

Village Voice

For the residents of **Ilketshall St. Margaret**

Welcome to ISSUE 78 September to November 2025

Hope you have had a great summer, and the lovely sunny weather has helped you rest, relax and rejuvenate, unless of course you have had little ones to keep occupied during their summer break – I am sure all the mums and dads are cheering at the prospect of our schools reopening for a new year.

Many of our Village Hall groups have been closed during the summer months, but now that we welcome Autumn, activities will begin to ramp up again especially as the Village Hall committee will be hosting our usual events as the evenings draw in. Here in the village, we had another record-breaking show back in July (more on that to follow) and on the last day



of meteorological summer, we held our annual 'Tea on the Lawn' at St Margaret's Hall, thanks go to Alastair for opening up his beautiful home for us again this year and thank you to

everyone who came along on the day helping us raise just shy of £500 towards the Village Hall fund.

An annual date for your diary, *Saturday 13th September* sees the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust will be holding their 'Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride'. A great event to get involved with, even if it is just to sponsor & cheer along your friends and neighbours. More information can be found by visiting www.shct.org.uk or finding them on Facebook.



THE HALF-YEARLY PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL IN NOVEMBER – KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR POST BOX FOR THE DATE AND AGENDA

St. Margaret Church Services

14th September **Evening Prayer** 5.00pm

12th October **Harvest Festival** 10.00am

9th November **Remembrance Sunday** 4.00pm

Benefice Coffee Morning - the first Saturday of the month at 10.30am in the Village Hall

Every Thursday at 9am Holy Communion

Details of all church services in the Saints' Benefice are circulated by email from Sange Wilson of Rumburgh. Please email her for your personal copy (sange.wilson@yahoo.co.uk)

A reminder that The Parish Meeting are looking to borrow thermal imaging equipment to help identify where our houses are losing heat. If you are interested in this project and haven't done so already please get in touch with the Parish Clerk:

email: parishclerkstmargaretilk@yahoo.com

Note on nature from Brenda: The harvest was very early this year, berries ripening quickly, I hope for the bird's sake, they will last into the autumn. We had frogs spawn, that disappeared to be eaten as we found out this week by newts – we have tiny little ones in our small pond, discovered when we pulled out some weed, we left it laying by the pond side overnight, so if anything was in there, they could get back into the water. One evening they sky above our tall poplar trees was full of Swallow and House Martins, all playing at balancing on the uppermost branches - 100's of them. There were flying ants going up as well only to be snatched up by the birds. The hare's have done very well this year, I've seen lots of

young ones on the back field, but I haven't seen the wallaby – has anyone?!! ☺

The big ponds in high street are drying up, never seen them so low, we need rain but once it starts it probably won't know when to stop! The plants in my garden have let me know what likes the dry and hot – seedy grasses and flox, they look very well while other things are struggling. The Hummingbird moths are here again; we've seen them most days. Bumble bees have been struggling though because they have a fur coat, the heat has exhausted them and they die, which is a great shame.

Dates for your diary during the Autumn

22nd Sept: Autumn Equinox

27th Sept: Women's Rugby World Cup Final

18th Oct: **Village Hall Curry Night**

31st Oct: Halloween

2nd Nov: **All Saints Memorial of the Departed - St James 10.00am**

5th Nov: Bonfire Night

9th Nov: **Remembrance Service - St Margaret SE**

9th Nov: Remembrance Sunday

11th Nov: Armistice Day

Looking ahead

14th December **Village Hall Christmas Lunch**

with the determined Highs coming out on top 3-0. They had obviously been practicing!

And lastly, using a new 'Top Gear' style leaderboard, the much-anticipated Spud in a Bucket weigh-in didn't disappoint with a record turnout of 38 participants, with previous 2 times winner Trevor Mayhew collecting the Masher Trophy with a total weight of 2078 grams. To all other stall holders present who I haven't mentioned, again, a big thank you!

In all, there were 71 exhibitors and 307 exhibits, raising over £1600 for the village hall funds - a mighty effort from such a small village! The standard of entries across all classes was excellent and attracted much praise from the judges and visiting public alike. The committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help make this event a success.

Contacts for the Village

Church – **Rev Leon Collyer 01986 781345 / 07714 986462**

Parish Clerk – **Jane Waring**
parishclerkstmargaretuk@yahoo.com

Contact for the Village Hall

Event bookings – **Eva Collyer 01986 781312**

Hall Hire – **Maggie Oldham 01986 781640**

Village Show – **Roger Webb 07941 826772**

Media – **Julie Harding 07931 676289**

General Enquiries – **Val Carroll 01986 781540**

Ilketshall St Margaret Village Show 2025,

Report by Show Secretary, Roger Webb

This year the weather forecast threatened us with thunderstorms, but miraculously, we dodged the rain, and a lovely sunny afternoon was enjoyed by all. There were plenty of volunteers to help setting up - in anticipation of rain, a very large marquee was erected, kindly lent by Chris Aldrich and a large gazebo for the BBQ from Matt McKee ensured we were ready to go.

Musical entertainment was non-stop from the excellent Black Deek Band and Antony's Kitchen Band who got people off their feet. An estimated 150 people visited the hall and grounds, enjoying the fabulous produce show which filled the hall to the brim - the flower fragrances were wonderful!. A new Class addition was the Heaviest Marrow which, next year we hope to encourage more participants by offering ready to go plants along with their Spud Bucket seed potato.

The Slow Bicycle Race seems to be catching on - there was even a petrol powered one that crept in on the starting line (Eric's invention?) and there were plenty of participants for the Tug-O-War, High St vs Low St

Village Show 2025 Results:

Tomkin Plate **Roger Webb**
Stott Trophy **Julie Gaskell/Annette Abbott**
Fuller Cup **Roger Webb**
Read Cup **Roger Webb**
Val Chapman Cup **Roger Webb**
Masher Trophy **Trevor Mayhew**
Cannel Cup **Annette Abbott**
Mann Cup **Julie Gaskell**
Smith Howell Cup **Jenny McKee/Knit & Knatter**
Huguenot Cup **Darren Harding**
John Arthey Trophy **Julie Harding/Milo McCluskey**
Rogers Trophy **Sheila Cooper**
Alison Morgan Cup **Valerie Carrol**
The Wigg Cup **Emma Hald**
Roger Lambert Memorial Shield **Ben Mitchell**
Founders Award **Jenny McKee**
Children's Award **Milly Hald**
Family Cup **The Gaskell family**

Images from this years show can be found on our website: Ilketshall.org.uk

Have a great Autumn!