

*"Keeping  
the Community  
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

# Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 16 NO. 4 JANUARY 2021

**Best Wishes for a better 2021 to all our readers**

But Lockdown wasn't all doom and gloom



*Wangford's Blacksmith Close enjoyed the lovely weather and celebrated VE with a socially-distanced street party.*



*And the 100 Club draw continued al fresco*

# 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 - Saturday  
9.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday CLOSED

Face coverings must be worn.

For those isolating or vulnerable the ordering service is still available.

Call 578246 or email  
rj.miller@btinternet.com

**NEW**

The glasshouse is now open all year round. Call in to see Sharon for plants, shrubs, spring bulbs and much more!

## Mobile Library

The library van will visit on  
Wednesday 20th January.

10.10am at Millfields,  
10.35am at Wangford  
Church.

## Buses

First Bus 99 is now using  
Church St/High St.  
Border Bus 146 and 524  
are still using Norfolk  
Road until further notice.

## WangfordHelp

We are still here to help you.

Email: wangfordhelp@gmail.com

Phone: 07941 156508 / 01502 578408

## 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 Vets

01502 578999

### New Year Opening Hours

New Year's Eve 8.30am - noon

New Year's Day Closed

Saturday 2nd January 8.30am - noon

24 hour emergency cover is available by calling 01502 578999



## VOLUNTARY HELP CENTRE

Telephone: (01502) 724549

### New Year Opening Hours

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> December - Open 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> December - Open 10.00 am - 12.00 noon

New Year's Day - Closed

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Back to normal 9.00 am - 1.00pm

Please note: we will only be dealing with medical appointments between Christmas and New Year to allow our volunteers some much deserved time off.

**Wishing you all a Happy New Year!**

## Food Bank Donations

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 by telephone on 01502 725731.

If anyone is in need, and would benefit from a food parcel, please contact the Lowestoft Food Bank (01502 586216) or the Voluntary Help Centre in Southwold (01502 724549).

## Barber

Stewart Sharman's next visit is on Wednesday 13th January from 2.00 - 4.00 pm.

Face coverings must be worn and hand sanitizer from the dispensers provided must be used on both entry and exit. Please maintain social distancing.

If you need a home visit, please ring Stewart on 01502 218838 to arrange for it on the same day. He is fully PPE compliant.

## New singing groups

Helen Hayes has set up a new social enterprise called Swell Music CIC and has received funding to run two new singing-for-wellbeing groups starting online.

The first is a 'Sing to Beat Parkinson's' group and the second is a 'Singing group for dementia carers'. We are working in partnership with the local support groups.

The sessions are running online fortnightly and will move to community venues in the spring hopefully when guidelines allow. This is a free opportunity, and if you are interested, please contact Helen for further information on 07917 799456 or email [helenjhayes@hotmail.com](mailto:helenjhayes@hotmail.com)

## Wangford Post Office

New Year's Eve  
31st December 2020 -  
Closed  
Re-opening  
Thursday 7th January



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Stuart &  
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## And Christmas preparations continued with vigour



Nick, Colin and the team tackling the tree at Pound Corner



And just a fraction of the huge collection of donations for the Santa Paws Appeal at the vets



By the time this reaches you, we'll have left behind whatever Christmas we've been allowed to have, and will be enjoying lockdown or tiers. But so what? We've coped with the COVID restrictions so far, and round here it's brought out the best in people.

Loads of folk volunteered for WangfordHelp and the Uggeshall Support Group, and they continue to have contact with those they helped. In those fairly panic-stricken days, they determinedly managed to acquire enough loo rolls, paracetamol and bread to meet everyone's needs. Now, we're a bit more sanguine about it all, and, hopefully, we won't see panic-buying again.

The Village Store and Farm Shop coped admirably, and sourced flour, pasta and rice when the supermarket shelves were bare. We need to remember that, and continue to support them as, eventually, things become more 'normal'.

### Thank you

The lockdown in the spring and summer of 2020 allowed me to indulge my gardening passion of propagation, which then led to selling the plants from my barrow in Elms Lane. I would like to thank all those kind people who bought from the stall, which resulted in me being able to send £230 to the East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH). The propagation continues, so there are even more plants nearly ready to sell in the coming year - let's hope 2021 brings us happier times.

*Joy Scriven*

### Wangford Community Council

#### Christmas Lights

A big thank you to Nick, Colin and the team for installing the display of lights at the Community Centre, and for setting up and lighting the tree on Pound Corner - thankfully two things that have been able to go ahead this year when so much else has been cancelled.

Thanks also to Walter for providing the site and the power for the tree, and to Uggeshall Farms and Carl Chapman for selecting and delivering it.

*Malcolm Woolnough*

Barber Stewart Sharman returned to the Community Centre in August after lockdown, and continues to visit every 5 weeks. Gents - this valuable service deserves your support!



### Wangford 100 Club 2020

Winners in the Christmas Draw were

1. Rachel Dade
2. Sara Campbell
3. Marion Clarke
4. D. Fletcher
5. Pete Hart
6. Caroline Wilson

## Rosie Rathbone RIP

We were all very sad to learn of the death of Rosie on October 26th in Guy's Hospital, London, after a long illness.

Her funeral service took place in London at the Methodist church in Crouch End where her parents had first met.

When circumstances permit, it is hoped that there will be a celebration of Rosie's life.

Harvey is very grateful for all the kindness and support shown to him by the village.

## News from Sotherton

Do join us for our next service at St. Andrew's on Sunday 17th January at 9.30 am.

*Karen Flaxman 01986 873123*

## Sole Bay Churches Together and Walberswick Connect

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## News from Wangford Church

We hope that everybody had a nice Christmas and wish you all the very best for 2021.

2020 was certainly different with the church being closed for much of it due to the pandemic and the building works, but at the time of writing, the church is open for worship every Sunday, although some social distancing measures will remain in place. We are still not allowed to sing together but hopefully, as new vaccines are rolled out and winter passes, this will change as the year progresses.

A note for your diaries is the visit of author Angela Lawrence to the church on Saturday February 6th at 3pm. Angela wrote the tragic account of William and Alma Smith (Headteacher and his wife at Wangford cum Henham School during World War I) and she will be giving a talk about her novel. There will be a retiring collection which will be used to restore the graves of the Smiths and their daughter in Wangford Churchyard. Due to Covid restrictions this is likely to be admission by ticket only. Tickets will be available from Jackie Casement (578992) or Rev Alan Perry (453624)

**Church flowers** Since the retirement of our flower arrangers Sally and Rosemary, we have to make some changes. The church wardens wonder if anyone would like to volunteer to do an arrangement in church to commemorate an anniversary, birthday or passing of a loved one. This would be a once-a-year effort and would help us to keep the church looking nice.

If you are interested please let Jackie Casement know (578992). We can then perhaps form a little rota of 'part time' volunteers.

**Church cleaning** We now are very fortunate to have five little teams of cleaners, who clean on a fortnightly basis, but it would be lovely if there any more volunteers out there, so that we could clean more regularly and lighten everyone's load. Please let either Mark or Jackie know.

*Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)*



*We have our building back - hopefully leak-proof!*

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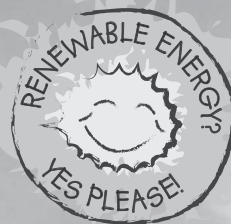
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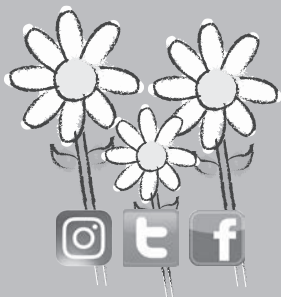
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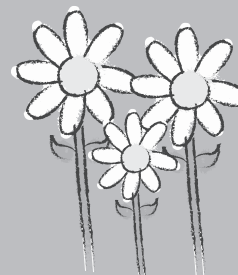
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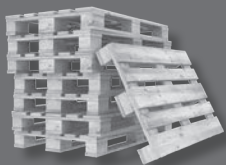
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# ABRAHAM

A German Jew named Eddie Jaku is 100 years old and has been domiciled in Australia since 1950. He has written a book, which is selling very well, entitled *The Happiest Man on Earth*. His story defies belief, having survived Kristallnacht, imprisonment in Buchenwald and Auschwitz, Josef Mengele, a death march, torture and much more. He survived because he had a skill as a mechanical engineer and, therefore, was deemed an "economically indispensable Jew". When liberated he weighed barely 5 stone, and was skeletal. He returned to Brussels but felt no joy having lost his home, family and some 100 relatives. Fortunately, he found his friend Kurt, whom he had met in the camp, and his sister. He married another Jewish survivor and moved to Australia. By all accounts he has since had a happy, successful life, now living with his wife in a care home. He calls himself the happiest man because he has children, grandchildren and great grandchildren... "everything I ever dreamed of". In his book he refers to the power of love and why we should renounce hatred... "It may kill your enemy, but it will destroy you in the process". There is also ultimate sadness, however, in that he has never returned to the fatherland. "I'm ashamed to be German. This was the elite who did this to us, not the sweepers, labourers and bricklayers, but the doctors, lawyers and architects. The cream of Germany were our guards and our torturers and you want me to forgive? Never!"

Which brings to mind a tale of my own. Some years ago I became involved with an elderly Jewish couple, splendid people, Michael and Rebecca (a very protective wife). Michael was Austrian and in Britain had been in the rag trade. I was helping them with a planning problem. That is by the way but I mention it to show where I came in. Along the way we enjoyed cups of tea and exchanged personal information. At some point I asked him if he still had anyone back in Austria, and he replied in the quietest, gentlest voice, "No. I was the only one of my family to walk out of the camp alive". Like Jaku, when he emerged, aged 16, he was skeletal and grossly underweight. At some stage he showed us his numbers and told us later that he was ever grateful to the British Government. He and a little band of companions were brought to England, given a small sum of money, a suit of clothes and a room in which to live and were wished well. I know that Michael worked hard, made a success of his business and had a contented life in dear old Blighty with Rebecca and their daughter. I did not ask him if he forgave. For sure he couldn't forget.

I know that I mentioned previously that these scribbles should not be used as an advertising agency for books. Aside from newspapers, which mostly contain gloom, despondency, drivel, and trivia, I like to read biographies/autobiographies of people who interest me - mostly literary and show-biz figures. Mrs Abe continues, I am glad to say, to ply me with volumes to such an extent that we need a bigger house. But I digress. Rapidly coming to the point, of all the autos I have read this one must rank among the best, if not the best. It entertained and horrified me in equal measures. It is by a man unjustly vilified and all but cancelled. Even if you have never seen or liked his films, give this one a go - Woody Allen 'Apropos of Nothing'.

I take no credit for this and I paraphrase a cracking point made

to a national newspaper. The BBC is reported to intend to secure a workforce that is 50% female, at least 20% black, Asian and minority ethnic and 12% disabled, echoing the boss's pronouncement that "White men's control of the news agenda must end". I make no comment on that but note that there is no mention of what proportion will be allocated for the brightest, most able and the ones judged most suitable for the job.

An article in the EADT recently caught my eye. The government's suggested new planning reforms was the subject and the commentator was James Hopkins. He makes many good points, particularly, close to my heart, about Local Authority planning teams being smaller than ever and grossly under-resourced. Where we diverge however is his welcomed proposal upon the emphasis on beautiful development, stressing the careful, quality design of Hopkins Homes. That may be, but I maintain that developments of the sort that Hopkins Homes are turning out are so prolific that they in turn will turn out to be ordinary 'anywhere type housing' not related to the Suffolk vernacular or palette. In effect - "Legoland".

We enter another year under circumstances never before known to most of us, but with good common sense, kindness and fortitude, qualities that Suffolk folk have in abundance, we shall survive and thrive. Happy New Year to all.

*Abraham*

## CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3rd January		Epiphany
9.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 10th January		Baptism of Christ
9.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 17th January		2nd Sunday of Epiphany
9.30 am	Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 24th January		3rd Sunday of Epiphany
9.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 31st January		4th Sunday of Epiphany
9.30 am	Zoom	Family Service
11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)

# DIRECTORY

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Team Vicar	The Reverend Alan Perry	453624
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Wangford	Vacancy	
Uggeshall	Clare Bailey	578679
Sotherton	Karen Flaxman	01986 873123
Church Wardens		
Wangford	Jackie Casement	578992
	Mark Notton	578691
Uggeshall	Colin Hill (Churchwarden Emeritus)	
	Colonel Giles Crisp	578251
	Clare Bailey	578679
Sotherton	Gerard Walker	01986 874248
	Stephen Flaxman	01986 873123
Wangford Community Council		
Vice-Chairman	Malcolm Woolnough	578701
Secretary	Sue Hosking	578287
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*"Keeping the  
Community informed"*

## Ready, steady, census

Households across our communities will soon be asked to take part in Census 2021.

The census is a once-in-a-decade survey that gives us the most accurate estimate of all the people and households in England and Wales. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

It will be the first run predominantly online, with households receiving a letter with a unique access code, allowing them to complete the questionnaire on their computers, phones or tablets.

"A successful census will ensure everyone from local government to charities can put services and funding in the places where they are most needed," Iain Bell, deputy national statistician at the Office for National Statistics, said. "This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, schools and new transport routes. That's why it is so important everyone takes part and we have made it easier for people to do so online on any device, with help and paper questionnaires for those that need them."

Census day will be on March 21, but households across the country will receive letters with online codes allowing them to take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And, for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well as voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months, although personal records will be locked away for 100 years, kept safe for future generations.

For more information, visit [census.gov.uk](http://census.gov.uk).

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