



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 337 April 2020

Edited by: James Kennedy and NOTT Clerk **Published by:** Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council and New Orford Town Trust **Printed by:** Leiston Press Ltd

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The Council therefore holds no responsibility for its content except that submitted by and on behalf of the Council or Trust.

All copy must be received by Thursday 16 April preferably by email to:

orfordtrust@btconnect.com or put through the Town Hall letterbox

Priority for inclusion is given to articles that are about or directly affect the community of Orford and Gedgrave and inclusion is subject to editing and availability of space. Contributors should be aware that this newsletter is published on the website of Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council and the New Orford Town Trust (www.orfordparishandtrust.onesuffolk.net)

TOWN HALL OFFICE

Because of ongoing concerns regarding the coronavirus (Covid-19) the Town Hall office is currently closed to the public. Staff will be checking and responding to emails and answerphone messages regularly during working hours, and the office will be manned from 9-11am, Tuesday to Thursday by one member of staff: on Tuesdays this will be the Parish Clerk, on Wednesdays the Treasurer, and on Thursdays the Clerk to New Orford Town Trust. We are sorry for any inconvenience this might cause.

Marie Backhouse, Parish Clerk, and Kara Reed, Clerk to New Orford Town Trust

FROM ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Dog fouling

It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that there is an increasing amount of dog fouling and full dog poo bags around the village. Please can we remind dog owners to clear away after their dog has fouled and to place it responsibly in the dog bins or rubbish bins placed around the village.

Calendar for the village

There is to be an addition to the parish website of a calendar. This will display events in the village and will go live sometime in April. If anyone would like an event to be placed on the calendar, please contact the Parish Clerk. The website for Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council/New Orford Town Trust can be found at: www.orfordparishandtrust.onesuffolk.net

Parking Enforcement

From April there will be Parking Enforcement Officers (PEO) visiting the village. There is to be some re-lining of roads in parts of the village, to ensure they meet regulations. In the beginning the PEO will visit the village at random times to gauge where the problem areas are, and then the visits will increase/decrease depending on the need. Residents and visitors should make sure they park with care as those parked illegally may be fined.

Speedwatch

The Parish Council is hoping to have its own Speedwatch equipment and is therefore looking for volunteers to help organise this. If you would like to be a volunteer for the Speedwatch group, this will involve a training course from the Police. Please let the Clerk know if you are interested.

Marie Backhouse, Clerk to Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council, tel 01394 459172, email orfordtownhall@btconnect.com

APRIL AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

According to government and church regulations, all churches in the Diocese have suspended all services. Funerals and marriages will continue with certain guidelines. The licensing of Rev Giles Tulk, as Team Vicar, will be a private service at the Bishop's home.

St Bartholomew's will of course remain open during the day, and we will have a table with prayers if needed. Sanitizers are provided for your usage. The APCM has not been decided to be held yet, but we will keep you informed. It is a huge adjustment to us not to gather together for public worship, not least because that is precisely what we want to do in a time of crisis. We must however observe this strictly, because of the risk of communicating infection. With love and prayers,

Guy Marshall and Jacki Maslin

A LETTER FROM THE NEW TEAM RECTOR

Dear friends, as many of you will know, I have been appointed to the role of Team Rector of the Wilford Benefice, a role that I am very excited about.

So, a bit about myself... I was born and grew up on the Hertfordshire-Essex border. After graduating from The University of Leeds with a degree in Economics, I spent around fifteen years working in Human Resources consultancy, working for clients in the UK, Europe and Middle East, so I am someone who has become a Priest later in life. I trained part-time on the Eastern Region Ministry Course based in Cambridge whilst still working as a Director in the HR Consultancy practice of a Global Professional Services firm based in London.

After being ordained, I served as Curate and then as an Assistant Priest in the Diocese of Chelmsford, before serving as Team Rector responsible for six churches in the St Albans Diocese. We then moved to Shropshire where I have been Rector for a multi-church Benefice and Rural Dean for the last four years.

I am married to Sara, who is an English teacher. In our spare time we enjoy walking and we are looking forward to exploring the beautiful walks on the Wilford Peninsula with our whippet-lurcher 'Reggie'. One of our favourite walks is from Snape Maltings along the River Alde to St Botolph's Iken. We also both enjoy gardening in our spare time and we both have a love of music and opera. I have been a follower of Leyton Orient Football Club since boyhood, which usually causes much mirth and incredulity amongst school children when I tell them!

It is a tremendous privilege for me to serve you as your Team Rector in the Wilford Benefice, and we are excited about moving to Orford and getting to know the different church congregations and

communities across the Benefice. So please do come and say 'hello' if you see us around, or when I am walking my dog, or alternatively telephone or email me if you would like a chat. My official contact details are: Email: revgileswtr@gmail.com, telephone: 01394 450610 (after 15 April).

Wishing you all a very happy and joyous Easter. With all blessings, Giles

Rev Giles Tulk

APRIL AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Congratulations to Russell and Dallas who celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 20 February – not only, but also the birth of their great-granddaughter on the same day! The Diamond couple received a special blessing during the morning service on Sunday 23 February when family members including grandchildren and the newly born, Isabella, for her first outing, came to support them. After the service, everyone enjoyed a special celebration cake and the 'happy couple' received a pot plant from all at church. A lovely ending to a happy morning. As expected, baby Isabella stole the show!

Shrove Tuesday saw a very small but happy group of people enjoying homemade soup and pancakes galore at lunch time – a great way to start the Lent season.

Recent Cafe Worship featured the work of The Leprosy Mission, Children in Distress, Youth With A Mission and Tools With A Mission – we were able to hear and understand more about the work of these charities and how they began. It was an interesting informal service – and we got to eat delicious homemade cheese scones and gingerbread too with plenty of coffee and tea too!

At a recent Wednesday Lunch we were pleased to have with us four friends who were meeting up in Orford (as they do from time to time) and had heard about our friendly gathering and good food – their return is imminent!

Thanks to the generosity of supporters and special collections we have been able to make substantial gifts of money to: Help for Heroes (sale of Knitted Poppies), Children in Distress (Glasgow based charity) in lieu of their Christmas Shoe Box Appeal, The Leprosy Mission and Action For Children, also supporting the continuing aid effort after last year's Hurricane Dorian which caused wide spread devastation in the Bahamas.

CORONAVIRUS – UPDATED INFORMATION

In line with recommendations all services/meetings/events and activities are on hold until further notices with the exception of funerals (with a limited number attending). Pastoral oversight continues for those in need within the community...

Stephen Caley

THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

We have introduced a single telephone number for all Peninsula Practice sites. The new number is 01394 411641. Your call to the surgery will be placed in a queue and answered by the next available Care Navigator at any one of our branch sites. Our staff all use the same computer system, regardless of where they are working, so when you phone the surgery please remember to state which site you normally attend.

If you are unable to phone the surgery during opening hours our eConsult service enables you to seek online advice from your GP, plus request general or administrative advice. To access eConsult please go to the practice website www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk and click on the eConsult icon.

GP TRAINING, STAFF MEETING & BANK HOLIDAY CLOSURE DATES

Thursday 2 April from 13.00 until 8.00 the next morning, Good Friday 10 April, Easter Monday 13 April, Thursday 16 April from 13.30 until 17.00.

Please contact NHS 111 when the Surgery is closed

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the rapidly changing situation relating to the Coronavirus and how it affects the services we provide please visit

the dedicated Coronavirus/Covid-19 page on our website www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk to find out the latest information.

Nicola Thompson, Medical Administrator, Peninsula Practice

ORFORD SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB

Due to the circumstances that we are all finding ourselves in at the moment, and with advice from the Government, a decision has been made by the Committee to close the cCub at this time. This means that some future bookings and events will be subject to change and cancellation. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and also for posters that may appear around the village. It is difficult to say at this time how long the Club will be closed for, but we wish all our customers and members all the best, and to stay safe and well. As soon as we are able to reopen the club, we will let you know as quickly as possible.

Mark Smy, OSRC Secretary, tel 450358

ORFORD COUNTRY MARKET

Spotlight on: Neil Macro, local fisherman

'I have owned boats most of my life but have been fishing commercially for about 50 years. I fish sustainably and to strict quota limits. I use gillnets, trammel nets, setnets, longline and potting. My pots are laid onto wartime wrecks about 12 miles offshore, with my crab pots are closer in. Lobsters and crabs are cooked on Friday mornings, dressed in the evening and sold on a Saturday morning. The fish that I tend to source are cod, bass, dover sole, brill and skate. The fish it is never more than three days old when sold. My boat is Girl Fiona a 27ft offshore vessel, which is moored to the right of Orford Quay.'

The Market is open each Saturday, from 9.30-11.30am in Orford Town Hall

Anne Macro, Chairman, Orford Country Market

GENTLE EXERCISE

The classes held in the Town Hall on a Wednesday morning have now been CANCELLED until at least after Easter. Those who attend should hear by email about when they might start up again.

ORFORD, GEDGRAVE & SUDBOURNE FLOWER SHOW: The Great Potato Challenge

FREE entry for ALL ages. Why not join in the fun and have a go at growing some 'Charlotte' potatoes for this year's Flower Show? The Potato competition is now open to all, with no age limit. Collect your seed potato and a copy of the advance schedule from The Village Stores and get growing! Numbers are limited so please hurry! Prizes will be awarded for the total weight of potatoes grown per pot.

Alex Smith

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

The event that had been planned for 2 April 2020 has now been CANCELLED.

Go wild for flowers – garden meadows, March meeting

Mark, who is a professional ecologist, started a garden meadow twenty-one years ago on moving to Chillesford and has found it a tremendously rewarding aspect of his garden. Thirty-six members and guests joined us. He gave us a very inspiring talk about his own experience and explained to us about perennial and annual wildflower meadows and how to develop our own. He also made links to Plantlife, a British conservation charity which has been protecting wildflowers since 1989 as they, along with fungi are the life support for all our wildlife. Mark is also our local Swift expert and encouraged us all to install boxes to encourage them.

Some future events:

- Wednesday 29 April Afternoon Spring garden visit to Ulting
Wick to see the tulips – members only
- 7 May – Matt Tatton Brown of The Place for Plants – Planting

Containers and plants for sale

- 11 June – Garden Party in a charming Gedgrave garden
- 1 July – Coach trip to Mannington Hall Gardens Norfolk

Polly Sharkey, *creativefutures98@btinternet.com*, 01394 450959

ORFORD NESS OPENING

The safety of our staff, volunteers and visitors is our main priority and following Government advice around Coronavirus, Orford Ness will no longer be opening for the start of the visitor season this Easter. All visitor facilities, including the Quay office, our visitor ferry and access to the site will remain closed until further notice. We will provide further information on opening dates once the situation becomes clearer. In the meantime National Trust staff will continue to work onsite carrying out work to maintain the Ness while taking measures to reduce infection risk.

Glen Pearce, *Visitor Experience Officer, National Trust*

ORFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL: *Lighting Up Learning*

All classes continue to learn under the theme of 'From Darkness To Light' and at last it feels like we are getting to a lighter time of year, as snowdrops, daffodils and tulip shoots push through very soggy ground in our cut flower garden. We are looking forward to our first after school gardening club, which starts on Thursday and hope that children enjoy an extra chance to garden and be outdoors under the expertise of Carrie, who has kindly volunteered her time.

So far this term we have welcomed Aldeburgh Lifeboat, helping us to think about our value of service, had visits from a beekeeper, a tractor under the Tractors in Schools project and travelled to the O2 with our choir to perform with 8000 other school children. The children also spent 'Safer Internet Day' involved in activities around staying safe online. Further details of the learning in school can be found on the class pages of our website.

Every year the school enters the Young Art East Anglia competition. Whilst giving the opportunity for our pupils to create art for an audience, it helps to raise money for Cancer Research. This year our children submitted art work about the idea 'A Moment in Time' and we are delighted that nine pupils had their art work chosen for exhibit. The weekend exhibition started on Friday, 13th March at Peter Pears gallery, Aldeburgh.

Another exciting development is that we are now able to open Preschool five days a week from 8.30am to 3pm. Before half term, we said a sad farewell to Patti Standen, who has been with Orford Shrimps and then Preschool for ten years. She has been an integral part of our pupils' learning journey and will be missed. We welcome Jo Atherton to the Orford Preschool team. You can find out about Orford Preschool on our school website too.

Linda Scarce

WEA ORFORD 2020

We have just completed a highly successful course on Society and Culture in Medieval East Anglia by Dr Kate Judd. Twenty-two members attended and participated. Gone are the days of sitting in rows, receiving information and possibly falling asleep! Everyone was involved and participated. Kate is very knowledgeable. Every session was characterised by excellent information, lively participation and an interest in discovering what Medieval East Anglia was really like. Kate invited us to participate by engaging with carefully selected original source material.

More courses are planned for Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021. When confirmed we will let you have more details. However, we are fairly confident Kate will be returning. She enjoyed our sessions too!

Sue Snowdon, *Secretary*

OPEN GARDENS IN ORFORD ON SUNDAY 24 MAY 2020
IN AID OF ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, 11am– 4pm

We are planning to organise Open Gardens again this year and the proceeds will be used towards the running of the Church.

This will take place on Sunday 24 May. If there is anyone who has never opened their garden before, but would like to do so this year, I should be delighted to hear from them. We also ran a plant stall in the church porch two years ago and if anyone would be willing to do this again please contact me on 01394 450771 or dianampaterson@btinternet.com.

Refreshments will be served in the Church all day and anyone who would like to volunteer to do a shift or to make cakes and biscuits, please contact Lizzie Carr on 01394 450866. She will be compiling a rota for the day.

Diana Grayburn

THE MARSH DEMONS OF IKEN – POSTPONED

Many people will remember the performances of Rust and Stardust in Orford Church over the past few years. The members of this talented young puppet company have presented their interpretation of many local Suffolk folk tales including The Wild Man of Orford, The Green Children of Woolpit and Black Shuck. This last one was a collaboration with the children of Orford school producing their own puppets as part of the national Arts Award Scheme and running wild as Shuck's pack through Orford Church to the delight of the audience in 2018.

Rust and Stardust have been successful in securing an Arts Council grant to fund another collaboration with Orford School and Bawdsey School this year.

The theme of this year's project will be The Marsh Demons of Iken covering the curious goings on with St Botolph and Iken Church. Anyone who witnessed the enthusiastic children performing Black Shuck won't want to miss this event. Anyone who missed Black Shuck doesn't know what they missed and should make sure they don't miss The Marsh Demons of Iken.

The original dates of 1 and 3 April have been postponed due to the Coronavirus caution but we hope to reschedule for some time during the summer term. For further details email contact@tmef.org.uk

Roger Hipwell

ORFORD BOOK LAUNCH - POSTPONED

Beyond the Bar: the Launch of this book about sailing voyages from Orford, planned for 9 April in the King's Head will now be postponed until the end of the virus emergency. Copies will be available early in April and those already ordered will be delivered, available for collection or post, all being well. Subject to weather and government directives at the time, some open air sales may take place at Easter outside the Town Hall. Further orders or enquiries will be welcomed by me either by email to catspaw@phonecoop.coop or telephone 01394 450567 or post to 29 High Street, Orford, IP12 2NW. It might provide reading matter in isolation! Watch this space! Happy reading!

Richard Roberts

APRIL AT THE KING'S HEAD

What difficult times for everybody and we hope that you are all well. At the time of writing, we remain open as normal. Obviously this may be subject to change.

We are offering a takeaway and home delivery menu, including drinks and this is available on our Facebook page or in the pub. We hope to get some flyers printed and then distributed to all the households in Orford. If you want to place an order please call us on 01394 450271. We intend to run this service even if we are closed as a normal pub.

It is fair to say that all our events are likely to be postponed or cancelled for the forthcoming period. Your continued support in these trying times is greatly appreciated. If there is anything we can do to assist anyone please phone us and we will do our utmost to help.

Keep safe and keep well. Ian, Suzanne and the team

Ian & Suzanne Ballantine, *thekingsheadorford@gmail.com*

FROM THE JOLLY SAILOR

The Jolly Sailor is now offering a takeaway menu. For more details or to place an order please call 01394 450243.

Corinne Webber and Alex Wallis

ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB CHOIR CONCERT - CANCELLED

Aldeburgh Music Club choir has cancelled its planned concert at St Bartholomew's Church in Orford on Saturday 16 May because of the coronavirus situation.

Veronica Posford

ALDE AND ORE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Working in the estuary communities to build a resilient future

The Alde and Ore Community Partnership had its second meeting on 27 February 2020 and focused on how to ensure that everyone in the community, residents, businesses, visitors and those providing the infrastructure such as roads, water, power, telecommunications, can best be kept in touch with how the estuary project is progressing once all the necessary permissions and funding has been obtained.

Given the importance of ensuring all parts of the communities receive sufficiently full and timely information it was agreed to establish a Communications Group, tasked to develop a plan for discussion and hopefully approval at the next AOCF meeting.

There is a lot to think about with 13 parishes and all the business and community interest sectors. The project is dealing with 44km of river wall which can only be worked on in certain seasons and will take some 7 years, so different communities will be seeing different phases in the works over that time period.

The East Suffolk Internal Drainage Board will, once the project starts, have focused meetings and information plans for each parish or area affected by the river wall they are working on at any given time.

The Alde and Ore Estuary Trust, which works to secure funding not coming from the government (as there has to be community funding too), will also be keeping everyone in touch with their work. The three organisations will work together so as to ensure that any information provided to the media, parishes or individually is consistent and clear.

The Partnership plans to meet again at the beginning of June to finalise its plans on how best to communicate with all the estuary communities.

Meanwhile, if anyone has any views on how often they would like to be kept in touch with what is happening, how they might like to comment, and via what media or meetings, all contributions will be welcome. (Please email AOCF Temp Hon Sec at aldeblackburn@aol.com)

Alison Andrews

Orford, Gedgrave & Sudbourne Park Good Neighbour Scheme

During the Covid-19 pandemic we will be offering the following services

Collection and Delivery of Shopping from Orford General Store

We can arrange for a volunteer to pick up pre-ordered items from Orford General Store and deliver them to your doorstep. You must avoid contact with our volunteers so the items **must** be ordered either online or by telephone and paid for by bank card.

Medical Prescriptions from the Peninsula Practice

We can pick your medication up and post it through your letterbox or leave it outside on the doorstep if large. If you are under 60 and pay for your medication you must ring the surgery pharmacy and pay using a bank card. If you are under 60 and have a medical exemption, we will need the exemption number. We need to know your Name, Address and Date of Birth in order to collect your prescription.

Transportation to GP or Hospital Appointments

This is only available to clients who are not presenting symptoms of Covid-19.

Companionship

We are offering telephone befriending during this challenging time. If you would like a one-off or a regular call from one of our volunteers please let us know.

Walking Dogs

RING US ON 01394 450235
Please spread the word about this Scheme

Other Useful Information

Silverline free confidential helpline providing information, friendship and advice to older people 0800 470 8090

Living Life to the Full free online course offering help with anxiety and stress:

<https://liff.com/>

Orford Meat Shed 01394 459890 to order and arrange delivery

Orford Village Stores 01394 450204 or preferably order by email:

orfordgeneralstore@outlook.com

Orford Surgery Pharmacy 01394 411641

Please bear in mind that the Scheme is run entirely by volunteers. We will always do our utmost to help. Abuse and aggression to any of us will result in our assistance being withdrawn on an individual basis. Thank you