



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 347 February 2021

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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All copy must be received by the midday on Thursday 18 February 2021, 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 MARCH 2021 ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2021

FEBRUARY AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

During the current Covid 19 pandemic church services are subject to alteration at short notice. You will find up-to-date information about our February services and church opening for private prayer on the noticeboard by the church gate. Alternatively visit the A Church Near You website (www.achurchnearyou.com) which is updated daily with details of all church services in the local area.

Services from Orford are available online using Zoom. You are most welcome to join us.

For a link to services or further information please contact Rev Giles Tulk, Team Rector of the Wilford Peninsula.

email revgileswtr@gmail.com, tel 01394 450610

FEBRUARY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

We have cancelled all in-person services, however we have resumed our 'Keeping in Touch' during this third lockdown with printed services for those who don't have online access.

For Sunday live streamed services and daily 'Thought for the Day' plus much more, visit www.Methodistic.org.uk

The church is very much 'alive' through care, concern and prayer. Until further notice no weekly activities at present.

We are able to report that Christmas and Epiphany services were all well received – with hand signing included which seemed eagerly anticipated.

Stephen Caley

SUPPORTING KINDNESS

It is with great sadness that as members of the Patient Participation Group for the Peninsula Practice, we write to report the abuse from patients which has been endured by the staff at all sites, Alderton, Aldeburgh, Hollesley and Orford. They have suffered offensive verbal abuse, involving bad language and anonymous posters being put through the letterbox.

These incidents have been most unpleasant and have deeply upset all members of staff. It is worth remembering that we are all in this crisis together and tolerance and understanding of each other's needs should be first and foremost in our minds.

The staff of the Peninsula Practice do their utmost to support us during this most difficult time and greatly appreciate how difficult it is for all patients.

Sarah Fiddes is the Patient Navigation Liaison Lead who will be happy to deal with patients' questions, queries or compliments. It will be greatly appreciated if you contact her to discuss any matter which you feel has not been dealt with fairly or appropriately. She is there to listen and advise and offer support. She may be contacted in the following ways: Alderton 01394 411641 or IESCCG.Peninsula-Practice@nhs.net

The surgery has a zero-tolerance policy towards abuse; any patient who is found to be so may be removed from the practice patient list. It is worth noting that the Triage System (phoning and awaiting a re-call) is now a nationwide system as the NHS continues to evolve. This is a frustrating and difficult time for all of us and all we ask is for everyone to remember to show kindness, respect and tolerance for each other as we move forward into the coming months.

The Patient Participation Group
peninsulapracticeppg@gmail.com

FROM ORFORD CEVAP SCHOOL

Orford School children enjoyed a very Christmassy end to the Autumn term. Along with all the activities we told you about last time we also had the story of Christmas brought to us in a video filmed by Rev. Giles and emailed home each week. It must have helped the children in Class 1 as it remembered as their Nativity play was rehearsed again and again, all of them learning their lines beautifully. Rather differently, the play was re-enacted outside with a shed in the background, it was filmed by staff and then distributed to Class 1 families. Class 2, due to the current restrictions, were not allowed to spend a night camping in the school hall as they have in the past, but they were treated to a film and pizza party by their teachers.

Christmas jumper day brought vivid colours to the school, as did the wreaths hanging on the fence. These were made by Tiffany, an employee of Orford school and sold to raise money for the school. She also arranged the Xmas garden decoration competition, which between the two raised over £160 in total.

The Zoomed Christmas service from the church worked well with songs by sign language, poems and nativity artwork; it shared with families the magic and joy of Christmas delighting everyone.

The new term has started with another lockdown. Both Orford and Bawdsey school have worked together to train each other and get our remote learning up and running from both schools. We were very proud that both schools had remote learning ready the morning after Boris Johnson's 8pm announcement to the nation. We were also open that day in school for key worker children – the staff at

both schools worked fast to do this, as no schools had notice before the PM's announcement.

We continue to proudly serve our school communities and have some children in both schools, but most are participating from home with remote learning from the staff. Although we miss having them all in school, we are thoroughly enjoying catching up three times a week on video calls. Let's hope that we can get back to normal soon.

Katie Butler, Executive Headteacher

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

'We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses'

Abraham Lincoln

Also a reminder that you can be pruning now!

Sarah Frances of Herber and Co

Herbologist and soapmaker Sarah told us via Zoom in January about how and why she came to be interested in herbology and trained in the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh before setting up Herber and Co locally. She has a permanent workshop at White House Farm where she continues her research and develops new products such as tinctures, creams, cordials and lotions. She spoke to us about 'weeds', foraging and herbs to grow. We were all inspired to take our own knowledge and skills further with a visit to her garden and in a forage and workshop.

We are also producing a local Snowdrop Map and involving members in an online gallery as we speak...

Future events

On Thursday 4 February Catherine Horwood returns we hope with 'Gardening Women – The story of women in horticulture' by Zoom.

Neill Ludmon is not able to do our planned talk but we do hope that his live Workshop on Roses planned for Wednesday 17 March will still be able to take place.

On 4 March we expect to have a speaker by Zoom from Perennial, who help people in horticulture, to replace Claire Ratinon who has stood down. and more...

Thursday 1 April Janet Buist 'All you ever wanted to know about Salvias' 7.30 pm in the Town Hall or by Zoom. This will be our third attempt to have Janet and, one way or another,

we are determined to hear what she has to say on this very favourite plant for many of us!

Wednesday afternoon, 28 April Spring car sharing trip to Ulting Wick for their tulip display.

New members

We are delighted that so many of our community have joined our club despite what is going on in the world and we intend to proceed with our plans if at all possible. Welcome to you all. We also hope to make up for anything we have missed and possibly have some spontaneous events.

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

MEMORIAL BENCH ON THE KNOLL

Those of you who enjoy sitting on the four-seater bench near the castle will notice its temporary absence. The bench needs repairing and will soon be receiving tender loving care at Dick Murphy's workshop. The bench is a memorial to my Great Uncle, Gerard Baker, and his sister, my Great Aunt, Dorothy Baker. I believe Gerard was involved in repair work to the church timbers when the Death Watch beetle was discovered. He worked in Palestine and brought back a sprig of rosemary from the Garden of Gethsemane and planted it in the churchyard where it still flourishes. Dorothy was the village nurse and midwife and some of the babies she brought into the world still live in the village. Appropriately enough Dick Murphy was one of those babies!

Caroline Gill

READY, STEADY, CENSUS

The decennial census is almost upon us.

Households across Orford and Gedgrave will soon be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in your local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request. Census day is March 21. For more information, visit census.gov.uk

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

THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

Staff training closure afternoon

The surgery will be closed for staff training on Wednesday 10 February from 13.00. All calls will be diverted to NHS 111.

We appreciate that not all of our patients have internet access, but in the current rapidly changing climate our website and Facebook page are the most direct route for you to find up to date patient information.

If you are unable to access the internet please call the surgery if you have any queries on 01394 411641

eConsult is available via our website. It enables patients to seek online advice from a clinician at your surgery. It also gives patients the option of requesting general or administrative advice. eConsult also offers self-help information from the NHS and advice or help from appropriate local services.

To access eConsult please visit our appointment page: www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk/appointments

Nicola Thompson, Medical Administrator, Peninsula Practice, 01394 412926

www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk 01394 411641

Orford, Gedgrave & Sudbourne Hall Good Neighbour Scheme

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
- Transport to Covid-19 vaccination appointments
- Other activities as requested and agreed

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

Community Larder

Thank you to everyone who donates to the larder. We hate throwing food away so please do not give us any of the following, which we cannot use:

- Food past its use by / best before date
- Food with no sell by date
- Open and partially used items
- Home made food

Please leave donations in the cupboard next to the larder.

Covid Vaccinations

These will be continuing for several months and at present our nearest vaccination centre is Woodbridge Community Hall. If you do not have transport one of our volunteer drivers can take you there. Ring us on the number below, giving us as much notice as possible.

2021 Census

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) runs the census in England and Wales and the next one will happen on Sunday 21 March. Completion of the Census is required by law. The data gathered gives a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales and is used to determine what society needs such as transport, education and healthcare. This year is the first time the Census will be completed online, with Census Support Centres for those who are unable to do so. If you need assistance completing your Census return, we can help you over the telephone.



01394 450235