



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 345 December 2020

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All copy must be received by midday on **Wednesday 16 December**, 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)

COPY DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY 2021 ISSUE IS MID-DAY ON WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER 2020

TOWN HALL OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish Clerk will be working until 11am on Tuesday 22 December, and the NOTT Clerk until 11am on Wednesday 23 December. Working hours will be back to normal from Monday 4 January 2021. We'd like to thank all the Parish Council and Trust staff for their work over what has been a difficult year, and on behalf of the Parish Council and New Orford Town Trust would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Anne Macro and Ian Thornton, Chairmen, OGPC and NOTT

DECEMBER AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Christmas services:

Sunday 20 December

Choral Service of Nine Lessons and Carols St Bartholomew's Church. Doors open 5.15pm, Service starts 6pm

Christmas Eve

Holy Communion St Bartholomew's Church, Doors open 7.30pm, Service starts at 8pm

Christmas Day

9am Holy Communion Sudbourne Church

A message from Rev Giles Tulk:

As we prepare for Christmas in these difficult and uncertain times, may the light and love of Jesus Christ shine in our own lives and in those around us and give us hope for the future. Reflecting this theme of love and hope for the future, we are planning the following Christmas Services and activities.

Subject to Covid19 restrictions we have two Christmas services at Orford. On Sunday 19 December there will be a service of Nine Lessons and Carols and on 24 December 24 a Christmas Eve Holy Communion. The benefice choir will hope to sing at both services and we wait to see whether congregational singing is permitted.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will be broadcast on Zoom for those who prefer to stay at home. For further information about services or a link to the Zoom service please contact Caroline Gill 01394 450320 caroline@tropic.org.uk. If you wish to attend church on Christmas Day there will be Holy Communion at Sudbourne Church at 9am. St Bartholomew's church will be open every day during daylight hours for private prayer and contemplation.

Although we cannot plan too far ahead, we anticipate that the government guidelines will not change in respect of mask wearing

and social distancing. When you join us for a service, please wrap up warmly and prepare for a short wait outside the church to allow for hand sanitising and showing people to their seats. Please keep the safety of our community in mind and, if you are isolating, feel unwell or are showing any symptoms of Covid19, please stay at home.

Caroline Gill

DECEMBER AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 6 December, Advent II

10.30am Stephen Caley

Sunday 13 December, Advent III

10.30am with local leaders

Sunday 20 December, Advent IV

10.30am Rev. Martin Dawes – COMMUNION SERVICE

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE at 10.30am

Sunday 27 December

10.30am LIGHT OF THE WORLD CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Sunday 3 January 2021

10.30am Stephen Caley

We anticipate opening the Chapel Tea Room, after lockdown, in December but not over Christmas and New Year.

During our October worship we were delighted to be able to participate with hand signing, under the leadership of Pam, some of the recorded songs/hymns and also with the sharing of The Grace and look forward to more of this to come.

Our best wishes for a Very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year – keep well and stay safe.

Stephen Caley

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION IN AID OF ORFORD PRESCHOOL

'An Orford Christmas Extravaganza – Deck the Village for Christmas'

With the theme of 'A Christmas Celebration', decorate your front garden, a tree, window or your whole house! Let your creativity flow using anything and everything to bring some sparkle and cheer to our village this Christmas. Whether it's a rustic display using natural materials, an eco display using recycled bits and pieces or a full on glitz fest, we know Orford will not disappoint!

To enter we would like to request a donation of £2.50, with proceeds going to Orford Preschool.

Please post your donation envelopes, which should include your name and address, into the post box at Orford CEVA Primary School OR into the newspaper kiosk payment box at Orford Town Hall before Tuesday 15 December.

Prizes await for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, so let's get ready for Christmas! Displays to be in place by Friday 18 December with judging on Sunday 20 December. Good Luck!

Tiffany Pollock

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES RIDE

I have been informed that the Woodbridge area raised £6,787 in 2020 (17% more than the previous year). In Suffolk as a whole the total was £14,570, an increase of 11.4%. This is particularly pleasing given the difficulties of the pandemic and with many churches closed on the day. Thanks to Penny Kay, St Bartholomew's will qualify for support from the Trust.

Richard Roberts (*temporary local organiser – there is a vacancy for this position!*)

BART'S HALL BOOKINGS OFFICER IS RETIRING

After 13 years of making bookings for Bart's Hall and keeping track of the keys, Pat Walker has finally decided to step down. Pat has carried out this role with kindness, efficiency and common sense, as many of you who have booked parties and events at the hall will testify. This is only one of the many ways that she has helped us, and on behalf of the PCC I would like to extend a very warm vote of thanks to Pat for her contribution to the church and the wider community.

Caroline Gill, Sec PCC St Bartholomew's Church

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

'All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today'
Indian Proverb

I think this quote is particularly appropriate now and not just because we are presently sowing for spring or ordering our seeds for next year! Members of the Gardening Club have the opportunity to buy seeds at 15% off!

Speakers and Gifts...

At this moment we are preparing for our first Zoom speaker at our December meeting! It is Dr Catherine Horwood who has just written a book entitled '*Beth Chatto: A Life with Plants*'. This is her topic. We took a group there in 2019.

Speaking of books, our March speaker, Claire Ratinon has a great book newly out called '*How to grow your dinner without leaving the house*' – we're buying it for our granddaughter who has a newly acquired interest in growing vegetables. It is very clearly set out with beautiful photographs.

'*Cuttings*' is the title of a fun little book with bite-sized snippets of wisdom born of gardening experience of the great and good. Check the website of Gardening for the Disabled.

Aspen Press still has some sets of quotes about gardening which they printed in conjunction with us and 50p of each sale comes to the Club funds. Some of my quotes in these articles come from here and they may become available as cards soon!

The 2021 Programme

We are just finalising our proposed programme of talks, trips and visits for next year in the hope that these will be able to go ahead.

Most of the events which we were unable to have in 2020 have been re-booked for next year plus some new and exciting ones, so watch this space...

Here is a trailer:

- 14 January: Sarah Frances of Herber and Co 'Using Medicinal Herbs and Plants'
- 4 February: Neill Ludmon 'Vertical Plantings'
- 4 March: Claire Ratinon
- 17 March: Roses Workshop in Barts Hall and a local garden

We hope to meet more of you in the coming year and we wish you season's greetings...

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

OBITUARY: Elizabeth Jane Carr –

18 December 1946–13 October 2020

Elizabeth Carr (Lizzie), of Haven House, Front Street, died in October following a short illness. Her funeral was held at St Bartholomew's Church on Friday 23 October.

She was born in Ipswich, to Alfred Bennet Gates and Bessie Olive Gates and was younger sister to David. Lizzie spent much of her childhood moving around the country – from East Sussex to Taunton and then to Newcastle – with frequent trips back to Suffolk to spend family Christmases in Burgh.

Lizzie worked for Proctor & Gamble in Newcastle as a secretary for a time before moving back to Suffolk, to Whepstead. Lizzie lived at home with her parents for two years, working in Cambridge, before deciding it was time to leave home and heading to Bristol where she stayed for another two years.

It was during this period that Lizzie met Tony at a party in Cambridge. After this first meeting they went their separate ways, but when Lizzie returned to Suffolk some weeks later she was told by the party host that Tony had been asking after her. She went to Southwold to meet him, only to see him sailing out of the harbour on his boat. But thankfully, they did eventually meet up at Ramsholt and sailed round to Orford where they spent the evening in the Jolly Sailor.

Tony proposed in the Crown at Westleton in early 1975 and the wedding was held later that year in Whepstead. Shortly after, they moved to Cratfield, North Suffolk. It was here that Lizzie gave birth first to William and then Edward. Bringing up two boys kept her busy and she was also very involved locally, helping with meals on wheels and other community and Church activities.

In the mid 1980s Tony's work took him to Ipswich, so the family moved to Burgh, the village where Lizzie had spent all those family Christmases years before. They transformed Red House Farm into a wonderful family home, where Lizzie loved to throw parties, including an annual Christmas Eve party following the church service at St Botolph's where Lizzie was Church warden.

In their retirement, they got back into sailing and made what was to be her final move here to Orford. Very quickly they got actively involved in village life, helping with the community mini-bus and church activities. Lizzie had a wonderful group of friends here and enjoyed playing tennis.

Lizzie's latter years were spent very happily as 'Granny' to her four grandchildren – Poppy, Betty, Henry and Annabel.

The family would like to thank all those people who were so kind to Lizzie, offering support during her final illness. She was very grateful to live in such a caring village.

Rachel Carr

ROBIN LAMBERT, RIP

We are sad to report the death of Robin Lambert in Deben View Care Home in Woodbridge. Many will remember Robin as the village litter controller – some time ago now – then called 'road sweeper'. He was always a very friendly and pleasant person – he helped the village in other ways, collecting money in a bucket at the annual fireworks display for the purchase of the next year's fireworks and helping at the Flower Show.

He moved from his bungalow in Town Farm to the new sheltered accommodation in Baron's Meadow, but as his health deteriorated he moved to Deben View. I was pleased to know Robin well, as I was Chairman of the Parish Council when he was employed by the PC. Some parishioners kept in touch with him and visited him at Deben View. He will be sadly missed. He leaves a daughter, Susan, and a son, Michael.

Derek Forbes

RICHARD ROBERTS – BEYOND THE BAR

I am glad to report that sales of this book about sailing voyages from Orford have now exceeded the cost of production, so that the first donations from any surplus have been paid as intended to the RNLI and to Freedom from Torture, the charity of which John McCarthy, who wrote the foreword, is a patron.

Only 100 copies remain for this purpose. So, if you are short of a Christmas present for someone who enjoys sailing or reading about it, please contact me at 29 High Street, Orford. IP12 2NW, phone 01394 450567 or email catspaw@phonecoop.coop

Two further comments from Orford residents are typical of others. 'Beyond the Bar enabled me to dream and marvel at those sailors who are adventurous enough to leave the

river and voyage the seas to other countries. This proved a tonic during lockdown, kept me sane and inspired me to plan my own journeys in small boats.' (Troy Batley).

'As a non-sailor I sometimes wondered where these boats went; this book may surprise you; it did me.' (Richard Atchley)

Richard Roberts

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	

BANK HOLIDAY & GP TRAINING CLOSURE DATES

The surgery will be closed on Friday 25 December, Monday 28 December and Friday 1 January, and closed on Wednesday 2 December at 13.00 for GP training.

Please contact NHS 111 when the surgery is closed.

We would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Flu Vaccinations for 50 to 64 year olds

We are awaiting guidance from NHS England regarding flu vaccinations for the 50-64 cohort. We will update our website and Facebook page as soon as we receive direction.

Practice Updates

We appreciate that not all patients have Internet access, but in the current rapidly changing climate our website and Facebook page are the most direct route to inform patients regarding practice updates.

Nicola Thompson, Medical Administrator, Peninsula Practice, 01394 412926

CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

IMPORTANT NOTICE: HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES

Villagers should be aware that the opening hours and offerings of hospitality business – including the King's Head, the Jolly Sailor, the Oysterage and the Riverside Tearoom, as well as the Country Market – will be affected by the Government's COVID-19 guidelines and will be subject to change, so please contact individual businesses to find out their opening times and give them all the support you can over what will be a tricky 2020 Christmas period. Thank you.

ORFORD GENERAL STORE

At the moment the plan is to trade normal hours, until 5pm, up to Wednesday 23 December.

Thursday 24 December, Christmas Eve: 8.30am–4pm

Christmas Day : Closed

Boxing Day: Closed

Sunday 27 December: Closed

Monday 28 December, Bank Holiday: 8.30am–5pm

Tuesday 29 December: 8.30am–5pm

Wednesday 30 December: 8.30am–5pm

Thursday 31 December: 8.30am–5pm

Friday 1 January 2021: Closed

Saturday 2 January: 8.30am–5pm

Sunday 3 January: 10am–4pm

Our apologies for closing for three consecutive days over Christmas (we usually only close for two), but our team has worked really hard throughout the coronavirus pandemic and we would like to give them all the opportunity to have a relaxing Christmas/festive period to recuperate. Thank you.

Sue Cox

ROYAL MAIL LAST POSTING DATES, UK

Friday 18 December: Second Class and Second Class signed for

Monday 21 December: First Class and First Class signed for

Wednesday 23 December: Special Delivery guaranteed

ROYAL MAIL LAST POSTING DATES, INTERNATIONAL

Friday 4 December: Australia, New Zealand

Wednesday 9 December: Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Central and South America, Far and Middle East

Thursday 10 December: Canada, Cyprus, Malta

Friday 11 December: Greece, Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia) and Turkey

Saturday 12 December: Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA

Wednesday 16 December: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland

Friday 18 December: Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

PUMP STREET BAKERY

Normal hours until Wednesday, 23 December: 9am–2pm

Thursday 24 December, Christmas Eve: 9am–12noon

Christmas Day: Closed

Boxing Day: Closed

Sunday 27 December: Closed

Monday 28 December, Bank Holiday: Closed

Tuesday 29 December: 9am–2pm

Wednesday 30 December: 9am–2pm

Thursday 31 December: 9am–2pm

Friday 1 January 2021: 9am–1pm

ORFORD MEAT SHED

Monday 21 December: Closed

Tuesday 22 December: 9am–3pm

Wednesday 23 December: 9am–3pm

Thursday 24 December, Christmas Eve: 9am–3pm

Christmas Day: Closed

Boxing Day: Closed

Sunday 27 December: Closed

Monday 28 December, Bank Holiday: Closed

Tuesday 29 December: 9am–3pm

Wednesday 30 December: 9am–3pm

Thursday 31 December: 9am–3pm

Friday 1 January 2021: Closed, reopen on Tuesday 19 January 2021



During the Covid-19 pandemic we are offering the following services to the residents of Orford, Gedgrave and Sudbourne Hall:

Friendship and companionship over the telephone

Collection of medication

Shopping

For those hospitalised, dropping off items at the hospital

Dog walking / feeding pets

Form filling and help with technology over the telephone

One-off garden tidy

A healthy meal

Other activities as requested and agreed

When it is safe to do so, we will resume transport to GP and hospital appointments, hospital and home visiting and minor household repairs.

We also have a Community Larder, available round the clock in the entrance to the Kings Head car park.



If you are on your own at Christmas we can offer you a volunteer to buddy up with for regular contact.



01394 450235



The editors and Leiston Press wish
all the readers of Village Voice a
Merry Christmas and a Happy and
Healthy New Year

