



# THE Grapevine

October 2023

Your community guide for Colton, Easton and Marlingford

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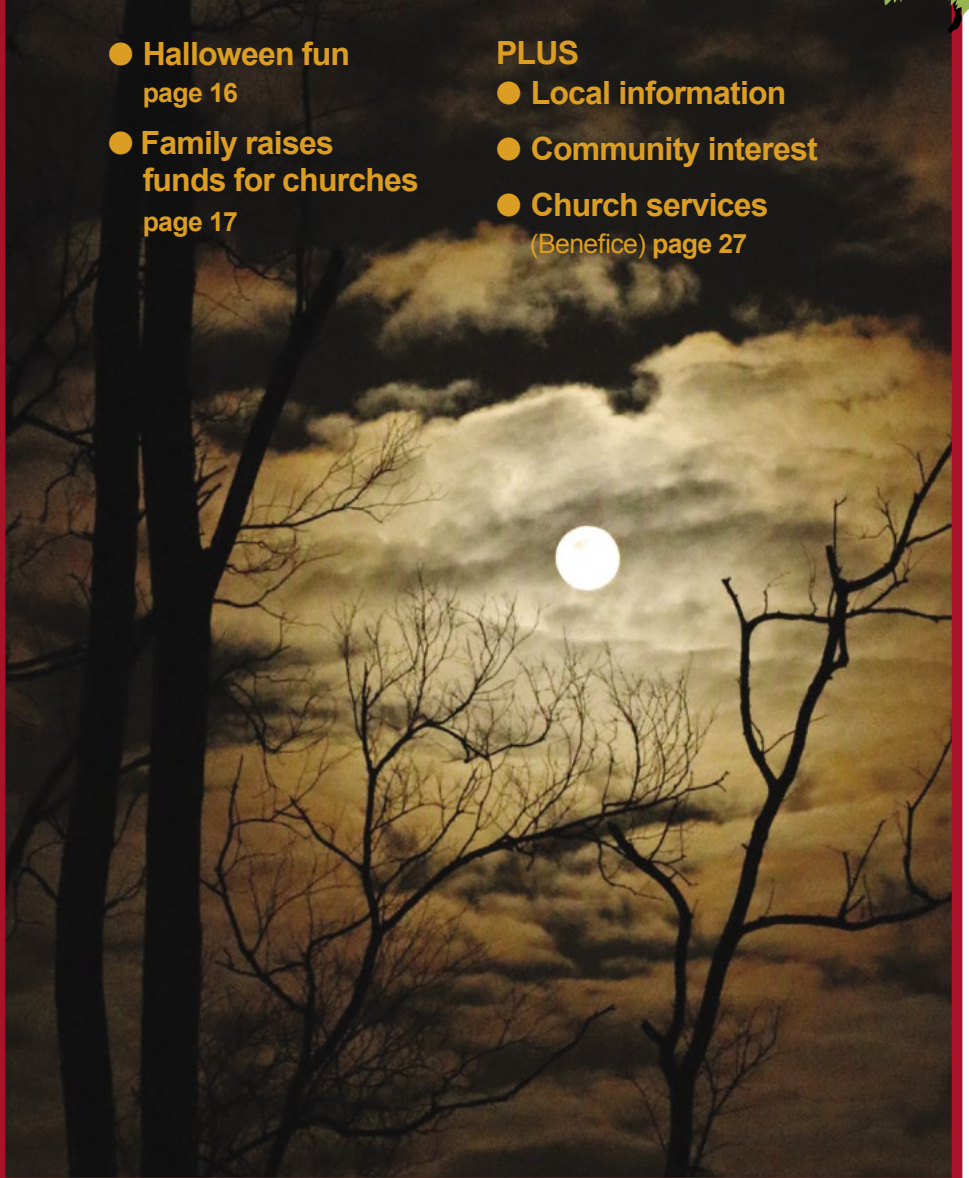
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## Useful contacts

<b>St Peter's VC Primary School, Easton</b>	01603 880553
<b>Easton College</b>	01603 731200
<b>Easton College Tennis Centre</b>	01603 731302 easton.tennis@ccn.ac.uk
<b>Colton Village Hall</b>	Vicky Green – 01603 881336 vicky@mgarchery.co.uk
<b>Colton Carpet Bowls Club</b>	Dennis Mickleburgh – 01603 880391 Avalon, The Street, Colton
<b>Easton Bowls Club Secretary</b>	Mrs Cossey – 01603 880789 28, Woodview Road, Easton
<b>Easton Crafters' Club</b>	Mrs Janet Morris – 01603 471144
<b>Easton Football Club</b>	Michael Cossey – 01603 880143 73, Marlingford Way, Easton
<b>Easton Good Companions</b>	Pamela Hooker – 01603 880867
<b>Easton Gym Club</b>	01603 960511 enquiries@eastongymnasticsclub.com
<b>Easton Judo Club Coach</b>	Chris Abel – 0845 388 6895 chris@eastonjudoclub.co.uk 29, Goulburn Rd, Norwich
<b>Easton Junior Football</b>	Gavin Tipple – 01603 731585 gtipple@easton-college.ac.uk
<b>Easton Sports Centre</b>	Colin Brzeczek 01603 731263
<b>Easton Post Office</b>	Open Tues and Thurs 9am-2pm 01603 880007
<b>Easton Village Hall</b>	Mrs Cossey – 01603 880789 28, Woodview Road, Easton
<b>Easton WI Secretary</b>	Mrs Cossey – 01603 880789 28, Woodview Road, Easton
<b>Little Owls at Colton Village Hall</b>	Katie Kemp 07790 276499
<b>Marlingford Village Hall bookings</b>	John Bailey – 01603 880266 M: 07986 609319 jaydeebailey@gmail.com
<b>Community Car Scheme for Easton only</b>	Jean and Dave Ditton – 01603 880857
<b>Citizens' Advice Bureau</b>	Wymondham 03444 111444
<b>Relate</b>	01603 625333
<b>Samaritans</b>	0330 094 5717

## Doctors surgeries

<b>Costessey,</b> <b>Roundwell</b>	01603 744014
<b>Beechcroft</b>	01603 746683
<b>Hethersett</b>	01603 811323
<b>Mattishall</b>	01362 850227

## Hospitals

<b>Norfolk &amp; Norwich</b> <b>incl W Norwich</b>	01603 286286
<b>Julian &amp; Hellesdon</b>	01603 421421
<b>Dereham, Northgate</b>	01603 697300
<b>Kelling</b>	01263 710575

## Police

**Non urgent** 101 **or visit website:**  
norfolk.police.uk/contact-us/6-report-it  
**Urgent** 999

## Parish Council Clerks

### Easton

**Gina Lopes** 07879 379181  
clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

### Marlingford & Colton

**Maria Hutson** 01603 850118  
marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com

### Councillor South Norfolk District and Norfolk County

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

**Front cover:** Spooky Halloween scene  
from Pixabay.



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## The Grapevine

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### Advertising in The Grapevine

Contact the Assistant Editor or the  
Treasurer for more advertising details.

### Annual advertising rates 2023

#### Black & white inside:

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£50	£75	£125	£200

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	£300	£400	
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Please note: information in The Grapevine is provided in good faith. The publication and its board cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies and any opinions expressed are the author's own.

## Parishes of Easton, Colton, Marlingford and Bawburgh

**Benefice Rector**      Revd Laura Montgomery      01603 744551  
eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com  
172 Fairways, Queen's Hills,  
Costessey NR8 5GB

---

**Reader**      Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton      01603 880255

### St Peter's Church, Easton

**Churchwardens**      Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton      01603 880255  
Margaret Seely, 8 Kennedy Close, Easton      01603 880888

---

**PCC Secretary**      Anthony Perry, 7 Pegg Close, Easton      01603 882265

---

**Treasurer**      Dave Batchelor, 9, Cleves Way,  
Old Costessey      01603 322987

### St Andrew's Church, Colton

**Churchwarden**      Sarah Smith,      01603 757865  
Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton

---

**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

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**PCC Secretary**      Felicity Maton, West Cottage,  
Barford Road, Marlingford      01603 880846

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**Treasurer**      Carol Chiles      carolachiles@gmail.com      01508 578352

### St Mary and St Walstan's Church, Bawburgh

**PCC contact**      Lin Gibson      01603 744683

# Need a bus? Here are your local bus services

## Bus services: Colton, Easton and Marlingford

There have been some changes to the bus services in Easton, Marlingford and Colton. Norfolk County Council has announced the following timetables which came into force on **September 3rd, 2023**: (All services are excluding Bank holidays)

Service 808 on Tuesdays and Thursdays only:				
From	At	Arrives	Connects to	
Marlingford Bell	09.18	Easton: Dereham Road bus shelter at 9.27	Konect 4 service from Easton to Norwich at 9.38, arriving 10.05	
Colton, The Street - Pond	09.23			
Colton, Junction Norwich Road and The Street	09.24			
Konect 4 service from Norwich to Easton at 12.15 arriving 12.42.		Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 12.50	Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	12.58
		Easton: Dereham Road Bus Shelter at 12.55	Colton, The Street - Pond	12.59
			Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	13.04
Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 11.15  (Easton: Dereham Road Bus Shelter at 11.20)		**Additional Service from Longwater only	Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	11.23
			Colton, The Street - Pond	11.24
			Marlingford Bell	11.29

For more information, visit: [ourhire.co.uk](http://ourhire.co.uk)

The Flexibus service will continue to be provided with the service now being supplied by Our Bus. In addition to the current arrangements, there will be a new per-booked service to the N&NUH at 7.50 and 17.45. To book a bus, call 01603 223956.

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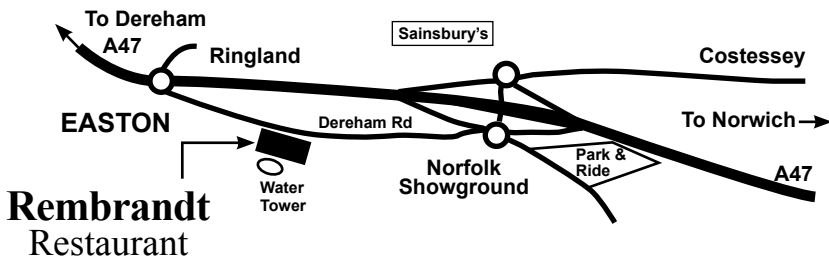
Friday 4pm - 8pm

Saturday 4pm - 8pm

*For latest information  
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# THE Grapevine



## Trick or treat - it's not that much fun for some

I'm going to be controversial this month and say I'm really not a fan of Trick or Treating. The idea that if you don't provide a treat, something nasty will befall you has always grated with me. Of course, it doesn't (hopefully) happen like that and most of us are happy to provide sweets for spooky-looking youngsters who knock on our doors. But some

elderly folk dread this time of year and are stressed by thinking strangers will knock on their door wanting money. I've heard of people who shut the curtains and sit in the dark at Halloween. It's mostly fun and kids love the dressing up and being scary. But spare a thought for those who are relieved when it's all over. **Annette Hudson**

**Deadline for items for the November issue: Wednesday October 25**  
**Email as word doc to: [annettegh57@gmail.com](mailto:annettegh57@gmail.com)**

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**Homeopathy & Reiki**  
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# YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEWS

## Colton village hall

### ● Colton Quiz

**Saturday October 21.**

Teams of up to six. £4 per person.

Contact **Vicky Green** on

**01603 881336** to book a table.

## Easton village hall

### ● Craft Club Easton Autumn Fayre

**October 28.** We will have our usual large hamper, raffle, craft stall, cakes jewellery and tombola.

Money raised goes to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

### ● Easton Good Companions

We had a gud ole larf at **Gal Tina** in August and thoroughly enjoyed our fish and chips in September.

### Coming up:

**October 12: Harvest Festival**

**October 26: Music quiz**

**Nov 9: Horse racing**

**Nov 23: Paul Cooper** Part one of a video presentation of Norwich.

If you are over 55 and wish to join us, we meet every two weeks at the village hall on **Thursdays** from 2pm until 4pm. Pop along and meet us!

*Tony Perry*

### ● Easton Pop In

A popular morning with upwards of 20 people chatting over coffee or tea with biscuits and sometimes cake. We meet every Tuesday

morning from 10am until 11.45am in Easton village hall. We are always looking for volunteers!

*Brenda and Tony*

## Marlingford village hall

### ● Forthcoming Autumn Events

**Friday October 6:**

**Cricket Club Race Night**

**Saturday October 7:**

**MacMillan Coffee Morning** (and Steam Engines display at The Bell)

**Thursday October 19:**

**"The Gal Tina" Talk.**

Laugh your way into Autumn with "Life Poems n' Norfolk Squit"! Refreshments and raffle 7.30pm.

**Friday October 20:**

**Bingo Night** – 7.00 for 7.30pm.

**Saturday November 25:**

**Folk Music Evening with Saffron Summerfield.** Refreshments and raffle. 7.30pm.

**Saturday December 2:**

**Christmas Fayre** – 11am - 2pm.

**Saturday December 16:**

By popular request the return of the **Barbershop Singers** to sing in Christmas!

**Tickets only in advance.**

Refreshments and raffle. 7.30pm.

**All details of the above events nearer the time.**

# Community and Fundraising Events

## Village quiz night a triumph!

The quiz held on September 3 at the Marlingford Bell was a huge success. The PCC thank The Bell for allowing us to use their restaurant area. £220 was raised for the church fabric fund. Future quizzes will be held at Marlingford village hall. Bring your own refreshments. See poster for all details. Jigsaw puzzles, unwanted gifts etc warmly welcomed for church fundraising. Please give to **Felicity** or **Jane 07713074029**  
On **Saturday October 7**, the church will have a tombola and book stall at The Vintage Day to be held at the Marlingford Bell.

**Quiz Night**  
**Marlingford Village Hall**  
**October 1**  
Then first Sunday of each month  
Nov 5 - Dec 3  
**6.30pm for 7pm start**  
**Teams of four**  
.....  
**Bring your own refreshments.**  
**Tea, coffee and cakes will be available.**  
**£2.50 per person**  
(cash please)  
.....  
If you don't have a team, just come along and join a team on the night.  
All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Marlingford, Fabric Fund

**B I N G O**  
Friday **1**  
**October 20**  
.....  
**21** Marlingford **4**  
village hall  
**13** NR9 5HL **10**  
.....  
Doors open 7pm,  
**88** Eyes down **88**  
**7.30pm**

**EXERCISE THE GREY CELLS!**

**QUIZ**

**SATURDAY,**  
**OCTOBER 21**  
**COLTON VILLAGE HALL**  
7.00 for 7.30pm start  
Teams of up to six – £4 per person.  
Call Vicky on 01603 881336 to book a table. Feel free to bring your own refreshments.

# Community and Fundraising Events

## Hot stuff in Colton!

The Asian curry night hosted by Colton Village Hall Committee on October 16 proved a very popular event with the locals! More than 40 diners enjoyed either a chicken or vegetarian curry prepared and cooked by Rose Marie Kay, who, along with husband Mark, are the new proprietors of The Norfolk Lurcher pub in Colton. The bar, where diners were able to buy beer and soft drinks, was dusted off and organised by Mark, ably assisted by



villagers Geoff and Ann Dunn. Thanks to Vicky Green and Sue Rix who worked like trojans on the night and to Natalie Hewitt who made the hall look so lovely. Thanks also to Lizzie and Katie for waitressing and to all the diners who helped with the washing up. It was a lovely village social event!

## News from Easton Women's Institute

### Say 'Cheese'!

Easton WI had a very interesting evening in September listening to Cheryl Cade's "Cheesy Chat (with samples)". We all learned a lot about different types of cheese and interesting ways to enjoy it! Cheryl made us all laugh with her amusing anecdotes!

At our meeting on **Thursday October 12** at 7.30pm in the village hall, **Julie Virgoe** will give us a talk and demonstration about **Hand Reflexology**. This should be interesting to anyone who has painful hands for any reason. At our November meeting we will hear a talk by **Georgette Vale** about **Nativity Sets** – and if this

doesn't get us all thinking ahead to Christmas, our Christmas lunch should do the trick!

No date set yet but see next month's *Grapevine* for details.

Finally, I can say that our **Afternoon Tea** in August raised £197 for WI funds so thanks to all who came and made the afternoon such a pleasant one. We welcome new members and, with the new homes in the village, we hope some of the residents will come and find out about Easton WI. You may attend up to three of our meetings as a visitor before deciding whether you would like to join us as a member.

**Mary Blathway**

## Protect our churches from anti-social behaviour

Sadly, this month we have seen a number of churches damaged by various means across the county. We have seen stained glass windows broken, items inside the church itself thrown and broken and even food and drink stolen from kitchen areas.

Some of this damage will be impossible to repair. These buildings are hundreds of years old and a huge part of our history. A lot of these amazing stained glass windows are one of kind – to see them getting broken is really sad. Many churches also struggle to pay for repairs as they must fund it themselves on top of very expensive ongoing maintenance to keep the building in good order. Many now have very small congregations and struggle to afford the additional costs. If you see anyone involved in



St Walstan's church, Costessey. Picture: Katy Walters

damage or anti-social behaviour in or around churches, please contact us. If anyone has any information in relation to damage caused to churches in the following places in the past month please get in contact: Diss, Thetford, Castle Acre, Norwich, Breckles, Brundall, Loddon, Chedgrave, Wells, and Costessey. (These churches have all received various levels of damage).

### Your Local Safer Neighbourhood team

#### Beat Manager

**Stuart Barnard Sgt 499**

E: [SNTCostessey@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:SNTCostessey@norfolk.police.uk)



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#### Beat Manager

**James Smith PC 2177**

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Engaging with your community to solve local issues and helping to keep you safe.

# Halloween Fun

Wondering how to amuse the kids this Halloween? Here are a few spooky events that will have them screaming with delight!

## **Hocus Pocus Outdoor Screening at Whitlingham Country Park** October 22

Make for Whitlingham Country Park on Saturday 22 October to watch a spooky outside screening of Hocus Pocus. There are two shows on the day starting at 5pm and 9pm. Bring warm clothes, something to sit on and some snacks. Hot drinks can be bought on site. Tickets £34 for a family (two adults, two children), or £14 per adult, £9 per child.

A £4 deposit will be taken when booking online with the rest due at the entrance that night. In case of bad weather, the event will be cancelled and a full refund given. Get tickets online.

## **Norfolk Showground, Ultimate Family Halloween Show** October 24 – 27

**THE MONSTER CLUB** meets this October half-term for the Ultimate Family Halloween Show. There's live music, dance, circus, comedy and panto inside a Big Top tent.

Suitable for youngsters aged 2+. There's also a trip to Hawkins for Stranger Things fans and a fancy dress competition. Tickets start at £10 and there's food, treats and a fully licensed bar.

## **Halloween at Castle Quarter** October 29

The shopping centre will be transformed into Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry with a magic wand creation station and a chance to get sorted into your Hogwarts house by the sorting hat. The Weasley's Ford Anglia will be there too, so you will be able to take an amazing selfie. Come and see for yourself for free between 12pm and 4pm.

## **Norwich Ghost Walks**

**Every night from October 24 – 31.** Celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, experience a creepy tour of Norwich at night – perhaps on one of their Halloween special tours. Recommended for aged 10+, the tours start from Cow Tower at 7.30pm. You don't have to dress up, but if you do, the best costumes win a prize. Tickets £15.

● For more information, go to:  
[visitnorwich.co.uk](http://visitnorwich.co.uk)





Tremendous cycling and running effort by the Seely family and friend. Below inset: Matt Seely.

## Family effort helps raise funds for churches

On Saturday, September 9, the Seely family (not including myself I hasten to add) took part in The Norfolk Churches Trust Cycle Ride to raise funds for both the Trust and for The Easton Benefice.

On one of the hottest days of the year, Matt, my eldest son, set off from his home in Costessey – not cycling – but running to St Walstan's church in Bawburgh, to St Mary's in Marlingford to St Andrew's in Colton, finally finishing at St Peter's in Easton. My daughter-in-law Louise, together with my granddaughters, Millie and Olivia along with Olivia's friend, carried



out the same route but on bicycles. They all arrived looking and feeling very hot and tired – but with a huge bonus of £250 in sponsorship!

I am so grateful to them for doing this and to the very generous sponsors.

Well done to them all.

Thanks must also go to Colin Rymill from Bawburgh who also raised a very similar amount by visiting 22 churches, this time on foot, around our beautiful city of Norwich. Well done Colin. Who knows, next year maybe I will take part!!

**Margaret Seely, churchwarden of St. Peter's Church, Easton.**

# Advertising in The Grapevine

The Grapevine parish magazine is delivered to the homes in Colton, Marlingford and Easton as a printed issue five times a year.

It also goes out to advertisers and email subscribers as a digital issue, 10 times a year.

We are hoping that increased income from grants, advertising and donations will allow us to produce more printed issues in the future.

The parish councils display each

edition in its entirety on their websites. There is also a link to the magazine posted on the Nextdoor website which covers parts of Norwich as well as Colton, Easton and Marlingford.

Please let Carol Chiles (carolachiles@gmail.com) know if you would like to advertise with us. We would like to thank our current advertisers for their support during 2023.

**The Grapevine Committee**

These are the annual advertising costs for 2024. There has been no increase on the 2023 rates.

Inside	Size	B/w	Colour	Design (if required)
Full page:	124mm w x 186mm d	£200.00	£400.00	£120.00
1/2 page:	124mm w x 92mm d	£125.00	£250.00	£60.00
1/4 page:	60mm w x 92mm d (portrait)	£75.00	£150.00	£30.00
	124mm w x 45mm d (landscape)	£75.00	£150.00	£30.00
1/8 page:	45mm w x 60mm d	£50.00	£100.00	£15.00

Back page				
1/4:	60mm w x 92mm d (portrait)	£150.00	£300.00	£30.00
	124mm w x 45mm d (landscape)	£150.00	£300.00	£30.00
1/2:	124mm w x 92mm d	£200.00	£400.00	£60.00

Advertisers can supply their own colour adverts to the correct sizes or they can have a colour advert designed from their supplied copy and pictures for the relevant

fee which is in addition to the advertising cost.

There is no design charge for black and white text-only adverts.



## Indian Summer, September 2023

There she lies sleeping  
in the cushioned garden chair,  
our dog,  
our faithful one,  
golden brown and silver laced,  
autumnal,  
four legs in the air,  
contented,  
happy just to be at one  
with who she is,  
snoring beneath the shady oak  
the leaves already tinged with gold.

Autumn has touched my garden,  
gone the gaudy summer flowers,  
Replaced by hibiscus,  
pale and dusky pink,  
crocosmia, in shades of orange  
dark and light,  
hydrangeas large and mauve  
and bright.  
Purple buddleia with  
honeyed scent  
has sprouted everywhere,  
butterflies  
with outspread wings  
still hover there  
along with drunken wasps  
and sluggish bees  
their life's work almost done.

I am tired  
for now it is my autumn too,  
the creeping vine  
has conquered all,  
along the cracks and up the wall.  
Ivy trails the trees,  
the hollyhocks begin to droop  
and shed their seeds  
and weeds thrive everywhere.

Longer now the night  
But still the morning swallows  
swoop,  
and screech  
and stretch their wings  
preparing for their migrant flight.  
In overgrown nasturtium beds still  
the caterpillar squirms,  
the robin picks out juicy worms.

High above the honking geese  
in crowds of ever-changing Vs  
spectacular in the rising sun  
follow the call from far away  
and seem to say  
"Now it is time  
Seize, seize the day!"

**Ann Dunn**



# Marlingford and Colton Parish Council

## Your Parish Councillors:

**Mr J Morse, Chairman**

**Dr Paul Hammerton,  
Vice Chairman**

**Cllr Deborah Perfect**

**Cllr David Woods**

## Parish council budget setting

As autumn approaches, it is time for the parish council to consider its priorities for 2024/25 and look ahead to setting budgets, known as the precept.

The parish council welcomes residents to attend these meetings. Agendas can be found on the parish council website and parish noticeboards around a week before the meetings. Information can be found at the end of this article.



Marlingford village hall.

## Parish council vacancy

There are currently two vacancies on the parish council for councillors.

If you are interested in local issues and want to make a difference



Marlingford cricket club.

in your community, being a councillor could be for you. If you want to see what the role entails, come along to one of our meetings.

Alternatively, feel free to contact our clerk, **Maria Hutson** on **01603 850118**, or by email to **marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com**

## Highway maintenance

Road surfacing, road signs, flooding and broken man-hole covers are some of the issues that can be reported on the Norfolk County Council website.

The parish council urges residents to report any issues regarding the highway using this page: **[norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem](https://norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem)**

## Parish council meetings and public inclusion



Colton village hall.

Parish council meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

The next meeting will be held on:

- **Tuesday October 10, 7pm,**  
at Marlingford Cricket Club
- **Tuesday November 14, 7pm,**  
at Colton village hall
- **Tuesday December 12, 7pm,**  
at Colton village hall

At each meeting there is an opportunity for members of the public to speak and raise any issues they may have. You are also welcome to simply come along and listen. Councillors look forward to welcoming residents to the next meeting.

**Maria Hutson,**

Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council,

T: **01603 850118**

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

W: [marlingfordandcoltonnpc.co.uk](http://marlingfordandcoltonnpc.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.

# A lovely occasion set in Marlingford church

A beautiful wedding was held in Marlingford church on Saturday, September 16.

The happy couple is Andrew and Christina Scales from Colton. The Parochial Church Council wish them blessings and joy in their life together and give thanks to them for organising a transformation of the church for the occasion with glorious flower arrangements inside and tidying of the churchyard by their friends.



*Felicity Maton*

The happy couple, Andrew and Christina Scales.

## ● Please note new times for each stop

### Mobile library 2023 – October dates

#### Marlingford – Route: CEN 423 Thursday: October 5

Stop no	Arrives	Departs	Postcode
18: Colton Road near Home Farm	10.25am	10.45pm	NR9 5HS
20: Mill Road	10.50am	11.10am	NR9 5HU

#### Colton –Route: CEN 319

#### Wednesday: October 4

38: Ex post Office	9.45am	10.00am	NR9 5DB
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#### Easton –Route: CEN 423

#### Thursday: October 5

6: Parkers Close	11.15am	11.35am	NR9 5EE
8: Marlingford Road	11.40am	12.00pm	NR9 5AD
10: Marlingford Way	12.05am	12.25pm	NR9 5HB
12: Kennedy Close	12.30pm	12.50pm	NR9 5EY
14: St Peter’s Drive	12.55pm	13.15pm	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.**

## Marlingford Church 50 Club

### Winners of the draw for quarter ending September 2023

	Number	Member	Amount
First	24	Hilary Barrett	£50.00
Second	50	Letty Broom	£35.00
Third	42	Julian Mobbs	£25.00

Congratulations and thanks to the membership which helps with the upkeep of the church. Prizewinners please email church treasurer [carolachiles@gmail.com](mailto:carolachiles@gmail.com) with bank details to receive your prize money.

## Can you guess who I am?

I think as I start this story about me, you will be aware very early on who I am. Your children or grandchildren may not know yet. I was built of wood originally in the year 1,000. I have a history book which tells you more. If you care to come and visit me, you will find it. In those days, people lived around me in a little village. Things change and move on. I was rebuilt by men calling themselves Normans. I have a wonderful doorway, tower, some of my south wall and a font where you baptise your babies. I am ancient – parts of me have fallen down over the years and have been rebuilt – the Victorians were good at that. My three stained glass windows are very fine. Have you seen them? They represent Faith, Hope and Charity. The people who dedicated them to me lost their son in a

submarine in the First World War. I have seen many things, wonderful happy times and sad times as well. I belong to YOU. I am there when you need me, but I need YOU now more than ever if I am to survive. You see, I am crumbling back to the earth like all the people I overlook from my lofty height. My chancel arch needs repair and I have quite a few big cracks which are getting bigger. I am here for the moment for you and your children whenever you need me. Can you help save me? If so, please consider a donation or even a direct debit each month. My guardians have built up the small pot of money to repair me, but it will soon run out if it is not topped up. I am, of course, St Mary's church, Marlingford. Thank you.

*Sally Neale*

# Easton Parish Council

## Your Parish Councillors:

**Cllr Ben Moyer – Chairman**

**Cllr Peter Milliken –  
Vice Chairman**

**Cllr Peter McCarter**

**Cllr David Lewis**

## New Community Centre

Work is progressing on the new community centre and is on schedule. It is anticipated the building will be at a watertight stage by the end of October. This will be a great advantage and protect the building as we head in to the winter weather.

## Grass cutting

After many meetings with our grounds maintenance contractor, CGM, Cllr McCarter has worked hard to ensure all the EPC areas are being maintained. Grass cutting is now back on schedule and monitoring will continue to ensure the service contract is fulfilled.

## Pilot scheme

EPC has been liaising with the Small Organisation Helper Service Pilot Project Team to participate in a new pilot scheme regarding the use of gov.uk domain. EPC will be transitioning to a gov.uk domain name as soon as possible to ensure greater safety of the council's data.



## Dog walkers

Residents walking dogs are welcomed. However, councillors ask owners to ensure that, when walking their dogs on pavements, they are kept at heel and not left to wander on extended leads.

This is important both for the safety of the dogs and also all users of the paths and roads.



Keep dogs on short leads.

Picture: Freepik

## Public spaces protection orders

South Norfolk is one of the safest places to live in the country. Unfortunately, however, there are still some reports of people behaving in a way that can negatively affect others. South Norfolk Council has proposed new orders to tackle



vehicle-related anti-social behaviour and is currently still consulting at the time of writing. For more info on this important matter please visit:

[southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/PSPO](http://southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/PSPO)

### Councillor vacancies

There are still vacancies for parish councillors at EPC. If you want to make a difference to your community and have time available to commit to the necessary duties of a councillor, please email: [clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk)

### Halloween, Trick or Treat

Councillors are asking our residents to be respectful of others over the Halloween period.

While some enjoy the seasonal high spirits, other members of the community – often elderly or vulnerable people – can feel distressed or intimidated during this time. It may be useful to display a sign asking people not to disturb you or alternatively saying trick or treaters are welcome.

**Editor's note:** For a 'Do not disturb on Halloween' poster to put in your window, visit: [norfolk.police.uk](http://norfolk.police.uk) and type 'halloween' in the search box. There will be a link to the poster which can be downloaded and printed off.



Poster available on Norfolk Police website.

### Remember to get your flu and COVID-19 vaccine

You will be eligible for the flu and COVID-19 vaccines if:

- you are 65 years old or over
- you have some health conditions
- you have a learning disability

To book your flu vaccine, contact your doctors' (GP) surgery or you can have your flu vaccine at a pharmacy if you are aged 18 or over.

To book your COVID-19 vaccine, you can phone 119 for free or use the NHS App to book your appointments – [nhs.uk/NHSapp](http://nhs.uk/NHSapp).

### Contact details for Easton Parish Council

The Village Hall, Marlingford Road, Easton NR9 5AD

**W:** [eastonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://eastonparishcouncil.co.uk)

**E:** [clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk)

# The Rambling Vine

## And here's another pilgrim's tale...

A recent letter to *The Times* highlighted the renewed interest in pilgrimage. To quote: "More and more are showing an interest in walking and talking about their faith and doubts on one of the many new pilgrim routes that have opened in recent years". Indeed, Ann Dunn in Colton has already shared with us her experience of walking to Santiago de Compostela and the joys she gained from that hugely demanding walk. My recent pilgrimage to Canterbury was not on the same scale and I had the luxury of a bed each night in a Canterbury boarding school and substantial meals cooked for us. But the spirit of pilgrimage was with our group of 11 ladies from the start. We began with a day immersed in the Christian history of Canterbury. In 597AD Augustine came to lead a new Christian mission on order of Pope Gregory. He was welcomed by Queen Bertha and used her chapel at what is now St Martin's Church building upon the Roman foundations, extending the Christian heritage right back to those early times. King Ethelbert was baptised a Christian in 600AD and thus began

the very foundations of Christianity in England. Augustine soon established a seat or 'cathedra' within the Roman walls – the remains of this original incarnation of the cathedral lie underneath its current nave. In Norman times the community of Canterbury Cathedral became a Benedictine monastery; a century later in 1170, the cathedral became the site of an infamous crime – the murder and martyrdom of Archbishop Thomas Becket. For me, the altar commemorating this awful event was one of the most moving scenes within the Cathedral. In 1982 Michael Ramsey the Archbishop of Canterbury knelt in silence with



The three swords sculpture in Canterbury Cathedral.

## Church services October/November 2023

October		
Sunday 1	10.00am	Easton
Sunday 8	10.00am	Colton - All age Harvest
Sunday 15	10.00am	Marlingford
Sunday 22	10.00am	Bawburgh
Sunday 29 (Clocks go back one hour)	10.00am	<b>Easton All Saints/All Souls</b> To have a prayer offered for someone special, leave the name on a list in one of the Benefice churches during the week before, until Saturday or contact the rector at <a href="mailto:eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com">eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com</a>
November		
Sunday 5	10.00am	Easton
Sunday 12	10.45am	Bawburgh - Remembrance Service
Sunday 19	10.00am	Marlingford
Sunday 26	10.00am	Colton

Pope John Paul II praying for peace and reconciliation. The sculpture is of the three swords that killed Beckett shaped in such a way to reflect the crucifixion of Christ. And then we started our walking! There is an ominous stone at the cathedral indicating that Rome is 1800km away along the Via Francigenga, the ancient pilgrimage route. I have to confess we only walked the Kent part of this route! We walked in silence, we sang and we laughed but most of all we chatted about life, faith, experiences and deep questions of belief. As we entered open churches en route, we were welcomed by organists practising, who were keen to accompany our singing, or by the sheer joy

of silence.

The presence of God in stunning downland countryside, abundant apple orchards and coastal views was tangible.

We were at one with words spoken by the Iona community:

*In a world vibrating with action*

*We come here to be still.*

*In a world of tight schedules and deadlines*

*We have come to absorb the present.*

*In a world of limits and frustrations*

*We have come to the brink of eternity.*

*At the still point of a churning world*

*We wait to meet the unchanging God and know his peace.*

**Liz Plater**

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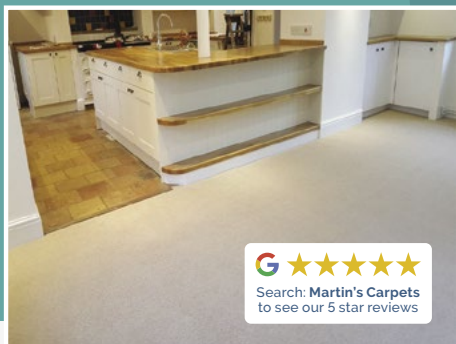
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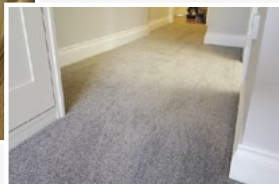
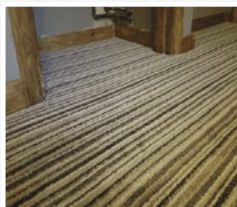
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