

# Wickham Market

**PARISH NEWS**

**2026**

**January  
February**

**Your FREE News and  
Information Magazine from  
Wickham Market Parish Council**

**Wickham  
Market**  
[visitwickhammarket.co.uk](http://visitwickhammarket.co.uk)

## WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Meets on the third Monday alternate months

**Ivor French (Chair)**

**David Chenery (Vice Chair)**

**Robin Cooke**

**Gloria Creasey**

**John Day**

**Gemma Dempsey-Gray**

**Sue French**

**John Horsnell**

**Dick Jenkinson**



### Contact us

**Chair** Ivor French

**Clerk** Al Besly

**Deputy Clerk** Leanne Castle

**For more information**

ivor.f@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

SCAN HERE



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



**Wickham Market Parish Council Suffolk**

**VisitWickhamMarket**



**@WickhamMarketPC**



**Wickham Market Parish Council updates**



**wickhammarketparishsocials**

### Parish Council Committees and Groups

**Finance & General Purpose Committee:** Meets on the first Monday alternate months. Responsible for grants and managing financial reporting and budgets.

**Planning Committee:** Meets as required and reviews and comments on all planning applications for the Parish.

**Staffing and Personnel Committee:** Meets as required and advises the council on all employment matters.

**Sizewell C Committee:** Advises the Council on the impact of Sizewell C.

**Village Hall Modernisation Committee:** Meets on 1st or 2nd Tuesday monthly. Schedule published on our website. Working to modernise the village hall.

**Environment & Leisure Working Group:** Meets on the second Monday alternate months and advises on the Cemetery and other environmental issues.

**Climate Change Working Group:** Responsible for the Climate Action Strategy and advising the Council on Climate Change actions.

**Emergency Plan Working Group:** Responsible for developing plans to manage emergencies in the parish.

## Exciting Times Ahead for Wickham Market!

Happy New Year, everyone! As we begin 2026, our vibrant community continues to shine as the Parish Council works on various improvements and events that bring us together.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 2025 Christmas Market such a success! Despite the overcast weather, your warmth and enthusiasm brightened the day, highlighting the wonderful spirit of our village.

We're also delighted to share that the modernisation plans for the village hall are progressing well - more information will be shared in future editions of the Parish Magazine.

Furthermore, the Sizewell C-sponsored traffic management scheme for Wickham Market is nearly finished, with construction set to start in summer 2026. This project aims to improve pedestrian safety, as we expect traffic flow in the village to increase.

Alongside these larger projects, smaller but equally vital initiatives are in progress. Expect refreshed maintenance of footpaths on Little Lane and along FP9 from the George to King Edward's Avenue, as well as FP10 from George Lane to Crown Lane. Also, watch out for charming heritage-style pedestrian signage, funded by East Suffolk Council, which will add a lovely touch to our village streets.

Exciting news is also on the horizon as the Parish Council meets with a developer interested in the old Simons Cross allotments. This could bring new opportunities and improvements to our community.

Here's to the year ahead, let's make 2026 the best year yet for Wickham Market!

**Ivor French**

**Chair, Wickham Market Parish Council**

ivor.f@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

### WICKHAM MARKET PARISH NEWS

Produced by

### WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Printed Locally by  
Suffolk Digital

on FSC PAPER

DELIVERED FREE

to all addresses whose  
postcode begins IP13 0

### PRINT DEADLINES

**Content** for the March/April 2026 issue  
by 10th February 2026

**Delivery:** Over a two week period  
commencing on 11th March 2026

**Contact for contributions:**  
[clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk)

Please email your text with good quality  
pictures as separate attachments.

Articles may be subject to editing at the  
discretion of the editor.

## Village Quiz Night a Massive Success

Local businessman Richard Ellis recently organised a quiz night to raise funds for the Wickham Market Village Hall Modernisation Fund. Twenty-three teams of four from across the village community participated in what was a very enjoyable evening. There were lots of laughs, and the fantastic total of £565 was raised from entry fees and the raffle.

Richard said, "My thanks to the local businesses who not only helped promote the event but also gave so generously for the raffle. Prizes were donated by Café 46, The Bengal, and Revetts Butchers. It was enjoyable, if a bit stressful, to organise the event, but I really appreciated all the support from those who put together a team and took part."

Chair of Wickham Market Parish Council, Cllr Ivor French, said, "On behalf of the Parish Council and the Village Hall Modernisation Committee, I would like to thank Richard for volunteering to organise this highly popular and profitable event. I know that he also donated wine, spirits, and chocolate raffle prizes. Raising such a fantastic sum of £565 for the renovation of the Village Hall is wonderful. If anyone has an idea for an event they would like to organise, they are welcome to contact Al Besly via email at [clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk). Thanks again to Richard."



## Meet Ty at Café 46!



A warm welcome to Ty, the new owner of Café 46 on The Hill at Wickham Market. Along with barista Alex,

Ty (with occasional help from her auntie Sharon) is expanding the café's menu. With cream teas and cheesy teas for lunchtime and afternoon treats, vegetarian and vegan options (vegetable and feta sausage rolls - V and granola flapjacks - VG), there are new options to try alongside popular favourites.

Ty lives nearby and this is her first business venture, as she previously worked at Jimmy's Farm. Follow her on Facebook for the latest news and offers [#cafe46WickhamMarket](#)

## Confessions of a Serial Litter Picker – Free Event at The George

The Wickham Market Climate Change Working Group has invited Jason, a master litter-picker with a fascinating story, to share how his efforts have evolved from Rubbish Walks to Rubbish Adventures. He will discuss his vision and achievements to inspire local initiatives.

Learn from the master litter picker how litter and plastic affect our environment. Jason has founded an award-winning social enterprise committed to inspiring lasting positive changes in attitudes towards littering. He uses his camera skills to deliver a highly entertaining evening filled with visuals that showcase his work.

Based in the UK's first Vintage Litter Museum in Woodbridge, Jason hosts various community groups and events aimed at providing people with the knowledge, skills, and encouragement to live a litter-free lifestyle.

The free event will take place in the fully accessible activity room at The George Community Pub on Monday 26th January, from 7pm to 9.30pm. Complimentary tea, coffee, and biscuits will be served at the interval, and drinks can be purchased at the bar.



The evening is a non-ticketed event, so please arrive early to secure your seats.

# Thank You for Supporting the Christmas Market 2025 and to Our Volunteers!



A huge thank you to the hundreds of people who attended the 2025 Christmas market, organised by Wickham Market Parish Council, which featured 40 stalls set up on The Hill.

Our thanks also go to the pupils, staff, parents, and PTA of Wickham Market Primary School. Not only did the pupils perform Christmas songs around the tree, watched by a large crowd, but the PTA's stall and Santa's Grotto with a Snowman theme were incredibly popular, attracting queues of excited children throughout the morning.



## Cheers to our Volunteers!

A special thanks to our village volunteers who gave up their Sunday morning, donned high-visibility jackets, and scaled ladders to position Christmas trees around The Hill.

Without volunteers helping with various tasks in and around the village, our community would be much poorer and not such a fantastic place to live, work, and visit.

Our local makers and producers showcased a fantastic selection of gifts, homeware, food, and stocking fillers. Kelly Booth contributed to the festive atmosphere with songs and carols. Potsford Care Farm's warm pasties were very popular, and the Wickham Market Good Neighbours stall was a hit with its hot chocolate.

Please keep an eye on our new website [www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk](http://www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk), which is full of ideas for things to do. If you're interested in volunteering, email Al Besly at [clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk). We would love to hear from you!

# Seasonal Markets 2026



There will again be four seasonal markets in 2026, and Wickham Market Parish Council, which organises the events, is already accepting stallholder bookings.

What's unique about the markets is that not only is there a good mix of makers and producers, but local charities, clubs and associations are welcome to book one of the 40 pitches available. This means it's a great way to fundraise and meet like-minded people who may wish to support or volunteer for a particular cause. This helps build a strong village community.

The four markets celebrate the seasons, and the Spring Market is a fantastic place to shed the last vestiges of winter (and, hopefully, coats and hats) and welcome the start of spring. For 2026, we will see the return of the Barley Brigg Dancers, who were a hit last year, and we've invited Wooden Roots from Rendlesham to share some incredible drumming with visitors.

The Summer Market usually has a relaxed atmosphere with plenty of chances to sit, enjoy some good food and music, and browse the many stalls. It's a great place to find unique home and garden items.

In September, with a return to work and school, for many, the Harvest Market will make a comeback - an excellent chance to browse our makers' and producers' new stock and enjoy entertainment.

## The seasonal dates for 2026 are:

### SPRING MARKET

Saturday 28th March, 9am-2pm

### SUMMER MARKET

Saturday 20 June, 9am-2pm

### HARVEST MARKET

Saturday 12 September, 9am-2pm

### CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 28th November, 9am-2pm

Pitch prices start from £15 for businesses and £7.50 for not-for-profit organisations.

For further details, please email [deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk)

# Small Community Orchard Takes Shape

The Glebe Allotments are located at the bottom of Crown Lane (the road beside Heavenly Hair) in Wickham Market. Members of the Allotment Association have turned a small plot near the parking area into a community orchard.



The land already had some fruit trees, and the Parish Council has purchased additional trees to supplement what was already there. Fruit will be harvested each autumn and will probably be offered for free from a table at the edge of the plot to anyone who would like some.



Ivor French, Chair of Wickham Market Parish Council, said, "This is a straightforward green community initiative using land the Parish Council leases. Our thanks go to Wickham Market Allotment Association for volunteering to manage the orchard on behalf of the village community."



## Floodwater Flow Work Completed

Following the 2023 floods of the River Deben at Wickham Market, Wickham Market Parish Council, together with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council, has been urging the Environment Agency to remove silt from the Deben Bridge on Lower High Street (near Rackham's Mill) to improve floodwater flow.

This work has now been completed and greatly improved matters; however, some flood risk remains. The Parish Council has updated its flood risk assessments, and its emergency plan outlines the support needed should severe flooding happen again.



# Podiatrist Business Pads Across the Street

Anna Shand, owner of Anna Shand Podiatrist, has relocated her business to new premises on The Hill at 77B High Street, Wickham Market (next to Morrisons).

With two treatment rooms on the ground floor, Anna and her colleague Kay are looking forward to welcoming existing clients and new customers to the larger premises.

Anna said, "I'm delighted to have moved and pleased that the extra space allows us to expand the services we provide. As well as podiatry (previously known as chiropody), we offer reflexology, a complementary therapy - a form of



*energy treatment involving gentle massage of the feet. The aim is to promote relaxation, reduce stress, and support the body's natural healing processes to restore physical and emotional well-being."*

**To find out more or to book an appointment, call Anna on 01728 745010**

# New Hearing Clinic in Wickham Market

All About Hearing, run by mother-and-son duo Karen Finch and Matthew Coward, officially launched their new clinic on 1st December 2025 at Wickham Market Medical Centre.

They offer a full range of hearing services from comprehensive assessments and expert earwax removal to advanced hearing aid solutions, and provide a home visit service, helping those who are less mobile.

## Special launch offer

To celebrate the launch, the team are offering anyone concerned about their hearing health the opportunity to book a half-price hearing assessment or earwax



removal appointment (saving £30). The offer runs until 28th February 2026.

**For more information or to book an appointment, call 01728 733138 or visit [www.allabouthearing.co.uk](http://www.allabouthearing.co.uk)**

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

### FALLEN TREES

0345 606 6171

### HIGHWAY FLOODING: SCC

0345 606 6171 or 0300 1235000  
[www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)

### STREET CLEANING/CLEARING

0333 016 2000

### POWER CUTS

Power Networks call: 105 or 999

### DANGEROUS STRUCTURES

01394 444 219 or 0800 440 2516

### MANHOLE PROBLEMS

that are considered an emergency: 0345 606 6171

**WATER LEAKS** Anglian Water: 24/7  
0345 145 145

### EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL

Emergency out of hours:  
0800 440 2516

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### ALL ABOUT HEARING LTD

Local hearing care and earwax removal specialists  
Wickham Market Medical Centre,  
Chapel Lane, Wickham Market, IP13 OSB  
**01728 733138**  
[www.allabouthearing.co.uk](http://www.allabouthearing.co.uk)

### ALL IN AUTO SERVICES

Vehicle service and maintenance  
15 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
**01728 746999**  
[allinautoservices@btconnect.com](mailto:allinautoservices@btconnect.com)

### BAYFIELDS DIGITAL

TV Aerials, Satellite TV, WiFi, CCTV  
9 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
**01728 745745**  
[www.bayfieldsdigital.com](http://www.bayfieldsdigital.com)

### BELLISSIMA BEAUTY

Beauty Treatments and Gifts  
46 High Street **01728 746981**  
[www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk](http://www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk)

### THE BENGAL

Indian Restaurant/Takeaway  
70 High Street **01728 747767**  
[www.the-bengal.co.uk](http://www.the-bengal.co.uk)

### BLUE CROCUS TEXTILES

Curtains, Lampshades, Blinds,  
Cushions and Loose Covers  
75 High Street, IP13 ORA  
**01473 487844**  
[www.bluecrocustextiles.com](http://www.bluecrocustextiles.com)

### CAFÉ 46

Cakes, Coffee, Lunch and More  
46 High Street **01728 746690**  
[www.cafe46.co.uk](http://www.cafe46.co.uk)

### COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET

14-18 High Street **01728 746313**  
[www.coop.co.uk](http://www.coop.co.uk)

### EAST ANGLIAN TRADITIONAL ART CENTRE

Picture Sales from circ. 1750-1950.  
Restoration & Repair. 48 High Street  
**01728 747050** [www.eatac.co.uk](http://www.eatac.co.uk)

### ENGLISH GRAIN

Bespoke Kitchens and Furniture  
181 High Street **07850 416487**  
[www.englishgrain.co.uk](http://www.englishgrain.co.uk)

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## EVOLVE LIFETIME LTD

Independent Mortgage and Equity Release Advisers  
Dallinghoo Rd, IP13 ORP **01473 798500**  
[www.evovelifetime.com](http://www.evovelifetime.com)

## THE FLAMING FRYER

Fish & Chips  
75 High Street **01728 901222**

## GELHAM HALL FLOWERS

Growers of seasonal flowers  
Gelham Hall, Wickham Market  
**07495 156955**

## GLEVERING ESTATE FIREWOOD

Dry, Seasoned Logs IP13 OEU  
**07860 402288**  
[www@gleveringhall.com/firewood](http://www@gleveringhall.com/firewood)

## HARVEY & CO

Bakery and Vegetarian Café  
Vida Haus, 3 Tuns IP13 OHW

## HEAVENLY HAIR

Hairdressers and Barbers  
73 High Street **01728 746616**  
[www.heavenlyhair.co.uk/wickham-market](http://www.heavenlyhair.co.uk/wickham-market)

## HIGH HOUSE CHILD CARE

Day Nursery at Wickham Market  
220 High St **01728 746970**  
[www.highhousechilcare.co.uk](http://www.highhousechilcare.co.uk)

## K C AUTO SERVICES

MOT and Vehicle Maintenance  
2 Riverside View Industrial estate  
**01728 747279 / 07747 831535**  
[www.kc-autoservices.co.uk](http://www.kc-autoservices.co.uk)

## JIM MALTBY

Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Probate  
11 Observers Road **07765 253756**  
[jimemaltby@hotmail.com](mailto:jimemaltby@hotmail.com)

## MANN WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Wealth and Retirement Planning,  
46 High Street, IP13 OQS  
**01394 388181** [www.mannwm.co.uk](http://www.mannwm.co.uk)

## MARKHAM FUNERAL SERVICE

IP13 OAA **01728 747795**  
[www.markhamfuneralservice.co.uk](http://www.markhamfuneralservice.co.uk)

## METHOD FIT

Personal Training, Group Fitness  
Classes & Parkinson's Support  
The Barn, Bridge Farm IP13 OAA  
**07801 653085** [www.methodfit.uk](http://www.methodfit.uk)

## PETER HALL FLOORING

34 High Street **01728 746416**  
[www.peterhallflooring.com](http://www.peterhallflooring.com)

## MORRISONS DAILY

Convenience Store  
79A High Street **01728 747413**

## THE NEW PEACH BOWER

Chinese Restaurant/Takeaway  
56 High Street **01728 747901**  
[www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk](http://www.thenewpeachbower.co.uk)

## NR RESTORATIONS

Property Renovations, Refurbishments  
Nathan Reay **07432 241101**  
[nrrestorations@icloud.com](mailto:nrrestorations@icloud.com)

## NULIFE FURNISHINGS

Curtains, Upholstery, Soft Furnishings  
17 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
**01728 747745**  
[www.nu-lifefurnishings.co.uk](http://www.nu-lifefurnishings.co.uk)

## OFFSET FILMS

Film and Video Production  
179D High Street **01473 598669**  
[www.offsetfilms.co.uk](http://www.offsetfilms.co.uk)

## OLD SCHOOL EMPORIUM

High Street, IP13 OHE  
**07904 084503**  
*Instagram: old\_school\_emporium*

## THE ORCHARD CAMPSITE

Campsite plus fully equipped Safari Tent  
28 Spring Lane **07818 034729**  
[www.orchardcampsite.co.uk](http://www.orchardcampsite.co.uk)

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## THE PARLOUR

Brows, Lashes and Nails  
179 High Street **07872 070522**  
[theparlour179@icloud.com](mailto:theparlour179@icloud.com)

## E R & R T RACKHAM LTD

Solid Fuel, Animal & Pet Retailer  
Deben Mills IP13 ORG  
**01728 746207** [www.rackhamltd.co.uk](http://www.rackhamltd.co.uk)

## REBECCA'S REFLEXOLOGY AND WELLNESS

32 High Street **07845 599256**  
[www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk](http://www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk)

## RETURN TO STILLNESS

Yoga Classes and Meditation  
**07734 469038 / 01728 747001**  
[www.returntotillnes.co.uk](http://www.returntotillnes.co.uk)

## E W REVETT & SON

Butchery/Fine food and wine  
81 High Street **01728 746263**  
[www.revett.co.uk](http://www.revett.co.uk)

## RISE AND SHINE

Window Cleaning, Domestic & Commercial  
Featherbroom Gardens  
**07811 201039**

## ROLAND PLASTICS

High Street, IP13 ORF **01728 747777**  
[www.rolandplastics.com](http://www.rolandplastics.com)

## D A RUSE PLUMBING & HEATING

Plumbing, Heating, Tiling, Bathroom  
and Kitchen Installations  
42 Barhams Way, IP13 OSR  
**07999250203 / 01728 564132**

## ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE

Charity Shop 54 High Street  
[www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk](http://www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk)

## SAXON VETS

22 High Street **01728 747427**  
[www.saxonvets.com](http://www.saxonvets.com)

## SCIENTA GROUP

Innovation service provider working globally to develop products and services of the future.  
9 Mill Lane Wickham Market, IP13 OSFA  
**07973 302 507** [www.scientagroup.com](http://www.scientagroup.com)

## ANNA SHAND

Chiroprapist/Podiatrist/Reflexology  
77B High Street **01728 745010**

## SOUTH EAST ANTIQUES

Buy, Sell & Value Antiques & Jewellery  
7 Riverside View Industrial Estate, IP13 OTA  
*Instagram: southeastantiques*

## SVRC SPORTS & VETERINARY REHABILITATION CLINIC

2-3 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
**07921 586339** [www.info-svrc.com](http://www.info-svrc.com)

## TEA POT TEA ROOMS

Dine-in/Takeaway  
70A High Street **01728 748079**

## VALLEY FARM EQUESTRIAN LEISURE

Horse Riding, Visitor Centre, Holiday Lodge, Camping & Café  
**01728 746916** [www.valleyfarm.co.uk](http://www.valleyfarm.co.uk)

## VIDA HAUS

Wellbeing Centre 3 Tuns IP13 OHW  
**07718 192888** [www.vida.haus/home](http://www.vida.haus/home)

## WICKHAM MARKET ANTIQUES

Vintage, Antiques & Collectables  
5 Riverside View Industrial Estate  
**01728 746700**  
[www.wickhammarketantiques.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketantiques.co.uk)

## WICKHAM MARKET DENTAL CLINIC

2 Crown House, Crown Lane  
**01728 746220**  
[www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketdentist.co.uk)

## WICKHAM MARKET PHARMACY

68 High Street **01728 746267**

## WICKHAM MARKET POST OFFICE and Stores

36 High Street **01728 746201**

## USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

### CITIZENS ADVICE EAST SUFFOLK

14 Colonial House, Station Rd, Leiston  
IP16 4JD. Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 10-2pm  
[www.leistoncab.org](http://www.leistoncab.org)  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)  
**01728 832193 or 0808 2787868** Free

### Disability Advice Service

(East Suffolk): **01394 387070**

### Good Neighbour Scheme: (GNS)

Available to residents in Wickham Market parish only. Transport to medical and social appointments. Friendship and support with shopping, posting letters, filling forms, computers, dog walking, DIY. Monthly coffee mornings in the activity room at The George on the first Tuesday 10am to 12 noon all welcome.  
**07914 494108**

### Wellbeing Tree Café at The George

Relax, chat and make new friends over a hot drink and cake.  
Wednesdays 10.15-12.15pm

### Men's Shed: Behind the Village Hall

Social and creative centre. Mondays 2 pm  
[www.wmshed.org.uk](http://www.wmshed.org.uk)  
**01728 747782**

## INTERESTS

### Youth Football Club

Simon's Cross Playing Field, IP13 OST  
Steph: **07778 880735**

### Football Club and Social Club

Behind the Village Hall **01728 747731**  
[www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk](http://www.wickhammarketfc.co.uk)

**Tennis Club** Simon's Cross Playing Field: **01728 746736**

### Bowls Club

Village Hall Playing Field IP13 OHE  
**01728 746715**

### VALLEY FARM

#### Pony Club

[www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/pony-club](http://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/pony-club)

#### Tots Pony Club

[www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots](http://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots)

#### Young Equestrians Club

[www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/young-equestrians](http://www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/young-equestrians)

## VILLAGE HALL

To hire the Village Hall please visit [www.wmvillagehall.org.uk/hiring-the-hall](http://www.wmvillagehall.org.uk/hiring-the-hall) ...to check availability and then contact the Lettings Secretary on [treasurer.wmvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.wmvillagehall@gmail.com)

Also at the Village Hall

#### Bingo

Tuesdays 6pm  
Tina Clack **01728 746846**

**Community Club** Social activities and support for those new to the area, Friday mornings 01728 747078  
Val Mann: [val@penpal.me.uk](mailto:val@penpal.me.uk)

#### Gardening Club

Monthly third Thursday 7:30 pm  
[wmgardenclub27@gmail.com](mailto:wmgardenclub27@gmail.com)

#### Toddler and Baby Group

Wednesdays during school term 9:00 - 11:30 (£2.50 per family)  
[stephanieworne@gmail.com](mailto:stephanieworne@gmail.com)

#### Wickham Market WI

Second Thursday each month at 7.30pm  
<https://sefwi.org.uk/institutes/wickham-market>

## USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

### ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Crown Lane, IP13 OSA **01728 748224**  
For Sunday Service information please visit [warden@wickhammarketchurch.org](mailto:warden@wickhammarketchurch.org)  
[www.wickhammarketchurch.org](http://www.wickhammarketchurch.org)

#### Open Pantry

Fresh food and household goods shared with anyone in need.  
Thursdays 9-10.30am

#### Open Door

Coffee, tea, biscuits and friendship.  
Fridays 10am to noon

#### Bell Ringing

Monday Evenings from 7:30-9pm

**BEEHIVE BUILDING** Crown Lane  
**Rainbows** age 4-7, **Brownies** age 7-10,  
Linda Payne **01728 604491**  
**Guides** age 10+ Jacquie Goodwin & Tracy Burch **07717 154235**

### WICKHAM MARKET LIBRARY

Chapel Lane, IP13 OSD  
Open Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am-5.30pm  
Saturday: 10am-12.30pm & 1pm-4.30pm  
**01728 587108** [library.help@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:library.help@suffolk.gov.uk)

#### REGULAR EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY:

**Family History Guidance By Appointment** Tuesdays 10am-1pm  
**Morning Book Group**

1st Tuesday monthly 10am

**Tots Rock** active songs and rhymes for preschool children:  
Thursdays 9.45am-10.15am

**Sewing Group** Thursdays 1.30pm-4.30pm  
**Lego Club** Saturdays 10am-12pm

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB

**01728 746915**

### WM PRIMARY SCHOOL and LITTLE AVOCETS NURSERY

Dallinghoo Road IP13 ORP  
**01728 746405**

### RESOURCE CENTRE

Chapel Lane, IP13 OSD **01728 747782**  
**Resource Centre Gardening Group**  
2nd Tuesday monthly 10am-12noon.  
Barbara Harrington: [sbharrington@outlook.com](mailto:sbharrington@outlook.com) or come along.

#### Archive Centre

Local history, archives and artefacts  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30am & 12:30pm  
Philip Tallent **01728 746058**

### THE GEORGE COMMUNITY PUB

95 High Street  
**Community Choir**  
Wednesdays during term time at 7:30pm  
Everyone welcome, just turn up!  
*Instagram: @wickhammarketchoir*  
For other events at the pub please visit [www.thegeorgecommunitypub.co.uk/activity-room](http://www.thegeorgecommunitypub.co.uk/activity-room)

## WHICH COUNCIL?

### SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

Highways, Recycling **0345 606 6067**  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)  
Reporting any highways issue including: potholes, street lights, drains, hedges, gritting, pavements  
[www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)

### EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL

Waste collection, Pay car parks, Planning **0333 016 2000** [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)  
District Councillor:  
Sally Noble [sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sally.noble@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

### WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Cemetery, Playing Fields, Children's Play Area, Allotments, Markets, Footpaths (with SCC)  
[www.wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](http://www.wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk)  
[clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk)  
[cemeteryclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cemeteryclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk)  
[www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk](http://www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk)

# Wickham Market's Lost Pubs

In this article about the old pubs of Wickham Market, we are looking at The Volunteer, which is located at 163 High Street.

This old pub holds a rich history that reflects the evolution of the village and its community. This establishment was once a bustling public house and baker's shop, serving as a hub for social and commercial activity in the village.



## Early History and Origins

The Volunteer Inn is believed to have been rebuilt in the 17th century on an older house site. Its historical significance is tied to its role as a gathering place for locals and workers, particularly those employed at the nearby Iron Works. Its location opposite the Iron Works gate and offices made it a convenient spot for refreshments and socialising.

## The Name and Its Legacy

The name "The Volunteer" is a nod to the Wickham Market Volunteer Force, which was established in 1848. This force gained prominence during the Franco-Prussian War and the Siege of Paris in 1870, when the French were replaced by the German First Reich as potential adversaries. The Volunteer Inn became a popular meeting place for members of the Volunteer Force, which included men from surrounding

villages such as Hacheston, Campsea Ashe, and Marlesford. After drills at the Assembly Hall (behind The White Hart), volunteers would gather at the inn, making it a lively and bustling establishment.

## A Dual Role:

### Public House and Baker's Shop

Throughout the 19th century, The Volunteer served as both a public house and a baker's shop, catering to the needs of the growing population. Census records and directories provide a glimpse into its history:

**1841-1855:** Jonathan Flory and George Thurkettle operated the premises as a baker's shop.

**1871-1881:** George Hill served as the publican, beer retailer, and baker, reflecting the dual role of the establishment.

**1912:** Edwin Rogers continued the tradition as a beer retailer and baker.

**1937:** Robert Clears Fordham managed The Volunteer as a confectioner and baker.

The inn's popularity coincided with the rise of the Iron Works in Wickham Market, which brought a surge of workers to the area. The thirst of these workers, combined with the social activities of the Volunteer Force, made The Volunteer a thriving establishment during this period.

Local newspapers from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries frequently mentioned The Volunteer Inn

in the context of community events and gatherings. Reports note that the inn was a favoured venue for volunteer meetings and social evenings, often hosting celebrations marking local milestones and charitable efforts. One article from 1887 detailed a lively evening at the inn following a parade by the Volunteer Force, highlighting the camaraderie among villagers and workers. Another report from 1920 described the inn's role in supporting charitable fundraising for families affected by industrial accidents, further illustrating its importance as a social anchor in Wickham Market.

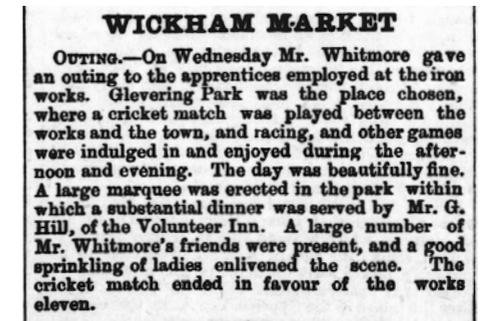
## Closure and Transformation

By the 1960s, The Volunteer Inn had closed its doors as a public house, marking the end of an era. In the 1970s, the building briefly operated as an antique shop before being converted into private residences. By 1990, The Volunteer had become two private houses, 163 and 163A High Street.

## Legacy

Although The Volunteer Inn no longer serves as a public house, its historical significance remains an integral part of Wickham Market's heritage. It stands as a reminder of the village's vibrant community life during the 19th and early 20th centuries, when it was a bustling hub for workers, volunteers, and locals.

This report, although not directly relating to The Volunteer, indicates how Mr Hill served the community, and appeared in the Framlingham Weekly News on 10th August 1878:



This is what was written about The Volunteer, in The Wickham Gazette of 3rd May 1894:

*"The Volunteer Inn, near the Iron Works, is a House of modern times and is carried on by Mr George Hill in connection with the baking business. Here formerly the baking business was carried on by Mr. John Flory, a man of immense size, but a very quiet respectable businessman. He was very fond of the violin, and in conjunction with the late Mr Dobson, of Ipswich, who travelled with tea, had many a tune. John was a regular attendant at the parish church, occupying a seat on the west end of gallery. Flory was followed by George Thurkettle in the baking business; he was a very excitable man and on one occasion he was accused*

*by one of his customers not only with taking some gravy but a piece of the joint. The war of words waxed warm, but George had a queer customer to deal with in the person of Emma Girling, and when the steam was up Emma let him have the contents of the pan by hurling it at him. No doubt for a time after having thus received the gravy Thurkettle was a slippery customer. The present occupier does a large business in the bread line, mostly supplying the Workhouse and Melton asylum."*

**Philip Tallent, Chairman,  
Wickham Market Area Archive Centre**



Children and staff at Wickham Market Primary School enjoyed an action-packed Autumn Term with a great array of engaging activities to support learning across the curriculum. We welcomed parents and carers to a selection of Curiosity Cafes; where the children share a lesson with their parents (Cafes in the Autumn focussed on DT and Phonics) and class assemblies; where the children showcase the work they have been doing in class (assemblies in the Autumn have shared work on World War 2 and the Anglo Saxons).

There was an ongoing flow of trips and visitors throughout the term. Children in nursery, reception and year 1 were visited by two local police officers who talked to the children about their jobs, how they help people and showed them their police car. Year 1 and 2 went to Gressenhall Farm to learn about the Victorian times, especially what schools were like during this era. Year 3 were invited to join the Year 3 children at Brandeston Hall for their Egyptian Day. Year 4 had a visit from UK Power Network to talk about electricity safety linking with their work in science. And Year 5 and 6 conducted some geography field work in the centre of Wickham Market, interviewing the public in connection with their work on population. In November, approximately 40 children from key stage 2 represented

the school in the local Cross Country Competition. Several of our children did incredibly well and were subsequently invited to compete in the finals.

One of the busiest, but most rewarding times to be in a primary school is Christmas and this year was no exception. We kicked off the celebrations with our choir singing Christmas songs in the square for the Christmas Market. We also invited parents to join us for 'Glitter and Glue', two Christmas plays and a celebration in church.

We are incredibly lucky to be supported in school by a fantastic team of volunteers, including PTA members, governors and reading volunteers. These individuals make a fantastic contribution to our children's lives and help connect us with our wider community. We hope that our volunteers enjoy this rewarding work; we are very grateful for all they do. We are always looking for more volunteers to join our school team. Currently we are looking for two new governors to join us. Please see our poster which explains more. We are also always looking for more PTA members, our AGM is on Monday 13th January, 7pm at the school. If you would like more information about the ways you can get involved and support the school, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

**Jo Harris, Head of School**  
Wickham Market Primary School

**We Need YOU!**

**Wickham Market Primary School are looking for community members to join our friendly School Local Governing Board.**  
This is a voluntary but rewarding role, which will help you acquire new skills and make a positive difference to children's education. Full training is given and you will be supported in the role.

**What do we do?**  
We provide challenge and support to the school leaders, assist them in creating and implementing a school development plan and policies, review school performance and provide links between the school and the local community.

**Who Can Join?**  
No particular skills are needed. Anyone over the age of 18, with a keen interest in education and school improvement can apply.

**How much time does it take?**  
Approximately 3-4 hours a month, including meetings, online training and organised school visits.

**Want to know more?**  
Please email our Head Teacher, Mrs Jo Harris, or our Chair Jo Ashburn for more information or to arrange an informal chat.

**wkt.admin@eastmat.org**

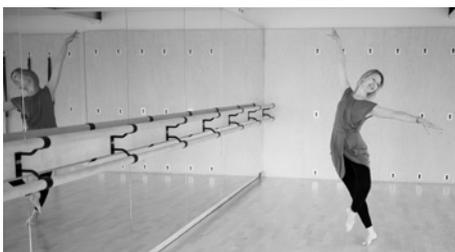


## New Year New Start!

With the evenings just starting to brighten and some cold, crisp days ahead, it's an ideal time to introduce a few positive changes to our routines.



There is a wide range of fitness activities (from gentle to strenuous) available locally, and superb walks on our doorstep.



Active Lives runs seated and standing exercise sessions for people aged 50 and above. The exercise programme is designed to keep people mobile, active, and independent. It can help make getting in and out of a chair easier, improve confidence, and reduce the risk of falling when you're out and about. To register or for more information, contact Julie Stokes at 01473 345350.

If you fancy something more energetic, why not try Powerhoop with Elie at the village hall? It's a fun fitness class using hula hoops, with a real twist! Proven to reduce your waistline, firm your tummy,

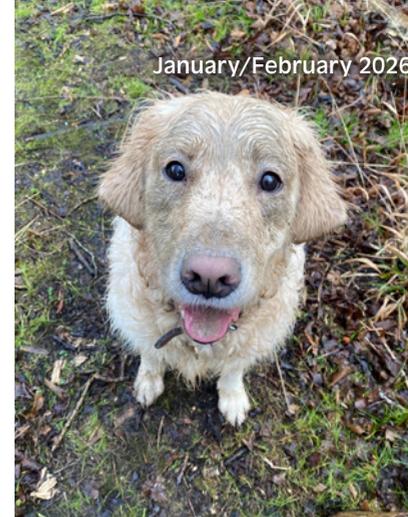
and improve fitness, coordination, and balance, it also helps to reduce back pain. For details, contact Elie on 07976 299297 or eliewri24@hotmail.co.uk.

Fiona Hering of Method Fit runs classes at The George Community Pub for people with Parkinson's and those undergoing or having completed cancer treatment. For anyone wanting to improve their general fitness, she holds regular small group fitness and training sessions at The Barn on the outskirts of the village. Contact Fiona at 07801 653085 for further details..

There are regular Saturday tennis coaching sessions at the Wickham Market tennis courts. For more information, call Martin on 0770255 9412.

LTS School of Dance runs Silver Swans adult ballet classes at the village hall weekly. Visit [www.ltsschoolofdance.com](http://www.ltsschoolofdance.com) for more information.

Cathie of Return to Stillness offers one-to-one yoga and meditation sessions in the village, while Vida Haus in Pettistree provides a wide range of Pilates and yoga classes, as well as various dance sessions with Sarah Louise Dance, both during the day and in the evening.



January/February 2026

If you prefer to exercise to a louder soundtrack, maybe BOUNCE classes held at the school or Zumba at the village hall are more your thing.

A walk with friends or the dog can really lift the mood. How about nine or 18 holes of golf at Glevering Mill just outside Wickham Market? With riding stables at Valley Farm Equestrian Leisure, there are many options to get out in the fresh air.

If you need inspiration, visit [www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk/walks-trails/](http://www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk/walks-trails/) where you'll find many suggestions and guides. Please check The George website and the village hall diary for all fitness groups and classes held at these locations.



# Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday!



The Wickham Market branch of the Royal British Legion was founded in 1926 – a hundred years ago – to support the welfare of service personnel, ex-service personnel, and their families following the First World War.

To celebrate their centenary, they are holding two days of celebrations over the weekend of the 11th and 12th April.

On Saturday, there will be a display of military vehicles, stalls, and food available from The Ration Box on the field by the village hall. There will be plenty of activities for youngsters in the 'kids' quarter' with bouncy castles, more stalls, and an ice cream van.

There will be an opportunity to sit back and enjoy live music performed from a truck stage supplied by Rackham's, featuring plenty of songs from the 1940s. Combat2Coffee, dedicated to enhancing the mental health and well-being of Veterans and their families, will be serving its own freshly roasted coffee.

At the British Legion building in Dallinghoo Road, there will be a raffle, retro games,

and a photo booth, with plenty of opportunities for visitors to dress up in wartime regalia. The fun will continue into the evening with a bar and live music.

On Sunday, 12th April, there will be a change of pace with a car boot sale on the field by the village hall and a display of military vehicles.

The British Legion will take part in the church service at All Saints' Church, which will be followed by a parade and marching brass band that will pass the war memorial, make a circuit, and arrive on The Hill, where a pennant will be added to the Standard. Later in the day, there will be an Abba tribute band and other events at the British Legion building.

*For more details, watch out for posters around the village and follow the Wickham Market British Legion Facebook page.*



# Wickham Market SPRING MARKET SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH 9:00 - 2:00



**Wickham Market  
Parish Council**  
[visitwickhammarket.co.uk/events](http://visitwickhammarket.co.uk/events)



# CONFESSIONS OF A SERIAL LITTER PICKER

**FREE EVENT**

**MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026 7pm – 9.30pm**

**THE GEORGE, WICKHAM MARKET**

**In the ACTIVITY ROOM** (Fully accessible space)



**Free teas, coffees and biscuits at the interval.**

or

**Buy drinks at the bar.**

This is a non-ticketed event. Please arrive early.

Jason Alexander provides a hugely entertaining evening packed with visuals to highlight his work.

ASSOCIATION FOR  
**SUFFOLK  
MUSEUMS**

**JETTY LANE**

**VLM**  
VINTAGE LITTER MUSEUM

