

*"Keeping
the Community
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

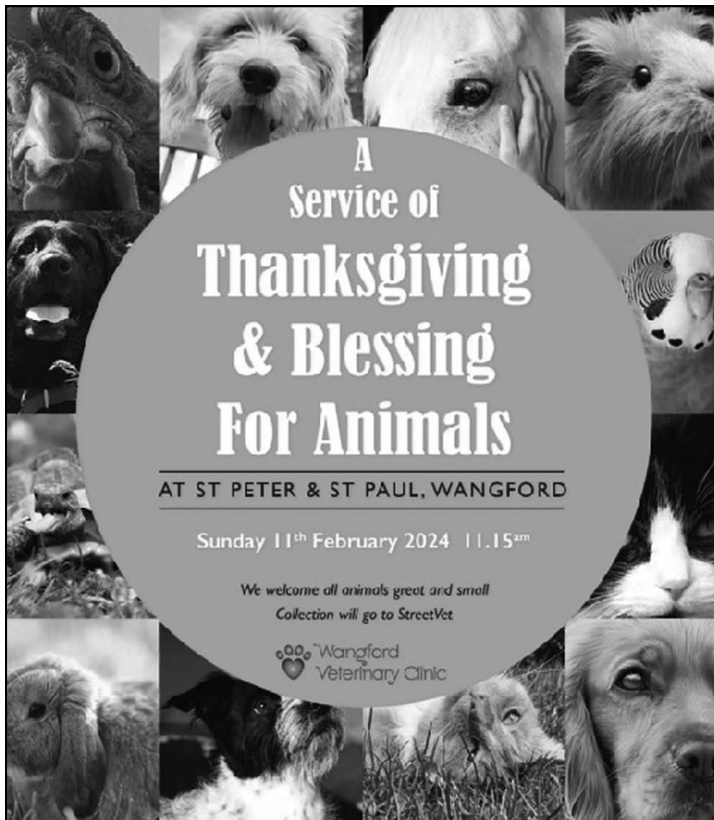
WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 19 NO. 5 FEBRUARY 2024



A
Service of
**Thanksgiving
& Blessing
For Animals**
AT ST PETER & ST PAUL, WANGFORD
Sunday 11th February 2024 11.15^{am}
We welcome all animals great and small
Collection will go to StreetVet
Wangford
Veterinary Clinic

Table Tennis

The Community Centre has been given two more table tennis tables and associated equipment. Some people have already asked about playing, and we would like to run some sessions in the hall.

It's likely that there'll be a small annual membership fee, probably the same as that paid by Snooker Hall members.

If you are interested in playing, please email Sue Taylor at suethemus@gmail.com, or phone 01502 578408.

Wangford Christmas collections

Carolling round the Village, ending at the church for refreshments and singing round the fire pit in the churchyard, raised £227.08 for The Children's Society. Thank you to all who joined in our merry band, and to those of you who gave so generously.

The Community Council Carol Concert retiring collection raised £54.50 for the Southwold Voluntary Help Centre.

Suffolk Exotic Vets

Congratulations to Catherine Thomas on the relocation of her practice from upstairs at Wangford Vets to White Lion Court, formerly Lady Penelope's home along the High Street. The practice deals with any small pet that isn't a cat or dog - rabbits, rodents, reptiles, amphibians, birds and more.

A new access ramp has been built, and work continues apace on the outside of the premises to provide car parking and other facilities.

Suffolk Exotic Vets can be contacted on 01502 447501, or email reception@exoticvetsuffolk.co.uk



*Recycling
Wangford-
style.
Liz Evans' s
goats making
short work of
the church
Christmas
Tree, their
New Year
treat.*



Wangford Post Office

Tuesdays
from 10.00am - 12 noon
Thursdays
from 1.00 - 3.00pm
Community Centre

Food Bank

Please leave Items for the Food Bank in the basket at the font in Wangford Church to be collected on Friday morning.

Most needed food items are UHT milk, tinned fish or meat, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes or vegetables, baked beans, biscuits, rice pudding, and pasta.

Anything else is always welcome e.g. tea, coffee, chocolate, custard, toiletries, female sanitary items, baby food and nappies.

Lowestoft Foodbank can be contacted on 07307 866146 or email: info@lowestoft.foodbank.org.uk

Wangford 100 Club 2023/24

Winners in the Christmas Draw were

1. Rachel Dade
2. J Seagon
3. John Scholes
4. Roy Hodgkins
5. Karin Olley
6. Abi Forristal

Winners in the January Draw were

1. Clare Hart
2. Carolyn Robertson
3. Carolyn Sheppard

Don't forget to renew your membership or sign up for 2024/25

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

Wangford Parent and Toddler Group
Mondays 9.30 - 11.30am Community Centre

Body Conditioning
Tuesdays from 9.30 - 10.30am Community Centre

Salsa
Wednesdays from 7.30 to 8.30pm Community Centre

Wangford Art Group
Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm Community Centre

Book Club
Thursday 1st February 8.00pm Community Centre

Wangford Ladies' Breakfast
Saturday 3rd February 8.45am The Angel Inn

Wangford Community Council
Tuesday 6th February 7.45pm Community Centre

Uggeshall Coffee Morning
Thursday 8th February 10.30am Old School Hall

Uggeshall Cinema
Thursday 8th February 7.00pm Old School Hall

Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Thursday 8th February 7.30pm Southwold Arts Centre

The Arts Society
Tuesday 13th February 2.00pm Southwold Arts Centre

Wangford with Henham Parish Council
Tuesday 13th February 7.30pm Community Centre

Mobile Library at Wangford
Wednesday 14th February

1010 - 1030 Community Centre 1035 - 1045 Church

Wangford Men's Breakfast
Saturday 17th February 8.45am The Angel Inn

Wangford Church Coffee Morning
Wednesday 21st February 10.30am - noon

Afternoon Tea
Thursday 29th February 2.30pm Community Centre

Wrentham Village Hall Film Night
Saturday 24th February

INDIANA JONES AND THE DIAL OF DESTINY

Doors open 6.45 for film screening 7.30pm.
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All are welcome. (Cert 12A)

Wangford Village Store

Monday to Saturday
8.00am - 6.00pm
Sunday 8.00am - 4.00pm

Wangford Farm Shop

Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday CLOSED

Southwold Library

The library promotes a large number of events, activities and classes, both on its own premises at the Old Hospital Hub and at the Southwold Arts Centre and the Stella Peskett Hall.

Google Southwold Library for full details of regular activities, including the weekly Crochet Club, Chess Club (ages 7+) and Lego Club; fortnightly Mahjong Group; and monthly Scrabble Club.

For children in half-term:

Alice in Wonderland crafts
Saturday 17th at 11.00am.
Southwold Library. Free entry

Panda Crafts
Tuesday 20th from 11.00am to 2.00pm
Themed crafts and face painting for children of all ages. Southwold Library.
Free entry

Circus Skills Workshop including plate spinning, juggling and more
Friday 23rd from 11.00am to 2.00pm

Cost: £2
Booking is essential
Contact the Library on 01502 722 519
or
www.ticketsource.co.uk/suffolklibraries



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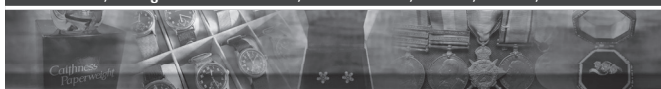
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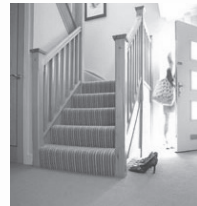
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Duncan Jones - Manager

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FEBRUARY'S TEAM LETTER

On Sunday 31 December, those of us at the Team service in Reydon, or the 8.00am service in Southwold, would have heard Russ, our new Rector, talking about what we can do as a church to engage with our community. Russ's first point was that we can be welcoming to everyone. This reminded me of something that Stephen Cottrell told us when he was Bishop of Chelmsford (he is now of course the Archbishop of York). He said this:

"I want to turn the church inside out. What I mean by that is, we have got so many good things inside the church - which are exactly the things people are looking for - but they don't know how to access them. So rather than waiting for people to come to the church, we the church have got to be out there with the people.I want every church to be a kind of heartbeat for its community offering people the things that they long for - peace, space, affirmation, meaning. Quite simply, the church should be a place where we offer a welcome to absolutely everyone. I can't think of anywhere else where that happens. You don't need to fill in a form, you don't need to pay a subscription. You are welcome unequivocally."

So, then I also remembered another piece about unequivocal welcome which is seen by visitors when they arrive at Coventry Cathedral:

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down-at-heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas 10 years ago. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast.

We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree huggers, latte sippers, vegetarians, junk food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organized religion. We're not that keen on it either. We offer welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because Granny is visiting and wanted to come to the cathedral. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither.

We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost on the ring road and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters and you.

Need I say more?

Revd Philip Tarris

Wangford Vets

From 10th June this year it will be mandatory for all pet cats over the age of 20 weeks to be microchipped. This is an important step in ensuring the safety of our feline friends.

Microchips are about the size of a large grain of rice, and are easily implanted with a quick injection into the scruff of the neck and then scanned to ensure they can be read. This simple and relatively painless procedure can give you peace of mind and increase the chances of a safe return if your cat ever gets lost by tracing you through the national Pet Log database.

Wangford Ladies' Breakfast

John Bennett, the brainchild behind the Electric Picture Palace in Southwold, joined us for the first breakfast of the New Year. John told us how a very ambitious project started to convert a derelict barn into a cinema which was opened by Michael Palin in 2002.

Laura Knight will be joining us on February 3rd to speak about the organisation, Christians Against Poverty and the work they do in the community to help families that find themselves in debt.

Please contact Jan on perrypoppy@aol.com if you would like to join us at The Angel Inn 8.45 for 9am.

News from Wangford Church

New Years Day already seems a distant memory as we look forward to another busy year in church.

All Creatures great and small

Supported by Wangford Vets, we will be having a 'Thanksgiving and Blessing for Animals' service on Sunday February 11th at 11.15am. Rev Alan likes a challenge and is looking forward to blessing as many animals as possible. All pets are welcome - no matter what size they are!

So please do put us to the test and bring along your furry (and even not-so-furry) friends to what promises to be a lively and possibly quite loud morning.

February's coffee morning will take place on Wednesday 21st at 10.30 am and in addition to the tea/coffee and cakes, there will be the usual raffle and the draw for the Wangford 100 Club. Everybody is welcome so please do tell your friends and come along.

Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)

Wangford Christmas Raffle

The lucky winners of the luxury hampers were

1st Mr P Hennem Reydon

2nd Sally Cuthbert Reydon

3rd Sharon Hayter Wangford

Book Club

We combined our January meeting with an informal evening and post-Christmas games. We discussed Sally Rooney's "Beautiful World, Where Are You". This book met with a very mixed reception. Some of us liked her cleverly crafted narrative, but others found the depiction of relationships and the lack of characterisation difficult to overcome. Relationships appeared transient, swapped and dysfunctional, played out on a stage of old friendships, new friends and Tinder. The emails between Alice and Eileen appeared to take the place of a soliloquy and set out what they were thinking and feeling. Several people commented that they found the subject (which we assumed to be finding the elusive beautiful world), characters and situations a little boring, formulaic and covering just about every example of human relationship and response. In many ways we felt the book reflected modern life where everything can be available, the influence of social media, and the effect this has on relationships. There was a rather predictable ending with Eileen and Simon expecting a baby. We thought this may be the promise of the 'beautiful world' which Eileen was searching for. Several people commented that they had enjoyed Sally Rooney's other books but had found this book very different from previous works and not as compelling. We next meet on Thursday 1st February at 8 pm in the Community Centre to discuss "A Secret Garden Affair" by Erica James

Gill Smith 578620

Community Garden 2023-2024

Review and News

What a great year for our Community Garden and Wild Space! Looking back at photos and notes, the change and improvements have been very significant. And all thanks to the hard work and dedication of our loyal band of volunteers, to whom our best thanks.

Both the Garden beds and borders have a succession of flowering plants and shrubs from now (Winter Honeysuckle is already scenting the air) right through the year, with colourful bulbs ready to bloom soon. The trees planted for the Coronation add height and variety, and our early trees are now well established.

The Wild Space is becoming a varied habitat for wild species, and butterflies and insects visit throughout the year. The change in cutting season allowed the surprise return of the rare White-flowered Bee Orchid, and areas of Yellow Rattle are a lovely sight.

The makeover of the area behind the Village Sign has made a great difference to the whole space, unifying the view and with the prospect of a show of Rose flowers to make a bright statement... We care for our village and love our garden.

We are grateful to Barry Dewing for doing any work through the year with more heavy machinery including the essential mowing. And to all who have kept the paths mown, your work is much appreciated.

Looking ahead, we will wait until March to resume regular Work Parties. If you would like to be on the email list for future work party dates, please contact me:

Helen Rolfe 07789 053543

News from Uggeshall

Uggeshall Coffee Morning

February's Coffee Morning is on Thursday 8th from 10.30am in the Old School Hall. Everybody's welcome.

Uggeshall Cinema

The film for February 8th is 'The Great Escaper' starring Glenda Jackson and Michael Caine. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.15pm.

Matt Grady

St Mary's Carol Service

A lovely Crib and Carol Service took place at St Mary's on Christmas Eve 2023. A selection of choir items and congregational carols were sung, together with readings for the Nativity. Children and young people in the congregation were tasked with taking figures to be placed in the Crib. The collection during the service raised £350.00 which was as usual donated to the charity EACH (East Anglia Children's Hospice). Thank you to all those who attended and donated so generously. We received a lovely certificate from EACH, which shows that, to date, we have donated £9634.11 to help the Charity continue its vital work to support sick children and their families.

LATITUDE UGGESHALL VILLAGE

AT HENHAM PARK 26th - 28th JULY 2024

Would you like to go to Latitude?

Register your interest for concessionary tickets from 10th February to 10th April 2024

Contact: - Pearl Felgate on 01502 578531

email: pearlfelgate@googlemail.com

The main conditions are:

1. All applicants must be **permanently resident in Uggeshall** and be **registered on the Parish Council's Electoral Roll**. A routine check is made.
2. Householders should apply for tickets to pearlfelgate@googlemail.com and **must provide the following information:**

The names of those who would like a ticket, their address and contact details (phone numbers and email address), how many tickets they would like and for which day, and how they will be paying for the ticket (cash, bank transfer etc). Tickets will be strictly for the use of the registered members of that household (children 12 years and under are admitted with a child ticket; please contact Pearl Felgate for further details).

3. The price of the concessionary tickets is determined by the Latitude Festival organisers, Festival Republic Ltd. They allow no price variance.

4. Close of registration is midnight on 10th April 2024. Cancellation of ticket requests may only be made before this time. Thereafter, the sale stands in law and must be concluded with the purchase of tickets requested.

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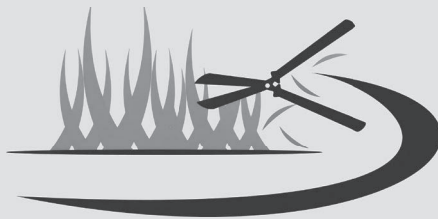
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ABRAHAM

Three cheers for the villagers of Twyford, near Winchester who complained about the omission of the possessive apostrophe from a new street sign. Apparently, Winchester Council have adopted a "no apostrophe" for all new signs. Following guidance from the Ordnance Survey and Local Government Association, the Council Leader was advised that new street names did not include punctuation. The reasons given for removing punctuation are because it can be misinterpreted by computer systems and it is faster for emergency services to search their database without using punctuation. So, one more example of dumbing down the language to cater for ignoramuses. The old sign, saying St Mary's Terrace, was rescued from the Council's dump, renovated and reinstalled. The original complainant, a former language teacher, is described as a punctuation pedant. Trust me, there is nothing pedantic about being accurate. On my bookshelf is a copy of Lynne Truss's *Eats, Shoots and Leaves* to remind us all of the importance of proper punctuation. I note that it was given to me for my birthday by daughter Frances in 2003. Now, where have the 20 years gone? So, for the sake of sanity, good grammar and clarity, let's hang on to our commas, apostrophes, colons, semicolons, full stops, hyphens, dashes and all the other bits and pieces (excluding exclamation marks, they serve very little purpose) that combine to make our language unique, civilised, interesting and enviable. Interesting to read that parents think schools should place more emphasis on preparing children for grown-up life rather than preparation for academia. Am I missing something here? Isn't that what parenting is for?

Reading my daily newspaper I omit completely news about the conflicts raging many miles away on the grounds that I can do nothing to help matters except, perhaps, pray. I cannot understand why some countries would wish to destroy others. I would have to delve into at least 2000 years of history to attempt to obtain an inkling of why atrocities occur. This I do know, however. The quicker racism and antisemitism are stamped out the better we shall all be. Leave the Jewish people alone to live in peace and harmony. Bearing in mind my liberal ethos and my interest in the travelling folk I would like to meet a Jewish gypsy. That really would be a double whammy.

What are we to think about mighty mouth Lee Anderson, the Conservative Party's deputy chairman, chuntering that building accommodation on one of Orkney's 50 uninhabited islands for the Home Office to process asylum claims would be "job done"? Let's assume that he's serious. There are 70 islands in the Orcadian archipelago, 20 of them inhabited, some with very few people. Be that as it may, has Mr Anderson not asked himself why the other 50 are uninhabited? It is simply because they cannot sustain human life. There are no facilities that folk take for granted - utilities, infrastructure, transport, no trees, 18 hours of winter darkness, rain (often). Even with, as Anderson asserts, "decent accommodation", the immigrants must cope with no shops, schools, entertainments etc. He probably expects them to swim to Mainland Orkney for provisions, there being no ferries or aeroplanes available. As I may have mentioned before Anderson is to Sunak what Prescott was to Blair, the token nincompoop hanging around to make them look intelligent. Compared to these clowns the village idiot would seem like a member of Mensa.

I love it when folk, particularly politicians, have a go at Tim Martin, Chairman of pub chain Wetherspoons. Does he care? I'm guessing not. Since the year 2000 a quarter of pubs have closed but Tim (now Sir Tim) Martin and his empire go gaily marching on. His knighthood was awarded for services to hospitality and culture which no doubt caused even more

spluttering noises from the middle classes. Wetherspoons taxes are paid in this country unlike some other alleged Brexiteers who shifted their businesses abroad. The pubs are certainly not perfect. Traditionalists, and I am one, will say that they are too large; there are no seats at the bar and standing at them is discouraged; the staff are youngsters earning the minimum wage who cannot converse with the customers; service at the bar is random; there are these infernal gambling machines. However, the products are cheap and palatable. The food is not haute cuisine but it is tasty and filling and while the going rate hereabouts for steak and chips is around £26-30, Wetherspoons charges half that. The cost of a medium glass of wine in local pubs ranges from £6-8 whereas a large glass of similar vintage in Spoons is less than £3.50. For me, the greatest value Wetherspoons has given to culture is the saving and renovation of historic buildings. For example, what would have happened to the King's Head in Beccles if Wetherspoons had not rescued it? I rest my case.

Abraham

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 4th February	2nd Sunday before Lent
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 11th February	Sunday next before Lent
11.15 am Wangford	Animal Blessing
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 18th February	1st Sunday of Lent
9.30 am Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00pm Uggheshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 25th February	2nd Sunday of Lent
11.15 am Wangford	Morning Prayer (BCP)
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Holy Communion (BCP)

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

(Blyth Valley and Southwold)

Speaker: Michael Strand

'Martlesham Wilds New Nature Reserve'

Thursday 8th February 7.30pm Southwold Arts Centre

Cost: £4 (including refreshments); under 25s free

The Arts Society, Southwold

The 2023/4 series continues on Tuesday 13th February when James Russell will speak on

'Sport of the Gods:

Olympia & the Ancient Olympics'

Lectures commence at 2.00pm in Southwold Arts Centre.

Visitors and Members' guests are welcome.

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FEBRUARY 2024 CENTRE DIARY

1st Feb	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00- 3.00pm
	Book Club	Bar	8.00pm
5th Feb	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
	Private Hire	Hall	7.00-8.00pm
	Alms House Trustees	Bar	8.00- 9.00pm
6th Feb	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Reydon Bowls	Hall	11.00-1.00pm
	Community Council	Bar	7.45pm
8th Feb	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
9th Feb	Wangford PCC	Cttee Room	1.45pm
12th Feb	Toddlers	Hall	9.30- 11.30am
	Private Hire	Hall	7.00-8.00pm
13th Feb	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Reydon Bowls	Hall	11.00-1.00pm
	Parish Council	Cttee Room	7.30pm
14th Feb	Salsa	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
	GHSR	Cttee Room	8.00pm
15th Feb	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00- 3.00pm
19th Feb	Private Hire	Hall	7.00-8.00pm
20th Feb	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30 - 10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	1000-12noon
	Reydon Bowls	Hall	11.00-1.00pm
21st Feb	Salsa	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
	GHSR	Bar	7.30-9.30pm
22nd Feb	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
26th Feb	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
	Private Hire	Hall	7.00-8.00pm
27th Feb	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Reydon Bowls	Hall	11.00-1.00pm
28th Feb	Salsa	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
29th Feb	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Afternoon Tea	Hall	2.30-4.30pm

Wangford Mens' Breakfast

On a bright 16th December a small band enjoyed Ian Lomas explain about his impressive selection of cycles. He brought in three high-tech machines and explained their intricacies, all a quantum leap from my cycling-to-school days. Thanks to Ian for an interesting round off to the year. The usual excellent fare left clean plates. The donations pot showed a surplus for the year, and a consensus of regulars decided to donate £44 to Hope & Aid Direct and £20 to The Sole Bay Foodbank.

And on a cold and frosty January morning seventeen of us heard Derek Child give an interesting talk on various aids to make life for the visually impaired easier. Technology in this area is a friend indeed. The next meeting is 17th February, 8.45 at the Angel Inn. If you're interested in joining in the fun, contact johnscholes@hotmail.com