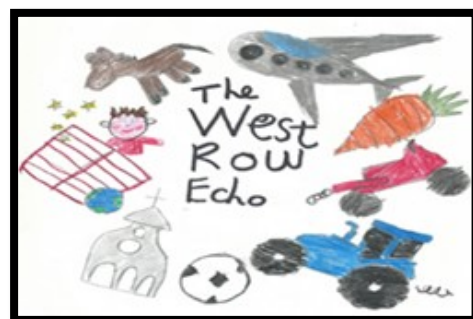


Issue 55
Aug — Sept 2025



SEE PAGES 11 TO 18
FOR YOUR VJ DAY
PULL OUT PROGRAMME

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NEXT ISSUE: Published October

**Our deadline for
October/November 2025 is:
15th September 2025 12 p.m.**

Please email Helen Webber at
helen.webber60@gmail.com

DIARY DATES

AUGUST

Sun 3rd	St Peter's West Row	Sunday Celebration	11 a.m.
Sun 10th	St Peter's West Row	Holy Communion	11 a.m.
Sun 10th	St Mary's Barton Mills	Healing Service	5 p.m.
Fri 15th to 17th	1st Day of VJ Commemorations	See Programme Centre Pages	
Sat 16th	Bowls Club	Galaxy Big Band & Apple Blossoms	Doors Open 7.30 p.m
Sun 17th	St Peter's West Row	VJ Day Commemoration	10.30 a.m.
Tuesday 19th	West Row Baptist Chapel	Community Lunch Contact Richard 07796 616679	12.30 p.m
Sun 24th	St Peter's West Row	Holy Communion	11 a.m
Fri 29th	West Row Village Hall	Fish & Chips Lunch	12.30 p.m
August	Bowls Club	No Merv's Bingo	
Sun 31st	St Mary's Barton Mills	Holy Communion for the Group	11 a.m.

SEPTEMBER

Sat 6th	Bowls Club	Frankie's Guys	Doors Open 7.30 p.m
Sun 7th	St Peter's West Row	Sunday Celebration	11 a.m.
Sun 14th	St Peter's West Row	Holy Communion	11 a.m
Sun 10th	St Mary's Barton Mills	Healing Service	5 p.m.
Tuesday 16th	West Row Baptist Chapel	Community Lunch Contact Richard 07796 616679	12.30 p.m
Sun 21st	St Peter's West Row	Sunday Celebration	11 a.m.
Fri 26th	West Row Village Hall	Fish & Chip Lunch	12.30 p.m
Sat 27th	Bowls Club	Merv's Bingo	7.30 p.m
Sun 28th	St Peter's West Row	Holy Communion	11 a.m

100 Club

**Draw due end of
August, so you still
have time to join**

For Further information or to
join, contact Sharon The Parish
clerk at

clerk@westrow-pc.gov.uk

The 100 Club helps support
the printing of the Parish

A note from the EDITOR

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the latest edition of the West Row Echo and hopefully you'll find something of interest amongst the contents.

There are plenty of details regarding how the Village is celebrating VJ Day 80. Over the weekend of 15th-17th August, there are many activities you could attend and take part in as individuals or as a family. Look out for details of the 'pop up' museum and the Galaxy Big Band plus the Apple Blossom singers performing at the Bowls Club on 16th. August. Tickets are on sale now.

Do you know how to operate a defibrillator? There are useful hints on page 9.

For those of you who are keen gardeners there is some useful advice plus links to gardening websites on page 28.

Also, look out for the recipe for Wild Blackberry Crumble on page 32.

West Row has quite a few hedgerows where wild blackberries can be found in late summer / early autumn.

Wishing you a pleasant summer season.

Peter Rolfe
Editor

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EARLY SUMMER Quiz Answers

1. **J.K. Rowling** - not a doctor 2. **Bill Clinton** - not a Scorpio 3. **Michelle Obama** - not a teenage marriage 4. **Matt Busby** - no stammer 5. **Perry Como** did not die in 2002 6. **Siamese** is not a type of bat 7. **Mild Air** is not in the Beaufort scale 8. **Camel** - a female is not a sow 9. **Hexagon** does not have 4 sides 10. **Camel** - a young one is not a kitten 11. **Blanket** is not a type of lightning 12. **Frost** is not a sea on the Moon 13. **John F. Kennedy** did not have dyslexia 14. **Margaret Thatcher** did not receive Rear of the Year award 15. **Stephanie Powers** was not born on Christmas Day 16. **Janet Jackson** is not a Buddhist 17. **James Dean** did not die in a plane crash 18. **Queen Victoria** had two eyes 19. **Lester Piggott** wasn't born in Kent 20. **Pink** is not a type of eagle.

There were eleven entries and the winner, with 17 correct answers was Graham Webber, Church Road, West Row.

The Parish Echo editorial team takes no responsibility for endorsements of, or statements made in published adverts which are accepted in good faith. However, we reserve the right to refuse any advertisement, article, or item that we feel is considered inappropriate for publication.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Norwich Christmas Shopping & Pantomime



Sat 6th December 2025

Coach is booked to leave Mildenhall Bus Station at 9.30am and depart Norwich Theatre Street outside the Theatre Royal at 5.30pm. £20 per person

The Pantomime "Cinderella" will commence at 2.30pm at the Theatre Royal, should you wish to book your own seat directly

Box office 01603 630000

Online at norwichtheatre.org

Please contact us to book your coach seat first

Marion.07751196867

Helen. 07309114235

All profit to Mildenhall Poppy Appeal

West Row Bowls Club

VJ Day 80

16th August 2025

Galaxy Big Band

with the

Apple Blossoms

Tickets £15

Available from
Carol 07816967158 or WRBC

Please get your tickets in advance

Doors open 7:30pm Starts 8pm

Licenced Bar - Raffle

WEST ROW BOWLS CLUB WELCOMES BACK
SATURDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

FRANKIE'S GUYS

THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE CELEBRATION OF
FRANKIE VALLI
& THE FOUR SEASONS

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-BEST-
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Join the award-winning FRANKIE'S GUYS as they celebrate the life and music of one of the world's most loved voices. Featuring slick moves, awesome vocals and side-splitting comedy.
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SHERRY • BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY • WALK LIKE A MAN • GREASE • RAGDOLL
OH WHAT A NIGHT! • BYE BYE BABY • WHO LOVES YOU • & MANY MORE

Licenced Bar - Raffle

TICKETS £20

AVAILABLE FROM WRBC OR CAROL 07816967158

BINGO NIGHT

WITH MERV & CO

at
West Row Bowls Club

Saturday 20th September

7:00-7:30PM

GREAT PRIZES!
MUST BE 18+ TO PLAY

Licenced Bar - Raffle

for more details - Ring 01842 861618

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PLEASE NOTE NO BINGO JULY & AUGUST

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<https://www.mildenhall.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/759963/civilian-personnel-start-your-job-search-here/>

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Historically, the 48th FW has been the foundation of USAF's combat capability and remains so today. The Liberty Wing led the El Dorado Canyon raids into Libya in 1986 and was the first F-111 fighter unit to deploy to the Gulf during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The Liberty Wing also anchored NATO forces during Operations Deliberate Force and Allied Force. Since September 11, 2001, the 48th FW has played a key role in antiterrorism operations, flying combat missions, and providing combat support in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.



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Parish Update - August - September 2025

Annual Council Meeting.

In line with regulations, each May we have to elect our Chair and Vice Chair for the current year.

Cllr Alan Fisher was re-elected as Chair, and Cllr Roz Hamill was re-elected as Vice Chair.

Play Area

We were pleased to award a grant to the Village Hall Foundation to assist them in repairing some of the equipment in the play area, which is a great facility used very well by many children in the village.



Vehicle Speeding

A resident came to our Council meeting to express her concern about speeding vehicles along Pott Hall Road, and to inform us that she has now sadly had 2 cats killed on this road.

We have installed some signs reminding drivers of the presence of children and animals crossing, In an attempt to slow the traffic.

We are looking at other measures around the village to encourage people to reduce speeding.



West Row Historical Society

This group with the support of the Parish Council is organising the 3 days of events 15th to 17th August to mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day. We have given this group a grant to assist with the costs of running the events.

More details are in a pullout section in the centre of this Echo Edition.

Defib used

One of our Defibrillator units located at Pamment's Garage was deployed in June, for a local resident. Thankfully it was not needed, and we understand that the patient is recovering well.



Future Events

Councillor Surgery Days.

Come along to the Parish Office on the 3rd Saturday of every month 10am till 11am to discuss any concerns or ideas relating to the village.

VJ Day 80 August 2025 3 days of events, see Centre pages of this edition.

Alan Fisher

Chair West Row Parish Council

Using a DEFIBRILLATOR

Public DEFIBRILLATORS in West Row

Phone box Play Area	IP28 8NY
Pamment's Garage	IP28 8PW
Baptist Chapel	IP28 8PA

There are currently 3 Defibrillators in the village, 2 owned by Parish Council and 1 owned by the Baptist Chapel

Important announcement: The defibrillator at the Baptist Chapel will be unavailable during the building work taking place at the moment.

It is expected to be finished some time in December and then the defibrillator will be recommissioned.

It has been brought to my attention that some people do not know the process for using a DEFIBRILLATOR, and feel uncomfortable about using one.

What to do

After performing an assessment of the patient, if you find them unresponsive and not breathing normally, call 999 and ask for an ambulance.

You must stay with the patient. Stay on line with the ambulance service, preferably hands free.

If the Ambulance service feels a DEFIBRILLATOR is required, they will advise you where the nearest one to you is located and the code to access the cabinet.

Find someone else to go and get the DEFIBRILLATOR.

it is suggested that the person collecting the defibrillator takes a mobile phone with them.

When the helper returns with the defibrillator, only use it if instructed to, by the Ambulance Service.

Follow all instructions that the Ambulance Service Call Handler gives you, and the verbal prompts given by the DEFIBRILLATOR.

The Parish Council would be grateful if you informed us if you have had a reason to collect one of our Defibrillators, so we can keep track of it and replace any equipment used, to ensure it is ready for use as soon as possible.

Please contact the Clerk at : clerk@westrow-pc.gov.uk or 07860 358493

Alan Fisher
Chair West Row Parish Council



Wine and Canape Evening with



20th September 2025

At 7.00 pm

St. Peters Church

West Row

Tickets £15.00 each

Available from Rita ☎ 01638 711260

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*VJ - Day
Commemorations and
Celebrations*



*15th – 17th August 2025
West Row Historical Society
presents
Programme of Events*

*All events will be held in and around West Row Parish
Programme subject to unavoidable last-minute changes*

rosalind_hamill@yahoo.co.uk 07887668 145

Introduction

The Parish of West Row will come together to both Celebrate and also to Commemorate the end of World War II, also known as VJ Day, when so many of our young men either returned to the Parish maimed and mentally scared – or, did not return at all.

The weekend of 15th through 17th August 2025 will be a time of both Celebration and Commemoration.

We hope there will be something of interest for all ages.

If bad weather is predicted, where possible, events affected will move to the Village Hall, the West Row Bowls Indoor Club, the Parish Office and/or the Church Hall.

Please keep this Programme of Events in a safe place as there will NOT be additional copies available on the day.

Look out for all the FREE events you can participate in. The only items on the programme which will require advance booking (and payment) is the Galaxy Big Band Show together with The Apple Blossoms, performing at the Indoor Bowls Club, Saturday evening, 16th August. Tickets from Carol Bebee Tel.01638 712400 (carol_beebe@hotmail.com). We would also appreciate seating to be reserved for the Film Shows (Friday evening and Sunday afternoon). Details herein.

This event is organised by the West Row Historical Society, supported by the West Row Parish Council. *All proceeds will go towards the provision of our very own Parish Museum.* A site has been earmarked, and this is the kick start to our fund raising.

If you are interested in supporting this fabulous project, please get in touch:

Shirley Clark (Chair) hannellc@aol.com 07976670679

Ellen De Boos (Treasurer) ellenclark1914@gmail.com

Rosalind Hamill (Secretary) rosalind_hamill@yahoo.co.uk

Please note that all timings printed herein are approximate and subject to adjustment

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are extremely grateful for many individuals and organisations who have contributed to ensuring this weekend is memorable for years to come. In no particular order:

Suffolk County Council, Colin Nobel
West Suffolk District Councillors: Cllr Waldron and Cllr Bradshaw
West Row Parish Council,
Mrs Margaret Waters



Mill House
Homes



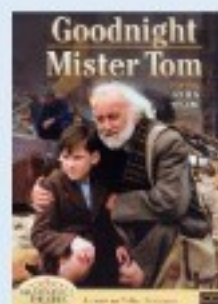
The Shed



BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE WEEKEND'S EVENTS

FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST

- 09.00 am **RAISING THE COMMEMORATIVE FLAG** at the West Row Bowls Club
Proclamation Declared
- 18.30 pm Flower Show in St. Peters, arrangements by the Mildenhall Flower Club
Doors open for Film Night in St. Peter's Church "*Goodnight Mr. Tom*"
FREE entry but please reserve your ticket(s) from Roz
Contact: rosalind_hamill@yahoo.co.uk, mob. 07887 668 145
- 19.00 pm Film starts. Run time 1 hr 40 mins., then head over to the Play Park for
The Beacon Lighting:
- 21.05 pm Meet at the Beacon
21.10 pm Last Post
21.12 pm Reading of the Tribute
21.15 pm Short Prayer, Paster Evan King
21.25 pm National Anthem (2 verses)
21.30 pm Beacon Lit



SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST

THE GREAT V.J.-DAY VILLAGE FETE

- 10.00 am Muster at Wellington Close
10.30 am Lead off for the Pageant Parade
11.30 am Pause at Church Green, some drop off, some join in
11.45 am Onward to the Village Hall area
12.30 pm Vintage cars * Horses/Ponies & Trap * Talent Show
Entertainment * Refreshments * WWII Re-enactment
Pictures of West Row in the Olden Days * Ancestry * BBQ * Old Fashioned Fete Games
* Tug-of-War and who could miss "The Great West Row Egg Tossing Competition"
And much more, see inside for further details



SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST

- 10.15am Meet at War Memorial
10.30 am Laying of crosses and wreaths with Eternal flames for all of our WWII fallen
10.45 am Followed by a Commemoration and then
11.00 am a Service in St. Peter's Church
13.30 pm Movies at St. Peters showing "*Dad's Army*" – Doors open
FREE entry but please reserve your ticket(s) from Roz
Tel. 07887 668 145 (rosalind_hamill@yahoo.co.uk)
- 14.00–16.00pm Craft Displays in the Church Hall
16.00pm **CLOSING OF THE WEEKEND'S EVENTS**



FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST

- 9.00 am **RAISING THE COMMEMORATIVE FLAG**
performed at the West Row Bowls Club
Proclamation Declared
"God Save The King"
- 10.00 am – 4 pm
Pop-Up Museum in the West Row Indoor Bowls Club.
Many interesting artefacts, vintage vehicles, and old-time relics
- 10.00 am Flower Show in St. Peters, arrangements by the Mildenhall Flower Club
Opening times: 10am – 4pm
- 6.30 pm Film Night: St Peter's Church, Doors open - FREE entry
7.00 pm *"Goodnight Mr. Tom"*, (1hr 40 mins)
Please pre-book with Roz to control numbers – 07887 668 145 much appreciated
- The image shows the DVD cover for the film 'Goodnight Mister Tom'. It features an elderly man with a white beard and a young boy in a brown jacket. The title 'Goodnight Mister Tom' is at the top, with 'Starring JOHN THAW' below it. At the bottom, it says 'A MASTERPIECE THEATRE production' and 'As Seen on Public Television'.
- Tom tucked a blanket round him, drew up a chair by the fire and watched Willie fall asleep. The tales he had heard about evacuees didn't seem to fit Willie. 'Ungrateful' and 'wild' were the adjectives he had heard used, or just plain 'homesick'. He was quite unprepared for this timid, sickly little specimen*
- Britain, 1940. With World War Two raging all around, young children are being sent from their homes in the city to the countryside for safety. When eight-year-old Willie Beech first arrives on Tom Oakley's doorstep, neither are quite sure what to make of each other*
- Brought up in terrible poverty, Willie is terribly shy, and totally unprepared for village life - but the gruff-but-gentle 'Mister Tom' quickly takes him under his wing. Neither he nor Willie could ever have predicted the journey they will go on together - nor the unbreakable bond that will be formed.*
- 21.00 pm Meet at the Beacon
(NOTE: The Indoor Bowls Club will be open for refreshments, access via their back or front doors)
- 21.10 pm "Last Post"
- 21.12 pm Reading of the Official V.J. Day Proclamation
- 21.15 pm Short Prayer, Paster Evan King
- 21.25 pm National Anthem (2 verses)
- 21.30 pm Beacon Lit
(The Bowls Club bar will be open for refreshments and "facilities")

SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST
DAY OF CELEBRATION - V.J. DAY VILLAGE FETE

PAGEANT PARADE AND OPENING CEREMONY

- 10.00 am** Flower Show in St. Peters Church, arrangements by the Mildenhall Flower Club
Opening time 10am – 4pm
Stall holders and Early Birds to the Village Hall, and Indoor Bowls Club
- 10.00 am** Muster as follows: *(Alternatively, you can join at Church Green approx. 11.30am)*
Pedestrians/Decorated Bikes & Prams (Wellington Close)
Large vehicles (before the houses along Pott Hall Road)
Vintage Vehicles & Horses/Ponies & Traps (Crick's Road)
- 10.30 am** Parade commences:
Led by the Norwich Caledonian Pipes and Drums
- Parade to include: Horses, ponies and traps, Vintage vehicles, children in fancy dress WWII costumes (ie Evacuees), decorated prams/bicycles and pushchairs.
Route: Out of Wellington Close
Right along Cricks Road, turn right onto Pott all Road
Around the bend into Bargate Road
Around the bend into Eldo Road (past Eldo Gardens)
into Church Road, heading towards Church Green
- 11.30 am** Arrive outside St. Peter's Church where folks can drop off / join in, comfort break and regroup (the Church Hall will be open)
Take this opportunity to view the fantastic flower displays in the church
- 11.45 am** Onwards via Friday Street, into Chapel Road
- 12.10 pm** Left at the corner, into the Park and Village Hall area
Arrival of the Pageant Parade (all timings are approximate)



Inside the Main Hall:

- 10.00am** Refreshments, First Aid, Toilets, Sun Lounge, Bar Open (tbc),
Pop Up Cinema showing old photographs of the village
Pop Up Museum open between 10.00 am and 16.00 pm

Behind Main Hall – grassed area

- 13.00 pm** Official Opening by Ellen de Boos, Vice Chair West Row Historical Society
13.30 pm Judging of the Best Decorated Bicycle/Pram/Pushchair
14.00 pm Community Choirs singing WWII songs followed by our homegrown talent
- 14.30 pm Scarlet Nunn
14.45 pm Jessica and Grace (children of Amanda Chalmers)
15.00 pm Ian McFetridge
15.15 pm Pete Gould
15.30 pm Stuart Hendrick
- 15.45 pm** We also have Andy Brown, (100 yrs) who sings George Formby songs
Andy will probably be located on the patio rather than stage (accessibility)

The Swing Jive group will be demonstrating at various times

For your enjoyment: wander around the Food Vendors, take part in Olde Worlde Fete Games, Tombola, Music, Birds of Prey, Bouncy Castle, Ice Cream, Model Flying Club (static) Don't forget the West Row Pop-Up Museum (in the Indoor Bowls Club) 10.00am – 16.00 pm Behind the Village Hall, you can also visit Museums from the Far East Prisoners of War (FEPO), Rougham Tower, Bottisham Airfield, Eye and hopefully the Burma Mule Assn who may bring their mules (TBC)

Clubs and Groups can reserve a stall to encourage membership. Just provide your own table, gazebo optional but recommended (pre-book with Roz rosalind_hamil@yahoo.co.uk Tel. 01638 715329). You can "Bowl-For-A-Pig" (not a live one – but a Meat Hamper kindly donated by **Mildenhall Butchers** (Steve and Ian Pearson).

St Peter's will host a stall where you can write a name or message on a cross in preparation for the Wreath laying ceremony on Sunday
The Parish Council has a stall where you can join the 100 Club which supports the cost of printing and issuing the Parish Echo, delivered to every house.

16.00 pm Tug of War (get your teams match fit)

16.30 pm The Great West Row Egg Tossing Competition

Around the Football Field (next door)

Cycle Club Obstacle Course—bring your own bike

Farrier Demonstration (Karl Dixon)

Shire Horses: Baz will introduce you to.....



Euston Oscillian

(Guess how many "hands")

There may be a problem with Baz bringing Sid, so this is to be confirmed at a later date



Vintage Vehicles: If you have one and would like to show it off....bring it along.
Some vehicles will also be taking part in our Pageant Parade on Saturday morning

Also, our Overflow Car Park is through the adjoining hedge/field as directed by the marshals

In the Evening: At the West Row Indoor Bowls Club

19.30 pm Doors Open

20.00 pm Listening and dancing to WWII themed tunes: "The Galaxy Big Band" including

to "The Apple Blossoms Vintage Vocal Trio" singing songs of the era

Dressing the part is encouraged

Pre-booked tickets available (£15) from
West Row Indoor Bowls Club, Carol Bebee

Email. carol_bebbe@hotmail.com Tel. 01638 712400
(Pre-paid is highly recommended as these are both extremely popular –book early to avoid disappointment)



SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST DAY OF COMMEMORATION

10.00 am Flower Show in St. Peters, arrangements by the Mildenhall Flower Club (opening times 12.30 pm- 4pm)

10.15am Meet at Church Green for those who wish to personalise and lay their Memorial Crosses

10.30 am Welcome and Commemorations and Prayers
led by Revd Canon Mark McCaghrey
Eternal Flames laid around the War Memorial
(While names are read out: Playing "Nearer My God To Thee")
Wreaths will be laid by local representatives
Followed by Sunday Worship in St. Peter's Church

11.00 am Craft Exhibition in Church Hall WWII themed

Crocheting	Happy Hookers
Rag Rolling	Ellen de Boos
Whittling	Pete Clark
Knitting	Gill Hagen
Ration Cooking	Ellen de Boos
Rosette sewing	Shirley Clark
Digging for Victory	The Shed

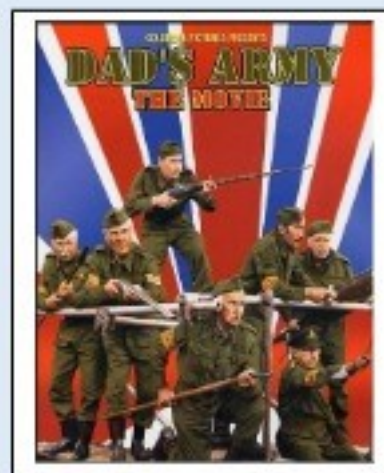
13.30 pm Doors open at St. Peter's

14.00 pm Film: "Dad's Army – The Movie" (1 hr, 40 mins)

FREE entry

Reservations should be made with Roz. Tel. 07887 668 145

When World War Two breaks out, the small seaside town of Walmington-on-Sea finds itself less than ably defended by the elderly and inept members of Captain Mainwaring's home guard unit. Put on manoeuvres by a visiting Major-General, Mainwaring's men manage to bungle one task after another. However, when a group of Germans from a scout plane take the Mayor hostage at the church hall, the clueless soldiers might still have a chance of saving the day!



16.00 pm Closure of the Weekend's Events
(at the War Memorial on Church Green)
Poem "One Thousand Men are Walking"
Prayers led by Revd Canon McCaghrey and Pastor King
Exhortation
Last post and 2 minutes Silence
Reveille
Kohima Epitaph
National Anthem (2 verses)
Blessing

*Thank you to everyone who made this weekend of Celebrations and Commemorations such a success.
Thank you to those who attended one or more of the days, those who helped in any way, and those who offered brilliant suggestions.*

VJ-DAY

EIGHTY YEARS ON, WEST ROW REMEMBERS

Friday 15TH AUG.

9 am Raising the flag
10 am Pop-Up Museum
6.30 pm Film Show
21.00 pm Tribute
21.30 pm Beacon Lit

Sunday 17th AUG.

10.15 am Crosses Readied
10.30 am War Memorial
Names read, Lighting Eternal
Flames, Laying Wreaths
11 am St. Peter's Service
& Craft demos in
The Church Hall
2 pm Film Show

SATURDAY 16th AUG.

Pageant Parade led by the:-
Norwich Caledonian Pipes and Drums,
Vintage Fete with Live Entertainment,
Refreshments, Tug-of-War, Vintage
Vehicles, Games, Best Decorated Bicycle
or Pram, the Great West Row Egg Tossing
IN THE EVENING: dance to The Galaxy
Big Band along with The Apple Blossoms



West Row Historical Society

West Row Academy: Embracing Our Village Community



At West Row Academy, we believe that a strong connection with our village community is essential for the growth and development of our students. As an integral part of West Row, we are committed to actively participating in village activities and fostering a sense of unity, collaboration and belonging.

Our desire is for our school to be more than just a place of learning; we want it to be a hub where pupils, parents, and staff come together to support and uplift one another. We recognise the importance of community involvement in shaping well-rounded individuals, and we are dedicated to contributing to the vibrant life of West Row.

One of the ways we aim to strengthen our bond with the village is by participating in local events and festivals. Whether it's the annual Remembrance Services, the summer events the Parish Council arranges, or the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, you can count on seeing our pupils and staff actively involved. These events provide our children with valuable opportunities to develop social skills, build relationships, and gain a deeper appreciation for the rich traditions and culture of West Row.

In addition to participating in events, we are eager to collaborate with local organisations and businesses. By forming partnerships with village organisations, we can offer our students unique learning opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. For example, local artisans, people with interesting hobbies and extraordinary life experiences are welcome to hold workshops and assemblies for our children at our academy, giving pupils hands-on experience in various crafts and broadening their view of village life and what benefits arise from living in such a caring, participative and united environment.

We also understand the importance of giving back to the community. Our academy would love to help at the Shed from time to time, participate in the clean-up campaigns, and other initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life in West Row. These activities not only benefit the village but also instil a sense of responsibility, empathy and belonging in our students.

Furthermore, we are committed to open communication and collaboration with village residents. We welcome feedback and suggestions from the community on how we can better serve and integrate with West Row. Our doors are always open for uplifting and helpful dialogue in how to improve things for both our pupils and our community, and we encourage residents to visit our academy, meet our staff, and see firsthand the positive impact we are making.

West Row Academy is dedicated to being an active and supportive member of the village community. We believe that by working together, we can create a nurturing environment where our children thrive and the village prospers. We look forward to many more years of collaboration, celebration, and mutual growth with the wonderful people of West Row and our deepest desire is to instil in residents, staff, pupils and local businesses a sense of belonging to a school and a village of which we are all very proud.

Evan King
Chair of Governors

Ride and Stride

13th September 2025

10am - 5pm

This annual charity day raises money for grants for the repair and upkeep of our historic church buildings, If you are interested in taking part, full details of how, including sponsorship forms and a list of churches taking part can be found on Suffolk churches Trust website (see below), or from St. Peter's church in the village.

This event should appeal to families, local history lovers, keen cyclists and walkers, church supporters and those who just enjoy a day out around the villages and countryside

<https://shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

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WEST ROW

BOWLS CLUB NEWS

The Outdoor season has just passed the halfway mark regarding league fixtures.

At the time of writing, the Ely & District side is in second place in its league, the Ely & District afternoon side are in second place in its league and the Bury and District afternoon side is top of its league.

In the Suffolk Area D evening league and the Bury and District evening league both sides are around mid table in their leagues.

It is pleasing to see many people who started to play outdoors this year competing in various teams with a high rate of success.

As a reminder, anyone who wishes to try out the sport should come along to the Club on a Wednesday evening, from 6.00 p.m. onwards. Coaching sessions are offered either on the indoor carpet or on the outside grass bowls green. The Club has welcomed a few new players recently who are developing their skills on a weekly basis.

As a reminder the Club offers the first five coaching sessions free of charge. Following this, new members can join as a Social / Beginner at a cost of £20. Youngsters under 18 years of age are entitled to free membership.

All bowling equipment is provided at the Club. Flat soled shoes that have only been worn indoors are required but the club also has a selection of shoes that can be borrowed.

Also as a reminder the Club holds monthly Bingo sessions on a Saturday and also look out for a couple of social events in August & September.

The Club is open most evenings so why not drop in to see what the Club has on offer and maybe give bowls a try!

For information regarding any aspect of the club please contact Club Coach, Peter Rolfe, tel: 07501 640328 or email:

peter.rolfe3@btopenworld.com

St Peter's Church West Row



Churchwardens: Beryl Austin 01638 712708 - Debbie Eaglen
Elders: Tricia Leverington

CONTACT:

Vicar: Rev'd Mark McCaghrey
Tel.: 01638 495001
Email:

mark.larkandlee@outlook.com

Ask Nima Veisesh about anything he has done or where he has been for any day since 2000 and he will be able to tell you in exact detail – down to the clothes he wore, where he was on the train, or what happened in the news. Very useful for Pub Quizzes.

But his ability to relive his life as if on rewind also means it's difficult to forget painful or embarrassing moments – they are just as fresh now as they were the moment they happened. He says "It's like having these open wounds – they are just a part of you."

After WW1 ended it was termed "the war to end all wars". It's brutality and the horrors of the trenches fostered the sincere hope that it would indeed be the last such huge scale and destructive conflict. Of course, just over twenty years later we were in another, in some ways even more brutal war, the end of which we will be commemorating in August.

War memorials were erected across the country in the years after WW1 as an act of remembrance, but the act of remembering did not in itself help avoid the next conflict.

I don't think anyone would be so foolish as to suggest that there is likely to be an end to all wars, at least not for the foreseeable future. Indeed it seems that there is more and more conflict each week. So why do we remember on November 11th or on VJ Day, if the act of remembering doesn't change anything, and just keeps the wounds open?

For me the act of remembering is also an challenge to change. Veiesh says his inability to forget has made him a kinder more tolerant person. He says "Some say 'forgive and forget', but since forgetting is a luxury I don't have, I need to learn to genuinely forgive,"

It is only when we are willing to change, to forgive, to let the past be in the past, to let grudges go, to seek justice for others, that the act of Remembrance gains its true power. So as we gather as a village to celebrate and commemorate let us embrace the true power of Remembrance – and do more than not forgetting.



West Row Baptist Church



From the Pastor's Desk

evan@westrowbaptistchurch.org.uk

As we gear up for the celebrations planned this August to commemorate Victory in Japan Day (VJ Day), I wish to share with you a reflection on this and the heavenly banquet that awaits Christians at Christ's return. These celebrations, though different in nature, both hold profound meaning and offer us a glimpse into the joy and hope that all believers cherish.

VJ Day, celebrated on August 15th, marks the end of World War II in the Pacific and the victory of the Allied forces over Japan. This day is a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by countless individuals who fought bravely for freedom and peace. The celebrations that ensued were filled with jubilation, relief, and a collective sense of triumph. Streets were adorned with flags, parades were held, and communities came together to honor the heroes and remember the fallen.

The joy of VJ Day was not just in the cessation of conflict, but in the promise of a new beginning. Families were reunited, and the world looked forward to rebuilding and healing. It was a time of great hope and anticipation for a future free from the horrors of war. Sadly, that hope has not materialized, that longing for peace has not materialized and the wars ravaging our planet today are proof that mankind has not learned from the lessons of history.

In contrast to the temporal celebration of VJ Day, the heavenly banquet that those who know and love Jesus as Saviour and Lord anticipate is eternal and divine. The Bible speaks of this glorious event in Revelation 19:9, where it is written, **"Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."** This heavenly banquet symbolizes the ultimate victory of Christ over sin and death, and the eternal union of Christ with His Church.

The celebrations at the heavenly banquet will surpass any earthly joy we have ever known. It will be a time of perfect fellowship, unending praise, and divine communion with our Saviour. Unlike VJ Day, which marked the end of a temporal conflict, the heavenly banquet marks the beginning of an eternal peace and joy that will never fade.

While VJ Day and the heavenly banquet are distinct in their nature and scope, they share some common themes that should resonate deeply with all true Christians. Both celebrations are rooted in victory – VJ Day in the victory over tyranny and oppression, and the heavenly banquet in the victory over sin and death. Both are also marked by a profound sense of hope and anticipation for a better future.

However, the heavenly banquet offers us something that no earthly celebration can – the promise of eternal life in the presence of our Lord. It is a celebration that will never end, where every tear will be wiped away, and there will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain (Revelation 21:4).

As we reflect on the significance of VJ Day and look forward to our village celebrations in this regard, I wonder if you can honestly say you are looking forward with eager anticipation to the heavenly banquet that awaits all who know and love Jesus. Let us live our lives in the light of this eternal hope, knowing that our ultimate victory is secure in Christ. May our celebrations here on earth be a foretaste of the greater joy that is to come, and may we always be ready to share this hope with those around us.

In conclusion, while we honor and remember the sacrifices of those who fought for our freedom on VJ Day, let us also rejoice in the ultimate sacrifice of our Saviour, who secured an eternal victory for us. Let us live each day with the assurance that, if we have repented of our sin and in faith turned to Christ to make us right with God, then we are invited to the greatest celebration of all – the heavenly banquet at His return.

Looking forward to seeing you at our VJ Day celebrations. Please feel free to come and chat if you'd like to know more about Jesus and what He can do for you.

Evan

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." John 14 v 6

DOWN THE SHED August—September 2025

theshedcharity@gmail.com



This edition is being printed early because we need to get The Parish Echo out in time for our V.J. Weekend (15th – 17th Aug), and give you time to make Dates For Your Diary.

Therefore, in this issue we are concentrating on all our lovely volunteers who dedicate their time, energy and often costs out of their own pockets, to ensure our goal of “helping anyone in need” is maintained, to find refuge, sustenance, friendship and the odd cup of tea and a biscuit.

We are a community garden with ships that pass in the night. We have our dedicated gardeners who plant, weed, reap and enjoy the bountiful crops produced. From a variety of fruit (pears, plums, blackberries, black currants, blue berries, raspberries, rhubarb, apples to name a few. We have the usual selection of fresh veg. (obviously those in season), right now we are harvesting new potatoes, Kahl, peas, broad beans, salad crops of radishes, tomatoes, lettuce, and in our raised beds we have carrots, beetroot and soon we will be enjoying fresh strawberries, later we will enjoy leeks, beetroot, parsnips, and so much more.

So, who are the **Gardening Crew**?



Paul



Jacqueline



Anne



Penny



Viv



with occasional gardening help from Ian and Jan

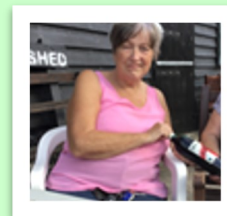
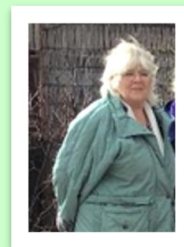
But we are not just about gardening. Oh no We have a Food Crew and a Maintenance Crew and those who just like to pop along when time permits. (apologies for anyone inadvertently omitted)

FMI: Contact Roz Hamill 01638 715329

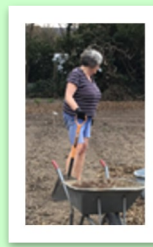
Here they all are:

Heading up the **Food Crew**

is Val, who has been organising the collections since day one. Helped by June.



Viv



Jan



Dave



Paul

These stalwarts go out in all weathers, at their own expense, to collect surplus food from local stores. This is made available at our Front Gate both in Little Shed and also our veg stall which now sports lovely doors to keep out our furry friends

Unfortunately, some “customers” abuse the system which is provided so nobody within our patch will go hungry. But greed is rampant because it is available to all – even though those who can afford to donate, chose not to. We will continue and just ask others to be mindful what people are taking.



We also have a **Maintenance Crew**

Bill keeps on top of the weeds.

We are totally organic with our fruit and veg. But Bill keeps the paths clear.

Michael who can turn his hand to most things, including our lovely signs at the front gate



Dave who is our Master Carpenter always willing to bring out a screwdriver to help. And last but not least Jean who thankfully likes to clean !



Jean looks after our Tea Room when she is not sailing up and down UK canals

We have lots to do, and any help is always appreciated. We meet at The Shed every Tues, Thurs and Saturdays from 10am (weather permitting)

SUMMER QUIZ 2025

All answers are NUMBERS

Where years are mentioned ignore the actual date of an event!

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Total sides of a triangle, square, rhombus, pentagon and hexagon? | ANS..... |
| 2. Total Oscars for Gigi, Ben Hur & Titanic? | ANS..... |
| 3. Year of first Miss World? | ANS..... |
| 4. Years between Battle of Hastings and Great Fire of London? | ANS..... |
| 5. Year of first cross channel flight? | ANS..... |
| 6. Tommy Cooper, Eric Morecambe & Richard Burton share this year? | ANS..... |
| 7. Total number of dots and dashes in ONE? | ANS..... |
| 8. Number of bones in a giraffe's neck? | ANS..... |
| 9. US states minus Canada's provinces and territories? | ANS..... |
| 11. 111, 333, 555, 777, 999 are all multiples of which 2 digit number? | ANS..... |
| 10. Total Marx brothers? | ANS..... |
| 12. How many Vonn Trapp children? | ANS..... |
| 13. Number of cat's bones? | ANS..... |
| 14. Total scale values of the five breezes? | ANS..... |
| 15. Birth year of Louise Brown? | ANS..... |
| 16. Years between first man and first woman in space? | ANS..... |
| 17. Jurassic Park tagline of how many million years? | ANS..... |
| 18. Shortest verse in the Bible - John? | ANS..... |
| 19. Normal person's pairs of chromosomes? | ANS..... |
| 20. Square yards in an acre? | ANS..... |

NAME OF ENTRANT.....

ADDRESS.....

Contact tel. no

**N.B. PLEASE POST YOUR ENTRY IN THE BOWLS CLUB SILVER LETTER BOX
SITUATED ON THE FENCE BY 10th AUGUST 2025**

DOWN THE ALLOTMENTS IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER



As summer begins to mellow into early autumn, August and September are a crucial time for allotment holders. These months offer a final burst of harvests – juicy tomatoes, sweetcorn, beans, and courgettes while also marking the start of preparations for the colder months. It's a busy, satisfying period: sowing late crops, clearing spent plants, and beginning to condition the soil for winter.



As we get into autumn, September is a good harvest months for crops such as sweetcorn, late potatoes, runner beans and beetroot. Many of these crops can be frozen or preserved for use later in the year. Although a little time consuming, sweetcorn can be stripped from the core and frozen loosely in bags. More information about preserving vegetables and fruit can be found online at websites similar to the one available here: <https://www.allotment-garden.org/recipe/freezing-produce/freeze-information-blanching/>

In September several varieties of apples and pears will be ready to harvest. Wild blackberries are usually about in early September and it's also time for picking sloes which make a lovely warming sloe gin or sloe vodka and recipes can be found online such as this one at the GoodFood website <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/sloe-gin>.

Walnuts are usually ready to be picked at the end of September and can be stored and eaten over the winter period. Melons should be ready for picking late August/early September depending on the variety, one of our allotment holders has grown cucamelons this year (also known as little mouse watermelons) which are good for salads, pickling and salsas.



Cucamelons

It's a good time to pot any runners from strawberry plants into individual pots to make strong plants ready for next summer and these should be planted out again by November (before it gets too cold). Runners from raspberry canes can be planted directly into the ground for healthy new plants, again ready for next summer's harvesting.

Winter greens such as cabbages and cauliflowers should be planted by mid-September at the latest ready for harvesting just after Christmas. It is still early enough to plant some radishes and lettuces for a late crop, depending on the weather, and this usually take around 8 to 10 weeks to grow.

Lots of helpful information for growing fruit and veg along with advice for dealing with pests and diseases, can be found at websites such as The National Allotment Society – www.nsalg.org.uk and The Royal Horticultural Society – <https://www.rhs.org.uk> and www.ukgardening.co.uk.

With any luck we will have a lovely warm August and September along with some sunny weather.

“Family Fun Day”

Saturday 13th September ‘25

West Row Village Hall

12pm - 4pm

Annual Dog Show!

Big Prize Tombola!

Stalls! Games! Band Music!

Dancers! Bouncy Castle!

Sword in the Stone challenge!

Inside Café serving Tea & Cakes!

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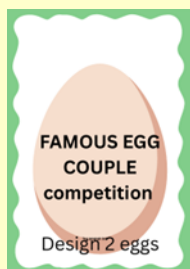
Childrens’ Competetions

Best Dressed “EGG COUPLE”

&

SMALL “Hand tied Flower Posy”

FREE ENTRY





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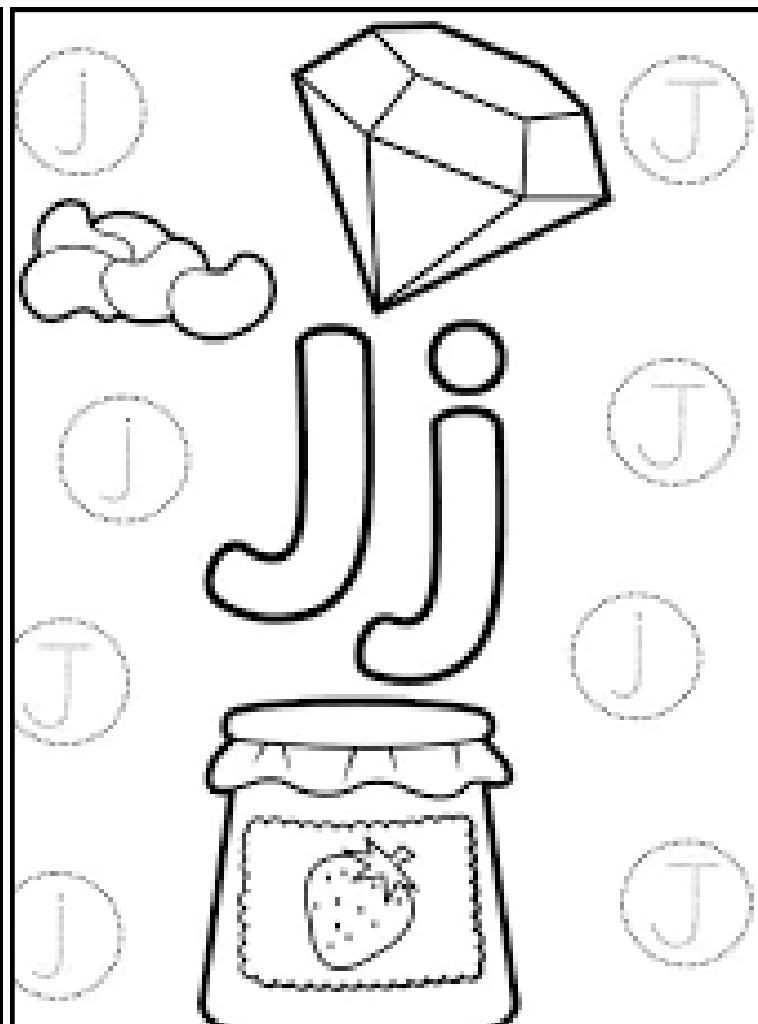
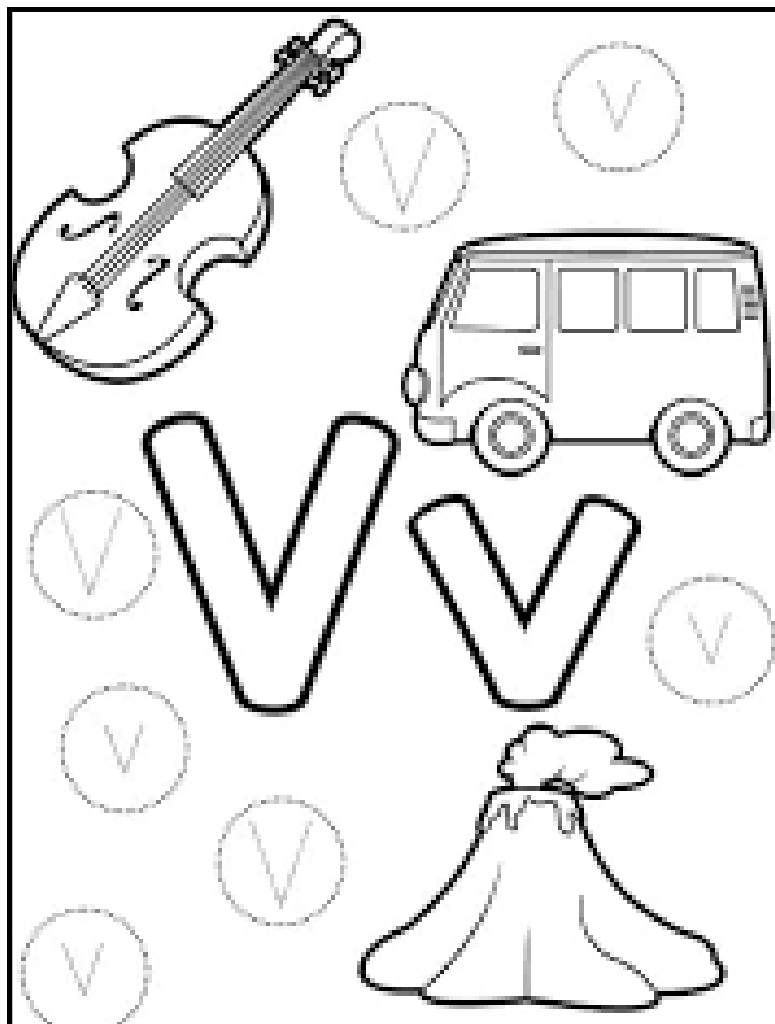
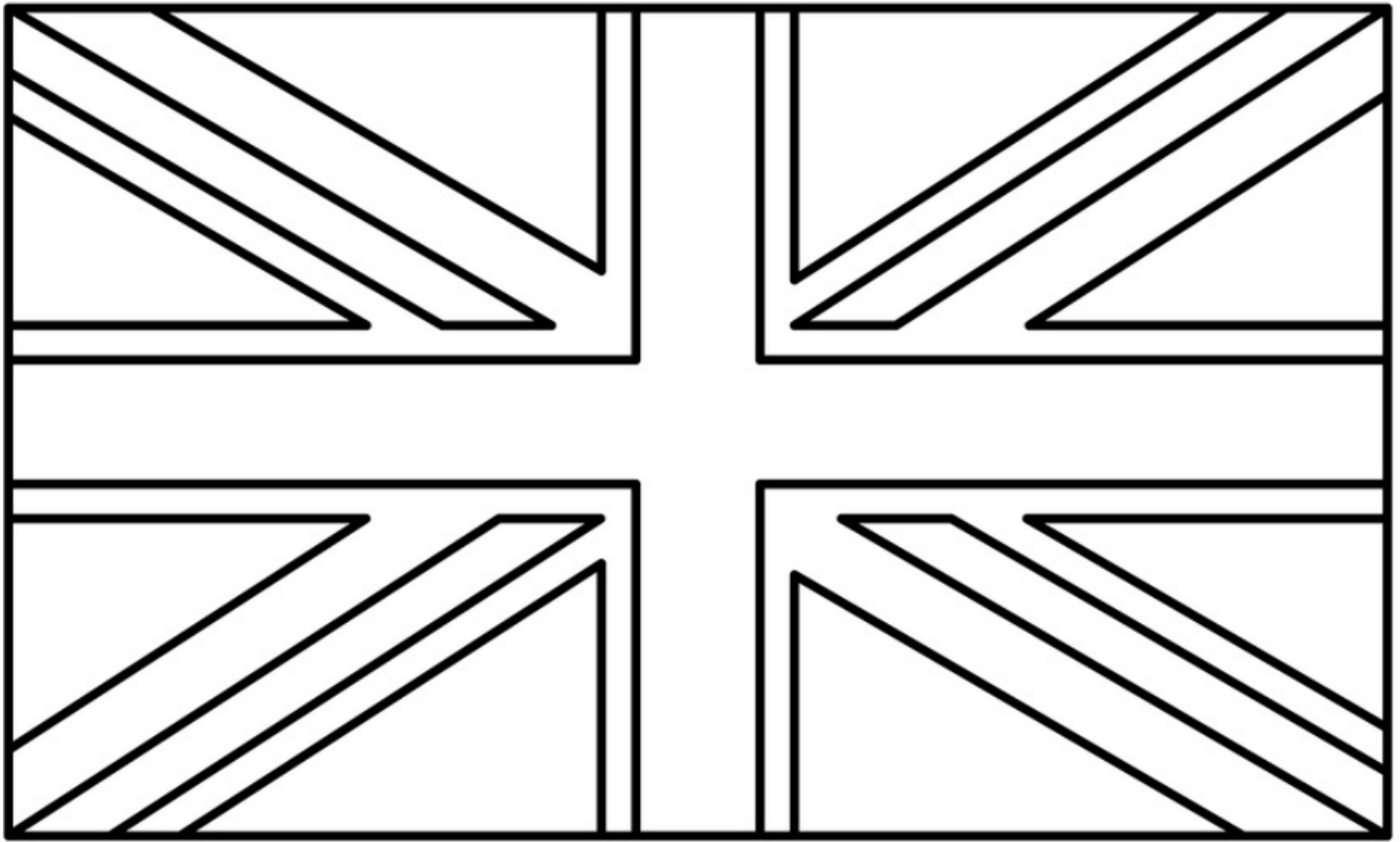
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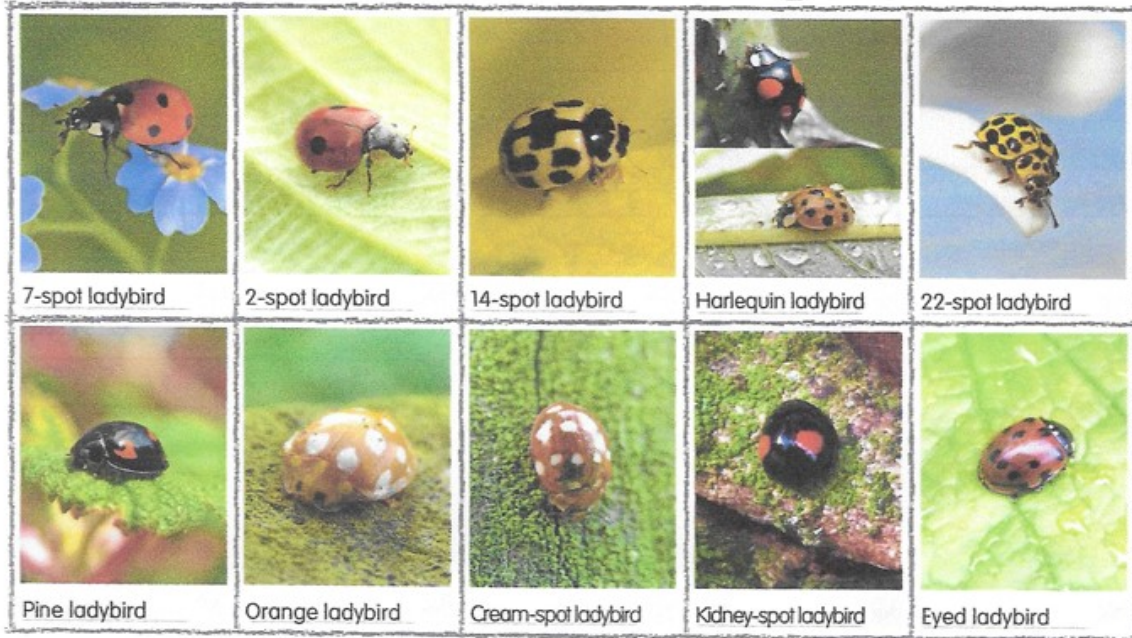
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CHILDREN'S CORNER

Colour the Flag of the United Kingdom



Ladybird detective



Make a wild blackberry crumble

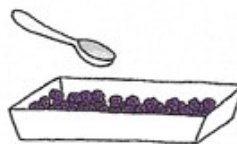
You will need:

- 450g handpicked ripe blackberries 
- 2 tablespoons caster sugar 
- 225g plain flour 
- 150g soft brown sugar 
- 75g butter (soft) 
- 1 level teaspoon baking powder 
- Mixing bowl 
- Ovenproof dish 
- Oven gloves 

- 1 Between August and October, go out on an adventure picking blackberries.

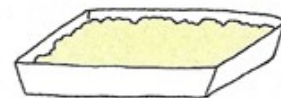


- 2 Wash the blackberries, and arrange in a shallow ovenproof dish. Sprinkle with the caster sugar.



Remember to get help from an adult when doing this activity.

- 3 Mix the remaining ingredients together between your fingers until it goes all crumbly. Sprinkle the crumble mixture on top of the fruit.



- 4 Bake in the oven at 180C / 350F / Gas 4 for 30-40 minutes.



- 5 Leave the crumble to stand for five minutes. Tuck in and enjoy!

