



Village News

Produced by the Hempsall Group



October 2026

Contents...

Local News	3
Hempnall Christmas Craft Fair	3
Foodbank	3
Woodton Parish Council Meeting Dates 2026/27	4
Topcroft Parish Council Meeting Dates 2026	5
Grants Available for Parishioners	5
Hempnall Art Club.....	6
Community Coffee Stop	6
Request from Ann Waterhouse	6
Borderhoppa.....	7
Bedingham Mobile Library Timetable.....	8
Hempnall Mobile Library Timetable.....	9
Tote Bags for Sale.....	9
Hempnall Cinema	10
Group Walks	10
The Hempnall Trust	11
Village Lunch Club	11
Hardwick and Shelton Macmillan Coffee Morning Update	11
Revd Austin Uzoigwe Sponsored Bike Ride	12
Goaty Gala.....	13
Topcroft Church Room Charity.....	13
Mill Bar Food Truck.....	14
Hardwick Dog Cafe	14
Hempnall and Brooke Primary School	15
Hempnall WI	15
What's on in September and October 2026	16
Hempnall Parish Council Autumn 2026 Newsletter.....	18
Long Stratton Medical Partnership	20
Seething Community Cafe	20
Bible Study.....	21
Church News From Hempnall Rectory.....	22
Church Services in September 2026.....	24
Tim Francis LLM Celebration.....	26
Happy Birthday	27
From the Registers	27
Need Help?	28
Contact Us.....	30

Hempnall Christmas Craft Fair

Once again St Margaret's Church Hempnall will be holding a Christmas Craft Fair in Hempnall Village Hall on **Saturday 14th November 2026 from 10:00am-1:00pm.**



This is a popular event, and all are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served and there will be a grand Raffle.

We would very much appreciate any help to provide cakes ,scones, buns or biscuits for the refreshments or Raffle prizes.

Contact Jill Turner 01508 499344 or
Yvonne Davy 01508499405 ydavy01@gmail.com



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

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

Tinned Meat, Fruit Juice (Longlife), Plain Rice (not instant), Tinned Potatoes, UHT Milk, Rice Pudding

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 a great way to support the Food Bank. For further details see 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 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.

Woodton Community Wood & Ravens Den Play Area

A lovely community space behind Woodton Village Hall, open to everyone to enjoy. Explore the peaceful woodland, spot local wildlife, take a stroll, enjoy a picnic or simply relax outdoors, while children can have fun in the adjacent Ravens Den Play Area, with swings, an aerial zip wire and other play equipment.

Things to do:

-  Explore the woodland & nature
-  Enjoy the play area
-  Walk & discover
-  Picnic & relax
-     Enjoy family time.

Free parking is available at Woodton Village Hall, Hempnall Road, Woodton, NR35 2NG.

Please take your litter home and help us care for this valued community space.

Topcroft Parish Council

Meeting Dates 2026

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

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 meetings

For further details contact the Clerk email:

clerk@topcroft-pc.gov.uk or Tel: 07774 734411

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR PARISHIONERS

The Foundation is keen to support all Hempnall residents (adults and children), regardless of financial circumstances, to take advantage of a wide range of educational and recreational opportunities. Consequently, if you would like to discuss any aspect of a claim you may be planning to make, including how it may be funded, we would be happy to talk with you informally. Please contact Ian (see below).

The next meeting of the Hempnall Town Estate Educational Foundation is during September 2026. Completed applications for grants by 16 September 2026 to Ian Nelson, Clerk to the Trustees, Karinya, Bungay Rd, Hempnall, NR15 2NG. or email to hteef.clerk@gmail.com

Application forms are available online at

<https://hempnalltrust.org.uk/https-hempnalltrust-org-uk-town-estate-educational-foundation/> and in Hempnall Village Hall, Hempnall Church, The Mill Centre, Hempnall Surgery or by email.

Any queries or requests for forms to Ian Nelson - hteef.clerk@gmail.com Tel : 01508 498467.

PLEASE NOTE - WE ARE ABLE TO ACCEPT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS BY EMAIL. VALID RECEIPTS/PROOF OF PAYMENT MUST BE INCLUDED. INVOICES ALONE

HEMPNALL ART CLUB

ART EXHIBITION

October 3rd and 4th
10:30am to 4:00pm

Art Works for sale by Club
Members and invited local artists.
Hempnall Village Hall, Bungay
Road, Hempnall, NR15 2NG

Home made cakes, tea and
coffee. Supporting a local charity
FREE ENTRY



Request from Ann Waterhouse

Ann has lived in Poringland since 2002 but has had Hempnall connections all her life. Her grandparents lived on Bungay Road, and to this day she has had relations in the village from both sides of her family. In 1956-58 her late husband was the Methodist minister in Hempnall and Hardwick.

She has been hoping to find, without success, copies of the 3-volume book 'Bedingham 1066-2001' which was written by Margaret Latham and Ruth Hadman, published in about 2016, and given to every house in the village. If anyone can help Ann obtain copies of this book please contact the Benefice Office on 01508 498157 or by email on hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com



The Mill, Hempnall Community Coffee Stop

Everyone welcome for coffee,
cakes and more.

At the Mill@ Hempnall
9:30am-12:00pm
1st Monday of the month
**5th October, 2nd November, 7th
December**

All profits for the Mill Centre.



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

Could you help Borderhoppa?

We're looking for a few new **volunteer Trustees** to join the Borderhoppa board and help guide our community transport charity.

You don't need previous trustee experience – just an interest in supporting your local community. Skills in areas such as finance, HR, fundraising or marketing are always welcome, but they're certainly not essential.

The commitment is small, with board meetings usually held once a month (often less), giving you the chance to make a real difference to people who rely on our services.

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

Borderhoppa Outings for October 2026

Mon 1st – Notcutts, Norwich - £15.00

Thurs 8th – Stoke Ash White Horse – Dial-a-Ride

Mon 12th – Hillcrest Nurseries, Stanton - £10

Thurs 15th – Bungay Market Day - £10

Mon 19th – Thetford Town and Garden Centre - £15

Mon 26th – Longwater Retail Park and Lunch at The Copper Beech - £18

Thurs 29th – Taverham Garden Centre - £18

Borderhoppa Outings for November 2026

Mon 2nd – The Foundry Garden Centre, Tasburgh - £8

Thurs 5th – Thorndon Black Horse – Dial-a-Ride

Mon 9th – Cherry Lane Garden Centre, Pulham Market – Dial-a-Ride

Mon 16th – B&M and Beccles Town - £15

Thurs 19th – Goodies Breakfast and Farm Shop – Dial-a-Ride

Mon 23rd – Blackthorne Barns Xmas Shop and Tea Room - £15

Thurs 26th – Snape Maltings - £15

Mon 30th – Tea & Cakes at The Penoyer Centre, Pulham – Dial-a-Ride

Mobile Library Timetable
CEN 424 Bedingham, Earsham, Denton, Alburgh, Wortwell, Woodton

Village	Stop Name	Arrival Time	Departure Time	Postcode
Earsham	Village Hall	10:00	10:20	NR35 2TZ
Denton	Norwich Road (just past Sunbeam Cottage)	10:30	10:45	IP20 0BB
Denton	Village Hall (Norwich Road)	10:50	11:05	IP20 0BD
Denton	Ex Post Office	11:10	11:30	IP20 0AN
Denton	The Old School	11:35	11:50	IP20 0AE
Alburgh	Mill Farm, Mill Road	12:00	12:15	IP20 0DS
Alburgh	Village Hall	12:20	12:30	IP20 0AD
Wortwell	Willow Close	13:40	14:00	IP20 0EG
Wortwell	The Packway	14:05	14:25	IP20 0HE
Bedingham	Bedingham Green	14:50	15:05	NR35 2DB
Bedingham	Green Lane(Rose Cottage)	15:10	15:25	NR35 2AS
Woodton	The Close (Triple Pleas Road)	15:35	16:05	NR35 2NS
Woodton	Suckling Place	16:05	16:15	NR35 2NL
Woodton	Kings Head	16:20	17:00	NR35 2LZ

• **22 October 2026** • **19 November**

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

Mobile Library Timetable
CEN 120 Hempnall, Hempnall Green, Topcroft, Fritton

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	NR15 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

• **26 October 2026** • **23 November 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).

Hempnall Cinema

Friday 30 October The film we will be showing is 'H is for Hawk' at Hempnall Village Hall 7:00pm for 7:30pm start

About the film:

The film follows Helen, portrayed by Claire Foy, who grapples with the profound grief of losing her father, played by Brendan Gleeson. In her journey of healing, she becomes obsessed with training a wild goshawk named Mabel. As Helen trains Mabel, she confronts her own feelings and memories, leading to a transformative experience that intertwines nature and personal resilience.



Please email so we know numbers, you can just turn up but if we need to cancel it helps to get in touch with you . £5 cash . Refreshments. Janette and Jenny Hempnall.cinema@gmail.com

Monthly Walk

Sunday 11 October 2026

Join us for a pleasant walk along quiet lanes, field edges and footpaths around Hempnall. Meet at the Village Hall, Bungay Road in Hempnall (parking available) for a 2:00pm start. There will be a shorter walk option (3 miles). Refreshments in Hempnall Church afterwards. Contact Andy March on 07923579042 for information



Sunday 1 November from 2:00pm, there will be a walk of about 3 miles from Poringland with tea afterwards at the home of Daphne and John. Details of the walk have yet to be finalised, depending on how wet the fields are. More information in Weekly Benefice News and November Village News nearer the date or telephone 07801329419.



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!

Hardwick and Shelton Macmillan Coffee Morning

Hardwick and Shelton village hall, hosted a Macmillan coffee Morning on Friday 18 September, we would like to thank firstly all the people who generously supported it, and a massive thanks to all the people who made it possible by making and donating wonderful cakes.

It was a great success raising £370 !



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

Supported and run by the Hempnall Trust

Austin's Sponsored Bike Ride

Dear All,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who supported my sponsored bike ride on Saturday 12 September. Thanks to your incredible generosity and encouragement, I am absolutely delighted to share that I managed to visit 24 churches—surpassing my original promise of 22!



This journey was deeply rewarding in so many ways. While the core purpose was to raise vital funds for our benefices, it also offered a wonderful opportunity to connect with our area on a much deeper level. As I cycled between parishes, I used the time to pray for our vibrant communities, residents, businesses, and our hardworking farmers.

On a practical note, the route allowed me to truly get to know the local roads connecting our benefices, and it certainly kept me physically fit!

None of this would have been possible without your backing. Once again, thank you so much for your prayers and kind donations, which I understand totalled £ 837. (After the deduction of a small admin charge by the Norfolk Churches Trust which organises the Bike Ride, half of this – plus Gift Aid – will be divided between our 13 churches in the Brooke Benefice and in the Hempnall Group, with the other half supporting the work of the NCT, from which many of our churches have benefitted in the past). That's a wonderful outcome.

With blessings and appreciation,

Rev Austin Uzoigwe

Goaty Gala

4th October 10:00am – 4:00pm

Topcroft Pavilion and Sports Field

If you like or are curious about goats, please come along, watch the fun and meet the animals in person

- 10am to 12pm - Jumble Sale
- All day stalls and games on the field
- 12pm – 4pm Activities with goats on the field
- Bar open and BBQ lunchtime onwards
- Coffee and cake type refreshments available all day



Stalls can be booked at £20 via h.francis@btinternet.com

All welcome, ample parking and free entry

All funds raised go towards the local Goat Club
with a Charity Bucket to raise funds to go towards the Nepal Disaster.

Topcroft Church Room Charity

Are you, or do you know of anyone in the Parish of Topcroft, who is about to embark on a further education course? There are funds available for books, course fees, materials or equipment. The trustees would be glad to hear from anyone young or not so young. This would be in complete confidence.

For further information please contact
Jackie Leggett on 01508 482267.



Food trucks at the Mill Bar

from 6pm

02 October 2026	Wild Thing
09 October 2026	Peaky Pizza
16 October 2026	Wok Truck
23 October 2026	The Backyard Bunch BBQ
30 October 2026	Jason's F&C
06 November 2026	JP's Street Food
13 November 2026	Peaky Pizza
20 November 2026	Chim Chim
27 November 2026	Moody Cow

Hempnall and Brooke Primary Schools are looking for **school governors**, who are able to give time, challenge and support to our local schools.

If you would like to know more, contact the school office

brookeoffice@sunflowerfed.org.uk or
hempnalloffice@sunflowerfed.org.uk



Hurry along!

**Next Pop-Up Dog Café
Hardwick Church**

**Saturday 10 October
9.30am to 12 noon**



Drop in with your dog – or come without one!

- Home-made pupcakes (highly recommended by Hardwick dogs...)
- Special dog-themed Tombola (and one for cats, too)
- Coffee...and more

Refreshments free but donations if wished to church funds

Contact for further information: liampilgrim@btinternet.com

HEMPNALL W.I.

Our August meeting was held in the garden of our member Mrs Parsons who had placed chairs under a lovely tree giving us plenty of shade. Each member brought some refreshment and Mrs Parsons provided tea and coffee. Mrs Parsons had also put a display of rocks found at a previous piece of land they owned which was very interesting.

Our September meeting took place at the Mill in Hempnall and we were entertained for the evening by two members. Mrs Hill and Mrs Parsons. They provided a very amusing piece which included poems from Pam Ayres, ditties and jokes. Mrs Hammett and Mrs Tooms provided refreshments.

We meet at the Mill in Hempnall on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th October at The Mill at 7.30pm. Our speaker will be Rosie Wilkin entitled 'The Medieval Leech-wife'.

If you wish to join us or need any details, please contact Cindy Brookes 01508 398521 or email cindylbrookes@icloud.com.

What's On in October and November 2026...

Thursday 1 October 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Friday 2 October 2026

The Mill Bar

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

Darts from 7.30pm

Monday 5 October 2026

Community Coffee shop

9:30-12:00 The Mill, Hempnall,
NR15 2LP

[See page 6 for details]

Wednesday 7th October 2026

Hempnall WI The Mill at 7:30pm.

[See page 15 for details]

Thursday 8 October 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Saturday 10 October 2026

Pop up Dog Cafe

Hempnall Church, NR15 2AD

9:30-12:00 (See page 14 for details)

Sunday 11 October 2026

October Group Walk

Hempnall Church, NR15 2AD

2:00pm (See page 10 for details)

Tuesday 13 October 2026

Woodton Parish Council Meeting

Woodton Village Hall, NR35 2NG

7:30pm [See page 4 for details]

Thursday 15 October 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

Please note:

No Bible Study this week

Wednesday 21 October 2026

Seething Community Cafe

Charity day 2:00pm-4:00pm

, Seething NR15 1EJ

[See page 20 for details]

Thursday 22 October 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bedingham Mobile Library

[see page 8 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Monday 26 October 2026

Hempnall Mobile Library

[see page 9 for details]

Thursday 29 October 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Sunday 1 November 2026

November Group Walk

Poringland (See page 10 for

details)

Monday 2 November 2026

Community Coffee shop

Village Lunch Club

9:30-12:00 The Mill, Hempnall,

NR15 2LP

[See page 6 for details]

Tuesday 3 November 2026

Seething Community Lunch

Group 12:00-14:00 £8.00

Seething and Mundham Village
Hall, Seething NR15 1EJ

[See page 20 for details]

Thursday 5 November 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Friday 6 November 2026

The Mill Bar

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

Darts from 7.30pm

Thursday 12 November 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Monday 16 November 2026

Topcroft Parish Council

Meeting

7:30pm

Sports Pavillion, Topcroft NR35

2BL

Wednesday 18 November 2026

Seething Community Tea

14:00-16:00 £4.00 Seething

and Mundham Village Hall,

Seething NR15 1EJ

Thursday 19 November 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]

Bedingham Mobile Library

[see page 8 for details]

Wednesday 23 November 2026

Hempnall Mobile Library

[see page 9 for details]

Thursday 24 November 2026

Village Lunch Club

The Mill, Hempnall, NR15 2LP

[See page 11 for details]

Bible Study

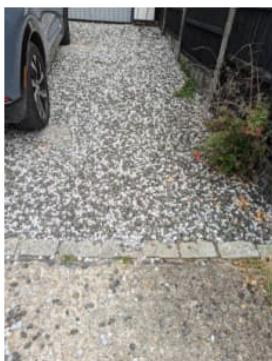
7:00pm

The Vicarage, Brooke, NR15 1JU

[See page 21 for details]



Autumn 2026 Newsletter



Stones from driveways on Pavements

A resident has fallen as a result of stones from a driveway being allowed to encroach onto the pavement.

This could have led to legal action for damages against the owner of the driveway.

If you have such a driveway, please ensure any stones that creep onto the pavement are regularly swept back onto the driveway. Thank you.

Overhanging hedges – No thanks

If you have a hedge next to a pavement, please ensure it is cut back so as not to inconvenience pedestrians or create a danger to them by making them walk on the road. If there are no nesting birds in the hedge it can be cut all year round.



Hempnall Speedwatch Team



We continue to hear complaints about speeding. If nobody steps up to join the Speedwatch team, speeding will continue to be a problem. It would be very helpful if interested parties could volunteer a little time to join the team which would then make a real difference to all our safety.

If you would like to join, or find out more, please contact the Clerk clerk@hempnallpc.org 01508 498467

Parking on pavement – No thanks

Many parishioners, especially those with children's buggies or disability vehicles are put in danger if vehicles park on the pavement. It is also illegal to do so. Please encourage people you see doing it not to.



Meet your new parish councillor



Mr Kenneth O'Leary was co-opted to the parish council in July 2026. Ken was born in Hampshire and moved to Norfolk aged 14. He has always enjoyed music, motorcycling and sport. He is player manager/ coach for Framlingham Earl WFC and also an active member of a multi sports club in Norwich and a member of Hempnall short mat bowls club.

He retired from his event organising business in 2020 when covid restrictions were in place. He is married to Linda and has lived in Hempnall since January 2024 having lived in Kirstead previously.

Councillor/Clerk	Telephone No.	Email address
David Hook – Chairman – Tree Warden	01508 498187	hookd74@yahoo.com
Phil Bates – Footpath Officer, Data Protection Committee	07957 803120	phil.bates@hempnallpc.org
Joan Cann	01508 498743	joan.cann1944cann@btinternet.com
Richard Delf -Vice Chairman - Playing Field Liaison	01508 499788	richard@delfsgarage.co.uk
Ken O'Leary	07368 302317	kenoleary49@gmail.com
Hamish Rose	01508 498486	hamishandgeorgina@btinternet.com
Mike Turner- Tree Warden - SAM2 Officer - Highways Liaison	01508 499423	mike.turner45@btinternet.com
Peter Workman - Playing field Liaison	01508 830266	pworkman@hempnallpc.org
Ian Nelson - Clerk	01508 498467	theclerk@hempnallpc.org

HPC now available "virtually" all the time at www.hempnallpc.org

Write to the Clerk at Karinya, Bungay Rd, Hempnall, Norwich, NR15 2NG. theclerk@hempnallpc.org

Long Stratton Medical Partnership

Total Triage

We have been operating total triage at our surgery for a few months now, and are scrutinizing the appointment needs daily.

For patients who have not yet needed to contact us, total triage is a system where patients provide information via an online form available on our website. These requests are triaged by a doctor who considers the patient's care requirements before any appointment is booked. This means that patients requests are dealt with according to their clinical needs.

Traditional ways to contact the doctor often meant that appointments were given on a first come, first served basis with long phone queues. This could result in vulnerable patients, or those who needed care sooner, missing out. The total triage system removes this barrier. By registering all requests through an online form, the doctors can filter, prioritise and action requests quickly and fairly. If there is a faster or more appropriate route to care, such as visiting your local pharmacy or being referred to another service you may be offered this instead.

Once your request has been reviewed by the doctor, our reception team will either contact you by phone or by text message with advice, a prescription or an appointment, whichever is the most suitable.

If you do not have a smartphone or cannot use the internet, you can still telephone the surgery, our receptionists will ask questions about your request and fill out the online form on your behalf. The triage doctor will then assess your request in the usual way, and the team will be back in touch with the next step.

All we would ask of our patients is that all requests are clear and as detailed as possible when describing your symptoms. If you encounter any problems when completing the online form our reception team are still on the end of the phone to assist.

Seething Community Cafe

Seething and Mundham Village Hall, Seething NR15 1EJ

Community Lunch - 1st Tuesday of the month **12:00 noon -2:00pm**
Soup, Roll, Tea, Cakes, Biscuits £8.00p/person All are welcome

Community Tea 3rd Wednesday of the month **2:00pm-4:00pm**
Tea, Cake Biscuits £4.00 p/person All are welcome
Profits towards Church funds.

Wednesday 21st October 2:00pm-4:00pm

This is our **local charity event** so ***please*** if you can find a prize for our raffle or tombola it would be so welcome. Either bring or leave with Keith at the village shop?
Proceeds to the Multiple Sclerosis Treatment Centre and a cancer charity.
Offers of a cake would also be welcomed

Thanks for any help you can give, and we hope you can join us.

Julie 07984309452 julieelwin@hotmail.co.uk

Everyone is welcome
to join our

BIBLE STUDY

Starting 10th September

EVERY
THURSDAY

7pm start



THE VICARAGE

105 The Street, Brooke, NR15 1JU



07722 413589

*The Rev'd Austin Uzoigwe,
Priest in Charge of The Brooke Benefice
and of The Hempsall Group of Parishes*

STUDY TOGETHER, GROW TOGETHER, SERVE IN LOVE

From Hempnall Rectory...

From Hempnall Rectory

As I write, we're about halfway through the Season of Creation which begins each year on 1st September (World Day of Prayer for Creation) and ends on 4th October (the day we remember that great ambassador of nature, Francis of Assisi). The Church of England has been celebrating the Season of Creation since 2009. It's a time for blending traditional services of Harvest Thanksgiving with prayer and reflection in the face of the environmental crisis, along with a call to action.

This summer's scorching heatwaves in our own East Anglia as well as images of extreme weather events around the world make it impossible simply to thank God for the harvest and leave it at that. Of course, we *do* want and need to do that, but our special services during this season now cry out for so much more – an acknowledgment, for starters, that adverse human impact upon our planet has tilted things badly out of balance, making things very difficult indeed for farmers across the world. We have seen with our own eyes how this year's soaring temperatures and lack of rain have affected the fields all around us. One local farmer told me that their oats yield was about two thirds down. And one of the saddest things I myself noticed as drought took hold, was a huge field of broad beans, initially green and vibrant, shrivelling up and blackening before eventually being ploughed up, the entire crop a distressing failure.

The scale of the crisis is vast and complex. Overwhelming. An ostrich-like position is tempting. Tempting too to shrug our shoulders, blame the huge oil and gas companies, say that the governments of the world's most powerful nations should do more (they should!) and that it's not up to individuals or small-scale communities like ours.

But that's when we need to remember Anita Roddick. Does that name ring a bell? She founded The Body Shop and championed cruelty-free products, fair trade, and environmental activism long before they were mainstream. And she famously came out with this remark: "Anyone who thinks they're too small to make a difference has never need in bed with..... a mosquito!"

I love that. It's both witty and inspiring and I often remember it when, in *any* context, I'm feeling that I'm battling against the odds. The possibility of being small but mighty is certainly an important one to hold onto in the face of climate change and all that goes with that. It ties in well with words from another feisty, inspiring person - the Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg. "The one thing we need more than hope is action," she has said. "And once we start to act, hope is everywhere."

Across the Hempnall Group of churches, we are turning to *Eco Church* for guidance as we try to integrate creation care more closely with our faith and the way we live that faith on a daily basis, both as individuals and as congregations in this lovely part of South Norfolk. When we complete the initial *Eco Church* survey, I think we will find we are already ticking quite a few boxes – welcoming uncut parts of our churchyards, for instance, to support the thriving of certain flora and fauna. But *Eco Church* will also shine a light on other areas where we could modify what we're currently doing - in managing our buildings and energy use, for example, or making sure we serve only tea and coffee which is fairly traded. In short, we expect to experience in *Eco Church*, a helpful framework which will support our churches to turn a longing to sustain and renew God's creation into practical action.

In the cosmic scheme of things, these actions may seem minor but joined together with the other 9000 UK churches already signed up to *Eco Church*, they can have real impact. Anita Roddick was right: no one is too small to make a difference!

Susan



Church Services October and November...

Sunday Services

During September and into October we are celebrating the Season of Creation, which runs in our church calendar from 1 September to 4 October. The theme this year will be 'Living Water', which we'll be following through the season. Most of our Harvest Thanksgivings take place in this period as shown. We also celebrate St Francis of Assisi with a special service on the 4th October. Monetary collections during our services this year are for the charity **WaterAid**.

4th October Trinity 18 Proper 22 (Last Sunday of Season of Creation and festival of St Francis of Assisi)	10:30am	Harvest Thanksgiving with Holy Communion	Mundham Church
	10:30am	Celebrating with Animals and Harvest Thanksgiving (Special service with Franciscan theme)	Bedingham Church
	4:00pm	All Age Praise	Hempnall Church
11th October Trinity 19 Proper 23	10:30am	Morning Worship	Brooke Church
	10:30am	Harvest Thanksgiving with Holy Communion	Shelton Church
18th October Trinity 20 Proper 24	10:30am	Holy Communion	Seething Church
	10:30am	Holy Communion	Topcroft Church
25th October Last after Trinity Proper 25	10:30am	Harvest Thanksgiving	Thwaite Church
	10:30am	Harvest Thanksgiving with Holy Communion	Hempnall Church
	6:00pm	Evening Service	Zoom

Weekday Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is held at 9:00am every weekday morning in one of the churches of either the Hempnall Group or the Brooke Benefice. It is a quiet service of about 20 minutes during which, after the readings set for the day, we pray both for the local community and for the wider world. ALL are warmly welcome! Please see below for venue details.

Day	Date	Church	Day	Date	Church
Thurs	1 Oct	Brooke*	Thurs	22 Oct	Brooke Church Rooms
Fri	2 Oct	Hardwick	Fri	23 Oct	Fritton
Mon	5 Oct	Bedingham	Mon	26 Oct	Shelton
Tues	6 Oct	Mundham	Tues	27 Oct	Topcroft
Wed	7 Oct	Shelton	Wed	28 Oct	Mundham
Thurs	8 Oct	Brooke*	Thurs	29 Oct	Brooke Church Rooms
Fri	9 Oct	Topcroft	Fri	30 Oct	Bedingham
Mon	12 Oct	M'thorpe	*	<i>Every Thursday</i>	<i>Brooke Church Rooms</i>
Tues	13 Oct	Kirstead			
Wed	14 Oct	Hempnall			
Thurs	15 Oct	Brooke*			
Fri	16 Oct	Seething			
Mon	19 Oct	Hardwick			
Tues	20 Oct	Thwaite			
Wed	21 Oct	Woodton			

A note from Austin and Susanna about new midweek services...

From early October on, we will each be taking a midweek service of Holy Communion every week. They will be simple, reflective services of Holy Communion and last for around half an hour.

Susanna will be taking this service in Hempnall Church every Wednesday at 10:30am from 7th October onwards and Austin will be doing the same in Brooke Church Rooms every Thursday at 10:30am from 8th October onwards (except for 22nd October).

Everyone is warmly welcome! Please share the news of this new venture with those whom you think might be interested, including those who would appreciate a quieter and shorter act of worship or for whom Sundays are difficult.

Happy Birthday...

Children:

Ivy who will be 7

Teens:

Evie who will be 13

Thomas who will be 15

Rosanna who will be 15



From the Registers...

Funerals

† Wednesday 9th September 2026, Ian Robert Halliwell, aged 68 years. Burial of Ashes at St Margaret's Church, Hardwick.

† Thursday 10th September 2026, Alison (Ally) Jean Hodgson, aged 68 years. Burial at St Mary's Church, Shelton.



Celebration of Licenced Lay Ministry

I was enormously privileged to take part in the annual service celebrating Licenced Lay Ministry held at Norwich Cathedral on Saturday 19th September. With five other fellow travellers I was licensed by Bishop Graham of Norwich as a Licenced Lay Minister (LLM). We were joined by three other existing LLMs who were transferring to Norwich from other dioceses and who received an official welcome. This has been the culmination of over two years of quite rigorous training, both academic and practical, including a placement in a group of central Norwich parishes with a completely different feel from our two rural benefices. I can honestly say that this has been a genuinely formative two years for me, and I believe it has enhanced what I am able to do within the churches of our villages.

Throughout the time of my training the one constant factor that helped me along was the support and encouragement I received from all involved. The tutors at Eastern Region Ministry Course, staff mentors from the Diocese, clergy and congregations I visited and of course everyone locally in the Hempnall group and the Brooke Benefice all made the difficult times easier. I would like to thank you all.

So, what for the future? LLMs, we used to be called Lay Readers, are often described as a bridge between the Church and the world. Anyone can exercise a ministry in the Church, but the licence gives it an extra validity and the training gives greater confidence in performing it. Assisting our clergy in whatever ways I can, being an active contributor to our ministry team and endeavouring to further the mission of the Church will continue to be my priority. The community has helped me, and I intend to repay that whenever I can.

With blessings,
Tim Francis



Need Help?

AGGREGATE SUPPLIERS

Carry All - Supplies of quality aggregates, to Trade & Public, Free delivery, No VAT - 01508 536182 or 07850 402845

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

Local, reasonable rates.

Call David: 01379 608529 or 07768 757308

CHIMNEY SWEEP

Chimney Sweep

Guild of Master Sweeps, Clean & Friendly, Smoke Test & Certification.

Call Dave: 07835 757528

COUNSELLING

Rowan Shingler Counselling in Norwich offers warm, confidential and compassion support for anxiety, low mood, trauma and life's challenges helping you understand yourself more deeply and move toward a calmer, more connected life. Visit www.rowanshinglercounselling.com

FARM SHOPS

Farm Shop, Cafe & Butchery

Norwich Road, Woodton for the best Raw Milk in Norfolk - 07900 814252

FLOORING

Dragonfly Flooring - Accredited Trusted Trader. Finding the perfect flooring is easy with Dragonfly! Carpet, Vinyl, Laminate & LVT. Great Reviews - Local & Competitive. We'll measure up, bring

along samples & give advice. Chedgrave Showroom. www.dragonflyflooring.co.uk - Call Jules on 01508 830 377 or email info@dragonflyflooring.co.uk

FUNERAL SERVICES

R. B. Copping Funeral Services, Poringland 01508 494434

FUNERAL SERVICES ROSEDALE

FUNERAL HOME - Beccles, Bungay & Harleston, a family business with over 20 years experience- 01986 892790, 01502 714445 & 01379 853999 or visit our website www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk <http://www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk> for more information. We offer a 24hr service 365 days a year.

GROUNDWORK & GARDENING SERVICES

ARKSCAPE LANDSCAPES

01508 470482. Driveways, fencing, turf and much more. Local family run. No job too small.

NORFOLK GARDEN MACHINERY REPAIRS

Offering repair and servicing on all your garden machinery: Lawnmowers, strimmer's, chainsaws and hedge cutters. All other machinery considered. Collection and delivery service available within 10 miles of Tasburgh. Call Glenn - 07867648066 <https://gardenmachineryrepairs.co.uk>

S. W. Contractors

Groundwork, Gardens, Fences, Patios & Hedge Trimming - 01508 495528

HAIR & NAIL SALONS

Happy Feet

Corns, calluses, nail cutting & more, treated in you home - Wendy - 01379 676872

HEATING OIL

Goff Heating Oil - Goff Heating Oil is truly local company with its HQ based just down the road in Wymondham. This independent family business has been established for over 100 years and prides itself on providing heating oil with great service and good prices. For a Better Price, Better Service, You Better Call Goff... 01953 713555 www.goffpetroleum.co.uk

MUSICIANS

'JUST ROGER'

Keyboard/Vocals The Great Americal Songbook/Swing Era, Sinatra, Sarin, Cole, Buble etc. 01508 830464 Mobile: 07884 142118 rogerolympics68@btinternet.com

OSTEOPATH

Osteopath

Osteopathy for all-adults to babies, includes cranial. Joints, spine, nerves, headaches, accidents - 07818 747776 | 01953 789629 | reception@norfolkost.co.uk | www.norfolkost.co.uk

PIANO TUITION

Piano Lessons

Bedingham - All ages welcome - Marian Gibb ALCM (TD) DipLCM. 01508 482 746

PARISH COUNCILS

Hempnall Parish Council

Website Address www.hempnallpc.org

PEST CONTROL

Safe & Sound Hygiene

Pest Control & Garden Maintenance 01379 788865 or 07809 226109 call for info. 01508 482655 or 07850 722094

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEERS **GREENWAVE PLUMBING AND HEATING**

For all your plumbing, heating and servicing requirements.us now on: 07548111621, Email us on: info@greenwaveltld.co.uk or visit us on: www.Greenwaveltld.co.uk

TREE SURGERY

T. Mabbutt Tree Services

High standard of work from a professional, considerate and friendly local business. Covering all aspects of tree surgery and stump removal. Holding qualifications from the RHS, RFS, City & Guilds. Free quotes. Based in Ditchingham. 07773676465 www.treemabbutt.com us on Facebook.

Items for the next issue...



DEFIBRILLATOR

A defibrillator is located at
Topcroft's Social Club
The Street Topcroft NR35 2BL
what3words.com/goods.students.economics

**In an Emergency call 999 for the
Defibrillator Cabinet Code & Instructions**

This defibrillator is owned by Topcroft Parish Council - any issues contact 07774 734411

Items for the Village News should be

Delivered, Posted to:

Benefice Office, The Rectory,

The Street, Hempnall, NR15 2AD

or Emailed to: hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com

BEFORE 15th OCTOBER 2026

Contact us...

Revd Austin Uzoigwe

revaustinuzoigwe@aol.co.uk

07722 413589

Revd Canon Susanna Gunner

susanna.gunner@gmail.com

07740 873158

This magazine is published by the Joint Council of the Hempnall Group of Parishes. We reserve the right to edit or decline any material submitted for publication. While reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the contents of the magazine are accurate, no responsibility can be taken for errors and omissions. The material printed does not necessarily represent the views of the Joint Council. In accepting advertisements for publication, no recommendation of products or services is implied and we cannot accept responsibility for any unsatisfactory transactions.