

Village Voice

LOTHINGLAND

July 2026

27th Year. Vol 27-04

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A word from the Editor

Christina Baxter

As we turn the page into July, there is a real sense of excitement in the air. The days are long, the gardens are in full bloom and if we're lucky, the sunshine continues to remind us why summer is such a special time of year.

After months of early mornings, packed schedules and busy routines many families are beginning to look ahead to the school holidays. For children, it marks the start of six weeks of freedom, adventure and making memories. For parents and grandparents it is a chance to spend precious time together, whether that's enjoying days at the beach, picnics in the park, local events or simply relaxing in the garden with loved ones.

Adding to the excitement this year is the World Cup, which has captured the attention of millions across the globe. Whether you're a lifelong football fan or someone

who only tunes in during major tournaments, there is something special about watching nations compete on the world's biggest stage. Families gather around televisions, friends meet to watch matches together, and conversations spring up everywhere, from cafés and pubs to workplaces and school gates. The World Cup is about much more than football. It celebrates teamwork, determination and shared experiences. It gives us moments of joy, surprise and inspiration, and reminds us that despite our differences, we often have more in common than we realise. For a few weeks, people from every corner of the world are united by the same excitement, anticipation and hope.

So here's to a happy July, a successful end to the school year, and a summer filled with friendship, community spirit and plenty of reasons to smile.

Don't forget to send all your club articles in by the 15th of the month

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DEADLINES

The closing date for all Articles and Adverts for the August 2026 edition is 15th July 2026

Cover Picture: *The Picken Jack a Broads Motor Cruiser at Reeds Lane, St Olaves.*
Photo by Bryan Diggory

July 2026 **301st** Edition

This Magazine is a Community Enterprise professionally printed - but written, edited and delivered free - entirely by volunteers. After printing costs, any profits from the Magazine are paid out in the form of grants to community organisations and groups in our circulation area. We welcome your news, views, letters and articles and photographs for publication. No anonymous items will be accepted. Complaints, please write to Adrian Myers, Chairman, Village Voice Board by post at 49 Heather Gardens, Belton NR31 9PP

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MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Locally the Norfolk Mobile Library rounds are as follows :

St Olaves Wednesdays July 8th and August 5th.
Priory Close 12.45 - 1.00pm

Belton Wednesdays July 8th and August 5th.
Moorlands Primary Academy 3.20 - 3.50pm
Outside 7 Station Road South 3.55 - 4.10pm
Amhurst Gardens 4.15 - 4.35pm
St. Roberts Way 4.40 - 4.55pm

Burgh Castle and Fritton – No service.

For any questions about mobile libraries, email the team at central.mobiles.lib@norfolk.gov.uk. Or call 01603 222303



The answer to Ashley's last months brain teaser is - O

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Parish Council Reports

Monthly Reports from all your Local Parish Councils
Burgh Castle, Fritton, St Olaves
Belton & Browston,



Belton with Browston Parish Council

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council took place on June 2nd with six Parish Councillors present along with Borough Cllr Murray-Smith, five members of the public and the Parish Clerk. In the absence of Councillor Riseborough, the meeting was chaired by Adrian Myers.

In planning the Council had been advised that there is likely to be more public consultation on the Browston Hall site plans and it will at least September before they go to Borough Council committee for a decision. The Borough Council have approved plans for a first-floor extension over an existing single story rear extension at 48 Amhurst Gardens, and at Hall Farm, Duck Pond Barn on Beccles Road, Belton plans to increase the height, replace the roof, add first floor accommodation and create a storage/studio for use ancillary to the dwelling. Also given permission was

work on a tree covered by a Tree Preservation Order at Belton Old Hall on Station Road South. The Parish Council did not raise any objections to proposals for a two-story side extension and single-story side extension at 3 Heather Gardens.

In response to a complaint about a tree and ivy from the allotments becoming very overgrown the chairman and vice chair will make a further inspection of the site. Borough Councillor Murray Smith reported on good results from a meeting that he had with the police concerning unsocial use of motor cycles and urged that any future incidents be reported to him or to the local police beat officer, P.C. Mark Saggars.

The Highways Engineer has reported that work on trees on Church Lane will now provisionally take place between the 14th and 18th of September to avoid the bird nesting season and to allow for a road closure to be put in place due to safety concerns. Borough Councillor Carpenter had advised that he was passing photographs of a tree in the passage behind 53 Berry Close on to the Borough

Council as it was now getting large and obstructing street lighting.

Some councillors had met with a member of All Saints Church PCC to discuss the grass cutting and strimming in the churchyard and advised that Community Payback were now doing four hours cutting a month on this therefore the council was doing less, the work of 'Payback' will be monitored and the Council will do the remainder depending on how much the Payback team are able to cope with, the clerk reported that the hours spent on strimming had considerably reduced this year. Councillor Light offered to look at the faulty SAM 2 speed monitoring unit to see if he could identify the problem before incurring further expense.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is at 7.00pm on Tuesday July 7th at the New Road Sports and Leisure Centre details from the Parish Clerk, Kate Ruddock on 01493 602960 or e-mail clerk@beltonwithbrowston-pc.gov.uk, there are still vacancies on the Council, details available from the clerk as above.

Men's Church Walk

The weather beat us on the first Saturday in June but it is hoped the walk will take place on the next Saturday.

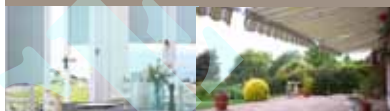
Will report that in next months Lothingland Village Voice. If you are over 50 and would like to join us on a 5 to 6 mile walk with great company on the first Saturday in the month then please contact 07950 039455 for more details.

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Become a Parish Councillor

BELTON with BROWSTON PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES for COUNCILLORS

Have you ever considered becoming a Parish Councillor, if so now is your chance, whilst this is voluntary it gives the satisfaction of putting something back into the local community and the opportunity to help make a difference locally.

There are now vacancies on Belton with Browston Parish Council which the council are able to fill by co-option.

The council meets at the New Road Centre on the first Tuesday of each month (7.00pm).

Further information is available from the Parish Clerk

Kate Ruddock on 01493 602960

or e-mail clerk@beltonwithbrowston-pc.gov.uk

or you can attend the next meeting at

New Road Sport Centre on Tuesday July 7th.

Burgh Castle Parish Council



The meeting of the Parish Council on June 8th was attended by all seven Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, County Councillor Michael French, Borough Councillors Graham Carpenter and Ivan Murray-Smith and 10 members of the public, Brian Swan was in the chair and he welcomed Councillor French to his first meeting as the new County Councillor.

All the members of the public were present to object to the proposals for ten new properties on the site of 'Dovedale' on Butt Lane, objections included the fact that they are large properties, three being of five bedrooms each, insufficient parking with concerns that excess vehicles will park on Butt Lane which is already well used, too near to the next property, the front property to be built forward of the building line and the loss of two trees covered by a Tree Protection Order, which the chairman described as 'making a mockery of TPO's'. Councillors went on to add more reasons for refusal including that the land was not designated for development in the Neighbourhood Plan which only came into force in May last year and then unanimously voted to recommend refusal to the Borough Council who are the decision makers. Borough Councillor Murray-Smith said that he will ask that the application is considered by the full planning committee rather than being delegated to a member of staff to decide on.

The only other planning matter was approval, by the Broads Authority, of the removal of three old outbuildings and construction of two new outbuildings at Cliff House Farm, The Dell, off Butt Lane.

The Chairman reported that the village sign had been removed as a matter of urgency because the main post had been found to be in a very

dangerous rotten condition, members then accepted two quotes, one to refurbish the sign itself and the other covering the cost of its removal and return, members would like to thank the anonymous resident who donated an oak post which will save the council about £250.00. and also, builder Charles Porter who removed the sign at very short notice.

There was a long discussion on the recent resurfacing of Butt Lane, Mill Road and High Road and backed by County Councillor French, they came up with a long list of complaints which they admitted, had not been helped by the hot weather directly after the work was completed, issues included the Butt Lane/Mill Road junction cutting up, no stop line replaced, but the warning sign of its removal being taken away and masses of chippings at that junction, large sections, especially on Mill Road, of surface breaking up and rutting, the drains uncovered too quickly before loose chippings had time to bed in, sweeping too soon after the work, stones on the pavements, these had been blown clean by a worker but then left on the road so they could be pushed back by vehicle wheels for 20 hours before the mechanical sweeper arrived to clear them up, also the junctions, have not been resurfaced, these should have been treated with a higher grade material at the same time as all the other work.

The clerk read a long explanation from the area Highways Engineer of the history of Mill Road in relation to the ongoing flooding and said that he would be arranging a meeting with one of the residents, he also said that one of the causes was surface water running from properties which is not permitted and should be directed into facilities on property owners own lands.

The chairman thanked Councillor Hogg for repairing the main entrance gate to the burial ground and extended members thanks to the resident who had, out of nowhere, had assisted Councillor Hogg with the work.

The next meeting of the Council is on Monday July 13th at The Village Hall on Church Road commencing at 7pm, details from the Parish Clerk, Kate Ruddock on 07899846148, e-mail clerk@burghcastle-pc.gov.uk.

Burgh Castle Tea Room & Bargain Stall

(Village Hall, Church Road)



It's good to be back in our regular routine, 10.00am - 2.00pm Thursday and Friday.

Thanks to everyone who kindly kept goods for us during the break there is a lot of lovely new stock to view.

Please note due to elections for Police & Crime Commissioner we will be closed for business on Thursday 16th July, (the hall will be open for voting purposes)

Please continue to think of us when you have unwanted goods to dispose of, we can arrange collection at a convenient time for you or you can drop goods off at the hall when we are open.

For more information call 01493 780126
or email: mgreenacre532@gmail.com



St Peter & St Paul's Church

Our thanks go to those who have helped us continue with services each week during this period of interregnum we are at present sorting the 2026 calendar with the help of local and retired clergy, we are very grateful to them for their support.

The advertisement to fill the post of Rector of Belton & Burgh Castle is now live, please pray that we have a suitable applicant apply.

We would love to be able to have a regular organist again is there anyone who plays an electronic organ who could attend our services, 09.30 most weeks unless we have a "special" service.

Please get in touch if you can help.

01493780126/mgreenacre532@gmail.com

JULY SERVICES

5th July	Holy Communion	09.30	Rev. S. Upton
12th July	Morning Prayer	09.30	Mary Ives
19th July	Holy Communion	09.30	Rev. C Straton
25th July	Wedding.		
26th July	Morning Prayer	09.30	Jim Channell
2nd August	Holy Communion	09.30	T.B.A.

Fritton with St. Olaves Parish Council



The annual meeting of the Parish Council was held at Fritton on May 21st with nine Parish Councillors and Kate Ruddock the Parish Clerk present. Councillor Richards was re-elected as chair and Councillor Burton likewise as vice-chair for the coming year, the clerk reported that she had advised Mr Barnes that he was no longer a Parish Councillor as he had not attended meetings for a six month period and no reason for his absence had been approved, the vacancy will be notified to the Borough Council.

A request for grant funding from the East Anglian Air Ambulance was declined and a request for funding for a sign to direct visitors to Fritton Parish Church will be directed to the new County Councillor as he will have a highways budget to use in his parishes.

Members approved the annual accounts for 2025/26 and all associated documents were completed, the council had again received a clean bill of health from their Auditor.

In highways matters it was reported that a second yellow box has been added to the Herringfleet Road/A143 junction, the overturned car opposite Caldicott Hall had been removed and it was agreed to ask if yellow lines can be extended further up New Road from the A143 in Fritton due to increased parking at the junction, it was also agreed to again report speeding on New Road to Beat Manager, PC Siggers.

Members discussed the future of St Olaves Village Hall, the existing trustees are having difficulty in obtaining further Trustees and options are being

investigated including the Parish Council becoming Sole Trustee however a management committee can then be formed for the day to day running of the site, advice on this matter is being taken from Community Action Norfolk.

In planning members agreed to no objections to relocating the vehicular entrance at 'Landscape' on New Road in Fritton, prior to the meeting no objections to alterations at The Priory on Beccles Road at St. Olaves but did ask for clarification of a few points, a second application for a roof window at the Priory also raised no objections provided it did not overlook neighbouring property, Applications approved included at the St. Olaves Priory to infill a late 20th century doorway, create a new doorway for the same room and the one for the roof window at the same property. The Borough Council had approved a request from Redwings Horse Sanctuary to convert part of the first floor of the visitor centre at Caldecott Hall into a 3 bedroomed holiday flat.

The July meeting of the Council, scheduled for the 16th will not take place due to the Crime Commissioner elections, the Parish Council will therefore now meet earlier on Thursday July 2nd in St. Olaves Village Hall commencing at 6.30pm, for information contact the Council via the Parish Clerk on 07899 846148, e-mail her at clerk@frittonwithstolaves-pc.gov.uk

There is now one vacancy on the Parish Council which can be filled by co-option, for details, please contact the Parish Clerk, as above as soon as possible.

St Olaves Village Hall AGM

This year your chance to meet the old Committee and greet the new one will be on **Friday 31st July at 7pm** at the Village Hall on Herringfleet Road.

Tea and coffee will be provided and we want this to be a social event where you can feel relaxed. As well as finding out more about us and what we do you can ask anything about how the local community can use and access the Hall and Field and how to be involved as a volunteer if that's what you would like.

Don't let the more formal things that we have to do at an AGM put you off coming – we promise that part won't take too long – the important thing is to try to be there if you can.

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TUESDAY EVENING Pooch Paws Dog Training Club (Obedience, clicker training, fun/tricks & more): Contact Katey Aldred - 07841 040171 www.poochpaws.co.uk

WEDNESDAY EVENING Free and looking for a club to hire

THURSDAY EVENING Saxon and Viking Re-enactment Society
www.jormungandrreenactment.com/

SATURDAY MORNING Pooch Paws Dog Training Club (Obedience, clicker training, fun/tricks & more): Contact Katey Aldred - 07841 040171 www.poochpaws.co.uk

SUNDAY MORNING River Scent & Earth Frequencies
Every other Sunday morning. River Scent Egyptian Bellydance. Earth Frequencies meditation. Contact River Scent 07854 407419
www.riverscent.com



Fritton Bingo

Please join me on **FRIDAY JULY 17th** at **FRITTON VILLAGE HALL** FOR OUR NEXT BINGO EVENT,
EYES 👁️ 👁️ DOWN FOR 7.15pm START.
BINGO CARDS 50p EACH, RAFFLE TICKETS £2 FOR FIVE STRIPS.
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MANY THANKS ROY 🐶🐶



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West Raynham SHQ Annual Activities and Open Day

At Veterans Central,
RAF Raynham SHQ, NR21 7PL

Sunday 19th July

All Events are FREE to attend

This is a great opportunity for visitors to not only see the fantastic and unique (in that you can tour the building) Grade II RAF Station Headquarters and its 3 acres of gardens, but also experience a range of activities and displays, including flypasts and a wide range of ground activities. More areas of the SHQ building will be open this year, and more of the garden has been developed.

In addition to a wide range of

military-related displays and activities, from aircraft cockpits to various displays, there is a children's activity area – and a special cockpit simulator for children (a great photo opportunity).

The craft and trade fair includes a variety of stalls with something to interest most tastes. We also have a massive sale of new books, from children's books to crafts, cookery, sports, military, novels, games and more – over 2,000

brand new books at crazy low prices!

Our tombola has an amazing selection of over 300 prizes. Food and drink options include our Veterans Central café and a Hog Roast – but you are also welcome to picnic in the 3 acres of gardens.

The Hunter and Canberra cockpits will also be open to view.

The event opens at 10.00 a.m. and closes at 3.00 p.m.

More information email: events@veteranscentral.co.uk

Swaffham Area Are you a Veteran?



The Veterans Central Swaffham drop-in centre is now well established (and popular) and we have now fixed dates for the rest of 2026.

4th Tuesday of the month. Join us for hot drinks, cakes and conversation.

Come along for a FREE hot drink, cake, chat and a spot of banter, or to ask questions about veterans support.

Venue: The Regency Room, Swaffham Assembly Rooms, 1030 to 1300

On Tuesday:

July 28th

August 25th

September 22nd

October 27th

November 24th

December 22nd

Location: The Assembly Rooms are located in the centre of Swaffham and there is adjacent

free parking for 2 hours (but use machine to get a ticket).

You are welcome to bring partners or carers.

Please spread the word to any military colleagues in the area.

More information?

Contact:

ops@veteranscentral.co.uk

Mobile: 0771 3860040

Veterans Central

The Veterans Central charity (#1208763) is based at West Raynham SHQ (NR21 7PL) and is a facility for Military veterans, serving personnel and families, to support activities, wellbeing and social engagement. Veterans Central is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 1000 to 1500.

WHAT IS A VETERAN?



2.4 MILLION
Veterans in Great Britain

40%
16 - 64 years old

The percentage of working age Veterans is set to increase to 44% by 2028.

60%
65+ years old



75%
of Veterans own a home or have a mortgage

It is estimated that 2% to 6% of those sleeping rough have served in the Armed Forces.

75%
Healthy

17% Fair Health 8% Bad Health



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Life on the Farm



Make hay whilst the sun shines!

As we head into the midst of summer farmers all over the country are praying for sunny days and damp nights to hopefully get a decent crop of hay this year.

Last year's disastrous conditions sent hay prices spiralling out of control and in some places a 4ft round bale was fetching up to £110 a bale - considering this is normally £35-£45 a bale, some livestock and horse owners were forced to sell their animals due to the cost. Since Brexit and the war in Ukraine fertiliser costs have doubled and tripled, some with bale wrap/silage wrap, fields that usually have 2-3 cuts were down to only 1! One of the very worst years for hay production, let's hope this year brings better luck.

much like my horse of a lifetime Midnight, see for yourself in this picture.



After hay production our horses here get to graze the fields with the cattle allowing their regular paddocks to rest and recover.

The sheep and goats go into the horse paddocks to reduce weeds and clear up the paddocks. Then they go onto the big fields to clear weeds etc there.

They are all vital to each others worm burden as they reduce the parasites. The muck fertilizers the land.

Late October when we bring the cows back, those that are ready go off to be sold. We are then looking for bottle calves to bring on over winter and the cattle money pays bills for feed, vets etc, and so the circle continues.



On the animals, Apollo Greed is a rather chunky boy for his age and still plays with dogs. Eliza Hamilton is now maturing and is possibly expecting her first litter in the next 3 months.

Matilda the blind cow now has glasses on her face fly mask.



Phoenix the walking vet bill of a horse is recovering well and soon to start ridden work again. He is very

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SUMMER FETE

SAT, JULY 4TH 2026
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Every Monday Senior Citizens club
2.00pm-4.00pm all welcome.

Weekly Bingo starting Tuesday 7th July.
Books go on sale at 6.45pm eyes down at 7.30pm.

July Entertainment

Friday 3rd **Gemma Fairweather**

Friday 10th **Sion Hathaway**

Friday 17th **Just Andy**



Friday 24th **KASH 8pm**

Friday 31st **Rocking Ronnies 8pm**

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The Last Mooring

A brief history of the Motor Cruiser
Picken Jack

Researched by Bryan Diggory



Crossing the bridge in St Olaves going towards Beccles immediately on the right hand side is Reeds Lane. Just on the entrance to the left hand side is an old motor cruiser from the Broads. Its probably been there since 2018. It is called 'Picken Jack', although overgrown with vegetation it is hoped to be restored one day back to its original condition.

The 'Picken Jack' was a historic, 45-foot private motor houseboat registered on the Norfolk Broads under the number W117. Originally built in 1923 by John Brooke of Lowestoft for his own personal use, at a cost of approximately £30,000 to £40,000. This classic timber cruiser featured a white hull and superstructure, and was powered by an inboard petrol engine.

The vessel was designed as a motorized houseboat - part of a renowned fleet of cruisers produced by the J.W. Brooke boatyard in the 1920s and 1930s. Because of its heritage and design, the Picken Jack was officially recorded with the Broads Authority and is listed in the heritage registers for Norfolk Broads vessels. It stayed on the Broads for many years. With time taking its toll it was to be restored, but sadly it sank before this could happen at Wayford. After being taken out of the water it was going to be broken up, but was then purchased by a company in St Olaves hoping to restore it and where remains today.

Accommodation

6 berths in 3 cabins

1 cabin with double berth and hand basin

1 cabin with 2 single berths (used for storage)

Beautiful saloon with built in display/storage units and dinette (can be used as occasional berths)

Galley with gas cooker (4 rings, grill, oven), gas/12v fridge and sink (cold water only)

Heads compartment with chemical toilet and plumbing for shower.

Navigation area in wheelhouse

Huge amounts of storage space throughout

Great headroom throughout at approximately 2.44m (8ft).

Ownership and Legacy

Original Owner: John Brooke, used as his personal vessel.

Historical Significance: The boat represented the golden age of 1920s leisure craft on the Norfolk Broads.

Later Owners: The vessel was subsequently owned by multiple operators in the region including the Jeckell family.

Restoration: After falling into disrepair, the classic cruiser underwent an extensive multi-year exterior restoration, returning to the water in 2006.

Sold to private buyer in 1990 who had owned her for over 25 years, until her demise.



2002



2008



2018



June 2026

Boatyard / Fleet:	Private Cruisers
Registration Number:	W117
Date Built:	1923
Boat Name:	Picken Jack
Design:	Brooke 45 motor cruiser
Builder:	J. W. Brooke & Co. (Lowestoft)
Date Last Seen:	2018 on water
Dimensions:	45ft 2ins x 10ft 3ins (13,77m)
Beam:	10 feet 3 inches (3.13 metres)
Structure:	Hull: Hull with a step up to the bows
Cabin:	Wood
Engine:	15 HP Inboard Petrol Engine
Note: Built by John Brooke of Lowestoft for his own personal use	



Photos as she was in 2008





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July is finally here, bringing with it longer days, warmer evenings, and a slower, gentler pace of life. It's a season that naturally turns our hearts toward the things that bring us joy. For me, summer means packing up the tent for a family camping trip, feeling the grass underfoot, and the simple pleasure of sharing an outdoor meal with friends. There is something incredibly special about pulling up a chair, eating a meal together, and just enjoying being part of a community.

In fact, that is exactly how some of our church family will be spending a week this summer — camping out and sharing meals together. It's a great example of what our church tagline is all about: **Love God, Love People, Love Life.**

Our ability to love others and embrace life flows directly from Jesus' immense, unconditional love for each of us. Sitting with his closest friends at a meal, Jesus gave us a picture of what this looks like, saying in John 15:12-13:

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Jesus' love is the ultimate standard—it is generous, sacrificial, and deeply personal. When we realise how profoundly we are loved by Him, it changes how we see the world. It frees us to love the people around us without conditions, and it gives us a deep gratitude for this beautiful life we've been given to live.

There is a song called Love God: Love People by Danny Gokey that captures this perfectly. The lyrics remind us of our core purpose:

"Gotta keep it real simple, keep it so true... Love God and love people, that's what we were made to do."

As we move into the heart of summer, it is a perfect time to strip away the busyness of everyday life and keep things simple. Take a moment as you read this to look around you and reflect:

- **What and who do you love?** What are the things—big or small—that make your heart sing in this season?
- **How do we show that love?** Is it through a text to an old friend, helping a neighbour, or simply being fully present when sharing a meal?



Love isn't just a feeling; it's an action. It's found in the community we build, the hospitality we extend, and the kindness we share.

If you are looking for a place to



belong, to connect with others, or to explore faith, **we would love to invite you to be a part of our church community.**

Whether you are a lifelong villager or new to the area, there is a place at the table for you here.

This July, whether you are heading off on holiday, camping under the stars, or enjoying the peace of your own garden, let's look for ways to put love into action. Let's keep it simple: love God, love the people around us, and truly love this life we share together.

Find Out More: If you'd like to see what we're up to this summer, join us for a Sunday service, or find out more about our community life, groups and events, please visit our website or Facebook page. We'd love to welcome you!

Adam STONE, Parochial Church Council Team

Diary Dates for July 2026			
FRIDAY 03	REFILL 9am - 10.30am Parent / carer and children group with refreshments YOUTH GROUP 4.30pm - 6pm	SUNDAY 12	HOLY COMMUNION 10.30am service with refreshments
SUNDAY 05	CAFE CHURCH 10.30am Join us for a relaxed service. Enjoy breakfast, crafts, pray and singing	FRIDAY 17	REFILL 9am - 10.30am Parent / carer and children group with refreshments YOUTH GROUP 4.30pm - 6pm
SUNDAY 05	SPOKEN WORD SERVICE 7pm Join us for a service of prayer and reflection.	SUNDAY 19	MORNING SERVICE 10.30am service for all the family with refreshments
TUESDAY 07	HOLY COMMUNION 11am Traditional service. Coffee from 10am	SUNDAY 26	HOLY COMMUNION 10.30am service with refreshments
FRIDAY 10	REFILL 9am - 10.30am Parent / carer and children group with refreshments YOUTH GROUP 4.30pm - 6pm	All Saints Church, Belton https://allsaintsbelton.church AllSaintsBelton	

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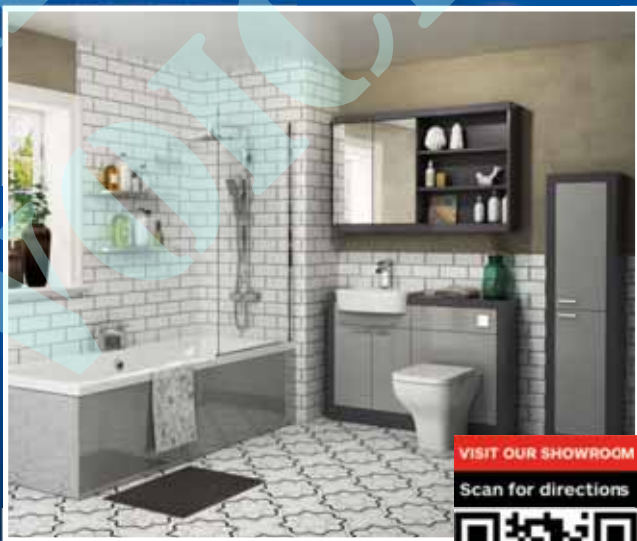
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Would you be interested in helping out at the Beavers (Beavers only runs at 18 beavers at present time due to not enough adult help, the colony should have 24 spaces) or Scout section this does not have to be every week. A small amount of training on line is required (support available) and a DBS. We have a waiting list and can't fill all of the spaces as we don't have enough adult help. If you would like more information, please contact Brown Beaver (Jane) 07975 533572.

Beavers

The beavers have suggested what good behaviours could be and have voted on which ones they would like from joining in activities, being nice to everyone, when a leader raises arm to stand still and listen, no shouting / screaming and to have fun.

The Beavers have made cress heads by filling old tights with sawdust, putting grass seed in



bottom, making a nose and glueing eyes on as part of their gardening activity badge. The grass heads have had a variety of hair designs. We have looked at different types food groups and playing a new game. Made sandwiches ham, cheese or jam.

Had to do an indoor programme as it was raining looking at map symbols, playing map symbol bingo.

If you have a young person 6 years or about to be 6 years and are interested in Beavers, please contact Brown Beaver (Jane) 07975 533572.

Cubs

The cubs have concentrated this week their team work and team leader challenge badges. This involves playing current and different games the cubs have never played before. We reviewed how we played them, if we all played by the rules, if we found it



hard or difficult to play, and if we played it again how else could we play it to make it a better game.

We have also done some work on our adventure activity badge also with looking at map reading in readiness for a walk in a few weeks.

If anyone would like to join the adventure and learn skills for life then please contact Peter on 07900 494 344 or send a message to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/share/1BFRhYhN4P/>

Scouts

The Scouts have completed the mechanic activity badge finding out about how the engine of car works and the importance of a MOT.

We have also welcomed Cubs starting their link to Scouts.

Continued looking at all the items we need to know for expedition challenge playing map sign bingo, had piece paper with hiking hazard taped to their backs while everyone could only ask questions about their hazard so they could guess what their hazard is they ranged from dehydration to blisters.

Anyone aged between 10 years and 14 years who would like to come and join the fun please contact Brown Beaver phone number above.

Group

Re-opening Belton Scout HQ.

Many thanks to Mayor Carl Annison who did the honour of cutting the ribbon at our reopening of our Scout HQ after the completion of our new extension. Akela (who had projected managed the project) thanked everyone who had given up their time and everyone who had donated and given us grants to be able to complete the



extension. The Mayor then went onto unveil a plaque listing all the supporters who have helped us. Everyone had an opportunity to toast marshmallows, make a bead caterpillar, put a tent up being timed – congratulations to Chris who won for the quickest time, decorated biscuits, had a go at mini bowls, build the tallest flag pole out canes, fire lighting. Lots of old photo's were on display. Congratulations to Chloe who



came 1st in the baking competition for her cookies, 2nd Jake for banana cake and Amelia 3rd for choc cookies. Everyone was presented with a medal. Many thanks to Julie (previous Akela) for judging the competition.

District Camp Jumbo 2026

The Group joined the rest of the District at Eaton vale for a camp



called Jumbo. The Beavers slept over in Icen house on the Friday evening sleeping on bunk beds. They took part in a camp fire some dressing up in traditional clothing from Spain (Belton's Country for



the camp) and finished the evening off with a music story teller. On the Saturday the Beavers took part in Tomahawks, Obstacle course, Crafts, inflatables and had passports to complete. The Beavers have also gained a badge to wear on their uniform.

The Cubs and Scouts camped on the field camping for 2 nights. They joined the beavers on the Friday evening for a camp fire with half of the camp. The Cubs did activities from canoeing, caving bus, climbing wall, crafts, crate stacking, cooking on fire, go karting, inflatables, team games. Where the Scouts had the opportunity to do rifle shooting, archery, crafts, crossbows, games room, RC crawlers, shelter building, tomahawks, trapeze, wide games. They also played a game of CUB with Acle Scouts. We all had a great time and no rain!

Each Group was given a gift of different games and a parachute.

We would be grateful of any books/ Bric-a-brac/clothes/ Toys/ Jigsaws/soft toys/ toiletries etc we urgently need to re stock for sales as we urgently need to raise funds for the scout group. The items can either be dropped at 6 Station Rd North Belton or phone 07975





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Bill Richmond	Treasurer	07950 039455
Caroline Askell	Bookings	07415 650227
Robert Goffin	Maintenance	07526 201088
Bridget Lawrence		01403 780160
Stuart Murkin	Admin/Sect	07375 558120

JGI Trustees

The JGI hall has been very busy again with regular groups plus other hiring's. Maintenance is always an ongoing item in a building of this age both inside and out. The Trustees work to keep all items in the best condition possible. Recently we have had to replace many of the tables used by most groups for safety reasons plus the water heater for coffee and tea that was 15 years old as the element had failed.

If you feel you could help in running and maintaining "Your Village Hall" and would like to become a Trustee please call Bill on 07950 039455. Be part of YOUR community.

Quiz Night

Another successful evening was held on the last Friday in May with 11 tables of quizers. These Friday quiz evenings at the hall are proving popular and we thank all for your support. Max of 4 per table for £5 with great prizes plus a great raffle. Start time 7.30pm so get a group of friends together and come along for a fun evening.

Wednesday Morning Drop In

We always have a great gathering of people from the Village and surrounding area for coffee/tea and cakes with much chat and exchange of information.

If we can help with any problem with your mobiles, laptops or tablets then come along and we will do our best to guide you. We also try and keep all updated with scams and rogue phone calls etc.

On second morning in June we had our usual visit from DIAL to answer questions and help people but also a very welcome visit from Belton Parish Councillor Debra Cook. It was great to see her and she met all and discussed various points and concerns with many present. She promised she would make a regular monthly visit to us which was warmly welcomed.

Our thanks to Cally and others for looking after things for 2 weeks over the last month when we were unavailable.

Contact Sue on 01493 780822 for further information.



Join us every Monday at the JGI

Everyone welcome, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Come and join us, you could be lucky and win

Toni 07716 483592

Contacts for Clubs and Groups at the JGI

To book the JGI Hall contact Caroline Askell by text on 07415 650227 or email jgibookings@gmail.com. No direct call will be taken.

MONDAY

10.15am - 11.45am	Yoga	Julie	01493 780121
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Short Mat Bowls	Stuart	07375 558120
7.30pm - 9.30pm	Bingo	Toni	07716 483592
		Hazel	01493 781916

TUESDAY

10.30am - 12.30pm	Belton Crafters	Linda	07721 599559
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Over 60's	Ann	01493 285436
		Rose	01493 780784
6.45pm - 8.30pm	Belton Guides	Rose	07827 913974

WEDNESDAY

10.30am - 12 noon	Drop-In	Sue	01493 780822
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Art	Jan	01493 488683
6.00pm - 7.10pm	Slimming World	Candy	07775 432970

THURSDAY

10.30am - 12 noon	Line Dancing	Jane	07788 408801
3.45pm - 4.15pm	3-4 years Babies Ballet	Jayne	07746 141525
4.25pm - 4.55pm	5-7 years Primary Ballet	Jayne	07746 141525
5.00pm - 5.30pm	Modern/Fun Class	Jayne	07746 141525
7.00pm - 9.00pm	Belton Crafters	Linda	07721 599559

FRIDAY

10.30am - 12 noon	Line Dancing	Jane	07788 408801
2.00pm - 3.30pm	Camera Club (First Friday of each month)	Bill	07950 039455
7.30pm - 9.00pm	Belton Singers	Angela	07592 731510
7.30pm - 9.30pm	Quiz Nite (Last Friday of each month)	Bill	07950 039455

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07415 650227

or go to www.beltonandbrowston.com



The Belton Singers were delighted to receive a grant from Lothingland Village Voice, presented by the Chairman Adrian Myers, on Saturday 9th May.

Loneliness and feelings of loss of purpose in life can affect us all at any time. A good old sing-song, a chance to meet new people, make friends and have a place to be

once a week is known to boost one's "feel good" factor and improve wellbeing.

The Belton Singers are a small group of folk of varied ages who, besides enjoy singing, want to extend a hand to anyone in the Community who may be seeking some social company and an enjoyable evening.

All are welcome - be brave and give us a try. Information on contact and times are 7.30pm - 9.00pm, contact Angela on 07592 731510.



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In operation now are part of the order for 24 brand new Electric Electroliners, manufactured by Wrights of Ballmena Northern Ireland, (14 Norwich Vulcan Road 10 to Caister Road, Great Yarmouth). The £13.8 million investment of which £8.9 million funded by First Bus and the remainder supported by Norfolk County Council Bus Service Improvement Plan grant. When First Bus add their own additional requirements such as Ticketeer and other electronic equipment the final cost comes nearer to £500,000 per bus.

County requires the 10 vehicles to be solely on Service 8 James Paget Hospital to Caister on Sea via Great Yarmouth Town Centre.

These are state of the art vehicles with electronics that monitor every function of the vehicle including passenger numbers on board, if the driver is operating the vehicle efficiently. Differences between the Electroliner and existing diesel buses are very technical and complicated. We list a few of the advantages:

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d) Passenger experience near silent ride with minimal vibration

e) The ten 10 buses assigned to Caister Road for Service 8 (36689 to 38898) four of which are in service now and the rest in service by end of August all having more advanced battery output to those delivered to Norwich. Let us hope that Service 8 passengers treat the buses with the respect they deserve.

Wherry 100 Service Ambassador Travel are again operating this service via Vauxhall Holiday Park, Railway Station, Bus Station/Town Centre, Seafront and Britannia Pier on a 30 min schedule 7 days a week including Bank Holidays.

For further information ring 01493 440350 or email ambassadortravelanglia.co.uk

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Belton Activity Morning – July 2026

Summer is well and truly upon us, and it's been lovely to see attendance remaining strong at Belton Activity Morning. We have also welcomed back some members who haven't been able to join us for a while, which has been wonderful.

As many of our members will know, attendance can dip slightly during June and July as people take holidays, spend time with family, or help look after grandchildren during the school break. Whatever your plans, we hope you enjoy the summer months and look forward to seeing you whenever you can join us. Our Monday sessions will continue right through until Monday 27th July, when we will celebrate the end of term with our annual Teddy Bear Picnic.

This is always a fun and relaxed morning, so don't forget to bring along your favourite teddy bear! We will then take our summer break before returning on Monday 7th September 2026.

We continue to collect used stamps for the RNIB and would like to thank everyone who has contributed.

During the summer holidays, we will also be handing over our annual fundraising total to Pathways Care Farm.

Watch this space for details and photos from the presentation.

As always, our group offers a warm welcome to anyone who would like to improve their fitness, meet new people, and enjoy a friendly Monday morning.

For more information, please contact Sallyann:

✉ up4fitness@gmail.com

☎ 07599 044806 (Text or Call)

Belton Judo club latest news update

The first half of this year has been successful for Dominic King Judo & MMA Academy, with our membership still increasing consistently, individuals competing in different parts of the country and several club members progressing to the next grade.

Recently, a number of our senior players, plus one junior player, travelled to Thetford for an area competition and gained well deserved medals, as well as valuable experience to help take them to the next level.

On the same day, Ryan King travelled to Kidderminster for a competitive Dan grading in the hope of achieving his 3rd Dan black belt. Ryan only needed 30 more points for this grade (3 Ippon wins), but qualified for a "line up" after 2 wins. A "line up" is 3 opponents one after the other without a rest, which is the most spectacular way to achieve a black belt. Ryan was successful in his first match, which meant he achieved his 3rd Dan, but then beat his remaining 2 opponents in the line up, finishing the day with 5 Ippons out of 5 (Ippon is the equivalent to a knockout in boxing). At only 20 years old, this is a fantastic achievement. His father and head coach, Dominic King, former British Champion and Youth Olympic silver medallist, didn't achieve his 3rd Dan until he was 25 years old.

We are obviously very proud of our competitive members, but it's true to say that the majority do not currently compete. This is completely fine as they are more than happy just to attend our general classes, simply maintaining a reasonable level of fitness and enjoying learning new skills. These members are just as important to us, as we appreciate that everyone is on their own personal journey.

Our sessions are led by Dominic, who was awarded his 6th Dan at the beginning of the year. Members include several black belts, as well as

regular juniors and seniors of all levels, from International player to first time beginner. Everyone enjoys training alongside one another and we are able to give everyone exactly what they personally need in order to improve and have fun. Beginners are always welcome, with each one being offered two free sessions before deciding whether to sign up. However, we have a fantastic retention rate, as the atmosphere at our club is extremely positive and friendly.

Our kids classes are particularly well attended, as we like to make all our sessions fun, with little pressure on kids to learn difficult moves or remember confusing Japanese terminology. We have a tailored grading



system ideal for the younger children, which they all really enjoy progressing through, before moving to higher belts down the line.

For older or less experienced members, we often use crash mats to teach heavier throws, so they can build confidence in their own time, while competitive members regularly participate in randori sessions, which is the judo equivalent of sparring. This is great preparation for competition, for those who wish to go down that path. Ryan is obviously one of those players and has a realistic chance of making it to the Olympic Games within the next few years.

At the opposite end of the scale, our oldest member, 79 year old Dot Goodwin, is still going strong. Dot started her journey as a 70 year old and managed to achieve her black belt in December. Dot now assists Dominic with a new session for over 50s, that recently started over at our other venue in Oulton Broad. If anyone is interested in signing up for this, don't hesitate to contact Dominic (contact details at the bottom).

If you'd like to start your own journey with us, you can join now! If the Tuesday evenings are not convenient, we have sessions at various venues throughout the week, which are included in the timetable below:

DOMINIC KING JUDO & MMA ACADEMY

TIMETABLE:

TUESDAY: BELTON NEW RD (NR31 9JW)

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Anyone wanting further details can contact Dominic on 07977 432756, email dominic@fightingfitjudo.co.uk

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