



# Hickling Herald



June 2021



June brings longer days, and hopefully warmer ones, too. The swallows are back, the blackbird is busy feeding her brood and the cuckoo is making its presence known.

We're all looking forward to coming out of lockdown after one of the most difficult years. Holidays, social gatherings, be it football, music events or just meeting up in family groups, are all eagerly awaited in the coming days. Let's not forget the hugs! Life is becoming more ... 'normal'.

The human race has always had its ups and downs, with natural events such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, storms and floods. Over the centuries there have been plagues like the Black Death ravaging the populations of Europe and further afield. The majority would say 'it's nature taking its course'. But we, too, have had input into catastrophes – our greed, our carelessness and our wickedness, and our inability to work

together for the common good.

Our parents and grandparents lived through two world wars – they must have wondered whether they would ever see their loved ones again – would life be the same? They, like us in this pandemic, had no choice but to carry on, hoping and praying for better things.

But after the wars there was an opportunity for something different. An opportunity to make the world a better place, with more care for those less fortunate and a commitment to work together for the benefit of all.

The past year has been hard for us, especially for those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, and for front line workers, those who have lost their livelihoods and our younger generation who have little prospect of paid work.

During this past year there have been some remarkable acts of self-sacrifice,

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## **St MARY'S CHURCH SERVICES**

Sun 6 June 10.30: Family Service - Ian Watton

Sun 13 June 15.00: Celebration - Revd Canon Catherine Dobson

Sun 20 June 10.30: No Service

Sun 27 June 10.30: Family Service - Ian Watton

## **THANK YOU**

Gift Day Appeal: Thank you to all who donated to our first Gift Day Appeal.

The church received £945.50 plus a most generation donation from an anonymous donor.

Notice Boards: Thank you to Ros and Simon Wilson for the renovation of our church notice boards inside the porch, which are a distinct improvement. We are fortunate to have such talented people in the village.

## **METHODIST CHURCH**

Sun 6 June 10.30: Morning Worship with Holy Communion, Rev Neil Walker

Sun 13 June 10.30: Cafe Style Family Worship, Rev Mike Bossingham

Sun 20 June 10.30: Morning Worship

Sun 27 June 10.30: Morning Worship, Rev Sharon Thraves

Hooray! COFFEE MORNINGS will begin again Thursdays 9-30 to 11-30. Pop in for a chat and a cuppa.

Lunch Club, Tuesday 1 June, will be take-away service. Please ring Linda on 598725 if you would like a lunch.

FOOD FAIR Thursday 3 June, 9-12. Stalls include butcher, jams and chutneys, fruit and veg, and Molly's Bakes and Cakes, including lovely homemade bread. Coffee and bacon rolls available, so pop in and see what is on offer.

## **MEETINGS**

The Greyhound Bible Discussion group will continue to 'meet' by notes delivered or sent by email with a possible return to meeting in person in July. If anyone would like to join our thoughts on the Letter to the Ephesians, please contact me.

The Julian Meeting for silent prayer continues to 'meet' on the third Tuesday of the month with material provided by prayers and sent by email. As lockdown eases, we shall consider meeting in person in the not-too-distant future.

We look forward to welcoming the current as well as new folk, so please contact Zephney on 01692 598179 or zlkndy@gmail.com if you would like to join us.

## Tribute to Norman Belson

We would like to let all friends of Norman Belson know that Norman passed away peacefully on 21 April.

Norman was a great character who loved his work. For many years he worked at the Nature Reserve and also at Whiteslea Lodge, a job he was very proud of and loved dearly.

The family would like to thank everyone for their kind words and sympathies.

Val, Chris, Cath and family.

\* \* \*

It is with sadness that the Methodist Church would like to acknowledge the passing of Norman Belson, a constant supporter of all that Marlene did at the church. I have personal memories of Norman and Marlene encouraging us as youngsters to play tennis, something I enjoyed for many years.

Norman became the 'rabbit whisperer' when the children's rabbits needed attention – and the chainsaw expert too! In latter days Norman was a cheery, vivacious member of lunch club. His last lunch was delivered to him on his 90th birthday. We have all lost a true friend.

God bless you, Norman

Trisha



### Colin Shingles memorial service

A memorial service will be held at St Catherine's Church, Ludham, at 3pm on Saturday 26 June for Colin Shingles, who died aged 91 on 26 March 2020.

Colin lived in Hickling for many years before moving to Ludham in 1993, and is buried in the graveyard at St Mary's. He was a farmer all his life, most recently on land at Hook Farm in Stubb Road.

"Everyone will be welcome at the memorial service (lockdown permitting)," said Ann Newton Sparrow, Colin's partner for 27 years.

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Continued from page one

kindness and willingness to help others, particularly in our local communities. That help is still available and our hope as a Christian community is that we all grasp the opportunities to sustain our environment and to work together in harmony to create a better way of living. As Christians, there's an over-riding

message – Christ's message of love. For God loves us and will always be with us whatever happens in our lives.

As we move forwards with love and hope, enjoy those HUGS (with appropriate precautions)!

Pam Millsted, Licensed Lay Minister for The Coastal Group

## Hickling Parish Council

Following the Annual Parish Council Meeting, held by Zoom on Thursday 6 May, we must thank Jo Belsten for her sterling work as Chair over the past six years and thank her again for volunteering to accept the role of Deputy Chair.

We shall not have a meeting in June so the next meeting will be held at the beginning of July at a venue (yet to be decided) that can accommodate everyone safely, including any parishioners who would like to attend. Details will be published with the agenda.

Speeding in the village is still a concern. Don't be surprised to see our local beat manager, Tom Gibbs, wielding his camera from time to time!

Our flooding concerns are being addressed, thanks to the Highways Department and various helpful landowners. Remedial works will be ongoing as time and access

allow. Please continue to report flooding issues to Highways on their website <https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/highwaysdefect/?s=road&t=flood> - and let us know as well with an email to [hicklingclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hicklingclerk@gmail.com).

Our request for bids for the two boats owned by the parish at the staithe was partly successful but we still have a sailing dinghy with trailer and cover, mast and sails for sale.

The boat can be viewed at the staithe car park and any sensible offer will not be refused.

Please contact [hicklingclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hicklingclerk@gmail.com) if you are interested.

Enjoy the summer and stay safe!

Simon Wilson  
Chair, Hickling Parish Council.



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## Hickling Barn

### Village Show

We are looking forward to resuming activities at the Barn. Assuming there are no setbacks, the Village Show is scheduled to return on 1 August. With luck it will be another good summer with a bumper crop of fruit, flowers and vegetables to display. If you are not a gardener, how about entering one of the many baking, crafting or photography classes available?

A full list of classes for this year's show is available on the Barn website at [www.hicklingbarn.com](http://www.hicklingbarn.com)

### Garden

A big thank you to the schoolchildren and teachers for their hard work gardening at the Barn recently. It has made a vast difference and now looks lovely and tidy.

### Hickling Barn Bridge Club

As things stand, we are planning to reopen on Tuesday 6 July at 7pm in the Barn. Any new members (beginners or experienced players) are welcome.

Contact Terry Barker on 598596 or [terryrbarker@btinternet.com](mailto:terryrbarker@btinternet.com) for details.

## Hickling Broad u3a

It's been another busy month for Hickling's u3a.

**BLURR Camera Group:** The latest challenge was probably the hardest yet! April Showers Bring May Flowers was the theme. Taking half-decent shots of rain or rain-drenched landscapes is difficult at the best of times. Dorian was kind enough to critique the entries, a neutral observer giving both praise and constructive criticism. Without the latter, nothing is learned, and without the former, enthusiasm for photography can wane.

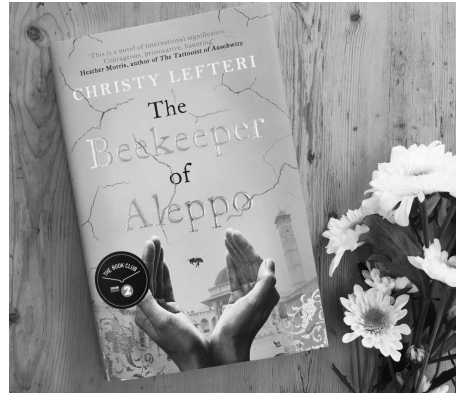
**Bookworms Reading Group:** *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri was chosen by Mary H. "The author is the daughter of Cypriot refugees," says Mary. "She holds a PhD in creative writing and teaches at Brunel University.

"The book is based on people she met working as a volunteer at UNICEF, supporting refugees in Athens. The story was heart rending but it opened our eyes to the terrible strife of these people who have been forced to leave their homelands. A difficult read but very worthwhile. We rated it 9/10."

The book for May is *A Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes, chosen by Sue.

**British History:** Jackie resumed her fascinating trip through the history of children's literature. Memories were evoked of the Famous Five, Rupert Bear and Beatrix Potter, along with half-forgotten comics such as Sunny Stories, Bunty, Jackie and Boys Own Paper. Books inspired by Norfolk settings were mentioned - notably those by Arthur Ransome, John Gordon, Eleanor Farjeon and Jan Mark, from Ingham.

**Creative Writing:** We're now famous for the excellent letter one of our members wrote to the u3a Matters magazine on the subject 'Yours, disgruntled of Much Mardling in the Marsh'.



**Gourmet Diggers:** The lack of rain in April made things difficult for gardeners. A virtual group rain dance was suggested to rectify the problem, and, with the torrential rain in early May, it was clearly successful!

**Pub Lunches:** Not long to go now!! If we are released from lockdown according to plan, we will be able to meet 'in real life' after 21 June. So, we are planning to organise our first lunch on Wednesday 21 July – the third Wednesday of the month, the day we used to meet.

**Sailing:** Our sailing group will be up and running this summer at the Nancy Oldfield trust. Numbers will be limited to existing members for the time being.

**Voices of Hickling:** We noted, sadly, that seven of our Voices have now died and several others are not in the best of health. This highlights the importance of our recordings as a legacy from those who have gone.

Our Walking and Croquet groups have both recommenced meeting outside.

Finally, we held our AGM via Zoom on 14 May. We would like to thank all our group leaders and committee members for their hard work. Our new chair Kate Fletcher has taken up the reins and we look forward to recommencing our monthly meetings as soon as is possible.

## Hickling Broad Sailing Club CIO

We are proud to announce that as of 1 May 2021 the club has now begun trading as Hickling Broad Sailing Club CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation). We know this date as our 'A' Day.

A lot of hard work has gone into getting the club to this position, beginning way back in early 2019. In October 2019

our membership voted to proceed and in December 2019 we were successfully registered as a CIO with the Charity Commission. Since then we have had to jump through many hoops before we could finally convert to the CIO.

May began with our Spring Regatta. With Covid-19, the running of the event was challenging to say the least. We got underway after a minute's silence to remember three members that, sadly, we had lost this year.

A generous wind made sailing interesting on the Sunday, then a change of direction and increase in wind speed did put a few sailors off on the Monday. We continued until lunchtime, when we decided it was prudent to cancel the afternoon's races and finish the event with prize giving.

Trophies were awarded for individual races and also for series of races for Solos, Lasers, Punts and a mixed handicap series. The Early Bird Trophy for the first race on Sunday was won by Bob Hawkins in a solo, who also took the Solo series cup. Probably the most notable



of the winners was one of our juniors, Rose Ling, who bagged four trophies including best under 18 helm and highest placed lady helm in a series. Well done, Rose!! The opportunity was then taken to award some of last season's trophies

as, for obvious reasons, we had not held our usual winter social event. Sunday and Wednesday racing continues.

Our Tuesday

T-Sail is due to start on the 25th May. You may also like to put the weekend of the 5th/6th June in your diary when the Three Rivers Race takes place and as usual, there will be a turning mark on Hickling Broad, hopefully in site of the Clubhouse. A great place to take photos from.

If any of this takes your fancy and you consider joining our Club you can contact us by email: [enquiries@hicklingbroad.com](mailto:enquiries@hicklingbroad.com) or visit the Club when we are open, not forgetting that as an RYA Recognised Training centre we can offer courses for power boats and dinghy sailing. You can contact the relevant areas by email: [powerboatcourses@hicklingbroad.com](mailto:powerboatcourses@hicklingbroad.com) or [sailingcourses@hicklingbroad.com](mailto:sailingcourses@hicklingbroad.com) if you wish to undertake any of the courses that the Club offers.

Our website [www.hicklingbroad.com](http://www.hicklingbroad.com) is always a good source of information on the Club, and we also have a Facebook page. Here's looking forward to June and the removal of restrictions.

Chris Larter, Commodore HBSC CIO



# Do you have a child starting pre-school or school? NEW Early Years Class from September 2021



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**Email:**  
[office@hickling.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@hickling.norfolk.sch.uk)

## NWT Hickling Broad

What a month May turned out to



be! With temperatures reminiscent of winter and showers that were lacking in April, the reserve had a great month

for interesting bird sightings. Yellow wagtails and wheatears arrived from Africa along with a much rarer visitor, a wryneck. A member of the woodpecker family and now extinct in the UK, this starling-sized bird drew in a few extra visitors and within days, ten black tern were spotted over the Broad – once again, not a common sighting. An osprey passed through and a Temminck's stint spent some time feeding on Brendan's Marsh. Some visitors were lucky enough to capture these rarer species on camera.

### Upcoming events

Sunday 13 June 11am – 4pm

Join us in celebration of World Swallowtail Day. One of our rarest and most iconic species, the swallowtail butterfly is only found in the Norfolk Broads. NWT Hickling Broad is one of the very best places to see this elusive species. There will be butterfly-crafting activities with Dr Tim Willey and the unveiling of his new reed swallowtail sculpture. Other butterfly activities and information will be available from Butterfly Conservation. With a chance to see the beautiful swallowtail butterfly, there will be guided walks with Andy Brazil, (County Butterfly Recorder) throughout the day and our experts

will share their best butterflying tips and infectious love for these insects. We'll be offering trips on board our boat *Swallowtail* exploring the intimate backwaters of Hickling Broad.

Free reserve entry to all on the day.

Walks: £4 NWT members / £6.50 non-members.

Boats: £6.50 NWT adult members /

£8 adult non-members, £5 NWT child

members / £5.50 child non-members

(45-minute journeys starting on the hour at 11.00am until 3.00pm).

Booking: Essential for costed events.

01692 598276



Our evening water trail returns at 6pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays from June – August. Our guide will meet you at the Visitor Centre and lead you through the reserve to the boat jetty before sailing off into the sunset. This tranquil evening boat ride will take you in search of marsh harriers, crane and the elusive bittern.

Booking and prepayment, essential.

(Approx. duration 2 hours)

For more information about the trust or the reserve visit our website

[www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk)

Rachel Frain – Senior Visitor Centre Coordinator, Hickling Broad



### **WanderingTortoise**

Our tortoise, Jack, disappeared from his run at Woodpecker, The Street, on Wednesday afternoon, 12 May. Happily, he was found and returned to us a few days later.

He has been with us for over 50 years and has been known to go for a walk-about before, so, if he does it again and you see him, please call Kathy or Bev Brooks on 598340.

### **Hickling Bowls Club**

Anyone wishing to join Hickling Bowls Club, please contact either Stuart Elliott (chairman) on 01493 740909 or Helen Miles (secretary) on 01692 670140

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## Black Horse Cottage - Open Garden

Black Horse Cottage garden will be open again under the National Garden Scheme on Sunday 4 July from 10.30 to 5.30.

Admission is by pre-booked tickets which can be purchased from the NGS website at [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk). If you turn up at the gate without a ticket, we shan't turn anyone away – just put £5.00 into the tub!

The £5 admission fee helps support nursing and health charities such as Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and the Carers Trust, which are much in need of these funds.

Refreshments will be available, with the proceeds going towards the upkeep of the garden at Hickling Barn. If you are able to bake a cake for us to sell, that would be greatly appreciated. Please let Yvonne Pugh know on 01692 598691 if you can help with the serving of teas and baking cakes. Thank you.

Thank you in advance for your patience

and understanding of any extra traffic/parking in the village for this short time; the income generated by garden visits is greatly needed by the NGS to pass on to the charities.

We look forward to welcoming you to the garden.

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## Sea Palling Independent Lifeboat

We have a great new design in our range of merchandise and it's now available from our beach stall which is open every Sunday morning, as well as from our usual outlets. Come along and see us and have a go on our giant deck chair!

PS: Don't forget Lifeboat Day on Sunday 22nd August.

For more details, please see our website, Facebook page or e-mail [hannah@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk](mailto:hannah@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk) or [dave@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk](mailto:dave@seapallinglifeboat.co.uk)

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WANTED: Honey bee swarms. If you see one in Hickling, call 598005. Barry Beales will be delighted to come and collect it.

*To place a FOR SALE or WANTED ad in the July issue, please drop your entry in to Lavender Cottage, 4 Heath Road, with your £2 entry fee, by 15 June, or email [martin.ashcroft@virgin.net](mailto:martin.ashcroft@virgin.net)*

## Hayley Moss and Ben Lake in Concert

Subject to lockdown being lifted, a fund-raising musical evening will be held in St Mary's Church on Saturday 24 July at 7.30pm, featuring 'The Classical Duo'.



Ticket Price £15.00  
(including Pimms and Pudding)

Tickets can be obtained from Sandra Clarke on 01692 598368 or by email: [sandra.clarke6@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.clarke6@gmail.com)

## Advertise in the Hickling Herald

If you live or work in Hickling, you can advertise your business at £5 for a quarter page or £10 for a half. News and announcements can be published free of charge. Please email [martin.ashcroft@virgin.net](mailto:martin.ashcroft@virgin.net) with your details.

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