

# VILLAGE VOICE

The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

Issue No. 412 July 2026

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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 23 July, 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](http://www.orfordparishandtrust.onesuffolk.net))

## **COPY DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 23 JULY.**

### **FROM ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL VILLAGE FEAST**

This year the Village Feast will take place on Market Hill on the evening of Saturday 29 August. The evening will start at 6.30pm and end at 10pm with live music by 88mph, alongside a bar by the Barmann and hog roast by the Meat Shed. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us this year.

### **HEDGES**

It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that there is a number of overgrown hedges around the village. If your hedge is on a footpath or on a highway, please could we ask that you cut it back. People are having to walk in the road instead of the footpath as the hedges are so overgrown. Thank you.

**Marie Backhouse**, Clerk/RFO to Orford & Gedgrave Parish Council, 01394 459172, [clerk@orfordandgedgrave-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@orfordandgedgrave-pc.gov.uk)

### **ORFORD SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB**

Events coming up:

- Thursday 9 July: bike meet night from 6pm, bar and BBQ available, bike not essential
- Saturday 18 July: live music with 'Game on', from 8pm
- Thursday 17 September: members coach trip to Great Yarmouth incorporating the races

Don't forget Friday night club nights and keep an eye on the board and Facebook page for bingo.

**Mark Smy**, Secretary, 450358

### **ADRIAN MOSS**

We are very sad to hear of the passing of Adrian Moss on 21 May. Adrian was a Parish Councillor and Trustee of the New Orford Town Trust, from July 2006 until May 2008. He was a very valued member member of the Riverside Committee and brought to the PC/NOTT a great amount of experience and common sense. He was a huge character who will be greatly missed by the village and our thoughts are with all his family.

**Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council and Trustees of New Orford Town Trust**

### **July dates for your diary**

- 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
- 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
- Saturday 4 July: OSLOF summer fair - Orford Recreation Ground, 2-4pm
- Saturday 4 July: Eastern Angles presents 'It Comes in Waves' - Orford Town Hall, 7.30pm
- Wednesday 8 July: Gardening Club - summer trip, leaves 8.30am
- Saturday 11 July: community opera making introduction sessions - New Room of Orford Town Hall, 10am and 2pm
- Thursday 16 July: Orford Bridge Club - New Room of Orford Town Hall, 4-6.30pm

### **OSLOF SUMMER FAIR**

OSLOF stands for Orford School League of Friends - we are a charitable organisation that fundraises for the children of Orford School through organising fun events throughout the year. At the moment our focus is on improving the school playground, which needs a £12,000 facelift.

Our next event is the Summer Fair, on Saturday 4 July at Orford Recreation Ground, from 2-4pm. We will be hosting a colour run, a raffle, teddy bear tombola, book stall, jumble sale, refreshments, strawberries and cream, and games. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy the summer atmosphere while helping us raise some money for our amazing school.

**OSLOF Committee**

### **ORFORD, SUBBOURNE AND GEDGRAVE FLOWER SHOW 2026**

Friends and Volunteers

This year's Flower Show is fast approaching, on 29 August, and we are sure it will be as popular and well attended as ever.

Become a Friend of the flower show

The cost of putting on the Show is ever increasing and while we do not charge an entry fee, we do ask for voluntary contributions on the gate, however the main funding for the Show is provided by the Friends of the Flower Show. Anyone can become a Friend of the Flower Show. We ask for a minimum contribution of £40 per person per annum, but there is no upper limit! Apart from knowing that you are helping to secure the future of the Show and support local charities, you will be invited to the exclusive Friends reception and preview, where you will be able to wander the marquee before it is open to the general public, with a glass of fizz in hand, and enjoy some excellent food, and debate the judge's decisions. If you would like to become a Friend then please contact us at [orfordflowershow@gmail.com](mailto:orfordflowershow@gmail.com)

Volunteers needed!

The show relies entirely on the efforts of volunteers to plan, get everything set up on time, run the various activities on the day and to ensure everyone is welcomed and able to enjoy the day safely. We have a dedicated group of volunteers who we rely on to help make the show happen each year, but are always on the lookout for new volunteers, so would love to hear from you if you are interested in helping out this year.

In particular for this year we are looking for people who would be willing to help run the popular Coconut Shy and 'Splat the Rat' sideshows during the show (for all or part of the afternoon), as well as to help out with setting up on the Friday and/or Saturday morning (including in the marquee directing exhibitors to the right locations) and with clearing up immediately after the show closes on the Saturday afternoon.

We are also looking for someone who would be willing to take on the organising and management of the car parking. As ever, we could also do with more volunteers to do a stint at one of the gates taking donations.

If you would like to know more about what is involved, or if you would like to volunteer please contact Keith Burns on [keithburns1@me.com](mailto:keithburns1@me.com) and let Keith know what you can do to help.

***The Orford, Sudbourne & Gedgrave Flower Show Committee***

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE ORFORD FLOWER SHOW**

(No harm in asking twice!)

Be part of a village tradition

The Orford Flower Show has been at the heart of village life for over a hundred years, bringing together residents, visitors, gardeners, bakers, growers, artists and families for a wonderful community day. To keep thriving, we need more volunteers to help us put on the Show. This year's Show will be held on the Rec on Saturday 29 August.

You don't need any special experience. Whether you can spare a few hours or would like to become more involved, we'd love to hear from you. We particularly need volunteers to help with:

- Organising judges and stewards in the three months before the show
- Setting up before the Show, including helping exhibitors, 8am to 10am
- Stewarding during the judging in the tent, 8.30am to 12.30pm
- Setting up and running the tent, stalls and activities, on the Friday before the show and on the day
- Clearing up afterwards, from 4pm on the Saturday

Why volunteer?

- Meet other people in the village
- Make new friends
- Support a long-standing Orford tradition
- Be part of a fun and rewarding community event

Many of our volunteers say that helping at the Flower Show is one of the best ways to get to know people and become involved in village life.

Interested? We'd love to hear from you.

Contact: Jill Fullerton-Smith, 07703 784268, [jillffaricy@gmail.com](mailto:jillffaricy@gmail.com)  
Or contact Keith Burns, see the other plea for help!

Help us ensure that the Orford Flower Show continues to flourish for the next hundred years.

***Jill Fullerton-Smith***

## **EASTERN ANGLES - IT COMES IN WAVES**

A grief cafe in Lowestoft, a town mourning the loss of its high street on a coastline that's crumbling like Rich Tea biscuits.

After losing her hubby, ageing Crystal wants to live laugh love but maybe she just needs to chill out.

After losing Dad, teenage Jordan just wants to like get grieving over and done with and that... but grief is messy and comes in waves right?

Group leader Howard just wants to help everyone else... But can he finally help himself and confront his own repressed grief?

Written by local writer James McDermott (*EastEnders, Rubber Ring, Time & Tide*) and drawing on his own experiences of bereavement after losing his father during the pandemic, *It Comes In Waves* is a big-hearted community-spirited coastal comedy drama that laughs in the face of loss, explores how grief comes in waves and asks how we can help each other to stay afloat when it hits.

This will be performed in Orford Town Hall on Saturday 4 July at 7.30pm. Tickets can be purchased online at [easternangles.co.uk](http://easternangles.co.uk), or by calling 01473 211498.

## **SUDBOURNE HALL CRICKET CLUB**

The cricket season gathers momentum for Sudbourne Hall. Our junior cricket sessions have kicked off under the watchful eye of lead coach, Jack Pynn. Every Sunday morning from 10am until 11am, we have twenty-five youngsters with parents / guardians. It's a great sight to behold, seeing the future stars learning the game. The sessions run through July, the club caters for 5-13-year-old age groups. Do pop down or drop Jack Pynn an email on [jackpynn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jackpynn@yahoo.co.uk) if you would like your children to attend.

Also in July, our social T20s begin with away games on 2 and 16 July at Southwold and Thorpeness and home games on 9 and 23 July against Melton and Southwold. All games start at 5.30pm.

Our Saturday league team find themselves sitting comfortably mid-table as we approach the halfway stage in the season. Great to see the experienced Ian Foll and the youngsters, Oli Nisbet and Arthur Milligan all in the runs over recent weeks. Sudbourne are on their travels for most of July, but with two games against a Mackie XI on Sunday 5 July (friendly) and a league game on Saturday 25th at home to Stradbroke.

The club still need players so please do contact [andyhalliday1@me.com](mailto:andyhalliday1@me.com) if you fancy playing.

***Andy Halliday***

## **ORFORD BRIDGE CLUB UPDATE**

Orford Bridge Club has become well established. We have a meeting for experienced players once a month on the third Thursday of the month in the Back Room of Orford Town Hall. We normally have three or four tables and play Chicago Bridge in a relaxed social manner. Chicago Bridge has more circulation of the players adding to the social interaction.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 16 July, 4-6.30pm.

We also have a beginners group meeting fortnightly on Wednesday afternoons. If you would like to join us please email us well beforehand.

***Nick Edgerton and James Grogono,***  
[orfordbridgeclub@btinternet.com](mailto:orfordbridgeclub@btinternet.com)

## **ORFORD MUSEUM EVENTS**

After the resounding success of the first *Son et lumière* at Butley Priory in August 2025, Orford Museum is delighted to announce a *Son et lumière* at Orford Castle on Friday 14 August 2026. In collaboration with English Heritage, the historical drama is set over nine centuries and is an extravaganza of music and lights retelling the Castle's turbulent history. From Henry II's iron fist

to Queen Eleanor's fiery defiance, Becket's tragedy to a mysterious sea creature, flaming arrows to the Home Guard and from the Marquess of Hertford's lavish parties to moonlit ghosts... It's all there. Actors with a deep affection and affinity for Suffolk including David Morrissey (narrator), Mackenzie Crook, Toby Jones, Anna Maxwell Martin, Miranda Raison, Diana Quick, Harry Michell, Paul Casar, Max Norman, Georgia Mann and Steve Peck play a cast of memorable characters. Music over the centuries is arranged by Graeme Kay and, of course, will include that of our very own Benjamin Britten and Ed Sheeran.

Please note: booking for this event is now closed but watch our website for a waiting list.

Events for autumn 2026 include a concert of medieval music in September, a talk by John Goodall, Architectural Editor of *Country Life* in October and, in November, a return visit by renowned historian, Alison Weir. In December, we will be showing two Suffolk films, *Merman* and *The Dog that Couldn't Bark*, followed by question and answer sessions with the directors/producers.

For full details of these talks and booking, go to our website at [www.orfordmuseum.org.uk/events](http://www.orfordmuseum.org.uk/events)

Looking ahead to Spring 2027, Dr Tobias Capwell will be returning to Butley Priory on Thursday 4 February to talk about the Bayeux Tapestry and, on Thursday 18 March, Simon Sturgis AADip. RIBA, an architect who is a leading expert on carbon emissions in the built environment, will give a talk entitled 'Architecture and the Climate Crisis: how the past can save the future'.

Booking for these two talks is not yet open but watch our website!  
**Elizabeth Spinney**

### COMMUNITY OPERA IN ORFORD

Be part of an intergenerational community opera this Christmas. We might be hitting mid-summer but things are gaining momentum for *A Christmas Miracle* and you can still join in!

Come and take part in a new opera for children and adults by The Master of the King's Music, Errollyn Wallen. It has been developed by Mahogany Opera, co-produced by Britten Pears Arts and supported by Jubilee Opera. The world premiere performances will take place in Orford Church on 20 and 21 November, where, in 1958, Britten's visionary community opera *Noye's Fludde* was premiered.

Following some wonderful workshops at Orford Town Hall in May we have more sessions to find out more:

- Music and singing workshops: 6 and 7 July at Snape
- Making introduction sessions for costumes and props: 10am or 2pm, Saturday 11 July, New Room of Orford Town Hall

You can sign up at <https://www.brittenpearsarts.org/news/a-christmas-miracle>

Not too sure? Just pop down to the Town Hall on the 11th around noon and come and say hello!

Merry Christmas!

**Anna Gregg**

### 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:

Wednesday 8 July, leaving Orford at 8.30am, returning 6.30pm. Visit to East Ruston Old Vicarage by coach, stopping at Green Pastures Nursery en route.

This is an amazing and memorable garden and a must if you haven't been, and a place to return for inspiration if you have! There may still be space. Contact: Susanne Hasting [sue1.357@icloud.com](mailto:sue1.357@icloud.com). £40 members, £45 non-members.

Fiftieth anniversary Garden Party

Garden Party, courtesy of Penny and Richard Murley  
High House, High Street, Orford

For the first time since I have been Chair (ten years I think!) the weather forecast was dire – strong winds and heavy rain, but

the Murley Family came up trumps and offered to hold the party in their home. This was a huge commitment on their part and we really cannot thank them enough. This is from the Committee and their members and guests.

It was a fantastic evening with over seventy of us attending and many of our members contributing canapés to offer everyone. We would like to thank them so much for this. We also appreciated many guests attending who have contributed to the Gardening Club still being in existence by playing their part in the past. We would also like to thank our member, Duncan Sykes who played the grand piano which made the party extra special.

Fiftieth anniversary Commemorative Bench

The now 'House Party' above also enabled us to gain many more contributions to the fundraising for the bench with one marking 2026 as our special year. We do still have a long way to go though... The bench is to be placed in Broad Street between the trees...

If you would like to make a donation you can contact me for the bank account details or I can take cash!

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

### T4THOMAS 2026

Well, we were blessed yet again with the weather on Sunday 7 June, the day being sandwiched between heavy rain and high winds. The sun shone and the wind had lessened a fraction. We had given up trying to set up the main marquee on the lawn so all tables were in the fresh air with their table cloths fluttering. The event was very well attended with many groups of friends joining tables and a good time was had by all, evident by the laughter and chatter all round.

There was a slight technical hitch mid-afternoon when the gazebos on the patio decided enough was enough with this wind malarkey and tried to take flight almost taking out the heavily laden cake table!

Thank you to everyone who came and supported us on the day or who had kindly sent donations. A huge grateful thanks to our band of helpers who worked their socks off to ensure another successful T4T.

Special thanks to Pump Street Bakery for once more very kindly donating the bread and rolls and to Piers and Suvi at High House Farm for again generously donating a box of their delicious apple juice.

We raised just over £3000 which is brilliant, and this will go a long way in helping the children and students we support in accessing education out in rural Mozambique.

Thank you all so much for your continuing support of our TMEF events.

**Wendy and Guy Marshall**

### THOMAS'S TREASURE TRAIL

Sunday 30 August

Sign up at Bart's Hall in Broad Street between 2pm and 2.30pm, then walk your way around the map, exploring Orford as you search for answers to the clues. There'll be a prize for the winning entry that scores the most points. Admission £5 per person. Under 12s must be accompanied. In aid of the Thomas Marshall Education Fund (Registered Charity 1154635).

**Heather Patrick**

### JULY AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Sunday 5 July, fifth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 12 July, sixth Sunday after Trinity

8am BCP Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

10am Family Service at Orford – Guy Marshall

Sunday 19 July, seventh Sunday after Trinity

11.00am Holy Communion at Orford - Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 2 August, ninth Sunday after Trinity  
9.30 am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

**Diana Grayburn**, Church Warden, 450771

### JULY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 5 July 10.30am Stephen Caley  
Sunday 12 July 10.30am Stephen Caley  
Sunday 19 July 10.30am Rev Saul – Communion Service  
Sunday 26 July 10.30am Service Arranged Locally  
Sunday 2 August 10.30am Stephen Caley  
6pm Annual Quay Service (*see back page for details*)

You are welcome to join with us for any or all of our services and meetings – we would love to see you. Refreshments are served after every service.

The ever-popular Chapel Tea Room is open from 11am every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday throughout the summer. We serve a great lunchtime menu as well as coffee, afternoon tea, scones and cake. There are stalls with local art and crafts, cards,

books galore, jigsaws, china and preserves. Come along and enjoy – no need to book, just turn up, you will be pleasantly surprised!

Talking of cake, our young people made a cake during the morning service on Trinity Sunday as part of the 'sermon'. After the service we were able to eat this delicious chocolate cake served with ice cream. Much appreciated by all. And ANOTHER cake, to celebrate and give thanks for 124 years of the present building – this time it was during the informal Café Worship when we constructed a temple using lego bricks – the theme was 'rebuilding the temple' just as the word of the Lord came to the prophet Haggai. Thank you to all who shared both these services – we were greatly blest.

We have enjoyed a very happy 'Saturday church' during June, when we met to relax, walk, play games, eat lunch and conclude with a ten-minute reflection.

Gratefully received, an anonymous and very generous gift toward the cost of the recent re-roofing of the porch area to the church.

**Stephen Caley**

### JULY 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 14 May 2026 • Wednesday 17 June 2026 • Thursday 17 September 2026

When you contact us, you are triaged to the most appropriate healthcare professional, which can include our pharmacists and paramedic. Depending on your health concern, they may be more suited to support you than the GP and are able to direct you to appropriate care if more specialist treatment is required. This enables us to ensure that everyone gets treated at the right time, by the right healthcare professional.

**www.thepeninsulapractice.co.uk** or **01394 411641**

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

## ORFORD ANNUAL QUAY SERVICE



**6pm**

**Sunday 2nd August 2026**

Preacher: Rev. Vivienne Smith

The Suffolk Phoenix Brass Band

Supporting The RNLI

Refreshments at the Methodist Church



# It Comes In Waves

A new comedy drama play by James McDermott



Touring East Anglia 19<sup>th</sup> June - 11<sup>th</sup> July

[easternangles.co.uk](http://easternangles.co.uk) | 01473 211498

