

VOLUME 15 NO. 11 AUGUST 2020

Wangford church repairs



What a job! The complex task of erecting the scaffolding for the repairs to the church has already taken two weeks, and is still not completed. But these people mean business! Corrugated iron panels surround the building, the stained glass windows are protected, and there's a handsome site office cabin installed for the duration.

Inside, everything is completely covered by plastic sheeting, much of it heavy-duty flame-retardant, and all the precious items are in storage.

But there was one hazard the scaffolders weren't expecting - being attacked by very cross bees when work came too close to their nest in the roof above the vestry!

Barber returns!

Stewart Sharman's barber service will return to Wangford Community Centre on Wednesday 12th August from 2.00 - 4.00 pm.

Please note the following:

Face coverings must be worn. Stewart will be working in the Hall to allow for sufficient social distancing, and will wear appropriate PPE. Clients should enter and leave via the Centre front door, which must be left open, and must use the hand sanitizer from the dispensers provided on the foyer walls on both entry and exit. Please maintain 2m social distancing.

Whilst waiting your turn, please sit in the chairs provided; these must not be moved.

The ladies' and disabled toilets and kitchen will not be available. Please use the gents' toilet only in emergencies, and do not go anywhere else in the building.

If you can have exact money, that will be appreciated.



The organising committee of the Grand Henham Steam Rally has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's event due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The 46th Rally was scheduled to take place on 19 and 20 September 2020 at Henham Park. However, government restrictions currently prohibit large events and are likely to remain in place for the foreseeable future.

Although this is incredibly sad, the safety of visitors, exhibitors, volunteers and the organising committeeis paramount and the decision not to go ahead is taken with their best interests at heart.

However, the 46th Grand Henham Steam Rally is scheduled for 18 and 19 September 2021. Make a note of the date!



THE MONTHLY PARISH NEWSPAPER FOR WANGFORD, UGGESHALL, HENHAM & SOTHERTON

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

Wangford Farm Shop

Monday -Friday 9.00am-12.30pm 1.30 - 5.00pm Saturday 9.00am-5.00pm Sunday CLOSED Face coverings must be worn. Home deliveries to people who are over 70 or classed as vulnerable are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. To order please ring 01502 578246 or email rj.miller@btinternet.com

by 3pm.



And the first customer at the reopened Post Office was -Brenda Holmes.



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Uggeshall Coronavirus Community Support

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

If you are aware of someone who might need support at this time, please put them in touch with us.

Wangford Vets

For all appointment enquiries please call us on 01502 578999.

As a practice that cares about our clients and staff as well as our patients, we need to ensure that we are taking every possible precaution during this turbulent time. With the ever increasing risk of COVID-19 we have made some changes to our practice and how we see clients. More details will be given when booking appointments.

We are still running with fewer staff than usual and are trying to assist as many clients as we can each day, whilst keeping everyone as safe as possible. We are unable to take any new clients at this time, and home visits are for emergencies only.

Our newly revised opening hours are as follows:

Monday - Friday 0830 - 1730

Saturday Strictly emergencies only 0830 – 11.30 Sunday OUT OF HOURS ONLY

For repeat medications, please email <u>enquiries@wangfordvetclinic.com</u> and we will deal with your request as promptly as possible. Please call us 48 hours later to pay over the phone and arrange collection.

We are now booking routine appointments and vaccinations. Please be aware that due to the backlog of these we are booking them on a priority basis. There is an overdue period allowed of three months for dogs and one month for cats. If the overdue period is exceeded due to the restrictions surrounding COVID -19 and you have to restart the vaccinations, we will honour the booster-only price. From all the team here at Wangford Veterinary Clinic, we thank you for your understanding, and wish all of you and your families the best through these challenging times. We will continue to deliver the best care for your animals throughout this period.

Mobile Library

The library van will visit on Wednesday 5th August; 10.10am at Millfields, 10.35am at Wangford Church.

Public transport

It is now mandatory to wear a face covering on all public transport. Only travel if your journey is essential.

On the buses, capacity has been reduced by 75% to allow for social distancing. You should use the seats nearest the windows, and pay contactless where possible. From Monday 6th July concessionary bus passes will only be accepted after 9.30am.

Border Bus

(border-bus.co.uk) Service 146 Has resumed the normal through route to Norwich, running hourly.

Service 524 Normal service First Bus (firstgroup.com) Service 99 Wangford has the usual 4 buses per day.

Music Groups

Helen Hayes is sadly unable to run our regular local music groups at the moment but has set up a Youtube channel called Sing with Helen where she has been posting regular singalong videos that you can access for free. She is also hosting weekly online ukulele sessions every Friday morning. There is a beginners and improvers session and everyone is welcome to come along you just need a ukulele to take part. If you are missing social contact and feel that some feel good singing may be for you, Helen is hosting a Sing with Helen Social every fortnight online and everyone is welcome. These sessions are inclusive and dementia-friendly. For further information. please contact Helen on 01502 578971 or 07917 799456, or email: helenhayesmusic@gmail.com



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Small residential home in Southwold.

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A Day Centre can mean many things to lots of different people. It can be a place to go for some company or to have a hot meal. We can provide assistance with personal needs, such as bathing and, most importantly, a Day Centre can provide day respite for a family member struggling to care for a person with dementia.

We have a variety of different activities to suits all needs. The Day Centre is open 4 days week from 10.00am to 4.30pm.

If you would like to discuss what Saint Barnabas can offer in further detail please contact The Manager Mrs Nicki Fountain 01502 722264

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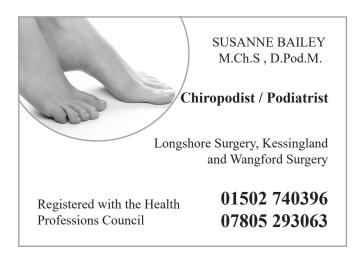
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AUGUST'S TEAM LETTER

'By the rivers of Babylon - there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.

On the willows there we hung up our harps.

For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?' Psalm 137

One of the really challenging parts of lockdown, due to Covid 19, has been the closure of churches, theatres, concert halls and clubs and the cancelling of music festivals, where singing is second nature and part of the essence of who we are and what we do. Even though Churches can now be open with strict rules regarding social distance, one of the prohibitions that remain is that we are not allowed to sing. This has been painful for many people and seems incongruous when the same restriction does not apply everywhere, including Crematoriums.

I have been in awe of choirs and orchestras, who during lockdown, have learnt to sing or play their individual parts with a backing track and then record their own voice or instrument, and for all of the voices to then be combined together. It has produced some incredible results but it is still not the same as singing together live.

One of my heart-warming memories of lockdown will be people singing from their apartment balconies, especially in Italy and Spain in an act of defiance and soldiering on despite the pandemic.

The Psalm I have quoted at the start of this piece refers to a time when the Jewish people were in exile in Babylon in the 6th Century BC and longed to return to the land of Zion or Jerusalem in Israel. This exile was to last over sixty years and the people must have often felt despair that God had abandoned them. This is why the people did not feel like singing or making any music as they felt so sad. The parallels with how many of us are feeling, even as lockdown eases, mirror closely the feelings of the Jewish people.

I am glad to say that the Jewish people did indeed return home, rebuilt their Temple and were able to sing a new song in their restored Promised Land. We too one day will be able to sing a new song once again!

Revol Alan Perry

News from Wangford Church

Our first piece of good news is that, as I write, the scaffolding has gone up and the work on the chancel roof and south gutter of the nave is imminent. The downside of all this is that we cannot meet for worship in Wangford until, probably, late October. However we have been doing splendidly on Zoom services, and on Zoom "Coffee after Church", to keep in touch with one another. We are, of course, mindful of those for whom the technology is difficult. May we take this opportunity to thank the Team Clergy for making all these things possible. Now that some services are allowed, we are able to attend church elsewhere across the Team. Details of these will be on the notice board each week.

Our second piece of good news is that since Valerie Beckett resigned as Churchwarden, Mark Notton has offered to stand as acting Churchwarden with me. The two of us have a hard act to follow as Valerie has been a tower of strength, efficiency and kindness over a number of years and will be sorely missed. We send her our best wishes in her well-earned retirement.

Lastly, may we encourage as many people as possible to sign up for the Sponsored Ride and Stride on Saturday 12 September. This is the only fundraising event in which any of us have been able to participate this year, and half the money we raise for Suffolk Historic Churches will be returned to our church – much needed in these difficult times. Please ask either of the two acting churchwardens for a form. Mark (578691, markn.church@gmail.com) and Jackie (578992, Jackie.fishhut@btinternet.com).

Jackie Casement, acting Churchwarden

Mary Hopkins RIP

In spite of my criticism of the government's management of the NHS in my memoirs to be published shortly, I would like to praise the supporting services given by the NHS to my wife Mary in the last year of her life. Without it we wouldn't have managed to care for her at home.

I would also like to state how grateful I am for the loving care given by all the carers from the organisation Prestige. My thanks also for the many messages of condolence I have received.

Christopher Hopkins



Jane Mary Hopkins RIP Funeral tribute from Bruce Kent

Never did I did I dream that if dear Mary died before me I would not be able to come to her funeral. Unhappily the Covid lockdown prevents me from joining you today.

Mary was a very dear and long time friend. Our families in north London were close and drawn even closer together by our strong Catholic identity. Katie McDowell, Mary's mother was not unlike mine – big-hearted, very hospitable and sociable. She was always good for a chat. 'Mac', Mary's father, was a hard worker like my own, devoted to his family, hospitable, but less gregarious than his wife. I loved going up to Branksome, their big house in Courtney Avenue, just opposite the great open space of London's Kenwood.

I must have met Mary and her brother Michael in the late 1940s. All of us were in various boarding schools and the determined Catholic mothers of Hampstead – Kent, McDowell, Gormley and Kennedy – had a keen interest in finding suitable partners for each of their offspring.

I developed quite quickly a strong teenage affection for Mary. She was such good fun, charming, warm-hearted and interesting, quite apart from her obvious good looks. We went in school holidays with other groups of public school pupils to all sorts of dances and parties. I had the loan of my mother's car (what over-confidence on her part) and it was usually around midnight before we got back to Courtney Avenue. What the drink-driving rules were in those days I can't remember, but I must have broken most of them as I drove friends to and from those parties. Very tolerant parents on both sides.

Things cooled off a bit when, in 1949, I came out of the army and went up to university to study law. At that stage I began to think about the priest-hood and, at more or less the same time, Mary began thinking about a dashing young army doctor, her future husband, our friend Christopher. But our warm friendship never ended. When what soon became a family moved up to lovely Southwold Mary was a happy and outgoing mother and a great support for her eventual family of four. I loved my visits and spent at least one holiday as a supply priest in the Southwold parish. I have great memories of the fun and games and seaside larks enjoyed with the growing Hopkins tribe. She was very proud of you all.

(Editor: Christopher and Mary had four children – Frances, Christina, James and William – and thirteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren).

Over the years it has been such a pleasure to be with you for family wedding receptions – including Mary and Christopher's significant anniversaries – in your amazing garden at Wangford. It was very clear at Sunday Mass in Southwold how much Mary was loved by the church community and by lots of others. Her last few years were not easy and I have to say right now how wonderfully Christopher and the family have cared for her. You've been kindness itself, and how lovely that you were all together with her for the last week of her life.

I sent Christopher a card from the Julian shrine in Norwich. On it, there is a quote from that saint which means a lot to me: '*From him we come*; in *him we are enfolded*; to *him we return*'. We all make that return journey sooner or later, and I like to think that up there somewhere beyond our timescale and into eternity Mary will be there to give me and all of us a warm hug and a welcome smile.

Mary died peacefully at home on 12th June, aged 88, surrounded by her family. Following a requiem mass on June 24th, she was buried in Wangford churchyard. A memorial service will be arranged later.

Joan Margaret Missenden RIP

The funeral service for Joan, who died on 15th June at the age of 94, took place on July 17th at Waveney Memorial Park and Crematorium, led by celebrant Beverley Bulmer. Attended by family, neighbours and friends, it was also livestreamed to grandson Alan in Australia.

Joan was born in London in 1926, the middle child of three, and after leaving school she became a machinist in the upholstery trade, later moving into the fashion trade. She married George in 1945, and their daughter Ann was born in Stockwell. They moved to Essex in the 1960s, and later retired to Suffolk, just two doors away from Ann and her husband Tony in Wangford. Sadly, George died on their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary 20 years ago, and Joan missed him dreadfully.

She loved ballroom dancing - a love not shared with George, but he could tap dance. Family holidays were often in Bognor Regis. In Wangford, Ann's boys Alan and James were able to form a very special bond with their grandparents - and Sparky, their little dog. Joan was also very fond of and grateful to her son-inlaw Tony, who helped her in many ways after George's death.

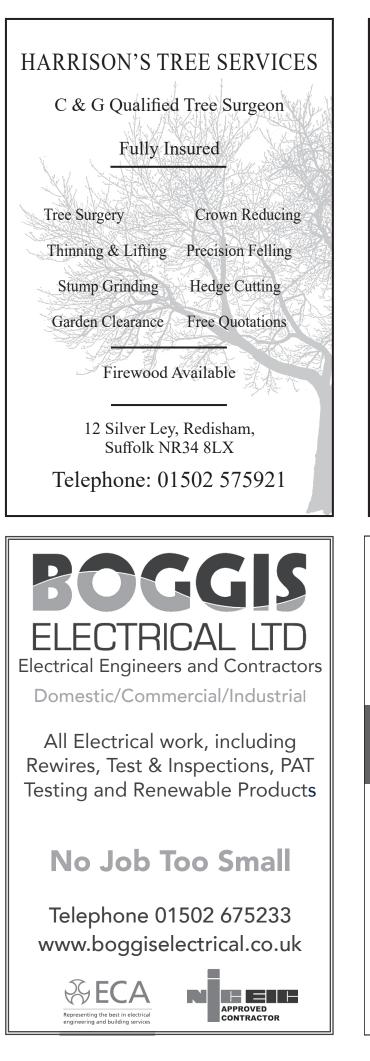
She was an expert needlewoman, and tailored all her own clothes, as well as knitting the most complex patterns. When Ann was young Joan would window-shop the latest fashions, and then copy them at home. In later years she took up cross-stitch, and, in addition to covering every wall of the bungalow with her creations, she would also make small pieces to send to her great-grandchildren mounted on Christmas cards.

She liked watching soaps, and going to Lowestoft for bingo and shopping. On one such occasion she was hit by a mobility scooter, and sustained a broken hip, but she was determined to recover her mobility.

After George's death Joan lived alone until very recently, but after some falls she moved to All Hallows Nursing Home at Bungay, initially for respite care, and then as a resident. The family is very grateful to all the staff at All Hallows for the excellent care she received.

Donations in Joan's memory were invited for Macmillan Cancer Support. Her ashes will be interred with George in Wangford churchyard.





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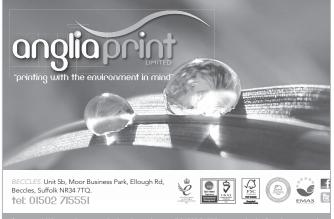
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ABRAHAM

Where to start, even in this little inoffensive organ, without upsetting the over-sensitive 'woke' brigade? I normally try to avoid the so-called controversial issues because they have been generally, and will continue to be, done to death in the national media. But re 'Black Lives Matter'. Isn't all life sacred? Every human life out there is to be cherished. 'Freedom of speech' and 'freedom of expression' are generally used synonymously and Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference" and "everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice" So far, so good, you might say. But the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights later amends this by stating that the exercise of these rights carries "special duties and responsibilities" and may "therefore be subject to certain restrictions" Here we go, I'm imagining - give it with one hand, take it away with the other. And so it proves; common limitations or boundaries to freedom of speech relate to libel, slander, obscenity, pornography, sedition, incitement, fighting words, classified information, copyright violation, trade secrets, food labelling, non-disclosure agreements, the right to privacy, dignity, the right to be forgotten, public security and perjury. Pick the bones out of that lot. Not much left is there? A goldmine for the legal eagles.

Before I leave this rant I have to comment on the news that the vice-chancellor of Oxford University announced that students traumatised by the video of George Floyd's death can request special dispensation if they feel they were unable to perform at their best in final exams or assessments and has exhorted her colleagues to "reach out to any black students who may be experiencing difficulty at this time". The killing of Floyd was an atrocity that cannot and should not be forgotten but 'lenient marking' for trauma opens up a hefty can of worms. Who is capable of measuring trauma?; and is skin colouring more evidential of suffering? This approach has set back racial equality immeasurably. It is grossly unfair and patronising to black students and no less so to white ones.

The controversy of second homes keeps rumbling on, exacerbated by the lock-down experience. We cannot, and never should be able to, prevent folks spending their money how they wish, be it for private education, medical treatment, or any other indulgence, including a second home. It is a pity that the first two are too often and unnecessarily considered to be essential. I once heard Norman Tebbitt, upon opening a private school, address the children with a joke, which I doubt they understood. "The difference between an extreme socialist and a socialist is this - an extreme socialist would close all private schools today; a socialist would close all private schools immediately after their children had left". I cannot be dog-in-the -manger about second homes. If I could afford it I might well have one but I hope that I would have the conscience to allow someone who needed a home to use it.

The head-banging crowd have even tried to have a go at dear old Robert Baden-Powell but mercifully a bunch of scouts got together and protected his statue at Poole Harbour. Bully for them. No-one with any conscience can condone racism and slavery but the past has gone and it should be used not as an object of hatred but as an educational guide. Let us move on and learn not to repeat ancient mistakes and atrocities. Baden-Powell was a man of his time, a Victorian public schoolboy, soldier and imperialist. His main claims to fame arose from his conduct in the relief of Mafeking in the second Boer War and the publication in 1908 of his magnum opus Scouting for Boys, giving birth eventually to the Boy Scout Movement. The Scouting handbook is a melange of other texts culled from a mixture of Edwardian sources, but it nonetheless proved to be a best seller, outselling at one point even the Bible. The movement gave, and continues to give, thousands of boys (and girls, in the Guides) a sense of purpose, adventure and enjoyment. It seems that Baden-Powell or B-P (the initials appropriately standing also for 'British Pluck', ' British Public' and, of course, 'Be Prepared') wished to transfer his war games and childhood on to future generations of children, thus ensuring that he himself would be remembered as forever young. It is no coincidence that his favourite play was J. M. Barrie's Peter Pan which he saw many times while Scouting for Boys was gestating. He called his son Peter, after the play's hero (Isn't it interesting how I manage to introduce Barrie regularly into these scribbles? No, it isn't I hear you say, it's getting downright tedious. Give the man a rest.)

Pubs are about booze and, quite often, food but they are mostly about people - who like to gather and converse convivially while enjoying their drinks. My favourite Aldeburgh pub is the White Hart, situated next door to the fish and chip shop. It is a one bar cosy wood-panelled Adnams establishment with a coal fire that started off life as a reading room. It does not do food, but graciously allows you to use its outdoor tables and benches to munch away, expecting you, quite properly, to enjoy your food from the fish and chip shop while drinking their beer. There is also a splendid pizza eaterie in the garden. So, what happens is, Mrs Abe queues up for the haddock and chips (we've noticed, in these social-distancing days, that the queue is at least twice as long, not quite as far as the Brudenell, but getting there), while I do the hard bit and get the drinks, usually talking to some unsuspecting tourist. What more to ask for? And I swear that if I linger long enough the whole human race will pass me by, united by their love of beer and fish and chips on a warm sunny night close by the North Sea in one of old Blighty's finest wee towns.

I hope when this abnormal way of life is over that we continue to be as courteous and kindly as ever and that we keep on patronising our local shops which to many have been a bonus and a godsend. That's you told.

Abraham

Wangford 100 Club 2020 Winners in the July Draw were 1. Sally Howeld 2. Elsie Shelley 3. Linda Smith



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Church Services in August

There is a mixture of zoomed and church services. The latter are subject to government regulations, which means that there can be no singing, but a single soloist, and organ music are permitted. Holy Communion is permitted, but there is no Communion cup. Wangford church is closed due to the building works, and Sotherton is closed until the next stage of easing.

For log-in details for the zoomed services please contact Rev Alan Perry (453624), or Harriet Notton (07713 939701) for technical advice and support. Please note that due to Rev Alan being on holiday, the 9th August services will be emailed to those who want to receive them.

August 2nd

8.00 am	Reydon/Southwold	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Reydon/Southwold	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer
August 9th		
8.00 am	Reydon	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Reydon/Southwold	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer
August 16th		
8.00 am	Southwold	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Reydon/Southwold	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
11.15	Zoom	Blessing of Animals
3.00 pm	South Cove	Evening Prayer
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer
August 23rd		
8.00 am	Reydon	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Reydon/Southwold	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer
August 30th		
8.00 am	Southwold	Holy Communion
9.30 am	Reydon/Southwold	Holy Communion
10.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Holy Communion

SUFFOLK CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE

Saturday 12th September

This event is not cancelled - please continue to save the date in your diary. This is a great fundraiser for the nominated Church you ride for as they receive 50% of your sponsorship