



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 385 April 2024

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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All copy must be received by midday on Thursday 18 April 2024, preferably by email to:

orfordtrust@outlook.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)

COPY DEADLINE FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 18 APRIL

FROM ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL 8 TOWN FARM ESTATE

8 Town Farm Estate is still being marketed exclusively to those who can demonstrate a strong connection with the parishes of Orford or Gedgrave. This period will end on 8 April 2024, so anyone who is interested should contact the agent, Clarke and Simpson, as soon as possible.

D-DAY CELEBRATIONS

Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council will be marking the D-Day 80 Commemoration with a fish and chip supper and steamed pudding dessert in the Town Hall on the evening of Thursday 6 June. The evening will end with the lighting of the beacon on the Castle Knoll.

More details of the evening and cost will follow, but should you wish to attend could you PLEASE could you contact the Clerk as we will have a food van coming and really need to have an idea about the number of people who might be attending.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

There is currently a vacancy for a Councillor to represent Orford on the Parish Council. Being a Parish Councillor is a voluntary role and the vacancy will be filled by co-option at the Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 10 April 2024.

Anyone wishing to be considered for this vacancy should write a letter to the Clerk to arrive before noon on Tuesday 9 April 2024. Applicants must be 18 years of age or over and have had their main residence or place of work in Orford, or within 3 miles of Orford, for the past 12 months. The Parish Council as a body also acts as the Trustee for the New Orford Town Trust.

If you wish to discuss details of the role of a Parish Councillor, please call me at the office.

POSTERS/ADVERTISEMENTS

The Council has noted that there are many posters and advertisements still remaining around the village long after events have taken place. Please could people ensure that these posters are removed the day after the event. Let us work together to try and keep the village tidy and not cluttered with out-of-date advertisements. Thank you.

Marie Backhouse, Clerk/RFO to Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council, 459172, orfordtownhall@outlook.com

April dates for your diary

- Each Monday: badminton - Orford Town Hall - 10am-12noon
- Each Monday (except bank holidays): Coffee and Chat - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 10.30am-12.30pm
- Each Wednesday: chair pilates - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 11am-12noon
- Each Monday and Wednesday: Methodist Chapel tea room, lunch, afternoon tea, 11am-4pm
- Each Wednesday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm
- Each Friday: pickleball - Orford Town Hall, 10am-12noon
- Each Friday: Bart's Hall - Friday Soup - 12.30-2pm
- Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm

- Thursday 4 April: Gardening Club - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Friday 19 April: Talks for Thomas -onville & Caius College Choir concert - St Bartholomew's Church, 4pm
- Wednesday 24 April: Orford Museum talk - Butley Priory, 6pm
- Sunday 28 April: trip to St Edmundsbury Cathedral (see p3 for further details)

ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

We can confirm the dates of the members' coach trips for this year.

- Saturday 15 June, Norwich, departing 9.30am, departing Norwich 8pm.
 - Thursday 19 September, Great Yarmouth (incorporating coach to the racecourse), departing 10am, departing Great Yarmouth 8pm.
- Please remember, to take full advantage of these coach trips, you must be a member of the club.
- Membership prices are still held at adults £10, 16/17 years £6, 12 to 15 years £2.

Bike meet nights recommence Thursday 11 April at 6pm, and then every second Thursday of the month through to September. Bar and BBQ available (bike ownership not essential)

Also, don't forget Friday club nights.

Mark Smy, Secretary, 450358

THE END OF AN ERA

The village of Orford has for hundreds of years had a proud maritime history, especially with its fishing industry, but the start of the year has seen the final departure of the last two full-time commercial fishing boats working from Orford Quay. It's very sad as you only

have to look back as far as the 80s and 90s when there was a considerable sized fleet working in the southern North Sea operating from the quay landing dozens of boxes of prime fish such as cod and skate worth thousands of pounds on a regular basis.

Fishing from Orford also brought a lot of employment and gave the men doing it a lot of experience and knowledge of the sea working from Orford. No buoys in the harbour entrance to help you back then especially when most of the time going in and out it was pitch black. When the fleet was all in the quay was a very vibrant place to be with a lot going on with a lot of colourful language to go with it. Alas all this has now gone probably never to be seen again and the quay is left now to the weekend navy with their ribs and sailboats - an end of an era.

Matt Smy

SUDBOURNE HALL CRICKET CLUB

Finally, the sun is shining in Orford and the cricket season will begin in earnest at Sudbourne Hall Cricket Club later this month. The club have been busy planning for the 2024 season through the winter.

Very pleased to announce that Ian Foll will captain the Saturday league team this season. He will bring knowledge, experience and excellent leadership skills to the role. The league fixtures begin with a trip to Copford on Saturday 27 April with Tendring CC visiting the hall on Saturday 4 May for the first home game. The stakes are high this year with four teams being relegated from the eleven teams in Division seven of the Two Counties League.

Great news that two new initiatives introduced in 2023 will continue this year:

Youth cricket, our AllStars and Dynamos programmes will continue through 2024. The first session will run on Saturday 1 June. I'll send details out in due course to those parents or guardians with children who attended last year. If you are interested in attending this season and your children didn't attend last year, please drop me an email on andyhalliday1@me.com

We ran our first Women's softball cricket session last July and these will continue through the summer. We've also entered a couple of local Women's softball festival events. First session is likely to be at the club in early June. Watch this space!

We'll also be running seven or eight T20 mixed social fixtures through June and July on Tuesday or Thursday evenings. So it's full steam ahead for the club this season...

Andy Halliday

FRIDAY SOUP AT BART'S HALL, 12.30-2pm

All are welcome to join us for a simple soup lunch followed by coffee and cake. There is no charge, but donations are welcome. For further information contact Caroline Gill on 07799 655825.

Caroline Gill

ORFORD COUNTRY MARKET

We are looking for some more producers to join us at the Country Market on a Saturday in the Town Hall. There are 200 Country Markets across England and Wales, run as co-operatives for the members. At Orford we sell home-made baked goods, preserves, garden-grown fruit and vegetables, plants, flowers, cakes, honey, eggs, locally caught fish, locally reared pork and lots of lovely handmade crafts. All items sold are home-made, home-grown or hand-crafted by local producers. If you have made it, reared it, caught it, or grown it, you can sell it!

If you think you would like to join us, please come to the Town Hall any Saturday between 9.30am and 1pm and talk to the market manager who will give you a tour and answer any questions you have. If you want to find out more about country markets look on their website www.country-markets.co.uk or if you want to check out what are producers have to sell look on

Instagram @orford_market. If you don't want to join come and give us a look anyway, you may be surprised what you can find.

Belinda Boast, Secretary

APRIL AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

All are welcome to join us at St Bartholomew's, Orford for the following services in April and May:

Sunday 7 April	9.30am Sung Holy Communion, Robin Alderson
Sunday 14 April	10am Family Service, Guy Marshall
Sunday 21 April	9.30am Holy Communion BCP, Robin Alderson
Sunday 5 May	9.30am Sung Holy Communion, Rev Dr Stephan Thompson
Sunday 12 May	10am Family Service, Guy Marshall
Sunday 19 May	9.30am Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Stephan Thompson
	6pm Whitsun Choral Evensong, Janet Bishop

A CHURCH NEAR YOU WEBSITE www.achurchnearyou.com provides details of all church services and events in the local area. For further information during the interregnum please contact Church Wardens Guy Marshall (450090) or Jacki Maslin (450799).

Dates for your diary

- Sunday 21 April, Gonville & Caius College Choir Concert, 4pm. Tickets from Britten Pears Arts
- Sunday 26 May, Open Gardens Event

Caroline Gill

APRIL AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 7 April	10.30am Stephen Caley – lunch follows
Sunday 14 April	10.30am Service arranged locally
Sunday 21 April	10.30am Rev Saul Tadzaushe – Holy Communion

Sunday 28 April 10.30am Stephen Caley

You are welcome to join with us – children stay in church with activities, often assisting with the service. Refreshments are served afterwards.

Chapel Tea Room is open every Monday and Wednesday from 11am – 4pm. There's always a great menu at very reasonable cost and plenty of crafts, art and cards also available.

As these notes are prepared before Easter, our many thanks for generous donations toward Easter flowers to assist the Easter Garden creation.

After the 3 March Sunday service we consumed a pizza-style lunch and then to an enjoyable 'birthday(s) party' where we all joined in some very traditional games. Much laughter and fun with plenty of prizes too!

Everyone received a small pot plant on Mothering Sunday – after a great service we ended the morning with cake and scones.

Stephen Caley

ORFORD MUSEUM TALKS AT BUTLEY PRIORY FOR SPRING 2024

We have made a change to the talk to be held on 24 April by Matt Salusbury. This will now be on

The Woodwoses and Wildmen of Suffolk

In Issue 32 of The Orford & District Local History Bulletin published in the summer of 2019, Matt Salusbury wrote an article on this topic and was due to give a related talk to the Friends of Orford Museum the following autumn. Sadly, Covid meant that this had to be cancelled but Matt is now coming to Butley Priory on Wednesday 24 April 2024 to give us the long-awaited talk. The article in question has been posted on our website at www.orfordmuseum.org.uk. Alternatively, if you would like a printed copy of the bulletin itself, please contact me at a.spinney43@btinternet.com

Woodwoses or wildmen – men covered in thick fur, sometimes carrying clubs – are a common sight in Suffolk's churches, carved in stone on fonts, on porches or on church towers. It's a mystery why they are so many woodwoses in Suffolk and so few elsewhere. There are some medieval accounts of Suffolk

encounters with wildmen, including a captive wildman in Orford Castle.

In this talk, freelance journalist and author Matt Salusbury presents an extensive survey of Suffolk wildmen – and possibly at least one wildwoman. What are their origins? Were they just a cultural import from Northern Europe?

Matt is also an English language teacher and the author of *Mystery Animals of Suffolk* (Leiston Press 2023). He lived in Dunwich and Chediston throughout the 2010s and is still Chair of the Trustees of Dunwich Museum as well as BBC Radio Suffolk's big cat expert. He is a regular contributor to Fortean Times, and has written for publications including the Guardian, The Independent and History Today.

All talks start at 6pm and last about an hour and a half. Tickets cost £15 for Friends of Orford Museum, £18 for guests and include a complimentary glass of wine.

Elizabeth Spinney, Chairman, Orford Museum

OUTING TO BURY ST EDMUNDS CATHEDRAL

Due to availability on the outing to Bury St Edmunds Cathedral, we are opening up spaces to anyone interested within our cluster churches – Orford, Sudbourne, Iken, Chillesford, Butley and Tunstall. You do not need to be a churchgoer, anyone interested in the Cathedral is welcome. This trip is on Sunday 28 April joining at the Cathedral at 1.45pm for a private tour with guide, special Evensong service with the Dean, and Friends will treat us to coffee, teas, and cake in the Pilgrim Kitchen, leaving at 5pm. Please call me on 01394 450799 if you want to join the outing, I need to know by 8 April. Thank you.

Jacki Maslin, Churchwarden

THE FRIENDS OF ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

A very successful Quiz Evening was held on Saturday 2 March in the Town Hall attended by seventy guests. Graeme Kay very kindly acted as Quizmaster and set the questions. Thank you to everyone who supported the evening and helped to raise £1400 for the Friends whilst having some good fun.

Future Friends Events:

- Sunday 26 May, Open Gardens. Tickets and teas will be available in the Church from 11am, gardens will open at 11.30am and close at 3.30pm and tea and cake will continue to be on sale in the Church until 4pm.
- Saturday 23 November, an evening of music and song will be presented by Hexachordia in the Church.

Sally Walton

CAMBRIDGE CHOIR TO PERFORM IN ORFORD

One of the UK's leading collegiate choirs – the Choir of Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge – will visit Orford Church for a concert of choral and organ music at 4pm on Sunday 21 April. The choir is one of the UK's leading collegiate ensembles, singing regular Chapel services during the University term and fulfilling a busy schedule of additional activities including concerts, recordings, BBC broadcasts and tours.

The twenty-four singers and two organ scholars, under the direction of renowned organist and composer Matthew Martin, will perform a programme including Britten's *Hymn to St Cecilia* and Michael Haydn's *Missa Sancti Hieronymi*. Set to words by W H Auden, Britten's *Hymn to St Cecilia* is one of the composer's most popular choral works. In 1762, Michael Haydn (1737–1806), younger brother of Joseph, became concertmaster to the Archbishop of Salzburg, remaining in post for the rest of his life

– he succeeded Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart as cathedral organist in 1781; his Mass is regarded as a masterpiece. Matthew Martin will also perform J S Bach's monumental *Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor*, last heard in Orford as the spectacular climax of Bernhard Haas's recital in the 2019 Orford Organ Festival.

Tickets priced £15 are available from the Britten Pears Arts Box Office, online at bit.ly/43kmh0S and from the King's Head Inn.

Graeme Kay, Director of Music, Orford Church

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Thursday evening, 4 April 7.30pm, Orford Town Hall

Luci Skinner 'Pelargoniums, an exploration of this Diverse Genus'

Some of you will remember Luci's most informative and interesting talk on Old World and New World Salvias in last year's programme. She took over from Michael Loftus at Woottens of Wenhaston when he died and has maintained the nursery with her business partner ever since, often in very difficult circumstances. She has now set up a new business 'Greenways Beds and Borders' and holds the National Collection of Pelargoniums which are still housed in Wenhaston. Luci will discuss the genus and all its characteristics, including the species and scented leaf forms. She will give a brief history which covers the Geranium/Pelargonium debate. She will also talk to us about how to propagate and care for Pelargoniums including successful overwintering.

Jon Mason 'Creating a Wild Garden at Little Orchard'

Jon gave us a most interesting and well-illustrated talk about how he has developed his garden in rural Buckinghamshire into a haven for wildlife and how we can achieve this but also have spaces which suit us and our own aesthetics! He was inspired as a boy by the great Tony Soper and has always been a wildlife gardener. His talk was about the practicalities of creating mini-meadows and cornfields full of wildflowers and designing wild borders where fruit bushes jostle with bug hotels and log piles.

Orford CEVA Primary School Gardening Club, Thursdays 3.15-4 pm

Many of our members are going to support a pilot scheme providing volunteers to help with the above. If anyone would like to join the team, on a rota basis, please get in touch with me and I'll pass your details to Liz who will be co-ordinating our efforts. New members always welcome £15 pa Guests £5 per event

Coming in 2024:

- Thursday evening, 2 May, 7.30pm, Orford Town Hall – Peter Blake 'Knowing and Growing Ferns'
 - Thursday afternoon, 6 June, Garden Party at Gedgrave Hall
- Wednesday afternoon, 10 July, car sharing visit to Parham Hall
Polly Sharkey (Chair), creativefutures98@btinternet.com, 01394 450959

ORFORD OPEN GARDENS 2024 – SAVE THE DATE

Please save Sunday 26 May in your diary for this year's Orford Open Gardens. There will be a range of beautiful gardens to visit, some opening for the first time this year, and one featuring musical entertainment by the popular Quay Street Whalers. There will also be refreshments including home-made cakes, a raffle and a plant sale. Watch out for further information in a future issue. In the meantime, if you have any questions about Open Gardens or becoming a Friend of St Bartholomew's Church, please call Libby Archer on 0771 341 3494.

Libby Archer

APRIL AT THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

Staff training is important for our practice. On the following days, surgery sites are closed from 13:00 until the following day. The specified site is open for booking future appointments and accessing repeat prescriptions.
Thursday 18th April – Alderton • Wednesday 15th May – Aldeburgh • Thursday 13th June – Alderton
All calls will be redirected to 111.

We offer an increasingly wide range of NHS services to our patients:

Memory checks (if worried about dementia) • Menopause management • Paramedic appointments • Same day physiotherapy for acute musculoskeletal symptoms • Ultrasound (by referral) • Single skin lesion clinic • Mental health and wellbeing support • Insomnia support - SleepStation (a bespoke programme) • Travel health • Social prescriber – support for non-clinical health and wellbeing needs • Compassionate Companion service – to support end of life choices and care • Full contraception services (eg coils) and sexual health

Also available at our practice are non-NHS services (charged):

Chiropody – foot care appointments & home visits • Ear care – wax removal (see website)

Spring Covid Programme

Details about the Spring Covid Booster programme are being released and we have the following details to share:

From 15 April, the vaccination programme will begin by protecting our care home residents and housebound patients – these people will be contacted directly.

From 22 April, we will be vaccinating our patient population aged over 75, and people who are immunocompromised. Text invites will be sent to eligible patients closer to the time – please ensure that you have shared your current mobile number with us.

Vacancies at the Peninsula Practice

The Peninsula Practice is a surgery of around forty staff, working closely and collaboratively to deliver care to our patients. We are a progressive training practice with an ethos of shared learning and an open-door support culture; we have been awarded outstanding in 4/5 areas (2016 & 2019 – currently highest scoring in Suffolk). When we have vacancies, we post them on our website, on social media, and Indeed.

www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk or 01394 411641
<https://www.facebook.com/ThePeninsulaPracticeGPSurgery/>



01394 450235

We can help with any of the following:

- Friendship and companionship
- Collection of medication
- Shopping
- Dog walking / feeding pets
- Form filling and help with technology
- One-off garden tidy
- Minor household repairs
- A healthy meal
- Transport to hospital and GP appointments
- Provision of a personal care alarm and key safe
- A Community Larder located in the entrance to the King's Head car park
- Support for anyone who is impacted by a scam
- Monday Coffee & Chat and Friday Soup
- Other activities as requested and agreed

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers and the local organisations who support us: The King's Head; Orford & District Surgery CIO; Orford General Stores, Orford Sports & Recreation Club; New Orford Town Trust; Pump Street Bakery; Saint Bartholomew's Church