



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 414 September 2026

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All copy must be received by midday on Thursday 17 September, preferably by email to:

orfordtrust@outlook.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 OCTOBER ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER.

ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

There is currently one vacancy for a Councillor to represent Orford on the Parish Council. This vacancy is a voluntary role and will be filled by co-option at the monthly Parish Council meeting, to be held on Wednesday 9th September 2026.

Anyone wishing to be considered for this vacancy should write a letter to the Clerk to arrive before noon on Tuesday 8 September 2026. Applicants must be eighteen years of age or over and have had their main residence or place of work in Orford, or within three miles of Orford, for the past twelve months. The Parish Council as a body also acts as the Trustee for the New Orford Town Trust. If you wish to discuss details of the role of a Parish Councillor, please call me at the office on 459172 or email clerk@orfordandgedgrave-pc.gov.uk

Marie Backhouse, Clerk to Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council

ORFORD SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB

Many thanks for all your support over the last few weeks and events. The final bike meet night will be Thursday 10 September from 6pm, bar and BBQ available, bike not essential.

The members coach trip to Great Yarmouth incorporating the races is on Thursday 17 September. For further information and to go on the list, please enquire at the club or contact Matthew.

Saturday 3 October, live music with Rock Solid Alibi, from 8pm. Friday night club nights, pool snooker wifi and company.

Mark Smy Secretary, 450358

ADRIAN JOHN MOSS, July 1964 - May 2026

To all the wonderful people, who said such kind things, about Adrian's contribution to Orford life.

His knowledge was great and straight forward, he said things as he saw them.

We are so proud of him, to know he was respected. We miss him so much.

He was very thoughtful and his chosen song 'A Wonderful World' sums him up. He enjoyed a simple life.

Bless you Adrian. Thank you for everything. Our dear boy.

Mum, Dad, Michael, Stuart and Angela

September dates for your diary

- Each Monday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 10am-12noon (check start date)
- Each Monday: art class - Bart's Hall, 10am-1pm, all welcome (tel 07714 644584 for more details)
- Each Monday and Wednesday: Methodist Chapel tea room, lunch, afternoon tea, 11am-4pm
- Each Tuesday: chair pilates - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 11.30am-12.30pm (tel Suzanne Kearney for more details, 07944 991138)
- Each Tuesday: pickleball - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm
- Each Wednesday: badminton - Orford Town Hall, 7-9pm (check start date)
- Each Thursday: bellringing - Orford Church, 7.30pm
- Each Friday: Let's Dance for Goodness Sake - Orford Town Hall, 8.30-9.30am
- Each Friday: pickleball - Orford Town Hall, 10am-12noon
- Each Saturday: Orford Country Market - Orford Town Hall, 9.30am-1pm
- Thursday 3 September: Eastern Angles presents The Go-Between - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Wednesday 9 September: Bridge learners - New Room of Orford Town Hall, 4pm
- Thursday 10 September: Gardening Club - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Saturday 19 September: Bike fix session - New Room of Orford Town Hall, 9am-2pm
- Wednesday 23 September: Bridge, established players - Orford Town Hall, 4pm
- Wednesday 23 September: OSLOF AGM - New Room of Orford Town Hall, 6pm

REPAIRING THE RIVER WALLS

Over recent months, the Alde & Ore Community Partnership, Alde & Ore Estuary Trust and East Suffolk Water Management Board have been working with the Environment Agency to find a way to progress works to repair and strengthen the river walls across the entire estuary. They have developed a programme which is achievable within current cost and planning constraints, and which will see work started in early 2027.

The programme is being funded jointly by the East Suffolk Water Management Board, the Alde & Ore Estuary Trust, and the Environment Agency, with additional fundraising to secure future activity. Currently, the East Suffolk Water Management Board are conducting an extensive survey of the state of all the river walls

using all possible data from a wide range of sources and on-the-ground investigation. This work, which is almost complete, will inform the programme so that areas of greatest weakness are prioritised.

Public meetings later in the autumn will provide opportunities for all those affected to question and understand the detailed proposals. Dates will be announced nearer the time.

The Alde and Ore Community Partnership includes representatives from all the communities at risk from overtopping or breach. We welcome additional volunteers who might be interested in helping to progress this important project.

Details of the ongoing project can be found at [ESWMB wlma.org.uk/projects](http://ESWMB.wlma.org.uk/projects), Alde & Ore Community Partnership www.aocp.co.uk, Alde & Ore Estuary Trust <https://www.aoetrust.org/progress-for-the-alde-and-ore-estuary>
Frances Barnwell, Chair, email: frances.barnwell@gmail.com
Alison Andrews, Hon Secretary, email: aldeblackburn@aol.com

Alde and Ore Community Partnership

SUDBOURNE HALL CRICKET CLUB

It's been a busy August for Sudbourne Hall Cricket Club. With the Saturday league team consolidating their mid-table position in the Two Counties league, the Club are already planning for season 2027 as the evenings get shorter and the 2026 season comes to a close in mid-September.

It's been a tough year for the ground staff preparing pitches in such dry conditions. With resident groundsman, Rob Jenkin in for a knee replacement in July, thanks must go to Mike Welsh, Vince O'Reilly and Richard Bramley who have all stepped in and helped. We wish Rob all the best with his rehab, an iconic member of the club and Suffolk cricket for many years (extended by the new knee!).

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 August saw our annual Vice-Presidents Day and Presidents Day celebration days. With the Saturday league team starring in an eight-wicket win over Elveden and on Sunday, after setting 182 to chase for the Presidents XI, a narrow win for the Club made it two wins across the weekend.

It was a great opportunity to celebrate our wonderful ground. We are indebted to all who provide support, both financial and in person. The Club would not exist without your support, thank you.

There are a couple of games at the Club in September - our annual game against Hetoiri (1pm) on Tuesday 1 September, and our Saturday league team finish their home league fixtures on Saturday 12 September (12.30pm) with the visit of local rivals, Woodbridge.

Andy Halliday

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL QUAY SERVICE

Another great service attended by many with kind weather, good singing and participation by all. Thanks to those who helped lead the service and the Suffolk Phoenix Brass Band for their music. The service was attended by crew members of the Aldeburgh Life Boat together with Martin Quinn, who gave an update of the recent work of the RNLI.

Thanks also to John and family for the delivery of chairs and to Nick for the Amplification. The generous, and record, collection amounted to £730 for the RNLI, Aldeburgh. THANK YOU.

Stephen Caley

ORFORD MUSEUM SON ET LUMIERE

Orford Museum would like to thank everyone who attended our *Son et Lumière* event at Orford Castle on Friday 14 August. We would also like to express our gratitude to all of the artists, sponsors, our hosts English Heritage, and all our volunteers, as well as our production partner Synergy Audio, all of whom helped make the event such a spectacular success. The project was the brainchild of Clare Greenwell, to whom we offer a very special thank you.

Details of our exciting Autumn 2026 programme at Butley Priory can be found on the events page of orfordmuseum.org.uk and on page 3 of this issue of Village Voice and we hope to see you all again very soon.

Kim Puttock

ORFORD BRIDGE CLUB

We will be starting our meetings again after the summer break: Bridge Learners Group – starts Wednesday 9 September, then meets again every two weeks.

Established Players Group – Starts Thursday 23 September – then monthly on the third Thursday.

If you would like to join us please email us: orfordbridgeclub@btinternet.com

Nick Edgerton & James Grogono

ORFORD SCHOOL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS

OSLOF (Orford School League of Friends) has had a nice, restful summer and we are looking forward to the new school year and really getting stuck into our fundraising to improve the school playground - we need to raise £12-15,000 so it will be a big year for us! We have recently become a registered charity and are getting to grips with what that means.

Our next event will be our AGM on Wednesday 23 September at 6pm, in the New Room of Orford Town Hall, and we would like to encourage as many people from the village and indeed surrounding villages to attend. We will be electing some new committee members, including a Treasurer, as well as looking for people to act as charity trustees - so anyone who is interested in getting involved is more than welcome to come along! You don't have to have children in the school, but just an interest in helping the school to thrive.

Our next fundraising event after that will be a quiz night at the King's Head in October - exact date and further details to follow! If anyone would like to make a donation towards our playground improvement fund, or help in any other way, please get in touch orfordschoolleagueoffriends@outlook.com

Niamh Lingley

EASTERN ANGLES AT ORFORD TOWN HALL

3 September

One of the most influential British novels of the twentieth century, *The Go-Between* is a story of forbidden love, Edwardian strictures, betrayal and tragic naivety. Told from the perspective of Leo Colston, a callow twelve-year-old middle-class boy, the story starts when he is invited by upper-class school friend Marcus Maudsley to stay at his elegant family home for the summer of 1900. Leo is enthralled by Marcus's family, and most especially his beautiful and wilful older sister Marian.

When Marcus is taken ill, Leo is left to his own devices, but finds himself alone and adrift in a world of alien social mores and adult concerns. Gauche and anxious to please, Leo is drawn into a web of deceit as Marian pursues an illicit and passionate affair with tenant farmer Ted Burgess, a man of much inferior social position whom she can never marry. Marian and Ted befriend the lonely and easily influenced Leo and use him to carry secret messages between them until Leo starts to question his role as intermediary. As Leo's 13th birthday approaches, and unable to comprehend the true implications of the adult emotions seething around him, Leo sets in motion a chain of events that ultimately prove the catalyst for a shocking tragedy that will haunt him forever.

The Go-Between will be performed at Orford Town Hall on Thursday 3 September at 7.30pm. For tickets visit www.easternangles.co.uk or telephone 01473 211498

ORFORD AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

2026 - our fiftieth anniversary of the Gardening Club

We always welcome new members and guests... Now £7.50 for the remainder of the calendar year!

Our next events:

Stall at Orford and Gedgrave Flower Show 29 August

We will be having a stall again this year and count on your help to let us have any rejects from your competition entries to sell in aid of Perennial. This is the charity which supports gardeners when they need support in so many ways. Also any flowers and vegetables which you have as a surplus to your requirements please. You can drop them off at our stand. Do come and meet us...

Thursday 10 September, 7.30pm, Orford Town Hall

Andrew Brogan – Henstead Exotic Gardens

'Exotic plants, cacti and succulents in my garden'

Andrew will talk to us about how his amazing and very interesting garden came about and the plants he is growing in a very unusual setting for this part of the country. Well, maybe not so much now!! He will also bring a wide range of plants for us to buy – an event not to be missed...

Thursday 8 October, 7.30pm, Orford Town Hall

Richard Allenby-Pratt of the Suffolk Project based at the Art Station, Saxmundham

'Making the Most of your Flower and Garden Photography'

Saturday 7 November, Saturday afternoon, 3pm

Nick Bailey – Award Winning TV Presenter, author, garden designer and speaker, '365 Days of Colour in your Garden'

Following on from the success of Nick's previous event with us, he will be returning with the above topic, on which he has written a book.

Bookings from 1 September - Susanne: sue1.357@icloud.com

July Visit to Ruston Old Vicarage

En route a warm welcome was received at Green Pastures Garden Centre near Norwich which had lovely plants and delicious cakes! Well worth a visit.

The garden is stunning and was much enjoyed by members and friends who came. There were lovely cool spots to shelter from the hot sun too. Many people bought the reasonably priced plants from a beautiful display.

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

DR BIKE – free cycle repair events

My name is Martin Smith, I am a local bicycle mechanic. I am running in conjunction with the charity Cycling UK a Dr Bike sessions in the New Room of Orford Town Hall.

I am doing sessions like this in a number of villages local to me. This is part of their 'Big Bike Revival' where we repair/tune up adult bicycles for free, including some spare parts, inner tubes, brake pads etc, to encourage people to cycle more with all the benefits that brings. All I ask is that you complete a short online survey about you and your bike, this gives Cycling UK data and evidence to secure more funding for these free events.

I have booked the New Room of Orford Town Hall for Saturday 19 September. I will open up at 9am and be there until 2pm, I can take bookings for ten bikes, approximately half an hour per bike.

It will be first come first served, maximum two bikes per household (no children's bikes). I would be happy to offer advice on a child's bike but won't be able to do any work on it. Please email me for a slot - or text on 07966 089 881.

Martin Smith

ORFORD MUSEUM EVENTS

Thursday, 24 September 2026 at 6.30pm to 8pm at Butley Priory
Peter Manning: 'Medieval Music and Song'

Orford Museum presents a medieval medley of music from 1320 to 1530 with soprano Angela Hicks and tenor Daniel Thomson, accompanied by Sam Browne on lute and theorbo and May Robertson on vielle. The performance will take place at Butley Priory and has been arranged by Peter Manning, conductor, music director, commissioner, educator and arts advocate. Peter Manning has organised and collaborated with prestigious musical

festivals throughout the UK and Europe and has worked with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Dallas Opera, the Royal Philharmonic and Malta Philharmonic Orchestras. As artistic director and principal conductor, Peter Manning guided the re-invention of the Bath Festival Orchestra into the Chromatic Orchestra. This event is being sponsored by the TEZMAE Trust to whom Orford Museum is very grateful.

Tickets for this event cost £50 a head for both Friends, their guests and non-Friends, to include prosecco and canapés. Doors will be open at 5.45pm for a prompt 6.30pm start. Please book through our website.

Tuesday, 20 October at 6pm to 7pm at Butley Priory

John Goodall - *Country Life* at 130 years old

The first issue of *Country Life* appeared on 8 January 1897. As the magazine approaches its 130th year as a successful weekly publication, John Goodall will look at its early history and the figures involved with its foundation. In particular, he will consider the evolution of its coverage of country houses and the distinctive tradition of architectural photography that it has developed. John Goodall is the architectural editor of *Country Life*. His books include *God's House at Ewelme* (2001), *The English Castle* (2011) and *Parish Church Treasures* (2015). He is a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and sits on the fabric advisory committees of several great churches.

On Monday 2 November 2026, Alison Weir is returning to Butley Priory to talk about her novel *The Cardinal: The Secret Life of Thomas Wolsey*, and on Tuesday 8 December 2026, we will be showing two short Suffolk films each fifteen minutes long: *Merman*, written and directed by Madeleine Wynn, and *The Dog That Couldn't Bark*, directed by Henry Tomlinson

Unless otherwise stated, all these talks take place at Butley Priory and cost £15 for Friends and £20 for guests. Doors will be open at 5.15pm for a prompt 6pm start. Please book through our website at www.orfordmuseum.org

Advance Notice of our talks in 2027

On Tuesday 12 January 2027 Simon Sturgis, a leading expert on carbon emissions, will give a talk entitled 'Architecture and the Climate Crisis: how the past can save the future', and on Thursday 4 February 2027 Tobias Capwell will return to Butley Priory to talk about the Bayeux tapestry which, as the result of an historic agreement with France, will form the centrepiece of a major exhibition opening at the British Museum on Thursday 10 September 2026 (until July 2027).

Our annual three-day History Festival will take place at Butley Priory on Thursday 25, Friday 26 and Saturday 27 February 2027. This is still at the planning stage but we already have some very exciting speakers lined up. There will be further talks in March and April. Watch our website for details of all of these events.

Booking for 2027 will open shortly on our website at www.orfordmuseum.org.uk/events. All proceeds from our talks and other events go to support Orford Museum.

Elizabeth Spinney

SEPTEMBER AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

Sunday 6 September, fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 13 September, fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

8am BCP Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

10am Family Service at Orford – Guy Marshall

Sunday 20 September, sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

NB change of time due to concert preparation

8am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 4 October, eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Diana Grayburn, Church Warden, 450771

SEPTEMBER AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 6 September	10.30am, Songs of Praise Service
Sunday 13 September	10.30am, Stephen Caley
Sunday 20 September	10.30am, Rev Saul – Communion Service
Sunday 27 September	Harvest Festival/Thanksgiving and lunch
	10.30am Stephen Caley
Sunday 4 October	10.30am Informal Café Worship

You will be welcome to join with us at any of the services and meetings – our young people often assist with the service. Refreshments are served afterwards

Share with us for Harvest Festival/Thanksgiving, Sunday 28 September, as we giving thanks for God's faithfulness. Gifts of non-perishable food will be given to local food banks.

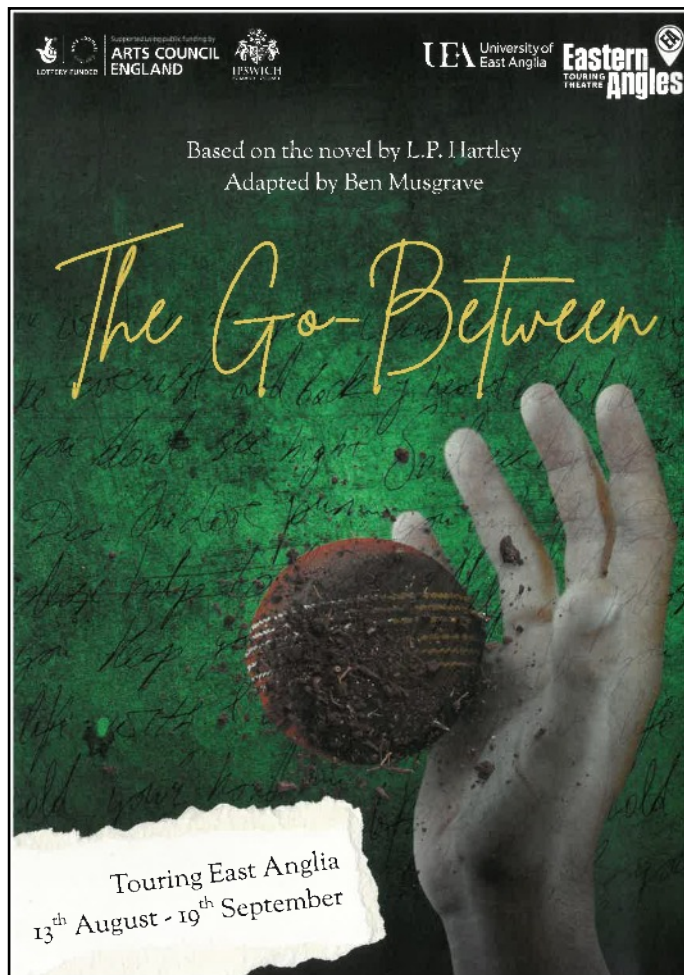
The Chapel Tea Room welcomes local friends and visitors. We are open every Monday and Wednesday and Saturday 5 and 12 September from 11am–4pm. There's always good food available and lots of local crafts art, cards, preserves etc for sale. No need to book a table – just arrive to be accommodated!

Suffolk Historical Churches Ride and Stride Day – Saturday 12 September. Our cyclists are ready to take on the challenge to visit as many churches as possible. The Tea Room will be open all day to sign in visiting cyclists. You're welcome to Sponsor our cyclists! Half the money raised comes back to our church.

The recent Agape service was well attended leading into reflection, responses, prayer and hymns. Afterwards a 'Golden Wedding Anniversary' was celebrated with lunch for all.

Since Niall's sudden death (former Orford resident), a year ago, Liz Higbee has raised £4100 for Heart Research UK through sales of crafts, cards, music score, musical and technical instruments and much more. Fund raising continues with further recent sales made in the Chapel Tea Room!

Stephen Caley



SEPTEMBER AT THE PENINSULA PRACTICE

DAY	ALDERTON	ORFORD	ALDEBURGH
Monday	8.00 to 14.30	8.00 to 18.30	8.00 to 18.30
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

Staff training is important for our practice. On the following days, surgery sites close from 1pm until the following day. All calls are redirected to 111. The specified site is open for booking future appointments and accessing repeat prescriptions:

Thursday 17 September 2026 • Thursday 22 October 2026 • Wednesday 18 November 2026 • Thursday 11 February 2027

From 1 October 2026, our dispensaries will become cashless, and we will no longer be able to accept cash payments.

Patients will still be able to pay using: Debit cards, credit cards, contactless payments, mobile payment services such as Apple Pay and Google Pay (where available). This change reflects the way most patients already choose to pay and will help us provide a more efficient dispensary service.

We are providing advance notice to allow patients plenty of time to prepare for this change. If you have any questions, please contact the practice or speak to a member of the dispensary team. Thank you for your understanding.

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