

# The Reydon Robin

The quarterly, complimentary news magazine, for Reydon



Remember. . . .



Marking the 80th anniversary of D-Day in Reydon

**Summer 2024**

(see p.3 for more).

**ISSUE 11**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## *July - September*

- Sat. 22nd Jun.** RVH Golden Anniversary Appeal Fund Summer Wine Tasting with Nicky Wright, Reydon Village Hall, 7pm, £15 per person (see p.8 for booking details).
- Sat. 22nd until Sat. 29th Jun.** Southwold Arts Festival (more, including how to book, at [www.southwoldartsfestival.co.uk](http://www.southwoldartsfestival.co.uk)).
- Sat. 22nd until Sun. 23rd Jun.** Open Studio Trail, Reydon (see p.11 for more).
- Fri. 28th Jun.** Reydon Christmas Lights Bingo, Reydon Village Hall, 6.30 for Eyes Down at 7pm, £5 for a book of 8 games, children £3.50, refreshments or BYO, raffle.
- Sun. 30th Jun.** Mayflower Makes @ Reydon Sports & Community Centre, 10am-4pm. An array of workshops and crafts, plus crafts supplies and craft stalls, refreshments available (more at [www.mayflowermakes.co.uk](http://www.mayflowermakes.co.uk), Facebook - mayflowermakes or call 01502 219091).
- Sun. 7th Jul.** Brass on the Grass, Jubilee Green, Reydon, from 12.30 pm, featuring the Wrentham Band and Olivia Castle, stalls, BBQ, bar and more, bring your own chair.
- Sat. 13th Jul.** RVH Golden Anniversary Appeal Fund Ceilidh, Reydon Village Hall, 7-10pm, £15 per person, including BBQ and refreshments, BYO alcohol (see p.8 for booking details).
- Wed. 24th Jul. until Sat. 7th Sep.** Southwold Summer Theatre (box office and enquiries: 01502 722572; [info@southwoldartscentre.co.uk](mailto:info@southwoldartscentre.co.uk); <https://southwoldartscentre.co.uk>).
- Sat. 3rd Aug.** The Reydon Show 2024, Reydon Village Hall, 2pm onwards, prizes and trophies to be won in adult and children's categories. Programmes available at Bridgefoot Stores.
- Sat. 14th and Sun. 15th Sep.** Reydon Scarecrow Trail Weekend, 10am-5pm (see p.5 for more).

*(Cover picture of soldier: Kalvyn Friend)*

## INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME



Pamela Cyprien, Chair,  
Reydon Parish Council

Welcome to *The Reydon Robin* Summer edition, hopefully a little ray of sunshine for all Reydon residents (and increasingly beyond), some 2,500 households in all.

The Council's 'Reydon Star Awards' shone brightly in April (see the report on p.9), recognising individuals who have given so much to our community. If you know of anyone you feel should be recognised in this way, please let the Parish Clerk know for next year's Awards.

*The Robin* in its way is also testament to the strength of local groups, charities and volunteers, with this theme particularly strong in this edition. Then there is also the continuing Community Volunteer 'Register' in this edition at p.11.

But there are still challenges ahead, with housing developments continuing to make waves. With the Copperwheat development, a bone of contention has been access for construction traffic, as the article on pp.6-7 outlines clearly. Last month, the Council had a meeting with its developers Orbit Homes to tease out answers to this very issue. We were not satisfied with what we were told and have decided to recommend that the planning applications for this part of the development process be refused. We will continue to make sure local concerns are heard.

Then there was the 80th anniversary of D-Day. We at Reydon Parish Council marked it with a little wreath-laying ceremony, with councillors gathering at St. Margaret's on the evening of 5th June to hear prayers and a short address from Rev. Alan Perry before I laid a wreath on the village war memorial, later transferred to the memorial soldier now outside Reydon Village Hall (see this edition's cover). It was our way of marking such an important milestone and the sacrifice it involved. Many thanks to Kim Harvey and Kalvyn Friend for making this happen, and to Rev. Alan for agreeing to do this at such short notice, and for doing it so well.

Finally, our thanks go out to Doh Pizzeria for their support in so kindly sponsoring this edition of *The Reydon Robin*.

***With best wishes for the Summer, Pam Cyprien***

The next, Autumn edition of *The Reydon Robin* will be out on Thursday, 3rd October. If you'd like to contribute to *The Robin* or suggest a local topic, please e-mail: [reydonrobin@gmail.com](mailto:reydonrobin@gmail.com). The copy deadline will be Friday, 20th September. ***Thank you.***

## REYDON AND SOUTHWOLD COMMUNITY PANTRY AND FRIDGE

It's been just over a year since the Reydon and Southwold Community Pantry and Fridge opened its doors. As a food-waste scheme, the aim is to reduce what goes into landfill by redistributing donated food to anyone for free in the local area.

In the last year, the Pantry has achieved the following:

- Made 349 food collections.
- Collected 11,052kg of food.
- This is the equivalent of 26,315 meals.
- And made 32,374kg of CO<sub>2</sub> savings.

The Pantry is open every Friday between 9am and 3pm, and located at the back of Reydon Village Hall. It is run by a team of volunteers who drive to pick up donations every day of the week or who are at the Pantry to help the customers do their shopping. We are always looking for more volunteers to either pick up donations or do Pantry shifts of 9am-12pm or 12-3pm. If this is something you are interested in, please either pop in and speak to one of the volunteers or email us at: [reydonandsouthwoldpantry@gmail.com](mailto:reydonandsouthwoldpantry@gmail.com).

We continue to get generous donations from the Co-op and Tesco in Southwold, Bookers in Lowestoft, and KFC in Lowestoft. This is alongside other local shops, organisations and individuals who also donate. It's now that time of year when local allotment holders and gardeners from Southwold, Reydon and Wangford pop in to drop off fruit, vegetables and plants, which our customers really enjoy picking up. David, who plants the fabulous displays on Reydon Corner, comes in to see us, and at the end of spring gave us lots of bulbs, which people have really appreciated taking.

Our furry friends are also catered for in the Pantry, with the donations we get from the RSPCA of dog and cat food being well received. And we also receive products from the local hygiene bank, which also makes a difference to people.

We recently took delivery of a large freezer, which was kindly donated to us by Foster Refrigerator and organised by Patrick Huggins. This will enable us to have enough space to ensure that we can freeze those large donations we get.

On behalf of the Pantry team and our customers, we would like to thank everyone who contributes to make the Pantry the success it is: the businesses that donate to us, the public who support us, all our volunteers and, lastly, YOU, our local and regular customers. Here's to the next 12 months, so pop in and say hello, pick up some lovely fresh and frozen foods, and, of course, do your bit to contribute towards reducing food waste.

## LETTER FROM SOUTHWOLD

I have been re-elected by my fellow councillors to remain as Mayor for 2024/25 and I am honoured to accept this role again. One of my first duties was to open the Charter Fair on 30th May. Stocks Fair have now been coming to Southwold for 174 years. I attended Southwold Primary School and presented all the students with vouchers so they could enjoy a free ride. It is 50 years since the local authority changes occurred and it was celebrated by inviting previous councillors and local people who have contributed to success of the town for a Charter Lunch on the same day.

The Station Yard Hub building has now been completed. Menta, the operator, has started advertising the workspaces and units. They will also be supporting new business start-ups. The shop and flat are currently being advertised. Following the business meetings in the town, Spring have developed the Town Website, and all businesses and organisations in the area have been invited to join. There are also important consultations being held about the future of the Harbour and Caravan Site.

We are looking forward to welcoming our many visitors this summer, especially as Southwold has been awarded the prestigious Blue Flag and Seaside Award for the third year running. The Arts Festival commences on 23rd June with a combined Civic Service. There is a Street Festival on 29th June, followed by a music-event celebration of 75 years of the Sailing Club. Southwold Summer Theatre commences on 24th July. There are various events being held to celebrate 200 years of the RNLI. I wish you all a peaceful and relaxing summer.

*Cllr. Simon Flunder, Town Mayor*

## REYDON SCARECROW TRAIL NEEDS YOU!

Reydon Scarecrow Trail is due to return this September.

**But it is in serious danger of not happening because we've only had six people come forward to make scarecrows this year.** It provides vital fundraising for Reydon's beloved Christmas Lights, as well as being a great community event in its own right.



The Trail will run on Saturday, 14th and Sunday, 15th September 2024, 10am-5pm. Visit the village, spot all the scarecrows and pick your favourite. There will also be homemade refreshments at Reydon Village Hall. Programmes can be purchased from Reydon Village Hall, Bridgefoot Stores, Boyden Stores and Little Gems.

So please, we are encouraging local Reydon people to get creative and make a scarecrow with an Olympic and Paralympic theme for outside their home or business. No artistic talents required! They can be made by the young, the old and everyone in between.

Forms can be collected from the same places mentioned above, plus Southwold Library or can be emailed to you - just contact [reydonscarecrowtrail@gmail.com](mailto:reydonscarecrowtrail@gmail.com). Please sign up today!

**SOS – Save Our Scarecrows – only you can make Reydon Scarecrow Trail happen!**



## COPPERWHEAT CONCERNS

In 2018, William Denny & Sons and Chartwell Industries applied for Outline Planning Permission for a development of the field behind Copperwheat Avenue. Approval was granted in September 2021 and is to be delivered by Orbit Homes. The project comprised 220 houses (of which 118 are affordable) with two small access roads via The Crescents and Copperwheat Avenue.

On 17th January 2024, Orbit held a well-attended (non-statutory) presentation at Reydon Village Hall explaining their plans for the site. They appear to have been surprised by the strength of concern expressed by residents on a wide range of issues from pressure on school places and local services to traffic problems in Reydon and Wangford, and we understand that the full application was subsequently delayed.

Orbit is now preparing detailed plans for the housing development and other related issues, known as 'reserved matters', to submit to East Suffolk Council (ESC) for approval before work can begin. This is to ensure that they meet the 37 statutory conditions with which they must comply. To date, these documents cover the phased building plan, surface water, and pedestrian access.

In April 2024, Orbit submitted their Construction Traffic Management Plan to ESC. No residents were notified, and only by local word of mouth were some of us made aware of the proposals. In order to avoid the centre of Wangford, these included the ludicrous proposal that construction traffic, including HGVs, will access the site from Wangford Road (B1126) from the north via a one-way gyratory system, turning up Quay Lane from the A1095, and returning to the A1095 down Mardle Road (a designated Quiet Lane). A traffic 'shuttle' will also restrict traffic on Wangford Road to single file during construction and probably forever.

A meeting was scheduled for 23rd May between Reydon Parish Council and Orbit ahead of the monthly PC meeting, to discuss modifications to the development design. We were grateful that the Chair allowed residents to attend and put concerns directly to Orbit on the Construction Traffic Management Plan. The responses were not satisfactory: Orbit's position is that they have Outline Permission with approved access, so traffic will get there by whatever route they can manage, regardless of the consequences to residents. They did not countenance the possibility that no satisfactory route might be possible on the existing narrow and congested local road network, and regard this as the responsibility of ESC, who approved the outline application. Detailed approval appears to be only a matter of ticking boxes.

What is becoming increasingly clear is that Copperwheat will produce a massive strain on Reydon's infrastructure. Along with St. Felix, 275 new houses are being added to the village housing stock. At an average of 2.4 people per house that equates to 660 new residents, all with cars - an additional 25% of the current population. This is at the very outer limit of what is considered acceptable under the Reydon Neighbourhood Plan (RNP). And, including the estimated 150 people already living on these two streets, almost one in four of the population

will access their homes through Copperwheat Avenue and The Crescents. Orbit reassured us at the meeting that they all have the option of walking to the shops and work.

What is also clear is that the process of gaining Outline Consent was the key time at which to raise concerns. Some residents did raise legitimate objections to the outline application in 2018, including the Southwold and Reydon Society; but there were also strongly expressed views (including local councillor David Beavan lobbying for the development) that the larger project should go ahead in response to the deepening local housing crisis.

The Orbit project was going to deliver 118 affordable properties, and 9.8 hectares of the 12-hectare site were already in the Local Plan. The RNP would be in place to represent the views of the community, and between the RNP and ESC, it was reasonable to believe that our interests would be protected. Unfortunately, it is becoming evident that the opposite is happening. Development is going to put a massive, unsustainable strain on Reydon - on services, amenities, schools, the Health Centre, our two shops, roads and parking - and produce profound changes to life in the village. With hindsight, it would appear that the process of reviewing the outline application was unsatisfactory in very many respects and that ESC, and Highways in particular, may need to look at the detail again.

Worried individual residents are now beginning to coalesce as a group to scrutinise the development properly. Revisiting the original application, there are many questionable issues. For example, the Transport Statement on which outline approval was granted was based on data collected in 2018 - five years ago - not at the height of summer traffic and ignored the B1127 Lowestoft Road traffic. Since then, Potters Bridge and Quay Lane have both been flooded and closed for extended periods. And there have been at least two serious accidents - one at the top and one at the bottom of. . . Mardle Road!

It is not clear what influence, if any, residents can have on the development going forward. Agreeing 'reserved matters' is between Orbit and ESC Planners. But residents should have a voice. We know the village and its road system; we can suggest material improvements to the development; and ultimately a development that is achieved with the support rather than the growing opposition of residents will contribute to a happier village - which must be in Orbit's interests as it hopes to sell a lot of houses here.

If you wish to receive further updates or have any comments, please email us at copperwheat2024@gmail.com with your email address, confirming your consent to be contacted.

*STOP PRESS: There will be a Public Meeting at Reydon Village Hall on Wednesday, 26th June, 7-9pm to discuss how the development will affect the village, and the impact of proposed traffic plans. All welcome, and please come and have your say!*

*James Winterbotham*

***This edition of The Reydon Robin is sponsored by Doh Pizzeria***

# Reydon Village Hall

. . . at the heart of the community.



The Hall's Management Committee are committed to deliver a fully refurbished, re-equipped community facility in the heart of Reydon in time for the Hall's Golden Anniversary in April 2027.

With the generous help of the Reydon Trust, a new, metered infra-red heating system has been installed, replacing the original equipment, which will result in a 35-40% saving in power consumption. We have converted the old bar area into a self-contained meeting room - The Loftus Room - to be used for smaller meetings. When a bar is required, the double doors are folded back allowing the bar area to be fully accessible to the Hall.

We are now applying for funds to decorate the Hall, bring the disabled toilet in-line with current health-and-safety requirements, and to provide a fully equipped digital sound and projection system for the Hall, as well as measures to improve the acoustics. We now have an accessible online diary, so anyone can see when the hall is available for booking: <https://reydonvillage.org/about-reydon/amenities/>

We have set up The Golden Anniversary Appeal Fund, and, as a charity, we have been awarded Gift-Aid status; so for every £1 donated, the Hall receives £1.25. Community fund-raising is well underway: our Quiz on 1st June, hosted by Charlotte Clark, took £800 before expenses.

Forthcoming events include a Summer Wine Tasting with Nicky Wright this Saturday, June 22nd at 7pm, and a 'Ceilidh and BBQ' will take place on Saturday, 13th July, 7-10pm, with the return of the very popular Once Bittern Ceilidh Band. Book advance tickets now from Charlotte at the Library (tel: 07715 388916; email: [frogclock@hotmail.com](mailto:frogclock@hotmail.com); or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/reydonvillagehall](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/reydonvillagehall)).

If you'd like to help by donating to our Golden Anniversary fundraising or, indeed, if you'd like to join our dedicated management team, please call 07768 395465 or contact: [reydonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:reydonvillagehall@gmail.com).

*Laurence Vulliamy*

## REYDON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Reydon WI meet at Reydon Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month (except August) at 2.30pm. We are a small friendly group and have a varied programme of speakers and craft activities. New members welcome. Just turn up for the meeting. For more details, contact Amanda (Secretary and Treasurer) at [amanda.priestley@btinternet.com](mailto:amanda.priestley@btinternet.com).



Recent activities have included a talk from a local author, a cookery demonstration, a talk about the history of the Sea Cadets and hearing about looking after lion cubs at Africa Alive. Future events planned include talks about the work of The Brain Tumour Trust and Living in Uganda, a river-cruise day out and an afternoon tea. We also meet for coffee on a regular basis.



## REYDON'S 'STARS' SHINE BRIGHTLY

On 25th April, the annual 'Reydon Star Awards' were presented at Reydon Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting, for those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the community of Reydon.

Chair of the Parish Council Pam Cyprien said: 'It's a fact that the work of many volunteers does not get recognised, or the individuals do not get thanked for their often tireless work for the benefit of us all. So we hope these Awards will not only recognise those, where recognition is due, but also encourage others to help when and where they can.'

Joining Pam to present the Awards was local historian, author and jewellery specialist on the BBC's *Antiques Roadshow*, Geoffrey Munn OBE.

The 2024 'Stars' were awarded to:



**BETTY HARMER:** For many years' work at St. Margaret's Church, Reydon, in particular managing all the burial and interment records.

**NEIL HOLLOWAY:** For his long service at St. Margaret's Church, Reydon, and maintaining and expanding the graveyard.



**BLYTH VALLEY ROTARY:** For all their valuable work in Reydon, staging important local events and enhancing the community.

**FIONA TAYLOR:** For her essential, tireless work for Reydon Parish Council and as Deputy Chair.

**PHILIP O'HEAR:** For his assiduous work on the Reydon Neighbourhood Plan, LionLink and the Quiet Lanes.

**STEVE WESTLAKE:** For all his many years of help in the village with wildlife and the coastal environment, particularly at Potters Bridge.

**GEOFF COOPER:** For years of generous help around the village, in particular with the WW1 Pillbox on Mights Bridge, Reydon.

**KALVYN FRIEND:** For over 20 years of fundraising for numerous local charities . . . researching and hosting quizzes.

**THE VOLUNTARY HELP CENTRE:** For their invaluable and continuing assistance to the community.

To conclude the Awards presentation, Pam Cyprien said: 'If you would like to nominate a member of our community for a "Reydon Star" next year, please contact the Parish Clerk at [reydon.pc@gmail.com](mailto:reydon.pc@gmail.com). And it doesn't have to stop there. If you think that any local group or individual is worthy of greater recognition and thanks, then there's "The King's Award for Volunteering" for a group or team. It costs nothing.'

**Laurence Vulliamy**

## **BLYTH VALLEY ROTARY - A YEAR TO REMEMBER**

As the 2023/24 Rotary Year comes to an end, Blyth Valley Rotary has excelled in terms of attracting new members whilst helping good causes both locally and internationally. Eight new members have joined our enthusiastic group and have made even more good work possible.

This year, we have organised or been involved with the Southwold Christmas Day Swim, Brass on the Grass, the 'Women Who Inspire' Evening, Henham Steam Rally, Christmas Lights Switch On in both Southwold and Reydon, Southwold Primary School playground rejuvenation and lots more. A staggering £24,000 has been raised during this period and distributed to good causes.

Our most recent event - the Starlight Walk - saw 190 participants, including 25 St. Felix pupils, complete a 10k walk in aid of Dementia UK and our local charity, Sole Bay Care Fund. Just over £3,000 was raised. Starting and finishing at Old Hall Café, our finely tuned 'athletes', on a perfect summer's evening, followed the Blyth estuary down to the Bailey Bridge, across to and around Walberswick, back across the Blyth and returned, via the old railway line, to Old Hall, where they received medals.

To round off a perfect evening, Bella and her amazing team at Old Hall were on hand to provide food/BBQ and drinks to aid our walkers' recovery. A big Thank You to Old Hall Café for use of their venue and, of course, Blyth Valley Rotary, who organised the event, set up the course, supplied marshals, registered volunteers and provided a lot of encouragement.

Having fun and helping others is the key to Blyth Valley Rotary's continued success. We meet on Thursday evenings at Sole Bay Bowls Club at 6.30pm and are keen for more new members who wish to make a difference. Check out our Blyth Valley Rotary Club website ([www.blythvalleyrotary.co.uk](http://www.blythvalleyrotary.co.uk)) or our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/blythvalleyrotary](https://www.facebook.com/blythvalleyrotary)) to see more about who we are and what we do.

*Colin Coe, Blyth Valley Rotary*

## **REMARKABLE TREES IN REYDON**

### *The Elder Blossom*

Like the finale of a good firework display, the Elder tree presents the last and arguably, boldest splash of flowering splendour of any of our native trees.

It is from these highly scented umbels that elderflower cordial and elderflower fritters can be made.

The best time to collect them is when they are heavy with dusky yellow pollen drawing in extra interest by insects.

I enjoy a refreshing tea made by infusing the flower heads in cold water overnight. The dried flowers retain their potency over the winter and have a diaphoretic action (promotes sweating) that is used in traditional medicine to help the body deal with colds and fevers.

The beautiful garden variety of Elder, *Sambucus nigra* black lace, with its finely divided, almost black leaves and pink flowers, can be used in the same way as the wild plant.

*Denise Faulkner, Reydon's Tree Warden*

## **THE REYDON ROBIN COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER 'REGISTER'**

There is great local demand for volunteers, but these opportunities are often difficult to track down. To try and remedy this, here is our latest registry of local volunteering opportunities, now a regular editorial feature. If you would like an opening listed in future editions of *The Robin*, please contact us at [reydonrobin@gmail.com](mailto:reydonrobin@gmail.com).

**Reydon Village Hall:** Please join our Golden Anniversary Fundraising group to help refurbish and re-equip this much-loved community facility, please call 07768 395465 or e-mail [reydonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:reydonvillagehall@gmail.com).

**1st Southwold and Reydon Scouts:** If you are interested in volunteering with our group, whether an hour a week or an hour a month, in any capacity, be it a team member or on our Trustee Board, contact us on [scouts@1stsouthwoldandreydonscoutgroup.org](mailto:scouts@1stsouthwoldandreydonscoutgroup.org); call Luke Winter, Lead Team Volunteer on 07900 982836; or contact us though Facebook at 1st Southwold & Reydon Scout Group.

### **Reydon Community Pantry:**

We are always looking for more volunteers to join our team of drivers collecting during the week and/or man the Pantry on Fridays. You do as much or as little as you feel comfortable with.

- Drivers collect from the Southwold Co-op and Tescos, and sometimes Bookers in Lowestoft, and deliver to the Pantry. E-mail Sarah Jerman at [sarahbjerman@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbjerman@gmail.com) for more information.
- Pantry volunteers can choose either a 9am-12pm slot or 12-3pm slot on as many Fridays as they wish. E-mail Linda Coe at [linda.coe@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.coe@btinternet.com) or Kim Harvey on [kimanddora66@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kimanddora66@hotmail.co.uk) for more information.

### **Voluntary Help Centre, Southwold:**

- Volunteer drivers needed. Could you spare a couple of hours a month to help get people from the local area to appointments both locally and to hospitals? No regular commitment is needed: it simply is as and when you have some spare time. Volunteering for the VHC is as flexible as you are. If you are interested, please get in touch with Flic or Jane on 01502 724549; email [hello@southwoldvhc.com](mailto:hello@southwoldvhc.com) or go to [www.southwoldvhc.com](http://www.southwoldvhc.com). The Centre (in the Stella Peskett Millennium Hall) is open 9am-1pm, Monday to Friday. Answer phone outside these hours.

**Southwold and Reydon Volunteering Hub:** Go to [www.facebook.com/groups/1535908853639428](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1535908853639428).

Please also look at [www.volunteersuffolk.co.uk](http://www.volunteersuffolk.co.uk)

## **OPEN STUDIO TRAIL 2024**

For the ninth successive year, Reydon artists will be opening their studios on Saturday, 22nd and Sunday, 23rd June, 11am-5pm, as part of the Southwold Arts Festival. Eight artists are taking part this year, and, as always, there will be a wide variety of paintings and drawings on display in all kinds of media.

Leaflets for the Trail are available in Reydon from Bridgefoot Stores, St. Margaret's Church, Reydon Village Hall and The Randolph, as well as many of the businesses in Southwold and Southwold Library. There are also posters around the village and in Southwold showing the Trail.

Entrance is free and there is no obligation to buy - we'd love to see you.

## NATURE NOTES

Summer - what better time to go crabbing at the Harbour?



Can you better this stunning male Eider Duck who managed to catch and devour five crabs in 20 minutes? Must be a record.



'Come fly with me, let's fly, let's fly away,' said the Kestrel to the Bank Vole.



Hungry chicks to feed: female House Sparrow with fresh insects pick and mix. Birds are Nature's natural pesticides. Far better than chemicals!



'Herring Gull dabbling with a Dab; Herrings must be in short supply.'

*Enjoy your summer.*

*Bill*

*This edition of The Reydon Robin is sponsored by Doh Pizzeria*

## FEED ALL CHILDREN

In the context of the ongoing cost-of-living crises, Madeleine Senior and Cathy Ryan would like to run the Feed All Children scheme again through local primary schools so that all children can have a free hot meal at school every day. They can't run the scheme without donations, so we would be grateful if residents can donate at [www.solebaycarefund.uk](http://www.solebaycarefund.uk) or via bacs to Sole Bay Care Fund. Sort Code 20-44-11. Account Number 03084086.



*Cook and pupils at Southwold Primary School  
(Picture: Gary Broughton)*

The Reydon Community Pantry has recently celebrated being open to our community every Friday for a year. See p.4 for a fuller account of what it has achieved and continues to achieve. If you are able to give some time either greeting customers or picking up produce locally, please contact Linda Coe at [linda.coe@btinternet.com](mailto:linda.coe@btinternet.com).

We are also extremely proud of all the work that has gone into making Southwold Foodbank possible. Located in the Methodist Church on East Green, the Southwold Foodbank has been open to visitors on Tuesdays and Fridays between 2 and 4pm since 7th November last year. Its founder, Rev. Martin, Superintendent Minister of the Lowestoft and East Suffolk Methodist Church, gives his own account of the progress of the project on p.14.

*Lena O'Shea*

## 1ST SOUTHWOLD AND REYDON SCOUTS

The Group requires adults to help our wonderful Beaver Leader Siobhan within our Beaver Section. This Section has had the highlight of having a great night at the Sea Life Centre. They have completed many such nights over the last few months, including gardening, mini beasts and the countryside code.

The Cub Section went to the four-yearly County Camp jointly with 2nd Beccles, which was attended by over 500 Cubs. We had an amazing three-night, four-day camp, which had good weather and was great for all those that went. The Cubs who went got to try their hand at lots of different activities, including archery, air-rifle shooting, climbing, abseiling, crate stacking, tomahawk throwing, bush craft, craft, science activities and water zorbs during the day, and some activities available to them in the evening were disco, bingo, film or board games, to name a few. The behaviour of our Cubs was amazing, and the joint team that enabled both groups to go needs to be congratulated for the work and effort to ensure all the children of both groups had such a great time.

We meet on Mondays, 6-7.30pm, ages 8-10; Wednesdays, 6.30-8pm, ages 10-14; and Thursdays, 6-7pm, ages 6-8. If you have a young person aged 6-14 and would like to give scouting a try, please contact our lead team volunteer Luke Winter on 07900 982836 for more information, email us at [scouts@1stsouthwoldandreydonsc.org](mailto:scouts@1stsouthwoldandreydonsc.org) or message us through Facebook.



## **SOUTHWOLD FOODBANK**

The Methodist Church on East Green in Southwold closed in March 2022. I arrived as the Superintendent of the Lowestoft and East Suffolk Methodist Circuit in September 2022. As Superintendent, I have overall responsibility for all eight Methodist churches in the Circuit, but I was asked to come to see if I could plant a church in Southwold.

The Hunky Dory Vintage Shop began using the Church Hall in May 2022 and I started coming along to tidy up the building, and to sit and think and pray shortly after I arrived. With a team of helpers from St. Edmund's Church, I decorated the back room and furnished it with Salvation Army furniture.

My initial thoughts were for a soft-play centre in the Church, as soon as the pews were removed and the equipment bought. I considered a café or tea shop, and then, after spending time at our Foodbank in Hungate Church in Beccles, I realised that what was needed was a foodbank.

As you can imagine, this idea was treated with a great deal of scepticism. I was told that Southwold is a wealthy place and there are no people in need here. Even Trussell Trust were reluctant to get involved at first.

But I persisted and on 7th November 2023, I opened the Foodbank with my wife as my only helper. We were given a supply of food from Lowestoft Foodbank's warehouse and no one came for the first two weeks. We now have ten volunteers.

Various council departments have given us funding. David Beavan has given us a £2,000 grant and others are supplying us with equipment to help us to feed those 'non-existent people' in Southwold, Reydon, Wangford, Wrentham and Walberswick who need help.

The Financial Inclusion Team comes in to offer advice, along with Christians Against Poverty (CAP). Sole Bay Care Trust has given us £2,000 to provide 'food-in-a-bag', so that we can provide ingredients and recipes for people to make healthy meals. We do this fortnightly, and photographs of some of these meals can be seen on our Southwold Foodbank Facebook page.

At present, we are feeding approximately 60 adults and 30 children. During the winter, we have provided a warm space for people to come into and get warm, and sit and talk to old friends and new. We have a community of regulars who feel at home here and those who pop in from time to time.

The long-term plans involve making the Church building into a Christian community centre with café and that soft-play area that I originally planned.

**Rev. Martin Keenan**

## ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

We are very grateful to the Payback Team/Probationary Service for providing clients who have been working on maintaining the Churchyard to such a high standard. We hope you have taken or will take the opportunity when walking through the Churchyard to take rest on one of our new memorial benches.

If you listen carefully, you will also hear our electronic Swift call, which is designed to attract Swifts to our nesting boxes in the Church tower. We also have Owl boxes as well. We will let you know of any successful nestings in future reports.

Congratulations should go to Neil Holloway and Betty Harmer, who were both recently awarded 'Reydon Star Awards' for their many years' service to maintain and improve the Churchyard (see p.9 for a picture of them receiving their Award). It is thanks to Neil and his group of volunteers that the Churchyard is maintained to such a high standard, and Neil is now the liaison with the Payback Team. Betty has maintained the Churchyard plan for many years, which enables families when visiting to locate their loved ones' graves.

On Friday, 23rd August, Rev. Alan is leading a party to the 32nd East Anglian Beer and Cider Festival at the Cathedral in Bury St. Edmund's. It is a most wonderful occasion and good to see the Cathedral building being used for other purposes. If you would like to join the coach leaving from and returning to Reydon, please contact Rev. Alan for more details (adperry64@gmail.com). **Rev. Alan Perry**

## SOUTHWOLD BEACH HUT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

The beach huts in Southwold are a very popular attraction. Visitors travel from all over the world to see them. Both children and adults love to read the beach-hut names out aloud as they walk along the prom, and some of the names are very witty. Janet Gershlick has written an amusing book about the names (see [www.Janettalks.com](http://www.Janettalks.com)).



Jack Storer OBE, a founder member of Southwold Beach Hut Owners' Association, wrote a fascinating tale of the history of Southwold beach huts, which you can find on our website (see below).

Beach huts provide a place from which to fully enjoy being at the seaside.

Southwold weather can be unpredictable, but, come rain or shine, with a beach hut, you're fine.

The Southwold Beach Hut Owners' Association acts for hut owners to maintain the amenity of the Promenade, the beach and surrounding areas. It also is the prime members' contact for Southwold Town Council and East Suffolk Council, dealing with major concerns.

If you are a beach-hut owner and wish to join SBHOA, contact [info@southwoldhuts.co.uk](mailto:info@southwoldhuts.co.uk). To find out more about us, visit our website at [www.southwoldhuts.co.uk](http://www.southwoldhuts.co.uk). **Geoff Berridge, Chair and Rip Pugh, Secretary, SBHOA**

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