

Badingham ECHO

HAPPY EASTER



April & May 2025

BADINGHAM DIARY

Litter Pick	Sat 29th March	Café 10 am
Fairtrade Coffee Morning	Sat 29th March	Church 10 to 12
Quiz Night	Thu 3rd April	Village Hall 7.30
Natter & Chatter	Fri 4th April	Village Hall 10 to 12
Book Sale	Sat 12th April	Church 10 to 12
Kurling	Thu 17th April	Village Hall 7.15
Easter Sunday Service	Sun 20th April	Church 11am
Bowls Club Open Day	Sat 26th April	White Horse 2 to 4
Bingo Night	Wed 30th April	Village Hall 6.45 for 7
Bird Watching Walk	Thu 1st May	Café 10 am
Quiz Night	Thu 1st May	Village Hall 7.30
Spring Walk Brunch	Sat 10th May	Café 12 - 1.30
School 150th Anniversary	Sat 10th May	Dennington I 11 to 3
Kurling	Thu 15th May	Village Hall 7.15
Annual Parish Meeting	Tue 20th May	Village Hall 6 pm
Bingo Night	Wed 28th May	Village Hall 6.45 for 7
Sunday Tea	Sun 1st June	Café 3 to 5
Quiz Night	Thu 5th June	Village Hall 7.30

Regular Events

Table Tennis every Tuesday at 7.30 pm

Wednesday Walks meet outside the Cafe at 10

Badingham Café Wednesdays & Thursdays, 10.30 - 12.30

Church Services - Please see the Upper Alde Link for full details

The deadline for the next Echo is **15th May**

Please send your news / articles to Tish at Brick Kiln Farm , IP13 8LE
or by email to BadinghamEcho@gmail.com or call Tish on 638259

Notes from the Editor

Welcome to our April & May issue – the Easter Holidays will soon be upon us. Let's hope for nice weather and the chance to enjoy the outdoors. Mum and I were watching three roe deer taking a drink at the pond in front of the house this morning. Then they were prancing about in the sunshine, full of the joys of spring. Like many of you at the Syzewell Gap Ceilidh, I expect!

Which of last time's diary dates did you manage to attend? The talk on Deer Parks was to a packed house. Bob Foster, who instigated recent research, would have been so pleased. It was fascinating to see how old maps and features you can still see today have been interpreted to show the extent of the deer parks at Badingham Hall and Okenhill Hall.

There was also good attendance for Malcolm's talk on his legal career and the talks on Smugglers, organised by Martin. With talks proving popular, do you have suggestions for other speakers who might entertain us for an evening?

When I was primary school age, half the village was going to Peasenhall and the rest of us to Dennington. For those of you who turned right at the A1120, Dennington Primary is celebrating their 150th anniversary on 10th May. Do you have any memorabilia for their archives display or memories to share?

Contact Jenny Turner: j.turner@denningtonprimary.org.uk

Best wishes,
Tish

The ECHO is produced for the villagers of Badingham
by the Badingham Community Council
Registered Charity No. 274549

The Editor's decision on whether or where to place material is final. While every effort is made to check information published, the BCC does not endorse the accuracy or reliability of any article or advert within the magazine. E.O.E.

BADINGHAM

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

I'm sure everyone is so pleased we are into spring and escaped a bad winter. Gardens and verges are looking so pretty with spring flowers.

Table Tennis

Every Tuesday at 7.30pm there is the opportunity to play Table Tennis at the Village Hall. This is at a cost of £3 per session. A warm welcome awaits – please come along.

Natter & Chatter

April is the last Natter & Chatter meeting until the autumn. Do drop in on 2nd April from 10 to noon for a friendly drink and chat.

Village Fete

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Saturday September 6th 2025

Please think about having a stall, organising a game or making money for your club. Further details in the next Echo.

BCC Volunteering

Many of you will know that your Community Council (the BCC) is operated by a committee of volunteer trustees. (The BCC publishes the Echo and manages the community defibrillator, runs the Little ERNIE draw and organises or sponsors the Fete, Bingo, Quiz, Table Tennis and other entertaining events.)

We have recently lost some experienced volunteers and those remaining are struggling a bit, especially where we have to have 'separation of duties'. Specifically, we're finding it hard to maintain the necessary records of membership and manage advertisers in the Echo.

Would you please consider volunteering to help with these tasks. It would be great if you could also be a trustee and join our committee - it really isn't a scary thing, or very time consuming - but if you would like to just take on the necessary activities that would be fine too. Please get in touch with Wendy Birtall our secretary on 07831 751256 or in her absence Bill Dicks our Treasurer on 07795 363960. We would be happy to explain what is needed and what being a trustee involves.

BADINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

Open Day



Roll Up

The Badingham Bowls Club is a friendly club where the emphasis is on enjoying the game - good results are a bonus!

We are looking for beginners and new members
- whether you have played before or not

Come along and have a go!

Saturday 26th April from 2 - 4 pm
The Bowling Green, Badingham White Horse

Tea, coffee and cake available

For more information email
michaelc36@hotmail.co.uk
or call 01728 638270

Badingham Café CIC

Café email: Badinghamcommunitycafe@gmail.com

Facebook: Badingham Café

Website: badingham.org.uk/Badingham-cafe



Spring is always an exciting and busy time of year in the café, especially when the sun comes out!!

The committee is planning forthcoming events that are an essential for the continued running of this local hub where people can pop in for refreshment and a chat. Come in and say hello or just enjoy the space if you don't feel like conversation.

OK so what is on the horizon?

Friday 21st March – French Evening

6 p.m. Badingham Village Hall

This event has already sold out. It was postponed last year due to terrible weather conditions and the resulting flood in the village hall. Fingers crossed that this year we will succeed in enjoying another amazing feast devised and prepared by Thierry whose generosity and expertise in cooking always make for a fine evening. There will of course be hand-picked wines to complement the menu and our favourite piano accordionist Hugh will serenade us and may even inspire some dancing.

Saturday 29th March - Litter Pick

10 a.m. at Badingham Cafe

Are you fed up with seeing rubbish lying about on the roadside and in the fields and hedges? Presumably most of us agree that there are some pretty ignorant people about who don't seem to have enough energy to take their refuse home but do have just enough brain power to pitch it out of their car windows. It's ***** annoying, polluting and dangerous to wildlife. (Being polite here because there may be children reading this. Unlikely, but you never know). If you want to help clear it up, and have some spare time, come and join the litter picking team. You will be rewarded with food, drinks and a place in paradise.

Easter Raffle

Oooh! Just noticed the Easter raffle hamper has landed. This is not just any old basket of sweetness; I did notice a sneaky bottle of something in there too. Pop in and get yourself some tickets.

Thursday 1st May: Bird Walk

10 a.m. Badingham Café with Wendy Bainbridge.

Come along and join this exploration of the area to listen, see and discover more about our feathered neighbours.

Sat 10th May: Spring Walk / Champagne Brunch

(Yes, it's real champagne!)

12 p.m.– 1.30 p.m. Badingham Cafe

Another hugely popular gathering so get in quick if you want a ticket. There is a walk beforehand starting at 10a.m. This is usually around 6 miles of varied terrain but if it is too wet we stick to roads (moderate level of challenge). Please let us know if you would like to join us. (All walkers attend at their own risk).

Booking for this little adventure will be taking place from 10th April. Send an email or pop in to the café to book your place.

Sunday 1st June and Sunday 3rd August – Sunday Teas

3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Badingham Cafe

Sunday teas are a long-standing tradition with Badingham Café. What better way to spend an afternoon than sipping tea, eating cake or indulging in the special treat of a delicious cream tea.

Later in the year there will be other events to enjoy and if you would like to one of the first to hear about these you can get all the information from our café newsletter. You can join up by visiting the café or send a message to Annie at: badinghamcommunitycafe@gmail.com

As ever, we need volunteers to help by baking cakes or offering to serve on a Wednesday or Thursday morning. Apparently volunteering is very good for improved health in mind and body and it's a lot less painful than an ice bath.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST'S CHURCH BADINGHAM

Talk on Badingham's Deer Parks by Dr Rosemary Hoppitt

This was a really successful evening with a fascinating talk which took us back to the Domesday records, through the Middle Ages and up to the present day with lovely photos of Oakenhill Hall taken recently in glorious sunshine.

It was good to see so many people. We enjoyed a delicious buffet and had a chance to socialise before and after the talk.

1st Prize in the raffle was a water colour of Pin Mill, kindly donated by Sonja. Expenses were minimal. Dr Hoppitt, supported by her husband Cliff who sorted out all the 'tech', very kindly donated her time and expertise. The event made £715.90 for the repair of Badingham's medieval church roof.

Thank you so much to everyone who helped and who generously donated food and most especially to all of you who came along.



A CELEBRATION FOR MIDSUMMER'S DAY

SATURDAY JUNE 21st 2 – 4pm
IN BADINGHAM CHURCHYARD

Bring your own Picnic
Tea, Coffee and Cake will be available

Back in the day, on the hill on which our church now stands, pagan festivals were held, ale was brewed and bonfires were lit to celebrate Midsummers Day. We are not planning to brew our own ale (although some would like to) but we are hoping to have an Ale Tent and while we are not planning to light bonfires (though maybe we can find a safe way to symbolise them), we are planning to celebrate Midsummers Day and have some fun with activities for everyone.

Handicrafts, nature trail, a look around The Community Gardens - possibly even a zip wire for teddies off the church tower.

The church nave will be open for anyone who would like to see what is happening in the church and an update on our progress with the development phase of our lottery application.

Details are a bit hazy yet, but please book the date and look out for more details between now and then and in the next Upper Alde Link and Badingham Echo.



SUNDAY APRIL 20th - EASTER DAY

Service in Badingham Church at 11am

Do join us if you can even if you do not often make it to church. The Nave may be full of scaffolding, but we can still use the chancel which is open every day.

*Everyone will be warmly welcomed -
a very Happy Easter to you all*

BADINGHAM CHURCH BOOKSHOP

BOOKSALE IN THE CHURCHYARD APRIL 12th 10-12

We will be selling a large amount of the more unusual and valuable books that have been donated over the last months.

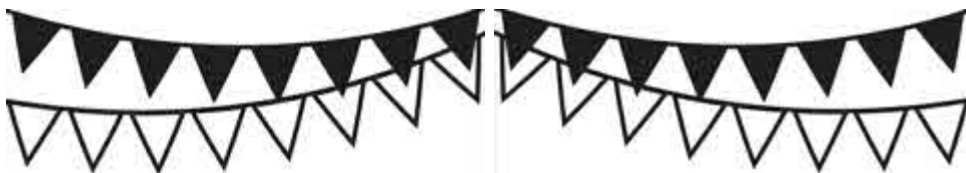
We have subjects such as Railways, Shipping, Local History, Military, Butterflies and Bugs as well as the usual novels and paperbacks. All at reasonable prices. CASH ONLY.

We have plenty of gazebos and coffee and chocolate biscuits for all visitors.

As always, all proceeds will help maintain the Church during this difficult period.



Patricia



Dennington Primary School will be 150 Years Old Let's Celebrate!

Pupils past and present, staff, volunteers and, of course, everyone is invited to our celebration event at the school on

Saturday 10th May from 11am - 3pm

There will be lots to see and do including:
exhibition of archive pictures, memorabilia, log-books,
attendance registers and punishment records!

- ÿ A gallery of children's artwork
on the theme of our village
- ÿ Children's Carousel and Swing Boats
(free of charge for children)
- ÿ Punch and Judy
- ÿ Mini train rides
- ÿ Maypole dancing
- ÿ Stalls
- ÿ BBQ

Thank you to all companies who have made donations through the school office. We have set up a crowdfunding page to raise money for a new library:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/150-dennington-school>

VILLAGE QUIZ

**A quiz is held on the first THURSDAY of each month
7.30 - 9.30 pm in Badingham Village Hall**

Tables of up to six people (£3 per person)

3rd April - Badingham Village Hall
1st May - Addenbrooke's Charitable Foundation

Please bring your own nibbles, drinks and glasses

Proceeds to local organisations and charities

February - £72 raised for Badingham Church
March - £63 raised for the East Anglian Air Ambulance

FRAMLINGHAM LIBRARY

I am delighted to share some wonderful news about upcoming improvements to our library. We have received approval for our new dedicated children's library project, which will feature an enchanting castle theme that we're sure the young customers will love. The work is expected to take place in May and June.

As part of the renovation plans, we will be making several additional improvements to enhance your library experience:

- Y Relocating a computer station to our non-fiction area
- Y Rearranging shelving to create a more flexible and user-friendly space
- Y Refreshing our collection by removing low-circulation items and adding new materials.

Please note that our renovation improvements will require some temporary disruptions to our regular service. There may be brief periods when we need to close the library to complete certain works. We will do our best to minimize any inconvenience and will keep you informed of specific dates as our plans progress. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this transition period. These changes will help us to create an even more welcoming environment for all our customers. We look forward to welcoming you. Vivian

BADINGHAM

PARISH COUNCIL

You're invited to our Annual Parish Meeting!

Come and have your say! Join us for our Annual Parish Meeting and help shape the future of our community. This is your chance to stay informed, share your ideas, and connect with your neighbours.

Date: **Tuesday 20th May 2025**

Time: **6pm**

Location: **Badingham Village Hall**

Why it Matters:

- Y **Hear about the progress and challenges from the past year**
- Y **Contribute your ideas for future projects and initiatives**
- **Meet fellow community members**

Your input makes a difference – let's build a stronger community together
We hope to see you there!

50% off Loft Insulation for anyone in Suffolk!

Suffolk residents can now get a 50% discount (up to £200) and free delivery on 200mm or 370mm wide eco-friendly, itch-free thermal insulation rolls, from High Loft, the UK's leading eco loft insulation brand. So now is the perfect time to top up.

To receive your personalised link to claim your discount, visit www.bit.ly/suffolkloft and fill out the short form, or phone High Loft on 01706 248203.

Did you know that an uninsulated home can lose up to a quarter of its heat through the roof, according to The Energy Saving Trust? Do you know if your loft insulation meets the Government recommendation of 25-50mm deep?

This offer is an excellent way to make your home warmer, reduce your energy bills, and make a positive environmental impact. You could decrease your energy bills by 40%!

Last year, the project enabled over 5,000m² of roofs in Suffolk to be insulated. This year, the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership want to double that figure. This Loft Insulation Offer is funded by Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders and High Loft and will help contribute to Suffolk's Climate Emergency Plan and our vision for a net zero Suffolk.

RackhamGardens

Plant landscaping & garden planning

Richard Rackham has been maintaining gardens in Suffolk for ten years and is now pleased to offer a plant and garden planning service specialising in the design, renovation and rejuvenation of perennial beds and borders. 'My planting plans put the client's garden ideas and tastes at the centre of the design while respecting the gardening ethos of selecting the right plant for the right place'.

- Free initial visit to client's garden for consultation and assessment
- Provide written and illustrated planting plan and estimate prior to ordering plants
- Carry out any necessary on-site soil preparation and new planting

Contacts: 07483 274733 or richard-rackham@outlook.com

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email

tc.building.carpentry@gmail.com

Quotes, references and pics available

BADINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

The Ceilidh with Syzewell Gap was another sell out event and raised over £300 for village hall funds. A big thank you to everyone who helped out on the night.

Lend a hand!

There will be some volunteer sessions over the next two months so if you would like more information and dates and you are not on the volunteers mailing list please let us know at martintclark@gmail.com

*To book the village hall for an event, family get-together or party contact 07734 527808
badinghamvillagehall@gmail.com*

EYES DOWN FOR BINGO!

Bingo at Badingham Village Hall
on the last WEDNESDAY of each month

*** 30 April * * 28 May ***

from 6.45 for a 7pm start

Cash only

£10 for 2 books and raffle tickets!

Refreshments served at half time
or bring your own snacks and drinks

Call Celia for details 638332



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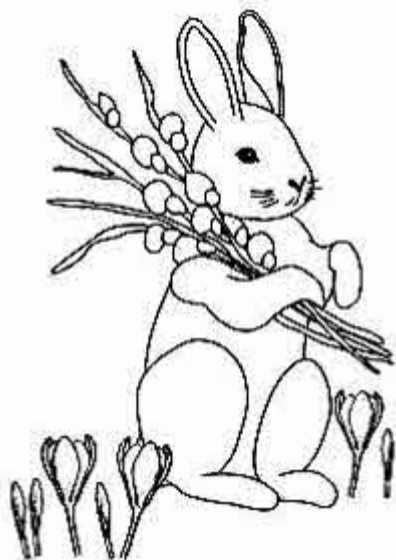
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News from Enterprise Badingham



Now that Spring has arrived there is once again lots of activity in the community gardens in the churchyard. There is still one plot available, if anyone is interested.

Please contact Annie 638130 or annie.clark@talk21.com for more information.

We are delighted that our 4th and final village recipe booklet is in the process of being edited and printed. These booklets are part of a larger project which includes creating the community herb garden at the village hall. Many of the recipes feature herbs grown in the garden, so please do help yourselves when the herbs are growing again.

As well as recipes sent in by local residents, the booklets contain beautiful illustrations by Caro Burberry and stimulating seasonal poetry by Tammy Yoseloff. Each booklet has been designed and put together by Andrew Lindesay so they really are a celebration of some of the talent we are so lucky to have in our village.

The last booklet, celebrating Spring, will be available on 10th May in the café at the Spring Champagne Lunch. It will be available after that at various village events as well as in the café, along with the whole set of four seasonal booklets. They can also be ordered from Annie, £3.50 each, contact details above.

FRAMLINGHAM

Gala Fest

Fri 23 - Mon 26 May 2025

Fun for all the Family

Carnival Parade, Funfair, Music, Trade Stalls and More

BADINGHAM NATURE DIARY

Paul shares his notable sightings from Pollards and around the village. We would love to hear what you have spotted, in your garden or on walks around the village.



Sightings at Pollards unless otherwise noted:

17 Jan	Heron	
20 Jan	Greater spotted woodpecker	Drumming
1 Feb	Song thrush	Singing
2 Feb	Mistle thrush	Singing, Redhouse Road
16 Feb	Lapwing	At least 10
23 Feb	Skylark	Singing, Pound Green Road

What signs of spring have you seen? I heard my first chiffchaff on 7th March, and a Blackcap two days later; joining the chorus of songbirds on the farm. That takes my list up to 20 songbirds from January to mid-March. Tish

My White Deer – Have you seen it?

Sitting at my dining room window and looking across the fields I saw, at some considerable distance away, what at first sight appeared to be a white goat. I kept watching as it made its way along the hedge and began to wonder if it could be a deer – but I've never come across a white deer before. I went to get the binoculars, and, you've guessed it, my white goat? / deer? had disappeared through the hedge. Was I imagining things?

I relayed this story to the family and a week or so later my granddaughter, Emilia, said to me "Granny, we saw your white deer on our way home from school. It was on a field coming from Dennington into Badingham." I hadn't been imagining things.

Just after Christmas I looked out of my back window and there, wandering calmly down the edge of the woodland beside the field at the back, in plain view, was a white deer and although the image is very small, I did, this time, manage to get a photo of it before it disappeared through the hedge. I think it was probably a Fallow Deer although I am not certain.

Has anyone else come across it in the Badingham / Dennington area - or even further afield?

Ann

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Friday** 9am-6pm

Wednesdays 2pm-7.30pm

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IP13 9AH

BADINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

Held at the White Horse on the 20th February, the Badingham Bowls Club celebrated another successful year at their annual Dinner and Trophy presentation evening.

Pictured left to right are competition winners Rosemary Keable, Shirley Callis, Ann Elliott, Mick Elliott (hiding at the back), Phillip Burridge, Gerald Green, Annie Dupenois, Club Capt Steve Evison and Mik Bedson.



If you would like to join this friendly club, whether you have bowled before or not, just call Michael on 01728 638270 or email michaelc36@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

BOWLS CLUB

Interested in joining
Badingham Bowls Club?

Call Ann 638760

We are a friendly, social
club with the emphasis on
enjoying the game - good
results are a bonus!

HAVE A GO AT KURLING

Join us in the Village Hall
on the 3rd Thursday of
the month, 7.15 - 9pm

£2.50 per person includes
tea/coffee and biscuits

BADINGHAM & DENNINGTON BELL RINGERS

We meet for practice every Thursday evening at 7.30pm
at Badingham or Dennington church

NEW RINGERS ALWAYS WELCOME

If you haven't rung before don't worry, come along and try,
we will teach you how it's done.

Interested in having a go? Call Matt 638070

THE SLOW READERS BOOK CLUB

Meet alternate months on a
Friday evening in the café
for wine, nibbles and a
discussion on the books we
have read.

Call Caroline 638585

BADINGHAM GARDENING CLUB

Our afternoon meetings are
held on the first Thursday of
the month, when we enjoy
tea and cake and a look
around members' gardens.

Call Helen on 638055

BADINGHAM

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Sonja Russell - Lead Co-ordinator

Email:

geoffreyrussell268@gmail.com

New phone number: 07821 235834



January – mobile toilets were stolen from Pound Green Road and a postbox was tampered with. If anyone has any information about these incidents, please let me know and the Police.

National Mobile Phone Register

Getting your stolen or lost mobile phone back! The Register was launched a few years ago supported by the mobile phone industry, the National Mobile Crime Unit, the Metropolitan Police Force and the Home Office.

The Register hold the details of over 10 million phones but the Police want everyone who owns a mobile phone to add their details. To join the Register takes two minutes and is completely free.

You will need to enter your contact details and your phone's 15 digit IMEI number (unique serial number). The IMEI number normally appears on a table underneath the battery in your phone but on most phones it can also be viewed on screen by pressing #06#.

Once you have registered, you will have a much better chance of getting it back if it was lost or stolen.

Contact: www.immobilise.com

Dog Owners

Once again I repeat about Dog Fouling!! It is an offence under canine by-laws for a dog owner to allow their animal to foul public footways, grass verges, open spaces – and the Pocket Park and churchyard. Failure to clean up can result in a fixed penalty notice or a fine of up to £1000.

When out walking, take a plastic bag with you and pick up after your dog. If you do not pass one of the dog bins, take it home and put it in your own bin... do not throw it into the hedge, as some people do.

Badingham Properties

I shall shortly be updating our list of properties in the parish. If you live in a new build, people let me know. I shall in due course be obtaining a list from East Suffolk Council. Thank you.

Finally, on behalf of Badingham NHW Co-ordinators, may I wish everyone a very Happy Easter. Be careful when going away to lock up everything and let a neighbour you trust know of your whereabouts.

Stay safe, Sonja

Sonja's Archives

As far as agriculture and the countryside are concerned, the true end of the Middle Ages is not the accession of the Tudors but the introduction of the internal combustion engine.

From at least the sixteenth century central Suffolk was noted for its dairying and its dairy cows were already a distinct regional breed. The district around Debenham had fairly large dairy herds which produced quantities of cheese and butter. By 1639 tumble-churns (made of wood and put on a stand) for butter making were used in Fressingfield. We have one at Colston Hall in the 1950s, where Daisy, daughter of our manager made butter for my parents. We had a herd of Friesian cows.

In the mid-seventeenth century central Suffolk was the first area in England to grow turnips as a field crop. By 1800 hemp was grown in quantity in the district between Eye and Beccles. Mr Freeman of Aspoll, near Debenham, was amongst the first drillers on strong land in Suffolk.

Most hedges in Badingham already existed in 1614. Enclosure in Suffolk began in the Middle Ages and was completed by Acts of Parliament during the nineteenth century. In the 1870s, Hindes Groome blamed 'high farming' for making 'one huge field' out of five or six earlier fields and for 'swallowing most of the smaller holdings'.

The Framlingham and District Co-operative Society was formed in 1903 and within four years was the largest of its kind in England. The first tractor appeared in Suffolk during the First World War.

There will be more later, Sonja

Latest Village News & Events

Check for updates on the Parish Council's website:

www.badingham.org.uk

Village Facebook groups

Badingham Recorder - for recording events, sharing memories and archives

Badingham Village Community - for news, advice and help

Badingham Village Hall - Badingham Café - Badingham White Horse



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Farming Update

I spoke too soon about the re-drilled wheat. There are still sparse patches in many fields you drive past. Hopefully, crops will perk up with some warmer days and nights and a top-dressing of nutrients. You may notice some farmers rolling their cereal crops. It may look drastic but rolling encourages tillering, the formation of new shoots. Rolling will also break down uneven ground. Conditions were too wet to roll seedbeds after much of last autumn's drilling.

The hens are still in confinement but thankfully we haven't heard of further avian flu outbreaks in East Anglia. There were cases in Norfolk flocks in January and February. Suffolk has been in a prevention zone since December with mandatory biosecurity and housing measures in place. Birds need to be kept indoors or in covered, enclosed areas to prevent contact with wild birds. Not just from sharing water and feed but from poo on the ground. I know of a family who lost their pet hens and ducks to bird flu two years ago. Horrid for the children. Hopefully, in a few more weeks the risk will have abated and our birds lockdown will be over.

Favourite Destinations

Back in 2012, I asked Echo readers for their favourite Suffolk picnic spots. Suggestions included Bawdsey Quay, Iken Cliffs, Covehithe, Oulton Broad, Rendlesham Forest and, nearer to home, Framlingham Castle. Where do you head for, picnic blanket under your arm?

Another question I'm often asked - where do you take visitors? If you have family and friends coming to stay where do you take them?

Ÿ Coastal walks at Aldeburgh and Southwold

Ÿ Boating on Thorpeness Meare

Ÿ Crabbing at Walberswick

Ÿ Browsing around the shops at Snape Maltings

Ÿ Meeting the wildlife at Jimmys Farm

Ÿ Exploring history at Sutton Hoo

Where do you recommend? Even better if it's fun for free!



Patrick Spencer MP

Member of Parliament for
Central Suffolk & North Ipswich

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This month, I had the pleasure of speaking with students at Debenham High School and my visit to the University of Suffolk was a particular highlight, especially as I explored the cutting-edge facilities at the UoS Dental CIC.

In Westminster, we welcomed young agricultural professionals from across the Eastern region, I hosted the first of what I hope will be many Meet Your MP sessions in Debenham and I stood alongside councillors at the Stop The Quarry campaign in Westerfield, listening to the concerns of local residents.

I also want to take this opportunity to consider transport, roads, and infrastructure across Central Suffolk & North Ipswich. Whether we drive or rely on public transport, we all depend on the accessibility, efficiency, and upkeep of our transport networks.

Below standard road conditions, unreliable bus services, and inadequate investment in key infrastructure affect everyone, impacting commutes, business logistics and overall connectivity.

In North Ipswich, growing housing developments require a transport network that can support increased demand, ensuring residents have access to safe and reliable routes to work, school, and essential services.

In rural areas such as Otley and Swilland, where public transport is sparse, well-maintained roads are critical for residents and businesses alike. The challenge is ensuring that our transport networks remain fit for purpose, balancing investment in public transport with the need for urgent road repairs and long-term infrastructure planning.

To better understand local concerns, I have launched a Transport Survey to gather residents' views on the state of our roads, infrastructure, and housebuilding across the constituency. The condition of local roads is a recurring issue raised with me, with concerns over potholes, road safety, and the lack of investment in rural routes.

Many also feel that new housing developments are not being accompanied by the necessary improvements to roads, schools, and healthcare provision. Others have expressed frustration with the reliability of bus services, which are often a lifeline for elderly residents and those without access to a car.

Whether you feel housebuilding is too low or too high in your area, or if you believe more needs to be done to improve road surfaces and transport links, I want to hear from you. Your feedback will help shape my approach to these pressing issues, ensuring I can advocate effectively for the investment and policies our communities need.

You can fill out my survey at:
www.patrickspencer.co.uk/mysurvey

LOCAL TRANSPORT

Service 118 Eye, Stradbroke, Laxfield, Framlingham, Ipswich

Monday – Friday (Schooldays only)

Stradbroke	07:15	Ipswich, OCM	17:15
Laxfield	07:21	Otley College	17:35
Pound Corner	07:30	Framlingham, White Horse	17:59
Badingham, White Horse	07:31	Badingham, White Horse	18:06
Framlingham, Bridge Street	07:51	Pound Corner	18:08
Otley College	08:19		
Ipswich, Old Cattle Market	08:43		

CATS (Coastal Accessible Transport Service) 01728 830516

Booking hours:

Mon-Fri - 8.45am - 4.00pm

Service hours:

Mon-Sat - 7.00am - 7.00pm

CATS provide transport services to people in coastal towns and villages when access to public transport is not available. Volunteers drive minibuses, wheelchair friendly vehicles or use their own cars.

Route 522 from Peasenhall to Leiston, via Saxmundham

Bus leaves Peasenhall Chapel St at two hour intervals from 07:53 to 13:53, calling at Waitrose Saxmundham at 08:16 to 14:16 and Leiston High St at 09:26 to 15:26. Returning to Peasenhall at 09:52, two hourly to 15:52.

Katch bus service - operated by CATS

KatchaLift.com operates between Fram, WickhamMarket, Campsea Ashe and Snape.

Book via the app or call 01728 635939 (8.30am to 4pm).

High Suffolk Community Bus

Mini bus from Tannington and Worlingworth make regular trips to Ipswich, Diss, Bury St Edmunds and Norwich. See Combust.org.uk for more details.

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Badinghamvillagehall@gmail.com

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BADINGHAM DIRECTORY

Emergency Services	Use your grid reference	Dial 999
POLICE - Framlingham	Fire Station, Saxmundham Road	Dial 101
	Staffed by volunteers on Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri	9am - 1pm
DOCTORS	Pembroke Road, Framlingham	01728 723627
DENTIST	Framlingham Dental Surgery	01728 723651
VET - Castle Vet Group	Pepperwash Lane, Framlingham	01728 723480
VET- Framlingham Vets	Station Road, Framlingham	01728 621 666
Peasenhall Post Office	The Street, Peasenhall	01728 660 060
Little Oaks Playschool	Michele Cole	07585 913605
Primary School	Dennington	01728 638206
High School	Thomas Mills, Framlingham	01728 723493
Library	Bridge Street, Framlingham	01728 723735
Newspapers	Patricks of Framlingham	01728 724414
DIY Materials	Framlingham DIY	01728 723505
Taxi Service	Country Cars	01728 724377
Window Cleaner	Prestige Window Clean	07538 585431
Fresh Fish Van	Spencer Wightman	07929 097124
Church	Ann Foster	01728 638288
White Horse Inn	Moss & Co	01728 580107
Community Council	Rob Johnston	07939 235417
Community Gardens	Annie Clark	01728 638130
Neighbourhood Watch	Sonja Russell	07821 235834
Oil Syndicate	Annie Clark	01728 638130
Parish Council Chair	Thomas Mountain	07984 033345
Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Byrne	01986 798765
Village Hall bookings	Charles Bainbridge	07734 527808

Remember, if you **Need a Hand** while you can't get out and about, there is a team of willing people ready to help - call Karen on 07587 173755