



Village Newsletter

September 2026 Issue 297

If you have any updates for the October newsletter, please send to me by the 27th September, warm wishes, Natalie
Nataliebrett64@gmail.com

Defibrillator code C159 X, located at the back of Sorrel Horse pub.



A new alpaca arrival at the campsite, his current name is Fred. Photo by Arya.

Allotments – we still have a number of vacant plots available. If you are interested, please contact Terrie via email – terriebsl@hotmail.co.uk or 410134

Shottisham Parish Council

Change of Venue

Please note that the next meeting of the parish council will take place on Tuesday 8 September at 7:00 pm in St Margaret's Church as the Trust Hall is unavailable. Full minutes from the last meeting can be found on the Shottisham Village website at: <https://shottisham-pc.gov.uk>

Lesley Roberts, Clerk to Shottisham Parish Council clerk@shottisham-pc.gov.uk
01394 410581

The Rectors Ramblings

As I write this, I can't believe I am looking into September already, as the proverbial expression goes..."where is this year going and seemingly so quickly?"

The summer has been a different and difficult one for many, it has been hotter than we have experienced for a long time. Whilst enjoying a prolonged summer, it has meant that hose pipe bans have become the norm, making sure there is water for the birds and wildlife taking priority over the roses and hydrangeas, leading to many gardens looking pretty sad, and of course, farmers worried about their crops and animals. We have also seen the devastation of wild fires not just here in Suffolk, but throughout Europe and beyond, with people losing their homes and possessions, and the local landscape and wildlife changing for many years to come, including our own Dunwich Heath and Minsmere. Our admiration and thanks have to go to all those who have worked tirelessly to bring these fires under control, and those who have opened their homes in hospitality. For many, the summer has meant school holidays and weddings. Time for leisure and celebrations.

One of the joyous things about this summer for me and the wider Wilford Peninsula Benefice, is being blessed by the Holy Spirit moving in this place, as two people, Andrea and Gillian have both been Confirmed by Bishop Joanne, and 3 people exploring their vocation, 2 currently working with the Director of Ordinands having offered themselves for ordained ministry. We also celebrate that Charlotte Gooch, who, after much testing and discernment by various selection panels, has been accepted for Ordination Training, beginning this September. We congratulate her and wish her well throughout the next stage of training, and we look forward to her Ordination in St Edmunds Cathedral. It is so exciting and a rich blessing, having so many people from one Benefice responding to God's call on their life and saying "Here I am Lord,.... I have heard you calling, and I am ready to say Yes".

September is often seen as a time of new beginnings, moving forward with a refreshed and renewed outlook. I wish all those starting new schools and new vocations much love with a myriad of prayers and blessings.

We have a lot to look forward to, and a busy few months ahead, we will be entering our rounds of Harvest Thanksgiving services, Remembrance and then....well, we know what the count down will be for then don't we.....I wonder how early the shops will begin playing Michael Bublé this year?

With love and blessings

Rev Mandy Xx

Sorrel Horse Shares available

There are a number of shares for sale please contact Natalie Brett

nataliebrett64@gmail.com or Clare Ellis elbyellis@googlemail.com

or Kelly kellyb@pinfold.co.uk

NEW DIRECTORS NEEDED please contact any of the above for a chat.

Message from MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter

Recently, I hosted my Big Bus Discussion in Saxmundham, bringing together residents, bus operators, Suffolk County Council and community representatives to discuss the future of bus services across Suffolk Coastal.

The meeting followed months of conversations with residents and responses to my Better Buses for Suffolk Coastal survey, which highlighted concerns about unreliable services, reduced routes and communities feeling increasingly disconnected.

There was a huge amount of passion in the room, with residents sharing their experiences of how poor bus connectivity affects everyday life. We heard from people struggling to access healthcare, education, work and essential services, as well as from many residents in villages where there is no regular bus service at all.

A key message from the evening was clear: people want to use buses, but services need to be reliable, better connected and designed around the needs of local communities.

I was pleased that First Bus committed to looking further at the potential for a coastal bus service and to reviewing where existing routes could be improved. Suffolk County Council also highlighted that residents and parish councils can submit requests for new services or improvements to existing routes through Suffolk On Board -<https://www.suffolkonboard.com/ways-to-travel/bus/report-apply-or-request/>

I will shortly be publishing my report on the findings from my Better Buses for Suffolk Coastal campaign, bringing together the experiences and suggestions shared by residents across the constituency.

There is still time for residents and parish councils to contribute. If you would like to share your experience of local bus services or suggest improvements, you can take part here: Residents: <https://getcampaigning.co.uk/suffolk-coastal/s/buses>
Parish and town councils: <https://getcampaigning.co.uk/suffolk-coastal/s/parishbuses>

HOLLESLEY GARDENING CLUB

Our meeting takes place on 24th September at 7.30pm in Hollesley Village Hall. The speaker this month is Stuart Philpott from Country world Baskets. He is going to give a presentation about willow weaving. He will also be demonstrating the art of willow weaving, plus there will be baskets and products for sale.

If you would like to come along as a guest, it's £5.00 payable on the night. For more information contact Sue Barnes on 01394 411579

Sorrel Horse

Quiz nights Thursday 3rd and 17th September 7.30pm, booking advisable

