. Who's that at this hour? Just compose yourself and tell me your name and business.'

'Oh Bert, there's a body in the doorway and I'm terrified. Oh... ohh... this is Adelaide.'

'What's a body doing in your doorway, Adelaide, your Fred hasn't had another long night at the "Three Pigeons" has he?'

'Oh, no Bert, I'm at the church for my flower-arranging and I feel so faint. There's a knife stuck in the neck and... AAHHHH, the eyes, the...'

Bert heard a thump and then there was silence.

'Adelaide, Adelaide, are you alright? Speak to me.' He continued to shout as he pulled up his trousers over his pyjama bottoms with his free hand but there was just silence from the other end. With tousled hair, bristly chin, unbuttoned tunic, and

still feeling half asleep, he jumped on his bike.

Bert hadn't cycled so quickly since Cynthia was in labour for their first-born. His shirt was hanging out of the back of his trousers and his face the finest shade of bright purple. 'There are now two bodies in the doorway', he thought.

On arrival, all he could mutter was, 'Oh, my God'. Luckily, Adelaide's mobile was lying beside her because he had forgotten his own and used it to ring headquarters. He examined Adelaide, decided she had only fainted and carefully closed her large open handbag. She lay in a most unladylike pose showing her best bloomers, which he didn't mention as she gradually came round. 'I'm going to take you to Millie's for a hot sweet cuppa, Adelaide, whilst I continue with the investigations. I'll be along to speak to you later.' Bert diverted her eyes away from the body in the doorway as he led her to Millie's.

'It certainly is a body, and no mistake', he mumbled to himself. He didn't want to get too close, and his own jaw was sagging just like the corpse's mouth. It was open and the face looked just like the one in the painting 'The Scream'. But it was the gouged eyes that caused him the most disquiet; the eyeballs had been carefully placed on the forehead as if matching some kind of ritual. As he waited for backup, he thought about his duties in a situation like this, but he'd got nothing with him. The crows in the surrounding trees were continuing to caw as they tended their young and he contemplated how appropriate it was that a collection of crows is called a murder.

He decided to patrol importantly up and down the church path, muttering to himself, 'Hurry up, hurry up, I need

support'. He had always looked like a sack of potatoes but that day his beer belly appeared even larger and his cycle clips were still fastened firmly around his ankles exposing his lack of socks. Bert's appearance had not impressed Detective Inspector Yates who had swept into the churchyard in his black BMW. Bert groaned when he saw who it was.

'What the hell do you think you are doing, Latimer, preparing for "Strictly Come Dancing"?' Bert and his close colleagues had never liked this DI who was pompous and had always been a creep with his superiors. 'I'll take over now', he pronounced, 'what have you done so far and what statements have you taken?'

'I haven't taken any statements, sir. I was concerned that somebody could contaminate the crime scene. I decided it would be best left to forensics.' Wow, Bert was proud of himself making that pronouncement because it sounded so professional. The work of the white-clad team was a complete mystery to him anyway.

'Well, I suppose you may have done the right thing. Where's this Adelaide who called you out; not in Australia is she?' The DI guffawed and thought this a tremendous joke.

Bert pointed to where he had taken Adelaide just as the rest of the team arrived with tents, tapes and, of course, the doctor. As the church clock struck ten, Bert was amazed at how the churchyard had been transformed into something that resembled a film set.

'You can write up your report, Latimer, leave the investigation to the experts and go home. It might be a good idea if you got properly dressed too; your appearance is a disgrace to the force.'

'But sir, I have a hunch about the case and some info.'

At this, the DI burst out with laughter, 'Not an idea from the uniformed branch, surely, Latimer? Just trot along or should I say pedal.'

Cynthia cooked Bert a full English after she heard all the gory details; this was the bit she liked about being a copper's wife even when wakened at unearthly hours. Bert sat deep in thought after breakfast and mulled over the morning's events in relation to his past experiences in his village. There were a few things that weren't ringing true, and he half dozed and half contemplated. Cynthia said nothing. She'd seen him like this before.

Bert kept thinking about the body and that face. He felt he'd recognised the man even though the face had been badly mutilated. His suspicions were confirmed when the DI appeared on 'Look East' that evening. 'Basically, at this moment in time, we are treating this as a murder investigation. Speaking for myself, personally, the body has been identified as a Jason Morgan and I ask that if anybody was in the area between 2200 hours and 0600 hours last night, or saw anything suspicious in the village, please telephone our CID number.' Bert swore under his breath at the pomposity of the man but not under his breath enough.

Cynthia shouted from the kitchen, 'From what little I heard, my love, that was not nice language, so what were you trying to say?'

Bert told her his suspicions but swore her to secrecy. He was in no rush to interfere following the DI's insulting comments about the uniformed branch. Over the following few weeks, Bert made casual enquiries amongst his darts teammates and listened out to conversations amongst the other customers of the 'Three Pigeons'.

DI Yates was still making his star

Continued over...

continued...

appearances on television, but it was evident that there had been a lack of progress. 'Basically, we are still heavily into the investigations. A few people have come forward but, speaking for myself, I am positive that there are people out there who know more. Please telephone CID and help us trace this killer.'

'Well, I know more, and the bloody murderer knows more, you xx@@ idiot', Bert says with a smile, pleased to see that Yates was becoming more and more uncomfortable. Cynthia, as his bad language adviser, gave him another glare.

Bert had been using Cynthia as his special investigator whilst she was working at the mother and toddlers' group on the council estate. None of the mothers had been happy to speak to the police but some wanted to offload a few of their troubles which involved debt issues. It soon became clear that the murdered man had been the unofficial money lender from the neighbouring town and that he had been keen to lend money to people who had no security or equity. The consequent interest rates were over 200% and many of his customers had failed to meet their payments on his monthly calls. They had been frightened of him. Many mothers said that they hid behind the settee when he peered through their windows.

Bert had had a number of chats with Adelaide who was still grateful for the kind and caring way he had treated her. 'Oh Bert, you don't know what a beast that detective was to me and the terrible questions and accusations. He made me feel guilty and I ain't done nothing wrong.'

'But, you did know the man didn't you, Adelaide?'

'How did you know that, Bert?' she whispered.

'I saw the look in your eyes and the tally

book that you had in your open handbag.'

'Oh, Bert, I hadn't been in debt all my life. Recently, my Fred didn't seem to have much money. When I asked for help with Christmas presents for the grandchildren, he was vague about what he brought home in wages. He said that he was on reduced hours. I just had to borrow from that murdered bloke and then I couldn't keep up with the payments. He got ever so angry with me and threatened to tell Fred. So I told Fred myself and that I usually paid the man after bingo near the church door.' Adelaide sobbed.

Bert waited until Fred had had a few too many at the pub the following night. He even bought Fred a pint and a rum chaser to help loosen his tongue. Fred had been remote and surly over the last few months so Bert played it carefully. But he had always got on well with Fred. Suddenly, Fred felt compelled to tell Bert his troubles. In a slurred voice, he mumbled, 'I've been stupid; drinking heavily and gambling and I've thrown hundreds of pounds away to bookies and casinos. When Addy confessed that she had to borrow money from some slimy bastard to buy our grandchildren Christmas presents, I was furious. More particularly with myself. There was only one solution, and I took it.'

'Why did you gouge out his eyes, Fred?'

'Because Addy told me that the little runt used to say, 'I'll see you for my money in four weeks. Well, he won't now, will he?'

Bert had to smile. After a bit of thought, he said, 'You're a lucky man, Fred. That clueless DI Yates is on the job and he warned me off the case. I think we'll just leave it for him to solve.'



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One butterfly I have seen often this summer is the small copper.

It catches the eye due to its quite frankly brilliant markings.

Although some of the upper wing surface is brown this only serves to highlight the vivid orange markings of the rest of the wing. It says in my guidebook that hot summers suit this butterfly and this is the reason for its abundance this year.

From mid-May it will have three broods right into October. It spends winter in partial hibernation laying in a groove and actually eats its way out from the cuticle of a leaf.

It can feed intermittently in mild weather and pupate in late April.

Each species has a way of finding its niche and thriving if given a chance.



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Spotlight on this edition's Advertiser – Harlequin Farm Stables

My journey so far...

February 2008 it was cold, snowy but beautiful!! A quote I'll never forget, "I didn't know paint dried in the snow." Still makes me smile.

The love and excitement I felt then is still the same 17 years later.

Harlequin has made me cry, laugh and love. It's taught me endless determination through sheer grit and resilience.

Born in Enfield, London. I moved to the area when I was 2 with my kind and loving parents Sue and Jan (pronounced Yahn) both also originally from Enfield.

Most people already part of the equestrian world know how hard it is physically and emotionally at times. Particularly those that coach and run a riding school or livery yard.

Fortunately my family are the most supportive people I know! Without them I wouldn't be where I am with Harlequin today. High winds, rain, snow, baking heat they have been out on the yard working hard with me.

My husband, Ian fixing fences and moving round bales of hay in the snow. Mum and dad, painting and helping keep the yard so pristine. Mum would often say, "is your dad still sweeping?" Very hard work, but so many happy memories!

Having my first horse Pickles at home. Quad biking in the snow and being pulled along sitting in a plastic sack whilst holding on to a lead rope for dear life! Teaching my Cob Milly how to jump for the first time. Boxing Day rides. My student's first trot or coming off lead rein for the very first time. Taking a minute to look back across the fields, tucked in the trees with my mum whilst we sheltered from the rain. Sitting on the worktop in my kitchen planning my next crazy project and trying to convince my family "it won't be that hard to do, will it??" You really are the best workforce anyone could ask for!

I am very passionate about promoting a holistic approach to coaching my students and training my horses. We run a very successful Pony Club. I coach a wonderful bunch of students and truly believe that it helps them to all have a sense of purpose and self-worth within their Pony Club community. We all share the same important values by helping to promote the lifelong love of horses and good horsemanship for all young people, something that they will cherish and take on though into adulthood.

Being British Horse Society approved and Pony club linked means that we will always share a correct and up-to-date approach in coaching and horse welfare. Our affiliations ensure that we help to shape the future of equestrianism in a positive way.

The British Horse Society has always been a highly recognised organisation playing an important role in horse welfare, education and examinations. Harlequin Farm Stables is proud to offer BHS Stage 1 training and assessment, and first aid training. We are also very excited to support British Horse Society's new look and feel campaign 'For the Feeling'. My own experience of being a rider, a horse owner, a coach and how that feeling makes me feel have helped to shape my ambitions and goals which have also led onto some of my own successes.

The Pony Club will always have a big place in my heart, the bond that it helps to create between a rider and pony, the valuable skills it teaches us all to have, the knowledge, the sportsmanship



and love of horses. All of which have helped that lifelong commitment I have to my own horses.

Our coaching sessions are available from age 4 in the following settings: private, semi private and group. Pony Club Wednesday stable care sessions run on two sessions a month 5-6.30pm. We hold regular Pony Club, Pony Days, and in-house competitions for all of our students.

Pony parties are very popular for children's birthdays. Our warm and welcoming reception is a great place for birthday cake and celebrations. This room also doubles up as an excellent coaching facility for our Wednesday Pony club sessions, Pony Days and vocational training.

We have a really great team of horses and ponies at our centre. Each is very unique with their own special personality.

Our oldest pony Rascal has taught many children over the years how to ride. He has a bubbly and cheeky personality, loves treats and human fuss but dislikes other ponies looking at him or being in his personal space!

Magic quite clearly thinks she is a top class eventer! And enjoys putting the children through their paces!

Alfie, also a Welsh Section A pony like Magic, believes he is perhaps ready for the next olympics!

Milly and Bonnie, our beautiful Cobs, couldn't be any more different to ride but both share the most kind and affectionate temperaments.

Henry, the most laid back pony I think I have ever met! Just takes life all in his stride but absolutely loves racing Alfie up and down the paddock fence line.

April, most will agree she is an absolute diva!! She puts learning to ride into a whole new category of its own! But we love her and wouldn't change her!

Connor is not a race horse anymore but in the privacy of his paddock yes... he is! Our poor farrier Karl regularly attends to put on lost shoes from his galloping!

Summer the gentle giant, her head is bigger than your torso but she is unbelievably gentle and calm. A firm favourite during grooming sessions at Pony Club.

I know I drive my family absolutely crazy sometimes but I want to thank you from the absolute bottom of my heart!

Mum you took an incredible gamble (those that truly know us will understand) but it paid off, ten times over! All of which helped me reach those dreams I had when I was 18! The countless times you'd say come on Lil you can do it!

Dad your resilience, hard work and endless hours spent out there in all weathers fixing and mending things! All those times you were there when I would fall, you'd leg me up and say you can do it!

Ian for being an absolute rock and strength to us all! For holding me tight when I said goodbye to Pickles. For taking care of our horses when I was a new mum! Picking me up when I was down and for saying you can do it!

Ian's dad, Phil for helping make the best stretch of our very own Great Yarmouth seaside sand track!

Luke for helping Ian with general maintenance and repairs, often with minutes to spare before my coaching sessions are about to start.

My wonderful students and their families for the continued support to our centre over the years.

Past and present helpers, staff and volunteers.

Without all of you Harlequin wouldn't be what it is today!



continued...

So if anyone wants to know is it worth it?

Worth setting up your own business.

Worth it to drive across the other side of the country to look at a pony for their daughter or son.

Worth it to give up half a day to walk around a tack shop.

Worth it to book that first riding lesson for your horse mad child.

Worth it to stand out in the freezing cold to watch their child ride. Get covered in mud and soaked through.

Worth it to not give up on that difficult horse.

Worth it to get back on when you fall.

Worth it to pull hay out of your socks.

Worth it to smile as your child gets into your beautifully clean car, when they are covered in hay and pony hair after a long day at the stables. Yes... the answer is yes!



Whether you are new to the sport, recently started riding, have prior experience or already one of my existing students and would like to know anymore information about what we offer at Harlequin, or just to hear more about how I become an accredited professional please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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News from the Parish Council

Beck Row, Holywell Row & Kenny Hill

October – November 2025 edition

Email: clerk@beckrowparish.gov.uk

Website: beckrowparish.gov.uk

By the time this edition goes to print the repairs to the pirate ship and the zip wire will have taken place. This round of maintenance has seen another £8000.00 in replacement parts and labour. The park area includes a vast amount of equipment and activities for all ages, and improvements including new additions are part of an ongoing plan. It's such a shame that certain individuals have mindlessly damaged the Youth Shelter. To replace the damaged perspex would be expensive, an unnecessary purchase which would use money assigned for new equipment so, for now, the Youth Shelter will stay as it is. If you do spend time on the land, at the park or the gym equipment, enjoy it and take care of it and urge others to do the same. Public money funds the park and the repairs to it.



Very sadly, Tim, our Parish Keeper who has worked seamlessly for the last two years, is moving on from this role. Tim has taken care of grass cutting, litter picking, park repairs, a bus shelter renovation, planter making, notice board building, to name but a few of his tasks! Thank you Tim

for all you have done to keep the Parish well maintained. 'You will be missed' is an understatement! Currently the Parish Council is considering options moving forward for Parish maintenance.

THE PHONE BOX HAS MOVED - VOLUNTEERS NOW NEEDED!



Finally, after several years contemplating how, the old K6 BT phone kiosk has been relocated into the grounds of the Parish Hub. On an evening of torrential rain and thunderstorms (well, why make it easy!)

Cllr Peachey, Josh and James, with Cllr Haylock's Telehandler, moved the box to its new home – there is a lot of work to do! **Now looking for volunteers that would like to take part in its restoration.** If we have any handy people, painters, craftsperson, builders or simply willing individuals, the work will now begin to sand, repaint, put back the inserts and the door. Please get in touch, email address above.

LOVE YOUR VILLAGE SEPT 2025

On the same lovely evening the phone box was moved, the Love Your Village event took place. Some wonderful individuals - strangers, neighbours, now friends, gave up their time meeting at the Parish Hub to collect litter pickers and bags to then disperse in different directions picking up all the discarded rubbish. No one gave up,

though the rain tried its best to stop us! 15 went out and no one came back with an empty bag – that's a lot of rubbish! A great group of people who then enjoyed homemade sausage rolls and shortbread with a hot drink back at the Hub afterwards – thank you Angela, compliments all round, definitely worth getting drenched and nearly struck by lightning for! Thank you everyone for turning out and not giving up, until the next time (and next batch of baking!). Please look out for the next date and come and join us - many hands make light work.



You have likely noticed the Beck Row village sign is back in situ. This restoration and repaint was a lengthy process but worth the wait. The plaques that were added back in 2013 funded by the British-American Committee to cover up the non-working clocks were not repairable, so the sign has at this time been returned to its original state.

The currently empty planters will be refilled once appropriate options have been determined.

Finally, speeding in the Parish - all three villages, Beck Row, Holywell Row and Kenny Hill regularly report speeding to the Clerk and ask what the Parish Council can do to prevent this. The Parish Council can deter speeding by reminding individuals of their speed using the Speed Indicator Devices (SID). The data collected from the SIDs can then be sent to the police for them to analyse and decide on further intervention. Speedwatch is another initiative mentioned many times but

requires volunteers, a minimum of six to start the scheme, and involves training. Several people have contacted the Clerk to express their interest – a few more are needed. Everyone in the Parish can help reduce speeding by always following the 30mph limit. The matter will be discussed, again, at the October meeting – Tuesday 14th October 2025, 7.30pm at Beck Row Parish Hub. Parish residents are always most welcome to attend.

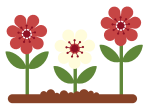
Minutes of meetings can be found on the website at beckrowparish.gov.uk

A note from Councillor Peachey, **Calling all green fingered, wildlife loving residents...** The Parish Council has an area of land in Holywell Row purchased from West Suffolk Council that is going to be designated as a community garden and wildlife area, a quiet space where residents young and old can spend time.



We are looking for willing volunteers to help clean up this land and the entrance to it, to shape it into an area of natural beauty. If you would like to be involved, please contact the Parish Council.





Gardening Tips

Roses have been excellent this year.

With rose plants a copper spray can be applied for mildew. Also, fertiliser around six to eight week intervals can benefit the plant. If necessary, insecticide can be sprayed.

Roses need some care to begin with, but older plants can survive reasonably well on their own. As we go into autumn, deadheading is essential. Just cut above the leaf. This will keep them flowering through September and into the first part of October.



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FARMING DIARY

Ever since I started writing these articles they have appeared under the heading of Farming Diary. A TV programme used to appear for many years on BBC 1 at lunchtime on Sundays by that name. It was one of my favourite ever programmes and I borrowed its name. It was a programme completely based on farming and my favourite presenter was a farmer from Wymondham near Norwich called David Richardson who sadly died two weeks ago aged 87. At that time most farmers who appeared on TV were wearing a boiler suit with more than a hint of cow manure about it and they spent most of the time moaning about prices or the weather or both, but David had a different approach. He wanted to talk about food security, self-sufficiency in food and improvements in collective marketing to secure the best possible price for the farmer. I share those goals, and I share his very deep held worries about what could happen to our country with too much reliance on imported food. Despite him being a bit of a hero of mine I only came close to meeting him once. In 1982 I was invited to one 21st birthday party that his daughter Fiona had been invited to. Prior to this we had never met, but at this party we found we shared similar interests. So much so that when David came to collect her, she was asleep in a flower bed and I was being unwell somewhere close by.



Anyhow, taking David's wishes on board about farmers feeding the population etc., I have decided to expand my flock by 2000 hens. In the modern world of tens of thousands of birds on farms this is not a significant increase, but to me it is nearly doubling my flock. I have purchased two new sheds holding 500 birds each and a second hand shed which will hold 1000 birds. I had planned to expand over two years, but reality meant that I have actually nearly completed this scheme in two months.

One new shed is completed, and I am really excited by it. The other new one will be completed by the time you read this, and the frames are all in place for the second hand one. Pullets arrive for the two new sheds on 13th October and soon after that I will know if I have spent my money wisely. I am optimistic.

This time last year I ordered 100 laying ducks and was horrified to find 70 were male. Not good for an egg farmer. Unperturbed I have just taken another 100 ducklings which are 9 days old. They are lovely little birds, big and strong and surely, I must get 50/50 females this time. Duck eggs are nationally in short supply due to the effects of bird flu last winter but are very popular at my market stall. Too rich for me though!



I have had a flagpole in my yard for over 30 years and I generally fly a Union Jack because I believe in the United Kingdom, but I do fly the flag of St George when England are playing sport in finals. I fly the Suffolk flag on occasion and very rarely the Ipswich Town flag when they have been successful! I always fly special remembrance flags at that time of the year but most of the time the Union flag is flying in my yard. In my eyes it symbolises all the great British inventors, musicians, sportsmen and women, artists, actors, authors and political leaders as well as the selfless brave soldiers including both my two grandfathers who have fought to preserve our freedoms in conflicts around the world.

The flag also symbolises all those wonderful people who work selflessly throughout the country like volunteers who make other people's lives better. They epitomise the great British values of respecting others, of fair play, of trust, of compassion and of putting others before oneself! I hope that those people now flying flags all over our great country are doing so for those same values and reasons.

Since writing this article strong winds on Sunday night/ Monday morning and me forgetting to take it down have resulted in my flagpole snapping in half - another new investment on the way!



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News from Beck Row Methodist Church



It is quite rewarding for the members of the church who soldier all the responsibility of seeing that this Methodist Church continues to offer so many opportunities for the local community and surrounding villages. This was clear to see at the last coffee morning when the hall was quite full. The homemade cakes and stalls including the raffle brought in a total of £290 to improve the fenced area provided for those who wish to have a place for their loved ones' ashes. A worthy cause.

As always, the grounds as you drove in were immaculate thanks to David Bacon and his trusty lawn mower.

Our next events are coffee mornings on Saturday 4th October and Saturday 6th December at 10am to 11.30am. We hope to see you there.

The hall next to our church is available to book. If you wish please call Wendy on 01842 860 184.

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Spotlight on this edition's Deliverer: The Jarman Family's Story

For the past three years, my wife Julie and I have been delivering The Beacon, a role we inherited from my father, Brian Jarman, who had delivered it since the publication's inception. This longstanding tradition has become a point of pride in our family.



Brian Jarman was born in Beck Row in August 1932



and attended the local school, as did I, both of my sons – Alec and Ross – and now my grandchildren, Jobie and Skye. Thus, four generations of Jarmans have called Beck Row home and been shaped by its community.

Brian worked as a farmer and agricultural contractor for many years. Even now, at the age of 93, his memory sometimes falters, but his keen eye for the land remains. As we drive him around, he'll often remark on the state of the hedgerows or the readiness of the corn, recalling how things were when he managed the fields himself.

I was also born in Beck Row and have lived here all my life, only moving next door after building our bungalow on a piece of family land in 1985. At the time, The Grove was considered green belt, and we were only able to secure planning permission thanks to the efforts of local councillors Jack Haylock and Roger Pendleton.

Motorcycles have always played a significant role in our family. My father and I both rode, and my sons have inherited the same passion. These days, I ride more cautiously—there are too many speed cameras! Julie, my wife of 38 years, grew up in West Row and fondly recalls hearing the sound of my motorcycle travelling down New Road until I throttled off at The Grove.

We have enjoyed visiting family and friends in the USA many times, and last year celebrated Thanksgiving there, bringing an English Christmas pudding to share. We also love to travel within the UK. At the moment, we are in Pembrokeshire, where it is raining, but our Labrador, Lola, is unfazed by the weather. As long as there is water nearby, she is always happy.



Places for all events need to be booked online - please visit
<https://bit.ly/LakenheathFenEvents> to read more and book tickets.

Treasures of the Moth Trap

26 September, 31 October, 28 November (10am to 11am)

Learn more about the amazing world of moths – join us to admire what we catch in our harmless trap.

RSPB members £5 (£2.50 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £6 (£3 for Under 18's)

Autumn Open Day at RSPB Lakenheath Fen

Sunday 12 October (9am to 5pm)

Come along to enjoy the reserve in all its Autumn glory. To welcome newer visitors, we will be offering free entry to all for the day – so why not come and see what we are about? No need to book; just turn up.

Amazing Autumn Guided Walk

Sunday 12 October (9:30am-12:30pm)

On this seasonal walk we will be looking for the first signs of Autumn – dazzling ducks in their new plumages, waders passing through on migration and beautiful fungi popping up here and there! Suitable for all knowledge levels and ages.

RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s)

Stargazing with Jonathan Shanklin

Wednesday 29 October (5pm-7:30pm)

We will be privileged to have Jonathan Shanklin, a renowned meteorologist with us for the evening, giving us a fascinating talk followed by a walk on the reserve to hopefully see some spectacles if the sky is clear.

RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18's); non-RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s)

Wild Wetland Winter Guided Walks

Sundays 23 November, 11 January (9:30am-12:30pm)

Wrap up warm and join us to see the best that winter has to offer – we will be looking for seasonal highlights with our knowledgeable guides on this beautiful reserve!

RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s)

Winter Walking Safari

Sunday 8 February 2026 (9:30am-3:30pm)

Many parts of the reserve aren't usually open to the public, and this behind-the-scenes tour provides a great opportunity to see the wildlife hiding out in pools and reedbeds which aren't visible from the current visitor trails. This walk is just over six miles long and will include a visit to Botany Bay SSSI.

RSPB members £20 (£10 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £25 (£12.50 for Under 18s)

RSPB Lakenheath Fen,
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rspb.org.uk   

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Historically, the 48th FW has been the foundation of USAF's combat capability and remains so today. The Liberty Wing led the El Dorado Canyon raids into Libya in 1986 and was the first F-111 fighter unit to deploy to the Gulf during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The Liberty Wing also anchored NATO forces during Operations Deliberate Force and Allied Force. Since September 11, 2001, the 48th FW has played a key role in antiterrorism operations, and providing combat support in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



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Beck Row New Ladies Club

On Monday 8th September a group of ladies from the club went to Cambridge for a boat trip along the River Cam. We parked in the pleasant grounds of the Plough Inn at Fen Ditton, which unlike so many of our lawns around here was lush and green. Cambridge has been fortunate to have more rainfall than our area.

We were met by Peter who skippers a narrow boat called the Rosie, aged 39. We went aboard awaiting our trip. The sun shone, it was warm and with no wind the river was very calm - ideal conditions for a September afternoon. Peter took us through all the safety precautions - don't dangle your arms in the water as it is filthy. Even the rowers wash their boats and themselves after each session. Dangling your arms also puts you in danger of a swan having a little peck at them. Finally, he amused us all by saying that the exits were over the side on the right and the one on the left! The water is about 3 feet deep near the edge and 6 feet deep in the middle. He did tell us about the nautical terms for the boat though. He had even supplied us with blankets should we feel cold, and a selection of teas, coffees, fruit juices and biscuits were available as we journeyed along.



We headed south towards the centre of Cambridge with our little beakers of sunflower seeds ready to throw to the swans, kingfishers, cormorants and ducks and they were waiting for us as we returned for a second helping. We were passed a few times by rowing teams, and we found out that to recognise the teams you had to note the colours on the oars. At one point a herd of cows were lazily flicking their tails in the sunshine taking not one bit of notice of us chattering away. We passed Stourbridge Common and one relatively new fairly large bridge solely for pedestrians and cyclists. Close by another bridge on which a train came rattling along into one or other of the Cambridge stations.



We all commented on the wonderful brickwork of the Old Pumping Station, now a museum, in comparison to the ultra-modern blocks of flats and houses. Peter told us that Fred Dibnah, the renowned "climber" of very high steeples and chimneys, once scaled the pumping station tower with just a rope and a ladder.

Next came the Cam Rowing Club whose building is shared by Kings, Selwyn and Churchill Colleges and has mostly older members and one 91-year-old still training 3 times a week. Tootling along we saw the buildings of Downing and Clare College and not far away was Jesus College boathouse. Peter reminded us that Cambridge won the Boat Race this year, but the Goldie

boat house is now a gym which we could see clearly by the members on the various pieces of apparatus. The Cambridge team have to get in a bus to train in their boats which are housed at Ely. Just before we turned round at the entrance of Jesus Green lock, we saw Jesus Green Lido now 102 years old and one of the few left in the country for the open-air hardy swimmers. Interestingly there has recently been over £1m funding been found to renovate the locks in Cambridge as some are unusable at the moment. At present work has started on Bait Bite Lock after Jesus Green Lock was completed just over a year ago.

On our way back through Chesterton again we saw The Green Dragon pub which was the local for JRR Tolkien of The Hobbit fame. He was seen there on many an occasion and even the pub in his book was called The Green Dragon. On reaching The Plough we headed north for a little way. A strange by-law meant the boat had to move to the opposite side of the river for just 400 yards once past The Plough, then back again! The river rules are a law unto themselves.

As we disembarked, we all felt that the outing had been so enjoyable and relaxing, one member said as she left the boat that all her worries disappeared. A very memorable afternoon.



Beck Row Primary School Update

We've had a wonderful start to the new school year here at Beck Row Primary! The children have come back full of energy and excitement, and we're really looking forward to all the fun and learning this term will bring.

A huge thank you to everyone in our community who joined us at the Summer Fête in July. It was such a lovely day, and we're so grateful for your support in making it such a success. The money raised will help us give our pupils even more fantastic opportunities this year.

We're excited to keep sharing our news with you as the year goes on! We will soon be busy planning our Christmas Fayre and it would be lovely to see so many familiar faces attend. On Friday 28th November, the school staff will be staying behind to decorate the school ready for the children's return on Monday 1st December. If any of you find any unwanted Christmas Decorations at home and would like to donate to the school to make it look even more magical this would be greatly appreciated.

I wish you a happy Autumn.

Charley Minter, Principal

E: Charley.Minter@atrust.org.uk W: <http://www.academytransformationtrust.co.uk>



Beck Row & Holywell Row Winter Events

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL WARM ROOMS

1st Tuesday of the Month	Community Lunch 12 noon (booking required)
2nd Tuesday of the Month	Soup, Sandwiches & Chickenfoot 12 noon
3rd Tuesday of the Month	Coffee Morning 10am
4th Tuesday of the Month	Soup, Sandwiches & Chickenfoot 12 noon

All the above are free, but donations are welcomed. Raffle.

Contact Maggie 01638 715447, 07938 846801 or Kathy 07963 958017 (lunch booking)

BECK ROW METHODIST CHURCH

Thursday Club	3rd Thursday of the Month 2pm, speakers & outings
16th October	Talk & demo, Handbell Ringing
20th November	My Creative Journey – Amanda Sutherland
27th November	Shopping trip to Stratford £20
11th December	Christmas Lunch
18th December	Christmas Meeting – games and refreshments

Contact Maggie 01638 715447. 07938 846801 for more information



Holywell Row Village Hall – Bingo Sessions 2025/6

Bingo sessions are going to be held on the 4th Friday of each month in the Village Hall, 24th October and 28th November.

2026 dates - 23rd January, 27th February, 27th March and 24th April.

Bingo starts at 7.30pm:
10 games for £5. There is a prize for 1 line and a prize for a full house in each game.

*The Hall is available to hire at reasonable rates.
Please contact Pauline on 07714 063190.*



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We would like to thank all those who contributed to this parish magazine, as well as all those who have helped to deliver it. Should you wish to get in touch regarding anything in this magazine or if you wish to contribute something towards the next issue you may contact us by 12th November 2025 in the following ways:

If your household does not receive a magazine please let us know.

Cllr Sue French: sjfrenchpc4@hotmail.com • 07727 329796

Cllr Philip Haylock: 6 The Street, Holywell Row, Suffolk IP28 8LS • 07860 316748

Beck Row Parish Clerk: clerk@beckrowparish.gov.uk

Electricity: 0800 783 8838

Suffolk Fire Service: 01473 260588

Doctor/Hospital: Emergency 999, Non-Emergency 111

Police: Emergency 999, Non-Emergency 101

Water: (including drains and sewers) 0345 717 1100

West Suffolk Hospital: 01284 713000

West Suffolk C.C.: 01284 763233

West Suffolk Councillors:

Don Waldron: 07939 626634

don.waldron@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Mick Bradshaw: 07788 234522

Suffolk County Council: 03456 066067

Colin Noble: 07545 423795

Samaritans: 116 123 (Freephone)