



**The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave**

**Issue No. 352 July 2021**

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All copy must be received by midday on Thursday 22 July, 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](http://www.orfordparishandtrust.onesuffolk.net))

#### **COPY DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2021 ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 22 JULY**

#### **VILLAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Climbing dome** – as you may have noticed we have a new climbing dome on the children's play area on the Recreation Ground. This is thanks to a couple of donations, from an anonymous resident of the village, and the Sports and Social Club.

I know the children are really enjoying this extra piece of equipment.

**Play area gates** – one of the gates on the play area was broken off the hinges. Please could we all ensure the children do not climb on the gates and that they are kept shut, to prevent little ones from running off and dogs getting in. Thank you.

#### **Village Feast**

This will take place on the Saturday 28 August 2021. The Market Hill will be closed to traffic and parking from 5pm to 11.30pm. There will be a BBQ provided by the Meat Shed, a bar and live music by 'Flaming Cheek'. Please look out for the posters...

**Marie Backhouse**, Parish Clerk

#### **RECYCLING IN QUAY STREET CAR PARK**

For a number of years Bolton Bros have provided a recycling facility for cardboard/paper in Quay Street car park. We have been informed by them that this is no longer financially viable and they have removed the recycling bins. Each household is provided with a blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin, so you should now use this to recycle your paper and cardboard.

**Kara Reed**, Clerk to New Orford Town Trust

#### **JULY AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S**

You are very welcome to join us for the following services:

- First to third Sundays 9am, Holy Communion Service (Second Sunday BCP)
- Fourth Sunday 11 am Family Service
- Wednesdays 6pm, Evening Prayer BCP

Please note that Zoom Services for both Sunday Holy Communion and Wednesday Evening Prayer will be suspended over the summer months.

A Church Near You Website [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) provides details of all church services and events in the local area.

#### **BOOK STALL**

Visitors to the church will have noticed that there are now second-hand books for sale. They are not priced – any donation is gratefully received and will contribute towards maintaining the fabric

#### **July dates for your diary**

Each Monday (except Bank Holidays): Coffee and Chat - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 1pm-3pm

Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm

- Friday 9 July: The Marsh Demons of Iken - St Bartholomew's Church, Orford, 1pm and 6pm

of the church. If you have any unwanted books, they can be left in the bags provided. Children's books are particularly welcome.

**Rev Giles Tulk**, 01394 450610 or [revgileswtr@gmail.com](mailto:revgileswtr@gmail.com)

#### **JULY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday Services

Sunday 4 July 10.30am Stephen Caley  
Sunday 11 July 10.30am Rev Stephen Yelland  
Sunday 18 July 10.30am Stephen Caley

Sunday 25 July 10.30am Rev Martin Dawes – Holy Communion

Children stay for the whole service with activities. Refreshments afterwards.

The Chapel Tea Room remains open every Monday and Wednesday from (approx) 11.30am through to 4pm. Inside and outside (with distant views of the river) seating. A great way to enjoy good food with the addition of art, crafts, cards and more available.

Still not able to sing at the Sunday service, we are using recorded hymns and songs (traditional and new) and each week hand signing to some of the words. The children present join in enthusiastically with praise songs using maracas, cheer leaders pom poms and movement with dance ribbons. Join with us at any of the services and weekly events – you will be very welcome.

**Stephen Caley**

#### **ANNUAL QUAY SERVICE**

This will (hopefully – depending on further COVID restrictions) be held on Sunday 1 August at 6pm – supporting the Fishermen's Mission (RNMTDSF). Preacher: The Very Reverend Joe Hawes, Dean of the Cathedral. Music by the Suffolk Phoenix Band. We look forward to seeing you.

**Stephen Caley**

#### **ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB**

Due to the continuing Government COVID restrictions, live music with 'Rock Solid Alibi' planned for Saturday 3 July will be re-arranged for a later date.

The next Bike Meet night will be Thursday 8 July from 6pm onwards. BBQ available.

Thank you for your support and continuing renewal of club memberships, much appreciated.

Please feel free to pay the club a visit on Friday, Sunday or Monday evenings, from 8pm onwards, check in or QR in, table of 6 rules, at this present time.

**Mark Smy**, Secretary, 450358

### **ORFORD COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

After an article in Village Voice back in March 2018 Orford has now formed a Community Speed Watch Team, supported by Suffolk Constabulary, and the team currently has 9 volunteers. The volunteers have all undergone training and you may see groups of us in the village checking the speed of vehicles. Details of any vehicles who are seen to be speeding will then be passed on to the Safety Camera Partnership who will get in touch with the owners.

The group has been formed to try and make Orford a safer place and those involved give up their time to support the community, so please help us by adhering to the legal limits in the village. Thank you.

**Anne Macro**, Orford Community Speedwatch Coordinator

### **ORFORD SUBBOURNE AND GEDGRAVE FLOWER SHOW, 28 AUGUST**

Plans are underway to run the Orford, Sudbourne and Gedgrave Flower Show on Saturday 28 August. The marquee is ordered, the bouncy castle fellow is lined up, and we hope to infill over the coming weeks with the usual range of other entertainments and events. In other words, we plan for the Show to be as 'normal' as we can.

There will have to be some changes. Whatever freedoms the Government has recommended by then, it would be prudent to organise the events to minimise large gatherings in enclosed spaces. So we shall have control on numbers in the marquee at any one time, plenty of ventilation and a one-way system. The Recreation Centre will also be operating similar movement controls in the building. If we are all patient and accommodating, then we should be able to run the show with everyone enjoying it and feeling comfortable.

As before, the Show will be financed largely by voluntary donations on the gate and by contributions from Friends of the Flower Show. Anyone is welcome to be a Friend of the Show, with a minimum contribution of £30. This entitles you to attend the preview of the exhibits, to take part in voting for Best in Show, and enjoy a drink and nibbles in an adjacent extension to the marquee. If you would like to subscribe as a Friend, the easiest way is by bank transfer, giving your name as reference. The account details are: Orford Flower Show, Sort Code 20-98-07, account number 80675962. Alternatively, please send a cheque to the Treasurer, John Stanton, 3 Chapelfield, Orford IP12 2HW. For those of you who kindly have contributed in the past, fear not – you will receive another begging letter from me in the near future!

Lastly, the Show can only be run by having enough volunteers, and this year we shall need some additional people to help manage queues. If you can help with set-up the day before, or a shift on the day please contact Gary Wingrove 01394 459875 who organises all the activities in the field, or Alex Smith who arranges everything to do with the marquee, 01394 459732. Remember, it doesn't just happen by magic – it needs hands to the wheel.

Fingers crossed, we can all look forward to a fun day, with things back to some semblance of normality. Just get growing, crafting, painting etc, so we have the usual range of marvellous exhibits.

**Mike Redmond**, Flower Show Committee

### **TRIBUTE TO DON BALLENTYNE**

Don spent a great deal of his life serving, firstly Queen and country as a diplomat, and later the local community. He was a natural diplomat, poly-lingual and having the ability to talk

intelligently to anyone, young or old, royalty, or somebody who had lost their passport. He spent most of his career in Europe, but spent a very dangerous six months in The Congo when it first became independent and was quite lawless. He risked being shot at any time, but still helped people to get out of jail or escape the country. In 1985 he was awarded the CMG.

He and Liz loved giving dinners and parties, which was a good thing, as when he was appointed Consul General in Los Angeles they were expected to entertain royalty, government ministers, and Hollywood celebrities. They were both very interested in the arts and to raise the British profile, Don organised a very successful arts festival, UK LA. After retirement they continued to go to the London theatres, art galleries, and, of course, became ushers at Snape Maltings, which they did for many years.

They were still abroad when a chance visit to Orford resulted in the purchase of a cottage for their retirement, partly so that Don could indulge his love of sailing, even though Liz was not keen. They soon began to participate in village life after retiring here in 1989; Don serving on the Parish Council, and as Treasurer of various clubs, and organisations, notably the Flower Show and the Church. Many people remember him as a fundraiser and helper, working closely with Paul Leonard and John McAdam on the Town Hall extension and refurbishment, and the restoration of the bells to the church tower. They pealed for the first time at the dawn of the new Millennium.

Don's ability to relate to young people served him well when at the sailing club. He worked on the safety boat, which he loved, especially during sailing courses, and with his team mate Johnny Feibusch. A typical quote from one of the younger generation was 'I shall always remember him doing the rescue boat on the Mirror courses - plenty of good laughs! Such a friendly and kind man. Knew everyone's names and was always interested in our news.' I'm sure he secretly loved the 'old sea dog' look!

Don was devoted to Liz, to whom he was married for 70 years, and all his family, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren; interested in what they had been doing and their plans for the future. He greatly missed seeing them during the Covid lockdowns.

All the family, and friends in the village, will miss him for his constancy, kindness, warmth, ready smile, and sense of fun.  
R.I.P. Don

We should like to thank everyone for sending messages of condolence, and their memories of Don. The whole family was touched by your kindness and support. We were very grateful to the people who followed the hearse with us, and the many people who stood in the square to pay their respects, on the freezing cold day of his funeral. Don would have been surprised, but also very proud, and it was some consolation for the fact that only the family could attend the service. Many people made donations to St. Elizabeth Hospice. We could not have looked after Don at home without their wonderful help and advice; thank you very much for supporting them in Don's memory.

**The Ballentyne Family**

### **OPEN GARDENS IN ORFORD 2021**

When 31 May dawned as a wonderful day I had no idea what lay ahead. I found out that Radio Suffolk had mentioned our Open Gardens in Orford with fourteen village gardens to view, but I never expected such a large crowd to come and see them. We had never had so many visitors in previous years, but I think the combination of being able to go out and visit places plus the beautiful sunshine, contributed to over 300 people moving around the village and enjoying all the different styles of gardens. Everyone was so enthusiastic and gave all the owners a lot of pleasure after all the hard work that had gone on over the past few weeks, with the wet cold spring. Both the plant stalls at The Great House and 4 Toller Close were also well patronised.

The teas and cakes were also very much appreciated and a big thanks goes to Suki Pearce and all her helpers.

We raised the magnificent sum of £3,546 towards St. Bartholomew's Church, which is truly remarkable as we've never exceed £1,600 before.

A big thank you to the owners of all 14 gardens for helping us to raise this amount of money at a time when the church takings have suffered a great deal because of the covid restrictions over the last two years.

**Diana Grayburn**

### **THE MARSH DEMONS OF IKEN**

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 Key Stage 2 children at 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*.

Originally planned for April 2020 the performances were postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but we have now rescheduled for 2 performances in Orford Church on Friday 9 July. The first will be at 1pm and the second at 6pm. Each performance will last approximately 60 minutes. Refreshments will be available before and after each performance.

Tickets are £7.50 for adults and £2.50 for children. For further details email contact@tmef.org.uk or call 01394 450090 or 01394 450276.

As part of the project, the children will learn how to make their own puppets for use in the show, and will rehearse puppetry, acting, singing, and dancing, all before taking part in the public performances.

The collaboration will enable dozens of young people to work with professional actors and puppeteers and take part in a cross-curricular performance-based project, developing their literacy, communication, art and crafts, and independent learning skills.

*The Marsh Demons of Iken* also supports the Bronze Arts Award qualification, a Level 1 qualification on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF), open to young people aged 11-25.

Participation fulfils the following criteria:

- experience and take part in arts activities
- explore, create, and present
- share and review

All proceeds from both performances will go to Thomas Marshall Education Fund.

**Roger Hipwell**, *Trustee, Thomas Marshall Education Fund*

### **T4THOMAS 2021**

The Thomas Marshall Education Fund (TMEF) is planning to hold an all-day garden party at Chantry Cottage again this year. This regular event was replaced by a remarkably successful lockdown version in 2020 but we are hoping to get back to our normal outdoor event this year. Despite the shortages caused by panic buying and stockpiling, last year's tea and cake event managed to source and get through: Butter 12.5 Kilos, Sugar 18.5 Kilos, Eggs 164, Flour 15 Kilos, Chocolate 3.6 Kilos, Dried Fruit 5 Kilos, Biscuits 400 grams, Brazil Nuts 300 grams, Black Treacle 1.2 Kilos, Lemons 52, Oranges 2, Guinness 2.5 Litres, Preserved Ginger 4 Jars, Plus Spices, Carrots, Baking Powder, etc, etc.

As a result of all the hard work of the trustees and volunteers and the generosity of our supporters we raised around £3,200 plus gift aid of approximately £450 on donations from Lockdown T4T. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.

Our traditional T4Thomas Garden Party is usually scheduled for early June to coincide with Thomas' birthday but that would have been before the date set in the Prime Minister's roadmap for easing the restrictions on large events and performances. We have, therefore, set a provisional date of Sunday 1 August to welcome everyone back to the lovely garden at Chantry Cottage.

We cordially invite you to join us for our annual T4Thomas in the garden of Chantry Cottage on Sunday 1 August 2021 from 11am until 5pm. Bacon rolls will be served from 11am, lunch from noon and tea and cake all day long. We would love to welcome you to this friendly occasion this year.

The Thomas Marshall Education Fund, registered charity number 1154635, was formed to remember Thomas by raising funds to help advance the education, training and life skills of the young people of Mozambique to enable them to make a sustainable living and provide active support within their communities.

**Wendy Marshall**, *Thomas Marshall Education Fund*

### **ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB**

*Mannington Hall Gardens Norfolk – Rose specialists* – trip open to the local community!

On Wednesday 7 July we plan to go, by coach, financed by the Gardening Club, to the estate of Lord and Lady Walpole for a visit including a talk about the garden. It nestles in the Norfolk countryside and has a renowned Heritage Rose Garden created by Lord Walpole in the 1980s with over 1000 varieties of roses arranged in their date or origin.

There is also a wildflower meadow with over 150 species of flora and boardwalks and bird hides. The Saxon chapel ruins can be seen with an outstanding array of native and foreign tree species. At the time of writing, we have some socially distanced spaces left. Please contact me if you'd like to come.

Coach leaves Orford 9am. Cost: £26 for entry, talk, refreshments  
*June Garden Party*

In early June 36 members, guests and new locals came to our 'wild' garden for a low-key Garden Party, to socialise, wander around and enjoy cakes kindly provided by members. We all had a great time in delightful sunshine.

*Herber and Co Workshop*

In early September, Sarah Frances who spoke to us earlier in the year will be leading a workshop, probably at White House Farm.

Join now at half price, £7.50, and come to future events including discounted tickets for our talk by Fergus Garrett of Great Dixter in November. Do contact me ...

**Polly Sharkey** (*Chair*), *creativefutures98@btinternet.com*, 01394 450959

### **AFTERNESS – MAJOR NEW ART EXHIBITION ON ORFORD NESS**

The National Trust are delighted to be working in partnership with internationally renowned art company Artangel to host a major new art exhibition on Orford Ness.

Poet Ilya Kaminsky in collaboration with audio designer Axel Kacoutié and artists Alice Channer, Emma McNally and Tatiana Trouvé have created new works inspired by the unique landscape of Orford Ness to be featured in a new exhibition, Afterness, opening on 1 July and running to the end of the season at the end of October. A series of online works will also be released for those unable to visit in person.

Admission to the exhibition is included in standard admission to Orford Ness and is already generating lots of interest in Orford and the Ness.

**Glen Pearce**, *Site Manager, National Trust Orford Ness*

## ORFORD SAILING CLUB

We are hoping that Government Guidance will allow the restrictions to ease and that the sailing club will become operational once more. Should this be the case we would like to offer 'taster' sessions which are open to everyone. No experience necessary. Children must be at least 8 years old and everyone must be able to swim. These 1-hour sessions are aimed at local families to create an opportunity to experience sailing on the river. Also, you will meet other people who like sailing, without any further commitment.

Charge £5 per session, some Sunday a.m. sessions

**Contact: Sheena Barrow,**

*Sheenamargaretbarrow@gmail.com, 07860 7978770 or 01394 450737*

## LETTER: THE VILLAGE COULD BECOME AN EMPTY SHELL

A recent programme on Channel Four News highlighted the impact of rising property prices on coastal towns and villages in Cornwall in a way that is starkly familiar to some of us in East Suffolk. Briefly, sharply rising property prices are persuading landlords that their interests are best served by serving notice on tenants of long- and medium-term rental properties, and moving to Airbnb-style short-term holiday lets – or simply by selling up at the hugely inflated prices that the pandemic era has shown are affordable – for some. The result in Cornwall is rising homelessness, and the flight of original populations away from the coast, and the employment it provides.

I think this is beginning to become visible here in Orford, and probably in other villages and towns in the area with the same lopsided attraction for the wealthier, part-time owners and visitors at the expense of the original communities.

We should all be very worried, for where are people to live? Our villages, towns and their communities will be ruined if this takes hold – and the current planning framework makes it all but impossible for regional and local planners and politicians to tackle this problem. They have to work with large-scale housing programmes targeted not at meeting local need but at building to 'numbers' targets that overdevelop at the village scale and build on green fields whilst pretending to be environmentally friendly. Here in Orford (and I am sure in similar places round and about) there has been a David Cameron's Big Society probably since time began and for now it is still at large, but this is rapidly being chipped away as locals are being forced to move out.

If action is not taken, our village will become an empty shell (and its people, who are to be the best way to sustain a healthy town/village by keeping families together, will disappear) and leave the problems of homelessness and social decay to the overworked and underfunded social services.

The Bank of England has just reported house price rises of over 10% in one year. Asset inflation, as we all know, gives most to those that already have. What is our society planning to give to those who have not? Let's hope it's not just notice to quit.

I write not as a Parish Councillor or Trustee of NOTT, but as a concerned member of the public. I have to say thank goodness for the NOTT Housing Fund which is endeavouring to do something about this lack of housing for local people, but it is not the only solution. I really hope it is not too late for Orford and that people will be generous in supporting the fund and work together to ensure that what is happening in Cornwall does not happen here.

**Mary Iliff**

## ORFORD CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Orford Primary School has a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor. Day/Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Friday 11.40am–12.55pm (with potential for additional hours over the school year to cover absence/sickness etc). To help with supervising children during their lunchbreak; job will entail working outdoors and you will be standing for much of the hour. You will be required to have a DBS check for this post. Rate of pay: £9.25/hour, £11.56/day. For an application form please telephone 01394 450281

**Linda Scarce, Orford Primary School**

## ORFORD, GEDGRAVE & SUDBOURNE HALL GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

Be Scam Aware!

There has been a huge increase in fraudsters targeting people for financial gain. A scam can take many forms:

- email
- phone call
- letter
- text
- doorstep caller
- online shopping
- online dating
- identity theft

The fraudsters are very convincing, and 5,608 frauds committed in Suffolk were reported to Action Fraud during the 12 months to March 2019, with victim losses in that period totalling £26.5m.

If you think you have been subject to a scam or have been contacted and are not sure someone is trying to scam you help is available. Talk to the Police on 101 and Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040. If the scam involves your bank, it will have an anti-fraud department who will be pleased to help. Victim Support operate a free and confidential 24 hour helpline on 0808 168 9111.

If you would like help and support from within your community please contact the Orford, Gedgrave & Sudbourne Hall Good Neighbour Scheme on **01394 450235**

DAY	ALDERTON	ORFORD	ALDEBURGH	HOLLESLEY
Monday	8.00 to 14.30	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 18.30	13.30 to 17.30
Tuesday	8.00 to 18.30	CLOSED	8.00 to 18.30	
Wednesday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	
Thursday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	
Friday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	

## THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

STAFF TRAINING CLOSURE AFTERNOON

The surgery will be closed for staff training on Wednesday 14 July from 13.00.

All calls will be diverted to NHS 111

Flu season is only around the corner and we are busy organising clinics in preparation, please see our website and Facebook page for more details as they become available.

The surgery has limited appointments, therefore we ask that you book in plenty of time prior to your departure date, approx. 6 weeks, alternatively The Travel Clinic is also available to our patients and can be contacted on enquiries@masta.org or call them on 0330 100 4200.

www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk or 01394 411641