

"Keeping the Community informed"

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 16 NO. 7 APRIL 2021

Happy unlocked Easter, everyone!

If you fancy a drink

The Angel

Moss and Co are busy preparing their pub gardens to enable them to open for drinks - table service only - from about 15th April. This will, of course be dependent on the weather, and the promised relaxation of restrictions. Opening times, which will be limited, will be announced nearer the time. Look out for information posted at the Angel.

The Plough

The Plough beer garden will reopen on Saturday April 17th providing restrictions allow and weather permits. Keep an eye on the Adnams website for more details.

LATITUDE

AT HENHAM PARK

22nd - 25th July 2021

Register your interest for concessionary tickets from 17th March - 7th April 2021 by e-mailing Chairman Cllr Adrian Smith southwold@jennie-jones.com

PLEASE BE AWARE THE EVENT MAY BE CANCELLED DEPENDING ON COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

Applications will be dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis. If the ticket allocation is over-subscribed, persons who have volunteered for various projects in the village may take precedence.

Main conditions are:

1. All applicants must be **permanently resident** in Wangford or Henham and be registered on the Parish Council's electoral roll. A routine check will be made.
2. Households may apply for a maximum of four paid tickets per property, strictly for the use of registered members of that household (children 12 years and under are admitted with a child ticket, the Parish Clerk will advise as to how to obtain children's tickets).
3. The price of concessionary tickets is determined by the Latitude Festival organisers, Festival Republic Ltd. They allow no price variance.
4. Close of registration is Midnight, 7th April 2021. Cancellation of ticket requests may only be made before this time. Thereafter, the sale stands in law and must be concluded with the purchase of tickets requested.

The new-look, newly-stocked glasshouse at Wangford Farm Shop in all its Spring glory, ready for lots of post-lockdown customers. Lots of plants and lots of pots to put them in!



INFORMATION

Wangford Village Store

Monday to Saturday
8.00am - 6.00pm

Sunday 8.00am - 4.00pm

* Face coverings must be worn.

* Only 4 customers are allowed in the shop at any one time

* Please keep your distance from others, and observe the 2m rule and floor grid



More than 60% of people aged over 16 in Norfolk and Waveney have now received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, newly released figures show. The news comes as health leaders urge people who are eligible to come forward and book themselves an appointment. Whilst such a high proportion of Norfolk and Waveney's adult population have already received the vaccine, it is vital that people over the age of 50 who have not already booked an appointment are reminded and encouraged to do so.

WangfordHelp

We are still here to help you.

Email: wangfordhelp@gmail.com
Phone: 07941 156508 / 01502 578408

Mobile Library

Assuming restrictions are eased as planned, the mobile library service will resume on April 12th.

It will visit Wangford on Wednesday April 14th.

10.10am
at Millfields

10.35am
at Wangford Church.



Wangford Post Office

Thursdays
from 1.00 - 3.00pm
at the Community Centre

Uggeshall Coronavirus Community Support

If you would like support, or would just like to discuss your worries please telephone Sarah Butt 578519 /07979 770383

Wangford Farm Shop

Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday CLOSED

Face coverings must be worn.

Orders

We are happy to continue to make up orders, but due to changes of staff roles, the delivery service is no longer available. If you can't collect your order in person, ring WangfordHelp on 578408.

To place an order call 578246 or email rj.miller@btinternet.com

For your garden

Do visit our revamped glasshouse and garden section where you will find a large collection of shrubs, perennials and bedding plants, as well as terracotta pots, compost, growbags and other growing media, including peat-free.

Barber

Stewart Sharman's next visit will be on Wednesday 28th April from 2.00 to 4.00pm in the Community Centre.

If you need Stewart to make a home visit, please ring him on 01502 218838 to arrange for it on the same day.

He is fully PPE compliant, and you will need to wear a face covering.

Food Bank

Please continue to donate to the Lowestoft Food Bank. This can be done by leaving food with John and Jan Collins, 19 Lakeside Park Drive, Reydon or phoning 01502 725731.

Items in short supply at the moment include tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, UHT milk, rice pudding and tinned fruit.

Help with delivery

If anyone would like me to deliver their donations to Jan Collins I would happily arrange that when I take my own. I go every Friday morning.

For more details please contact me on 578987.

Valerie Beckett

Wangford Vets

Easter Holidays

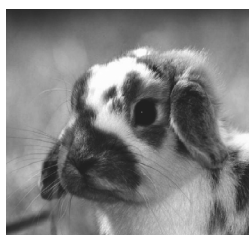
Good Friday April 2nd:
Closed - Emergency Service Only

Saturday April 3rd:
8.30am - 12 midday

Easter Sunday 4th April: Closed - Emergency Service Only

Easter Bank Holiday Monday 5th April:
Closed - Emergency Service Only

If you need a vet urgently please call our usual number:
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Wangford 100 Club 2021

Winners in the March Draw were:

1. Andy Atherton
2. Samantha Amphlett
3. Beryl Meldrum



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Stuart &
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APRIL'S TEAM LETTER

Dare to hope

It's my misfortune to be a lifelong Tottenham Hotspur supporter. On a good day, the team are arguably among the finest exponents of 'the beautiful game'. But my experience is that we'll embark on a good run, and – just when we think we might achieve greatness – it all falls apart.

Watching the evolution of Covid has echoed that experience. At first, we thought it was just a little local difficulty. Then it became a pandemic. The first lockdown fostered, for some, a kind of Blitz spirit, until – just as we thought we were safe – the second wave hit. We had encouraging news of the vaccines, and then the variants snuck in when we weren't looking.

There have been so many twists and turns, so much speculation, so many false dawns, that it's difficult to invest in a life beyond Covid – it seems like some kind of *Shangri-La*. I don't know about you, but I've almost put hope on a shelf, thinking that I'll reach out for it when I can trust in it again.

As I write this (and who's to say how different life might seem by the time you read this), there is a road map – an exit strategy. Dare I begin to hope again? Of course, the Church – almost to the point of cliché – takes Christians through the sombre trials of Lent into the joy of Easter. There's a familiar arc from dark to light, from, sadness to joy. And that works because we know how the story ends. Back in the day, Jesus' friends didn't. After Jesus was executed on Friday, they had a long Saturday of grief and loss. There seemed nothing to hope for. But then, out of a blue sky, came resurrection. Life could begin again.

The writer of Psalm 30 wrote: "Weeping endures for a night, but joy comes with the morning." Maybe – even at their darkest moments – they dared to hope.

We can't know what life will be, or feel, like in July, or this time next year. It will be different. Hardship – though that's not its function – teaches us life-saving stuff, and can sometimes set us on another road. I really am trying not to be trite when I say that I'm constantly surprised by the ability of people to emerge wiser, kinder, stronger from the wreckage.

For me, the story of Easter says that we can start over. But it won't be like it was before. The world's changed. We're changed. We look ahead. Maybe – in this world – Spurs might win something...

Hope so.

Malcolm Doney



News from Wangford Church

The opening of the church for private prayer on March 1st was hopefully a small start in our return to something more like 'normal' and it was great to see people back in church together on Palm Sunday and we are looking forward to Easter.

The Covid regulations are still in force so we continue to rely on everybody socially distancing and wearing a face cover etc. We look forward to an easing of these rules as we approach summer and look forward to being able to sing hymns again soon.

For those still shielding or uncomfortable with group worship, online services are currently being live streamed from Reydon each week at 09.30 via YouTube.

Please contact Jackie or myself if you would like more details.

Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)



Wangford with Henham Parish Council

Dog Fouling

The Parish Council would like to remind everyone to pick up their dog waste within the 30mph speed limit confines of the village. Failure to do so can result in prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000. The Council will not hesitate to prosecute if sufficient evidence is provided to any Councillor or the Clerk. If you see someone allowing their dog to foul and not picking up please inform us. Ideally we will need photographic evidence for prosecution.

Three additional dog bins have been installed at all the entrances to the playing field and allotments. Please use these and keep your dogs off the allotments. Whilst you are free to walk your dogs on the playing field, and this is proving very popular, please keep them on a lead at all times and keep them away from the allotment areas. The allotment holders pay an annual fee for their plot and are entitled to use them undisturbed. Fouling on the playing field and allotments will also result in prosecution.

If you have anything to report, the Clerk can be contacted by emailing wangfordwithhenham.pc@googlemail.com

Recycling at the Community Centre

The bottle, clothes and paper banks sited beside the Community Centre car park are provided for everyone's convenience, so it is disappointing that recently they have been misused.

The bottle banks are particularly well used, possibly a result of lockdown, and they quickly fill up. If you find them full, please take your bottles home and try again another day. Do not leave bottles on the ground in front of the bins. If you wish to be especially public spirited, you could always phone the recycling company on 01842 820804 to report that the banks need emptying!

Please note that the bottle banks are for glass jars and bottles ONLY. Other glass items should be put in your black bin or taken to an East Suffolk Council waste site.

Another recent problem has been fly-tipping beside the banks. Items dumped have included a picture frame, chopping boards, an electric kettle and a steam cleaner (see photo below). This is thoughtless and antisocial, disfiguring the site and meaning someone has to remove it and dispose of it correctly.



News from Sotherton

Do join us at St Andrew's for our Easter Sunday Communion service at 9.30 am on April 4th. There will also be our usual service on the third Sunday, April 18th.

News from Uggeshall

St Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on Wednesday 21st April at 3.00pm in the Old School Hall.

News from Wangford Vets

Cancellation of Strutt Your Mutt 2021



Sadly, Strutt Your Mutt Charity Dog Day and Walks due to be held on June 13th 2021 has had to be cancelled for the second year. Although this is disappointing, the priority is keeping visitors, volunteers, entertainers and traders safe. In such challenging and uncertain times and given the current government restrictions that will last at least until the 21st June, there is no alternative other than to cancel the event.

Since 2014 over £50,000 has been raised for fantastic charities including Hounds for Heroes, Dogs for Good and Hearing Dogs for Deaf People through a day which brings people together and celebrates the unique relationship that we share with our dogs and the Great British Countryside.

This will continue, and Strutt Your Mutt will return in 2022 on Sunday 12th June, once again at the stunning location of the Benacre Estate. There's already a great arena line-up including Little Nippers, Ridgeside Falconry and the David Seamark Sheepdog demo, and of course the two walking routes for you and your canine companions as well as trade stands and fantastic food and drink options. Tickets will go on sale early in 2022.

Easter Dangers for Dogs

Easter eggs and hot cross buns are tasty Easter indulgences for us, but they can be deadly to dogs so keep these seasonal treats to yourself.

The darker the chocolate, the more potent the level of theobromine, and the more poisonous it is – and giving any type of chocolate to dogs must be avoided. Hot cross buns contain dried fruit, such as currants, sultanas and raisins – and all of these are toxic to dogs.

Sharing just a little bit with your dog isn't worth the risk of poisoning or even losing your best friend – avoid heartache by keeping them away from these human treats altogether.

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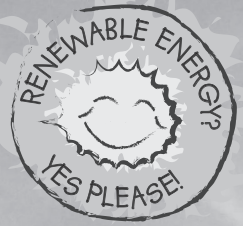
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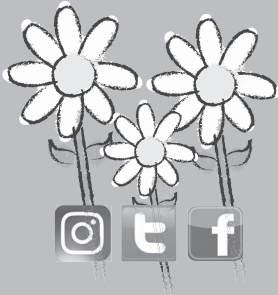
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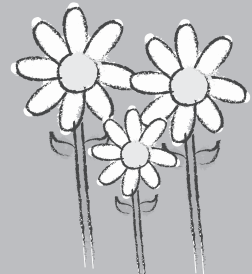
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ABRAHAM

Just when I thought very little else could go wrong what happens is that it is announced that that ghastly woman Anne Robinson is to become host of *Countdown*. I have watched the programme fairly regularly since November 1982 (Richard Whiteley was the first voice to be heard on Channel 4). I have enjoyed it because there are no flashy equipment or gimmicks, just a civilised contest between two generally friendly people. Of the various hosts after the wonderful Richard Whiteley died, Des Lynam was OK, but Nick Hewer dithers, patronises and bores- "what shall we do now? Ah yes, we'll have some letters; off you go John". Just get on with it, man. The latest and youngest, Colin Murray, who stood in for Hewer, was extremely entertaining and efficient. I wonder if he was offered the job? The girls have been presentable, Rachel Riley being preferable to the gobby Vorderman person; Susie Dent is delightful but some of the Dictionary Corner 'slebs' have used it to gain exposure for their own dubious talents. Why are they necessary? The smashing gentleman William G. Stewart presented a couple of special editions. Now **there** was a decent quiz show, Fifteen To One. No bells and whistles, no nonsense or idle chat, just a straightforward question and answer format that has been ruined by extending it to an hour long in order to provide a vehicle for that Toksvig woman. I tried it once and blew out. So why drag up somebody who's past her sell-by-date, who has had a sense of humour by-pass and who cannot survive without an autocue? I shall watch it once to have my worst fears confirmed. Countdown? For me, counted out.

Calling a terrific butcher in Inverurie to order meat I asked the young lady on the other end how they were coping with the snow, and she replied "We're alright, we only have twelve inches here". Hardy souls, these barbarians. We should recruit a few to show us that a dusting of snow, never mind feet of the white stuff, needn't prevent the collecting of refuse bins.

It is reported that the Archbishop of Canterbury regards it necessary to appoint a 'Chief of Staff and Strategy', no doubt at a cost of at least two parsons' salaries. Firstly, why not save himself the trouble and expense by appealing to him in whom those functions reside - the Almighty? We are also told that, while Parishes are being asked to fund 'managers, PAs and well equipped offices', cuts in clergy are being made, thus losing yet another necessary and important part of the community. The Archbishop denies this last bit, telling us that "the suggestion that all we do is cut back is not only true and unhelpful, it creates unnecessary anxiety. *We need more clergy and they are coming forward in record numbers, and where dioceses are saving posts, it is usually through retirements.*" (my italics). That statement sounds confusing and contradictory. When I was a wee boy and up until a few years ago, of the few 'pillocks' of the community the Minister stood "abune them 'a" as a reassuring and constant presence in and out of times of need. Now, unfortunately, they too, like the ancient rectories, are disappearing, to the utter shame of the CofE. The world that I once knew is being taken away from me piece by piece, and it is hacking me off.

When I read the news that travellers were being given a hard time during the pandemic by enduring (and having to pay their own hotel bills) quarantining and other inconveniences, my immediate reaction was to jump up and rant, thus annoying once more my half dozen loyal readers about my constant banging on about the persecution of the gypsy community.

What a blessed relief when I realised what was really meant. But let me not despair. As soon as things are back to as near normal as we'll ever get, the gypsies will be remembered and come in for another hammering and I shall be back on the hobby horse and raving again.

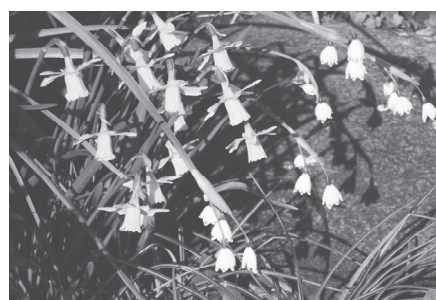
Dear old Suffolk has been subjected to a fair amount of positive publicity due mainly to the production of the reportedly excellent film *The Dig*. I question whether we need or desire any more grockles clogging up this holy county, although the hospitality sector is likely to welcome them. It's not only *The Dig* promoting it but also a slew of 'slebs' stravaiging (*Ed: wandering about aimlessly*) up and down the country extolling the virtues of Suffolk and other glorious parts of the UK. The likes of Darcey Bussell, Sandy Toksvig (again), Joanna Lumley, Kate Humble, Greg Wallace, Sheila Hancock, Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all are suggesting that it's wonderful to take a 'staycation' (dread word) in these islands. The discriminatory folks hereabouts knew anyway but the cynic in me whispers that if not for the pandemic these overpaid, pampered 'slebs' would be scooting off to far-flung places with nary a thought given to these local shores. Forget sun, sea and sangria. Head for the East Neuk and enjoy the glorious beaches, super villages, golf courses galore, the greatest of all universities, funny accents and deep fried black pudding.

Pedantry once more. I watched Gregg Wallace strolling round Edinburgh, while I recalled these halcyon days when my grand chum and I wandered these ancient streets. (Ah, to pat Greyfriars Bobby once again). Using subtitles I was disgusted to note that the word 'whisky', as in Scotch, was spelt with an 'e'. I blame the parents.

I needn't have worried. Soon after I wrote the wee bit above about the travelling folk, the newspapers informed me that Pontins were in trouble for compiling a list of undesirables who would be prohibited from booking at their Pakefield resort. These included folk with Irish surnames and gypsies with commercial vehicles. From Boylan, Boyle to Walch and Ward, you will not be welcome and if you have a wee van and are a gypsy, get back to the reservation. Lord, give me strength.

*Each man's death diminishes me
For I am involved in mankind.
Therefore, send not to know
For whom the bell tolls,
It tolls for thee.*
(John Donne)

Abraham



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DEADLINE: 11th day of Month preceding publication

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CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 4th April		Easter Day
9.30 am	Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 11th April		2nd Sunday of Easter
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 18th April		3rd Sunday of Easter
9.30 am	Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 25th April		4th Sunday of Easter
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Holy Communion (BCP)

In addition, for those unable to attend in person, all services from St Margaret's, Reydon will be live-streamed via YouTube. Simply Google 'YouTube', and search for 'St Margaret's Reydon Parish Church'.

And it's not just the humans who've been unlocked



Although the Avian Influenza Prevention Zone requiring enhanced biosecurity remains in force, Wednesday 31 March 2021 was the last day poultry and other captive birds had to be housed.

Village Recorders needed

The Suffolk Local History Council administers a Local Recorders Scheme throughout Suffolk to ensure the survival of valuable material for future local historians by seeing that the present is adequately recorded at local level, and being on the look-out for items of historical interest which might be overlooked or lost for ever.

New Recorders are needed for both Wangford and Sotherton. It is an easy task just to record the things that happen on a once-yearly basis. These records are kept in the Records Office for future generations to see how we all lived.

Please contact Nicky Gardner, the current Recorder for Uggeshall at nicky.gardner@hotmail.co.uk