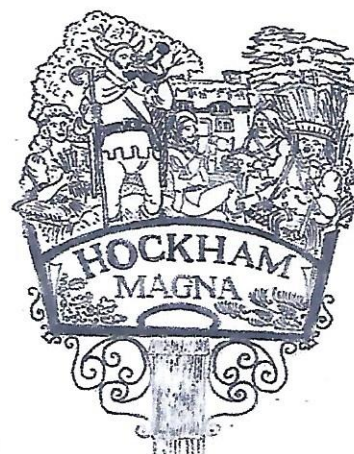


# IN-TOUCH

## Great Hockham News Sheet

Issue No 549  
June 2024



### Editorial

We hope everyone enjoyed the Hockham Horn Fair on 26th May, especially the newer residents of the village who must know by now what a very vibrant, friendly and special place this village is. Our thanks to all the volunteers who helped organise the event, to all the stall holders and to all those who took part in the challenges and displays. We are looking forward to next year already. Meantime we have car boot sales in June and July and the Summer Show in August, all of which we hope will be well supported.

If you wander down the church lane on a Saturday, you will find the church open from 10 am to 4 pm during the Summer months. On the wall on the South side you will see a long list of clergy dating back to the year 1346 when the incumbent had the name Peter. Hockham is now in the Wayland Group of churches who have not had a parish priest for nearly 8 years, but change is about to happen. Our new Rector, who will be in charge of all six parishes, will be installed by the Bishop of Norwich at Caston church on Thursday 4th July. So a new name will soon be inscribed on the List of Great Hockham Clergy on the church wall - the name of the Revd Vanessa Layfield. We welcome her.

### Deadline for the July Issue

Please note that the deadline for submissions for the July issue of In-Touch is **noon on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.**

The submission date will revert to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of each month thereafter.

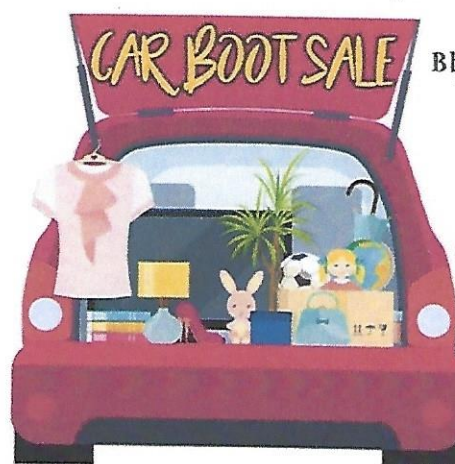
### New Residents

If you are new to the village and reading this on the village website, but would like to receive a paper copy each month, please contact us and we will add you to our distribution list.

Likewise, if you are an existing recipient of the newsletter and have a new neighbour, do let us know and we can deliver a sample copy for their perusal.

Either e-mail us on [intouchnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:intouchnewsletter@yahoo.com) or contact one of the team – telephone numbers at the foot of the third page of adverts.

Great Hockham Carboot  
On the playing field  
30th June  
Sellers from 8,  
Buyers from 9,  
End 1pm



Bbq & Refreshments  
Will be available

Stall holders  
£5 per car  
£10 per van or car  
with trailer

Stalls to be manned at all times  
Please



***The Wayland Group of Parishes***  
*Breckles, Caston, Great Hockham, Griston, Stow Bedon and Thompson*  
*In the Church of England Diocese of Norwich*

**Worship in June 2024**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

10.30 a.m. United Holy Communion  
St Margaret, Breckles

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June**

10.30 a.m. United Holy Communion  
Holy Cross, Caston

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

10.30 a.m. United Holy Communion  
Holy Trinity, Gt Hockham

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

10.30 a.m. United Holy Communion  
St. Peter and St. Paul, Griston

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June**

10.30 a.m. United Holy Communion  
St Botolph, Stow Bedon

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Vanessa Layfield will be licensed by Bishop  
Graham & Archdeacon Catherine at 7.00pm at  
Holy Cross, Caston

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

10.30 a.m. United Holy Communion  
St. Martin's, Thompson  
Vanessa's First Service!

**Churchwarden's Letter**

By the time this issue is printed, everyone will know that after 8 long years of vacancy we at last have our own parish priest! Rev'd Vanessa Layfield & her husband, Jonathan, will join us in July and she will be licensed by Bishop Graham & Archdeacon Catherine at 7.00pm on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July at Holy Cross, Caston. Everyone is invited to this special service. Please do come and show

your support for Vanessa as she begins her ministry with us.

As a group of eight very different people, your churchwardens have come to know each other very well over the last 8 years. We have learnt to support each other and work together during the vacancy. We will always be indebted to Father Bob for creating our united worship and to Adrian (& Marian) Bell for stepping in when Bob retired. They have all supported us over many years, and Adrian has never stopped being part of our community, even after he retired as our interim parish priest. We will miss Adrian's sense of fun and mischief, but also his serious side when he has supported & comforted anyone in need.

Apart from Adrian, we have been lucky to have had the support of Bob Baker, Neil Crawford-Jones, Adam Poole and David Sixsmith who have taken occasional services for us while we have been in vacancy. It has been interesting to have different preachers each week and to learn from their different life experiences. We will miss them all, but we will not miss the occasional panic trying to find someone to take a service for us at the last minute.

Vanessa's ministry will be different and she will do things in her own way. We are very lucky that she has found us and has been called by God to come to Wayland and help us grow & prosper as a united group of parishes. Please give Vanessa a warm welcome and show her what a special place Wayland is to live & worship.

With best wishes from all the Wayland Churchwardens: Karen (Breckles), Bridget & Jason (Caston), Jamie (Gt Hockham), Sylvia & Keith (Griston), Beryl (Stow Bedon) and Katharine (Thompson)





## Great Hockham Primary School & Nursery

We have had a very busy start to the Summer Term here at Great Hockham Primary School. Our Year 6 children have completed their SATS, remaining calm and composed and trying their hardest. They had a special breakfast in school every morning during the assessment week and then a pizza party as a celebration when they had finished. We are extremely proud of their attitudes towards the assessments and how they all wanted to show all they had learnt during the year.

Years 3 and 4 have started their swimming lessons at Thetford pool, with many children either becoming more confident in water or making great progress with their swimming skills and learning to swim the different strokes more accurately.

A group of children worked extremely hard to learn a dance around the Maypole that they then performed confidently at the Great Hockham Village Horn Fair on 26<sup>th</sup> May. Hopefully many of you were there and saw the wonderful performance.

We are now planning a maths café and a wellbeing café during June, where parents are invited into school to find out what their children have been learning about. They visit all of the classrooms and speak to the children, joining in with their learning or trying to complete challenges or tasks set by the children. It is a wonderful opportunity for the children to speak to a wide range of adults and explain what they know. It supports with developing their social skills and builds their confidence and self-esteem.

Hopefully the sun will continue to shine and we can enjoy some good weather during June.

Lisa Hazard – Headteacher

## School Birthdays



"Happy Birthday" to Hollie, Luna, Seren, Elijah, Ezmeralda, Joey, Isla, Ezra, Hannah and Grace.



'Absolute Proof' received favourable reviews from the majority of the nine book clubbers who met at The Eagle on 7th May. At around 700 pages it was the longest of the novels we have tackled so far, but the variety of well-researched locations of Brighton, Wiltshire, Egypt and California that form the backdrop to this Peter James story presented an enjoyable extra dimension.

The lucky raffle prize winner was Ronny, and it was also her suggestion of 'My Sister the Serial Killer' by Oyinkan Braithwaite that will be the focus of our next book club discussion when we meet on Tuesday 4th June at 7.30pm.

Bev Plummer

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## 60s and 70s Night

For one night only on Saturday 18th May the Swinging Sixties and Seventies were resurrected and brought back to glorious life in Hockham Church. Fifty people, many in flower power flares and bizarre wigs joined to celebrate all things groovy, with hits of the era from The Beatles, Rolling Stones and many more evoking a nostalgic atmosphere. The Retro buffet featured many classic staples: cheese and pineapple on sticks, prawn vol-au-vents, Angel Delight and Black Forest gâteau, washed down with fruit punch and Bellini cocktails.

The table top music quiz was won by Terry from Carbrooke and his team, while Ellie was crowned winner of the energetic Hula Hoop challenge, with a prize draw closing the evening.

Many thanks to the team for their hard work putting the event together, and to all those who supported this fundraiser for Church roof repairs at which a FAB total of over £1,100 was raised.

Bev Plummer

## Wretham Lodge Annual Summer Party

One of the village's great social occasions takes place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July when the annual Summer Party is launched once more at Wretham Lodge, from 7pm.

The event allows visitors to take a stroll around the National Gardens Scheme ten acres of gardens and through the main ground floor areas of the graceful Georgian former rectory.

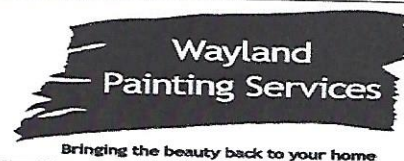
In the dining room, the large dining table and accompanying areas hold a mouth-watering finger buffet. On arrival, guests can choose between a chilled white wine and soft drinks, regularly topped up during the evening.

Since this is a fund raising event for the village church of St. Ethelbert, whose repair funds benefits from the profits, there is a raffle being held during the evening.

Wretham Lodge can be found at IP24 1RL and there is car parking opposite.

Tickets remain at £15 each and are limited in number so don't miss out on a lovely evening. They are available now, from Eileen Kitson on 01953 498 609 or at [kitsonje42@gmail.com](mailto:kitsonje42@gmail.com).

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*The content of the articles in In-Touch is the responsibility of the named contributors, not the Newsletter Committee. Anonymous items will not be accepted.*



## Hockham's History

### Hockham Pubs

Hockham is recorded as having several licensed home breweries back in the 1300's and may even have had one of the earliest public houses of its time. It's not however till the early 1800's that we find any reference to any names, where in an indenture the Red Lion gets a mention, having been previously called The White Horse.

The Lion is the oldest known surviving pub building albeit now a private house. Dating from at least 1789 it was once thatched. It closed in the 1970's and it's also been called The Lion and Old Red Lion. The property to the left, Cleobury Cottage, was a barn belonging to the Lion, and stables and another barn stood on the eastern side behind the pub.

Next door to the Eagle, where the car park is now, stood the Unicorn, a beer house with a separate skittle alley. It closed in 1906 but was licensed from 1861.

The Crown, first licensed in 1865, stood on Shropham Road and is reputed to have had a cellar, where the barrels floated in in wet conditions. The Crown traded till 1940, when it closed and has since been a dairy and a private house.

The Eagle was in existence in the early 1800's, in fact a flint wall uncovered in renovations may suggest an earlier life. But it's not till 1846 when the building's licensing records get their first mention and the name The Eagle Tavern. Aaron first took over the Eagle in 2009.



Eagle Great Hockham 1997



Chris Garrod,

### Defibrillator

The defibrillator is located in the telephone box by the Village Green.

Press the button to the right of the unit to connect to the emergency services who will give the code to unlock the cabinet.



# THE EAGLE

Harling Rd, Great Hockham, Thetford IP24 1NP  
01953 498893

## June Dates for your Diary:

6<sup>th</sup> June

Thai Orchid 4-9pm

13<sup>th</sup> June

Papas Locas 5-8pm

20<sup>th</sup> June

Dabbawalla 5-8pm

27<sup>th</sup> June

Marg and Rita's 5-8pm

Every one of the trucks serves food ready for takeaway but if you would like to eat at a table, please call 01953 498893 to reserve a spot.

See our socials for more information, serving times and pictures!

Wednesday evenings we alternate between Bingo and Quiz Nights. To find out which week we are on or to book a table see our Facebook or call 01953 498893.

## Opening Hours

Monday – Thursday 12-2.30pm/6-11pm

Friday – Saturday 12-11pm

Sunday 12-10.30pm

## Food Available

Monday: 5-8pm Takeaway

Fish and Chip Fryday: 12-8.30pm  
(Takeaway and eat in)

Saturday: Food available 12-8.30pm

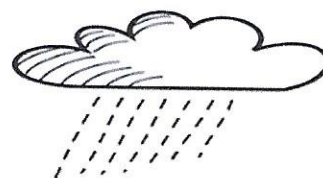
Sunday: Food available 12-3pm

**Please use the village bottle bank**



## April Rainfall

April 2024		67.3 mm
April 2023		52.2 mm
Jan - April 2024		285.6 mm
Jan - April 2023		215.0 mm
Highest April since 1979	2012	144.9 mm
Lowest April since 1979	2007	1.5 mm



## Village Hall Bookings June 2024

### Regular Bookings

Monday	Reserved for	
	Parish Council	Evening
Tuesday	Carpet Bowls	Evening
Wednesday	Yoga	6.00-7.30pm
Thursday	Taekwondo	6.00-8.00pm

### June 2024

Sat 1 <sup>st</sup>	Sound Bath	3pm
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	Exploring Drawing	10am-1pm
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Private Booking	All Day
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup>	Coffee, Cake, Chat	AM
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	Exploring Drawing	10am-1pm

For Yoga information ring June on 01953 498343

For Taekwondo contact Dave Robb 01953 882848 or 07710 666133

For Sound Bath contact Tracey Mathison 07748 213397

For Hall bookings contact Chris Garrod 07770 710307 or e-mail [chris@oaklands4.co.uk](mailto:chris@oaklands4.co.uk).

## Mobile Library Service

CHESTNUT SQUARE	10:55 – 11:10
SCOTGATE CLOSE	11:15 – 11:35

Date of forthcoming visits (Thursdays):

20 June / 18 July / 15 August  
12 Sept / 10 Oct / 7 Nov / 5 Dec





Great Hockham Gardening Club



Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June

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\*Fee

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Doors open 1.30 pm / Speakers start at 2 pm

Indoor meetings free to members / £3 to  
visitors

Outdoor visits are subsidised by the club but  
members may have to pay a small contribution  
for some visits

Secretary: Rosemary Martin 07563 505020

[secretaryghgc@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryghgc@gmail.com)

Website: [greathockhamgardeningclub.org.uk](http://greathockhamgardeningclub.org.uk)

## Norfolk Wildlife Trust

### Breckland Local Group

We had a very good walk around Lynford Arboretum on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April. It had been rainy earlier but it stopped just as we set off. We were so well guided by Clare and Anne from the Friends of Thetford Forest, who were both very knowledgeable, and we had several comments on the fact that they gave information not only on the trees but also the history.

On 1<sup>st</sup> June we have an evening walk on East Wretham Heath to hear and hopefully see the Nightjars and other nocturnal wildlife. This is fully booked but there may be cancellations at the last minute. Ring Lesley on 01953 718119.

Fiona Roat

## **St. Hockham Carpet Bowls**

The Carpet Bowls Club meets every Tuesday evening at 7pm - 9pm in the Village Hall either for matches in the Spring and Autumn and / or for practice games between ourselves.

For more information - Tel 07737 046121

Robin

## Coffee Cake Chat

This month...  
We are having a  
special doggie  
event... look out  
for our Facebook  
posts and special  
notices around the  
village!



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270204  
or 01953  
498243

15 June, Village Hall, 10.30 am

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Facebook Melodie Cook Artist



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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HOCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL ON  
MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024 IN HOCKHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**Attended by Cllrs,** Bennett, Lambert, Leech, Lloyd, Guppy, Thomas and Loft, the clerk C Garrod and 6 members of the public.

- 1) Election of chair for 24/25.** Cllr Bennett was proposed and seconded and with no further nominations was unanimously elected.
- 2) Election of vice chair for 24/25.** Cllr Lambert was proposed and seconded and with no further nominations was unanimously elected.
- 3) Appointing Representatives to Elected Bodies.**  
The following were appointed.
  - Cheque signatories: Cllr Lambert, Cllr Leech & the clerk
  - Footpaths & Forestry: Cllr Loft
  - Highways & Road Safety: Cllr Thomas
  - SAM Speed awareness: Cllr Guppy
  - Tree Officer: Cllr Guppy
  - Battle Area Liaison: Cllr Leech
  - Wayland Partnership: Cllr Bennett
  - Police Liaison: Cllr Lloyd
  - Playing Field Committee: Cllr's Lloyd, Leech & Loft
  - Finance Committee: Cllr's Bennett, Thomas & Leech
  - Planning Committee: Cllr's Lambert, Leech & Lloyd
  - Allotments: Cllr Bennett
- 4) Apologies for Absence:** District Cllr Cowen
- 5) Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Lambert, owner of the Eagle pub, Cllr Bennett and Cllr Loft as allotment holders and Cllr Leech as a farmer at Little Hockham.
- 6) Requests for dispensation:** None
- 7) Approval of the minutes of 22<sup>nd</sup> April 24.** These were approved and signed
- 8) Progress Report.**
  - a) **Wheelchair ramp.** On order, may be here for Hornfair.
  - b) **Info Board.** No progress
  - c) **Website.** Payment made to Norfolk ALC awaiting work to be done.
  - d) **Drainage.** No report back from NCC Cllr Eagle. Collation of data continues.
- 9) Public Participation.** The meeting was adjourned to allow public questions.  
Thanks were given to the PC from the parishioners.
- 10) Highways & Road Safety.** (Cllr Thomas). Finger posts on the B1111 were being replaced, Damaged Road surface on the Harling Rd and near Home Farm Park entrance would be repaired, severely damaged Signs on the A1075 would be repaired.
- 11) Planning Applications.** 3PL/2024/0402/HOU Sunny Nook was discussed.  
Concern's regards the property size, potential overlooking of other properties, issues with offloading delivery vehicles, parking of contractor's vehicles, the fact the outbuilding was on a specific footprint and a shortage of parking spaces for a property of that size, were discussed. Cllr Lambert would draft a set of comments.



There had been no response to the Chief Exec's letter regards the FOI. Cllr Suggitt would be chased. Cllr Lambert would attend, if possible, any meetings regard the local plan and new consultation.

Concerns regard some land use on a piece of land adjoining the A1075 would be reported to enforcement.

- 12) Finance.** The bank balance was £16034.08. Outgoings to approve were the streetlight maintenance and clerk's salary for June, the ICIO registration also in June (£40) and any community car scheme reimbursement due.
- 13) Allotments.** All plots were in use. Maintenance would continue when required. The borehole made would be pumped out to check inflow.
- 14) Footpaths & Rights of way.** The trod had been cut. The trod condition would be checked in one month.
- 15) POL 008 New Financial Regulations from NALC** had been circulated and were approved.
- 16) Road Signage for village hall.** The hall would be put on google maps. Temporary signs would be considered to locate both hall and playing field.
- 17) Playing Field.** There was £15292.87 in the bank plus cash of £287.55 which was being used at Hornfair. Hornfair organisation was progressing well. New seats had been purchased and delivered for the playing field.
- 18) Councillor Updates.** Cllr Guppy had done some excellent work on and around the planters, which in turn had all been replanted. The Wayland sign on Wretham Road had also been given some TLC.
- 19) Correspondence.** New Councillor Guides were being produced and the clerk would obtain copies when available.
- 20) Next meeting and agreed dates for meetings for 24/25 are;** 17<sup>th</sup> June; 15<sup>th</sup> July; Sept; 7<sup>th</sup>; October; 4<sup>th</sup> November; 9<sup>th</sup> December; 6<sup>th</sup> January; 9<sup>th</sup> February; March 10<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>; May 12<sup>th</sup>