



Village News

Produced by The Hempsall Group of Parishes



JUNE 2026

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GROUP WALK JUNE 2026

Sunday 28th June at 2:00pm from Barsham Church

Our walk on the 28th June will start and finish at Barsham Church, Bungay Road Barsham, NR34 8HA.

It will be a 2:00pm start. Tea will be served afterwards at the

church. Please let Cheryl (07565 467269) know if you're coming so we don't leave without you.



Let's Walk



12 Circular walks in South Norfolk

Let's Walk Again



Circular walks in south Norfolk

Let's Walk Further



Circular walks in south Norfolk

We have 3 walk books available, at £3 each, from our churches or the church office, 01508 498157.



Emergency Shopping List

UHT Fruit Juice
Tea
Coffee
Tinned Potatoes
Tinned Meat and Pies
Jam
Noodles (Not in a Pot)
Rice Pudding
Toilet Roll
Shampoo

Providing emergency food and practical support
for people left without enough money to live on

waveney.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1131879

Items for our Food Bank are still needed; we are very grateful to all who continue to contribute during these difficult times.

Donating Food: Items for the food bank can be left at the back of St Margaret's Church, Hempnall, at the Group Office, Hempnall or in the porch at St Peter's Church, Brooke.

Donating Money: Regular giving is a great way to support the Food Bank. For further details please check out this website: <https://waveney.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Woodton Parish Council Meeting Dates 2026/27

Woodton Parish Council meetings for the 2026/27 financial year have now been scheduled.

Meetings will take place on the following dates:

- Tuesday 16th June 2026
- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Tuesday 13th October 2026
- Tuesday 8th December 2026
- Tuesday 19th January 2027
- Tuesday 16th March 2027

All Parish Council meetings are held at **Woodton Village Hall** and start at **7.30pm**, unless otherwise stated.

Members of the public are very welcome to attend and are encouraged to come along to see how local decisions are made and to raise any matters of interest or concern.

Topcroft Parish Council

Meeting Dates 2026

All meetings are held in The Sports Pavilion, Topcroft Street, NR35 2BL

- Monday 20th July 2026 - 7.30 pm
- Monday 21st September 2026 - 7.30 pm
- Monday 16th November 2026 - 7.30 pm

The agenda is displayed on village noticeboards and published on TPC's website <https://topcroft-pc.gov.uk> three days prior to the meeting. Planning meetings are scheduled as needed, and additional meetings may be arranged if necessary.

~ Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings ~

For further details contact the Clerk email:
clerk@topcroft-pc.gov.uk or Tel: 07774 734411



Woodton and Bedingham

Garage Sale

4 JULY 2026 **9 am to 1 pm**

Bric-a-brac • House & garden • Books & toys • Clothing

☀️ **Refreshments**
Our village hall will be open for tea, coffee, cake and more. Pop in to pick up your map and plan your bargain hunting tour.

☀️ **Free off street parking**
Woodton Village Hall, NR35 2NG (what3words location: elder.resembles.voter)
Woodton Millennium playing fields, NR35 2NB (what3words location: spenders.crinkled.outfitter)

The poster features a yellow and white geometric background. At the top, there are illustrations of various household items: a table with a lamp, a guitar, and boxes on the right; and a table with a plant, a camera, and a small table on the left. A pink bicycle is positioned in the middle right. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a cardboard box with a remote control and a small table with a plant and a chair.

Afternoon Tea

At The Mill@ Hempnall

July 18th 2026

2:00pm

£12

(£15 with a glass of sparkling wine)



Spaces Are Limited
Full payment with booking please
Ring Paula: 01508 499763



Community Coffee Stop

Everyone welcome for coffee, cakes
and more.

At The Mill@ Hempnall

9:30am-12:00pm

1st Monday of the month

**June 1st, July 6th, August 3rd,
September 7th**

All profits for The Hempnall Trust

Village Lunch Club

Every Thursday
The Mill, Hempnall

2 course seasonal meal with
coffee and biscuits in the Mill.
£10 for Hempnall residents and
£12.50 for non Hempnall residents.
Or

1 course seasonal meal delivered
to your door in Hempnall for £7.50

To book your place please email
hempnalltrust@gmail.com
or call [07504 699534](tel:07504699534)

Supported and run by the Hempnall Trust

Hempnall Cinema

Thanks to everyone who came to the May film, it wasn't one I'd have chosen but I really enjoyed it.

Unfortunately due to a clash in bookings our final film of the season 'Roofman' has had to be cancelled. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

We will be taking a break in July and August but will be back in September. Do let us know if there is something you would like to see when we return.

Email: Hempnall.cinema@gmail.com



Music
for a
Summer's
Evening

AN ORGAN RECITAL BY
ASHLEY GROTE
(MASTER OF MUSIC AT
NORWICH CATHEDRAL)

 **ST PETER'S
CHURCH,
BROOKE**

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE
7 PM

ADULTS **£10**, CHILDREN UNDER 16 FREE.

FOR TICKETS, CALL 01508 558324



Mobile Library Timetable

| Village | Stop Name | Arrival Time | Departure Time | Postcode |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------|
| Hempnall | Old Market Way (Bainard Rise) | 14:10 | 14:30 | NR15 2LZ |
| Hempnall Green | Three Horseshoes | 14:35 | 14:55 | MR15 2NN |
| Topcroft | The Old Chapel | 15:00 | 15:15 | NR35 2BL |
| Topcroft | Church Road | 15:20 | 15:35 | NR35 2BH |
| Hempnall | Road Green Farm | 15:40 | 15:55 | NR15 2NQ |
| Hempnall | Millfields | 16:00 | 16:15 | NR15 2NE |
| Hempnall | Roland Drive | 16:20 | 16:35 | NR15 2RB |
| Fritton | Village Green (post box and bench) | 16:40 | 17:05 | NR15 2QS |

• 08 June 2026

• 06 July 2026

• 03 August 2026

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis. For all enquires about this route please call 01603 222303

Tote Bags for sale...

As we continue our close collaboration between the Hempnall Group (HG) and the Brooke Benefice (BB) and move forward in 2026 with a new clergy team, we're pleased to mark this by having these lovely tote bags for sale. The attractive design – representing the 'HG' and the 'BB' 'pulling together' - is by Jackie Leggett: special thanks to her and to Jill Turner for arranging the production of these.



The cost of a bag is £5.00. To buy one (or more!), please contact Jill Turner (jillemturner@yahoo.co.uk , 01508 499344), Jackie Leggett (jacqueline.leggett@btinternet.com, 01508 482267) or, in the Brooke Benefice, John Ash (johnrvash@gmail.com, 01508 550116).

- Door to door dial-a-ride service
- Weekly members outings throughout the year
- Group hires for not-for-profit organisations

Borderhoppa Outings for June 2026

Mon 1st Great Yarmouth - £20.00

Mon 8th The Factory Shop / Lidl & Harleston Town - Dial-a-Ride

Thu 11th Stonham Barns - £15.00

Mon 15th The Four Horseshoes, Thornham – Dial-a-Ride

Thu 18th Southwold - £20.00

Mon 22nd Waitrose Café & Wymondham Garden Centre - £15.00

Mon 29th Stowmarket - £15.00

*To book or for more information please call 01379 854800
or visit our website www.borderhoppa.org*



Summer Garden Party

Sunday 5th July 2026

Hempnall Church Grounds

Hosted by LifeSpring Church

Strawberries & Cream

**Garden Games, Scavenger Hunt,
craft...**

Free

All warmly welcome

East Pye - How to register as an Interested Party

The East Pye Mega Solar application has moved to the pre-examination phase in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) planning process. This is the period when you can register as an Interested Party and you will need to do this if you want your opinion to be taken into account by the Planning Inspectorate when it decides whether or not to recommend approval of the scheme.

Hempnall Parish Councillors have voted unanimously to oppose the application having held 2 public meetings attended by 100s of local residents all of whom expressed opposition to the scheme. We consider it critical that as many of you as possible register as interested parties to express your own opposition as the Planning Inspectorate will take notice of a substantial number of responses.

Registering as an Interested Party is an entirely separate process to any registrations you may already have undertaken in regard to this application (e.g. Category 3 registration).

Anyone can register to have their say, including: members of the public from the local area or anywhere in the UK; members of the public from other countries; organisations such as local authorities, parish councils, local bodies and authorities such as Natural England and the Environment Agency; charities, local action groups and businesses.

To become an Interested Party and to make sure your comments are taken into account you must register during the "relevant representation period" (registration window), which closes at 23:59 on 10 June 2026.

- The link to the registration form is <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110014/register/register-have-your-say>

Scroll down and press ----->

Start now >

- **What to Submit:** You will need to fill out a registration form and submit a "relevant representation," which is a summary of your views, concerns, opposition or support for the project. (Our submission is overleaf by way of example)
- **Registration Process:** The form asks for your contact details and a description of the issues you want to be considered. You will need to explain these in more than just a few sentences but there is a maximum recommended word limit of 500 words

You must register before 10/06/2026 in order to get your interested party reference number. Once registered you will have the opportunity to present a more detailed written explanation of your views and concerns during the Examination phase of the application

IT IS CRUCIAL THAT YOU REGISTER OTHERWISE YOUR CONCERNS WILL NOT BE TAKEN IN TO ACCOUNT

This is how Hempnall Parish Council has completed the relevant registration comments section of the registration form which is a summary of our views, concerns and opposition to the project. You will see that registration is a straightforward process and once submitted you should receive instant acknowledgement confirming your registration as an interested party together with your registration number:

Registration comments

Hempnall Parish Councillors have voted unanimously to oppose the East Pye Application having held 2 public meetings attended by 100s of local residents all of whom indicated by show of hands that they opposed the scheme.

The development would industrialise large areas within our parish and the surrounding villages, transforming attractive tranquil rural countryside into a landscape dominated by solar panels up to 4.5m in height, security fences and cameras, inverter buildings, new tracks and roadways and substations.

This magnitude of negative change is unacceptable. The scheme stretches for over 15km from Great Moulton/Tivetshall to the southwest to Brooke/Seething to the northeast. Our village is located in the middle and would be completely surrounded by solar infrastructure. A large tract of South Norfolk Countryside would be altered for decades and its character destroyed. This is a major concern not only for local residents but also for the numerous tourists who visit this area to enjoy the un-spoilt countryside. Tourism in Norfolk generates £3b annually for the local economy.

Our countryside and landscape are a precious national asset enjoyed by visitors and locals alike. It should be treasured and protected and not sacrificed in pursuit of a net zero solar target that can be achieved via a different approach. Research by UCL for CPRE demonstrates that 117GW of solar energy is obtainable from roofs and artificial surfaces by 2050.

Users of the numerous well used public rights of way cross the site area would suffer severe impacts to their enjoyment of the countryside. We calculate that over 30km of PROWs would be directly affected if the scheme was permitted. A large number of minor roads used by cyclists, walkers, joggers and horse riders would also be negatively impacted.

The scheme would cause extensive and, in several respects, unmitigable harm to protected species including Barbastelle bats, chalk-stream ecology, ancient woodland and SSSI-linked habitats, designated and non-designated heritage assets, including churches, listed buildings and conservation areas, best and most versatile agricultural land, rural communities, public rights of way, landscape character and local infrastructure. These harms are location-specific and cannot be made acceptable simply by later mitigation, planting, management plans, or post-consent licensing. They are not outweighed by any demonstrated regional need for this scheme in this location, particularly where the applicant has not shown that East Pye Solar is required to meet East Anglia's renewable energy targets or that less harmful alternatives have been properly assessed. The project therefore fails the basic planning balance: it would impose severe, long-term and legally significant harm on South Norfolk without a compelling, site-specific public need.

The applicant relies on a general national need for renewable energy. That is not sufficient to justify placing this particular scale of industrial solar and electricity infrastructure in this particular location. We understand that regional transmission solar capacity targets are met or exceeded by existing, consented and pipeline projects, and that general claims about "optionality" or attrition do not justify severe harm in a highly sensitive landscape.

In our written representation during the examination phase, Hempnall Parish Council will provide greater detail on how the scheme contradicts policies and assessments made in local and national planning documents including the NPPF, the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) approved by PINS, South Norfolk Council landscape character assessments and sensitivity studies on the location of renewable energy projects including solar.

If you need further assistance BEPS is holding roadshows to provide help with completing the forms. For Hempnall these will be held at the Mill on Tuesday 19 May (2:00pm to 5:00pm) and Wednesday 27 May (6.30pm to 9:00pm).

Hempnall Partish Council has provided a number of banners for use by parishioners free of charge. If you would like to display a banner please contact theclerk@hempnallpc.org



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:

June 23rd

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.



charity: 1208763

VETERANS CENTRAL EVENTS, RAF WEST RAYNHAM SHQ NR21 7PL.

The Veterans Central charity is holding a number of events over the summer months at their RAF West Raynham SHQ facility. The events attract people from across Norfolk and are also designed to help Veterans Central find more veterans that might benefit from the support provided by Veterans Central.

All Events are FREE to attend. The Veterans Central café is open on all events.



Sunday June 21st: World War Two History Day.

Visit the Military vehicles, re-enactors and displays and learn about the role they played in the World War Two. Sit in some of the presentations – from the development of airfields in Norfolk, the Royal Norfolk Regiment in the war, 'Over Here' – the American presence in East Anglia, and more. Watch or take part on one of the World War Two wargame scenarios. Browse the various

historical displays and photo albums. Get a fantastic book bargain in one of our bookshops.

This event is from 10 to 3.

Sunday July 19th: Annual Open Day.

Our biggest event of the year with a wide range of military and other displays, aircraft cockpits and vehicles, classic cars, craft stalls, children's activity zone, games and activities – including axe throwing and archery. A massive tombola and book sale. BBQ and Hog Roast. Live music. And more.

This event is from 10 to 3.



For more information, email events@veteranscentral.co.uk.

If you would like to participate in one or more event, email ops@veteranscentral.co.uk.

June and July 2026...

June 2026

Monday 01 June 2026

Community Coffee Stop

9:30am-12:00pm

The Mill @ Hempnall, NR15 2LP

Thursday 04 June 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 05 June 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

Wild Thing

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Sunday 06 June & Sunday 07 June 2026

South Yare Art Trail

(See page 17)

Monday 08 June 2026

Mobile Library

(see page 8)

Thursday 11 June 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 12 June 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

Peaky Pizza

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Tuesday 16 June 2026

Become a Youth Mental Health

First Aid (MHFA) Champion

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Woodton Parish Council Meeting

7:30pm

Woodton Village Hall, NR35 2NG

Thursday 18 June 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 19 June 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

Wok Truck

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Saturday 20 June 2026

'Music for a Summer's Evening'

Organ Recital by Ashley Grote

7:00pm

St Peter's Church, Brooke,

NR15 1JU

Thursday 25 June 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 26 June 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

D-Lish curries

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Sunday 28 June 2026

Group Walk June

2:00pm

Barsham Church, NR34 8HA

July 2026

Thursday 02 July 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 03 & Saturday 04 July 2026

Beer Festival

03 July - from 5:00pm

Food Trucks

Seconds Catering, Wild Thing & Wafflelicious

04 July - from 2:00pm

Food Trucks

Peaky Pizza, Wok Truck & TFI Vegan
The Mill, NR15 2LP

Saturday 04 July 2026

Woodton and Bedingham

Garage Sale

9:00am-1:00pm

[see page 5]

Monday 06 July 2026

Community Coffee Stop

9:30am-12:00pm

The Mill @ Hempnall, NR15 2LP

Mobile Library

(see page 8)

Thursday 09 July 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 10 July 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

Get me to the Greek

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Thursday 16 July 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 17 July 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

Moody Cow

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Saturday 18 July 2026

Afternoon Tea

2:00pm

The Mill@ Hempnall, NR15 2LP

Monday 20 July 2026

Topcroft Parish Council Meeting

7:30pm

The Sports Pavilion, NR35 2BL

Thursday 23 July 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 24 July 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

Jason's Fish & Chips

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Thursday 30 July 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Friday 31 July 2026

Killer Darts

From 7:30pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Food Truck

JP's Street Food

From 6:00pm

The Mill, NR15 2LP

Become a Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Champion

Young people are facing increasing challenges to their wellbeing — and those around them play a vital role in supporting them.

This one Youth MHFA course, with experienced trainer Mike Crossley, is an internationally recognised programme designed for anyone who teaches, works with, lives with, or cares for young people aged 8–18.

This course gives you the knowledge, confidence and practical tools to recognise when a young person may be struggling and how to support them.

You'll learn how to:

- ✓Spot the signs of emotional distress or poor mental health
- ✓Start supportive conversations with confidence
- ✓Safeguard and signpost to the right support
- ✓Promote positive mental wellbeing

By becoming a Youth Mental Health First Aider, you can help reduce stigma, encourage early intervention, and create environments where young people feel safe to talk.

If you **teach, work with or simply spend time with** young people and wish to have a better understanding of the signs and symptoms of poor mental health and importantly, how to promote positive mental health or are you perhaps **a parent who currently feels they lack the confidence, knowledge and skills to approach and start a conversation surrounding mental health with your child** this course will be a great benefit

This one day, 8 hour course is running as a **face to face event at The Mill, Hempnall (NR15 2LP) on 16 June 2026**

As an experienced retired school Headteacher and subsequent lead in the field of mental health, I have trained over 600 teachers, sports staff, wellbeing leads and parents in my role as an MHFA Instructor.

Please contact me mike.a.crossley@gmail.com on for further details.

The capacity is for 16 delegates. The cost for the course is £200 per person which includes the course materials comprising a **Youth MHFA One Day** bundle (comprehensive manual, workbook, action card) and in addition, **all delegates receive a Youth MHFA certification** from the national organisation **MHFA**.



Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th June 2026

Open 10am to 5.30pm - Free Entry

**37 Artists open their studios to
the public where you can
see, experience & buy art.**

**Art Trail | Exhibition
Open Gardens | Demonstrations
Refreshments**

Please see website to plan your visit

www.SouthYareArtTrail.co.uk

LONG STRATTON MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP

Swan Lane Surgery, Swan Lane, Tharston, Norwich, Norfolk, NR15 2UY, Tel: 01508 530781

This month, I have opted to discuss diabetes. **Diabetes** is a long-term (chronic) condition caused by too much glucose (sugar) in the blood. It is also known as diabetes mellitus.

Type 1 Diabetes occurs when the body produces no insulin. Insulin is a hormone that lowers the level of glucose (a type of sugar) in the blood. It is often referred to as insulin-dependent diabetes. It is also sometimes known as juvenile diabetes, or early-onset diabetes, because it usually develops before the age of 40, often in the teenage years.

Type 2 Diabetes occurs when not enough insulin is produced by the body for it to function properly, or when the body's cells do not react to insulin. This is called insulin resistance. Type 2 Diabetes is far more common than Type 1 Diabetes.

At present there is no routine screening for diabetes as there is no current evidence to support it as a regular national screening test. There are certain risk factors that can lead to Type 2 Diabetes and it is important to be aware of these factors and the symptoms that may suggest Type 2 Diabetes.

Risk factors:

1. Obesity and inactivity
2. Family history of Type 2 Diabetes
3. Ethnicity. People of Asian, African, and Afro-Caribbean ethnicity are 2–4 times more likely to
4. develop type 2 Diabetes than white people.
5. Women with a history of gestational diabetes (this occurs in the pregnancy period).
6. Polycystic Ovary Syndrome
7. Metabolic Syndrome. Insulin resistance is commonly associated with the metabolic syndrome, defined as a combination of raised blood pressure, dyslipidaemia, fatty liver disease and central obesity
8. Certain medication like long term steroids, statin and some water tablets
9. Low fibre diet.

Symptoms that may suggest Type 2 Diabetes:

Symptoms such as increased thirst, increased frequency of passing urine (micturition), blurred vision, unexplained weight loss, recurrent infections, and tiredness. Note: these may be mild or absent.

Signs such as acanthosis nigricans (a skin condition causing dark pigmentation of skin folds, typically the armpit, groin, and neck), which suggests insulin resistance.

Prevention is always the best option. Eat sensibly, drink water abundantly, ensure safe drinking of alcohol and adequate exercise.

As a reminder to our patients that we monitor for their Diabetes, please book your annual blood test in your month of birth, this will then be followed by a review with one of our diabetic nurses.

You can find really useful information about the condition and seasonal recipes on the Diabetic UK website [Link](#). Let us all enjoy Summer 2026.

Mini Nelson

The Hempnall Trust

The Hempnall Trust is a charity that was set up to help Hempnall residents who are in need, hardship or distress and to support the community of Hempnall.



We can provide financial grants to those who need them. The Trust owns The Mill & Bar both of which are used to support the local community through our monthly Coffee Mornings, weekly lunch club, events and room hire, in a listed building.

If you would like to find out more about any area of The Hempnall Trust please look at our website <http://www.hempnalltrust.org.uk> or email hempnalltrust@gmail.com.

Events hosted by The Mill are updated on the Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/themillbarhempnall> and there is a regular What's On email.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list of events, please email hempnallmillbar@gmail.com.

If you'd like to get involved with The Trust, Bar or run your own events please get in touch.

All Profits go back into The Trust to benefit Hempnall residents.

Get paid to help The Hempnall Trust when you switch your electricity to Octopus

If you would like to get a great deal on your energy bill and help The Hempnall Trust out in the process, you can switch to Octopus using this link <https://octopus.energy/quote/?affiliate=thehempnalltrust> which will give you £50 credit on your account when you switch and will give £50 to The Hempnall Trust too!

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS



THE MILL BAR HEMPNALL - FRIDAYS FROM 6PM

COME JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY FOR A DIFFERENT FOOD TRUCK EACH WEEK

PLUS 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH - KILLER DARTS

KEEP AN EYE OUT ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ONE OFF WEEKEND EVENTS THROUGH OUT THE YEAR



FOOD . BEER . MUSIC

THE MILL BAR, HEMPNALL BEER FESTIVAL 3RD -4TH JULY



3rd July from 5pm

Food from Seconds Catering, Wild Thing and Wafflelicious
Live Music from Lee Vasey

4th July from 2pm

Food from Peaky Pizza, The Wok Truck and TFI Vegan
Live music - The Muphetts acoustic from 7pm

Over 10 guest beers and ciders



Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, Walk & Drive Saturday 12 September 2026

The Norfolk Churches Trust is running its Bike Ride, Walk & Drive on the 12 September 2026 this year. This popular event is a wonderful way of exploring our architectural church heritage and supporting it at the same time.

The Bike Ride, Walk & Drive is the biggest fundraising event for Norfolk Churches Trust. Last year £115, 527.99 was raised which was matched by a legacy gift from a prior regular rider which to the total to more than £230,000. A significant proportion of what is raised goes directly to the churches and chapels you nominate as participants. The rest of the proceeds help fund the grants to repair, survey and secure the fabric of our amazing but vulnerable historic churches.

For further details and to register for this year's event please go to <https://norfolkchurchestrust.org.uk/bike-ride-walk/bike-ride-registration-form/>



Revd Austin Uzoigwe arrives with us...

On Sunday 26th April 2026, in Hempnall Church, Bishop Ian of Thetford licensed the Revd Austin Uzoigwe to serve as Priest-in Charge in both the Hempnall Group of Parishes and the Brooke Benefice. Austin joins the Revd Canon Susanna Gunner – licensed in January this year as part-time ‘House for Duty’ Associate Priest and likewise serving both benefices – to complete our new, long-awaited clergy team.



Austin’s licensing service was a very joyful occasion. There were nearly 200 people in the church, with many from across our benefices being joined by Austin’s friends from elsewhere, including several clergy from this and other dioceses and a large contingent of supporters from nearby Tas Valley and Upper Tas, where Austin had been Team Vicar. Several people from the Hempnall Group had particular roles in the service, including those formally representing our local communities – and all of us joined in praying for Austin as he begins her ministry with us.

We’re delighted to welcome, too, Austin’s family – his wife Annette and their children Faith, MacLight and Confidence. They’ll be living in the Brooke Vicarage (Susanna and Ben being based in the Hempnall Rectory). As well as taking services etc, Austin will be busy in the coming weeks getting ‘out and about’, meeting parishioners.



One great way to meet our clergy is to come along to any of our short, simple services of Morning Prayer, held every weekday at 9am in a different church across the Hempnall Group and Brooke Benefice. All are welcome. Do look out for information about those services in *Weekly Benefice News*.



Finally, it seems appropriate, as we celebrate this good news, to conclude with a prayer often used in the Hempnall Group:

The Together Prayer:

Gracious God,
May we treasure the past with thanksgiving,
May we embrace the future with hope,
May we journey ahead with confidence
In your love
and in your power
now and always,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

*Liam Pilgrim and Jill Turner,
Co-Chairs of the Joint Council of the Hempnall Group of Parishes*

From Brooke Vicarage.....

As I write this, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the kind and warm welcome shown to my family and I across the Hempnall Group. Your words of encouragement, thoughtful cards, and the generous hamper basket have all meant so much to us. Beginning ministry in a new parish setting is always a significant step, and your kindness has already made us feel very much at home among you.

June often feels like a season of new beginnings. The longer days, the beauty of creation in full bloom, and the rhythm of parish life moving into summer all remind us that God is always at work making things new. As

I begin this new chapter of ministry among you, I am reminded of the words from the prophet Isaiah: “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19).

New beginnings can bring both excitement and uncertainty, yet Scripture reminds us that God walks ahead of us in every season of change. Whether we are starting a new role, facing a different chapter in life, or simply seeking renewal in faith, God’s presence remains constant and faithful.

This verse from Isaiah encourages us to look with hope and expectation at what God may be doing among us as churches and communities within the Hempnall Group. New beginnings are not about forgetting the past, but about trusting God with the future and remaining open to His guidance and grace.

As we journey together through the coming months, I pray that we may continue to grow in faith, fellowship, and service, supporting one another and sharing the love of Christ in our communities. May this season be one of encouragement, renewal, and joyful expectation for us all.

Thank you once again for your warm welcome and kindness. Please be assured of my prayers for all the churches and communities within the Hempnall Group, and I look forward to getting to know you more in the weeks and months ahead.

With every blessing,

Austin Uzoigwe



Church Services June 2026...


| | | | |
|--|----------------|--|------------------------|
| Monday 1st June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Bedingham Church |
| Tuesday 2nd June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Mundham Church |
| Wednesday 3rd June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Shelton Church |
| Thursday 4th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Brooke Church |
| Friday 5th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Topcroft Church |
| Sunday 7th June Trinity 1 Proper 5 | 10:30am | Holy Communion | Brooke Church |
| | 10:30am | Holy Communion | Woodton Church |
| | 4:00pm | All Age Praise | Hempnall Church |
| Monday 8th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Morningthorpe Church |
| Tuesday 9th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Kirstead Church |
| Wednesday 10th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Hempnall Church |
| Thursday 11th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Brooke Church |
| Friday 12th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Seething Church |
| Sunday 14th June Trinity 2 Proper 6 | 10:30am | Morning Worship | Kirstead Church |
| | 10:30am | Morning Worship with Holy Baptism | Topcroft Church |
| Monday 15th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Hardwick Church |
| Tuesday 16th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Thwaite Church |
| Wednesday 17th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Woodton Church |
| Thursday 18th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Brooke Church |

| | | | |
|--|----------------|--|------------------------|
| Friday 19th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Fritton Church |
| Sunday 21st June Trinity 3 Proper 7 | 10:30am | Holy Communion | Brooke Church |
| | 10:30am | Holy Communion | Hempnall Church |
| | 2:30 pm | Celebrating with Animals | Shelton Church |
| | 6:00pm | Evening Service | Zoom |
| Monday 22nd June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Shelton Church |
| Tuesday 23rd June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Topcroft Church |
| Wednesday 24th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Mundham Church |
| Thursday 25th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Brooke Church |
| Friday 26th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Bedingham Church |
| Sunday 28th June Trinity 4 Proper 8 and St Peter's Tide (for 29th June) | 10:30am | Patronal Festival (St Peter) | Mundham Church |
| | 10:30am | Morning Worship with Holy Baptism | Fritton Church |
| Monday 29th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Hempnall Church |
| Tuesday 30th June | 9:00am | Morning Prayer Service | Seething Church |

Further details of all our church services and events can be found at the Hempnall Group Website <https://hempnallgroup.co.uk/> or the Brooke Benefice Website <https://brooke.churchnet.co/>

Happy Birthday....

Children

 Tia who will be 9



From the Registers....

Funerals

- † Friday 1st May 2026, Alec Looe, aged 89 years.
Burial of Ashes at St Margaret's Church, Hempnall.
- † Wednesday 6th May 2026, Albert Oakley, aged 85 years.
Burial of Ashes at St Margaret's Church, Hempnall.
- † Tuesday 12th May 2026, Robin Sayer, aged 79.
Funeral and Burial at All Saints' Church, Woodton.
- † Wednesday 20th May 2026, Geoffrey Penn, aged 92 years.
Funeral and Burial at St Margaret's church, Hempnall.



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|  | <h2>DEFIBRILLATOR</h2> <p>A defibrillator is located at Topcroft's Social Club The Street Topcroft NR35 2BL what3words///goods.students.economics</p> <p>In an Emergency call 999 for the Defibrillator Cabinet Code & Instructions</p> <p><small>This defibrillator is owned by Topcroft Parish Council - any issues contact 07774 734411</small></p> |
|---|--|

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Items for the next issue....

Items for the Village News should be
Delivered, Posted or Emailed to:

Benefice Office, The Rectory,
The Street, Hempnall, NR15 2AD
hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com

**BEFORE
15th JUNE 2026**

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