



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

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All copy must be received by midday on Thursday 20 August, 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 SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF VILLAGE VOICE IS MIDDAY ON THURSDAY 20 AUGUST.

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.

Marie Backhouse

ALLOTMENTS

Do you fancy growing your own fruit and veg for you and your family? New Orford Town Trust owns two areas of allotment gardens in Bakers Lane and Gedgrave Road, Orford. It is likely that we will have some plots coming up soon, so if anyone is interested in going on the waiting list please do get in touch. Priority for plots is given to residents of Orford and Gedgrave.

Kara Reed, Clerk to New Orford Town Trust, 459172, orfordtrust@outlook.com

ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

The AGM of the club will take place on Wednesday 19 August at 7.30pm. All welcome, and if you would like to join the committee please let us know. We are actively seeking anyone who would be interested in joining the bar committee and doing some shifts on the bar. As we are totally run on a voluntary basis, it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide the bar for those that request it on private bookings.

Events coming up:

- Thursday 13 August, bike meet night from 6pm, bar and BBQ available, bike not essential
- Thursday 17 September, members coach trip to Great Yarmouth incorporating the races

Don't forget Friday night club nights

Mark Smy, Secretary, 450358

ADRIAN MOSS (WIFF)

Tina, Emma and the rest of the Moss family, would sincerely like to thank everyone for all the lovely thoughtful cards, letters, flowers and messages of condolences and all the love, support and hugs, following the sudden tragic loss of dear Adrian Moss (Wiff). We all found it very supporting and

August 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 (and Saturdays in summer): 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 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
- Sunday 2 August: annual Quay Service - Orford Quay, 6pm
- Tuesday 11 August: ladies tennis tournament - Orford tennis courts, 9.15am
- Wednesday 12 August: mixed doubles tennis tournament - Orford tennis courts 3.30pm
- Thursday 13 August: Luceat concert - St Bartholomew's Church, 6.30pm
- Thursday 13-Sunday 16 August: Wildman of Orford Exhibition - Orford Castle
- Friday 14 August: *Son et Lumière* - Orford Castle, gates open 7pm
- Wednesday 19 August: Orford Sports & Recreation Club AGM - Orford Sports and Recreation Club, 7.30pm
- Saturday 29 August: Orford Flower Show - Orford Recreation Ground, from 1pm
- Saturday 29 August: Village Feast - Market Square, from 6.30pm
- Sunday 30 August: Thomas's Treasure Trail - Bart's Hall, from 2pm

comforting to know so many people cared. And a big thank you to everyone who attended Adrian's funeral. It was an amazing turn out and it was overwhelming to see so many people there. It was comforting to see how much he was thought of. A big thank you to everyone who took part or helped to make the funeral so special.

Also thank you to Julie Thacker for dog sitting whilst we were staying away at Addenbrookes hospital, and for attending to the dogs on the funeral day.

Dear Adrian is greatly missed by all and has left a huge hole in Orford and in many people's hearts. He will never be forgotten. May he rest in peace.

Tina, Emma and the Moss family

ORFORD, SUDBOURNE & GEDGRAVE FLOWER SHOW

Only five weeks to go and hopefully the watering cans are keeping your fruit, veg and flowers in tip top condition!!

Our beautifully illustrated programmes are now out and available for collection at the Orford Village Store, and don't forget that if you deposit your completed entry forms there by Thursday 17.30hrs then you can pick up your entry cards on Friday evening between 16.00hrs and 18.00hrs from the marquee on the Recreation Ground.

Dog show class - Fancy Dress

Please enter your dog into the new dog fancy dress class which we will be running again this year. Judges will be looking out for the most original, easy to wear and becoming outfits. First prize for best in show and rosettes for the runners up.

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 at 12.00hrs, where you will be able to wander the marquee before it is open to the general public, with a glass of fizz in hand, enjoy some excellent food, and debate the judges' decisions. Please contact us at orfordflowershow@gmail.com

Remember, if you are interested in volunteering to help with the show, Keith, our field and marquee manager, would love to hear from you. Please contact him at orfordflowershow@gmail.com

Gary Wingrove

FLOWER SHOW REFRESHMENTS

It's the time of year again when I ask everybody to kindly donate cakes etc for the refreshments at the Flower Show on Saturday 29 August. All monies raised from this are put back into the Club. We have just replaced the two end doors in UPVC and we are looking at replacing the cooker. Many thanks in advance for all donations. Donations can be dropped off at the Recreation Ground Pavillion on the morning of the Show or I can collect them from you.

Anne Macro, 450741

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

WILDMAN OF ORFORD RETURNS TO ORFORD CASTLE after more than 900 years

Many people know the story of the Wild Man of Orford who was picked up in the nets of local fishermen, not long after Orford Castle was built in 1165. To coincide with the *Son et Lumière* on 14 August, Orford Museum invited local schools to take part in a project to commemorate this story.

Orford Primary School, along with Snape and Bawdsey, rose to the challenge. At Orford, every pupil in the school was involved over two days, creating five models of the Wildman which tell the tale of his life: his capture, his imprisonment in the castle and his propensity to eat raw fish, his bafflement at being taken to church and his eventual escape back to the sea.

The exhibition will be on the main floor of the Castle from midday on Thursday 13 August until closing time on Sunday 16 August and we do hope as many people as possible will go to see it. English Heritage have kindly offered free entry to all children

who took part, along with three family members. For others, if you are a Friend of the Museum you also get free access, as do English Heritage members.

Clare Greenwell, Penelope Murley, Nicola Atchley, Jill Broome, Fiona Morgan, Linda Orford, Fiona Gerard, Fiona Trembath

LUCEAT 2026

On Thursday 13 August, St Bartholomew's Orford welcomes the Luceat Choir who will be performing in church at 6.30pm for an hour. Critically acclaimed vocal ensemble Luceat invites audiences to *At The Evening Hour*, an atmospheric programme of unaccompanied choral music exploring themes of reflection, home, hope and the close of the day.

Featuring music by Stephen Pauls, Hubert Parry, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Arthur Sullivan and others, the programme weaves together Renaissance masterpieces with twentieth- and twenty-first-century classics. Luceat has established a reputation for imaginative programming and performances of exceptional musical quality, with singers drawn from many of the UK's leading professional choirs. Doors will be open from 6pm for the free concert with unreserved seating. Please do join us.

Jacki Maslin

ORFORD TENNIS TOURNAMENTS SUMMER 2026

The Ladies Tennis Tournament will take place on Tuesday 11 August, starting at 9.15am. It is not necessary to enter with a partner as we play with different partners in each game.

The Mixed Doubles Tournament will be on Wednesday 12 August, starting at 3.30pm.

Please send your entries to dianampaterson@btinternet.com by 8 August. The cost will be £5 per person and the cups for the winners will be presented at the Orford Flower Show.

Diana Grayburn

HOUSING IN ORFORD

You may have read the article in June's Village Voice regarding housing and how people might be able to help with New Orford Town Trust's (Charity no 1053729) efforts to ensure that there are reasonably priced rental properties in Orford to enable local people to remain in the village.

Did you know that there are tax advantages in giving to NOTT's Housing Fund, in addition to ensuring that the local village community can carry on living and working here as their fathers did before them?

This is one of the few instances of there being advantages for all.

For example:

- Making a donation of, say, £100 and signing a gift aid form will mean that NOTT Housing Fund can claim a further £25 from HMRC (25% of any gift). If you are a higher rate tax payer there is a higher rate element.
- There are further advantages if you leave a charitable donation in your will. The charitable gift will be deducted from your estate before inheritance tax is applied. By doing this, you would be ensuring your personal choice of where your money goes and not letting the taxman completely decide!

As highlighted in June's Village Voice, caring as we do for this village and its character, for both prosperity and the past's sake, we need to ensure that people with local connections are not forced out, keeping the pulse of Orford going for generations to come. As the number of second homes increase and locals move away to find affordable accommodation our community assets become threatened: the school, fire station, council, social club, shop, pubs and church.

A parish councillor was recently talking to a parishioner who pointed out there seemed to be a lot of jobs with no one to fill them. It was pointed out that houses that are occupied year round would be far more beneficial to the local economy than a house only occupied for part of the year, as well as being helpful to local businesses.

Just think, by making a donation:

- You are giving money to a local charity run by local people, ensuring that families and the village as a whole will benefit.
- Your donation will not disappear into some administrative abyss, its effect will be felt in real terms in perpetuity and that surely must give satisfaction.

Thank you for reading this. To discuss a donation, comment or query what is proposed please contact orfordtrust@outlook.com
Brian Corris, Mary Iliff and Anne Macro

LET'S DANCE FOR GOODNESS SAKE

Our local dance exercise meet-up, every Friday from 8.30-9.30am at Orford Town Hall, has got off to a flying start. Set up with the intention of raising money for charity while we dance – a win-win for fitness and doing a good deed – we're now into our second quarter and going strong.

With a turnout of ten to twenty-eight people each week from Orford and surrounding villages and towns, we've danced, sweated, and moonwalked our way through some serious calories (and laughs).

There's no better way to kick-start a weekend, so if you haven't already given it a go and you're feeling shy – don't be. Dancing is proven to boost endorphins, improve heart health, and sharpen memory and coordination, so if you're still kitchen-dancing alone, this is the session for you! Under the expert guidance of our wonderful dance teacher Sarah Hastings, we motivate our way through an hour of high-octane fun.

In the first quarter we are proud to say we raised £813 for St Elizabeth Hospice. So do come along, join in, feel great, keep fit and active, and put a smile on your face that lasts long into the weekend! I can assure you no one's ever watching – everyone is way too busy concentrating on keeping up!

For more information contact **Jeannette Pearce**,
 07711 429 312

SUDBOURNE HALL CRICKET CLUB

With the continuation of fine weather through July, the dry pitches have been excellent for batters and its been tough going for bowlers.

The Sudbourne Hall Saturday league team sit comfortably in mid table in the Two Counties League. After relegation threatened seasons over the last few years, it comes as a welcome surprise to be looking upwards rather than downwards!

Junior Cricket has been a major success this season, and the eight-week programme has just finished. Thanks to Jack Pynn and his team of coaches who have enthused, cajoled and inspired thirty children every week.

August is a busy month with league games continuing on Saturdays. Home games all 1pm start on Saturday 8, 15 and 29 August. The weekend of 15 and 16 August gives the Club the chance to thank all its supporters and Vice-Presidents with VPs day on the Saturday and the annual Presidents Day game on the Sunday. After a comfortable win for the Presidents XI last year, the club will be seeking revenge against Sir Edward Greenwell's team.(11.30am start, 16 August). Thank you to everyone around the local villages for their ongoing support, please pop down and see us either on the Saturday afternoon, when drinks and nibbles will be available, or at Presidents Day on the Sunday.

As always, all details on the club website sudbournehallcc.com
Andy Halliday

A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE

It's really happening - one could say it's a miracle in the making - and we need your help!

The production is now cast and the response has been so exciting, whether it's joining us on stage or behind the scenes, and a very big thank you goes to everyone who is helping spread the word - you know who you are and thank YOU!

Want to take part?

You can join in with choral sessions taking place over the Autumn if you fancy being on stage. There's a wonderful team

who have kindly offered to bedeck the church in foliage if you are green fingered, and an army of makers and sewers helping with costumes and props. You can join in making sessions or make them at home.

What to find out more? visit www.mahoganyopera.com. Got any questions just email enquiries@mahoganyopera.com

Whatever you do, come and see the shows on 20 and 21 November in Orford Church - pop the dates on the calendar!

What is this all about you might be asking? What is *A Christmas Miracle*?

It's a once-in-a-generation new opera by Master of The King's Music Errollyn Wallen, inspired by Britten's unrealised community opera *A Christmas Sequence*, and it's coming to Orford.

A dramatic story of lives that transcend time and generations with much-loved Christmas carols for everyone to sing along with. Described by the composer as an 'all-embracing musical adventure', *A Christmas Miracle* sees Britten's plans for an intergenerational community performance of the Christmas story come to fruition.

Anna Gregg

ART WORKSHOPS AT BUTLEY ABBEY WILDS

Fancy picking up a paintbrush this autumn? Butley Abbey Wilds is running a series of day workshops with landscape painter Alexandra Oliver, in and around the historic Butley Priory.

Alexandra trained at the Florence Academy of Art and had a solo show, *Viridis*, earlier this year. Her workshops mix time outdoors sketching and painting in the woods and waterways with studio sessions in the Great Hall. All materials and a delicious seasonal lunch are included.

Upcoming dates:

- Wednesday 2 September – Painting the Landscape: An Introduction to Plein Air
- Friday 6 November – Landscape and the Old Masters

All levels welcome, no experience necessary. Tickets and more details at www.butleyabbeywilds.co.uk/art

Naomi Greenwell

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 thirteenth 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

OPEN GARDENS 2026 – THANK YOU

And the Quiz is back – save the date!

This year's Open Gardens on Sunday 24 May took place in the midst of a heatwave. Happily, the hot weather didn't put visitors off – brisk ticket sales in church hardly let up all day.

This year, there were fourteen wonderful gardens to visit, including one open for the first time at 112 Church Street, a gem of a hidden garden. Many visitors also tried their hand at the raffle, enjoyed a fantastic spread of home-made savouries and cakes, and selected plants from the plant sale.

Altogether, it was a great success with almost 500 visitors and nearly £5,000 raised to benefit the church, close to last year's record. Congratulations go to the raffle winners, Joanna and Edward Martin of Sudbourne Park.

Thank you so much to those who generously opened their gardens and worked so hard to present them in lovely condition, not least given the challenging weather conditions in the weeks running up to the event. Huge thanks also to everyone else involved in making the day possible – whether producing artwork, baking cakes and savouries, providing plants for sale, and working on the tickets, raffle, refreshments and plant stalls in church on the day – a true team effort. And to everyone who visited – thank you for your support, and we hope you enjoyed it.

Looking ahead, if you are interested in opening your garden for the first time in future, please call Libby on 0771 341 3494.

Save the date! The ever-popular Friends of St. Bartholomew's Church quiz and supper in the Town Hall will be back next year with Graeme Kay as quizmaster. Please save the evening of Saturday 30 January 2027 in your diaries. More information, including on times, tickets etc will follow later this year.

**Libby Archer and Sally Walton, Friends of
St Bartholomew's Church**

ORFORD MUSEUM EVENTS

Friday 14 August 2026: *Son et Lumière* at Orford Castle

This event is now sold out but there is a waiting list on the Events page of our website at www.orfordmuseum.org.uk. However, as well as the *Son et Lumière* performance, Jamie Lee Smith Catering will be offering a wide variety of exciting street food and drink. This will be available to both ticket holders and non-ticket holders alike outside the Castle railings from 6pm until 9pm. So, even if you have not been able to book a ticket, you can enjoy a take-away with a difference!

Events for the autumn include:

Thursday 24 September 2026, from 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 the lute and theorbo, and Mary Robertson on vielle. The performance will take place at Butley Priory and has been generously 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.

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.

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

John Goodall - *Country Life* at 130 years

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 it 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, Alison Weir will make a welcome return to Butley Priory to talk about her novel, *Cardinal: the Secret Life of Thomas Wolsey* and on Tuesday 8 December there will be a showing of two short Suffolk films, *Merman* written and directed by Madeleine Wynn, and *The Dog That Couldn't Bark* directed by Henry Tomlinson followed by a question-and-answer session.

Full details of all these talks and how to book can be found on the Events page of our website.

Looking ahead to 2027, on Tuesday 12 January 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', and on Thursday, 4 February Dr Tobias Capwell will talk about the Bayeux Tapestry. As the result of an historic agreement with France, the Tapestry will form the centrepiece of a major exhibition at the British Museum opening on Thursday 10 September 2026 (until July 2027).

Booking for these two talks will open shortly.

Our annual, three-day History Festival will take place on Thursday, 25, Friday 26 and Saturday 27 February 2027. This is still in the planning stage but we already have some exciting speakers lined up to give talks on a wide variety of topics. We are also planning talks for March and April 2027 so watch our website for details!

Elizabeth Spinney

AUGUST AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Sunday 2 August, ninth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Greg Gooch

6pm Quay Service at Orford

Sunday 9 August, tenth Sunday after Trinity

8am BCP Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 16 August, eleventh Sunday after Trinity

11am Holy Communion at Orford - Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 30 August, thirteenth Sunday after Trinity: Celebrating St. Bartholomew

10.30am Cluster United Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Sunday 6 September, fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Holy Communion at Orford – Revd Mandy Reynolds

Diana Grayburn, Church Warden, 450771

AUGUST AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2 August 10.30am Stephen Caley

6pm - thirty-seventh Annual Quay Service

Sunday 9 August 10.30am Angus Smythe

Sunday 16 August 10.30am An Agape Service

Sunday 23 August 10.30am Stephen Caley

Sunday 30 August 10.30am Informal Café Worship

Sunday 6 September 10.30am Songs of Praise Service

It's lovely to have visitors with us on Sunday mornings and getting to know them when we share refreshments. YOU will be very welcome to join with us too.

The ever-popular Chapel Tea Room welcomes local friends and visitors. We are open every Monday, Wednesday (and Saturdays throughout the summer) from 11am–4pm. There's a great lunch menu and with plenty of tea, coffee, scones, sausage rolls, quiche and cake. Local art, crafts and cards always available too!

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL QUAY SERVICE

Sunday 2 August, 6pm, supporting the RNLI, Aldeburgh boat, with their Chaplain Rev Mary Brown assisting with the service as will Team Rector, Rev Mandy Reynolds. The Rev Vivienne Smith will preach and Rev Saul Tadzaushe will also assist. The Suffolk Phoenix Brass, once again, will lead the singing. Do come along and join the crowd.

Stephen Caley