# Colton, Easton & Marlingford

Your Community: Stories & News



# October 2021 online edition

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#### Information for the Villages

St. Peter's VC Primary School, Easton 01603 880553

**Easton College** 01603 731200

Easton College Tennis Centre 01603 731302

Colton Village Hall Vicky Green, vicky@mgarchery.co.uk 01603 881336

Colton Carpet Bowls Club Dennis Mickleburgh, Avalon, The

Street, Colton 01603 880391

**Easton Bowls Club Secretary** Mrs. Cossey, 28 Woodview Rd, Easton 01603 880789

Easton Crafters Club Mrs Janet Morris 01603 471144

**Easton Football Club** Michael Cossey, 73 Marlingford Way, Easton 01603 880143

Easton Good Companions Pamela Hooker 01603 880867

Easton Gym Club enquiries@eastongymnasticsclub.com 01603 960511

Easton Judo Club Coach Chris Abel, 29 Goulburn Rd, Norwich chris@eastonjudoclub.co.uk 0845 388 6895

Easton Junior Football Gavin Tipple

gtipple@easton-college.ac.uk 01603 731585

Easton Jun & Sen Netball Karl Chapman kchapman@easton-college.co.uk

Easton Post Office Open Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am-2pm 01603 880007

Easton Village Hall Mrs Cossey, 28 Woodview Rd., Easton 01603 880789

Easton W.I. Sec Mrs Cossey, 28 Woodview Rd., Easton 01603 880789

#### Marlingford Village Hall Bookings

Pauline Baker 01603 881268

John Bailey, jaydeebailey@gmail.com 01603 880266

#### **Doctors (Surgeries):**

Costessey, Roundwell 01603 744014

Beechcroft 01603 746683 Hethersett 01603 811323 Mattishall 01362 850227

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#### Hospitals

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Julian & Hellesdon 01603 421421

Dereham, Northgate 01362 692391

Kelling 01263 713333

Community Car Scheme Jean & Dave Ditton 01603 880857

Citizens' Advice Bureau Wymondham 03444 111444

Relate 01603 625333

**Samaritans** 01603 611311

#### Parish Council Clerks

**Easton** Gina Lopes 07879 379181

clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Marlingford &

Maria Hutson

07759 534885

Colton

marling for dand colt on pc@gmail.com

### Councillor: South Norfolk District & Norfolk County

Mrs. Margaret Dewsbury, 6 Park Avenue, Barford NR9 4BA 01603 759693

### The Grapevine

Editor/Designer

Clare Howard

clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk

Contributions for inclusion should reach the Editor by the **15**<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.

**Treasurer** Carol Chiles, 7 Juniper Close,

01603 502201

Cringleford, Norwich carolachiles@gmail.com

### Grapevine Advertising

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heronsbridge20@btinternet.com

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	eastonbeneficeoffice@gmail.com 172 Fairways, Queen's Hills, Costessey, NF	R8 5GB
Associate Priest	Revd Penny Goodman garry.goodman@btinternet.com	01603 279393
Reader	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton	01603 880255
St Peter's Chur	ch, Easton	
Churchwardens	Peter Pease, 19 Woodview Road, Easton	01603 880255
	Margaret Seely, 8 Kennedy Close, Easton	01603 880888
PCC Secretary	Anthony Perry, 7 Pegg Close, Easton	01603 882265
Treasurer	Dave Batchelor, 9 Cleves Way, Old Costessey davejbatchelor@sky.com	01603 322987
St Andrew's Ch	urch – Colton	
Churchwarden	Sarah Smith Bickerston Cottage, Church Lane, Colton	01603 757865
PCC Secretary	Liz Plater Church Cottages, Church Lane, Colton	01603 880556
Treasurer	Judy Scrivener, The Old Post Office, Norwich Rd, Colton, NR9 5BZ	01603 881540
St Mary's Chur	ch – Marlingford	
Churchwardens	Felicity Maton West Cottage, Barford Rd, Marlingford	01603 880846
PCC Secretary	Felicity Maton West Cottage, Barford Rd, Marlingford	01603 880846
Treasurer	Carol Chiles 7 Juniper Close, Cringleford, Norwich carolachiles@gmail.com	01603 502201
St Mary & St W	/alstan's Church – Bawburgh	
Churchwarden	Susan Knight	07876 717487

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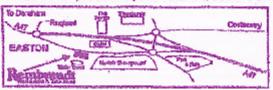


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# Grapevine: Your Community News

Grapevine is having a bit of a revamp over the next few months. We hope you enjoy reading it and feel inspired to share your news.

**Contribute:** we want Grapevine to reflect the whole life of the villages of Colton, Easton and Marlingford - so we need to hear from you! Please:

- tell us about the events you are planning and report back on the events you have held!
- tell us about your interests and share your observations or memories from around the local area!



- send us your local photos!
- share your thoughts on what you would like us to include!

Through your Door: After this issue, there will be one more digital issue (November) and then we are pleased to confirm that the end of year edition (December/January) will be professionally printed and delivered to every home in Easton, Colton and Marlingford - please let us know if you can help with delivering in your area.

**Advertise:** We will soon be looking for advertisers for 2022: If you, or someone you know, might be interested please get in touch with Sally Neale, heronsbridge20@btinternet.com.

**Deadline:** For the next edition, covering November, the copy deadline is **18th October**. Please send your contributions to **clare@ragbagprojects.co.uk**.

With best wishes

Clare Howard: Editor

Carol Chiles, Felicity Maton, Sally Neale: Grapevine Board

## **Beat News**

#### **Dog Ear Clipping - Illegal Activity Increasing**

Our colleagues from the RSPCA have warned of an increase in ear cropping in dogs around Norfolk and bordering counties. The animal welfare charity has seen reports of the illegal practice surge by more than 600% in six years.

Ear cropping has no benefits for the dog and tends to be carried out purely for cosmetic reasons. The process can have serious, long-term welfare implications for a dog's health and behaviour.



Ear cropping is illegal in England and Wales, but the practice is still legal in

other parts of the world, and there's a fear that more and more dogs are being sent abroad for cropping or being purchased and imported from overseas. Anyone who suspects someone is cropping their dogs' ears should report this to the RSPCA's emergency hotline on 0300 1234 999.

#### **Cold Calling Scams**

We've received a few calls about a group offering to **tarmac** and **chip driveways**. They appear to be following the County Council teams who are redoing the plainings on the road, claiming they have left over chips and tarmac from the day's work. They say they will do it for £50 cash before then changing the cost to large amounts and becoming very aggressive when challenged. Please do not buy any goods or services from people at the doorstep, the council will not offer such services nor do cash in hand jobs like this – these are rogue traders.

We have also received reports of doorstep cold callers attempting to sell **household cleaning products**. These cold callers will often claim to be 'ex offenders', are part of a 'youth offending scheme' or that they have 'recently left the army' and will attempt to sell household products from large bags or rucksacks they are carrying.

If you sight cold callers in Norfolk please contact us through our partners, the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on freephone 0808 223 1133 or to Norfolk Constabulary via 101 or their website www.norfolk.police.uk.

If you feel intimidated or sight cold callers and are concerned for vulnerable neighbours call 999

#### **Goodbye from Andy**

I am moving on from my role as South Norfolk Engagement Officer. It has been a challenging 18 months since I took on the role in February 2020: who would have predicted Covid would take hold as much as it did! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the communities and wish you all the best for the future. South Norfolk is a lovely part of the County with so many caring, helpful people living and working within it. A replacement will be introduced shortly but in the meantime if you need to contact Norfolk Constabulary then please do so via 999/101, our website or your local Beat Managers.

PC460 Andrew Hudson

### Phone Cable Theft

Residents in part of Marlingford are angry and dismayed that for a third time their landline phones have been disconnected! It is known that this is caused by lengths of cable being stolen at night and it takes days for new cable to be replaced.



There are elderly and vulnerable people who rely on their landline phones, some connected to emergency carelines, which now do not work. We are told the Police are aware and have attended.

A good community is built by good neighbours: please keep an eye out for people who might need a bit of help (respecting their privacy, of course).

Felicity Maton, 21 September 2021

# Little Owls has Reopened!

We are delighted that Little Owls has now restarted in Colton Village Hall from 9.15 onwards until 11am. We meet every Monday during term time.

Colton's Little Owls 'stay and play' group is for babies and toddlers. Babies have a quiet area and toddlers have a space to play together. We have a very good supply of toys and often join together for singing and stories. The group has a set of weighing scales.

The group is 'under the wing' of the Benefice of Easton, Colton, Marlingford and Bawburgh and welcomes parents, grandparents, carers and children from those four villages and other villages close by such as Barford and Barnham Broom. All are very welcome.



little ouls

We ask for a 50p donation towards coffee and tea.

If you would like any further information please contact Katie Kemp (07790276499) or Penny Nixon (07714255024)

# Norfolk Churches Trust Cycle & Walk

September 11th was a fine day to visit as many churches as possible, sponsored for the charity and Church of your choice. Churches in our Benefice each had a place for the travellers to sign in and some offered refreshments. Marlingford had 10 visitors and Colton



11. One couple who began their bike ride at Marlingford rode as far away as Fleggburgh, north of Acle and visited 22 churches, a distance of 75 kilometres - and they enjoyed it!

Felicity Maton

# Community Car Scheme

It is hoped to re-start the Car Community Scheme from the beginning of October. This service is for people aged 60 years or over. To book transport for Doctors or



Hospital contact Jean & Dave Ditton on 01603 880857.

# Caring for this Beautiful Planet

This unique, beautiful world is in grave danger. In November, world leaders will meet in Glasgow for crucial climate negotiations. We need to take action. We believe it is time to make decisions which protect people, not bank balances, to decide that no country will go into debt tackling climate change. It is a decade-defining opportunity to make a stand.

The Pilgrimage across Norfolk in August, organised by Quakers and the Anglican church, was part of a wider movement progressing in relays up the spine of the UK, aiming to arrive in Glasgow in time for the climate conference. We walked as people of different faiths and of none, as an act of connection with the earth on which we step, the people with whom we travel, and the communities through which we pass. We did so in kinship with the suffering peoples and creatures of the earth, displaced by climate and ecological breakdown.

We welcome everyone to join us in expressing our urgent concern that COP26 produces realistic commitments to the radical changes needed to save the planet from ecological disaster. Write, as we have done, to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor and your MP telling them of your concern for the world,



and asking them to make serious changes to lead the world at this crucial time. And pray for the success of our mission.

Frances and George Middleton with quotes from Peter Belton's Pilgrimage Mission statement

# Get Composting!

Homemade compost is much cheaper than buying it sacks, and it is easier to make than you might think! For advice and encouragement, you can contact the County Council's Master Composters, who are happy to speak to individuals or give talks to groups.

The scheme started in 2006. The main aim of the programme is to raise awareness amongst the wider public of the benefits of composting, through a network of volunteer advisors.

There are Master Composters of every age group and they come from a wide variety of backgrounds. This contributes to the effectiveness of the scheme – Master Composters can reach parts of communities that other compost promoting activities cannot.

To get help with your compost, or to find out how to become a Master Composter, email mastercomposters@norfolk.gov.uk.





# Marlingford Movies

present

# Little Women

Saoirse Ronan Emma Watson Florence Pugh Eliza Scanlen



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# Marlingford & Colton Parish Council

#### https://marlingfordcolton.wixsite.com/mcpc

Welcome to the Marlingford and Colton Parish Council section of Grapevine.

#### Ditches and hedges

As we head into autumn now is a good time to cut back hedges and clear drainage ditches. If you are aware of problems with overgrown signage or potholes in the road for example these can be reported to Norfolk County Council at <a href="https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem">www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem</a>. If



you spot any fly tipping on the verges or other public land go to <a href="https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/fly-tipping">www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/fly-tipping</a> to report it.

### **Precept setting and Parish Council spending**

Each year the council sets their annual precept. This is the contribution from residents council tax which comes directly to the Parish Council. For a band D property this was £51.55 for 2021/22. The precept is set by the parish council and will include allocations for keeping the amenity areas in good condition, contributions towards the churches as well as contributions towards Grapevine and the Community Car scheme. If you believe there is a project within the parish that could be supported by

project within the parish that could be supported by the parish council or that needs support applying for funding please get in touch with the Parish Clerk on the details below.

#### Compost bins

In conjunction with local authorities and Norfolk County Council they are promoting the use of home composters and Bokashi bins to manage garden and food waste at home. The prices for each bin have been subsidised, the details of which are on the leaflet reproduced on page 14.

#### **Parish Council Meetings**

Parish Council Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm (except August). The meetings are now being held face to face in accordance with current Coronavirus restrictions with social distancing. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th October at Colton Village Hall

Maria Hutson, Clerk to Marlingford and Colton Parish Council, telephone: 07759 534885

email: marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com website: https://marlingfordcolton.wixsite.com/mcpc

# Colton Christmas Planning

It will very soon be Advent (a strange thing to be writing when the temperature today has hit 30 degrees!). We are very much hoping that we will be able to hold our usual Carol Service with the Cawston Brass Band on Sunday 19 December.



Many will know that we give the collection from the Carol Service to St Martin's Housing Trust (The Night Shelter).

Last year, when we were unable to have the Carol Service, we organised a fun village fund raising event (The Colton 100) and were wondering whether anyone in the village has an inspired idea as to what we might do as a village event this year both to bring us all together and to raise money for those who find themselves homeless at Christmas?

Sarah Smith and I are very happy to be involved but are looking for ideas and a team to work with!

Liz Plater

# Support your Community

Could you help put Grapevine through your neighbours' letterboxes in Colton? It isn't a big job, but it is a very important one! Please contact Liz Plater on 01603 880556 for more information.

## News from St Andrew's, Colton

St Andrew's held services every Sunday during the summer. As the largest Church in the Benefice we could accommodate all who wanted to worship with us, whilst social distancing. It has been a particular joy to have coffee outside most Sundays. Now we can sing again, albeit behind a mask, we are pleased that our organist, Sandy, has returned to play for us. We are now planning to visit all four churches in the Benefice each month.

On 5 September we were delighted to welcome Dudley Watts and his wife Lynette to the service and formally thank Dudley for all the work he has done as Fabric Officer for nearly 20 years. He has achieved much for the church and village. In thanking him, David Organ reminded us that Dudley has led restoration projects, including the Nave reroofing and work on the Tower, along with regular maintenance work, liaison with architects and builders and countless small tasks that mean the fabric of the church is in very good condition. We are delighted that Terry Scrivener has agreed to take on the role and I know he and the PCC will gratefully receive any offers of help when we have church and churchyard maintenance days.

Liz Plater. Secretary to the PCC

# Marlingford Church 50 Club

The results of the draw for the quarter, July, August, September are:

1st	No 32	John Bailey	£50
2nd	No 30	Mary Windham	£35
3rd	No 46	Debbie Horner	£25

# **Easton Parish Council**

### www.eastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Welcome to news from Easton Parish Council.

#### Bus shelter external revamp completed

All had agreed the bus shelter on Dereham Road was looking a bit worse for wear and could do with a revamp. After lots of thoughts and consideration of various ideas and themes, design panels were agreed. Initially the entire shelter had to be prepared and painted with a specific paint to stabilise the surface in readiness for the artwork. The external panels were then painted by local art company, Harper Art Services. The scenes reflect the different areas of Easton including Easton College, the cross keys of St Peter's and the water tower. There are also special tributes to reflect the great contribution of our key workers and the NHS. Councillors are extremely pleased with the finished article and hope you will agree this is now a shelter to be proud of. We are working with the artist on designs for the inside of the shelter

#### Work to Seat next to the Village Sign

Having completed a refurbishment of the Village Sign recently it was felt the bench beside it also needed attention. This has now been completely renovated and is back good as new and ready for many years of service to residents.

#### Play areas Update

Jubilee Playing Field – Councillors are delighted to see how well used this play area has been during the summer months. The new equipment has been well received by the village children and is a great asset. The new fencing along the hedged boundary should be installed as soon as the contractor receives the fencing. The current wire net fencing will be reallocated to the allotment site

**Multi-Use Games Area** - This area is due to have the surface refreshed with new lines painted over shortly.

College Heights - The play area at College Heights has received additional equipment and work is still ongoing and will enhance the offering at this site. The Teen Shelter has been completed and is in full use. The Gym equipment has been moved to the nearby pathway as this is aimed more for adult use. These changes and additional equipment should maximise the play value of this lovely site.

**St Peters Drive** – This Play area has benefitted from a complete overhaul with new equipment installed representing a shipwreck theme. The area is proving popular with our youngest residents and many happy days will be had here.

**Cardinal Close** – Installation of new equipment has been halted at this time but it is hoped to be restarted shortly once measures are in place to guarantee safety.

#### **General Handyperson**

The Parish Council often requires small jobs to be undertaken within the Village and are seeking to employ a General Handyperson for these tasks on an "as and when" basis. If you feel you could offer your services please email the Clerk to Easton Parish



Council at <a href="mailto:clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk">clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>

#### **Persimmon Homes**

Have now started phase 1 of their development, they still have not found a solution to comply with Condition 22 of the original application. Until this condition is complied with, they are unable to build up above pad level. Easton Parish Council have sought legal advice and will look to ensure full compliance.

### **Crossing points Dereham Road**

The Parish Council is working with Norfolk County Council Highways and Orbit Homes to find a way to deliver safe crossing points along the Dereham Road

#### **COVID 19 & Winter preparations**

As the Government considers it's winter planning for managing Covid in the UK, please remember to act safely at all times. Please consider the reminders below and be considerate to your family, friends and neighbours. Elderly and vulnerable people may need additional assistance, please think ahead if you know of any one in this group and make preparations well in advance.

<u>Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance and support - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

Coronavirus (COVID-19) - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

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#### **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Easton Parish Council meeting will be held on the 8 October at 09:30am at the Village Hall. Full Covid restrictions on entry to the meeting will be posted on the Parish Council website and main notice board at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting.

Gina Lopes, Acting Clerk, Easton Parish Council Email: clerk@eastonparishcouncil.co.uk Telephone: 07879 379181

# **Easton Crafters**

Easton Crafters are back meeting in the Village Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 1.30-4.30 pm. Apologies for the error with the dates in the last Grapevine: I hope no one turned up on the wrong day! Everyone is welcome whether seasoned crafters looking for new skills or looking for a new hobby.

There are still some seats left on the coach for our trip to Crafters Live at Birmingham on 16th October. For details and to book a place please contact Janet Morris on 01603 471144.

At our last meeting, attended by 16 members, we had a card demonstration by Joanne, making three lovely Christmas cards (an early start to the festive season!). Next month, on 12th October, another of our talented members will be holding a card workshop.



Unfortunately we won't be holding an Autumn or Christmas Fair this year and apologise to our loyal supporters who have helped us raise money for various charities over the past years

Janice Barnston

# Support your Community

Do you enjoy connecting with people, have access to a car, and are able to lift boxes of magazines? Could you spare a few hours at the end of the month? If so, you could be the essential volunteer we need to co-ordinate getting Grapevine out to every house in Easton.

This involves communicating with other volunteers, collating the printed pages, then bundling up the right number of copies for each delivery volunteer and dropping the magazines off to them (not August or December). It is a great way to make a valuable contribution to the community and meet your neighbours.

Please contact Elizabeth and Ian Giddings, 01603 882179, for more information.

## Easton Women's Institute

We have returned to something like normal - at least for now! Two very successful evening meetings took place in August and September, after an afternoon get-together in July to get us back to meeting each other again. We have observed Covid-safe practices, hand-sanitising, sitting futher apart than normal and keeping the hall well ventilated during our meetings which has made us feel safe and does not disrupt our meetings at all. Many of us are not at all sure about when or whether we should wear masks or if in fact we actually need to at all. I think once we have to shut the doors and windows to keep out the autumn and winter cold maybe this will become more of an issue!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 14th October at 7.30pm in Easton Village Hall when Simon White from Beales nursery in Attleborough will give a presentation about "The Gardens of East Anglia".



Looking further ahead to our November meeting we will be having a talk about creating a "Lasting Power of Attorney". This meeting will also be our Annual Meeting. We last held an Annual Meeting in 2019 but this year I suspect it will be a very short affair as we have met so infrequently between March 2020 and September 2021.

I would like to pay tribute to all our members who have returned to the WI after the lengthy break and unlike some other WIs, we have almost the same number of members now as we did in 2019. Easton WI has been in existence since 1953 and we are very pleased that it will continue to be part of the history of the village for the foreseeable future. We are always pleased to have visitors come to our meetings, for up to three meetings, to enjoy our speakers and to meet us. We hope that they might be interested in joining the WI after that.

I hope that you all stay well and safe in these uncertain times.

Mary Blathwayt

# Easton Pop-In

The Tuesday Morning Cafe is back at the village hall, every week 10am to 11.45am. All welcome! We follow Government guidelines to help keep us all safe. Coffee 80p, tea 60p.



# **Easton Good Companions**

At last we are back to normal with fortnightly meetings at the Village Hall and it is lovely to be together again. We have had some successful events already: a meeting in aid of St Martin's and a coffee morning and stalls for funds.

Everybody who went to the show at Hunstanton had a great day and the weather was very good. Brenda Bell who has organised the trips for us for 30 years has now retired and was presented with a lovely plant for all her hard work. She remains a member. We are now looking forward to our fish and chip dinner.



If there is anyone 55 years or over who would like to join the club, you will be very welcome. If you would like to have more information please ring me on 880422.

Jean Ditton



# The Rambling Vine

It would be quite unnecessary for me to say that the last nineteen months have been, for all of us, difficult times. Last night I watched the drama 'Help' on Channel 4, which documented the spread of the Covid pandemic through the lens of a care home. As well being horrified at what both care home residents and their carers went through, I watched it with strange sense of just how I had forgotten not only how quickly the pandemic spread, but the conflicting messages and the real fear that many of us felt.

Now things have 'opened up' and we have our 'freedom' back, it can be easy to forget just how this pandemic has affected people. Many of us have lost people that we cared for and loved during this pandemic – either from Covid itself or



through other diseases and ill health. One of the hardest things was not being able to say goodbye to our loved ones in a way we would have liked or give them the send off we feel they deserved. And for many of us, that pain can be transferred into unhealthy feelings of anger and also of guilt.

The beginning of next month, November, is traditionally a time, when the nights draw in and it feels like the year is starting to fade away, where in the Church we look back to remember loved ones who have left us. It begins on 1st November with All Saints Day or All Hallows Day, where we remember before God 'All Saints, known and unknown' and then the following day 2nd November with 'All Souls' where we remember our own loved ones.

This year more than ever it feels right to remember and honour all those who have died in the last 19 months and also, as usual, all those who 'we love but see no longer', whenever they left us. So on the closest Sunday to All Souls (31st October, 10am, Colton Church) we are holding a service of Remembrance and

Hope. We will read the names out of all those who have been buried or whose funerals have been held in the Benefice in the last two years and we will light candles for them. We also invite you to come with the names of anyone you would like to remember before God, no matter when they died. We will remember them all before God together, knowing that in Him they are never forgotten and are held safe in his care.

It will also be a service of Hope. For, just as the year fades, ends, and a new one begins eventually bringing with it the signs and hope of spring, Christians also believe this life is not all there is. That our earthly lives may fade and end, but in Him we all have the hope and joy of new life in heaven.



If you cannot make that service but would like the comfort of knowing that your loved one has been remembered, then please do send me their name (<a href="mailto:revmontyla@gmail.com">revmontyla@gmail.com</a>).

Every Blessing,

Rev Laura Montgomery

# Church Services: October

All services will be Benefice Services at 10am

3<sup>rd</sup> Easton

10th Marlingford

17<sup>th</sup> Bawburgh Harvest (\* supporting The Bishop of Norwich's Refugee Fund for Afghanistan)

24th Marlingford

**31**st **Colton** Service of Remembrance and Hope followed by Said Holy Communion

\* For more information on The Refugee Fund and how you can donate: <a href="https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/category/refugee-support">www.dioceseofnorwich.org/category/refugee-support</a>

# All are Welcome

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, questioning, well-heeled or down at heel, we especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.

We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you are just browsing, just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury, or haven't been to Church since Christmas ten years ago.



We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree huggers, latte sippers, vegetarians, junk food eaters. We welcome those in recovery or those still addicted.

We welcome you if you are having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organised religion (we're not keen on it either.)

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, Kan't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to Church

We welcome those who are Inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost with a Norfolk map and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters ... and you

This is taken from St. Brelade's Church in Jersey and we extend our welcome to everyone.

Rev Penny Goodman

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