



THE BEACON

Beck Row, Holywell Row and Kenny Hill



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April - May 2026

Hello Readers

Springtime already, Easter already – time is certainly moving fast these days.

Just for a change on the front page – I am asking for volunteers who may be interested in a few projects around the village.

Is there someone out there who enjoys cutting grass and would be willing – at no cost to themselves – apart from time, to cut the grass around the graves at St John's Church?

This would be an ongoing project from now throughout the summer/autumn. If there is someone interested, please contact:
brian.sulman78@gmail.com

Another project we need a volunteer for is – the painting of the phone box in Holywell Row. It is currently used as the Book Exchange and is in need of a new paint job. Again, there would be no cost to the volunteer – just their time. If there is someone interested, please contact:

Jane Spenser - Parish Clerk - clerk@beckrowparish.gov.uk

On Thursday 7th May, 2026 the local elections are being held. The Parish Hub has been booked to be used as the Polling Station.

Information for members of the parish who attend the Parish Council Meetings, the meeting in April will be held on Tuesday 21st April, 2026 at 7.30pm.

Lastly some unfavourable news, it appears that very recently some vandalism by mindless individuals has caused damage to the shelter at the Toch H land. This shelter is for the use of everyone in the village, paid for by precept money – we all contribute to, and there have been a number of small fires lit over the last few weeks in this area. This spoils the area for those who wish to play over there as the rubbish left by the fires is dangerous. The area is inspected regularly as is the play equipment. This is the reason there is fencing in an area in the playpark where the climbing frame was situated. New equipment is on order and should be installed at the end of April.

Wishing you all have a lovely Easter, which just leaves me to say a massive thank you to all involved with the putting the Beacon together and delivering in all weathers.

Sue French

What's Going On Locally...

St John's Church

Sunday Services 9.30am

1st Sunday – Encounter Service (in hall)

2nd Sunday – Service of the Word

3rd Sunday – Lightwave Breakfast Church (in hall)

4th Sunday – Holy Communion



Community Events (by donation)

1st Tuesday – Lunch 12 noon
(book with Kathy 07963 958017)

2nd Tuesday – Soup and Chickenfoot 12 noon

3rd Tuesday – Coffee Morning 10am

4th Tuesday – Soup and Bingo 12 noon

Temp contact details - The best church contact is the Rural Dean, Revd Canon Chris Childs on 01638 429212 or revcchilds@aol.com

BECK ROW LADIES CLUB

2pm – 4pm

2nd Monday of each month
St John's Church Hall, Beck Row

The Methodist Church

Sunday Services

Beck Row Methodist Church 11am
Holywell Row Methodist Church 6.30pm
Rev. David McAloon - 01842 753819

The Mildenhall Scale Model Club

now meets in St. John's Church Hall

7pm - 10pm

every 1st and 3rd
Wednesday

Gary Wenko • T: 01638 714543

THURSDAY CLUB

2pm – 4pm

3rd Thursday of the month
(over 50s)

at Beck Row Methodist Church

For further details please
contact Maggie Walker
on 01638 715447



St J's
Stay and Play

FREE

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We would like to invite you to share with us our Easter Day Family Praise Service, on Sunday 5th April, which will be at 9.30am. Everyone is very welcome, there will be activities for the children, and hot cross buns and coffee will be served in the hall afterwards.

There is still no news of a vicar, so until then we will carry on with our amazing

team of retired clergy and volunteers. The new person will be responsible for Beck Row, Holywell Row and Kenny Hill, as well as Eriswell and Icklingham, so we hope and pray that the diversity of the three parishes will encourage a motivated and dedicated applicant to come along.

The Winter Warm Rooms initiative has been very successful, and as we start to wind down for the Summer, there are two coach trips to look forward to – a scenic drive around the countryside stopping for a coffee break and then lunch on 2nd June, and to the Hut in Felixstowe on 29th September. Both trips have been extremely popular in the past, so please contact Kathy Butcher to book your place (07963 958017). There is a small charge.

Since the refurbishments, the hall continues to be well used, and with hire charges just £10 per hour, is a very affordable venue for children's parties, meetings, social events etc. Please contact Maggie if you wish to make a booking (07937 846801).

NEW - Coffee Connections - Free



Group for parents and carers
(with pre-school children) 9–11am

2nd and 4th Fridays in St John's Hall
(term time only)

Demonstrations, discussions,
wellness sessions, etc.



Beck Row Methodist Church

Thursdays

5.30pm & 7pm

with Terri

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Fridays

7am & 9am

with Caroline

07516 668517

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On Sunday 19 April, we will be holding our second annual Open Day at the reserve, when we will offer free entry to all for one day only. Although RSPB reserves often do have an entry charge to help to fund the charity's conservation work across all its sites, we also recognise that for some people (especially in current times) the financial cost of a visitor attraction can prevent them from trying out new places.

For anyone who has not been to see us before, we hope this offers you a good opportunity to do so - we have over seven miles of trails for visitors to explore, many of which are on firm and level tracks that take you through the full range of habitats here - woodland, reedbed, riverbank and wet and dry grassland. These habitats each support a different range of wildlife and a walk through the site is full of changes and variety.

The reedbeds are what we are known for - the original purpose of the site was to convert intensively farmed agricultural land into top-quality reedbeds to provide a home for Bitterns - beautiful brown wetland birds in the heron family, which were very close to extinction as a breeding bird in the UK in the mid-1990s. In the 30 years that have followed, Bittern numbers have risen and you can now easily hear the incredible 'boom' of the male birds in spring as they call to attract a mate and defend their territories. Our Open Day is timed perfectly for you to come and hear this local speciality for yourself. As well as the Bitterns, by mid-April we should also have the first Cuckoos calling - and along with the first Nightingales singing from within wooded areas, coming here can seem like an opportunity to step back in time - these are both birds whose numbers have fallen drastically in recent decades and it is becoming difficult to find a place where they are a common sound.



Bittern
(Photo: Henry Cook)

Depending on the weather, we may also have the first of our Hobbies back - these beautiful birds of prey come here each spring to breed (they migrate here after a winter spent in Africa) and to hunt large insects like dragonflies and beetles, which they consume mid-air! We should also have several pairs of Marsh Harriers on the reserve - and in April male birds should be doing their spectacular sky-dancing courtship displays to watching females - where they swoop steeply up and down repeatedly as energetically as they can, showing their flying skills and fitness for all to see. If pairs have already formed, they may be seen carrying nesting material, like dried grass or old reed stems, into their chosen nesting sites. Imagine watching this to a backdrop of Reed, Sedge and Willow Warblers in your ears, whilst you feel the sun on your face and the first dragonflies catch your eye as they zip past - utter contentment!

It is important to us that the reserve is as accessible as possible - so please bear in mind that we have a small additional car park situated halfway down the reserve for those that find walking difficult. If you'd like to use it, pop into the Visitor Centre to collect a free permit. Most of our trails are firm and level, as is the boardwalk to our only hide, Mere Hide. We are also keen to be accessible for visitors of all levels of wildlife knowledge too - we are not just a site for experienced birdwatchers and photographers but for anyone who enjoys nature and being outdoors. On our Open Day the Visitor Centre and the toilets will be open from 9am until 5pm and our friendly volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions you have about the reserve - so please come down to see us if you'd like, and to make the most of another beautiful spring in the Fens. We do have one of our Spring Wildlife Guided Walks running at 9.30am on the day - if you'd like to find out more about this or book tickets, please visit: <https://events.rspb.org.uk/lakenheathfen>.

By Heidi Jones - Visitor Experience Officer,
RSPB Lakenheath Fen,
Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk IP27 9AD

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Gravadlax Potatoes and Onions

This serves about 4 people



Ingredients

- 800g/1lb 12oz potatoes
- 200g/8oz gravadlax (you can buy smoked salmon, but this is more expensive of course)
- 2 medium onions
- 284ml double cream
- 150g/¼ pint milk

Method

- 1 Peel and cut potatoes either in very thin rounds or very thin chips.
- 2 Put these in a bowl and cover with salt water.
- 3 Cut the gravadlax into wide strips and finely chop the onions - or cut into thin rounds.
- 4 Melt a knob of butter in a pan and fry the onions for 5 minutes.
- 5 Butter the inside of a shallow oven proof dish which will hold about 1.2 litres.
- 6 Heat the oven to 190°C or 170°C fan. Drain the potatoes and spread 1/3 on the base of the dish. Season well. Scatter half the gravadlax and onion on top, then another 1/3 of the potatoes - again season well.
- 7 Add the rest of the gravadlax and onion. Put the remaining potatoes on top and season well.
- 8 Warm the cream and milk in a pan until it comes to simmering point and pour over the ingredients.
- 9 Dot butter on top and bake for 1 hour - the potatoes need to be tender and the top a golden colour.
- 10 Serve with green vegetables.



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Beck Row Ladies Club

Meeting on the second Monday of each month at 2pm in St John's Church Hall, the Ladies Club has welcomed a variety of speakers over the winter and has a varied programme of home meetings and visits planned this summer. These include a tractor/trailer ride around the Elveden Estate, Local Wartime History, India by Train and Estate Planning.

There is no membership required or prior booking. The cost is £4 including refreshments and raffle, and an opportunity to socialise with like-minded ladies who enjoy getting together and learning about something new.

Further information can be obtained from Lynda (07805 144376) or Anne (07973 520678).

We look forward to seeing you!

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News from Beck Row Primary Academy



Beck Row Primary is looking to welcome new community governors to our Governing Body.

If you have an interest in the school, care about the futures of local children, and would like to play a meaningful role in shaping the school's improvement journey, we would love to hear from you.

Being a community governor is a rewarding way to support the Principal Charley Minter in the school's strategic development, contribute to decision-making, and ensure our academy continues to thrive at the heart of the village.

If this sounds like something you'd like to be part of, please get in touch with the school office at: bec-admin@attrust.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming new voices and perspectives to help strengthen our school community.

Charley Minter, Principal



Hello Everyone,

At last the weather seems to be more conducive to the playing of football on our field. In fact for the first time, we have had two games on a Saturday. Meanwhile Lakenheath Youth FC who use our pitch are asking for any U7s or U8s **girls** who would like to come along and join the club. Just because it is Lakenheath Club there is no reason Beck Row Parish youngsters can't come along to play as in fact, we do have some Beck Row youngsters playing for Lakenheath on our ground already. The

contact details are below if you are interested.

We are pleased to report that Josie Rose was transferred to Papworth Hospital in Cambridge for her major heart operation and is now out of intensive care and doing well. She is missed from her refreshments duty in the clubhouse during matches and we look forward to having her fit enough to being present again, although she will not be fit enough to do the refreshments. We wish her well.

We now have a big request. Graham Rose who has run the club as chairman for 55 years wishes to hand over the mantle. Now that Lakenheath is responsible for matches and taking care of the pitch the job is not too onerous. If there is anyone out there with the time and interest to take Graham's place, we would be very grateful. It would be very sad if the new clubhouse that was built in 2015 when we had an adult team would close. If you feel that you are that person and would like to know more, please contact Graham at the phone number below.

Contact details are as follows:

Chairman: Graham Rose 01638 714968

Youth Coach: Richard Horrex richardhorrex@gmail.com, 07540 201 223

Renters' Rights Act: What Changes on 1 May

From 1st May 2026, the first phase of the Renters' Rights Act will come into force in England, bringing some of the biggest changes the private rented sector has seen in decades.

The most talked-about change is the end of Section 21 'no fault' evictions. In simple terms, landlords will no longer be able to end a tenancy without a legal reason. Instead, possession will rely on specific grounds, such as serious rent arrears, anti-social behaviour, moving back into the property, or selling it.

Another major change is the shift to periodic tenancies. Existing and new tenancies will move away from the traditional fixed-term structure. Tenants will be able to leave with two months' notice, while landlords will need to rely on the correct legal grounds if they want possession.

There are also changes to how rents are increased. In most cases landlords will be able to review rent once per year, using the formal statutory notice procedure. Tenants will have the right to challenge increases they believe are above market level.

The Act also introduces several new rules around how properties are advertised and let. Rental bidding will be banned, meaning landlords and agents cannot accept offers above the advertised rent. Landlords will also no longer be able to demand large amounts of rent in advance, with limits introduced to make the system fairer for tenants entering the market.

Another important change is around discrimination. Landlords and agents will not be able to automatically refuse applicants simply because they have children or receive benefits, although affordability checks and referencing will still apply.

It's worth remembering that not every part of the Act begins on 1st May. Measures such as the new landlord ombudsman and national landlord database are expected to follow later as the reforms are rolled out.

For tenants, these changes are designed to provide greater stability and protection. For landlords, the message is clear: the sector is becoming more regulated and processes will matter more than ever.

The good news is that responsible landlords who maintain their properties and follow the correct procedures should continue to operate successfully under the new system.

As always in property, understanding the rules early is the best way to avoid costly mistakes later.

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2pm

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11th April **2026**

Bingo finishes in April until the Autumn – future dates as follows:

10th October, 7th November, 5th December **2026**

9th January, 6th February, 6th March, 1 0th April **2027**



SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES CLUB

We have received some funding from the Parish Council and Suffolk Council to enable us to continue running the Holiday Club every Monday morning in the school holidays at St John's Church Hall.

The activities are led by Angie Finn from Lightwave, who you might know from her work in the school, at St J's Stay and Play and Coffee Connections.

The sessions run from 9.30am to 11.30am, and comprise games, craft, activities, music etc, and include Brunch which is served at approximately 11am. There is no charge, but booking is advisable directly to Angie at angie.finn@lightwave.community

Future dates will be:

30th March • 6th April • 25th May
27th July • 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th August



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News from Beck Row Methodist Church

Our last coffee morning raised the wonderful sum of £267.70 and our next two are coming soon. As with most organisations that are self-funding there is always upkeep to consider. We have an urgent electrical work project, tree work and as you can see quite clearly if you use the premises for clubs in the hall or the church for services, or when visiting graves, our driveway is suffering from the nation's problems too - we have potholes. Fund raising is of vital importance so those people who support our coffee mornings, our chicken foot evenings, our Mead Singers concerts - one coming soon - are our lifeline. Thank you.

Our dates confirmed are the following:

Coffee Morning Saturday 4th April and Saturday 6th June at 10am to 11.30am

The first of these will have a big Easter raffle!

We hope to see you there for cakes and coffee and stalls for your entertainment. It is always fun to join in the conversation with people from all around the area and you will be very welcome.

It is our pleasure to include this photograph of our treasurer Claire Edwards who married Stuart Norman from West Row in our Church here.



Gardening Tips



March and April is a good time to divide perennials that have formed in congested clumps. It is best to dig up the whole clump and then prise it apart into sections.

With some perennials this can simply be done with your hands or with a sharp knife. Also by using back to back forks for large plants. Hardy geraniums often spread effectively to saturate an area. Dig these up and separate, making sure to retain plenty of soil. Dig a small hole and press them firmly into the ground, making sure to discard any dead, diseased or weak sections. They can be planted straight into the soil or in pots for later planting out.





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An Autobiography

This article is by Gillian Fisher who has been a steward at the Holywell Telephone Book Exchange for many years. We are indebted to Gillian for all her years of service which she has given with competence and attention to detail, making use of her huge knowledge of books and literature.

Thank you, Gillian you are, much appreciated.

My Autobiography

My brothers and I were born in the 1950s; were really Baby Boomers, living with our parents in Billericay, Essex. This town really derived its importance from the Pilgrim Fathers and the Mayflower.

There is still a Mayflower public hall in Chapel Street, by the way. We remained in Billericay (at least my parents and I did till 1987).

My grandmother, a widow, lived in Wickford about 7 miles away but she had an accident at home and wound up in Basildon Hospital. We had to find a property that would help us to accommodate Grandma. The only house in our price range was in Lincolnshire in Maltby Le Marsh near Mablethorpe. So we moved there in the last week of 1987 and on Christmas Day we were walking along Mablethorpe beach!

My brother Roy and sister-in-law, who'd been a nurse, brought Grandma home to us with them. Ghislane my sister-in-law was horrified at the lack of care by the nurses in Grandma's ward. "To think I trained here - it doesn't deserve to be known as a University Hospital!"

Grandma lived with us there until she started to show signs of dementia. She wanted to go into a nursing home as she feared we might not be able to care for her properly. She went to live in a home in Sutton on Sea in 1996, til she died of pneumonia in 1998.

After her funeral my father assessed our remaining situation and remarked that we needed to move nearer the family. So we sold the Maltby Le Marsh place and came here to Holywell Row in 2004. The phone box was still working then but was sold by BT in 2012. Then somebody from the Parish Council knocked on my door here and asked me to be the Steward of a proposed Book Exchange.

Little did I know then of the heavy and hard work in prospect for a Steward! Thank goodness I have a garage with no damp problems and a wheelbarrow to transport books home for assessment. In fact, a member of the Parish Council has asked me for any advice I can pass on to Stewards of other local book exchanges

Gillian Fisher



Holywell Row Village Hall – Bingo Sessions 2026

Bingo sessions are going to be held on the 4th Friday of each month in the Village Hall.

2026 dates - 24th April, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and November.

Bingo starts at 7.30pm:

10 games for £5. There is a prize for 1 line and a prize for a full house in each game.

*The Hall is available to hire at reasonable rates.
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and melodic soft “toolooeet” sound.

One bird that seems to be more abundant in our area now is the woodlark. They can be found on open heathland and grassland. They are easy to identify because of their beautiful mellow and rich song delivered in shorter phrases than the skylark, containing characteristic “lu lu lu”



its well-known cousin the skylark although much more fun to watch. The skydiver of the bird world!

They are very easy to see on the grassland between Mildenhall and Icklingham. The male flies high up in March and descends slowly with wings out like a parachute, while the female will be laying her eggs at this early time of the year. It is smaller than

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Places for all events need to be booked online - please visit
<https://bit.ly/LakenheathFenEvents> to read more and book tickets.

Spring Wildlife Walks – 19 April, 31 May (9.30am-12.30pm)

Join us to celebrate what Spring has to offer - we will go looking for the warblers, Cuckoos and Hobbies that have recently arrived back from Africa. We should hear booming Bitterns too!
RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s).

Spring Open Day – Sunday 19 April (9am-5pm)

For one day only we will be offering free entry to all at RSPB Lakenheath Fen. We hope this day helps everyone to enjoy the reserve, especially if you haven't been here before.

Moth Mornings – 24 April, 29 May (10am-11am)

Learn more about the amazing world of moths - join us to admire what we catch in our harmless trap.
RSPB members £5 (£2.50 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £6 (£3 for Under 18s).

Bittern Walks – Saturday 25 April, Sunday 17 May (9.30am-12.30pm)

In 1995 the reserve was created to provide a home for beautiful but threatened Bitterns. Their booming calls are thankfully now a common sound in Spring - and on these walks we will be looking for them during peak season.
RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s).

Dawn Chorus Guided Walk – Sunday 3 May (5-8am)

A bright and early start should be rewarded with a wide variety of birdsong from our resident and summer visitors - we should hear a range of common species as well as scarcer birds joining in such as Bittern and Cuckoo, typical of the habitat here. Come along to learn a little or just appreciate this natural wonder. Coffee included afterwards!
RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £18 (£9 for Under 18s).

Hobby Walks – Saturday 9 May, Sunday 24 May (1-4pm)

From May onwards, we are graced with the presence of these elegant raptors for the summer, and when they first arrive there can be dozens here at once. Come along to one of the UK's best reserves for spotting them, with a knowledgeable guide on hand.
RSPB members £12 (£6 for Under 18s); non-RSPB members £15 (£7.50 for Under 18s).

Join in with Harrier & Bittern Nest Watches

Tuesdays 12 & 26 May (also 9 June) (7.30am-12.30pm)

Join a warden for the morning to help us carry out Marsh Harrier and Bittern nesting surveys. You will sit atop high seats with spectacular views across the reedbeds. Please feel free to bring your camera and ask questions. Pastries and hot drinks will be provided for breakfast, as well as transport down the reserve.
RSPB members £64; non-RSPB members £80.

RSPB Lakenheath Fen,
Station Road, Lakenheath, Suffolk IP27 9AD

[rspb.org.uk](https://www.rspb.org.uk)



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FARMING DIARY

February is the month of the year when every farmer should select a specific part of their farm and sit for 30 minutes in the same place and record numbers and species of every bird they see. This is called the Great British Farm watch and I think it is a valuable exercise in bird conservation as well as being very interesting. Most years I sub-contract this task to my near neighbour and friend Edward Swieskowski otherwise universally known as Ski. Ski is an absolute authority on wild birds and as such he is delighted to find a suitable spot and record what he sees. This year he was situated on a piece of permanent pasture surrounded by a small woodland (planted by me) some Scot's pines probably planted by the wind a long time ago and some drainage ditches dug by Mildenhall Internal Drainage Board also a long time ago (see photo). This year in the 30 allotted minutes between 10.45 and 11.15am on 20th February he recorded 7 Blackbirds, 3 Blue tits, 1 Great tit, 7 Jackdaws, 2 Magpies, 2 Robins, and 36 Wood pigeons. My observations of this is that numbers are very low and the complete lack of crows astounds me but in proportion there is a high number of small, what we could call garden birds, which I find reassuring. We know that bird flu this season has devastated large wild birds and that probably explains a lack of Gulls, Crows and the bigger Raptors as well as Mallards, Geese and Swans etc.



I find Ski a very interesting character. He is an American, moved into Holywell Row in the late 1970s and was stationed at RAF Lakenheath when he married his wife Julie who hails from Ipswich. Apart from a short stationed spell back in the U.S.A he has lived here ever since. When we all celebrated the Coronation of King Charles in the summer of 2023 we in this part of Holywell Row had a small street party which both Ski and I attended. We spoke a lot about my market stall and Ski said he'd like to come along one time and see how it all works. I said, "Come along any time but make sure you're here by 6am." He arrived punctually at 6am about 3 weeks later and has missed very few Saturdays since. I should add that Ski has never once been late since that first week and on one occasion even came at 4am when he got his times muddled up. I would expect

this as an ex-military man but unfortunately, I am not an ex-military man and I wasn't ready on that first Saturday and haven't actually been right ready to leave at 6am on any Saturday since. I have the utmost respect for Ski. He suffers from chronic COPD (years spent working on aircraft I expect) and he finds physical activity exhausting, but he has learned how to manage it and refuses to be defined by his illness. Despite this disability he has become an irreplaceable important member of my team. It isn't just his brilliant repartee with my customers, many of whom are actually American, it is his common sense, practical knowledge and also if working with me the vital skill of being able to improvise almost constantly. There aren't many Saturdays when I don't learn something from him. One thing he can't teach me about though is football. Every Saturday on the way home we listen to the Ipswich game on Radio Suffolk, and I regale him with tactical observations, team selections and managerial mistakes etc. etc. and all he can ever muster is "I'd kick their ass!" in a broad deep Southern accent.

On the farm the chickens are laying well despite all the challenges of them being locked up under bird flu regulations which I have spoken of before. The white chickens have reached the end of viable lay and have moved to new homes and we are mucking out, cleaning and disinfecting ready for the new pullets to come in on 8th April. Every 15 weeks professional poultry keepers of over 350 hens have to undergo salmonella tests on their flocks.

This involves putting on strange green boot swabs which look more like hairnets and wandering about in hen sheds picking up poo on your feet. These boot swabs are then packaged up in special plastic envelopes and sent to the nearest speciality vets near Attleborough for testing.



This testing is mandatory as a result of the previous Agriculture Minister Mrs Currie from the Conservative party in the 1980s claiming that all egg production was contaminated by salmonella bacteria. This caused massive upheaval within the egg industry as the public ceased eating eggs immediately and thousands of tons of eggs had to be destroyed. I remember me and my late father dumping van fulls of eggs into what used to be called Barton Mills pit. Since then testing of flocks has been mandatory and if found you have to stop selling eggs to the public immediately from that particular flock. Salmonella has never been found on my farm as yet - touch wood - but on one occasion I lost the correct plastic envelope I should send the swabs in so thought a normal Jiffy bag would suffice. Plainly it wouldn't suffice as poo seeped through and I felt the ire of both the Royal Mail and the vets who put me into the last chance saloon!

I wish you all a Very Happy Easter!

Beck Row Parish Council presents the

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Saturday 4th April 2026 | 10AM – 1PM

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News from the Parish Council

Beck Row, Holywell Row & Kenny Hill

April 2026 - May 2026 edition

Email: clerk@beckrowparish.gov.uk

Website: beckrowparish.gov.uk

Summary of February 2026 minutes –

Purchase of new equipment for the play area was approved. The Jungle Climber will be installed at the end of April. Further plans to obtain funding for accessibility friendly play equipment is still being investigated and will be a feature in future improvements. Necessary works to the Pirate Ship and Zip wire are also due to take place in April.



Data from the Speed Indicator Devices is now being shared with the Police and the Safety Camera Team so they can focus their attention on areas of concern effectively.

Our Parish Keeper: Stuart, has made a great job clearing the access to the land at Holywell Row and had a good clear up on the land itself. It would now be nice for some residents to come forward with ideas for making the land into a Community Garden area. Wildlife cameras will be installed and perhaps some owl boxes.

Summary of March 2026 minutes –

The very popular and well used book exchange in Holywell Row that is looked after by Gillian, needs some maintenance to the door and new shelving. The Parish

Council are very thankful to Gillian for her time in looking after the book exchange as she has done now for many years.

The Parish Council are revisiting the topic of village gateways in a bid to encourage drivers to slow down on their approach into the 30mph zones within the Parish. Case studies have shown they are effective. It was agreed to obtain quotes for the recycled plastic option like the below:



For any users of the bus stop on the A1101 next to the Kings Head, please be aware that a new bus shelter with perch seating and better shielding from the weather will soon be installed. Unfortunately, the installation was pushed back due to roadworks but shouldn't be long now.

There is a new look Website for the Parish. Minutes of the Parish Council meetings can be found there at: beckrowparish.gov.uk – you can also see details on hiring the Parish Hub as well as contact details for clubs and associations in the Parish.

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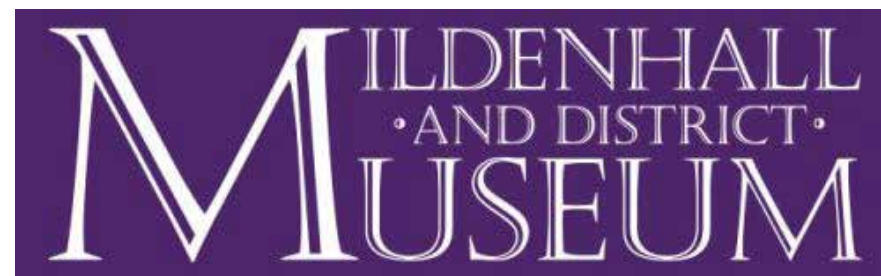
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MILDENHALL MUSEUM SOCIETY TALKS 2026

Talks held at the Museum
Doors open at 7:00 for 7:30pm start
£2 members £4 non-members
Refreshments available
Annual Society membership £10

Thursday 5th March – Uncle Sam's Roots in Eastern England – Roger Pugh

Thursday 2nd April – A-Z Curios Suffolk – Sarah Doig

Thursday 7th May – Persons of Quality (The story of the Atheneum in Bury) – Adrian Tindall

Thursday 4th June – Garden Ecology – Susan Jones

JULY – NO MEETING

Thursday 6th August – Norfolk Artists – Lloyd Hughes

Thursday 3rd September – History of Jewellery – Jason Middleton

Thursday 1st October – History of Waterway Transport in the Fens – Alan Denny

Thursday 5th November – From Fig Leaves to Feather Boas – Fran Saltmarsh

MUSEUM OPENING TIMES:

Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday and Saturday 2.00 – 4.00pm
Friday 10.30 – 4.00pm





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We would like to thank all those who contributed to this parish magazine, as well as all those who have helped to deliver it. Should you wish to get in touch regarding anything in this magazine or if you wish to contribute something towards the next issue you may contact us by 14th May 2026 in the following ways:

If your household does not receive a magazine please let us know.

Cllr Sue French: sj frenchpc4@hotmail.com • 07727 329796

Cllr Philip Haylock: 6 The Street, Holywell Row, Suffolk IP28 8LS • 07860 316748

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West Suffolk C.C.: 01284 763233

West Suffolk Councillors:

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don.waldron@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Mick Bradshaw: 07788 234522

Suffolk County Council: 03456 066067

Colin Noble: 07545 423795

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