



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 358 January 2022

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All copy must be received by midday on Thursday 20 January 2022, 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 FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 20 JANUARY

CHRISTMAS WEEK AND JANUARY AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Please note our updated Covid safety measures to protect the congregation and to prevent the spread of Covid in the community. Please consider taking a lateral flow test before you come to church.

We ask you to wear a face covering in our Church at all times. Sanitise your hands on arrival and departure. Seating is spaced so that you and your family group can keep more than one metre apart from others. Please continue to keep the distancing rules in mind when moving round the church. For services with a lot of people present, we may open the doors to increase air flow, so please dress warmly to come to church.

CHRISTMAS WEEK AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Christmas Eve	4pm Crib Service: Mr Guy Marshall
	10pm Midnight Mass: Rev Giles Tulk
Christmas Day	11am Family service: Mr Guy Marshall
Christmas Day	9am, Holy Communion: SUDBOURNE, Rev Giles Tulk

JANUARY

You are very welcome to join us for the following services:

- First Sunday: 9am Sung Holy Communion with the choir
- Second and third Sundays: 9am Holy Communion Service (Second Sunday BCP)
- Wednesdays 6pm, Evening Prayer BCP
- On fourth Sundays we join Sudbourne Church for Holy Communion at 9am

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 Rev Giles Tulk, 01394 450610 revgileswtr@gmail.com

CHURCH BOOK STALL

Visitors to the church will have noticed that there are now second-hand books and jigsaws for sale. They are not priced – any donation is gratefully received and will contribute towards maintaining the fabric of the church. If you have any unwanted books, they can be left in the bags provided. Children's books are particularly welcome.

Still hoping to beat the Winter Blues! Friday Soup Lunch at Bart's Hall - Friday 7 January 2022, 12.15 – 2.00pm. All welcome

Please note we hope that our first Friday Soup lunch will go ahead but we will be guided by any Covid restrictions and the need to keep

January dates for your diary

- Each Monday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 10am-12 noon
- Each Monday (except Bank Holidays): Coffee and Chat - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 1pm-3pm (restarts on Monday 28 January after Christmas break)
- Each Wednesday: chair pilates - Recreation Ground Pavilion, 11am-12noon
- Each Wednesday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm
- Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm (restarts on Saturday 15 January after Christmas break)
- Thursday 13 January: Gardening Club - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm

safe and protect our community. For further information contact Caroline Gill Tel 01394 450302

Beat the winter blues! We at St Bartholomew's have been thinking up some cheerful events to look forward to in the winter months. For a starter we have come up with a mix of a hot soup lunch, some good company and lively music. We plan delicious healthy homemade soup, (and bread and homemade cakes) and we have musical entertainment thanks to Orford's favourite jazz pianist Nick Raison. Now we just need YOU to provide good company!

We plan to hold the event in Bart's Hall on Broad Street the first Friday of each month from January through to April. If you need a lift to and from the hall we will do our best to help.

Friday Soup at Bart's Hall is open to absolutely anyone, locals and visitors alike, and regardless of beliefs. There is no charge – we just ask for a donation for your meal if you can afford it. Any profit made will support our church funds.

To find out more, ask about special diets, a lift to the hall or if you have any questions please give me a call. Caroline Gill 01394 450302 or email caroline@tropic.org.uk

Team Rector Rev Giles Tulk

JANUARY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2 January	10.30am CHRISTINGLE Service for the New Year
Sunday 9 January	10.30am Service lead locally
Sunday 16 January	10.30am Stephen Caley
Sunday 23 January	10.30am An AGAPE service
Sunday 30 January	10.30am Stephen Caley

Children usually stay in church for the service with their own activities, contributing often to the worship. Refreshments are served after service.

Tea Room – open after the Christmas break from Wednesday 5 January and thereafter every Monday and Wednesday from 11am–2pm (winter timing). There's always a great lunch menu – and you don't need to book!

A very happy and blessed new year to all.

Stephen Caley

QUAY WARDEN - VACANCY

New Orford Town Trust is looking to appoint a full-time Quay Warden to oversee operations at Orford Quay.

Job Requirements:

- Effective and confident communication skills
- Competent boatman
- Appropriate qualification to operate a passenger vessel (or willingness to work towards this asap)
- First aid certificate (or willingness to work towards this asap)
- Must have a 'can do' attitude
- Ability to prioritise tasks
- Good time management

The post will involve weekend working, and an average of 40 hours per week, with more hours required in high season. The post would suit someone living locally to Orford. Knowledge of the River Ore would be an advantage.

Application deadline: midday on Wednesday 26 January 2022.

For further information contact: Kara Reed, Clerk, New Orford Town Trust, Town Hall, Market Hill, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2NZ, Tel 01394 459172. (Please note that the office will close for Christmas at 11am on Thursday 23 December, and reopen at 9am on Tuesday 4 January 2022.)

ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

Happy new year from everyone at the club, and many thanks for your ongoing support.

Events coming up at the club:

- New Year's Eve live music from 'Flaming Cheek' 8 till late
- Saturday 29 January - live music from 'Shattered'
- Club nights Monday and Friday evenings.

Due to the current situation, some events are liable to be cancelled/rearranged, and this is difficult to predict, so keep an eye on the club Facebook page, and the notice board at the recreation ground gates, for further information.

Mark Smy, Secretary, 450358

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2021

After two years we were able to hold the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 27 November. This year Orford School were joining us with their own stall, some singing by the children and the opportunity for them to sit on cushions in the St Nicholas Chapel and listen to Marjoke Henrichs reading stories. There was also the chance to get a signed copy of her new book 'No said Rabbit'.

We had the usual Bottle Tombola and Suki Pearce and I want to say a big thank you to everyone who donated a bottle to us. There were magnificent prizes on the raffle and I know John Bevan has thanked all the people involved with giving them in the Link. Rob and Linda Orford organised mulled wine and very kindly donated all the wine they used. Anna Hills had a very pretty stall and Caroline Gill sold kitchen equipment and other items on behalf of The Friends of St Bartholomew's. Piers Poole kindly gave us boxes of apples to sell. Daphne Gardner had a stall and was able to explain the treatments she gives and distribute some leaflets. Lyn Townsend also participated and had interesting items for sale. We also had Sheila with a great selection of jigsaw puzzles and finally of course Guy and Wendy Marshall's Christmas stall where most of the proceeds went to The Thomas Marshall Education Fund. In the background was a stalwart band of ladies providing teas and cakes under the leadership of Libby Archer. A big thank you to her team.

We raised the magnificent sum of £1473 which, considering the weather that afternoon, was very pleasing. It was lovely to see so many people enjoying themselves after all the recent months

of lockdown. We are very grateful to all the helpers who organised chairs, tables etc. and of course to Nick Egerton for the outside music and Nick Raison who played during the afternoon.

Diana Grayburn

VALENTINES AFTERNOON TEA – SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY

The hardworking TMEF team are at it again, not to be thwarted by the huge disappointment of having to cancel the Band of the Royal British Legion, Leiston on 12 December due to Covid.

So, further Covid restrictions permitting, we are planning to host our popular biennial Valentines Afternoon Tea on Sunday 13 February in Bart's Hall. There will be 2 pre-bookable sittings. Further details to follow. Contact Wendy Marshall on 01394 450090 or email contact@tmeff.org.uk

Wendy Marshall

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Seasonal Greetings and a Happy 2022 to you all!

We start our new gardening year with an exciting talk about what seems to be the latest trend! Some of us remember it from another era.

House plants – here, there, now later – Darren Brooks and colleague from Notcutts

Thursday evening, 13 January 7.30pm in the Main Hall of the Orford Town Hall. Plants for sale.

Darren will talk about house plants for different places in your home – dark and cool, hot and sunny and in between. He will also talk about how plants clean the air. He and his colleague will tell about any plants to avoid and which are the difficult ones or whether it is just the humans who forget to tend their plants. Darren will also tell us how we can keep those seasonal purchases or gifts going until next year. He will speak about Poinsettia, Amaryllis, Winter Cherry and Solanum Capiscastum amongst others.

Successional Planting for a Long Season – Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener and CEO at Great Dixter

On Saturday 13 November our members were joined by many gardening enthusiasts locally and from as far away as Shotley and Beccles. We achieved our aim of 80 for the talk and delightful tea provided by the Mixing Bowl Team. Fergus was an inspirational speaker relating his points to Great Dixter but also encouraging us to look at our gardens in different ways and to explore how we could extend the season of plants, bulbs and trees in our gardens. He talked about plants and bulbs which were happy to grow together and those which were not and, of course, how the type of soil and light and shade affects our planting schemes. The good news is that we can make lots of improvements, but they may not require extra time spent gardening and can give us up to 10 months of colour and interest in our gardens! We're certainly going to look at our plot more often with a more informed and critical eye and will be planting more ferns and lots more snowdrops (did you know there's one which flowers in December?) and ferns...

Our December event was a short AGM with mulled wine and drinks followed by our famous Christmas Social. A number of us gathered to enjoy our traditional event with the usual agenda followed by a delicious supper provided by the Committee and members. We were all delighted that we had managed to achieve successful events in every month of 2021 and that our finances are still in good shape!

The Committee all agreed to continue and were re-elected for 2022:

Polly Sharkey – Chair, Pauline Caswell – Treasurer, Susanne Hastings – Programme Secretary, Anna Hills – Membership Secretary, Caroline Gill – Social Secretary.

Do join us – Fees: £15 pa and £4 guest

The 2022 Programme is still under development but here is a taster of some of our events:

- Visit to Suffolk Snowdrop Garden

- Neil Ludmon talking about Vertical Planting
 - Talk by National Collection holder of Irises
 - Exhibition with drinks and nibbles and talk about Marianne North the Victorian Plantswomen and artist of Kew fame
- We hope to see you soon!

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

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH GROUP ORFORD NESS (IRGON)

Would you like to get involved in researching Orford Ness' unique contribution to defence research throughout the twentieth century?

The Independent Research Group Orford Ness (IRGON), are a group of volunteers, working independently of the National Trust, who are undertaking research into these wide-ranging activities. This includes a database of documents and testimony from people who worked on Orford Ness during these times. The resources are available for all to see on IRGON's website: www.irgon.org.uk. including new virtual tours and visits of the Ness, which we hope will increase public understanding of the activities that took place there. Some examples are:

www.irgon.org.uk/orford-ness-flyby

www.irgon.org.uk/nuclear-test-detection-chaplain, with more on the website.

Please do contact us if you have any additional information or a story to tell about the Ness. We also welcome new volunteers to the group if you would like to get involved.

Anne Mallaband, *annemallaband@googlemail.com*

Andy Theakstone, *atheako@yahoo.com*

HOUSING: LOOK TO WALES FOR ANSWERS

There was an interesting article in the East Anglian Daily Times on 26 November by Jason Noble, dramatically highlighting the cost to coastal towns in Suffolk of excessive second home ownership. In Southwold about 60% of homes are second homes, which inevitably puts seasonal pressures on other residents and services. It can do more harm still where second home owners use a Council Tax loophole to register their homes as 'holiday businesses' (with no customers) to avoid paying Council Tax. East Suffolk District Council is taking action to oblige these homeowners to pay their fair share, and either own up and pay Council Tax, or find themselves paying business rates for waste collection and losing their 'resident's' parking spaces. Fair enough.

Second home issues are everywhere, and perhaps in Suffolk we should take a leaf out of the Welsh Government's book – they are taking a three-pronged approach to address their second home crisis. This includes giving local authorities the power to charge up to 100% council tax increases on second homes and (more positively) in one Welsh Village/town the community have been working closely with the District Council to use money raised from the Council Tax levy to build 18 new affordable homes for local people.

This has to be something to consider in England as well. What about a similar policy with a twist and instead buy up houses/bungalows that come onto the market in villages and towns for rental to local people thus avoiding having to destroy yet another field on which to build on? This would help families to stay together, and in so doing help villages/towns to remain sustainable, vibrant places that benefit everyone, with the additional benefit of keeping urban sprawl in check. It is not acceptable or environmentally ethical that to meet the demand for second homes, precious countryside has to be developed to ensure local people have somewhere to live.

It goes without saying that Housing Associations should have policies to give priority for their available properties to local people. I am sure once this has been done there would be plenty available to people from places further afield.

Mary Iliff, Orford

ORFORD MUSEUM

Stephen Mael, Curator – An Introduction

I feel extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to be the new Curator at Orford Museum. This is partly due to the Museum's wonderful collection and its potential but also because I was both born and educated locally. I was born in Iken and went to school at Orford, Butley and Woodbridge. At Suffolk College, Ipswich, I took my O and A Levels before moving to London for 4 years to complete a degree in Cultural Studies (literature, philosophy, and history). In the early 1990s I began employment training in the archaeology department at Ipswich Museum, before becoming Curator at Woodbridge Museum where my exhibitions contributed to the Museum winning the 1996 Nuclear Electric Museum of the Year Award. Aldeburgh Museum then employed me to produce six display panels on the History of Aldeburgh and six panels on Coastal Erosion. From January 1998 until February 2013, I was full-time Manager of the Long Shop Museum in Leiston. Then between 2013 and 2020 I divided my time between The Red House, Aldeburgh, home of the Britten Pears Foundation (now Britten Pears Arts), and Aldeburgh Museum where I wrote history articles for the 'Aldeburgh Gazette' and accepted the front of house role of Museum Supervisor. Now I am looking forward to sharing my time between Aldeburgh Museum and Orford Museum.

I still remember, as if it were yesterday, a trip to Ipswich Museum with Butley School in 1971 when I was eleven. I saw a cracked clay pot from Iken and for days afterwards I went around telling everyone what I saw. To this day I keep up a written correspondence (via letter) with my former history teacher at Butley (Paul Fincham, now 90 years old) and hopefully he is happy that one of his former pupils still takes a keen interest in his subject.

To have worked with the staff, volunteers and collections of so many local museums has made me feel very privileged. Here at Orford outgoing Chairman Elizabeth Spinney and new Chairman Sue Snowdon have both made me feel very welcome and my predecessor, Jenna Ingamells, has kindly stayed on to oversee my introduction to the new role.

The first function I undertook as Curator at Orford was to attend the unveiling of the Orford Town Stocks that local craftsman Dick Murphy has beautifully restored and are now on permanent display in the Castle. It is our intention to reach out into the local community to build up a team of people who can help look after and interpret parts of the Museum's Collection yet to be clearly identified or publicly exhibited. Discovering your past can be fun - this history is yours and belongs to everyone.

Stephen Mael

HEAT PUMPS IN ORFORD

Heat pumps are in the news and for good reason.

Air Source, Ground source or perhaps Open source?

Open source is a more unusual form of heat pump but is worth considering in Orford. I have had one using our well for 5 years and honestly, it's brilliant.

Until the mid to late 1940s Orford had little if any mains water which meant that virtually every property in the village had a well. Some more than one. The village sits on a crag layer that carries fresh water at a depth of between 6 and 15 metres below our homes.

The water temperature in the crag (about 11 degrees C) varies little over the winter and the summer, making open source heat pump use efficient by comparison to air. Crudely, the higher the temperature of the available source, the more efficient the heat pump will be. Conversely the lower the temperature (in winter) the less efficient a heat pump will be.

The measure of efficiency being: the amount of electricity (in single kilowatts) required to generate multiple kilowatts of heat. An open source heat pump in Orford can be expected to generate 3.4–3.6 kw of heat for every 1 kw of electricity. In July 2021 gas cost about 3.8p per kw hour but this could be as high as twice

that going forward. (Who knows). Oil was then a slightly cheaper cost. The operating cost of an open source heat pump can be expected to be around 4.2p per kWh and can be driven from renewable electricity if so chosen.

Heat pumps are expensive. An open source heat pump could cost anywhere from £5k to £12k dependant on size, and the installation will also be a big number, but renewable heat incentives from government may be available that can provide full payback, even for poorly insulated listed buildings. Setting up multiple homes on a single system enables more government RHI support. (Do this with a neighbour?)

Heat pumps don't warm radiators to the same temperatures, so you need more of them or they have to be bigger (twice the size). Heat pumps love under floor heating by the way...

That being said replacement radiators are only required for a few days a year so here is a thought to keep install costs down:

1. Keep your oil central heating, add in an integrated heat pump from whatever source you prefer, keep the rads you

have. Use the heat pump to warm your bath water all year round and the house on 300+ days a year and only use both your oil boiler with the heat pump, on those really cold days, when the heat pump can't deliver, because your rads are too small. A bivalent system.

2. Check out your old well, ask your neighbour if they have one. If they do, do a deal to pull water from one and return it to the other and share a heat pump. Each neighbour paying for the heat they actually use.
3. If you don't have access to an old well, do a deal with multiple neighbours to share the costs of bore holes.

Talk with heat pump specialists about the value available from government renewable Heat incentives.

Don't let experts sell you air source because they don't understand open source. There are open source heat pumps built that can accommodate the particulates in water from Orford crag.

Chris Gerard

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	
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 AND STAFF TRAINING CLOSURE DATES

The surgery will be closed on 3 January 2022. When the surgery is closed please call NHS 111.

Covid Boosters

The practice continues to administer our Covid boosters. If you are due, please call the surgery to book your appointment or visit our website for further information and future Covid booster clinics. If you do not have access to the internet, please call us after 11am and our Care Navigators will be happy to help.

www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk or 01394 411641



The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church

Invite you to a Quiz Night and Supper

At Orford Town Hall on Saturday February 26th

Doors open 6.30pm quiz starts approx 7pm.

Table prizes ~ Raffle ~ Bar

Ticket £15.00 pp to include a welcome drink & supper

Join a table or make up a your own table of 8

For further information or to buy tickets contact

Caroline Gill Telephone 01394 450302

Email caroline@tropic.org.uk

The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church Orford (Registered Charity number 1194884)

will receive all profits from the evening



01394 450235

We are currently offering the following services to the residents of Orford, Gedgrave and Sudbourne Hall:

- o Friendship and companionship
- o Collection of medication
- o Shopping
- o Dog walking / feeding pets
- o Form filling and help with technology
- o One-off garden tidy
- o Minor household repairs
- o A healthy meal
- o Transport to Covid-19 vaccinations/boosters, hospital, and GP appointments
- o Provision of a personal care alarm with key safe, supported by the Orford & District Surgery Charitable Trust
- o A Community Larder and book swap, available round the clock in the entrance to the Kings Head car park. Thank you to everyone who donates to the larder; without you we would not be able to keep it stocked.
- o Other activities as requested and agreed
- o Support for anyone who is impacted by a scam

We would like to wish all our volunteers and customers a Happy New Year