

Wickham Market

PARISH NEWS

2026

**July
August**



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

**Wickham
Market**
visitwickhammarket.co.uk

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

Meets on the third Monday of each month

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

Cemetery Clerk Leanne Castle

For more information

ivor.f@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

cemeteryclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

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VisitWickhamMarket



Wickham Market Parish Council updates



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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.

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.



Making the most of Summer in Wickham Market

It's most definitely summer, and it's great to see locals and visitors alike making the most of what Wickham Market has to offer. I hope you enjoyed our Summer Market held in June and that you are making the most of the warm weather and longer evenings, whether walking, tending allotments, enjoying the playground, or using the tennis courts and the bowling green.

Please continue to support our businesses and tradespeople – the centre pages of this edition list their contact details. We have a special event planned to support local businesses. *Read more on page 10.*

Thank you to everyone who volunteers in our community, especially to our litter pickers who are pictured here. *More details can be found on page 4.*

Ivor French

Chair of Wickham Market Parish Council

ivor.f@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH NEWS

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WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

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PRINT DEADLINES

Content for the September/October 2026 issue by Thursday 6th August 2026

Delivery: Over a two week period commencing on 14th September 2026

Contact for contributions:
deputyclerk@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.

Cover photo: Harry Ault

Community Cooperation and Action

Wickham Market Climate Change Working Party



Over the past few months, we have been working (and playing!) alongside Jason Alexander of Rubbish Walks. Back in January, Jason gave a talk at The George about his litter-picking experiences and his role as a roving Womble with the Wombles Community Charity. Wickham Market is now a registered Womble group with the charity.

In April, Jason joined us at the Beehive Field to celebrate the Wickham Market British Legion's 100th anniversary. Dressed as the Litteraptor, he led children on a litter pick before helping us build a magnificent bug hotel and site a bird box.

In May, we discussed plans with Wickham Market Library to house a Womble Station box to store all the gear for community litter picks, and Wickham Market Parish Council funded the supplies and equipment.

The Men's Shed in the village very kindly built us a wooden box to the specified size, and Blue Crocus Textiles kindly



produced some jazzy pink-and-white striped bags for collecting rubbish for recycling, glass, cans, etc.

The Womble Station was officially opened in the library on 29th May, and Jason brought the Womble puppets - Uncle Bulgaria and Orinoco - and shared Womble stories and other activities with the children.

The Womble Station is ready for use by our community group, with two buckets, litter pickers and hi-viz tops available in the library atrium for anyone to borrow whenever the building is open.

Thanks to our Womble volunteers and everyone involved in collaborating on this community venture.

The Wombles of Wickham Market will regularly meet at the library for community litter picks. Please look out for notices. All are welcome. We usually end up having coffee at Cafe 46.

Wickham Market Village Hall 75th Annual Show

Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd August 2026

A note from the Village Show Committee

75th Wickham Market Annual Show will be held at the Village Hall over the first weekend of August.

The schedule (classes and entry forms) is still available for collection from

The Post Office stores, Heavenly Hair, the Library, Revetts Butchers, and Café 46 in the village. Be quick, the deadline for the submission of entry forms is 4pm Tuesday 28th July.

The theme for 2026 is 'British Birds'. This is reflected in some classes across categories such as photography, cookery, floral arrangements, and children's activities. Feel free to incorporate our theme into any of your creative entries. Our judges are all set and look forward to seeing the hall filled with vegetables, flowers, artwork, cookery, photography, and your other creations.

We are always eager to welcome new helpers, whether it's during the extensive preparations for the show or over the weekend, involving tasks like setting out signage, arranging tables and displays, serving café refreshments, tending the raffle, managing parking, greeting visitors, packing away, and more.

If you can spare some of your time to join our friendly team, please let us know.



Sponsorship donations for the event or classes will contribute to our profits. All funds received, whether pennies or pounds, will go towards the hall modernisation project starting in autumn.

This is the 75th year of the show, but we often meet people, whether new residents or long-standing,

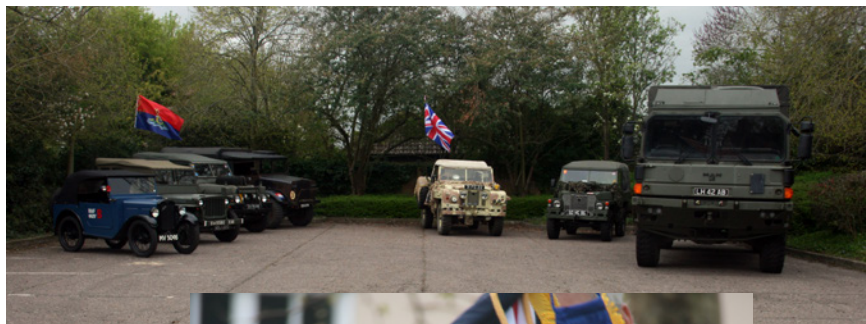
who say they haven't heard of the event before – please come along in August and enjoy the exhibits, some friendly company, raffle and tombola and very tasty refreshments, lunches and teas both days.

Details and timings are shown on the poster (page 8) and displayed around the village.

To find out more, visit the Facebook page or contact Anne Westover at ennaoverwest@btinternet.com (07586 266553) or Alison Calvesbert-Rearden at acalvesbert@gmail.com

Best wishes from Alison, Anne, Rosemary, Jenny, Gloria, and Ali.

Royal British Legion Centenary Celebrations Raise £1,500



The Royal British Legion's 100-year anniversary event was held over the weekend of the 11th and 12th of April. There was something for everyone, and all ages enjoyed themselves. It was a great community event, with people enjoying the classic cars and military vehicles and browsing the stalls. There was food and drink available, live music, and the youngsters had fun on the bouncy castles.

Stephanie Whiting, who arranged the two-day event, said, "I would like to say a massive 'thank you' to all the volunteers, the local businesses, the Parish Council, and everyone who attended for their support. My thanks also go to Ruth Leigh for opening the event with her wonderful speech, the church bell ringers for ringing the bells and Sharon Bird for singing".

The event raised a fantastic £1,500, including the book auction and the street collection and has been shared between the Royal British Legion Branch Club and the Wickham Market Poppy Appeal.



For more information regarding the Wickham Market Royal British Legion, please visit their Facebook page.

STOP PRESS

Stephanie Whiting intends to form a committee to resurrect the Wickham Market Carnival, with the first event planned for the summer of 2027.

To find out more, contact her via email at stephwhiting1977@gmail.com.



Wickham Market Village Hall

75th Annual Show 2026

Show theme of 'British Birds'

Saturday 1st August
12.30pm – 4.30pm

Sunday 2nd August
12pm – 3pm

Followed by **Presentation of awards and Raffle**

Refreshments and Tombola both days

Schedule with entry form available from the Post Office, Library, Revetts Butchers, Café 46 and Heavenly Hair

Entry Deadline Tuesday 28th July '26



Could you spare some time to help us assist adult residents of Wickham Market as a phone holder volunteer?

A couple of our phone holders have recently resigned for personal reasons and we are in serious need of additional help. The phone holders are vital to our operation as they receive calls from clients requesting our help and then match the appropriate volunteer to the task. Without these volunteers our scheme would have to close.

We provide help to people in our village who otherwise would be unable to attend appointments or activities. In the year to April 2026 we carried out nearly 500 tasks, the majority of which involved visits to the hospital, GP, dentist, optician, physio and day care. Other jobs carried out included collecting prescriptions, shopping, minor DIY, computer assistance and lifts to the hairdresser and social activities.

If you are interested, please contact us by calling **07914 494108** to discuss, or come along to one of our coffee mornings on the first Tuesday of the month, 10am to midday, in the activity room of The George.

Business Training Workshop for Small, Local Business Owners



Nic Pandolfi is an award-winning communications and media consultant based in East Suffolk, known for turning complex digital trends into practical, jargon-free advice for businesses, sole traders, and charities.

Nic says: "My goal is to take the 'tech-overwhelm' out of your workday and replace it with a clear plan of digital action."

Wickham Market Parish Council, with support from East Suffolk Council, has invited Nic to lead a morning workshop designed specifically for small business owners.

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Friday 25 September

Time: 9.00am–1.00pm

Venue: Conference Room, Roland Group, Roland Terrace, High Street, Wickham Market, Woodbridge IP13 0RF

Cost: £15 per person

Refreshments: Included

Booking is essential.

To book, please visit...

<https://visitwickhammarket.co.uk/events/>

What You'll Learn

GOOGLE: Your Digital Front Door

- Optimise your Google Business Profile to improve local visibility.
- Create a "Perfect Profile" using photos, services and keywords.
- Generate more customer reviews and understand profile analytics.

AI: Work Smarter, Not Harder

- Discover practical AI tools that can save time and boost productivity.
- Learn effective prompting techniques for marketing, emails and planning.
- Identify business tasks that can be automated and create social media content more efficiently.

VISUAL STORYTELLING:

Instagram & Threads

- Build a stronger visual brand without professional photography.
- Use Threads to engage customers and humanise your business.
- Manage both platforms with a simple, time-saving workflow.

For further information, contact the Deputy Clerk at deputyclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk



Supported by



EMERGENCY NUMBERS

FALLEN TREES

0345 606 6171

HIGHWAY FLOODING: SCC

0345 606 6171 or 0300 1235000

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

A H Plumbing & Heating

2 Old Orchard Cottages, Gelham Hall Road IP13 ONE

07539 449667

www.alfiehuntplumbing@gmail.com

ALL ABOUT HEARING LTD

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www.allabouthearing.co.uk

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01728 746999

allinautoservices@btconnect.com

BAYFIELDS DIGITAL

TV Aerials, Satellite TV, WiFi, CCTV
9 Riverside View Industrial Estate

01728 745745

www.bayfieldsdigital.com

BELLISSIMA BEAUTY

Beauty Treatments and Gifts
46 High Street **01728 746981**

www.bellissima-beauty.co.uk

THE BENGAL

Indian Restaurant/Takeaway
70 High Street **01728 747767**

www.the-bengal.co.uk

BLUE CROCUS TEXTILES

Curtains, Lampshades, Blinds, Cushions and Loose Covers
75 High Street, IP13 0RA

01473 487844

www.bluecrocustextiles.com

CAFÉ 46

Cakes, Coffee, Lunch and More
46 High Street www.cafe46.co.uk

COOPERATIVE SUPERMARKET

14-18 High Street **01728 746313**

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

ENGLISH GRAIN

Bespoke Kitchens and Furniture
181 High Street **07850 416487**
www.englishgrain.co.uk

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

EVOLVE LIFETIME LTD

Independent Mortgage and Equity Release Advisers
Dallinghoo Rd, IP13 ORP
01473 798500
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

HEAVENLY HAIR

Hairdressers and Barbers
73 High Street **01728 746616**
www.heavenlyhair.co.uk/wickham-market

HIGH HOUSE CHILD CARE

Day Nursery at Wickham Market
220 High St **01728 746970**
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

JIM MALTBY

Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Probate
11 Observers Road **07765 253756**
jimemaltby@hotmail.com

MANN WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Wealth and Retirement Planning,
46 High Street, IP13 OQS
01394 388181 www.mannwm.co.uk

MARKHAM FUNERAL SERVICE

IP13 OAA **01728 747795**
www.markhamfuneralservice.co.uk

RUTH MAY PILATES & PHYSIOTHERAPY

Vida Haus, Pettistree IP13 OHW
07985 600176 ruthmaypilatesphysio.co.uk

METHOD FIT

Personal Training, Group Fitness Classes & Parkinson's Support
The Barn, Bridge Farm IP13 OAA
07801 653085 www.methodfit.uk

PETER HALL FLOORING

34 High Street **01728 746416**
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

NR RESTORATIONS

Property Renovations, Refurbishments
Nathan Reay **07432 241101**
nrrestorations@icloud.com

NULIFE FURNISHINGS

Curtains, Upholstery, Soft Furnishings
17 Riverside View Industrial Estate
01728 747745
www.nu-lifefurnishings.co.uk

OFFSET FILMS

Film and Video Production
179D High Street **01473 598669**
www.offsetfilms.co.uk

OLD SCHOOL EMPORIUM

High Street, IP13 OHE
07904 084503
Instagram: old_school_emporium

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

THE ORCHARD CAMPSITE

Campsite plus fully equipped Safari Tent
28 Spring Lane **07818 034729**
www.orchardcampsite.co.uk

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theparlour179@icloud.com

E R & R T RACKHAM LTD

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01728 746207 www.rackhamltd.co.uk

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32 High Street **07845 599256**
www.rebeccasreflexology.co.uk

RETURN TO STILLNESS

Yoga Classes and Meditation
07734 469038 / 01728 747001
www.returntotillnes.co.uk

E W REVETT & SON

Butchery/Fine Food & Wine, 81 High St
01728 746263 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

D A RUSE PLUMBING & HEATING

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

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Charity Shop 54 High Street
www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk

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22 High Street **01728 747427**
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

ANNA SHAND

Chiropodist/Podiatrist/Reflexology
77B High Street
07856 525996 / 07916 271688

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

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

VIDA HAUS

Wellbeing Centre 3 Tuns IP13 OHW
07718 192888 www.vida.haus/home

WICKHAM MARKET ANTIQUES

Vintage, Antiques & Collectables
5 Riverside View Industrial Estate
01728 746700
www.wickhammarketantiques.co.uk

WICKHAM MARKET DENTAL CLINIC

2 Crown House, Crown Lane
01728 746220
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
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 2pm
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

Tennis Club

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

Bowls Club

Village Hall Playing Field IP13 OHE
01728 746715

Glevering Mill Golf Course

www.gleveringmill.co.uk **07850 731932**

VALLEY FARM

Pony Club

www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/pony-club

Tots Pony Club

www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/riding-tiny-tots

Young Equestrians Club

www.valleyfarm.co.uk/content/young-equestrians

VILLAGE HALL

To hire the Village Hall, please visit
www.wmvillagehall.org.uk/bookings/
and follow the booking guide.

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

Gardening Club

Monthly third Thursday 7:30 pm
wmgardenclub27@gmail.com

Toddler and Baby Group

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

Wickham Market WI

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

Wickham Market Flower Club

Last Thursday of the month.
Contact Anne on **01394 383424**

Chloe's Kinrade School of Dance

Wednesday's & Thursdays. **07940 469026**
chloekinradeschoolofdance@gmail.com

Powerhoop Elie

Tuesdays **07976 299297**

LTS School of Dance - Silver Swans

Thursdays **07872 436307**

USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Crown Lane, IP13 OSA **01728 748224**

For Sunday Service information please visit
warden@wickhammarketchurch.org
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

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 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

WHICH COUNCIL?

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

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

EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL

Waste collection, Pay car parks, Planning
0333 016 2000 www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk
District Councillor:
Sally Noble 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
clerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk
cemeteryclerk@wickhammarket-pc.gov.uk
www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk

Having taken a look at the old pubs of Wickham Market, we now turn to another part of the village's story: the buildings that have stood for generations, the families who once lived and worked in them, and the people who carry them forward today.

The Story of Crafers, 46 High Street, Wickham Market



Many of the houses lining Wickham Market's High Street have fascinating stories, but few can match the rich history of Crafers, now known as 46 High Street. Over more than three centuries, the house has been home to surgeons, clergy, solicitors and local personalities whose lives were closely interwoven with the village's history.



The oldest part of the building dates from the seventeenth century, when a modest house stood side-on to the road. Around 1708, a much grander residence, described in later records

as the "Mansion House", was added. A cartouche in the roof where the two sections meet still records this date. The initials "H.R.S." may refer to Robert Sheppard, a member of the influential Sheppard family of Campsea Ashe, who is thought to have commissioned the new building.

One of the most notable occupants was **Dr Samuel Salmon** (1721–1796), a surgeon whose family had originated in Saxmundham and had become numerous and remarkably long-lived. The Salmons were closely associated with Wickham Market for generations and regarded it as their home even after some family members had moved elsewhere.

Dr Salmon's career became entangled in one of East Suffolk's most celebrated inheritance disputes. In 1764, he became involved in the legal battle between the Nauntton family of Wales and the Leman family of Beccles over ownership of the Letheringham Abbey estate. The case dragged on for years before finally ending in 1773 with the Naunttons' defeat. The affair appears to have damaged Dr Salmon's reputation and left him financially weakened.



Despite these difficulties, the Salmon family continued to prosper. Dr Salmon's son, William, moved first to Pettistree and later to Penllyn Court after the marriage of Dr William Salmon, Samuel's grandson, to Hester Deere, the estate's heiress. Yet the family's connection with Wickham Market remained strong. Members of the family continued to be buried in the churchyard, maintaining ties with their ancestral village. The most remarkable of them was Dr William Salmon, who lived to the extraordinary age of 106.

A century later, Crafers became home to another distinguished resident, **James Pringle Barclay** (c.1829–1884). A barrister and Deputy Clerk of the Privy Seal to George IV, Barclay was an influential figure in village life. He held progressive political views and sought to encourage education and self-improvement among local people.

During the 1860s he organised "Penny Readings" at the old Town Hall, providing affordable literary and educational entertainment for residents. These events were popular throughout Victorian Britain and reflected Barclay's belief that learning should be accessible to all.

James and his wife Emily raised five children in Crafers. Census records show that the household employed three domestic servants, while clerks worked in Barclay's legal practice. The house would therefore have been a busy centre of both family and professional life. Barclay died at the age of 87 and was buried in Wickham Market Cemetery, leaving behind a reputation as one of the village's most prominent nineteenth-century residents.

In 1941, **Dr Harold Paul Lehmann** exchanged Lynn House, 93a High Street, for this property and, in 1973, named it Crafers, after a small village in Australia. The building also served as his surgery during his long years as Wickham

Market's doctor, from about 1927 until 1973; Lehmann House was later named in his honour. Dr Lehmann is also said to have kept a large model railway on the top floor, where he would invite friends to share in his enjoyment of it.

Today, despite the house changing hands many times and its former lands largely disappearing, Crafers remains a vivid reminder of Wickham Market's past. Its walls have witnessed centuries of local history, from Georgian legal intrigues and Victorian reforming zeal to the quieter, everyday lives of the families who called it home. As we pass along the High Street, it is worth remembering that behind the familiar façade lies a story spanning more than 300 years.



Crafers, seen on the right, at the 1950 Fairground on The Hill



Crafers Today

Yet Crafers is not only a building of historical interest; it remains firmly woven into everyday life in Wickham Market. The former residence is now home to three well-established local businesses: Café No. 46, Bellissima Beauty, and Mann Wealth Management, a recent addition to the building.

Café 46 occupies the prominent frontage overlooking the Market Square, continuing a long tradition of hospitality and community gathering. Visitors can stop for coffee, light lunches, handmade cakes and refreshments while watching daily life unfold in the centre of Wickham Market. With its emphasis on local produce, it has become a familiar meeting place for residents, visitors and the many cyclists who pass through the village. In recent years, a new chapter has begun under its current ownership, while its place in the village's social life continues.

Alongside the café, Bellissima Beauty has served clients in Wickham Market for many years. The salon offers a wide range of beauty and wellbeing treatments and has become a familiar feature of the village's commercial life. Established in the heart of Wickham

Market for nearly three decades, it shows how this historic building has adapted to changing needs while remaining closely connected to the community.

Mann Wealth Management is a more recent addition to the building and brings a different kind of service to the building's present-day life. Offering advice on wealth management, financial planning and retirement matters, it reflects how Crafers continues to evolve while still playing an active role in village life.

More than three hundred years after the Mansion House was built, Crafers remains a living part of Wickham Market. Although the lawyers, surgeons, clergy and doctors have long since departed, the building still welcomes people through its doors every day. In that sense, it is not merely a survivor from the village's past but part of its continuing life.

Philip Tallent, Chairman,
Wickham Market Area Archive Centre

This article is based on research compiled by the Wickham Market Area Archive Centre and other local historical sources. Readers with additional information or family connections to Crafers are always welcome to contact the Archive Centre.



The beginning of the summer term has been full of exciting experiences out of school and engaging learning opportunities in school!

Children in Year 4 have been inspired by their class book *The Explorer* (by Katherine Rundell), which is set in the rainforest. They have been very busy designing, making and testing rafts; writing guides about the 10 items which they feel would be most essential for survival in the rainforest and creating rainforest mood boards. In their P.E. lessons they have thoroughly enjoyed developing their tennis skills each week. We are very grateful to Wickham Market Tennis Club for kindly allowing us to use their fantastic courts.

At the beginning of the summer term Year 3 put on their lab coats and goggles and enjoyed an afternoon of 'Colourful Chemistry', a workshop kindly provided by Cimone Bedward from the Leiston Education Partnership. They enjoyed learning about acids and alkalines, before making their very own lava lamps! When the last question of the day from the children is 'How do I become a scientist?' You know it's been a good day!

Year 3 and 4 also enjoyed a fun-packed day at the School Farm and Country Fair recently. Some of the many activities they took part in included: dissecting owl pellets, pond-dipping, meeting farm animals, visiting the food tent to find out where our food comes from (and tasting it!), a ride on a trailer pulled by a tractor, investigating emergency service vehicles and watching horse and dog displays. We were extremely proud of the way our children conducted themselves throughout the busy day.



Year 6 had a great day sailing and rowing in Aldeburgh! The children had lots of fun out on the water, taking turns sailing and showing great support for one another throughout. At the end of the day, the children showed great appreciation to the volunteer instructors who supported them throughout, which was lovely to see. Whilst Year 5 went to the Centre for Computing History in Cambridge! The children explored the history of computing, listened to a brilliant (and

very unique) talk from Neil Fraser — a computer engineer who has worked for Google. They were very lucky as he was only visiting from Zurich and was there for just one day. They also enjoyed hands-on activities looking at how computers work and even sent Morse code messages to each other!

The children from EYFS and Year 1 enjoyed a trip to Jimmy's Farm. They learnt about many animals, noticed a goat ready to give birth, watched a reindeer calf feed from its mother, learnt new Makaton signs and spotted many of our



favourite animals. They loved the leaf cutter ants and the alligator the most! Year 1 and 2 enjoyed an exciting trip to Orford Castle as part of their history topic and in DT have been designing and making delicious wraps to eat.

And that's only been the first half of the term! We look forward to sharing more with you next time!

Jo Harris
Head of School
Wickham Market Primary School



Little Avocets Nursery Class



Places available for September 2026

Come and see what makes our school a great place for your child to learn and grow. Tours can be arranged at a time to suit you.

To book a visit, please contact our school office at WickhamAdmin@wmmps.eastmat.org or call **01728 746405**.

Our School Nursery Offer:

-  Vibrant, fun classrooms and excellent outdoor learning opportunities.
-  Set in seven acres with access to the primary school facilities.
-  Qualified teachers and dedicated experienced staff.
-  Forest School training Early Years teacher, with weekly sessions in our onsite woodland.
-  Flexible nursery sessions 8:45 – 3:30, with wrap around care from 7:45 – 5:00.
-  Allows flexible use of 15 and 30 hours free childcare and paid private sessions also available.
-  For children aged 3 years and over.

Learn, Play, Grow!




Book a tour at WickhamAdmin@wmmps.eastmat.org or call **01728 746405**.

We look forward to meeting you.



Photo: Gary Baker

All Saints Church

By the time you read this, the football World Cup will be in its final stages, or even over! There will be many disappointed people, and some very happy ones. It is only temporary; the next World Cup will be along in 2030!

At the Summer Market in June, the church focused on the World Cup, inviting people to try to score goals.

We also emphasised that Jesus saves and that He is the greatest prize. This is even bigger news than the World Cup. You can find out more about what this means for you at our regular Sunday services at 11am at All Saints Church.

Peter Elliott, Lay Elder

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

DATE	TIME	SERVICE/EVENT
5 July	11am	Communion Service
12 July	11am	Contemporary Service, including an interview with a member of the congregation
12 July	3pm	Oasis Informal Afternoon Service with refreshments
19 July	9:30am	Communion Service
19 July	10:30am	Tea and Toast, followed by TOGETHER@11 Informal Café-Style Service
19 July	6:30pm	Praise & Prayer Informal Service
26 July	11am	Contemporary Service with Testimony Time
2 August	11am	Communion Service
9 August	11am	Contemporary Service, including an interview with a member of the congregation
9 August	3pm	Oasis Informal Afternoon Service with refreshments
16 August	9:30am	Communion Service
16 August	10:30am	Tea and Toast, followed by TOGETHER@11 Informal Café-Style Service
16 August	6:30pm	Praise & Prayer Informal Service
23 August	11am	Contemporary Service with Testimony Time
30 August	11am	Contemporary Service



WICKHAM MARKET

HARVEST MARKET

35 Stalls and Entertainment

**Saturday 12th September, 2026
9am–2pm on The Hill**

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL

www.visitwickhammarket.co.uk

