

News from St Michael's

We're back with our Church news and Music quiz. Some of these will certainly test your music knowledge, but all are song titles and lyrics.

She's Electric

It's now just over a year since we put out a plea to save our ancient, dying church and what a good news story it has been. Thank you so very much to everyone who has mucked in. Although we were unsuccessful in applying for an East Suffolk grant to continue the programme of revitalisation, due to the generosity of people in the village, our local councillor Tim Wilson and fundraisers held, we are now in a financial position to upgrade the electrics to make the place safe. This means we will be able to install up to date infrared heating so we can hold clubs, services and socials all year round, and also we are excited to announce that we will be installing floodlights outside the church to uplight it. You'll be able to put a couple of pounds in a meter and light up Tunstall and the surrounding area for an hour or two after sunset on a special day - an anniversary, a birthday or in memory of someone you love.

Everything Counts in Large Amounts

While the crumbling East Wall needs just a few hundred pounds more for us to start work, we now have around £8000 towards the bill. If anyone can donate even a few pounds, it all counts towards reaching the total to get those essential repairs done. The page for donations is : <https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-tunstall-church> Or we have a donation terminal in the church which accepts anything up to £30. As mentioned before, any donations of £50 or more will be acknowledged on a sign in the church for future generations to see.

Autumn Almanac

The church season enters autumn and for rural villages like our own, this is an important time to recognise those who work with the land, and the good fortune we have to be well-

fed in this country with our annual Harvest festival at 3pm on Sunday October 18th. We would appreciate donations of food for the soon to be established foodbank and surplus crops to decorate the church. If anyone can help us prepare the church for this important time of year, we're holding a churchyard clean and decorating morning on Sunday October 4th from 10am. Refreshments provided.

Knocking on Heaven's Door

Many of you may have noticed that the church has had to remain closed for a couple of weeks, and we never realised how many visitors wanted access until we received phone calls from some very annoyed people asking why! The reason is that we had news of the return of an unwanted visitor who last came to the area around 18 months ago and exhibited threatening behaviour to both clergy and parishioners, disrespected the church building and left quite a mess for us to clear up having gained access to the church. The situation is now resolved and the church is open again, but our existing volunteers would love to have a couple of new ones to open up as this means each of us only needs to do it about twice a year. We aim to have it open each day, but know that volunteers have busy lives so if you think you can help on most days for these short periods and are happy to stroll up to the churchyard please let us know.

Tell me what you want, what you really really want

The Tunstall singers (pictured at their first autumn rehearsal) start up on Wednesday evenings with choir practice in the run up to the Christmas service, but what else do you want us to host? Our space is limited and best for formal concerts or small gatherings, classes or groups, but we're all ears.

Contact Sarah, church secretary: 07900 657780 or sarahvashti@hotmail.com or wait for our questionnaire to come out later in the year.



Tunstall BULLETIN

Number 289
October 2026

What's on in October?

LIGHT PARTY

A FREE, FUN EVENT FOR FAMILIES OF ALL AGES
Come dressed in bright colours to enjoy, games, craft, sweets, face painting, a disco and a short Bible story.

GAMES | FOOD | CRAFT | SWEETS | DISCO

Saturday 31st October 5:30-7:30pm
Rendlesham Primary School

No scary costumes please

GRACE CHURCH RENDLESHAM

Suffolk in Motion

Suffolk County Council is pleased to present Suffolk in Motion on 10th October, 10am-3pm at London Road (Copdock) Park and Ride. Suffolk in Motion is a free, family friendly travel experience day open to all.

In partnership with sponsors Believ and Urban Fox, Suffolk County Council will be promoting the travel choices available in Suffolk for you to explore our beautiful county. Let your little ones have fun on our balance bikes, complete the stamp trail and go head-to-head in our pedal-powered Scalextric!

- Book a slot to get your bike fixed with the Bike Doctor.
- Discover local walking groups and wellbeing walks
- Test drive and look around new and used EVs
- Make your own pedal powered smoothies
- Learn about and try out e-bikes
- Bike ability instructors available
- Meet our EV charge point on-street charge operators Believ and Urban Fox
- Meet local EV owners and chat with them about costs, charging and more
- Find out about local EV pay-as-you-go car clubs

All attendees will be entered into a free prize draw! Prizes up for grabs include a signed Ipswich Town FC shirt, Afternoon tea for two and much more!

With transport at the heart of our day-to-day life, this will be a brilliant day for families to explore all the different ways they can move around Suffolk. Whether you are planning a day trip, looking to save money on your commute, or you would like to try cycling, Suffolk in Motion will give you the opportunity to try out a variety of options to suit you and your needs.

Free tickets and more information are available at TicketSource. Anybody who books a ticket is in with a chance to win one day's worth (24hr) credit from Co wheels to use on any of our Suffolk Car Club vehicles.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH,
TUNSTALL, SUFFOLK.

SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER

HARVEST SERVICE

@ 3 PM.

DONATIONS of fresh produce, tinned goods & flowers for local charities are warmly welcomed.

ALL WELCOME!

All welcome to this short service to mark this important date in our local community.

Donations of produce and store cupboard goods welcomed for the new Tunstall Church Foodbank. Featuring singing by the newly formed Tunstall singers.

For more information, contact Sarah: 07900 657780





A mixture of sadness and joy

A few years ago, I asked a friend whom I hadn’t seen for a while how his year had gone. “Sadness and Joy in equal measure,” was his immediate response, but he went on to tell me that the “Joys far outweighed the Sadnesses”.

That is as much as we can hope for in this life, and it has certainly been true of 2026 so far for me!

On the plus side, we welcomed our first grandchild into the world in March — great Joy! Set against that joy, we received the news that my Mum had been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

We set about making the most of the time we had left with Mum. We had some really happy times, but after an intense couple of weeks, she passed away on August 29th. Our lives paused for what seemed like an eternity. “She was old,” “she’d had a good innings,” and other such phrases came to mind, but they didn’t help!

Where can you find joy in the face of the sadness caused by the death of one of your closest friends?

As always, the Bible has answers to the great questions of life. Faced with the

death of a Christian, it says, “Christians do not have to grieve as those who have no hope.” My Mum was a Christian. Many years ago, she had asked Jesus to be her Saviour, and she died trusting Him. Because of that, we know where she is now: in heaven with Jesus, which is far better than anything we can experience in this life.

That is Joy for her! And the promise to us is that, if we are Christians, our parting, as sad as it is now, will not be forever — and not for long!

So even now, as my family stumbles along in the sad and dark valley of mourning, we know that this Joy is coming. And that helps so much!

If you would like to find out more about this Hope, please get in touch or come along to Grace Church. You would be really welcome!

DAVE RUSHBROOK

Minister

Grace Church Rendlesham

www.gracerendlesham.org

Suffolk County Council Public Rights of Way Team

Tunstall Footpath 006 & Iken Footpath 001 Boardwalk replacements.

I am writing to let you know that we have secured funding to replace both boardwalks in between Snape Maltings and Iken.

Due to the Ecological restrictions in place in this area (SSSI, SPA, RAMSAR) we have now completed all the relevant ecological surveys and have been told we can complete the works only during the months of October & November to ensure works completed before winter migratory birds.

To complete these works we are going to need to put an official closure in place to

prevent the public from passing and repassing as they will not be able to during the removal and installation of these new structures. Due to the nature of the terrain there will be no alternative route. We understand that this will of course be disappointing for people who enjoy this stretch but it is vital to close the route to allow the works to take place with the result of 2 new boardwalks.

We do not yet have an exact date as we are still in the process of agreeing access to the Iken section with the landowner, however we felt that it would be worth updating the parishes.

Once the works start we will place the relevant signage at pertinent locations to advise the public.

Activities

Sunday Services

Rendlesham School and Tunstall Chapel

Children's and Youth Groups

Fridays (during term time) at Tunstall Chapel

Coffee Craft and Chat/Toddler Group

Wednesdays (during term time) at Tunstall Chapel

Women's Meeting

3rd Tuesday at Tunstall Chapel

Dad's and Children's Group

2nd Saturday at Tunstall Chapel

Diary dates

Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday 29 October at Tunstall Community Hall.

The Mobile Library

Tunstall Green:

Wednesday 14 October 10.25—10.50

Tunstall Common:

Friday 16 October 15:50-16:05

November 2026

Bulletin

Please send or give all material to the editor: Tiffany Pollock 688 816, tiffpollock@hotmail.co.uk by

15 October 2026

Tunstall Parish Council

Tunstall Emergency Plan

Can you help? We are looking a warden for the Snape end of Tunstall for our Emergency Plan!

Area Warden's Primary Role: Local coordination within their

designated area. Responsibilities include:

- Act as link between community and Co-ordinator.
- Identify where help is needed.
- Be visible and approachable.
- Identify vulnerable residents as far as possible.
- Identify residents/businesses with useful skills or equipment.
- Support provision of shelter, first aid and welfare.
- Provide immediate local support.

Please contact the clerk on 01728 688816 or clerk@tunstallparish.gov.uk for further information.

Important reminder

We would like to remind everyone who uses the Tunstall Grapevine that we are committed to providing a safe, supportive living and working environments for all. Verbal abuse or harassment, either online or in person, will not be tolerated and will result in removal from our mailing list and possible reports to the police.

East Suffolk re-opening of Call for Sites

As part of the preparation of a new Local Plan for East Suffolk, a Call for Sites was held between October 2025 and January 2026. A map of the Sites submitted was published in March and is available on our web site: East Suffolk Local Plan Call for sites - All sites submitted. These sites are currently being assessed to determine which sites may be suitable for allocation; no decisions have been made at this stage.

We are now re-opening the Call for Sites to ensure we have a broad range of sites to consider and assess, and to provide a further opportunity for sites to be submitted at this early stage in plan preparation. The Call for Sites will be re-opened, starting on the 5 October 2026 and closing at 5pm the 16 November 2026.

The Call for Sites invites submissions of land to be put forward for consideration for allocation in the Local Plan and is part of the preparatory work for the new Local Plan. The new Local Plan will set out a spatial strategy seeking to ensure that future needs are met, identifying sites for development and setting policies against which applications for planning permission are determined. The new Local Plan will replace the Waveney Local Plan adopted in 2019 and the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan adopted in 2020, which both plan for the period up to 2036. The new Local Plan will plan up to 2045.

A Guidance Note and FAQs will be provided on the website alongside the submission form. Responses can be completed online or by using a PDF/word document.

This is part of the start of the process, and later decisions on preferred site allocations will be informed by a range of evidence and assessments and consideration of a strategy and vision for the plan, as well as by public consultation. The submission form and associated guidance can be found here https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/new-local-plan

For any queries, please contact the Planning Policy Team either by e-mail planningpolicy@eastsuffolk.gov.uk or by telephone 01394 444557.

Flooding works update

Tunstall Parish Council (TPC) has no power or decision making in relation to these works. We can only seek to inform and make the appropriate Council body aware of concerns or issues, which we have done.

Feel free to continue to email any questions or concerns to Cllr. David Broomfield as head of the flood team davidbroomfield@tunstallparish.gov.uk As you know the initial phase of works within Woodbridge Road are now largely complete.

The remaining phase to Kings Arms Yard is awaiting the conclusion of legalities between SCC Highways and the residents of Kings Arms Yard. Once the legals are complete, there will be another 5 weeks of work within their properties. Which still needs 2 way lights in Orford Road for their compound.

In the interim, any surface water collected from Ashe Road and Woodbridge Road will be drained via the original overflow pipe that was repaired in December 2023. We will advise on the grapevine and Facebook any updates from SCC Highways as we hear them.

As usual any issues or concerns please use the highways reporting system and advise the flood team of the report number.

Suffolk County Council Highways on 0345 606 6171 or use the reporting tool SCC Highways Reporting tool.

Tunstall Questionnaire - The Results

Thank you again to everyone who completed the Tunstall questionnaire, the results are available to view on the Tunstall website: www.tunstallparish.gov.uk/blog/tunstall-questionnaire-the-results

Or alternatively if you require a hard copy, please contact the clerk by clerk@tunstallparish.gov.uk or telephone 01728 688816.

Tunstall Grapevine

Let us know your email address and we will keep you informed of the latest news.

Tiffany Pollock, Clerk to Tunstall Parish Council
1 CountryLife Cottage, Orford Road, Tunstall, IP12 2JA
01728 688816 clerk@tunstallparish.gov.uk