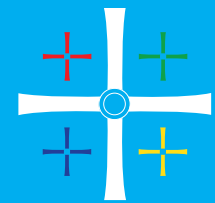


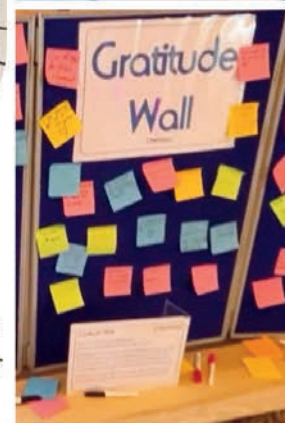
Free for All



THE MAGAZINE OF THE VENTA GROUP

JUNE 2026

OPEN SPACE AT FRAMINGHAM EARL HIGH SCHOOL



After Easter we had the huge privilege of joining with the churches in Poringland and Framingham Earl in putting on this Prayer Space in their fantastic outdoor classroom. We had amazing feedback from students and staff including in the fortnightly newsletter. You can see a quote here and lots of great photos of the space. There's also a video tour on our YouTube page!

Open Spaces – A Time to Pause and Reflect

This week, our outdoor classroom has been transformed into a calm and reflective space through *Open Spaces*, a thoughtful initiative led by Gary from Youth for Christ. Throughout the week, students have had the opportunity to step away from the busyness of the school day, take a moment of quiet, and reflect, exploring ideas around prayer from a Christian perspective in a gentle and accessible way.

It has been a really special experience, offering students a chance to slow down, think, and simply be still, something that can be all too rare in busy school life.



ARMINGHALL, CAISTOR ST EDMUND, STOKE HOLY CROSS with DUNSTON

R.B. COPPING FUNERAL SERVICE

Independent Family Funerals Directors Since 1935

*For Personal Attention
with Dignity and Respect*

Private Chapels of Rest

*Memorials & floral tributes
supplied*

*Pre-paid funeral plans
available*



www.coppingfunerals.co.uk

125 The Street, Poringland, Norwich NR14 7RP
01508 494434

56 Langley Road, Chedgrave, nr Loddon NR14 6HE
01508 521159



Do it with

Style!

FENSA ESTABLISHED 1980
Registered Company

SUPERIOR WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES LTD

www.stylewindows.co.uk

SHOWROOM
OPEN 7 DAYS
A WEEK



Contact Martin Dennis on **T: 01603 477936**

on mobile: 07901 898769 or E: martin@stylewindows.co.uk

3-4 Station Way, Brandon IP27 0BH

FINANCE AVAILABLE From 10.9% APR Representative

Spread the cost of your windows and doors over 3 – 10 years with Phoenix Financial Consultants

Phoenix Financial Consultants Ltd (Company No 7436334) is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (Financial Services Register No 539195). Phoenix is a credit broker not a lender and offers finance from its panel of lenders.



Visit our website



Let's talk about our generation

As my teenagers are extremely fond of reminding me, the proportion of things which are older than me is getting smaller and smaller as the years go by. Even with my advancing years, occasionally I am surprised that something is much older than I remember, and I had this just now when I went to look up My Generation by the Who. In my mind I knew, really, that they had lots of hits in the 60s, but I think there is something timeless about it which makes it always feel very urgent and new.

It's a very interesting song, because its main message is of a new generation who want to be listened to, but the way they seem to expect that to happen is partly by the current generation "fading away" – as if old and young somehow need to compete for attention, and there isn't enough room for both of them.

In our churches over the years we have done all sorts of things to try and provide for everyone, rather than prioritising one group over another. We have a mixture of things on Sundays; we take equal care with baptisms, weddings, and funerals; we run school holiday clubs and youth groups as well as weekday gatherings for older people, and bereavement events every year.

But there's always a bit more that we can do. At the moment we are in the process of thinking and praying about how we will gather as churches from September, when Cathryn and I and those teenagers I mentioned will have moved on to a new place. One of the things we have been looking at in particular is our morning and afternoon Sunday gatherings in Stoke, and what we can do to bring together the different generations reflected by these two congregations. We are going to have a little go at this when we meet together at the Church Hall on 14th June, and you are welcome to join us for this – of course, you are welcome to join us at any of our events and services all round the villages and all through the month.

The Bible promises all of us who know Jesus that we have an inheritance waiting for us that cannot perish, or spoil, or fade, so even when generations or vicars or anything else come and go, there is nothing to be afraid of. And there's certainly no reason to be worried about anyone else coming and taking what's ours or pushing us out; every generation is God's generation.

Rob

VICAR OF THE VENTA GROUP

Stoke Holy Cross with Dunston, Arminghall and Caistor St Edmund.
Rob Baker, The Vicarage, Mill Road, Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8PA
rob@venta-group.org 01508 492305

For all administrative enquiries please contact admin@venta-group.org

Search Facebook and Youtube for "Venta group of churches"
www.venta-group.org  @venta_group

CHURCHWARDENS

Stoke Holy Cross & Dunston
Viv (493438)

Arminghall
Rob (492305)

Caistor St Edmund
Jani (07557 774520)

ST GEORGE'S HALL BOOKINGS:

Barbara Cutts 07739 663350
twocutts@yahoo.co.uk

STOKE CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS:

Karen (07761 076954)
email: karenp1963@hotmail.co.uk

STOKE HOLY CROSS COMMUNITY HALL BOOKINGS:

email: shc.communityhall@gmail.com
<https://www.shc-communityhall.com>

FROM THE REGISTERS

We continue to pray for all those who have lost loved ones recently, or are remembering someone particularly at this time of year.

FUNERAL & BURIAL

MILLIE JARROLD

11th May at Stoke Holy Cross

&

KATHLEEN (ANNIE) DENNIS

21st May at Stoke Holy Cross

BAPTISM

OPAL CARTER

3rd May at Stoke

We are always happy to record the names of anyone from the villages whose funeral has been held recently, even if it wasn't taken by a member of our ministry team.

FOR ALL COPY PLEASE

send by email to Rob to
admin@venta-group.org

By 10th of this month please.



FREE* Construction Courses in Norfolk



Tiling



DIY



Bricklaying



Plastering



Carpentry & Joinery



Electrical

Courses run throughout the year in
Norwich and King's Lynn

www.norfolk.gov.uk/adultlearning
0344 800 8020 (option 5)



CALL BACK



WEBSITE

** If you earn less than £25,750 a year or receive an income related benefit*

St. George's Dementia Group Report



Our Café on 13th April with Angela entertaining us reminiscing about laundry days with none of our fancy machines. This included youngsters borrowing Mum's washing board and sewing thimbles when trying to form a skiffle band. Great fun.

April 27th was local girl Julie Dawn entertaining us with popular songs and got us all singing.

We warmly welcome people with dementia and their carers to our regular café sessions in St. Georges Hall, Upper Stoke, Holy Cross held 10 am to 12 midday on the second and fourth Monday mornings of each month (except bank holidays). There are always fun activities and entertainment to enjoy along with good conversation, helpful support and information plus refreshments. We also run occasional subsidised outings. There are no joining fees, just a small charge for refreshments no referral is required. We also welcome anyone interested in becoming a volunteer. Please note that because numbers are increasing and the capacity in the hall and car park we may be shortly have to implement a waiting list. Numbers to ring are below.

June dates as following:

8th June Cafe Session "Share & Tell game"

22nd June Coach Outing to Great Yarmouth

For further information call, 01508 494742, 01508 495580 or 01508 493661

Web site is www.st.georges-dementia-support-group.uk

BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB

At Poringland Community Centre

Dates for your Diary

Film Night September 4th

Film Night October 2nd

Film Night November 6th

Film December 4th

For more information phone

John on 01508 494358

Or Carol on 01508 492630



PORINGLAND COMMUNITY CINEMA

AT PORINGLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FRIDAY 11th September

FRIDAY 9th October

FRIDAY 13th November

Friday 11th December

Open Gardens for St. John Ambulance 2026

Home-made Refreshments • Free Parking

Saturday 6th June Open 12 - 5pm

ELSING HALL

Elsing, Dereham, NR20 4DX

Adults £8: Children free.

Guide dogs only.

Sunday 12th July

Open 1pm - 4.30pm

THE BISHOP'S HOUSE

Bishopgate, Norwich, NR3 1SB

Adults £5: Accompanied under 16s & wheelchair users free.

Assistance dogs only.

Sunday 6th September

Open 12 - 5pm

SEVERALS GRANGE

Wood Norton, NR20 5BL

Adults £6: Children free.

Dogs on leads welcome.



John Tradescant



Organised by St John Ambulance
Norfolk and Waveney
Registered charity no. 1077265/1
C-Norfolk-and-Waveney@sja.org.uk
For more information on gardens contact
Georgina.holloway@sja.org.uk



Fundraising café
June 20th
2 till 4.30
SHX Comm Hall
in aid of
GG 1st High Ash



YEARS 5-11



youth club

Thursdays 7.30 - 9 pm
Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall

June
4th: Club Night
11th: Theme Night: What a Waste!
18th: Man Hunt @ The Church
25th: Sports @ The Park

July
2nd: Club Night
9th: Water Games @ The Park
16th: Theme Night: Summer!

For more details contact:
Gary Watson on gwatson@norwichyfc.co.uk



Norwich
YOUTH
FOR CHRIST

[@stoke.embers](https://www.instagram.com/@stoke.embers)

Venta Group
of Churches



HOLLY'S ART CLUB

Come join us Saturday 13th June 2-4 @ The Lovely Jubilee Meadow NR14 8LY

All ages welcome! Sit back, relax and take in the wonderful scenery of the meadow to help draw something special. Prizes available for best drawings.

All drawing equipment will be provided on the day, so all you need to bring is your artistic flair.

Free Admission. We will be collecting for The Nook EACH on the day, any donations will be greatly appreciated. Hope to see you there!



STOKE SUMMER SOUNDS

**Saturday 13 June
6pm**

FEATURING
**The Lovin' Handful
&
Stonesthrow**

**Bar open and food
trucks too...**

Stoke Holy Cross Playing Field

**Adults £6 Children £4
including first drink**

**Book now on the community
hall website or by sending a
text to 07879844166**



Hymns and Pimm's and cakes and things!

Join us in Arminghall churchyard
(or indoors if necessary!)
Sunday 21st June at 3pm

If you've got a favourite hymn we'd love
to hear why, and include it on the day

Help us get ready for
the service by joining
our churchyard tidy-up
on Thursday 18th June,
2-4pm. Refreshments
supplied!

If you'd like to provide a
cake for the service,
Rob would be very
happy to hear from you!

rob@venta-group.org, 01508 492305

Dates for Caistor Cream Teas 2026



We are planning to serve Cream Teas at Caistor St Edmund Church again this summer - book these dates!

Sundays

August 16th, 23rd & 30th 2026

&

Sept 6th 2026

2pm – 5pm

With plants, garden produce and cake stall

We would love to have lots of plants to sell on our stall if you would like to help please start preparing now by taking cuttings etc

Saying Farewell

The Bakers are moving on and we would like you to join us to say goodbye. There are a couple of things happening to which everyone is really, really, welcome and they would love to see you.

Rob, Cathryn, Jonathan, Grace and Sam invite you to join them at the Vicarage on Sunday 28th June. There will be drinks and cakes and an All Invited gathering for all ages from 3.30-5pm, followed by a BBQ in the garden. If you would like to come to the BBQ, please book a place at tinyurl.com/ventabbq or scan the QR code below, so we can cater for everyone.

Their last Sunday service will be at Stoke Holy Cross church will be on Sunday 5th July at 10-30am, where we will thank them for their service here in our group of churches. This service will be followed by a "Bring and Share" lunch. Please email Viv (address below) to let her know what you will be bringing, or sign up at a service.

We are currently collecting for a leaving gift and, if you would like to join in with this, please could you

- send any donations to Viv, in an envelope marked for Rob, to 51 Norwich Rd, Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8AB
- hand in a marked envelope at any service
- email Viv (carringtonvj@gmail.com) if you need any further help with this

With thanks

Viv Carrington & Jani Wymer,
Churchwardens





Surlingham Timeshare Swimming Pool

NR14 7AL

Are you interested in having an indoor heated swimming pool exclusively for yourself, family and friends?

If so please contact

Tim Mack (01508) 538206

info@surlinghamtimesharepool.co.uk

or go to

www.surlinghamtimesharepool.co.uk

3, 6 or 12 monthly bookings for weekly slots available, "also one offs"

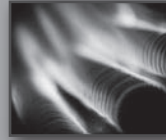
Open seven days a week 6.30am-10.00pm

We are 6 miles SE of Norwich between Surlingham and Rockland St. Mary



TOWNSEND LTD

OIL • GAS • HEATING SERVICES



- Boiler Replacement
- System Upgrade & Maintenance
 - Power Flushing
- Oil Tank Replacement
- OFTEC & Gas Safe Registered
- All at competitive prices

Call today for more information and a free estimate

Matthew Townsend: **07771 732397**

Office: **01508 550838**



www.jandmtownsendltd.co.uk



COOPER HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Double Glazing Repairs
Replacement Sealed Units
Window Hinges, Handles
Door locks • Cat flaps

www.cooperhome.com

01508 480551 07982 711499



PC or Mac Running Slow?

Bailiwick IT Ltd. Got A Virus? Wi-Fi help?

For a friendly, professional & prompt IT service, please call Joe Richards on 01953 718421 & 07928 326008

Email: help@bailiwickit.com
Website: www.bailiwickit.com



Windows



S & C Window Repairs

Free estimates, no call out charge
Local independent business

Repairs to double glazed windows, doors and conservatories
Steamed up windows, broken handles, hinges, gasket, plus cat flaps, door panels and more...

01603 520136 | 0800 1601932

sandcwindows@gmail.com

www.sandcwindows.co.uk

CROSSWAYS of ELLINGHAM

99 Yarmouth Road,
Ellingham, NR35 2PH
Opening Times:
Mon - Fri: 8:30 - 5pm
Sat: 9 - 5pm



Equestrian • Pet Food • Livestock
Fishing • Shooting • Clothing



DELIVERY SERVICE

Need something but can't get into shop?

We have a very reliable delivery service which has been running for over 20 years.

No matter how big or small in the whole store we're happy to help...

01508 518400 | www.crosswaysofellingham.co.uk



Adopt a Redwings horse or donkey

Adopt and make a new friend today...

Sponsoring a horse, pony, or donkey at Redwings is a fantastic way to support our charity and make a new friend in the process - it's the next best thing to owning your own!

Many of our residents have endured terrible starts in life, so sponsoring an Adoption Star **from just £2 a month** ensures they continue enjoying a safe, happy and forever home at Redwings.



SCAN ME

Est. 1984

REDWINGS
HORSE SANCTUARY

redwings.org.uk/adoption
01508 505246



Ofsted: 254295 Charity: 1033659

High quality local childcare for 2 1/2 to 4 year olds

PLACES AVAILABLE

For this current school year and next

Contact us:
email: manager@shxpreschool.co.uk
tel: 07305 617153
www: shxpreschool.co.uk



The Pavilion, Long Lane, Stoke Holy Cross, NR14 8LY



**Louise Cartwright (M.Ost),
Professional Osteopath**

Registered with The General Osteopathic Council,
15 Years Experience

**For the treatment of Neck, Back and Joint pain,
Sports injuries and Rehabilitation.**

Rookery Park Golf Club, Carlton Colville, NR33 8HJ, 07876255168

Please book online at
www.greenviewtherapysuite.co.uk

Also available Tuesdays at Saxon Wellbeing, Beccles, 01502 717417
appointments@saxonwellbeing.co.uk



Citrus

SHARP SECURITY SHREDDING
citrussecurityshredding.co.uk

Please contact us on 01508 528477



This is what we are here for...Citrus destroy millions of confidential documents for residents & businesses in East Anglia

WAVENEY

STOVES, FIREPLACES
& RANGE COOKERS

Range Cookers; Oil, Electric, Gas & Woodfired.
Multifuel, Woodburning & Electric Stoves,
Electric Fires, Fireplace Surrounds

01508 518863

Opening Hours: Tues - Sat 9.30 - 4.30
123a Old Yarmouth Road, Ellingham, NR35 2PG

www.waveneystoves.co.uk



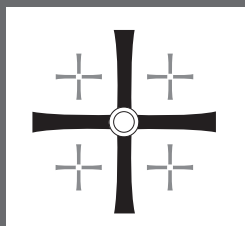
RCS PLASTERING AND DRYLINING SERVICES

Est 1997

Call Richard - 07940888040 - Anytime

Would you like to advertise your business in this space?

Contact Kellie on
01603 629291 or kellie@angliaprint.co.uk



JUNE 2026

WORSHIP, PRAYER AND COMMUNITY IN OUR VILLAGE CHURCHES

Morning Worship at Caistor St Edmund at 9.30am

7th June **Praise & Worship**
21st June **Holy Communion**

Morning Worship at Stoke Holy Cross at 10.30am

7th, 21st June **Informal Morning Worship with children's group**
(Includes Baptism on 21st June)
14th June **All Invited** at the Church Hall (with communion)
28th June **More traditional Communion service**

Sunday afternoons in June

21st June **Hymns & Pimms** at Arminghall at 3pm
28th June **All invited** at the Vicarage from 3.30-5pm
Vicarage BBQ from 5pm—please book in for the BBQ

Midweek gatherings in June

Every Wednesday at 8.30am **Morning Prayer at the Vicarage**
3rd June 7pm online **Monthly evening prayer meeting**
4th June 10am at the Church Hall **Holy Communion**
Followed at 10.30 by **Coffee and Chat**
18th June 10.30am at the Church Hall **Coffee and Chat**

*Caistor church building is open about 10-4 daily -
space to reflect, and to pray*

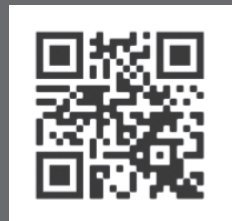
Join us for Communion and Coffee and Chat on Thursday mornings — see above for all the times and dates

Sparklers

Craft, fun, singing and friendship for 0-4s and their parents, grandparents and carers.
Email cathryn baker@gmail.com or find us on Facebook

embers

youth club
Thursdays 7.30 - 9 pm
Stoke Holy Cross Church Hall



Every week in school term—just drop in and join us

Sign up for email updates here



KITCHEN SENSE of Harleston

Beautifully Designed,
Expertly Crafted

- Free design & quote service
- 40 years of transforming homes
- Family business
- Visit our showrooms in Harleston
- 01379 852592, www.kitchen-sense.co.uk
- Monday- Friday, 9am-5pm.
- Saturdays by appointment only

62 London Road, Harleston, Norfolk, IP20 9BZ

For all your DIY and gardening tasks

J's Maintenance Services

- ◆ Painting internally / externally
- ◆ Gutter clearing and repairs
- ◆ Fence repairs
- ◆ Roof repairs
- ◆ Door repairs
- ◆ Garden tidy

FULLY
INSURED

07746 375349
51najacques@gmail.com

Howsham
Memorials
East



Colour
Brochure
Available

More Care, Less Cost
*Local independent memorial specialist
to Beccles & surrounding areas...*

11 Hungate, Beccles, NR34 9TT
01502 219300
howshameast@gmail.com

www.howshammemorials.co.uk

Up to 25% off Selected Blinds



Call 01508 828010
norwichsunblinds

T's & C's apply | www.norwichsunblinds.co.uk



Coopers Bathrooms & Wetrooms Ltd

Since establishing our family run business in 2000, we have been striving to make your dream a reality!
To find out what we can do for your home today, contact us to get a free home design visit, and allow us to help you create the beautiful new bathroom or kitchen you've been dreaming of.
So what are you waiting for?



FREE tiles from our range with every FULL installation!

En-Suites - Shower Rooms -
Bathrooms - Wetrooms -
Kitchens - Cloakrooms

Supply Only - Supply and Install

Tiling - Plastering - Electrical -
Plumbing - Small Building Works
Grant Work Undertaken



Unit 1, Taverham Nursery Centre
Fir Covert Road
Taverham
Norwich
NR8 6HT
tel: 01603 400134
coopersbandw ltd@hotmail.com
www.coopersbathrooms.com

Opening Times

Monday - Friday: 09:00 - 17:30

Saturday: 10:00 - 14:00

Sunday: CLOSED