



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 300 March 2017

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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 the 22nd of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue, 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.

FROM ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Dog fouling

I have been approached by parishioners concerned about dog owners not clearing up after their dogs. East Suffolk Council's website says the following: "Responsible dog owners understand the importance of clearing up after their pets, and so they take their dog for a walk armed with a poop scoop or bag. They will dispose of the waste when they return home or use one of the Council's dog waste bins or litter bins found across the district. There is an inconsiderate minority who fail to clean up after their dogs. The lack of a nearby bin to dispose of dog waste is not a reasonable excuse for failing to clean up dog faeces. If there is no convenient bin, you must TAKE IT HOME for proper disposal. If you see a dog owner who allows his or her dog to foul our streets then you can report it to us. Where there is a persistent problem, officers will try to identify irresponsible dog owners. The Dog Control Order makes it illegal to fail to clear up after your dog if it fouls any land that is open to the air and to which the public have access. Inconsiderate dog owners could face a fixed penalty fine of £80 or a fine of up to £1000 if there is a conviction in the Courts."

East Suffolk Council can be contacted on 01394 383789 to report any incidents.

Affordable Homes

The Parish Council is looking to see if it can get more affordable homes built in Orford, and we have a working group to look into how we can move this forward. Could I please encourage anyone who might be eligible to get themselves on the appropriate housing list, as this may help in the future with this project.

Petty thefts – be vigilant

There has been a spate of petty thefts in the village recently. Please could I urge you to be vigilant, and particularly to keep an eye on any vulnerable or elderly neighbours, and make sure they are OK.

Anne Macro, *Chairman, Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council*

PROPOSED MARINE CONSERVATION ZONES

Some people may be aware that Defra is considering designating Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) in our area. Two areas are under consideration: Orford Inshore (14km off the coast), and the Alde Ore Estuary. With regard to the Alde Ore Estuary, the New Orford Town Trust (NOTT) is concerned about the possible effects of designation on activities which currently take place in the river. NOTT invited representatives from Natural England and the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority to attend the Trust meeting in January and talk to the Trustee about the process and implications of designation.

Natural England's remit is to provide Defra with factual information about these areas under consideration. This will then allow Defra to

make a decision on whether to proceed with the designation. We are currently in the pre-consultation period, during which Natural England is meeting with stakeholders (such as NOTT, local fishermen etc) to explain what is going on.

There are currently 50 MCZs, which were designated in 2013 or 2016. There are still ecological gaps in the network, so the current third phase is designed to complete the Government's vision of 'clean, healthy, safe productive & biologically diverse oceans and seas'.

The Alde Ore estuary has been identified as a possible MCZ and Natural England has identified some important features in the estuary: sheltered muddy gravels; estuarine rocky habitats (man-made); smelt; and the Orfordness geographical feature. Natural England pointed out that MCZs are multi-use sites. When an MCZ is designated it does not automatically mean that economic or recreational activities in the site will be restricted, and restrictions would depend on the sensitivity of designated species and habitats and the conservation objectives. It is impossible to know with any certainty what, if any, restrictions might be put in place after designation. Natural England said that there would be consultation with stakeholders before any proposed restrictions are put in place. In other areas of England which have already been designated, it seems that some activities have been restricted to certain times of the year.

At the meeting NOTT pointed out to the representatives from Natural England that for the river to show all these positive points, must mean that it is already well managed. Natural England agreed and said that they had already pointed this out to Defra. Natural England pointed out that there will be increasing pressures on the river, and that any restrictions put in would be to help to mitigate these. If designation went ahead, it would protect the area around Orfordness down to 5m depth. When questioned, Natural England said that it was unlikely that landing and anchoring would be affected.

Formal assessments (including a socio-economic assessment) would not be carried out until after designation, so we cannot be entirely sure what restrictions might be considered. Any restrictions would be managed by the Marine Management Organisation, or by the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.

Natural England explained the timetable for designation:

- Deadline for evidence to be passed to Defra has passed
- Currently in stage of pre-consultation stakeholder engagement
- February 2017: Natural England to provide pre-consultation advice to Defra
- Late summer 2017: consultation (12 weeks)
- Winter 2017-Spring 2018: Post-consultation final advice to Defra

- Late summer 2018: designation (5-6 months after final advice)

The exact dates of the consultation period have not been confirmed, but stakeholders, including NOTT, will be informed of these in due course.

NOTT has written to our MP Therese Coffey, who is Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defra. It is Defra who will make the final decision on whether to designate the Alde Ore Estuary, and Ms Coffey has informed us that as this is located in her constituency, it is likely that another minister will make a final decision on this. However, she made her feelings very clear when the Alde and Ore Estuary was suggested for inclusion in the 2013 phase of designations, but was not designated on that occasion. You can find her views on her website:

<http://theresecoffey.co.uk/news/suffolk-coastal/consultation-on-marine-conservation-zones-closes/724>

<http://theresecoffey.co.uk/news/westminster/therese-speaks-out-on-flawed-evidence-in-marine/750>

<http://theresecoffey.co.uk/news/suffolk-coastal/therese-welcomes-no-marine-conservation-zone/947>

NOTT will continue to liaise with Natural England, and will let parishioners know of the consultation dates once we are aware of them. During the consultation, there should be a form to fill in to let Natural England know of your views, and we would encourage everyone to respond.

Kara Reed, Clerk to New Orford Town Trust

MARCH AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Sunday, 5th March - 1st Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch
11.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

Sunday, 12th March - 2nd Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev S Affleck
10.30am Village Service – Mrs J Maslin

Sunday, 19th March - 3rd Sunday of Lent

8.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch
11.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

Sunday, 26th March - 4th Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

8.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch
10.30am Family Service – Mr G Marshall

Sunday, 2nd April - 5th Sunday of Lent – Passion Sunday

8.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch
11.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

MARCH AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, 5th March - First in Lent

10.30am Stephen Caley
Soup & Pud Lunch too!

Sunday, 12th March 10.30am Rev. Stephen Yelland

Sunday, 19th March 10.30am Stephen Caley
4pm CREAM TEA & SING

Sunday, 26th March MOTHERING SUNDAY
10.30am Rev Martin Dawes –
COMMUNION

Sunday, 2nd April 10.30am Harry Chicken

MONDAYS: CHAPEL TEA ROOM is open as usual from 11am – 2pm. Visit with us and enjoy excellent food and friendship – we have plenty to buy as well! No booking required. (Returning to summer timings mid-April.)

WEDNESDAY LUNCH is served at 12.30pm – join with us, you will be pleasantly surprised – BUT you will need to book for these meals.

Our CREAM TEA & SING is also very popular – Sunday 19th March at 4pm when you will be welcome to come along. Next month we recommence the Tea Table Services!

INFORMAL LENT DISCUSSION GROUP WITH COFFEE – six sessions with the headings: Perseverance, Love, Friendship, Promise, Generosity, Acceptance THURSDAY MORNINGS 10am – 11am commencing March 9th. ALL VERY WELCOME TO ATTEND. Some of our friends have suffered with winter viruses which seem to have lingered for too long. Hopefully as the lighter days arrive, each one, and those with longer term health issues, will find better health.

Since last month's writings we have 'rededicated' ourselves at our Annual Covenant Service, celebrated a 92nd Birthday with cake, reflected on the work of the Leprosy Mission during World Leprosy Sunday and received gracious thanks from the charity 'Children in Distress' for our ongoing support, enjoyed Cafe Worship and also Sunday Soup & Pud lunch, and there's Shrove Tuesday and Pancakes still to come!

It's been a mostly busy winter season with a good number of friends from around the area enjoying each other's company and the meals provided at the Monday Chapel Tea Room and at Wednesday Lunch when there is always a keen sense of friendship, much chatter and the enjoyment of splendid lunches served at these eagerly awaited gatherings.

Stephen Caley

ORFORD & DISTRICT SURGERY CHARITABLE TRUST AGM

The ODSCT has two purposes. It manages and applies funds for the benefit of users of the Orford Surgery and it oversees the ODSCT Care Fund. The Care Fund was created when the ODSCT received the residue of Esmond House Day Care Centre Charity funds in 2012 and at present it is available via the District Nursing Team to the elderly and disabled of Butley, Chillesford, Iken, Orford & Gedgrave and Sudbourne.

The AGM will be held in Bart's Hall, Orford on the Thursday, 16th March starting at 7.15pm. All are welcome.

Corinne Lusher – Secretary, ODSCT Management Committee

ORFORD SCHOOL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

Orford School would like to say a huge thank you to all those over the years that have supported its fundraising events. We thank those who have come along to events, those who have purchased tea, cakes and raffle tickets and thanks to those who have made donations and provided raffle prizes for organized events.

OSLOF (Orford School League of Friends) is a fundraising team which raises funds for the items that the government budget does not stretch to. With more cuts being made to the government funding within schools it is VITAL that OSLOF continues with its efforts to raise funds for important resources. Last year money raised throughout the year bought outdoor play equipment for all children to encourage play, social skills and being active. We also purchased a story chair and stools to encourage reading and literacy which in turn helps children to enjoy books and storytelling and aids reading skills and vocabulary. Also funded by fundraising are visual maths aids to help make maths more manageable for those who struggle with this tricky subject. We also fund educational school outings. We would love to continue to provide the pupils with resources to keep encouraging the best out of all our individuals but and here is the big "BUT" – we are really struggling to recruit members to help with fundraising events.

OSLOF is called 'Orford School League of Friends' because it doesn't just have to be parents of the pupils that are on this team. It can be friends, families, village members, etc. If anybody is willing to join or put forward ideas, please put your name forward to the school reception on 450 281 where your name will be forwarded to the committee. All that's needed in volunteers is to help organize fundraising events or just provide ideas. You can be as involved as choose. You can dedicate small or large amounts of time – it's entirely flexible. Sometimes we just need someone to make phone calls to drum up raffle prizes or someone to bake a cake or to stick tickets on tombola prizes!!!!

We are always asking for fresh fundraising ideas, so if you think you have some ideas or would just like to donate items for future fundraisers, please get in contact. We appreciate that time is precious and we also appreciate all the help we have had along the way. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to hearing from you!!!!

Amanda Davis c/o OSLOF (Orford School League of Friends)

ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB – Events diary

Saturday 4th March Music Quiz, from 8pm
Friday 24th March Jimbo's Bingo, from 8pm
Saturday 25th March Curry night, from 7 - 9pm, followed by music from Dave Taylor
Friday nights are club nights from 8.30pm
Dawn Phillips, OSRC secretary

TRANSPORT FROM AND TO ORFORD

Scheduled bus services, Monday to Saturday (no Bank Holidays)

Outward:

Dep. Town Hall 7.05am - Arr. Woodbridge 7.45am (via Hollesley etc.)

Dep. Town Hall 16.50 - Arr. Woodbridge 17.17

Return:

Dep. Woodbridge 15.45 (school days) Arr. Orford 16.40

Dep. Woodbridge 16.00 (non-school days) Arr. Orford 16.40

Dep. Woodbridge 17.45 Arr. Orford 18.24

Connecting Communities (which used to be called The Link)

This service needs booking.

Orford has a group which goes to Woodbridge every 2 weeks on a Tuesday afternoon. We leave the Town Hall at 1pm and either return from Woodbridge at 3.15pm on the Link or return on the scheduled bus at 15.45 or 4pm (see above). For more information on this fortnightly trip please phone 01394 450567.

To use the booking service:

Orford is in the so-called SOUTH area. Phone to book: 01728 635938, from 8.45am to 4pm. You can depart Orford from 7.30am and return by 4.30pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. To travel on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday you need to leave Orford by 9.20am and cannot return until 4.30pm. But you can travel at any other time on those days if you are prepared to take the Link to somewhere in the EAST area (i.e. Tunstall) and pick up a scheduled bus or train to wherever you want to go. The Link people on the phone will, I believe, help with further connecting buses and trains.

Fares on the above are charged like a bus fare. Free travel bus pass holders can use them after 9.30am, Monday to Friday.

Wendy Roberts

ORFORD FLOWER SHOW 2017 – Open Meeting

The Flower Show Committee will be holding an open meeting on Friday, 31st March at 7:30pm in the Recreation Ground Hall. At the meeting, we shall outline some of our plans for the 2017 Show, use the opportunity of the meeting for an open discussion on matters concerning the Flower Show, and also garner any ideas for the future which people may wish the committee to consider.

I hope many of you will come – the Flower Show is an important event for the village and we would welcome the input of all to help the committee in its work.

Mike Redmond – Chairman

GARDENING CLUB

Date: Thursday, 2nd March 2017

Topic: The principles of garden design

Presenter: Timothy of Timothy Garden Design

Venue: Orford Town Hall 'back room'

Time: 7.30 pm

Timothy has designed and planted many local gardens, large and small, to meet the needs, wants and expectations of his

clients. He will talk about the guiding principles of garden design and getting the planning and planting right, be it for a 'weekend' garden requiring minimal attention through to much larger and more complex spaces.

He will also take questions from those attending, so you will go away with a much greater understanding of the benefits of having a garden design and planting which meets your specific requirements and suits the conditions where this is located. I'm sure there will be much that we can all take away to explore in our own gardens.

Competition for the Eric Mason Shield

This evening will be first opportunity (of three) to enter this annual competition and this time it is for a photo of a flower taken by yourself. Bring this along on the night (with your name on the back) and the judging will take place after our speaker whilst we enjoy refreshments together.

Pruning apple trees on Thursday, 2nd February by Piers Pool of High House Farm

This event was kindly hosted by Sue and Ben Johnston in their orchard and Piers perform a practical demonstration of how to prune apple and pear trees depending upon their age, shape and the type of root stock they come from. He patiently answered all our questions and we all left with a much better understanding of how to get the best from our trees in the short and longer term. Over 40 members attended – our biggest number yet at any event!! We all then enjoyed hot apple juice and delicious cakes!!

Membership fees and occasional guests

We are still collecting annual membership fees (£15) and this is also an opportunity for new members to join. Please do come if you like to 'pick and choose' events to suit your gardening at a fee of £4 per visit.

Further Taster of 2017

Thursday, 6th April 7.30 pm Flowers for a Cutting Garden by Frances Boscawen of Moat Farm who supplies Pump Street Bakery with flowers for sale

Wednesday Afternoon Spring car-sharing trip to Blakenhall Woodland Garden – date to be finalised

Thursday, 4th May 7.30 pm The Perennial Mr Potter – The life of a Suffolk Gardener by Brian Thurlow

Polly Sharkey

creativefutures98@btinternet.com, 01394 450959

ORFORD MUSEUM CALENDAR 2017: Local Lives

The Orford Museum calendar for 2017 is now available. You can get it from Friends Garage, Orford or from Brundish Lodge, High Street, Orford. If you would like one, please telephone me on 01394 450622 or email a.spinney43@btinternet.com and I will deliver or send one to you. The cost of the calendar is £6.50. If it has to be posted, please add £1.50. The illustrations are of many different groups: the Orford String Band c1900, children's parties, football teams, school photographs, outings, and choirs to mention but a few. You may well recognise faces amongst them and we hope that some of them will bring back happy memories.

Elizabeth Spinney, Orford Museum.

JACQUI DANKWORTH and CHARLIE WOOD

Unfortunately, the concert with Jacqui Dankworth and Charlie Wood, scheduled for 22nd April, has been cancelled due to absence of volunteers to help on this project. We hope to have another opportunity that the six churches in the cluster can work on together.

Jacki Maslin

KING'S HEAD NEWS

Spring is on the way – hooray. We all know February is a short month but it really has shot past.

On the music front we welcomed back "The Man in the Hat" who yet again got loads of people toe tapping, singing and

dancing on a fun filled night. Then we had the young local acoustic duo of Leanne and Harry displaying their amazing talent with covers of many familiar and few not so familiar songs, a fantastic performance for an act setting out on their career together. How do you follow that? Well bring back the stage hardened and unique performer, Steve Boyce. This guy makes his guitars sing out those classic rock and blues numbers, making you feel like you are at a stadium gig. The Boyce is back in town on 18th March – put the date in your diary. On April 8th we follow that with the sweet country voice of SJ Mortimer, who continues to play gigs all over the UK, is part of the BBC Introducing Line Up and has released her album. As you can see a wide and varied selection of live music on offer, starting at 9pm and free entry, everyone is welcome.

Quiz Night for this month has moved from 19th to the 26th March, with Ed's Lot setting the questions after the roll of the dice landed on number 3. Thanks to the Old Ale Pensioners for setting the February Quiz which ended up with only 2 points separating the top four places. If you fancy coming along, just turn up on the night and pay your £1 per head entry. There are often teams looking for additional players if you don't have anyone to join in with.

As you will all no doubt have seen the building works are in full flow. The Old Stables have now been completely re-roofed with the gable ends rebuilt, following a lucky break of mild weather. The Boundary Wall, between the churchyard and the entrance from the car park, has been taken apart before it fell down, to be rebuilt using as many of the existing bricks as possible. Kitchen refurbishment is well underway and still on target for completion around St Patrick's Day weekend. Our apologies for needing to adjust our opening hours throughout this period but practical implications required them. The works have involved the removal of 3 internal walls to make an open plan work area; removal of the old extraction system and replacement with a new state of the art system (including the chimney masking the extraction flue). The large fiscal investment by Adnams in The King's Head means that the kitchen will not only attain modern hygiene standards but exceed them by a long way. In addition, we are purchasing some new toys for Zoe and the kitchen team to enjoy in their new space. We can't wait to complete the project and take the menu forward another step. Until then we still have an exciting selection of food fayre available. Thank you to everyone for their patience throughout the period of these works and we apologise for any inconvenience caused. As we get our full kitchen back up and running we will be planning our next food theme night. More details to follow. Fortunately, we will have the kitchen up and running for Mothering Sunday – so if you want to come down and spoil that important person – book your table soon.

Orford Craft Shop Update: no idea, other than we are aware that Adnams have had 3 proposals for its use but to our knowledge no decision has been made. So please stop asking us because it really is nothing to do with us.

We always appreciate all the support we get and it has been especially appreciated during the period of the building works. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Ian & Suzanne Ballantine
thekingsheadorford@gmail.com

HOME-START CHARITY BALL: Snowflake Ball in May?

With the British weather as it is, it wouldn't be unheard of to see snow in May! Local charity Home-Start can (unlike most weather reporters) guarantee it.

Home-Start will be hosting their 2nd annual 'Snowflake' Ball at Kesgrave Hall, Milsoms on Friday, 19th May. Attendees will once again be dancing along to the band Soul Kitchen and after an arrival drink, will enjoy a sumptuous three course dinner and a variety of entertainment. During the evening there will be the chance to win some amazing prizes and to bid on our silent

auction. There is also the opportunity to be involved with a variety of sponsorship packages available to local businesses and prizes needed for the evening's activities.

So why a Snowflake Ball? 'The Snowflake represents the unique, fragile and vulnerable nature of the children and families we support.'

Home-Start supports families for whom the pressures of family life have become too great to cope with alone; this can be for many differing reasons such as bereavement, or physical and mental health problems. Families are matched with a trained volunteer who supports them on a weekly basis enabling them to grow in confidence, strengthen their relationships with their children, improve their health and wellbeing and widen their links locally. Should you like to find out more, or to purchase tickets priced at £55pp, you can contact Home-Start, office@homestartcoastal.co.uk or 01473 621104 or visit our website www.homestarteastsuffolk.org.uk

THE GREAT GARDEN TRAIL

Green-fingered supporters are invited to open their gardens to the public as part of St Elizabeth Hospice's brand new 'Great Garden Trail' this summer. The local charity is appealing for individuals or whole villages to open their gates and be part of the trail which will be taking place between May and September 2017.

All the gardens will then appear on a unique trail map, alongside a short description with key details of the garden and opening days and times, so that supporters can follow the route and journey throughout the region, exploring the varied and beautiful gardens on display. By opening your garden for one morning or afternoon this summer you can make a difference and help St Elizabeth Hospice continue to improve life for local people living with an incurable illness.

The charity is looking for a wide variety of displays; so whether your garden is traditional or contemporary, tranquil or tropical, cosy or large, why not invite others to admire your horticultural skills whilst raising funds for your local hospice?

If you would like to open your garden this summer, or for more information on The Great Garden Trail, please call 01473 723600 or email: fundraising@stelizabethhospice.org.uk

St Elizabeth Hospice is an independent charity which provides vital care and support free of charge to patients and their families across east Suffolk. The hospice costs millions of pounds a year to run, and relies on fundraising events, donations and the income generated from its shops to meet the majority of these costs.

ALDE VALLEY SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY GROUP: St Audry's, Melton – Workhouse to Asylum

In March, the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group returns to Leiston to hear David Phelan's talk on St Audry's Workhouse/Asylum. This talk covers the history of St Audry's from 1765 when the Melton Workhouse (House of Industry) was opened. The Workhouse closed in 1826 and reopened in 1829 as The Suffolk County Asylum for Pauper Lunatics. In 1993, the site was closed and redeveloped for housing and is now known as Melton Park.

David Phelan spent his career in banking in the UK and in Spain. On moving to Melton, he became a volunteer at Sutton Hoo, then a guide, then the National Trust speaker for Sutton Hoo. He lives at St Audry's.

The meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday, 20th March at Leiston United Church (URC/Methodist), High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EL. Entrance is not at the front of the church, but on the left hand side as you face the building. Parking is available in the Co-op/Solar car park which adjoins it, but you must sign your vehicle in at the tills in the supermarket or face a charge of £60. Visitors welcome. Admission: members £1, visitors £3, incl. tea/coffee.

The Group will continue evening meetings in Leiston until next winter. For more information, see our website: <http://aldevalleyfamilyhistorygroup.onesuffolk.net/>