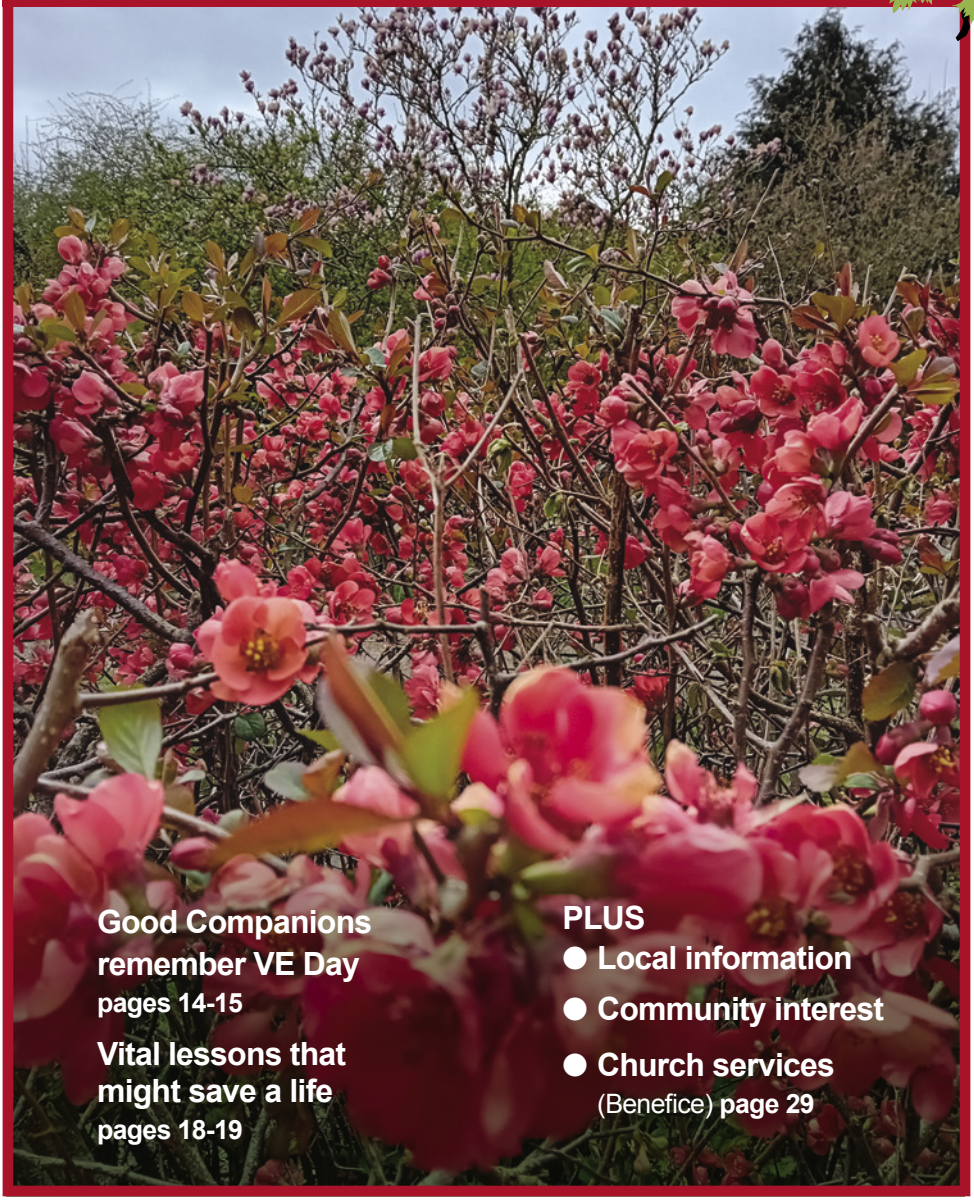
THE Grapevine

June 2025

Your community guide for **Colton, Easton and Marlingford**



Good Companions remember VE Day
pages 14-15

Vital lessons that might save a life
pages 18-19

PLUS

- **Local information**
- **Community interest**
- **Church services** (Benefice) **page 29**

Useful contacts

St Peter's VC Primary School, Easton	01603 880553
Easton College	01603 731200
Easton College Tennis Centre	01603 731302 easton.tennis@ccn.ac.uk
Colton Village Hall	Vicky Green – 01603 881336 vicky@mgarchery.co.uk
Little Owls at Colton Village Hall	Katie Kemp 07790 276499
Colton Art Group	Rosanna Ellis – 07765 294347
Colton Carpet Bowls Club	Dennis Mickleburgh – 01603 880391 Avalon, The Street, Colton
Easton Bowls Club Secretary	Jan Hudson - 01603 880811 eastonbowls.bh@btinternet.com
Easton Crafters' Club	Mrs Janet Morris – 01603 471144
Easton Football Club	Michael Cossey – 01603 880143 73, Marlingford Way, Easton
Easton Good Companions	Pamela Hooker – 01603 880867
Easton Gym Club	01603 960511 enquiries@eastongymnasticsclub.com
Easton Judo Club Coach	Chris Abel – 0845 388 6895 chris@eastonjudoclub.co.uk 29, Goulburn Rd, Norwich
Easton Junior Football	Gavin Tipple – 01603 731585 gtipple@easton-college.ac.uk
Easton Sports Centre	Colin Brzeczek 01603 731263
Easton Post Office	Open Tues and Thurs 9am-2pm 01603 880007
Easton Village Hall	Roly and Christine Chapman 01603 880654
Easton WI Secretary	Sandra Bowman 01603 881538
Marlingford Village Hall Bookings	John Bailey M: 07986 609319 jaydeebailey@gmail.com
Community Car Scheme for Easton only	Jean and Dave Ditton – 01603 880857
Citizens' Advice Bureau	Wymondham 03444 111444
Relate	01603 625333
Samaritans	0330 094 5717

Doctors surgeries

Costessey, Roundwell	01603 744014
Beechcroft	01603 746683
Hethersett	01603 977477
Mattishall	01362 850227

Hospitals

Norfolk & Norwich incl W Norwich	01603 286286
Julian & Hellesdon	01603 421421
Dereham, Northgate	01362 697300
Kelling	01263 710575

Police

Non urgent 101 **or visit website:** norfolk.police.uk/contact-us/6-report-it

Urgent 999

Parish Council Clerks

Easton: clerk@eastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Marlingford & Colton

Maria Hutson 01603 850118
clerk@marlingfordandcolton-pc.gov.uk

Councillor South Norfolk District and Norfolk County

Margaret Dewsbury 01603 759693
6, Park Avenue, Barford NR9 4BA

Location of defibrillators:

Colton - Village hall, Norwich Rd; NR9 5BY
Easton - Village hall, Marlingford Rd, NR9 5AD
Rembrandt Restaurant, 65 Dereham Rd.
Lower Easton, 76 Ringland Rd;
Marlingford: The Bell, Bawburgh Road. NR9 5HX

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The Grapevine

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Picture: Felicity Maton

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Parishes of Easton, Colton, Marlingford and Bawburgh

Benefice Rector	Revd Laura Montgomery eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com 172 Fairways, Queen's Hills, Costessey NR8 5GB	01603 744551
Reader	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton	01603 880255

St Peter's Church, Easton

Churchwardens	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton Margaret Seely, 8 Kennedy Close, Easton	01603 880255 01603 880888
PCC Secretary	Anthony Perry, 7 Pegg Close, Easton	01603 882265
Treasurer	Vacancy	

St Andrew's Church, Colton

Churchwarden	Sarah Smith, Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton	07769 976173
PCC Secretary	Liz Plater, Church Cottages, Church Lane, Colton	01603 880556
Treasurer	Judy Scrivener, The Old Post Office, Norwich Road, Colton NR9 5BZ	judy.scrivener@ googlemail.com

St Mary's Church, Marlingford

Churchwarden	Felicity Maton, West Cottage, Barford Road, Marlingford	01603 880846
PCC Secretary	Felicity Maton, West Cottage, Barford Road, Marlingford	01603 880846
Treasurer	Carol Chiles carolachiles@gmail.com	01508 578352

St Mary and St Walstan's Church, Bawburgh

PCC contact	Lin Gibson	01603 744683

There have been changes to local bus services

These are the changes to the timetable for the Konect Bus service to and from Easton, from and to Norwich Bus Station, which was effective from 30th March 2025.
Please note: connection times in both Easton and Longwater are tighter and that the 09:26 service from Easton is now before the 09:30 watershed, which means that a **senior citizen's bus pass will not be free, but will be charged at £1.50.**
This timetable is for Service 808 only from Marlingford and Colton, and onward connections to or from Longwater Retail Park and/or Norwich Bus Station on Tuesdays and Thursdays only:

Outward		Connects with:		
	Service 808	Konnect 4	or	X1
Marlingford Bell	09:08			
Colton: The Pond	09:13			
Colton: The Street / Norwich Road Jcn.	09:14			
Easton: Marlingford Road Bus Shelter	09:17	09:26	or	10:05
Longwater Retail Park: Pizza Hut	09:22	09:33		
Norwich Bus Station		10:05	or	10:25

Return				Connects with:		
	Service 808			Konnect 4	or	X1
Norwich Bus Station				12:15	or	12:00
Longwater Retail Park	11:15 *	or	12:50	12:47		
Easton: Marlingford Road Bus Shelter	11:20 *	or	12:55	12:52	or	12:20
Colton: The Street / Norwich Road Jcn.	11:23 *	or	12:58			
Colton: The Pond	11:24 *	or	12:59			
Marlingford Bell	11:29 *	or	13:04			

Note *: For passengers who only want to return from Longwater on the Konnect 4 (Outward) Service, which arrived at 09:33, above.The Our Bus Service will also continue to be provided. In addition to the current arrangements, there will continue to be a pre-booked service to the N&NUH at 07:50 and 17:45 from Colton and Marlingford. To book this bus, call **01603 223956**

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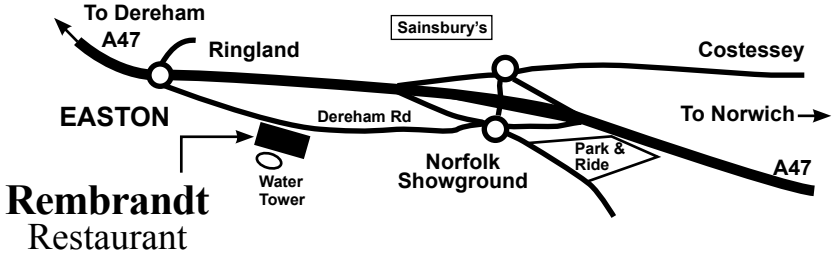
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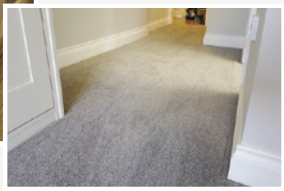
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Customer satisfaction is our priority.

Here you are guys - regular latte to go...

I must say I find myself getting saddened by the Americanisation of our language. Only last week, the lad in Tesco's cheerfully asked "How are you guys this morning? Neither my 92-year-old mum nor me have ever considered ourselves to be 'guys'. I prefer to think of us as 'folks'. I'm fairly sure if I asked you what the opposite of large is, you wouldn't immediately say 'regular'. If I'm given the choice between a regular or large skinny latte (er...milky coffee), I will always answer "Small please".

I find myself watching films while others watch 'movies'. When did 'in the future' become 'going forward', or 'to take away' become 'to go' or 'post-mortem' become 'autopsy'? And now, there are folk on YouTube teaching you how to do a British accent – what exactly is that? Of course, languages grow and change. The 'Friends' and Tik Tok generations have grown up with these transatlantic phrases sadly ensuring that one day, the quaint Englishness the Americans love will have disappeared completely.

Annette (editor)

Where you can find our online editions

You can access each issue of *The Grapevine* online. Visit the **Easton parish council** (eastonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and the **Marlingford and Colton parish council** (marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk) websites, the **Nextdoor** website and on the Easton **Festival Park Facebook** page. If you would like digital copies, please send your email address to: **annettegh57@gmail.com** and you will be added to a list of subscribers.

Our printed editions are published in Dec/Jan, March, May, July/Aug and October and are distributed in Easton, Colton and Marlingford. If you enjoy reading *The Grapevine* and would like to make a donation towards the cost of more printed editions, you can do so by bank transfer:

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Thank you!

Deadline for items for the July/August issue: Monday, June 16 2025
Email as word doc to: annettegh57@gmail.com

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Colton Village Hall

● **CHANGE OF DATE!**

Afternoon Cream Tea

Saturday, June 14

Gather with friends and neighbours to enjoy a selection of scones with cream and jam, and a cup of tea (or coffee). 2pm - 4pm.

● **Summer BBQ**

Saturday July 19

Make a date in your diary for the annual Colton BBQ with tasty burgers and hotdogs on offer! Always a lovely evening out.

Easton Village Hall

● **Easton Good Companions**

June 5 – A Night at a Pub talk by **Angela Bishop.**

June 18 – 70th birthday lunch.

July 3 – Strawberry Tea in the village hall.

July 17 – **Korean Wedding** talk by **Juyna Lewis**.

July 31 – Quiz and Hoy Bingo

We meet every two weeks at the village hall on Thursdays 2- 4pm. Over 55s welcome.

Tony Perry

● **Easton Pop In**

We are open from 10.00am until 12 noon every Tuesday morning at the village hall is open to all who wish to come in and chat with a coffee or tea and a biscuit. We also would like more volunteers to make drinks for our visitors. Come and join us!

Brenda and Tony

● **Easton Crafters**

Members had a lovely day out at Lincoln Craft Fair, enjoying the demonstrations and finding lots of new items to add to their crafting stash!

We meet every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at Easton Village Hall between 1.30pm and 4.30pm. For more information, ring **Janet** on **01603 471144**

● **Easton WI**

Easton WI meets on the second Thursday of the month (except August) at Easton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Marlingford Village Hall

Marlingford village hall committee would like to thank astro-physicist **Glenn Barrett** for giving an intriguing and fascinating talk on **Very Very Scary Black Holes** on May 13. It was a very well attended event and we are delighted that Glenn will return in the autumn on November 13 with a talk on **The Night Sky over Marlingford**.

● **Forthcoming events:**

A cabaret style evening with sketch

show and food – date to follow.

● **Marlingford Christmas Fair** will return this autumn on Saturday, December 6.

Bawburgh Village Hall

Talks for everyone

Entrance, including tea or coffee: still only £3! Do come to our talks. There's a wide range of topics and includes something for everyone.

● **History of the Lute**

Tuesday June 10, 7.30pm.



David Van Edwards is a lute maker; his talk includes how the lute spread all over Europe after its introduction from Arabia around 1250 AD. In England its high point coincided with the reigns of the Tudors Henry VIII and Elizabeth I when some of its finest music was written. David will cover some of this history using paintings to show how the lute became so central to life in renaissance and baroque Europe.

● **Mary Fewster: Norfolk Breweries**

Tuesday July 8, 7.30pm

Mary Fewster will give a talk on the brewing industry in Norwich and Norfolk, from its early beginnings to today's national companies.







Pamela Hooker (left) and Carol Millard at the Easton Good Companions VE Day event.

Easton Good Companions remember the fallen as part of VE Day celebrations

In addition to celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day at our meeting on May 8, we remembered all those that served in the Second World War – especially those that lost their lives.

We held a tea party at which we ate corned beef sandwiches, jam tarts, tray-bake cake, drank tea and, for some, there was a celebration drink of Bailey's.

Pat Leonard brought along a CD of songs by The D-Day Darlings with the old favourites that were popular during, and since, the war so we had a bit of a sing-song too. I remember my parents having records that, as a young child, were two of my favourites – *Coming In On A Wing and a Prayer* and *Bluebirds Over The White Cliffs of Dover*. The former was one of my dad's favourites (he was in the RAF), and the latter was my mum's favourite, probably because she was from Kent (Folkestone) and was there during the war years before moving to Norfolk.

Several of our members brought in memorabilia which was interesting

to see including a portion of a zeppelin which landed in Easton. Also, a picture of George Stevenson, (uncle to one of our members) and his box of medals just as they were received by him through the post. He never opened them as he felt he didn't deserve medals even though he was a Desert Rat – he was doing his duty to his country. At the time of receiving his medals, he lived in Diss but later came to live in Parker's Close in Easton to be nearer to family.

Patricia Allman



Memorabilia on display at the VE Day event.

Pictures: Patricia Allman.

What does the Data Protection Act mean for me?

The Data Protection Act 2018 gives you the right to find out what information is held about you. This is called the Right of Subject Access. The Act also requires those who record and use personal data to adhere to the Act's principles and be open about how they use it. This last part applies to the Norfolk Constabulary, which the Act calls a 'Data Controller'.

Personal data

Personal data is defined as any information relating to a living person who can be identified either from the information itself or indirectly by combining the information with other data available to the controller. Personal data includes any opinions and indication of intentions that anyone has expressed about the person.

Your rights

Under the Data Protection Act 2018, you have a statutory right to have access to personal data we hold about you on computer or on paper. More information on the Data Protection Act can be found on the website of the Information Commissioner.

A description of all the categories of personal or sensitive personal data that we process and our reasons why, is available on our Privacy Notice page.

When might my information not be disclosed?

In some circumstances, exemptions apply that prevent us from disclosing information to you. Examples of this are if the information would hinder the prevention and detection of crime or the apprehension and prosecution of offenders. We would also not disclose certain information in the interests of national security. For more information, click: **norfolk.police.uk**

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News from Easton Women's Institute

What's been happening...

At our meeting in May, we had a talk about making a lasting power of attorney which was very interesting and not as depressing as some of us feared it might be! As the meeting was held on the celebration of VE Day, members brought some items connected with the Second World War including a booklet telling what to do if you had been blitzed!

The following week, a group of members visited the Walled Garden at Little Plumstead for a walk round the garden and a cup of coffee.



We also attended the spring meeting of the Barford and District Group of WIs along with members from New Costessey, Barford, Hethersett and Mattishall. We had a very pleasant evening with musical entertainment and refreshments.

Coming up

At our monthly meeting on Thursday, June 12, we will have a talk by **Helen Reeve** called **For the Love of Cows**. This sounds as if it will be very interesting and fun, even if you are not entirely comfortable in close proximity to cows!

Our speaker in July will be dealing with the serious subject of **Applied First Aid** which is good for everyone to learn about.

Save the date!

We will be having **Afternoon Tea** in the village hall on Thursday, August 21 at 2.30pm to 4pm. I will give more details in future editions of *The Grapevine* and on Easton Matters but everyone is welcome to come and join us. Easton WI would very much like to welcome some new members and if anyone is interested in joining us or knowing a little more about the Women's Institute, please do come along to one of our meetings or contact us for a chat.

We meet on the second Thursday of the month (except August) in Easton Village Hall at 7.30pm.

We are a small, friendly group who come from three villages. Most months, we have a speaker or an entertainer and we often have visitors from other WIs to join us. We are happy to welcome visitors for up to three meetings a year but after that we will politely ask them to join us as a WI member. We also go out and about between meetings visiting places of interest. We are a friendly lot and would love to meet anyone who has recently come to live in the village and would like to meet us.

Mary Blathwayt

Villagers' vital lesson that may well save a life

You hope you never need to, but would you know what to do if someone had a cardiac arrest right in front of you? Villagers gathered in Colton Village Hall to watch – and take part in – a demonstration of the life-saving procedures that anyone can carry out should the worst happen. Using dummies, they learnt how to perform **CPR** – **Cardiopulmonary Resusicitation** – and how to use a defibrillator.

Cardiac arrest is not actually a heart attack (when the subject may still be conscious and functioning), it is when the heart has actually stopped beating. There is a mnemonic for the order in which CPR is performed – **DRS ABC**. **D**: Danger, **R**: Response, **S**: Shout, **A**: Airways, **B**: Breathing, **C**: Chest. The following step-by-step guide provides a fuller explanation of this.

● **For more info, visit nars.org.uk**



Steve from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service prepares to demonstrate how to perform CPR on a patient who is suffering a cardiac arrest.



Danger: check around for imminent danger to persons present. **R**esponse: Give the subject a gentle shoulder shake to see if there is any response. **S**hout: for someone to call 999 for an ambulance and to get a defibrillator location.



Airways: Check there is nothing blocking the airway, eg false teeth. If there are, gently turn patient on their side and administer blows to the back to remove the obstruction.



Breathing: With the patient in position on their back, push chin up to move head back. This pulls the tongue away from the airway.



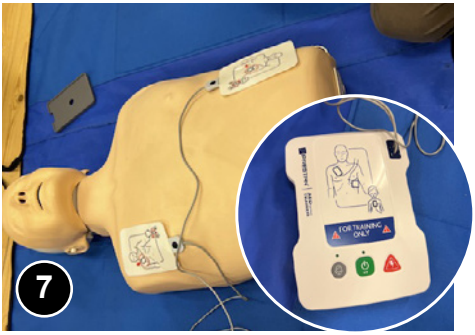
Place your cheek above the patient's mouth and nose, and look for rise and fall of the chest for 10 seconds to detect breathing.



Chest: If no breathing is detected, kneel close to the patient placing both hands on the middle chest area. Lock fingers and push down about 5cms. Perform two compressions a second.



Continue with this until a defibrillator arrives. The 999 call will have given the caller the location of the nearest defibrillator – the emergency services have every location listed.



Press the start button on the defibrillator and you will hear a commentary on exactly what to do. It will tell you to place the pads attached to the wires onto the patient exactly as shown in the diagram on the machine.



The defibrillator will then monitor the heart for activity. If there is none, it will ask that all stand clear of the patient. Then, a red light will light up, indicating that you need to press that button to issue a shock.



Follow further instructions as the machine continues to monitor the heart until the emergency services arrive.

Memories of Marlingford

Collected by Joyce Smith

Continuing a series of pieces taken from the *Memories of Marlingford* book featuring stories about the village and villagers, past and present.

Here is part two of **Betty Simms** *memories of Marlingford.*

I left school at 14 years old and went into service as kitchen maid with the Debars at Colney Rectory. I wore a long apron, cap and blue dress, earned five shillings a week and had a half day off a week, usually Sunday morning, when I was expected to go to Colney Church. I only stayed in this employment for one year.

My next position was as housemaid for Miss Marsham at Rippon Hall, Hevingham. I did all the general work and mending but was not involved with cooking and preparation of meals. I cycled home to see my mother on my half day off. I stayed at Rippon Hall for the next two years, before moving on to Boyland Hall, Long Stratton, as housemaid doing parlour work and waiting at the table. This was followed by housemaid duties at The Old House, Old Catton, for Richard Jewson, the timber merchants.

When I was 21, I volunteered to join the Women's Auxiliary Air Force to avoid conscription to factory work. I did my 'square bashing' in Gloucester before being posted to Melksham in Wiltshire to learn cook duties.

On one week's leave, I recall making a surprise trip home to see my mother. I arrived in Norwich very late at night so had to sleep in the station. A young chap offered me a chair to sleep on in exchange for the loan of my coat to keep him warm. I spent some enjoyable times in my final posting in the cookhouse at Wellsbourne in Warwickshire.

The men were fed well. If they liked the meal, some would sneak round for a second helping so there would not be enough for any latecomers. Once, when big tins of spam went missing, the culprit tried to blame 'those b .... girls !!!'

The Mess Officer was caught sending great cases of food to hotels and was dismissed from service after someone on the railway reported him.

Mrs Evans-Loombe told me that if her son-in-law, Sir Ludlow Hewitt, came to our camp, I was to make myself known to him. He visited twice to inspect the troops but each time, I made the excuse that I had not got a clean apron as I was in the stoke house. It was certainly

not protocol for me to approach such an influential person.
In 1943, I married an airman but when I became pregnant with Valerie, I left the Air Force to live at home with my mother in Marlingford and my husband was transferred to Foulsham.
We had a son, Charlie, 18 months later. I lived at number two, bringing up two children and caring for my parents until my father's death in 1950, and nursing my bedridden mother for seven-and-a-half years, until her passing in 1953.
In 1960 I was given the opportunity to move to Church Cottages, Church Road, to another estate house but with a bathroom and there I remained until mid 2000.
I was employed at Marlingford Hall for the next 40 years as full time cook, firstly for the Major and Mrs Evans-Loombe, later for the Admiral and Lady Evans-Loombe and lastly for Sir Edward and Lady Marilyn Evans-Loombe.
Other members of staff employed in the household of the Major and Mrs Evans-Loombe were Miss Ager, lady's maid, Miss Freestone, housemaid, Mrs Avis, head cook, Mr Wells, butler, and Mr Crow, chauffeur. I joined the Mother's Union and Women's Institute, which met at Mrs Durrell's, Home Farm or occasionally at Marlingford Hall. I would help at village fêtes, held at the hall or at Mrs Sharman's in Bawburgh Road.
In mid 2000 I came to live in Barley Court, Costessey where I reflect on my life and the friends I have made in Marlingford.



Mother's Union outing to the Broads L to R: Mrs Bell, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Pfob, Mrs Wilkinson, ?, Marjorie Russell, Mrs Gardiner, Mrs Rix. Centre: Robert Riches



Mother's Union Meeting at Great Melton Rectory. Back row: Lto R: 1) Mrs Durrell 2) Mrs Craske 3) Mrs Collett 4)? 5) Mrs Attewell 6)? 7) Mrs Curson 8)? 9) Vera Hodge with Ann 10)? 11)? 12) Mrs Rix with Rosalind Front row: 1) Jean Bailey 2)? 3) Mrs French 4)? 5) Mrs Bell 6) Mrs Brand 7)?

What a blast to be part of the festival opening!



House band, guitarists and rock choir RockavoX perform at The Forum for the opening of The Norfolk and Norwich festival.

This time last year, I never imagined I would be involved in the opening of the Norfolk and Norwich Festival! It happened because Australian artist Joseph O'Farrell (Jof) and Sam Halmarack put out an invitation to music and dance community organisations across the county to take part in a big live music event at the Forum to open the festival.

Our choir, RockavoX, applied and we found ourselves chosen to sing with a house band as well as 150 guitarists from across the region.

Our task was to learn five songs to sing on the night while Jof and Sam co-ordinated the guitarists who would have to learn to play those songs.

We practised each week leading up to the event and attended the big rehearsal the night before.

The day arrived and we were all buzzing with excitement! There was a huge crowd gathered on the steps as we walked out to take our places on the stage.

And then the whole thing kicked off with a rendition of ACDC's *High Voltage* followed by Metallica's *Enter Sandman*. The community support group No Limits Norfolk entertained the crowd as everyone joined in with Queen's *We Will Rock You* followed by an electric performance from the Garage Youth Theatre to the Ramones' hit *Blitzkrieg Bop*.





RockavoX singing out! Pictures: Scott Turner

The event ended with us all singing Joan Jett's hit *I Love Rock And Roll*.

It was such an amazing experience to be part of and one I'll never forget!

Annette Hudson

Easton Parish Council

Your parish councillors:
Chairman – Mark Caton
Vice-chair – Jan Hudson
Cllr David Lewis
Cllr Des Fulcher
Cllr Peter McCarter
Cllr Roly Chapman
Cllr Mark Cordy
Cllr Mike Jobling
Cllr Mike Bowman
Cllr Alexis Main

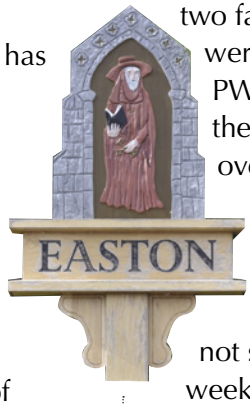
Meetings

I believe it is fair to say this has been a challenging year for Easton Parish Council.

Firstly the negatives:

We have faced the most challenging financial difficulties I believe we have ever encountered. With the resignation of previous former members of the team, this had a major impact on the new members picking up the pieces effectively and in a timely manner. I am thankful for the support I have received in my relatively new role as chairman. This helped us to achieve a more positive situation.

With the inherited financial situation, we, as a council, had to agree to increase the precept. While I accept the increase was significant, I can assure you that this is the minimum increase we could realistically apply and, after a lot of hard work around the budgets, the outcome was far better than we anticipated. The two factors affecting the precept were the unrealistic 10-year PWLB loan of £500,000 and the extreme insurance costs over the new Community Centre.



Looking at the PWLB, it was very evident this structure of the loan was not sustainable. Over many weeks of numerous meetings, and budget restructures, we were granted a new loan to clear the existing loan and extend the term to 50 years, making the repayments far more manageable for the future. While any loan sitting over the village is difficult to justify, there are hopes the term may be shortened with future CIL payments being received after the completion of the new centre.

Working to resolve the major problems was made even harder with the number of large projects also happening within Easton. Not only the new Community Centre but also the housing developments, planning, road works including

the dual carriageway works on the A47. The number of hours required to understand these projects is vast.

It was extremely disappointing to read press articles conveying fictional information which were released without council approval or knowledge. Negative press is never a good thing for any village and caused anguish for many residents. It is hoped that very soon the council will be able to address this situation with a factual statement on our achievements to date.

Now the positives:

I am pleased to say the situation we inherited, while not fixed, is in a better position. As a council reportedly being bankrupt, we have managed to work within our financial constraints and continue to do so. There may not be funds available for many improvements within the village this financial year, but we will do as much as we possibly can within the budget restraints.

We have received a CIL payment which will enable some element of work to continue with the new Community Centre. However the completion date of the hall is unknown. Involving the villagers with the project is something I am very keen to promote and I believe should have been taken into account at the onset of the project. We are seeking insurance cover to allow an open day and we will keep everyone updated on this. In the meantime if there are any trades' people in the village who might be interested in volunteering with some elements of the project, please let us know and we would be happy to discuss this further.

For the first time in a number of years it is a pleasure to inform you we have a parish council with 10 councillors. Our aim is to continue to represent the parishioners with a strong and caring ethic. While we may not always have the right answers or make the right decisions, we do so with the parishioners needs at the foremost. A huge thanks goes to all the council members who are all voluntary and do physical, administration and banking roles in their own time.

I must also extend thanks to a number of people and organisations who have helped us reach the better position we are now in.

To Persimmon Homes who have agreed to a number of measures at no cost to the council over

recent months. This equates to an approximate saving to parishioners of over £110,000 – a cost we alone could not of met.
To South Norfolk Council, the Monitoring officer, and her team who stepped in to support us as a council in our early days of leadership, their advice and support truly helped guide us to the position we are in today.
To Julie and Sara from NPTS who stepped in to act as our locum clerk and RFO. I thank them for their knowledge, support and tireless hard work behind the scenes. We look forward to continued support from NPTS in the future.
My final thanks goes to all of you, the people of Easton.
Your support for the council is gratefully received and deserves acknowledgment. The numbers attending meetings and interaction via email and other avenues we are all very thankful for.

Next meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 3** at the village hall.
This will be followed by the May meeting of the parish council.
E: clerk@eastonparishcouncil.gov.uk
W: eastonparishcouncil.gov.uk

New website aims to promote community and business events in the area

Norfolk Events is a website being created to be a dedicated hub to promote Norfolk's business and community events.
The goal is to be a central hub to help both residents and visitors alike discover amazing events taking place across Norfolk in one place. It aims to support event organisers by listing their events for FREE and by:

- Reaching a wider audience and gaining exposure through the website and social media.
- Making it easier for people to find and attend events.
- Helping to bring the Norfolk community together.

The website will launch on Monday, June 2 and it would be fantastic to include comminity and business events taking place in Easton, Marlingford and Colton on the site.
If this is something you are able to support, please do submit the events here:
norfolkevents.uk/events

Marlingford and Colton Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors:
Mr J Morse, Chairman

Vice Chairman
Mark Pfeiffer

Cllr Deborah Perfect
Cllr David Woods

Annual Parish Council meeting

At the annual parish council meeting, John Morse was voted in as Chair of the council for 2025/26 and Mark Pfeiffer as Vice-Chair. Along with councillors Debbie Perfect and David Woods, they continue to work hard for the residents of Marlingford and Colton.

Councillor emails and website

Marlingford and Colton Parish Council has moved its website to **marlingfordandcolton-pc.gov.uk** This website meets government recommendations and follows the format of other government websites. Over the coming months, all the relevant information from the old website will be moved across and will include recent meeting minutes, parish newsletters and copies of *The Grapevine*.

All councillors are now also using designated email addresses and contacts are as follows;

John Morse (chair): **john.morse@marlingfordandcolton-gov.uk**

Mark Pfeiffer (v-chair): **mark.pfeiffer@marlingfordandcolton-gov.uk**

David Woods: **david.woods@marlingfordandcolton-gov.uk**

Debbie Perfect:**deborah.perfect@marlingfordandcolton-gov.uk**

Clerk:**clerk@marlingfordandcolton-gov.uk**

Annual Parish Meeting

It was great to hear from local groups at the Annual Parish Meeting. Reports were heard from Marlingford Church, Colton Church, Marlingford Cricket Club, *The Grapevine* magazine, Colton Art Club, Marlingford Village Hall and Colton Village Hall.

John Morse gave a report on behalf of the Parish Council and Margaret Dewsbury reported on both the District Council and County Council which she represents.

The Annual Parish Meeting is held annually and is a great opportunity to hear about what is happening in the villages.

Look out for the date for next year's May meeting which will be announced later in the year.

Parish council meetings

Parish council meetings are held in **January, March, May, July, September and November**, normally on the second Tuesday of the month at **7pm**. Agendas are posted on the parish council noticeboards and the website at least three days beforehand. The public are welcome to attend all parish council meetings; there is an opportunity to speak and ask questions. **Please note:** if you would like an item to appear on the agenda, details must be sent to the clerk at least 10 days before the meeting. The council is unable to make a decision on anything not included on the agenda but can discuss newly-raised matters and refer them to the next meeting. Minutes are posted on the website: **marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk/minutes-agendas** and are available from the clerk but remain in draft form until they are agreed at the following meeting.

The next meeting will be held on;

- **July 8 at Colton Village Hall**

Parish council contact

Maria Hutson, clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council.
T: 01603 850118
E: clerk@marlingfordandcolton-pc.gov.uk
W: marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk

What the parish council does

Marlingford & Colton Parish Council consists of up to seven residents of the parish of Marlingford & Colton. Members are normally elected to serve by the residents of the parish every four years.

The council is responsible for many things including:

- Monitoring and reporting on the general tidiness of the villages
- Management of grass cutting in public areas
- Expressing views and recommendations on local planning applications
- Monitoring and reporting on the condition of local highways and footpaths

The provision and maintenance of:

- Litter and dog bins
- Colton Amenity area
- Marlingford Amenity area
- Marlingford Conservation area
- Parish council notice boards in Colton and Marlingford

Members of the parish council meet once a month (with the exception of the month of August), at a meeting to discuss, report, monitor and most important, make decisions on matters concerning the villages of Marlingford and Colton.

The Rambling Vine



A statue depicting a gleaner of the harvest. Picture: Felicity Maton

St Walstan's story tells us holiness is found in love of the land and generosity of spirit

As summer unfurls across our villages and fields, we find ourselves in that vibrant stretch of the Church's year following Pentecost — a season often overlooked but rich in meaning and possibility. It is sometimes called "Ordinary Time", but there is nothing ordinary about it. It is a time of growth – in nature, in community, and, if we allow it, in our spiritual lives.

Pentecost reminds us of the Holy Spirit's coming: not as a gentle breeze but as wind and flame – unmistakable, unmissable. It was the moment when the disciples moved from fear to faith, from closed doors to open hearts, from waiting to witnessing. It was the birth of something new – not just for them but for the whole Church.

New life is something we see all around us now. The hedgerows hum with bees, lambs and crops grow sturdier in the fields, gardens are full of colour. There is growth and energy in the world around us – and perhaps, if we pause and pay attention, within us too.

The Holy Spirit is still at work today. Not only in the dramatic or extraordinary but in quiet acts of courage, in prayers whispered at

the kitchen sink, in the strength to keep going or the inspiration to begin something new.

The Spirit is God's presence in our midst – comforting, empowering, and renewing.

This time of year also brings to mind one of our own saints:

St Walstan, a humble farm labourer born into nobility who chose a life of service and simplicity.

This year we are celebrating his feast day on the Sunday, June 1 at Bawburgh Church. Walstan's story reminds us that holiness is not reserved for the high and mighty, but is often found in faithful work, in love for the land, and in generosity of spirit. He worked the soil, gave away what he had and was known for his kindness.

His example speaks to the sacredness of ordinary days and the quiet, Spirit-filled beauty of a life lived well.

So, in this season of warmth and light, may we open our lives afresh to God's Spirit. May we be bold enough to dream, humble enough to listen and willing enough to respond – whether that means reaching out to a neighbour, volunteering for something new or simply making more space in our days to be still before God.

And, like St Walstan, may we learn to see the divine not just in church or tradition, but in the rhythms of daily life – in work done with love, in care for creation and in the grace of small, faithful acts.

Rev Laura Montgomery

Church services

June		
Sunday 1	**11.00am**	**Bawburgh** – St. Walstan's Day - HC. Procession to St Walstan's Well for prayers and blessing followed by bring and share lunch at Marlingford Village Hall
Sunday 8	10.00am	**Easton** – Whit Sunday, Pentecost HC
Sunday 15	10.00am	**Colton** – Trinity HC. **All age service**
Sunday 22	10.00am	**Marlingford** – 1st after Trinity HC
Sunday 29	10.00am	**Easton** – St. Peter's Day HC
July		
Sunday 6	10.00am	**Easton** – 3rd after Trinity HC
Sunday 13	10.00am	**Colton** – 4th after Trinity HC All age service
Sunday 20	10.00am	**Marlingford** – 5th after Trinity HC
Sunday 27	10.00am	**Bawburgh** – 6th after Trinity HC

Mobile library 2025 – June dates

Marlingford – Route: CEN 423 Thursday: June 12

Stop	Arrives	Departs	Postcode
Mill Road	10.40am	10.55am	NR9 5HL
Colton Road near Home Farm	11.00am	11.20pm	NR9 5HS
Colton –Route: CEN 319	**Wednesday: June 11**		
Ex post Office	9.45am	10.00am	NR9 5DB
Easton –Route: CEN 423	**Thursday: June 12**		
Parker's Close	11.30am	11.50am	NR9 5EE
Marlingford Road	11.55am	12.15pm	NR9 5AD
Marlingford Way	12.20am	12.40pm	NR9 5HB
Kennedy Close	12.45pm	13.05pm	NR9 5EY
St Peter's Drive	13.10pm	13.30pm	NR9 5HF

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis. For all enquiries call 01603 222303.



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