



**The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave**

**Issue No. 371 February 2023**

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Although published and funded by Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council and New Orford Town Trust, Village Voice is totally unbiased in its reporting.

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 17 February, 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](http://www.orfordparishandtrust.onesuffolk.net))

#### **COPY DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY**

#### **FROM ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL LOCAL ELECTIONS**

As you may be aware District Council and local parish elections will take place this year. Nomination papers for those who wish to stand for election to Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council will be available from Friday 17 March 2023, and these will need to be completed and hand delivered to East Suffolk Council by 4pm on Tuesday 4 April 2023. Elections will take place on Thursday 4 May 2023. Voter ID will be a requirement for these elections, and please see the article about this on page 3 of Village Voice.

#### **CHRISTMAS TREES**

Thank you to the New Orford Town Trust for supplying the two village Christmas trees. Thank you also to the fireman for putting them up and taking them down, which is much appreciated by the NOTT and the Parish Council.

#### **CAROLS AROUND THE TREE**

The carols around the Christmas tree outside the shop were well supported. Thanks to the Woodbridge Excelsior Band for keeping us all in tune, to NOTT for funding the band, The King's Head for providing warming drinks, Pump Street Bakery for providing sausage rolls and Derick and Maria Brenchley for the mince pies. A lovely evening was had by all who attended.

#### **COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

The group of volunteers are recruiting again for some additional support. A session lasts for about an hour and ideally consists of three volunteers. When the weather allows a session may take place twice a fortnight or more, and it would be good to have a group of people who may take it in turns. It is quite simple to register, with a form to complete which sent to the Community Speedwatch team. Once this has been accepted, training may be given by the current team.

**Marie Backhouse**, Clerk to Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council, [orfordtownhall@btconnect.com](mailto:orfordtownhall@btconnect.com), 01394 459172

#### **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 February and should be submitted to the Clerk, preferably by email, by 9am on Tuesday 14 February. Please contact the Clerk for more information and an application form.

**Kara Reed**, Clerk to New Orford Town Trust, 01394 459172, [orfordtrust@btconnect.com](mailto:orfordtrust@btconnect.com)

#### **February dates for your diary**

- Each Monday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 10am-12noon
- Each Monday (except bank holidays): Coffee and Chat - this will re-start on Monday 6 February
- Each Wednesday: chair pilates - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 11am-12noon
- Each Monday and Wednesday: Methodist Chapel tea room, lunch, 11am-2pm
- Each Wednesday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm
- Each Friday: Bart's Hall warm room, 11.30am-3pm
- Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm
- Thursday 2 February: Gardening Club - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Tuesday 14 February: Family Fun Day - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 11am-3pm (see inside for more details)
- Sunday 19 February: tree planting in Orford Churchyard, 11am

#### **FEBRUARY AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH**

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

Sunday 5 February 9.30am, Sung Holy Communion with Rev Giles

Sunday 12 February 9.30am, Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) with Rev Robin

Sunday 19 February 9.30am, Cluster Holy Communion with choir.

The Rt Rev Martin Seeley Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich and Rev. Giles followed by tree planting in the churchyard and refreshments in church.

22 February 7pm (Ash Wednesday),

Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Sunday 26 February We join Sudbourne and Iken congregations for Holy Communion at 9.30am with Rev Giles at Sudbourne Church.

Wednesdays at 5 pm: Evening Prayer (BCP) (Not 22/2 when we have a special Ash Wednesday service at 7pm)

CHURCH NEAR YOU WEBSITE [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) provides details of all church services and events in the local area. For further information contact the Team Rector: Rev Giles Tulk 01394 450610 [revgileswtr@gmail.com](mailto:revgileswtr@gmail.com)  
**Dates for your diary:**

- Saturday 25 March, 7.30pm, Aldeburgh Music Club are performing Faure's Requiem and Duruflé's Requiem. Conductor Tom Appleton. Organist Richard Cook. Tickets available on the Britten Pears website. £18/under 18s £9.

**Revd Giles Tulk**

## **FEBRUARY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday 5 February 10.30am Stephen Caley

Sunday 12 February 10.30am Angus Armstrong-Smyth

Sunday 19 February 10.30am Pam Caley

Sunday 26 February First Sunday of Lent

10.30am Rev Saul – Holy Communion

We have a lovely warm Church where you will be very welcome to join with us on a Sunday morning. Children stay in church with their own activity. Refreshments are served afterwards.

CHAPEL TEA ROOM is open every Monday and Wednesday from 11am–2pm(ish) – with a great menu of hot food, cakes and scones. There are plenty of art/crafts and cards available – some at reduced prices in a winter sale!

We are also open on Shrove Tuesday (21 February) for lunch time (11am–2pm) soup and pancakes. Why not visit the tea room relax over coffee/tea or stay for lunch or perhaps indulge in pancakes on the 21 February – we have a lovely warm room to invite you to.

Christmas roundup:

The 'Very Suffolk Nativity', written by 9-year-old Ellen, who also narrated the story, included a full cast of children and adults with a supporting congregation of family and friends. Well done Ellen and thank you. Later the same day the wonderful Carols by Candlelight service followed by Christmas tea was greatly enjoyed. Visitors also joined with us on Christmas morning for the service – afterwards enjoying festive drinks and goodies.

The 1 January Service of Light and Prayers for the New Year attracted several visitors. We were delighted to receive the generous gift of a large 4-5ft wrought iron candle tree which was used through Advent, Christmas and New Year for prayer angels, stars and candles.

Just before Christmas Day we held a very successful festive lunch followed by carol singing while enjoying tea and chocolates and then to the calling of the raffle with two exciting Christmas hampers and many other prizes. Thank you to all who contributed supported or assisted.

On 4 January, after a short break, the Tea Room provided a free two-course lunch (roasted to perfection) to all those who visited us on the day. On this occasion, unexpected donations were received for charity.

*Stephen Caley*

## **ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB**

A happy new year from all at the club, and many thanks for your support throughout the year.

Keep an eye out for forthcoming events, as we progress through the year, and watch the board and Facebook page for possible alterations in dates for bingo and darts nights, on Fridays, due to possible clashes.

See below for an indication of what the club does within our community.

*Mark Smy, Secretary, 450358*

## **ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB: SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY**

The Club is run by volunteers, who aim to engage with and help the community. We run a bar with very reasonable prices and the hall is economical to hire from £30 for a day (including bar if volunteers are available).

We also support Orford as follows:

- Improving the building for the future
- Allowing community and charity groups to meet there without charge
- Helping fund the outside toilet and its ongoing water and electricity costs
- Hosting charity fund raising events without charge
- Supporting the school with donations to OSLOF and funding school leavers presents
- Hosting and funding the annual children's' Christmas party
- Holding and funding the weekly Coffee & Chat warm room
- Sponsoring the Orford runners

We can only do this if we have enough volunteers. If you would like to support the community and have some time and a lot of enthusiasm, please call in on a Friday evening to discuss, you will be very welcome.

*Orford Sports & Recreation Club Committee*

## **BART'S HALL WARM ROOM**

Bart's Hall Warm Room continues every Friday between 11.30am and 3pm. Hot drinks available all day and soup, rolls and cake at lunchtime. A warm welcome to all. For further information contact Caroline Gill 07799 655825 or carolinedechairgill@gmail.com.

*Caroline Gill*

## **HALF TERM FAMILY FUN AND LUNCH AT THE REC**

**Tuesday 14 February 2023, 11am to 3pm**

Orford Church and the Good Neighbour Scheme have joined together to run a Family Fun Day during half term. There will be outdoor activities on the Rec from 11am to 12.30pm, a sit-down lunch for everyone inside followed by games and activities inside. The day is free, but we need to know numbers in advance to plan lunch. To book places, please complete and return the form in the Family Fun and Lunch information leaflets. These will be available in the Village Store and the Church.

Please note: Each child will need to come with a responsible adult who needs to stay for the event. Parents or carers who cannot attend in person can arrange for their children to come with another family.

For further information or if you would like to volunteer to help, either with cooking or with activities, please contact Caroline Gill email carolinedechairgill@gmail, tel 07799 655825

Thanks to the Sports and Recreation Club who are offering their facilities free of charge.

*Caroline Gill*

## **THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY INITIATIVE**

**Planting a tree in Orford to celebrate her late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee**

On Sunday 19 February at 11am all are welcome to watch Martin, Bishop of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich plant a hornbeam sapling in our churchyard, helped by our own 'saplings' – children from Orford school. The hornbeam, chosen as a species native to Suffolk, was grown by Bishop Martin himself from seed picked from Christchurch park. It is one of 400 trees to be planted in the churches in the Diocese. The planting was planned as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative to celebrate her late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee and as a fitting response to the climate crisis. Our tree replaces one recently felled and will serve as Orford's memorial to our country's longest-serving monarch.

The planting follows a cluster service at 9.30am in Orford Church led by Bishop Martin and Rev Giles with the choir. There will be refreshments in church from 10.30am to 11am and all are warmly welcomed.

*Caroline Gill*

## **THE ORFORD SUDBOURNE & GEDGAVE FLOWER SHOW:**

**Funding available for local good causes**

Historically the Flower Show has been able to provide some funding to local community-based good causes, but for obvious reasons this has not been possible in recent years. However, following a successful 2022 show we are again able to offer some limited funding to local good causes.

If you would like to apply for this funding then please email orfordflowershow@gmail.com giving details of who you are, what the funding would be used for, detailing how this will impact the local community and how much funding ideally you would like. Closing date for applications is Tuesday 28 February 2023. All applications will be considered by the Flower Show committee and awards will be notified to successful applicants by 20 March 2023. The Committee's decision will be final.

*Gary Wingrove, Chairman*

## **ORFORD & DISTRICT SURGERY CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION AGM**

**Thursday 9 March, 7pm at Orford Sports & Recreation Club**

The Orford and District Surgery Charitable Incorporated Organisation owns Chapman House and supports the Doctors by funding services and equipment for the benefit of patients. Funding is also available from the Charity to help maintain the independence of the frail, elderly and disabled of Butley, Chillesford, Iken, Orford & Gedgrave and Sudbourne. If you would like to meet the trustees and hear our plans, please come along. We would love to have your suggestions for improvements to the surgery. All are welcome.

*Corinne Lusher, Secretary, ODSCIO, 01394 450849*

## **ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB**

*Our next event*

Thursday 2 February, 7.30pm, Orford Town Hall, drinks from 7pm to welcome new members!

*Jude Law – Fullers Mill – A Plantsman's Garden – in aid of Perennial – Helping People in Horticulture*

Fullers Mill is an enchanting garden created since 1958 by the late Bernard Tickner MBE from rough scrub and woodland, into a quiet waterside oasis. It won the Trip Advisor Travellers' Choice Award in 2020! Last July a number of us visited this delightful garden at the time when

their amazing lilies were in full flower. We have persuaded Jude to come and speak to us all about it...

*Simon White from Peter Beales – '50 Years of Rose Growing'*

Thirty-eight of us gathered in January to hear Simon, who told us of how Peter Beales started with roses over 50 years ago and how he discovered various species and of the many different types of roses Musk, Damask, Hybrid to name a few. He peppered his talk with quotes from Peter himself and what he used to say to customers. Simon explained how to choose the best rose for our soil and situations and what to partner with them – sometimes another rose and gave us lots of tips as to how to get the best from the roses we already have.

*New Year – New Start...*

Everyone is welcome at our talks at any time of the year but now is a great time to join at £15 and that will mean to can come on our workshops, trips and visits as well. Do contact me or just come along to the event above at 7pm.

*Some of what is to come in 2023!*

- March – Neill Ludmon – 'Sensory Gardens'
- April – Eddie Bailey – Saturday afternoon Workshop 'Composting and the Soil Food Web – breaking it down!'
- April – Wednesday afternoon – Benton End Trip to Cedric Morris's old home and art school where he bred irises. Members only.
- May – Wednesday afternoon trip to 'Ramblers' for Rhododendrons and Azaleas

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

### ORFORD GENERAL STORE IN THE RUNNING FOR A RURAL OSCAR

We are delighted to have been shortlisted to win a Countryside Alliance Award in the Village Store Category! We've become a finalist with nominations made by our customers. Thankyou! Now we have the chance of winning the East of England title and maybe even a national one.

In February there will be a public vote. We will be up against our fellow finalists in the Village Shop category. Information about how to vote will be sent to us in February and we will share this with you. More information can be found online: [www.countryside-alliance.org/caawards](http://www.countryside-alliance.org/caawards). Your support means a lot to us!

**Sue Snowdon CBE**

### ORFORD MUSEUM HISTORY TALKS AT BUTLEY PRIORY

**16– 19 March 2023**

Booking is now open for these and if you would like a programme and booking details, please email [info@orfordmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@orfordmuseum.co.uk). Alternatively, you will find a printed copy of the programme in the February issue of

The Link. We are offering a varied programme of seven, hour-long talks by noted East Anglian archaeologists, historians and writers in the magical setting of Butley Priory. Numbers are limited to 60 for each lecture so early booking is advised.

**Elizabeth Spinney**, *Orford Museum*

### A NOTE FROM THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

#### Voter ID

The UK Government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at some elections. This new requirement will apply for the first time in England at the local elections on Thursday 4 May 2023.

#### Which forms of ID can I use to vote?

You may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable. You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional licence)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

For more information on which forms of photo ID will be accepted, visit [electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID) or call their helpline on 0800 328 0280.

#### If you don't have an accepted form photo ID

If you don't already have an accepted form of photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a **Voter Authority Certificate**. You can apply for this at [voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk](http://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk).

Alternatively, you can complete a paper application form and send this to the electoral services team at your local council [in Orford's case this is East Suffolk Council].

If you need any help with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate or want to request an application form, contact your local council. To find their contact details visit [electoralcommission.org.uk/voter](http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voter)

#### Find out more

If you have any questions or would like to find out more, go to [electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID), or call their helpline on 0800 328 0280.

**From the Electoral Commission**

### SAVE OUR MULTI-TENNIS COURT IN ORFORD

Nearly 30 years ago a small committee decided they wished to raise money to build two tennis courts for the village of Orford. One of these courts was solely for tennis and the other one was a multi-court which would be marked out for mini-football, netball and tennis. There was lengthy discussion about where these courts would be built, but finally the Parish Council agreed to give some land on the Recreation Ground.

At that time there was a thriving men's football club and matches were played every weekend, so it was a very appropriate site for the tennis courts. Over the years at least two generations of families have enjoyed using the courts. The school has also organised coaching for the children, to introduce them to the game of tennis at a young age.

As you probably know, the multi-court has fallen into disrepair and has large cracks and holes in it. Soon it will become impossible to use the court as it will be dangerous to play on it.

The main tennis court was renovated around five years ago, again with generous local donations, but now the multi-court urgently needs to be completely renovated to keep it safe and playable. This means that very expensive work of around £27,000 is required imminently – if left the court will fall into a state where the cost will make it impossible to save.

I'm sure you would not want this to happen. Both courts are often in use simultaneously for tennis games and tournaments and if the multi-court were to be lost, it would deprive the school and local children of the chance to play tennis and mini-football as they do weekly at present.

We have already received some generous donations into the account which is used solely for the renovation and maintenance of the tennis courts. But to attract outside funds from institutions and to maximise any matched funding we need first to increase this figure significantly. Donations can be gift-aided which increases their value by 25%.

To help save the multi-court please contact Diana Grayburn (email: [dianampaterson@btinternet.com](mailto:dianampaterson@btinternet.com)) tel: 07513 520827 or Anne Macro (email: [annemacro@btinternet.com](mailto:annemacro@btinternet.com)) tel: 01394 450741

**Diana Grayburn**

Orford Recreation Ground Charity  
Registered Charity Number 304804



## FEBRUARY 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

### STAFF TRAINING DATES

Alderton and Orford surgeries will be closed from 1pm for staff training on Thursday 9 February. Aldeburgh surgery will be open for collecting paper prescriptions and booking future appointments. 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. Alderton dispensary is currently open from 9am on Fridays.

### Compassionate Companions

Our Compassionate Companion service is growing. Companions support people to live their lives fully before they die, providing companionship for people and families affected by life-limiting illness, and enabling conversations about choices at end of life.

Our 3-day training programme for new companions is in February, if you want more information or know anyone who may be interested please use the contact form at the bottom of this page: <https://www.compassionate-communities.co.uk/compassionate-companions>

### Using the right service – children and streptococcus

Contact your GP or 111 if your child/baby:

- is getting worse
- is feeding or eating much less than normal
- has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- is under three months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than three months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- is very tired or irritable.

### Sometimes seeing the GP can delay you getting the right care:

Call 999 or go to A&E if your child:

- is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- has blue skin, tongue or lips
- is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

**[www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk](http://www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk) or 01394 411641**

<https://www.facebook.com/ThePeninsulaPracticeGPSurgery/>

## COMMUNITY *Coffee & chat*

Every Monday  
(Excluding bank holidays)  
at Orford Sports & Recreation Club



**Between 10.30 - 12.30**

**Re-starting on Monday 6th February**

New to the area? Fed up with your own company?  
Meet up with friends or come along and make new ones  
Join us for a FREE tea or coffee and a friendly chat

**ALL WELCOME**

Pick up service available for Orford residents from  
The Good Neighbour Scheme 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 Kings Head car park
- Weekly trip to Woodbridge (£2 charge)
- Support for anyone who is impacted by a scam
- Orford Warm Rooms on Mondays and Fridays
- 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