

What's to be done about this...?

- Chaos and damage after A47 closure page 16

PLUS

- Local information
- Community interest
- Church services (Benefice) pages 26-27



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
Colton Carpet Bowls Club	Dennis Mickleburgh – 01603 880391 Avalon, The Street, Colton
Easton Bowls Club Secretary	Mrs Cossey – 01603 880789 28, Woodview Road, Easton
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	Mrs Cossey – 01603 880789 28, Woodview Road, Easton
Easton WI Secretary	Mrs Cossey – 01603 880789 28, Woodview Road, Easton
Little Owls at Colton Village Hall	Katie Kemp 07790 276499
Marlingford Village Hall bookings	John Bailey – 01603 880266 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 811323
Mattishall	01362 850227

Hospitals

Norfolk & Norwich incl W Norwich	01603 286286
Julian & Hellesdon	01603 421421
Dereham, Northgate	01603 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

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: Mud and churned up verges on the roads around Colton.

Advertisers can supply their own colour adverts to the correct sizes. (contact treasurer for details). They can be high resolution jpg or pdf files.

The Grapevine

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Advertising in The Grapevine

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

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Black & white inside:

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£50	£75	£125	£200

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Colour inside:

1/8	1/4	1/2	Full page
£100	£150	£250	£400

Colour back page:

	£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,
Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton 01603 757865

PCC Secretary Liz Plater, Church Cottages,
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Treasurer Judy Scrivener, The Old Post Office,
Norwich Road, Colton NR9 5BZ judy.scrivener@
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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

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	Konekt 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			
Konekt 4 service from Norwich to Easton at 12.15 arriving 12.42.		Longwater Retail Park, Link Road at 12.50 Easton: Dereham Road Bus Shelter at 12.55	Colton, Junction Norwich Rd and The Street	12.58
			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

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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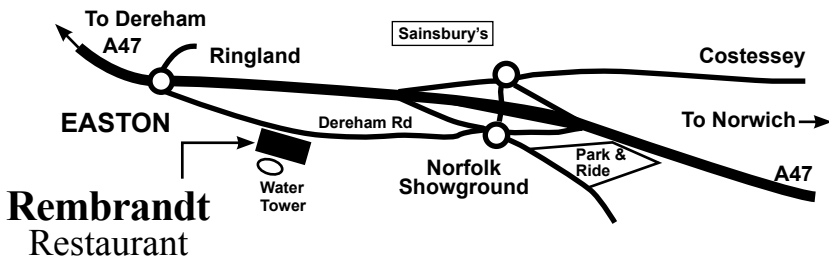
Friday 4pm - 8pm

Saturday 4pm - 8pm

*For latest information
please see the website or phone*

01603 880010

Dereham Rd, Easton, Norwich NR9 5EH



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Something must be done about A47 diversion

Our villages have suffered terrible damage to verges and roads following the closure of the A47 after the torrential rain this month. Traffic sent through Colton and Marlingford ends up in nose to tail stationary queues with some folk sitting there for up to five hours. There seems to be no official traffic management in place in these situations –

consequently, cars, vans and lorries file through churning up verges and driveways. This is before the proposed work on the dualling of the Easton to Honingham part of the A11 when the A47 is expected to be closed for several weeks. Local residents have informed Norfolk County Council Highways department. See page 16 for more.

Deadline for items for the Dec/Jan issue: Wednesday November 15
Email as word doc to: annettegh57@gmail.com

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Easton Clinic

**2 Woodview Road
Easton NR9 5EU**

Norwich Clinic

**21 Charing Cross
Norwich NR2 4AX**

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Colton village hall

● Coffee Morning

Saturday, December 9

Opportunity to buy a coffee or tea and cake, and have a chat with your neighbours plus try your luck at the tombola! Just pop in to the village hall between 10am and 12pm. Funds raised are for the village hall.

● Christmas Bingo

Saturday, December 9

Annual bingo night and community payout. Bring your own refreshments. Raffle.

● Hall hire

Colton village hall can be hired for events including birthday parties or wedding receptions. The cost per hour is £7.50 for residents and £15.00 for others.

For more details, contact **Vicky Green** on **01603 881336** or email **vicky@mgarchery.co.uk**

Easton village hall

● Easton Good Companions

We held a Harvest Festival service lead by Rev. Laura Montgomery (pictured right) on October 12 and had a musical quiz on October 26.

Coming up:

Nov 9: Horse racing

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



Dec 7: We will celebrate Pat and Pam's birthdays.

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

Pop In – or Clarice calls it “Drop In” – continues to grow. One Tuesday in October, we had 23 people all putting the world to rights. For only 70p, you can have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. Where else can you get such a bargain? And if you want to splash out for 90p you can have a mug. We meet every Tuesday morning from 10am until 11.45am in Easton village hall. We are always looking for volunteers!

Brenda and Tony

Community and Fundraising Events

Marlingford village hall

NOTE: We hope to have WiFi installed in Marlingford village hall before Christmas.

● An Evening of Folk Music With Saffron Summerfield

Saturday November 25

Singer,/musician/composer/bird song recordist. (Saffron has recorded nine albums, written songs for films and performed on BBC radio and TV shows).

7 pm for 7.30 pm. Price: £7.50

Bar: Refreshments : Raffle

Advance booking only.

T: 01693 880479 by November 18.

● Village Hall Christmas Fair

Saturday December 2: Come and enjoy our popular Christmas Fair. 11am - 2pm. Stalls include handicrafts, craft, cakes, jewellery, knitwear and tombola. Mulled wine, bellringers and a Christmas raffle.

PLUS Santa is popping by too!

● The VIPs Acapella Chorus - live!

Saturday December 16

Back by popular request!

Award-winning barbershop style chorus. 7pm for 7.30 pm

Bar, finger buffet and raffle.

£10.00 Advance booking only by December 9.

T: 01693 880479



BONFIRE NIGHT
Marlingford Village Hall
is having a

BONFIRE PARTY

Saturday 4th November
★ Admission from 18:30 ★
🔥 Bonfire lighting at 18:45 🔥

FREE ADMISSION REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE MARSHMALLOWS TO ROAST

Community and Fundraising Events

Mudlarks take the prize

Colton's annual quiz night was well attended in spite of horrendous weather resulting in roads and verges steeped in mud around Colton, and the rugby world cup semi-final being played the same night! Quizzers answered questions on a variety of subjects including audio clips on old westerns which had them reaching far back into the memory banks! The aptly named Mudlarks were the victors on this occasion but it was a close thing with other teams not far behind. The evening raised £104.35 for the village hall fund.



Colton quizzers take a well-earned break.

A big thank you

Terry & Judy Scrivener would like to thank everyone who attended or donated to their 'Bake, Donate & Buy a Cake' themed coffee morning on Friday September 29. An amazing £435 was raised for MacMillan Cancer Support.



Colton Art & Craft Group
Wednesdays
10am-12pm
Meet fortnightly at
Colton Village Hall
£4 per session
For more details and to find out when the next meeting is, contact Rosanna Ellis on 07765294347
rosannaellis@btinternet.com



Quiz Night
Marlingford Village Hall
NR9 5HL
November 5
Then first Sunday of each month
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

News from Easton Women's Institute

Meeting new friends

Easton WI has had two very successful meetings in the last month. We hosted the autumn meeting of the Barford and District Group of WIs and it was lovely to have so many of our friends from other local WIs enjoying listening to a speaker and eating a buffet supper with us.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend our own WI meeting due to illness but I am told that the speaker on "Hand Reflexology" was excellent.

Christmas approaches

At our next meeting on **Thursday, November 9** at 7.30pm **Georgette Vale** will be coming to talk to us about **Nativity Sets** and she will be bringing some to show us. That should get us in the mood for Christmas!!

Musical interlude

Looking forward to December, the entertainment at our meeting on the second Thursday of the month will be a musical group called

We Are Three.

We will have a buffet and visitors from other WIs as we usually do. Also, that month we are hoping to have a Christmas meal together but this is still at the planning stage! As I always say every month we would be very happy to welcome new members and as there is so much new building in the village, we hope that some of the new residents will come and find out about Easton WI.

You are welcome to attend up to three of our meetings as a visitor before deciding whether you would like to join us as a member.

Mary Blathwayt



A47 flood closure following storm causes damage and congestion on surrounding roads

Colton residents will be fully aware of the damage and general disruption caused by the village being used as a bypass during the A47 flooding last weekend. Following the heavy rain on Friday 20th, and made worse the following Monday, motorists and lorry drivers tried to pass one another on our single-track roads. As a result, ditches became blocked, verges have been destroyed, walls and other boundaries damaged and broken, cars have sustained damage. Local businesses have been badly affected and residents have been unable to get out to make important medical visits. Although the parish council has attempted to get some urgent remedial action in place, at the time of writing, we have not yet seen any response from Norfolk County Council Highways department. We have asked them to address the following issues, and give us their assurances that:

- 1 The roadway is cleared, cleaned and any damage is repaired at the earliest opportunity.
- 2 Arrangements will be put in place to urgently repair and reinstate verges, hard standing, barriers and walls which have been damaged by



Traffic at a standstill in Colton. Picture: Supplied.

the volume of traffic.

3 NCC will erect signage to permanently stop lorries and other large vehicles attempting to use our local, single lane roads.

4 NCC will ensure that the Police, or any other authority, know that the roads through Colton are, and always will be unsuitable for any overflow traffic.

5 We request that NCC provides us with an assurance that in future, all traffic, affected by issues on the A47, whether by flooding, accidents, or forthcoming construction work, will never be directed through Colton.

NCC have replied to the parish council and addressed each of these points. There will be more information in the local parish council newsletter.

John Morse, Chairman, Marlingford & Colton Parish Council

Organ concerts celebrate rebuild project

A magnificent musical jigsaw puzzle has been put together at Norwich Cathedral in recent months as the several thousand pipes of the historic organ have been reinstalled.

It took expert organ builders Harrison and Harrison nearly three months to carefully reinstall most of the pipes.

The organ's pipes had been removed in 2022 and taken to Harrison and Harrison's base in Durham for specialist work as part of an ambitious 15-month project that aims to ensure that people will be able to enjoy hearing the cathedral organ's music long into the future.

The pipes were returned to the cathedral earlier this year and the bulk of the installation process took place between 3 January 2023 and 23 March.

The team from Harrison and Harrison are now concentrating on the important task of tuning each and every one of the 5,767 pipes which range in size from about the length of a pencil to an incredible 32ft (almost 10 metres).

A special series of events is being planned to celebrate the return of the historic organ this November. All are welcome to join in the celebrations.



The magnificent rebuilt organ.

Picture: Bill Smith

The Organ Re-born! series features three concerts. Tickets are available on from this link:

cathedral.org.uk/events/organ-re-born-concerts/

Photographer Bill Smith recorded a timelapse video of the rebuilding project. Click here to watch and to hear Andrew Fiddes, associate voicer for Harrison and Harrison, talk about the project.

cathedral.org.uk/news/watch-timelapse-of-the-organ-being-rebuilt/

The accompanying music is Toccata from Symphony 5 by Widor, played by Ashley Grote. Music recording courtesy of Priory Records.

Fireworks events

Marlingford Village Hall Bonfire Night Party

Saturday November 4 2023

Admission from 6.30pm

Bonfire lit at 6.45pm.

Come and see the sky light
up in Marlingford!

Marlingford Village Hall,
Mill Road, Marlingford, NR9 5HL

FREE admission ♦ Refreshments
available ♦ Marshmallows to roast

Autumn Lights – Norfolk

Saturday November 11

4pm-9pm.

Norfolk Showground,
Norwich, NR5 0TP

A night of entertainment
with DJ Ryan Swain and
a live band. Enjoy the family
funfair, tuck into delicious street
food and finish the night
watching Norfolk's BIGGEST
firework display.

Tickets: £7.50 – £15 per person

FREE Parking

Taverham Scout Group HQ Fireworks and Bonfire

Saturday November 4 2023

6pm – Displays at 7pm and 8pm

Taverham Scout Group
Headquarters, Sandy Lane,
Taverham, NR8 6JR

Tickets: £6.50 plus a small booking
fee – Children 5 or under free with
a paying adult.

Wroxham Barns Low Bang Fireworks

November 2 -3 2023

5.30pm – 8.30pm

Wroxham Barns, Tunstead Road,
Hoveton, Norfolk, NR12 8QU

Low bang fireworks ♦ rides on the
fun park ♦ hot food trucks ♦
food ♦ bar

Tickets: Event pitch (for up to six
people) £65.

Thetford Firework Spectacular

Sunday November 5 from 3pm.

Firework display for children
at 5.45pm. Firework display for
adults at 7.45pm.

Barnham Cross Common, Thetford,
Norfolk, IP24 3EB



Join in with Thetford Firework Spectacular brought to you by L Gray & Sons Funfairs.

Fantastic FREE Family Fun Day at Barnham Cross Common on Sunday November 5 from 3pm-9pm. Fairground rides, sideshows food vendors, charity stalls. Car parking at Barnham Common – £3 donation per car. FREE to enter.

Hunstanton Fireworks Display

Saturday November 4 2023

Gates open at 5pm.

The bonfire will be lit at 6pm.

Display starts at 7.30pm.

Hunstanton Cliff Top Car Park, Lighthouse Close, Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 6EL

One of the largest firework displays in the area. The event is at Hunstanton Clifftop car park with a funfair, stalls, live music with laser show, a large bonfire, stunning fireworks and refreshments.

Laser & music show in sync with fireworks display

Tickets: Cars (Max 7 persons) £20

Walk-in adult £7 – Walk-in child (aged 0-15) £3.

● **For more information and to buy tickets, visit: thetouristtrail.org**

Christmas lights switch-on events

Dereham Christmas Lights

Sunday 26th November from 1pm. Lights switch on at 4.30pm. There will be stalls, food vendors, Santa, performances on stage by local groups, donkey rides, fair rides and more. Also featuring Dereham's very own rock choir, Rockavox!

For more information, call Dereham Town Council on 01362 693821.

Holt Christmas Lights 2023

Friday November 17 5pm - 9pm
Market Place, Holt, Norfolk,
NR25 6BE

Join the year's most festive of occasions at the Holt Lights Switch-On Event. Enjoy delicious

street food, warming mulled wine, the hilarious carnival street race, Adnams Bar, fireworks, Norwich City Pipers, Makers Market, Kiddies Rides, and live music on the stage from The Austin Beats. Book your pre-book parking ticket – a must!

Register as a 'Guest for Entry' to the event – it's FREE

Norwich Christmas Lights

Thursday November 16 7pm.
A new Christmas lighting scheme with 100% LED, powered by 100% renewable energy will include lampposts wrapped in lights for the first time. The scheme will also be larger than in previous years.

Marlingford and Colton Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors:

Mr J Morse, Chairman

**Dr Paul Hammerton,
Vice Chairman**

Cllr Deborah Perfect

Cllr David Woods

Cllr Mark Pfeiffer

Welcome to new parish councillor Mark!

Marlingford and Colton Parish Council is pleased to welcome Mark Pfeiffer as a parish councillor. Mark was co-opted at the October meeting and is already getting involved in parish council issues. Mark and all the councillors can be contacted through the clerk on the details below.

The parish council is still looking for new councillors. There are currently two vacancies. We would love to hear from you if you would like to know more or come along to a future meeting

Parish council meeting frequency

It was agreed at the most recent meeting that from January 2024 the parish council will meet bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November. Meetings will be held at 7pm in either Colton Village Hall or Marlingford Cricket Club. The January meeting will be held at Colton Village Hall. Public are welcome to attend.

Community Car Scheme

Picture: Freepik.com



Norfolk County Council operates a Community Car Scheme across most of Norfolk. The service is available to adults who:

- have specific health or social needs, but aren't eligible for free transport
- are unable use or access regular public transport
- cannot access transportation from family or friends
- require transport for essential shopping like food or medication pick-up
- receive mobility allowance, including higher or enhanced rates, that can access the vehicle and destinations unaided
- have experienced a heart attack, stroke, or uncontrolled seizures in the past three months; in this case, they will need to be accompanied

by a companion

- can get into and out of a vehicle unaided. (Unfortunately, they are unable to take people who travel in wheelchairs.)

You are welcome to bring a caregiver or assistant for support at appointments or services

Where can a driver take you?

- health-related journeys to medical centres such as hospitals, doctors or health clinics
- other medically-related appointments and preventative health care. For example, dentist, optician, physiotherapy, or occupational therapy
- day care and respite care

- essential shopping (food shop at supermarket)

- social activities or activities to help with general wellbeing

The journey costs 45p per mile (50p per mile if a passenger's wife, husband, carer or chaperone travels with them). The charge includes the mileage the volunteer travels to and from your house.

Contact Norfolk County Council on **0344 800 8020** (Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm) to find out more and reserve your ride. Please give us at least three working days' notice before you travel. Click here:

norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/public-transport

Parish council meetings and public inclusion

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

The next meeting will be held on:

- **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.



Colton village hall.

Maria Hutson,

Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council,

T: **01603 850118**

E: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com

W: marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk

Easton Parish Council

Your Parish Councillors:

Cllr Ben Moye – Chairman

**Cllr Peter Milliken –
Vice Chairman**

Cllr Peter McCarter

Cllr David Lewis

Orbit Homes applications

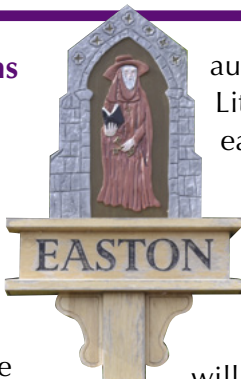
Please ensure you have put your name on the South Norfolk housing list if you would like to be considered for one of the new Orbit Homes. Easton residents will get preference for these new dwellings. Visit southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

New Community Centre

The new community centre continues to progress and is on schedule. The roof has been installed which will protect the building from the oncoming winter weather.

External auditor's report and conclusion of audit – 2022/23

At the last council meeting in September, councillors voted to approve and accept the external auditor's report received. Mr Woodcock, Responsible Finance Officer, advised that the audit was now concluded for the financial year 2022/23 and the external auditor's report confirmed there were no issues. The external



audit was completed by PKF Littlejohn and is carried out each year.

Easton Neighbourhood Plan Review

The revised document has gone to consultation with Natural England and will then go to South Norfolk Council who will appoint an inspector. Once the review is approved by the inspector, it will come to Easton residents who will be invited to vote on the revisions.

Speeding and inconsiderate parking

Councillors continue to receive reports of speeding vehicles going through the village and also inconsiderate and/or illegal parking. If you witness such incidents please report to the police and also highlight these to District and County Councillor Margaret Dewsbury.

Stay safe with fireworks

As the firework season is upon us, the safest option is to attend an organised event. However, if you are having fireworks at home

please consider safety at all times:

- Only buy from licensed suppliers
- Never allow young children to handle fireworks
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear.
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands.
- Never light them indoors
- Only use them away from people, houses and flammable material.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person
- Keep pets inside and be considerate to all animals.
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting, follow instructions.
- Never ignite devices in a container.
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks
- Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire.

Cost of living payments

You may be able to get payments to help with the cost of living if you're getting certain benefits or tax credits.

You do not need to apply.

If you're eligible, you'll be paid automatically in the same way you usually get your benefit or tax credits. This includes if you're found to be eligible at a later date. If you have had a message asking you to apply or contact someone about the payment beware as it may be a scam.

If you're entitled to a Winter Fuel Payment for winter 2023 to 2024, you will get an extra £150 or £300 paid with your normal payment from November 2023.

The full amount of Winter Fuel Payment (including the Pensioner Cost of Living Payment) you will get for winter 2023 to 2024 depends on when you were born and your circumstances during the qualifying dates. You can get a Winter Fuel Payment for winter 2023 to 2024 if you were born before 25 September 1957. (For help you may wish to contact Age UK Tel. 0300 500 1217) You will be sent a letter in October or November telling you how much Winter Fuel Payment you'll get if you're eligible.

Guidance is available at – [gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment)

Weather not a turn off for fundraisers!

During the stormy weather in October, some of us turned out to help with fundraising. Marlingford village hall held a quiz night with refreshments which raised funds for St Mary's Church. A couple of weeks later her fans from Easton came to hear a talk by the hilarious 'Gal Tina' with her old Norfolk accent and memories and poems of her childhood and growing up. A bingo night was held on a night when floods had blocked some roads and many were not happy to venture out. One happy attender,

Tony wrote: "What a brilliant night at Marlingford bingo night – Jane, Felicity and Mr Edward did a fantastic job". St Peter's, Easton was well represented by the lady churchwarden and the secretary. Jane was able to announce that they had raised the £10k needed to start the renovations at St Mary's. Margaret and I drove home through the newly formed lakes – we agreed it was a fun night out with a few very friendly players. Please Jane can we have some more ???

Felicity Maton

● Please note new times for each stop

Mobile library 2023 – November dates

Marlingford – Route: CEN 423 Thursday: November 2

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: November 1 and 29

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

Thursday: November 2

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.

Time to properly respect our brilliant carers

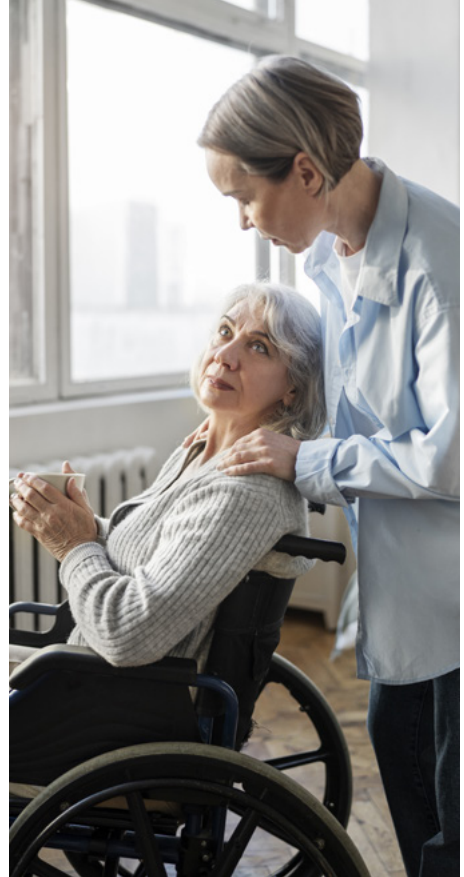
Picture: Freepik.com

A few years ago, when my old dad was becoming frail, he had carers visiting his home – helping him get up, wash and prepare food. This is life-saving work at times giving vulnerable people dignity and helping them stay independent.

But the carers I met were usually stressed, running late, and working extra hours (effectively for free) because they couldn't get through their calls list in the 15 minute slots the care companies typically allow. So I was pretty disgusted to read in a newspaper that earlier this year a professional carer, racing to fit in a visit to a vulnerable person in Norfolk, was landed with a parking ticket!

Her name is Tracy Barber, and she's done this work for nearly 20 years. Let's just fill out a bit what that 'nearly 20 years' means.

Home care workers are poorly paid and usually not paid at all for travelling time, a form of just-about-legal theft (it deserves no better name) which allows care companies to claim they are paying (mostly women) 'the National Living Wage' for their vital labours. Yes, they get paid that for the time they spend at the house, but often not for the time getting there, which is also part of their work.



And when they are unable, with dignity, to do the job in the time slot allowed, they stay longer – for nothing – and make themselves later for the next person, adding to the stress.

Throughout the country, there is an extraordinarily high turn-over of care workers.

Who can blame people for quitting? How dedicated do you have to be? Yet Tracy, who works in

the Great Yarmouth area, has been doing it since 2005. She deserves a medal, not a parking ticket. Now she's campaigning for professionals like herself to be given parking badges to exempt them from tickets. County councillor Julie Brociek-Coulton is raising it at a Norfolk County Council meeting in December. Last week, she told me: "As I've been a paid carer myself, I know

how vital it is to get to the client on time. Not just so we can do our vital work but because people get very uncomfortable if you're 30 mins late when they have been waiting for you. Without you, they can't start their day or go to bed at night." Let's all get behind this campaign for the sake of all the Tracys out there – a hidden army who do so much to put the humanity into our society.

Peter Kelley
Ex journalist and charity worker.



Bawburgh church.

Picture: Felicity Maton

Church services November 2023

November		
Sunday 5	10.00am	Easton
Sunday 12	10.45am	Bawburgh - Remembrance Service
Sunday 19	10.00am	Marlingford
Sunday 26	10.00am	Colton



The Rambling Vine



The light of hope for a peaceful future

As we enter November and the season of Remembrance, our hearts are heavy with the conflicts and struggles that persist across the world. We are prompted to reflect on the sacrifices made by countless individuals in the past and to hold onto the hope for a more peaceful and just future.

The act of remembrance is a powerful and enduring tradition that binds us together as a community. It reminds us of the bravery and selflessness of those who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces, often in far-off and dangerous lands. We honour their dedication to preserving peace and safeguarding our freedoms, and we recognize the hardships they endure.

Remembrance is not just about the past; it's also about the present and the future. In our prayers and reflections, we consider the men, women and children whose lives are shaped by war, whether as victims, displaced people, humanitarian workers or armed forces. Their sacrifices, their physical and emotional burdens, and the toll that war takes on them and their families weigh heavily on our hearts.

In these times of uncertainty and conflict, it is essential for us to maintain hope. We hope for an end to violence and division, for the safe return of those who are far from home, and for the healing of wounds, both seen and unseen. We hope for a world where the lessons of the past guide us towards lasting peace.

Those of us who consider ourselves people of faith, know that hope is not a passive act but an active one. We are called to work towards peace, justice, and reconciliation in our own lives and within our community. The Christian faith teaches us that even in the face of despair, hope can be a powerful force for change.

In our parishes and as individuals, let us be bearers of hope. Reach out to one another, especially those who may be struggling with the weight of current conflicts. Offer comfort, support, and a listening ear. In doing so, we can help kindle the light of hope in the darkest of times.

Together, as a Benefice, we can be a beacon of light and a source of inspiration for a world in need of peace.

Rev Laura Montgomery

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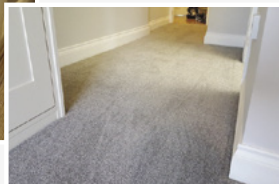
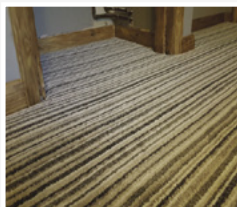
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