



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 387 June 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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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 midday on Thursday 20 June 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 JULY ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE

ORFORD D-DAY EVENT – THURSDAY 6 JUNE

The evening commences at 5.30pm with the Town Hall open for residents to purchase their fish and chips and come and sit in the Main Hall. There will be tea, coffee and squash available. Dessert will be available, steamed pudding and custard. If you wish to bring your own drink, please feel free to do so. The evening in the Town Hall will end at 8.45pm when people may walk across to join us all for the lighting of the beacon at 9pm.

Parishioners may have noticed that there is a replacement bench at the Broad Street junction to commemorate the D Day anniversary. The bench was purchased through kind donations from Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council.

Marie Backhouse, Clerk/RFO to Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council

VILLAGE FUND

The New Orford Town Trust has already made grants to several local organisations from its Village Fund. The next applications will be considered in June and should be submitted to the Clerk, preferably by email, by 9am on Tuesday 18 June. Please contact the Clerk for more information and an application form.

Kara Reed, Clerk to New Orford Town Trust, orfordtrust@outlook.com, 01394 459172

D-DAY – 80 YEARS ON

*"Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die"*

Alfred Lord Tennyson

On the morning of 6 June, 1944, at H Hour minus 5, my Dad lead B Sqn of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) ashore on Sword Beach, the first tanks to land on that beach in the invasion and in the initial landing they were accompanied by 40 Marine Commando.

Easy to say nowadays and almost impossible for anybody here today to imagine the scene at dawn that morning. Wherever you looked there were ships of all shapes and sizes. 9 battleships, 23 cruisers, 104 destroyers, 71 corvettes, 4000 landing craft, 45 rocket ships, 854 merchant ships and converted liners, all stood off the beaches, while in the skies above bombers and fighter aircraft were to be seen and heard, flying low overhead. The noise was ear shattering, the blast from the huge 15-inch guns followed by the passing roar of 20lbs shells overhead, the noise from the multiple rockets as they passed over, all this was then followed by the thunderous explosions as they smashed into the defences. This tumultuous din would have deafened the most acute hearing, so passing orders relied on radio between different commands and then within each tank, the intercom between crew members as they drove down the ramps into the waves and floated in to the shore.

This was a forced landing the likes and size of which no one had previously witnessed. The enormity of the landing was extraordinary, the sheer size of

June dates for your diary

- Each Monday and Wednesday: Methodist Chapel tea room, lunch, afternoon tea, 11am-4pm
- Each Tuesday: pickleball - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm
- Each Wednesday: chair pilates - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 11am-12noon
- 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 6 June: D Day anniversary celebration - Orford Town Hall, 5.30pm
- Sunday 9 June: T4Thomas - Chantry Cottage, 11am-4pm
- Friday 21 June: Suffolk Day community day at Orford Ness (see p 2 for more details)

the multiple forces gathered from many countries, the continuous ear-piercing blast waves and thunderous booms that dulled the senses, yet each and every man had to concentrate on performing his own particular task to the best of his ability in order to ensure they succeeded. But within every man there would have been a kaleidoscope of butterflies fluttering around their stomachs, the chances of being wounded and possibly killed was ever present, yet on they went into the unknown, or, as Tennyson wrote, "Into the jaws of Death".

The 18th Hussars had been part of the Light Brigade charge at Balaclava and here they were again at the forefront of the Normandy Landings on Sword Beach, and now called the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) and my father was the officer in charge of B Sqn who would be the first tanks to land that day at H Hour minus five. All through the previous night he and the four tank crews of B Sqn SHQ Troop had been buffeted by the stormy seas on the cross channel voyage, LCTs – Landing Craft, Tank – were flat bottomed and so it would have been a very uncomfortable trip, and most men were seasick, regardless of the feelings of fear and unknown for the morrow that swirled and washed around in the pit of their stomachs.

Two hours prior to their arrival off Sword Beach, the American Lieutenant in charge of the craft had come over to my Dad and said "Major, come below and have breakfast with me, it's probably gonna be the last good meal you'll have for a while". Dad had a 'full English' placed in front of him, many ingredients the likes of which he hadn't seen for a year or two, due to Government rationing. In the war, families had ration cards for each person which limited what they could buy, a family of four allowance per week was: one egg, four ounces of bacon, one ounce of cheese, two ounces of tea and butter, eight ounces of sugar and four ounces of meat.

Dad was about to tuck in when the Lieutenant poured maple syrup all over his own breakfast, the idea of ruining this wonderful brekkie seemed so dreadful to Dad that he climbed back up on deck and was violently sick. And he and his Squadron, and thousands of others – grandpas, dads, uncles – all swept forward and began to move ashore in the biggest marine invasion the World has ever seen.

Yet that wasn't all, for back here, the grannies, mums and aunts were all playing their part too, in the WRENS, WRACS and WAFS, manning the humungous signal traffic, coordinating the movement plots in the Command HQs, nurses in the RAMC or QARANCS – Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps – were readying emergency centres to receive the wounded, others were driving trucks and ambulances to the ports and docks to collect the expected casualties, even mums, who lived in harbours and fishing ports on the south coast, were busy preparing sandwiches and hot tea for the many wounded men on their return. It was a time when the whole country pulled together as one and got behind their fighting men and women to make a better world for us.

I hope future generations will continue to recognize the millions of sacrifices that were made, I know that mine will, we are going to Normandy ourselves in a few weeks' time on a five-day D-Day tour.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Jeremy Rugge-Price, Captain (Retd). 13th/18th Royal Hussars

Jake Rugge-Price, Captain (Retd) Light Dragoons

ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

- Thursday 13 June, bike meet night, 6pm onwards, bar, bbq, plenty of bikes (fingers crossed about the weather) so why not give it a look.
- Saturday 15 June, members' coach trip to Norwich.
- Thursday 19 September, members' coach trip to Great Yarmouth incorporating the races.
- Saturday 20 July, Live music from Flaming Cheek, from 8pm.

And don't forget Friday night club night and keep an eye on the board for bingo

Mark Smy, Secretary, 450358

T4THOMAS 2024 – SUNDAY 9 JUNE

Well, it is onwards and upwards for team TMEF following the successful series of 'Talks for Thomas'. These talks proved to be very popular, so much so that we had to swap venues from Bart's Hall to the Town Hall to accommodate everyone! The total amount raised from all the talks was just over £4000 which has allowed us to send out £16,000 this year to Mozambique, providing the means to support even more students and children who would otherwise have been unable to access education.

Our annual flagship fund raising event – T4Thomas, will be held this year on Sunday 9 June (from 11am to 4pm) when our garden at Chantry Cottage will be open to everyone to come and enjoy coffee and cakes, bacon rolls, light lunches and tea and cakes whilst helping to raise the much needed funds.

Make a note on your calendars and in your diaries to come along with friends and family and support the Thomas Marshall Education Fund and allow us to continue our work helping the poor and disadvantaged children in rural Mozambique in receiving education and therefore the means to make a better life for themselves, their families and their wider community.

See you all on 9 June!

Wendy Marshall

MONDAY COFFEE AND CHAT NEEDS A NEW ORGANISER

Would you like to run Orford's Coffee and Chat? It is currently held at the Sports & Recreation Club on Mondays (excluding bank holidays) from 10.30am–12.30pm, but could be moved to a different day or time to suit. I am stepping down in May and would like to thank everyone who has attended and supported the meetings over the past four years. If you are interested, please contact me.

Corinne Lusher, 450849

FRIDAY LUNCHESES AT BART'S HALL continue in June

We will continue serving soup lunches at Bart's hall during the month of June and stop for a summer break in July and August. Please note we take a break during Whit week and we are not open on 31 May.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped cook and serve the lunches and most of all those of you who joined us for a simple meal and made it such fun.

We will be in touch in September to let you know when we plan to start again.

Meanwhile if you have any queries about June lunches please contact Sally Walton on 07720 057538.

Caroline Gill

SUFFOLK DAY – ORFORD NESS

The National Trust Orford Ness are delighted to be taking part in Suffolk Day this year and on Friday, 21 June will be running a community day on Orford Ness. Tickets for the day will be free to Suffolk residents but will need to be booked in advance. Ferries will run outbound to Orford Ness every 20 minutes from 10am to 12pm, with return ferries returning regularly until 5pm. More details and booking can be found on our website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/orfordness

Glen Pearce

JUNE AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

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

Sunday 2 June	9.30am Sung Holy Communion at Orford – Rev Dr Stephen
	11am Holy Communion at Butley – Canon Kevan
Sunday 9 June	9.30am Holy Communion at Iken with Sudbourne – Rev Robin
	10am Family Service at Orford – Jacki Maslin
	6.30pm BCP Evensong at Chillesford – Janet Bishop
Sunday 16 June	9.30am BCP Holy Communion at Orford – Rev Dr Stephen
	7pm Compline at Chillesford – Lay Led
Tuesday 18 June	11am Meet at Iken Cliff Park for a HC service at Iken Church about midday for St Botolph – Rev Robin
Sunday 23 June	9.30am Holy Communion at Sudbourne with Iken – Rev Robin
	11am BCP Holy Communion at Chillesford – Rev Dr Stephen

Sunday 30 June 11am Cluster Holy Communion at Orford – Rev Robin
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 Churchwardens Guy Marshall (450090) or Jacki Maslin (450799).

Jacki Maslin

JUNE AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2 June	10.30am Café Worship – Stephen Caley
Sunday 9 June	10.30am Service arranged locally
Sunday 16 June	10.30am Rev. Saul
Sunday 23 June	122 nd Church Anniversary & Celebration Lunch
	10.30am Stephen Caley
Sunday 30 June	10.30am Service arranged locally

You are welcome to join with us. Children stay in church and often participate in the service. Refreshments and served afterwards.

CHAPEL TEA ROOM – This very popular venue is OPEN every Monday and Wednesday from 11am–4pm. There's a great lunch menu as well as morning coffee and afternoon tea. We have a well-stocked bookstall and plenty of art, crafts and cards for sale. You don't need to book (though we can reserve your table) – just come along and enjoy!

All books in good condition gratefully received.

The 122nd anniversary of the opening of the present building will be celebrated on Sunday 23 June with the 10.30am service of Praise and followed by birthday cake and lunch.

The 35th annual Quay Service will be held on Sunday 4 August at 6pm – supporting the Fishermen's Mission – everyone welcome!

Stephen Caley

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF LADY FLORENCE

Lady Florence, built in 1944, proudly marks her eightieth year in 2024. Having spent half her life in Orford, she has become a beloved part of the local scenery and history. Originally one of fifty Motor Fishing Vessels (MFVs) ordered by the Admiralty from J Bolson and Sons in Poole, Dorset, Lady Florence underwent sea trials in late 1945, narrowly missing wartime service. She served the British Navy until 1971, when she was sold into private hands from Sea Cadet Training, transitioning from MFV 766 to a Registered British Ship named Margaret Jane. Geoffrey Ingram Smith of Woodbridge later purchased her, renamed her Lady Florence, and brought her to Orford in 1984 to start the Lady Florence River Cruise business. Geoffrey and his wife, Sue Money, lived aboard Lady Florence for the first few years, offering a popular four-hour lunch cruise featuring local specialities like honey-baked ham, smoked trout, and Sue's famous chocolate brandy mousse. In 1991, at the age of sixty-five, Geoffrey decided to retire and quietly listed the business for sale in the Sunday Times.

My parents, John and Susan Haresnape, purchased Lady Florence in 1992. They expanded the business, introducing evening cruises,

weekend brunches, and running three cruises a day by 1998. My brother, Rhys, and his family joined the business, followed by me, who took the business international with the Allen Gardiner in Durban, South Africa, before returning in 2013 to manage Lady Florence, allowing my parents to semi-retire.

My partner Kris and I continue the legacy with reverence for the past and a commitment to the future. Lady Florence's journey is far from over; she continues to write new chapters in her remarkable story, reminding us of the enduring power of history, heritage, and the spirit of adventure.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the village of Orford for their unwavering support and custom over the years. Your loyalty has been integral to our success.

Join us in celebrating this milestone and toasting Lady Florence alongside the quay on Wednesday 12 June at 3pm.

Craig Ambury

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Next Event: Garden Party at Gedgrave Hall, 6 June – Thursday afternoon – members and guests only.

The garden at Gedgrave was abandoned during the war when the house was let out to the USA air force. Edward Greenwell took the house over in 1977 – from a patch of windblown grass and a Nissen hut. Yew hedges, walls and terraces were planted and created. Today we have various 'rooms', wide borders, a Japanese cloud hedge and a thriving kitchen garden. Join our Club any time of the year... Discounts on trips and visits

Peter Blake 'Knowing and Growing Ferns'

Peter gave us an illuminating talk about indoor and outdoor ferns, those which suit different conditions and tips on buying them to ensure you get the correct type. He has several hundred different species of them both inside and in his garden and he showed us them in his well-illustrated slides along with other examples.

Our Gardening Club supporting the after-school Club...

Some members have been volunteering at the Orford School Gardening Club organised by teacher, Roz Nottingham. We have as much fun as the children at these weekly after-school sessions. They are enthusiastic gardeners and have already planted raspberry canes, parsley plants, various climbing beans and potatoes. The greenhouse is now home to some fine tomato plants, in fact there were enough for the children to each take a tomato plant home to nurture. The school is fortunate to have a lovely garden with fruit trees, raised vegetable beds and a small greenhouse, it's great to see these young gardeners exploring nature in such beautiful surroundings.

Coming in 2024:

- Wednesday afternoon, 10 July: Visit to Parham Hall
- Stall at the Flower Show
- Wednesday afternoon, 11 September: Trip to Southwold Flower Company
- Saturday 16 November (3pm including afternoon tea): Nick Bailey award winning TV presenter, author, garden designer and speaker – Revive your Garden: How to breathe life, style and good health back into tired gardens. Tickets available in the autumn

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

THE 2024 CATHERINE ENNIS MEMORIAL RECITAL

Following in the illustrious footsteps of Thomas Trotter and Olivier Latry, who gave sell-out recitals in 2022 and 2023, I have invited the international organist David Briggs to give this year's Catherine Ennis Memorial Recital on Orford Church's magnificent Peter Collins organ (Saturday 6 July at 4pm).

Known for his unbridled virtuosity and passion for making organ music vibrant and accessible to a wide and diverse audience, David is one of the most sought-after concert organists of his generation.

A former Organ Scholar at King's College, Cambridge, he also studied with Jean Langlais in Paris. David has held numerous positions in North America and the UK, including Organist Emeritus of Gloucester Cathedral. He comes to us from New York, where he is currently artist-in-residence at the Cathedral Church of St John the Divine in New York City.

A prolific and brilliant composer, David's music was heard at Whitsunday Choral Evensong in Orford; heavily influenced by the exuberant French improvisatory style of playing by Olivier Latry's great predecessor at Notre Dame in Paris, Pierre Cochereau, David's programme includes his own

arrangement of Paul Dukas's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, major works by JS Bach, Mozart, Reger and Vierne, and an improvised symphony. A feast of a recital is promised, and will surely be delivered by David. Tickets (£15 unreserved) are available from Britten Pears Arts (<https://bit.ly/3WJovFB>), or from The King's Head, Orford.

Graeme Kay, *Director of Music, Orford Church*

ORFORD MUSEUM EVENTS AT BUTLEY PRIORY

We are planning a very exciting event at Butley Priory this summer. On Thursday 22 August, we hope to present a *Son et Lumière* illustrating the history of Butley Priory from its very earliest days up to the present. This will be done using light effects and images projected onto the magnificent façade of the Priory accompanied by music and a narration by a well-known local celebrity. You are invited to bring friends and family of all ages to picnic on the lawn in front of the Priory and watch this fascinating story unfold. This event is still very much at the planning stage, but we hope to have more information available very soon. All these and booking details will be posted on our website – details below.

Our very popular guest speaker, Tobias Capwell, formerly Curator of Arms and Armour at The Wallace Collection in London from 2006 to 2022, is returning to Butley Priory on Wednesday 25 September 2024 to talk about his involvement with the discovery of Richard III's remains in a car park in Leicester. He has written and spoken extensively on both the historical and practical aspects of his subject. Tobias is also a skilled jousting and claims to be the world's only jousting curator! His lecture is entitled: ***The Scoliotic Knight: Encounters with Richard III***

The discovery of the remains of Richard III raised fascinating new questions. The scoliosis exhibited by the last Plantagenet King's skeleton revealed that the twisted physique of Shakespeare's 'Black Legend' did have at least some basis in fact. But how could such a diminutive person, suffering from a significant spinal condition, have mastered the knightly fighting arts? How could he have worn full armour and fought in battle? Join Tobias as he discusses his encounters with this most captivating and controversial of English Kings; from his work with Phillipa Langley in the years before the discovery of the grave in Leicester, to his research into the implications of a severe spinal condition for a medieval king and warrior, his participation in the Channel 4 documentary 'Richard III: The New Evidence' (2013), his role as one of the two armoured horsemen escorting the king himself to his final resting place in Leicester Cathedral to, finally, his service as Historical Advisor on the recent film *The Lost King* (2022).

On 24 October, 2024, local historian Edward Martin, who led a visit by the Friends of Orford Museum to the Chillesford Lodge model farm and has contributed to The Orford & District Local History Bulletin, will talk about ***The Lost Gardens of Suffolk***

Lost gardens have a strong romantic appeal – things of beauty that have been allowed to slip away from us. In this talk, an archaeologist and landscape historian will show how seemingly unimportant mounds of earth and neglected ponds can, with the help of old maps, old photographs and other documents, be brought back to life and revealed as fascinating examples of garden history, giving tantalising glimpses of long-lost design styles and aspirations from the past. This exploration of Suffolk's rich gardening heritage will include medieval castles, Tudor mansions, Georgian parks and twentieth century dreams.

Our November lecture has yet to be decided but we are aiming for something with a flavour of Christmas.

On 27 January, 2025, Jamie Lowther Pinkerton, Suffolk born and bred with a deep interest in its past, will come to Butley Priory to talk about some of the great families of Suffolk and their place in our country's history. Full details of Jamie's talk will be posted on our website later.

Timings and prices for the *Son et Lumière* are yet to be decided but, as soon as they are, we will post them on the website at www.orfordmuseum.org.uk/events.

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.

To book tickets for these talks, please go to our website at www.orfordmuseum.org.uk/events or email the Treasurer at info@orfordmuseum.org.uk.

Elizabeth Spinney



Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council
would like to invite you to our

D-Day 80 Commemoration Event

On Thursday 6th June 2024 at 5.30pm in the Town Hall, where there will be Fish & Chips, with a dessert of steamed pudding and custard. Music from the 1940's will also be playing. Finishing the evening off at 9pm with the lighting of the beacon.



Please contact the office on 01394 459172 or email
orfordtownhall@outlook.com

if you think you are able to join us. Thank you.



SUNDAY 9TH JUNE

GARDEN PARTY

11 AM TO 4 PM

CHANTRY COTTAGE

ORFORD IP12 2NG

Everybody welcome



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
- Friday Soup at Bart's Hall
- 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

JUNE UPDATE FROM 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 13 June – Alderton • Wednesday 11 September – Aldeburgh
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):

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

Painkillers

If you have been on a painkiller for more than 3-6 months, please contact us to have a review appointment with one of our clinicians. This is to check that the medication is appropriate and to reduce the risk of dependency.

East Anglia Air Ambulance

We are very proud to be supporting East Anglian Air Ambulance with collection points for clothes and shoes. We have these points available at our Alderton and Aldeburgh surgeries where you can bring bagged clothes and shoes to donate. They are very visible in beautiful bright yellow! East Anglian Air Ambulance are our partners in providing care to our patient population and we are very excited to be supporting them in this way.

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