



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 369 December 2022

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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 Wednesday 14 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 2023 ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER. PLEASE NOTE EARLY COPY DATE

TOWN HALL OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish and Trust Clerks will be working until 11am on Thursday 22 December, and then the office will be closed for Christmas. Usual hours resume on Tuesday 3 January 2023. We'd like to thank all the Parish Council and Trust staff for their work over the past year, and on behalf of the Parish Council and 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

CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

The annual carols around the Christmas tree will take place on Wednesday 21 December at 6.30pm on the village green outside Orford General Store. Music will be provided by the Woodbridge Excelsior Band so please do come and join in with the singing and enjoy what is always a great start to the festive season.

Anne Macro, Chairman, Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council

DECEMBER AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

All are welcome to join us at St Bartholomew's, Orford for the following services: first and third Sundays of December, Holy Communion at 9.30am. Second Sunday, Holy Communion BCP (said) at 9.30am; Service of Nine Lessons and Carols 6pm. Wednesdays at 5pm, Evening Prayer BCP.

Christmas Services

- Sunday 11 December
Service of Nine Lessons and Carols with choir, 6pm *Rev. Giles*
- Christmas Eve
Crib Service, 4pm *Guy Marshall*
Midnight Mass, 10pm (Bethlehem time) *Rev. Giles*
- Christmas Day
Family Service, 10am *Guy Marshall*
- Christmas Day, Sudbourne Church, Holy Communion, 9.30pm

Events in Church in December

- Saturday 3 December, Christmas Bazaar, 2-4.30pm
- Sunday 4 December, Brass Band Concert, 3pm
- Friday 16 December, Friends of St Bartholomew's Event, 6pm-7.45pm

A CHURCH NEAR YOU WEBSITE www.achurchnearyou.com provides details of all church services and events in the local area. For further information contact the Team Rector: Revd. Giles Tulk 01394 450610 revgileswtr@gmail.com

Revd Giles Tulk

FRIENDS OF ST BARTHOLOMEW'S Evening Reception with Music and Church History

December dates for your diary

For regular events please check for any Christmas closures

- Each Monday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 10am-12noon
- Each Monday (except bank holidays): Coffee and Chat - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 1-3pm (part of Warm Rooms) (after 19 December there will be a break until Monday 6 February 2023)
- Each Wednesday: chair pilates - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 11am-12noon
- Each Monday and Wednesday: Methodist Chapel tea room, serving lunch, 11am-2pm
- Each Wednesday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm
- Each Friday: Bart's Hall Warm Room - Bart's Hall, 11am-4pm (except 23 December)
- Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm (last one on 17 December, re-opening on 14 January)
- Friday 2-Sunday 4 December: Nicola Atchley Exhibition - The Watch House, Orford
- Saturday 3 December: Church Bazaar - St Bartholomew's Church, 2-4.30pm
- Sunday 4 December: Brass Band Concert - St Bartholomew's Church, doors open 2pm, concert at 3pm
- Saturday 10 December: Orford School League of Friends Christmas Fair - Recreation Ground Pavillion, 12-3pm
- Wednesday 21 December: Christmas Carols around the tree - village green outside Orford General Store, 6.30pm

The Friends are holding an evening reception with music, tours of the church, and a short talk about the fifteenth-century painting by Bernadino Luini. Tickets cost £10 (£8 for Friends) and include a glass of mulled wine or spiced apple, and canapes. There is a pay bar available.

To book please contact Caroline Gill, email carolinedechairgill@gmail.com
Tel: 07799 655825

Profits from this event are for the Friends of St Bartholomew's Church, registered charity number 1194884.

Save the date: Quiz Night, Saturday 4 February 2023, in aid of the Friends of St Bartholomew's.

DECEMBER AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

- Sunday 4 December ADVENT II
10.30am Stephen Caley - Advent Carols and Readings
- Sunday 11 December ADVENT III
10.30am Service leaders: Pam, Louise & Angus
- Sunday 18 December ADVENT IV
10.30am A Modern Nativity, Rev Saul Tadzaushe - HOLY

COMMUNION

4pm Carols by Candlelight followed by Christmas tea

Christmas Day service at 10.30am

New Year's Day Christingle service at 10.30am

Children stay in church for all of the services with their own participating activity. Refreshments served afterwards.

Chapel Tea Room (our warming room) Mondays and Wednesdays – open from 11am for coffee, scones and cake, and winter warming lunch. There will also be a Christmas raffle. Locally made scarves, hats etc., cards and a selection of Traidcraft gifts too. Note: Not open on 19, 21, 26 and 28 December, and 2 January.

The Modern Nativity (18 December) has been written by 9-year-old Ellen Gibbs who will narrate the story.

We welcome you to join with us at any of our services. Happy Advent and Christmas from all at the Methodist Church.

Stephen Caley

CHILDREN IN NEED ABBA SHOW

A stunning ABBA SHOW was performed by children at Orford Methodist Church supported by the Chapel Tea Room staff – Star performers were Ellen (9yrs), Sofia (8) and Felicity (6) together with Pam, Karen, Pam, Louise and Steve with Angus as the Musical Director.

Many thanks for 12 Pudsey Bears and a huge 'the Mixing Bowl' Pudsey Bear Cake all raffled raising **£300 for Children In Need**. The afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience – though no one from Orford!

Stephen Caley

BART'S HALL WARM ROOM, DECEMBER OPENING

The Warm Room at Bart's Hall will close for Christmas on 23 December, but we will open again for a Festive Warm Room on 30 December from 11am-4pm and continue through January. All are welcome to come and warm up. There is tea, coffee or soup and usually some delicious cake made by our lovely volunteers. There's plenty of chat and we have games and jigsaws, or there's space to read a book or do some knitting or sewing. There is no charge for any of the drinks or snacks. If you need a lift to the hall let us know in good time and we can arrange this with a member of the Orford and Gedgrave and Sudbourne Park Good Neighbour Scheme.

A heartfelt plea to the local community: Winter can be a very lonely time for some people and isolation can be a difficult habit to break. If you have a friend or neighbour who is on their own a lot and becoming isolated, please consider bringing them along to one of the Warm Rooms, Coffee and Chat on Mondays or to Bart's Hall on Fridays.

For further information contact Caroline Gill carolinedechairstgill@gmail.com or telephone 07799 655825.

Caroline Gill

ORFORD COUNTRY MARKET

As the year comes to a close we can look back on a very successful year at the Country Market. Our last market this year will be on Saturday 17 December when we will be having our annual Christmas raffle. We will be raising money for the East Anglian Children's Hospices this year. For the last few weeks Richard Ashley has been selling his wife Anne's wonderful knitted items at the market, with all proceeds going to the Blossom Appeal and EACH. We supported the Blossom Appeal last year so have chosen EACH this year. Please come along and support these two very worthwhile charities. We will be opening again on 14 January 2023 after the Christmas break and will look forward to seeing old and hopefully new visitors to the market.

Belinda Boast, Secretary

NATIONAL TRUST ORFORD NESS

Sunday 30 October saw our final open day of the season on Orford Ness, and for the third year in a row we've broken visitor record numbers. Over 11,600 people visited Orford Ness this year and we'd like to thank the local community for their ongoing support this year. The team will continue to be on site over the winter carrying out conservation and maintenance work and planning for our 2023 visitor season. 2023 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the National Trust buying Orford Ness and so we'll be looking to mark that anniversary during the year.

Glen Pearce

OSLOF (Orford School League of Friends) ORFORD CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 10 December at the Recreation Ground Pavillion, 12-3pm. Raffle, tombola, lucky dip, cakes and refreshments, crafts, face painting and more!

Raffle prizes include: Crown & Castle: 2-course dinner for two with bottle of house wine; Jolly Sailor: 3-course dinner for two; 4 x

Hampers including High House Farm juice and jam; Pump St Bakery: £30 gift voucher; Bchocolates: chocolate box; Snape Maltings: gift vouchers; Meat Shed: gift voucher, breakfast on us! 1kg bacon and a dozen eggs; Lady Florence: £75 breakfast-for-two voucher; Moving Plaice: 2 x £25 vouchers.

Please come and join us to help raise money for our beloved Orford School! All proceeds go directly back into learning equipment, sports equipment, school trips and maintenance.

Maxine and all at OSLOF

BRASS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT: SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER

The trustees of the Thomas Marshall Education Fund (TMEF) are pleased to announce that the talented Band of The Royal British Legion Leiston will be performing another of their popular Christmas Concerts in St Bartholomew's Church, Orford on Sunday 4 December at 3 pm with all proceeds going to TMEF. This promises to be a fun filled event for all the family, so come and be entertained and get into the Christmas spirit. Refreshments will also be available.

Ticket price: Adult £7.50. Accompanied children free

Contact and bookings – Wendy Marshall on 01394 450090 or contact@tmef.org.uk

Wendy Marshall

ORFORD OCCASIONAL RUNNERS

Come and join us! A friendly group who catch up weekly for a relaxed jog/run/shuffle. With many thanks to the Orford Sports & Recreation Club who now proudly sponsor us and have provided running shirts for us all to wear. Also, massive congratulations to everyone who took part in the Adnams Run at Southwold at the end of November! Now for a well-earned sit down and bring on next year! We meet outside Orford Town Hall on Tuesdays at 6.30pm unless it's too wet, too hot or too cold! We'd love to see you there...

Please contact Hannah on 07375 023361

Hannah Purkis

FESTIVE WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP AT BULTLEY PRIORY

Christmas wreath making workshop at Butley Priory Wednesday 7 December, with Lucy Hall Flowers. Choose either the 10am or 1.30pm workshop in the Great Hall in front of a blazing log fire.

£75 per person to include glass of fizz and a mince pie, and take your beautiful wreath home. And also enjoy a tour of Butley Priory.

To book, call Butley Priory 01394 450046, info@butleypriory.co.uk

Clare Greenwell

A MESSAGE FROM ORFORD GENERAL STORE

Once again, thank you to all our amazing, wonderful customers who support us and brighten our day with their visits. Your continuing loyalty and support are much appreciated by myself and the whole team. Your ready generosity also in donating your loyalty points that you have accrued to assist those less fortunate and in need of the services of the Community Larder, has been astounding and we are once again humbled by your generosity. In this difficult winter where so many will have to choose between eating or heating, I am sure your generosity will be truly appreciated, and it proves that the Christmas spirit really does live on in the inhabitants of Orford.

I am sure that we will see many of you over the weeks preceding the festivities but for any we miss, on behalf of myself, Sue Snowdon and our whole team, we wish you a very Merry Christmas, and a prosperous and Happy New Year.

Sue Cox

CHILDREN'S STREET PAINTINGS FOR THE OLD GARAGE SITE

The road frontage at the old garage site is a sight that resembles parts of Ukraine and is an eyesore to all who live here and those that visit. My aim is to try and rectify that over the winter via the medium of art, with the help and coordination of us all.

The proposal has permission of the landlord, and now we need the cooperation of the Head Teacher, the children in the junior school, parents of same and manpower to erect the display.

Over the Winter it is proposed the junior children would paint scenes, graffiti and smudges onto weatherproofed boards that would, next Easter, be hung along the 'Chernobyl frontage' and prizes awarded for the three best images.

Obviously, there will be some costs involved – the boards, paint, fittings and fixtures for hanging – and it would be my responsibility to ensure that is covered, hopefully through the generosity of some residents, commercial entities etc. It shouldn't be very much, and I have already co-opted someone help to find and prepare the backing boards.

If you are willing to help in one way or another, I would be grateful if you would contact me at 3 Mundays Lane or by email: jeremyruggeprice@me.com

Who knows, there may be a future Banksy hidden in our midst!

Jeremy Rugge-Price

NICOLA ATCHLEY – EXHIBITION – THE WATCH HOUSE

Friday 2–Sunday 4 December.

Exhibition of recent work of locally sourced materials transformed into prints and ceramics.

www.nicolaatchley.co.uk

NEWS FROM ORFORD MUSEUM

Save the date!

Orford Museum is planning a series of history talks at Butley Priory on 17, 18 and 19 March 2023. These will feature Suffolk historians and archaeologists, each of whom will speak for about an hour on topics of local and general interest. The programme is yet to be finalised, but we can confirm that the opening talk on the afternoon of Friday 17 March will be by Jack Cooke, editor of The Orford Historian, successor to The Orford & District Local History Bulletin. Jack will talk about his journey around Britain in search of the dead. He set off in a dilapidated hearse to unearth some of the quirkiest graves, tombs and burial sites that Britain has to offer – some famous, some not so. His resulting book – *The End of the Road* – is funny, tender, informative and a wonderfully uplifting read. He is also the author of A Tree Climber's Guide, an exploration of the world above the streets and gardens of London.

Other speakers will include Professor Mark Bailey on the black death in Suffolk; Edward Martin who specialises in prehistory and historic landscape studies; Tobias Capwell, curator of armoury at the Wallace Collection, on Lost Suffolk Houses; Dr. Shelley Garland on English Heritage and Orford Castle and three others yet to be confirmed.

Booking details and a full programme will be in the January 2023 editions of The Link and Village Voice.

Elizabeth Spinney, Orford Museum

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

George Gillespie of George's Gorgeous Gardens, Earsham Hall
"Why are some people green-fingered and some not?"

George, a late stand in, linked his Victorian greenhouse plants, house plants and Chelsea experiences to a broad range of scientific, cultural and contextual

findings. He explained how talking to plants, which in effect was breathing out CO₂, had a beneficial effect on their health and vigour. He demonstrated this by reference to his plants. He also showed how some people were green fingered and how some intend to be green fingered and linked this to the quality of the plants they produced.

The overall presentation which allowed for a lot of questions and answers was received very openly and generated a significant amount of interest and understanding. Many of us were very excited about how George presented a wide range of house plants in the Japanese Kokadama style using moss and string rather than in plastic pots!!! These can then sit on a pretty saucer or dish in the appropriate place in our homes. We're hoping he may run a workshop for us in 2023!!

1 December AGM and Social Supper – always good fun and great food!! – members only

A Trailer of some of what is to come in 2023!!!! Still in the planning...

- Neill Ludmon – 'Sensory Gardens'
- Benton End Trip to Cedric Morris's old home and art school where he bred irises
- Saturday Workshop about our soil
- Trip to a Benhall garden to see Rhododendrons and Azaleas
- Penny Robertson – 'Helping Bees'
- Lou Nicholls – 'The Winter Garden'
- Xa Tollemache of Helmingham Hall – 'A garden well placed: A designer's harmony between house and garden'

We start a New Year on Thursday 12 January 7.30pm, with Simon White from Peter Beales – '50 Years of Rose Growing'!!!

This is your opportunity to join us for a full calendar year at £15 plus occasional extra costs for some of the trips we do... Guests at £5 per session

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

JUST42 YOUTH CLUBS

Just42 is currently running youth clubs in Hollesley, Alderton and Orford. We run during term time and offer young people in rural villages a place to go, meet friends, be safe, experience new things and be themselves. All young people from year 6 upwards are welcome. For further details see our website - www.just42.org.uk

We are currently looking for local volunteers to support our staff team in these villages. If you would like more information or know of someone who may be interested, then please contact: info@just42.org.uk

Caroline Rutherford, Charity Manager



ORFORD, GEDGRAVE
& SUDBOURNE HALL
**GOOD
NEIGHBOUR
SCHEME**
01394 45035



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 Kings Head car park
- Weekly trip to Woodbridge (£2 charge)
- Support for anyone who is impacted by a scam
- Orford Warm Rooms: Mondays at Orford Sports & Recreation Club 1-3pm; Fridays at Bart's Hall 11am-4pm
- Other activities as requested and agreed

Thank you to the following 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 Church

Happy Christmas to all our supporters and customers



The Band of The Royal British Legion Leiston in Concert

St. Bartholomew's Church Orford

Sunday December 4th 2022

Doors open 2.00 Performance from 3.00



Great music from 3 o'clock
Tea and cake from 2 o'clock
Adults - £7.50 Children - Free
Tickets 01394450090
contact@tmef.org.uk
Proceeds to Thomas Marshall Education Fund

**THOMAS
MARSHALL
EDUCATION
FUND**
Supporting Secondary & Tertiary Education in Mozambique

DECEMBER UPDATE FROM THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

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	CLOSED
Wednesday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	CLOSED
Thursday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	CLOSED
Friday	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 13.00	8.00 to 18.30	CLOSED

Aldeburgh and Orford surgeries will be closed for staff training on Wednesday 7 December from 13.00. Alderton surgery will be open for booking future appointments only, and Alderton pharmacy will be open. All calls will continue to be redirected to 111 for this afternoon. This means that there will be no clinical staff available during this afternoon at any site.

When the surgery is closed please call NHS 111.

Vaccinations

We have now vaccinated over 61% of eligible patients for the flu vaccine, and 65% of covid-vaccine eligible patients, in addition to vaccinating all eligible care and house bound patients. If you do not wish to have your covid or flu vaccine, please call the surgery after 11am to notify us, as we will continue to send you reminder notifications unless you inform us that you decline them.

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

CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

ORFORD GENERAL STORE

Monday 19 December–Friday 23 December:
 shop 8.30am–5.30pm, Post Office 8.30am–4pm
 Saturday 24 December:
 shop 8.30am–5.30pm, Post Office 8.30am–2pm
 Sunday 25–Tuesday 27 December: CLOSED
 Wednesday 28–Saturday 31 December:
 shop 8.30am–5.30pm, Post Office 8.30am–4pm
 Sunday 1 January 2023: CLOSED

ROYAL MAIL LAST POSTING DATES, UK

(Please make sure you are aware of any postal strikes that may occur)
 Monday 19 December: second class and Signed For second class
 Wednesday 21 December: first class and Signed For first class
 Thursday 22 December: Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed by 1pm
 Friday 23 December: Royal Mail Special Delivery by 1pm with Saturday Guarantee

ROYAL MAIL LAST POSTING DATES, INTERNATIONAL

Thursday 1 December: Australia, New Zealand
 Friday 2 December: China, People's Republic
 Monday 5 December: Caribbean (except British Virgin Islands, Dominica and Anguilla)
 Wednesday 7 December: Africa, Asia (except People's Republic of China), central America, Hong Kong, Japan, Middle East, South America
 Thursday 8 December: Cyprus, Malta
 Friday 9 December: Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia), Greece, Hungary
 Saturday 10 December: Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA
 Monday 12 December: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
 Wednesday 14 December: Belgium, France, Luxembourg

PUMP STREET BAKERY

Up to 23 December: usual hours
 Saturday 24 December: 10am–1pm, for collection of pre-orders only
 Sunday 25 December–Tuesday 27 December: CLOSED
 Wednesday 28–Saturday 31 December: usual hours
 Sunday 1 January 2023: CLOSED

ORFORD COUNTRY MARKET

The Market will be open as usual on Saturday 17 December, before closing for a few weeks and reopening on Saturday 14 January.

ORFORD MEAT SHED

Monday 19 December–Friday 23 December: 9am–3pm
 Saturday 24 December: 9am–1pm
 Sunday 25–Thursday 29 December: CLOSED
 Friday 30 December: 9am–3pm
 Saturday 31 December: 9am–1pm
 Then CLOSED until Wednesday 18 January 2023

THE KING'S HEAD

	Bar	Food
Monday 19 December	CLOSED all day	
Tuesday 20 December	12–3pm	12–2.30pm
	5.30–10pm	6–8.30pm
Wednesday 21 December	12–3pm	12–2.30pm
	5.30–10pm	6–8.30pm
Thursday 22 December	12–3pm	12–2.30pm
	5.30–10pm	6–8.30pm
Friday 23 December	12–3pm	12–2.30pm
	5.30–11pm	6–8.30pm
Saturday 24 December	12 to late	12–2.30pm, 6–8pm
Christmas Day	12–2pm	No food
Boxing Day	12–5pm	12–3pm (Boxing Day brunch menu)
Tuesday 27 December	12–5pm	12–3pm
Wednesday 28 December	CLOSED all day	
Thursday 29 December	12–3pm	12–2.30pm
	5.30–10pm	Twixmas Quiz and nibbles
Friday 30 December	12–3pm	12–2.30pm
	5.30–10pm	6–8.30pm
New Year's Eve	12–10pm	12–2.30pm
		6–8pm (pre-booked only)
Sunday 1 January	12–5pm	12–3pm (New Year brunch menu)
Monday 2 January	12–5pm	12–3pm (Brunch menu)
Tuesday 3 January	CLOSED all day	

WARM ROOMS

Monday's Coffee and Chat will be open up to and including Monday 19 December. After that there will be a break, restarting on Monday 6 February 2023.

Friday's Warm Room in Bart's Hall will be closed on Friday 23 December, but open on other Fridays.



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

