



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

**Issue No. 372 March 2023**

**Edited by:** James Kennedy and NOTT Clerk **Published by:** Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council and New Orford Town Trust **Printed by:** Leiston Press Ltd

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 23 March, 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 APRIL ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 23 MARCH**

### **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.

**Marie Backhouse**, Clerk to Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council

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

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

Sunday 5 March 9.30am, sung Holy Communion with Rev Giles

Sunday 12 March (Pulpit exchange) 9.30am, Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) with Rev Simon Cake from Hollesley

Sunday 19 March (Mothering Sunday) 9.30am with Rev Giles

Sunday 26 March 9.30am, Holy Communion with Rev Giles at **Sudbourne Church** followed by refreshments with Sudbourne and Iken congregations

### **Holy Week and Easter Services**

Friday 31 March 1.45pm, Orford CEVA School Easter Service

Sunday 2 April 9.30am Liturgy of the Palms on Orford Village Green. Process to Church for Liturgy of the Passion with Holy Communion. Choir and guest organist

Friday 7 April Good Friday Walk of Witness – 10am from Orford to Sudbourne Church. RSCM 'The Cross of Christ' a devotion for congregation & choir. Rev Giles. Adrian Nicholson **Sudbourne Church**

Sunday 9 April Easter Sunday, 10am Family Service with Easter Egg Hunt. Guy Marshall.

Holy Communion, 9.30am Rev Giles **Sudbourne Church**

Wednesdays at 5 pm: Evening Prayer (BCP)

A CHURCH NEAR YOU WEBSITE [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) provides details of all church services and events in the local area.

### **March dates for your diary**

- Each Monday: badminton - Orford Town Hall - 10am-12noon
- Each Monday (except bank holidays): Coffee and Chat - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 1-3pm
- 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, 7pm
- Each Friday: Bart's Hall warm room, 11.30am-3pm
- Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm
- Thursday 2 March: Gardening Club - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Thursday 16 March: Good Neighbour Scheme AGM - Orford Sports & Recreation Club, 7pm
- 16-19 March: Orford Museum talks - Butley Priory (see article on page 2 for further information)
- Monday 20 March: screening of local films - Riverside Cinema, Woodbridge, 7.45pm

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 Fauré's Requiem and Duruflé Requiem. Conductor Tom Appleton. Organist Richard Cook. Tickets available on the Britten Pears Arts website £18 / under 18s £9.
- Friday 7 April, Good Friday, 12noon to 1pm, the Salomé Quartet are playing string quartets by Haydn, Hildegard von Bingen and Britten. Tickets £10 (under 30s 1/2 price). Book through Britten Pears Arts website.
- Saturday 15 April, 3pm, Aldeburgh Voices: Byrd and reflections. Tickets £15 and £10. Book through Britten Pears Arts website.

### **Revd Giles Tulk**

### **MARCH AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH**

Sunday 5 March 10.30am Rev Stephen Yelland (followed by a 3x Birthday party)

Sunday 12 March 10.30am Pam Caley

Sunday 19 March MOTHERING SUNDAY  
10.30am INFORMAL CAFÉ WORSHIP

Sunday 26 March 10.30am Rev Saul Tadzaushe – Holy Communion

There's always a warm welcome to join with us – children stay throughout the service. Refreshments are served afterwards.

**CHAPEL TEA ROOM** – open every Monday and Wednesday from 11am. There's always a great lunch menu and plenty of cake, coffee and tea available and art and craft items to see and buy in the Conservatory. You don't have to book, just arrive and enjoy a relaxing time in our lovely warm room – we're dog friendly too!

**King Charles III** – we are busy making plans for a Royal Celebration of the Coronation of King Charles. There will be a memorable lunch and entertainment at the Methodist Church following the morning service on Sunday 7 May. More details later.

**Stephen Caley**

### **ORFORD, GEDGRAVE & SUDBOURNE HALL GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME – AGM**

Our AGM covering Scheme activity in 2022 will take place at the Orford Sports & Recreation Club on Thursday 16 March at 7pm. If you would like to meet the Scheme Committee and hear our plans, please come along. We would love to have your suggestions for supporting our community. All are welcome.

**Corinne Lusher**, 01394 450849

### **ORFORD FLOWER SHOW – 2023 SCHEDULE**

The advance schedule for the 2023 Flower Show is now available, with copies in the Orford newspaper kiosk and the Orford Village Store. This year's two recipes are on the back. If there are no copies left, email Andrew Wileman on [wilemanae@googlemail.com](mailto:wilemanae@googlemail.com) and I will send you one.

**Andrew Wileman**

### **HALF TERM FUN DAY, 14 FEBRUARY**

The Good Neighbour Scheme, Orford Church and Just 42 youth charity got together to provide a day of free lunch and fun for families during half term and thanks to the generosity of GNS, friends and the Sports & Recreation Club the day was free. The weather was so glorious, we had lunch outside. A big thank you to everyone, especially some experienced helpers who gave their time and skills, from cooking spuds to crafting, chess, reading stories and creating magic with a simple parachute game.

To all the families – you proved that we can make our own special fun right on our doorstep – fantastic.

**Caroline Gill and Anne Macro**

### **NEWS FROM ORFORD MUSEUM**

History Talks at Butley Priory: 16–19 March 2023

Booking for our series of history talks at Butley Priory on 16, 17, 18 and 19 March is now open and places are filling up fast. 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. We now have a waiting list for the talk on the Black Death and only one space for that on Orford Ness. The others are filling up fast so if you would like a programme and booking details, please email [info@orfordmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@orfordmuseum.co.uk)

**Stuart Bacon**

The sad news of the death of Stuart Bacon who ran the Orford Craft Shop has just been announced. Stuart spent many happy years here and I am sure that residents will remember the underwater exhibition, the baskets and the many other decorative, interesting and useful items he stocked. He wrote several articles for The Orford & District Local History Bulletin both on his underwater explorations at Dunwich and elsewhere together with recollections of life running the Craft Shop with his beloved wife, Jean. We send our condolences to his family.

**Elizabeth Spinney**, Orford Museum

### **SPECIAL SCREENING OF TWO IMPORTANT LOCAL FILMS**

On Monday 20 March at 7.45pm the Riverside Cinema in Woodbridge is screening two important local films with a connection to Orford and Woodbridge, including a filmmaker Q&A afterwards.

The first was made by James Cochrane, son of Orford resident and filmmaker, Ralph Cochrane, about the 1953 floods with a commentary by the former BBC presenter, Kevin Burch. Entitled *A Surge of Memories: Stories of the Great Flood of 1953 & the Last Coastal Surge of 2013*, it features fascinating and sometimes harrowing testimonies from local people affected by the disaster and makes for compelling watching.

The second film, *How Polluted is the Deben?*, was made by Tim Curtis and features the citizen science testing programme that Woodbridge residents have put in place to fight back against pollution in the river.

Tickets can be purchased at [theriverside.co.uk](http://theriverside.co.uk) and cost £5 with a percentage going to local charities.

**Elizabeth Spinney**

### **SUDBOURNE HALL CRICKET CLUB**

As we clear ice from our windscreens, it's hard to believe that in a little over two months, the cricket season will be underway! Sudbourne Hall Cricket Club open up their league campaign in mid-April and as a club we are keen to become more involved in the local community. We have a fantastic pitch set in the grounds of Sudbourne Hall, halfway between Sudbourne and Orford, with a sprinkling of local willing volunteers who are keen to move the club forward this year, we are all set for season 2023.

We have a couple of additions to our cricket activity this year. The club will be looking to run Allstars and Dynamo cricket for youngsters in the area. These sessions will probably be held on Saturday mornings at the club, the logistics will be confirmed over the next couple of months.

We are also keen to run T20 evenings through the summer to cater for all abilities. Simply turn up, have fun, it'll be active and social. Again, more information as we approach the season.

Finally, we are keen to recruit players for our Saturday league team, men and women, if you are interested in any of the above, please contact Secretary, Andy Halliday, [andyhalliday1@me.com](mailto:andyhalliday1@me.com)

**Andy Halliday**

### **ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB**

*Our Next Event: Thursday 2 March, 7.30pm, Orford Town Hall: Neill Ludmon – Sensory Gardens*

March sees the return of our favourite local plantsman and ex-lecturer at Capel Manor, to talk to us about the plants and plantings which will make our gardens more sensory. As always, Neill will give us a well-illustrated presentation using his personal examples and answer your many questions. Do join us!

*Jude Law – Fullers Mill – A Plantsman's Garden*

Jude gave us a delightful talk in February about Fullers Mill, which was featured in the March issue of *Country Living*. She told us its story and illustrated it beautifully with photos in all the seasons. She provided us with a list of some of the very unusual plants there, many of which were found by Bernard Ticker and his wife Bess whilst travelling. My particular favourites were the lilies which we saw there last July!

We donated £585.70 to Perennial to help support gardeners to date!

*Coming soon... but for members only... still time to join!*

*Saturday 1 April (afternoon): Eddie Bailey – Composting and the Soil Food Web – breaking it down*

Eddie has offered this event at RHS Garden Shows and we're very excited about it!

*Wednesday 19 April (afternoon) car sharing trip to Benton End – Artist's Residence, Art School and Plantsman's Paradise*

This was Cedric Morris and Arthur Lett-Haines' home and the East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing. Cedric bred his famous bearded irises here.

**Polly Sharkey** (Chair), [creativefutures98@btinternet.com](mailto:creativefutures98@btinternet.com), 01394 450959

## ORFORD COUNTRY MARKET WELCOMES A NEW AMBER JEWELLERY STALL

We would just like to thank everyone for their continued support for the market through this winter. We would also like to thank Ann and Richard Ashley for all their hard work with our Christmas raffle and Ann's knitted items. We managed to raise £439.50 for the EACH Charity appeal.

As we move towards springtime, we now offer refreshments for anyone who would like to visit the market. We are pleased to see the start of our fresh produce back with some salad leaves and seasonal produce so make sure you arrive early so as not to be disappointed. We will also be welcoming Andy's new stall of Amber Jewellery! This display of jewellery will only include amber which was found within 10 miles of Orford with the majority having been found from Orfordness.

**Andy Brenchley**

## YOUR BELLS NEED YOU!

*by Stephen Worrall*

For now the bells hang silent,  
Their voice in muffled tower,  
The bats sleep in the belfry,  
There be no ringing hour.

The ropes hang unattended,  
They raise no holy din.  
There were no Orford ringers,  
To ring the New Year in.  
So if you like a challenge,  
And the bells you want to hear,  
Why not learn to ring them,  
In this coming year?

Eight bells await new masters,  
Ready to ring out loud,  
An Orford bell tower gathering,  
To make our community proud!

For now the bells hang silent...

Experienced 'rusty' ringers, and beginners keen to 'learn the ropes' are most welcome! Please contact Tower Secretary David Goldin to find out more: [d@vidgoldin.co.uk](mailto:d@vidgoldin.co.uk)

**Stephen Worrall**

## 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](https://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](https://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. 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](https://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](https://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID), or call their helpline on 0800 328 0280.

## VOTER ID – HELPING YOU

You will see from the article above that in order to vote in the upcoming elections on 4 May you will need to have some form of photo ID in order to confirm your identity. The article lists those ID documents which are acceptable. We understand that even if the ID is out of date, as long as the photo is still a true likeness then it will be accepted.

For those who do not have one of the documents listed, as long as you are registered to vote you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. You can apply for this online (web address in the article above) or you can complete and send off a form to the Electoral Registration Office. We have these forms in the Town Hall office and would be happy to help you complete it. You will need to know your National Insurance number and be able to supply a photograph and supporting documents to send off with the form. Please note that we cannot help with taking photos. If you are sending a form in the post, you need to allow enough time for it to arrive at the local Electoral Registration Office by 5pm, 6 working days before the election you wish to vote in (for elections on 4 May this means that the Local Electoral Office needs to receive it by Tuesday 25 April). If you are not able to provide appropriate documents, you can still send off the form, but your application may take longer to process (no timescale is given for this).

If you want to collect a form or get some help in filling it in, please come up to the Town Hall office. We will be available from 9-11am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

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

## TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

With Spring on its way, we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

There are loads of walks to download and print, free, at walking in Suffolk <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/suffolk>. The website also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Suffolk (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you.'

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

[www.walkinginengland.co.uk](https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)

[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

**John Harris**

## MARCH 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

Aldeburgh and Orford surgeries will be closed for staff training on Wednesday 1 March 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.

#### Hollesley Surgery

Our practice, which runs a primary care service in Hollesley village for four hours each Monday afternoon, is running an engagement exercise to seek views on a proposal to withdraw this branch service from the Hollesley site.

Please go to our website to find out more and how to submit any feedback by 5 March.

#### Compassionate Companions

What if we could support you and other Ipswich and East Suffolk residents to feel more confident and able to offer compassionate support for people towards the end of their lives, and their loved ones?

Imagine having the training, ongoing support, knowledge and confidence to be a companion volunteer, working alongside other members of the community and clinical teams to provide the best possible care to those at the end of their lives.

Our next course of Companion training is taking place on 24, 25 and 26 April 2023 in Kesgrave. There are currently some spaces available for people who are interested in becoming trained Compassionate Companions.

To find out more and register for the training, please email Sheila at [sheila.stoker1@nhs.net](mailto:sheila.stoker1@nhs.net)

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

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

### SAVE OUR MULTI-TENNIS COURT IN ORFORD

I am pleased to report that our appeal for £26,000 to renovate the multi-court in Orford has so far raised over £15,000 thanks to generous donations from many Orford residents and tennis players. We still need the balance and I would be grateful to receive any contributions large or small. Please contact me on 07513520827, [dianampaterson@btinternet.com](mailto:dianampaterson@btinternet.com) or [annemacro@btinternet.com](mailto:annemacro@btinternet.com) tel: 01394 450741. Or make a transfer directly to Orford Recreation Ground Charity, sort code 20-98-07, account number 50678368.

***Diana Grayburn***

### TEN hours of TENnis

Come and join us on Saturday 1 April at the Recreation Ground in Orford, where we are looking for as many people as possible to pick up a racket and join in to keep the tennis ball going for a "TEN hours of TENnis" fun event for adults and children.

On the day there will also be a cake stall, a silent auction, and an exciting raffle prize draw to raise money to keep the multi-play court open with essential resurfacing works. If we don't raise the funds for this repair work, the court will become unusable. Resurfaced it should last for another 30 years.

So come join in the fun any time from 8am to 6pm. There will be a sheet at the court gates to sign-up for your ball hitting slot and it will be fun to see how we will keep the ball in motion when swapping over with the previous ball hitter! After the 10 hours are complete, a fantastic RAFFLE prize draw will take place in the Recreation Club, 6-9pm where all prize winners will be announced.

We have amazing prizes to be won including an Italian lakeside weekend break, Oklahoma West End theatre tickets, cases of Adnams wine, Orford river trips and many many more! Please spread the word and come along! If you can bake a cake to donate to the cake stall even better!

We look forward to seeing you there.

***Jeanette Pearce***



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