

THE WAVENEY CENTRE

NEW MARKET
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NEWSLETTER

Hello everyone and welcome to the Newsletter for September.

Following on from last month's call out when we asked if there might be interest in attending a free talk given by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission: only one person has approached us, so we aren't following this up at present.

Might you be interested attending a session on basic life support and use of an advisory defibrillator? Please let us know and we will see what we can organise. We held one such session a couple of years ago that was well attended and very well received. We could once more approach East Anglia Air Ambulance to enquire, should there be sufficient interest.

Our first makers market took place on 16th of August. We chose this day to coincide with Beccles Carnival. We hadn't realised until later that it was also the weekend of the Folk East festival which this year was held at Sotterley. This boosted visitor numbers to the town and consequentially we had many people come into the Centre. There was a total of 15 stalls including those offering homemade goods and produce made of pottery, willow, card and foil. We also had makers of jewellery, candles and dried flower bouquets plus others. The weather held well, and many people attended. The event was undertaken in conjunction with JC who has been an Access Trustee for many years and is herself a maker. We are considering whether to repeat the event, possibly in time for Christmas.

Positive compliments continue to come in following the building refresh of the summer. People like that we no longer have as many items for sale because this used to give the impression of a jumble sale in progress. We understand that removing the framed image history boards from the entrance hasn't gone down well with everyone as there are family members and older friends represented. However, this needs to be balanced with the feelings of others who say that they felt awkward coming into the Centre when they saw pictures of people and things that they had no personal links to. When considering the pictures and newspaper clippings, we want to preserve these reflections of the past before they deteriorate to the point of no return, so that they will be available for future generations. Paper yellows and deteriorates with time and photos fade. We will be working with Beccles museum to discover a way to preserve the history boards long term, presumably in a digital format.

Since the redecorating, we have had an increase in the number of enquiries for private hires, which must be good news for the long term future of us. People see that we have decluttered and are offering a more open, airy space. Likewise, some who used to sit in the taller, easy chairs near the windows say they don't like it that we have rearranged the furniture. The furniture changes were planned so that higher furniture is to the wall and lower furniture to the windows, thereby encouraging

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people in to enjoy the view. It certainly seems to have worked for many newcomers, as they gravitate to the window seating and outdoors furniture.

Hoi! on 26 August was enjoyed by attenders. Jayne sang for 20 minutes and her singing went down well. We have now planned a ticketed event for Jayne to entertain us on Tuesday 23 September, 12:00 – 2:00 at the cost of £4. Please be welcome along, be entertained and sing along.

We're also working on having our next Hoi! on Wednesday 1st October. The suggestion from attenders was to start with a sausage and mash meal, so it looks like this is what we'll have. Does sausage and mash herald the start of autumn?

Also for your diary: Wednesday 24th September is our carpet bowls tournament. Mick and Danny have crowns that might need to be handed over – you never know. Please sign up and get involved as a player or spectator. It's a friendly, enjoyable competition that's available for you too.

And finally...

What happens when winter arrives? Autumn leaves.

What did one leaf say to the other leaf? I'm falling for you.

Why is it easy to practical jokes on leaves? Because they fall for anything.

Michael