

*"Keeping  
the Community  
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

# Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 17 NO. 4 JANUARY 2022



Wangford's new Community garden took shape

Lockdown enabled the refurbishment of the Snooker Hall at Wangford Community Centre. See page 7 for exciting news about the reopening.



Emily and Tommy Rudd brought their second son Sonny Ian for baptism at Wangford, where Emily and her sister Lucy were both baptised and were choristers.

## Look back at 2021



The overgrown trees around the playing field were at last given a much-needed prune.



COVID-safe Uggeshall Teas took place thanks to the determination and ingenuity of the steering group.



Linda and Steph Miller - mum and daughter remembering on behalf of the Farm Shop and Wangford Vets.



New - Afternoon Tea



Wangford Book Exchange is up and running in the old, lovingly-restored, phone box. See page 7 for more information.

## WangfordHelp Omicron

If you need any help,  
especially if you are  
shielding or anxious due to  
the new variant, simply call  
or email us.

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

## Uggeshall Community Support Omicron

If you need practical help  
or support, or would just  
like to discuss your worries  
about the new variant,  
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Butt 578519 /07979  
770383

## POST OFFICE® Wangford Post Office

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distance.

## Wangford Village Store

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Sunday 8.00am - 4.00pm  
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covering and keep your  
distance from others.

## Wangford Farm Shop

Monday - Saturday  
9.00am - 5.00pm  
Sunday - CLOSED  
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must be worn

## WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

Wangford Parent and Toddler Group  
Mondays 9.30 - 11.30am Community Centre

Body Conditioning  
Tuesdays from 9.30 - 10.30am Community Centre

Blythburgh Bowls (winter meetings)  
Tuesdays from 2.00 - 4.00pm Community Centre

Wangford Art Group  
Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm Community Centre

Knitting Group  
Thursday 6th January 2.30pm N.B. in Wangford Church

Book Club  
Thursday 6th January 8.00pm Community Centre

The Arts Society  
Tuesday 11th January 2.00pm Southwold Arts Centre

Wangford with Henham Parish Council  
Tuesday 11th January 8.00pm Community Centre

Uggeshall Coffee Morning  
Thursday 13th January 10.30am Old School Hall

Afternoon Tea  
Thursday 13th January 2.30pm Community Centre

Uggeshall Cinema  
Thursday 13th January 7.00pm Old School Hall

Suffolk Wildlife Trust  
Thursday 13th January 7.30pm Southwold Arts Centre

Snooker Club Meeting  
Friday 14th January 7.30pm Community Centre

Men's Breakfast  
Saturday 15th January Angel Inn Ring Bernard on 578766

Wangford Church Coffee Morning  
Tuesday 18th January 10.30am N.B. in Wangford Church

Mobile Library at Wangford  
Wednesday 19th January  
1010 - 1030 Community Centre 1035 - 1045 Church

N.B. FACE COVERINGS MUST BE WORN IN  
THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

## John Robin Grummitt RIP

John Grummitt of Millfields, Wangford, died peacefully in James Paget Hospital on November 21st at the age of 83. He will be much missed by his daughters and grandchildren. Donations in John's memory to East Anglian Air Ambulance may be made through:  
[johngrummitt.much.loved.com](http://johngrummitt.much.loved.com)

## Food Bank

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

### Collection point

There is also a basket for your donations at the foot of the font in Wangford Church.

Thanks

Thank you to all who have donated to the Food Bank throughout the year

*Valerie Beckett*

## Mobile Library

The next visit is on  
Wednesday 19th January  
10.10am at Millfields  
10.35am at  
Wangford Church.

## Wangford Vets

### Holiday Opening Hours

Wed 29th December  
8.30am - 6.00 pm  
Thursday 30th December  
8.30am - 6.00pm  
New Year's Eve  
8.30am - 12noon  
New Year's Day Closed  
Sun 2nd/ Mon 3rd Jan:  
Closed  
Monday 4th January  
8.30am - 6.00 pm

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## The Parish Council is on Facebook

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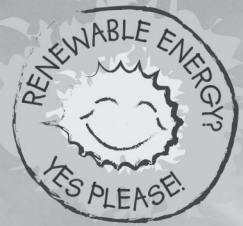
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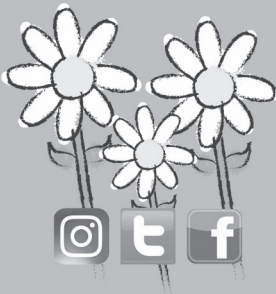
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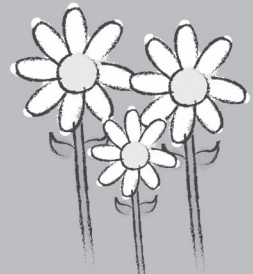
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## Jean Johnston Burns RIP

Saturday 6th November saw the COVID-delayed memorial service for Wangford resident Jean Burns, who died on 18th March 2020 at the age of 90, take place at St Peter and St Paul, Wangford. A large congregation of family and friends, many of whom had travelled some distance, joined villagers for an uplifting celebration of Jean's life.

Jean was born an only child in 1929 in Ramsbottom, Lancashire. She was brought up with her cousin, also called Jean, almost as twins, wearing the same clothes. Her teenage years during WW2 were spent at Bury Grammar School, but she did not have much social life. When she left school, she was interested in floristry, but her father, after losing his music retail business in the Depression, insisted that she get a 'proper' job. She therefore enrolled at Ripon St. Margaret's Ladies' College on a teaching course, where, at a May Ball she met Charles Burns, an officer cadet from Glasgow.

Charles's parents arranged a soirée (actually more of an interview) where Jean was even expected to play the piano. She passed muster, and she and Charles were married in Bury Parish Church in 1952. Charles, a Royal Engineer, was promoted to captain, and posted to a huge house in Germany when Jean was eight months pregnant. Ross was born in the army hospital in Munster. Subsequently posted to Osnabruck, Jean gave birth to Nigel, who arrived early, on the sofa at home. Back in the UK, Alastair was born in Chatham, but Caroline was born just before Christmas 1960 in Nairobi. Jean loved living in Kenya.

However, independence in 1963 meant they left and moved back to the UK, and Jean started a private nursery school in Digswell, Hertfordshire, and remained its head until her retirement. However, she did not have an easy life, as her husband died from Parkinson's in 1991, and she lost her sons Nigel and Ross.

Nevertheless, as she had done throughout her life, she made the best of it and looked forward. In 1993 she began to forge a new life for herself, and moved to Oak House in Wangford with Michael, where they established an active social life in the village and beyond. They shared a passion for seeing the world, and went on many cruises, visiting every continent. When Jean was struck down with pulmonary fibrosis, they still continued to travel, with Mike supervising and monitoring all the medical equipment that made it possible.

Jean loved cooking - her cordon bleu supper parties in Wangford were renowned. She was also very creative, with an eye for colour; she loved painting, and made elegant clothes for herself, often with miniature copies for Caroline, her only daughter.

Her grandchildren shared many memories of her - lovely holidays, wonderful food, kindness, strength. She was always glamorous, taking great pride in her appearance, and was not only a great story-teller, but also an amazing listener.

For Jean, the most important things in her life were her family and Mike. She had a deep Christian faith, and she believed that at the end she was going to a better place with no more pain and suffering.

Her memorial service was a real family affair, with tributes from her children and grandson Robert, and lovely singing by her granddaughters Emily and Rebecca. Piper David Harper, in full Scottish attire, closed the service with 'Amazing Grace' and other Scottish melodies.

Donations in Jean's memory may be made to Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis at <https://www.actionpf.org/get-involved/donate>.

## News from Wangford Church

We hope that everybody had a lovely Christmas and New Year and wish everybody all the best for 2022.

At the time of writing this, there are changes to the guidance regarding places of worship due to Covid and, as before, we will be working to any new regulations to ensure the safety of everybody in church.

Therefore, we are requiring everybody to use the sanitiser provided when entering and leaving church, and face coverings must be worn.

We pray that the rollout of the booster jabs and other measures will help and that restrictions may be eased in the future when it is safe to do so. Please look on the church noticeboard for notification of any changes that may affect services and/or coffee morning etc.

Looking forward to seeing you all in church again this year.

*Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)*

## Wangford Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast resumed with a small group meeting on November 20th at The Angel. The breakfast was generous, with some breakfasters saying they would not need any lunch, and one saying he wouldn't need to eat for the rest of the day.

Barrie Slatter led a discussion about the cause of global warming and showed that carbon capture could be boosted with changing our diets; pigs and poultry are much better than beef, lamb or venison. In the short term grasses are better carbon captors than trees which take tens of years to be significant. Barrie explained that we need to be more dependent on hydrogen as a fuel, which like water we can store, rather than hydrocarbon fuel sources. We are unable to store solar power or wind efficiently; wave power is constant, tidal currents as in the North Sea are always available. To help to combat global warming solar energy, using solar PV panels, needs to be developed as it is a clean source of energy feeding into the National grid.

The breakfasters thanked Barrie for an interesting and thought-provoking discussion.

We invite other men to attend our next meeting on Saturday 15th January 2022; if interested, contact Bernard on 01502 578766.

## News from Uggeshall

### Uggeshall Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning will take place on Thursday 13th January 10.30am to 12.30pm. in Uggeshall Old School Hall. Come and join us!

At the time of writing, we expect face coverings will be required except when eating or drinking.

### Uggeshall Cinema

I have pre-ordered a copy of the latest Bond film, so if it arrives in time that will be the film for January 13th 2022 in the Old School Hall. Doors open 7pm - film starts at 7:15pm At the time of writing, we expect face coverings will be required except when eating or drinking.

*Matt Grady*

## News from Sotherton

### St Andrew's

Do join us for our Communion service on Sunday 16th January at 9.30am.

## Snooker Club Re-Opening

Former members and anyone who would like to join are invited to a meeting on Friday 14th January at 7.30pm in the Committee Room at the Community Centre to discuss the re-formation of the club. Have your say in determining the new membership criteria, fees and rules, and decide how the Club will be managed on a day-to-day basis. You will also be able to inspect the refurbished Hall.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like your views to be known, phone Malcolm Woolnough on 578701 or email Sue Taylor at suethemusic@gmail.com

## Afternoon Tea



Thursday 13th January

2.30 - 4.30 pm

Wangford  
Community Centre

Served from 3.15pm and costing just £2.50 a head.

If you weren't able to come last month but would like to join us this time, just phone Sue on 578408 or email suethemusic@gmail.com

## Plant Sales

Thank you to all the kind people who bought from my plant stall during 2021 and also those who returned the pots to be used again. It was a good growing year, helping me raise £432 which has been forwarded to East Anglia's Children's Hospices. If the winter is kind and spares my cuttings and seedlings the stall will be out again in the spring.

*Joy Scriven*

## Book Club

At our December meeting we discussed Stef Penney's "Under A Pole Star". This book had a divided response but we all generally agreed that the description of the Arctic Circle, Eskimo culture and the harshness of life in such extreme conditions was very well executed. This is a long story and many of us felt it was unnecessarily so at almost 600 pages. The author used navigation as both the purpose of the book and also as a narrative device. Parts of the book were headed by a constellation description and each chapter was fixed in place by coordinates. This augmented the feeling of a journey both in terms of exploration and personal journeys.

The story is centred around Flora who at 12 years old went to Greenland and the Arctic Circle with her father on his whaling boat. This started her need to reach places few knew existed. We experienced life and exploration in the 1880s through the difficulty of obtaining funding to undertaking the journey and the clashes and friendships that came from shared experience. The conditions and climate were harsh. There were boats from USA and UK and each had the desire to map and claim previously unknown areas of land. This did not always bring out the best in people. We were shocked and uncomfortable when the USA boat brought back Eskimos to New York as a form of exhibit but they could not cope with the modern world, were unhappy, and became ill.

Running alongside the exploration was the relationship between Flora and Jakob which, like the tide, ebbed and flowed. Flora told her own story as an older woman through a memoir and talking to a journalist who turned out to be Jakob's nephew. Some commented that Flora was not likeable- she was married when she started her relationship with Jakob and decided that she could not have the baby she was expecting. Her single-mindedness enabled her to carry on with the work she felt destined to do but there was a personal cost. Definitely a thought-provoking book.

We next meet on Thursday 6th January to discuss Francis Spufford's "Light Perpetual" at 8pm in the Community Centre.

*Gill Smith 578620*

## Wangford Book Exchange Success

Have you seen or used the Book Exchange? The old telephone box has been transformed by very willing and able volunteers and is up and running as a Book Exchange. It has proved to be very popular with a good selection of books for all ages being donated. If you wish to take books to read it is a free exchange. If you wish to donate books we ask that they are in good condition please.



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# CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 2nd January	Epiphany
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 9th January	First Sunday of Epiphany
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 16th January	Second Sunday of Epiphany
9.30am Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 23rd January	Third Sunday of Epiphany
11.15 am Wangford	Morning Prayer
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 30th January	Candlemas
11.15 am Southwold	Team Communion
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)

All services from St Margaret's, Reydon are live-streamed via YouTube.

## Suffolk Wildlife Trust (Blyth Valley and Southwold)

'Latest reserves roundup'

Speaker:

Jamie Smith, our local Coastal Reserves Warden

Thursday 13th January  
7.30pm Southwold Arts Centre

## The Arts Society, Southwold

The 2022 series continues on Tuesday 11th January  
when Tony Rawlins will speak on

'Mad Men and Artists:  
How the Advertising Industry exploited Fine Art'

Lectures commence at 2.00pm in Southwold Arts Centre.  
Visitors and Members' guests are welcome.  
A small donation would be appreciated.

## Henham Steam Rally

Good news!

The 2022 Rally is scheduled to take place  
in September at Henham Park.

Watch this space!

## ABRAHAM

It is recorded in The Times that a Japanese research study tells us that 'Cats might appear to be aloof but they follow our every move' and that 'cats listened out for their owners, indicating an *unidentified socio-spatial cognitive ability*'. I was fairly sure I knew what that meant but why it takes an expensive exercise to tell us is beyond me. Still, just in case, I consulted the fount of all wisdom in our house, the remarkable Sparkle, asking her what she thought. She blinked, sniffed, and looked at me with disdain muttering something like, 'of course I knew that all along', and strolled off to have her second breakfast. I should have known she would know.

The Times also reports that Michael Cole wrote to say that the tower of Beccles Church has clocks on its south, east and west faces but nothing on its north, looking across the Waveney, explaining it's because locals "won't give the time of day to Norfolk". Rather harsh, what?

For a number of years there hung in the dining room of the Parrot and Punchbowl a large photograph of the Grand Old Man of Summerhill School, A.S.Neill, in company with a very young pupil. This was due to the fact that the landlady's husband had attended the school. One day, soon after the Dolphin at Thorpeness had taken over running the pub, I noticed that the photo had gone. Apparently it was stored away and I requested if I might buy it. The answer being no I assumed that some day it would reappear. As time went on with no reappearance I kept nagging the manager, a lovely man called Chris that, if they had no use for it, do not dispose of it but let me purchase it. Alas, to no avail until, in late November, I caught him again and blah, blah, blah. Chris is getting annoyed with me, I thought and he's not giving in. Happily munching on my fish finger sandwich, he wanders through with the Great Man and gives it to me. Naturally I asked how much and he merely asked for a donation to the pub charity. My cup is full and manager Chris is part of my personal history - forever.

The unexpected little surprises that happen to me. At the end of November I was privileged to be invited by an important local personage to attend a tree planting ceremony, in company with a small select band of eight others and the main man. The tree was purchased with the proceeds of an award given to our man for Growing Old Disgracefully. Among the chosen was a representative from the Lowestoft Access Community Trust to whom the Dancing Doctor donated a considerable sum. After the short interesting ceremony we retired inside to champagne and lovely nibbles and, glory be, a real fire, and sparkling conversation. Being a monkey puzzle tree, I was informed that it was a slow grower and would eventually reach a mighty height. Know what? I wouldn't bet against the old warrior not seeing it mature.

*Everything I've achieved in my life has been because of the library.*  
(Billy Connolly)

*Abraham*

# DIRECTORY

Team Rector The Reverend Simon Pitcher 725424  
 Team Vicar The Reverend Alan Perry 453624  
 Team Admin Tania Birtwistle 724115

## Parochial Church Council Secretaries

Wangford Vacancy  
 Uggheshall Clare Bailey 578679  
 Sotherton Karen Flaxman 01986 873123

## Church Wardens

Wangford Jackie Casement 578992  
 Mark Notton 578691

Uggheshall 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

## Wangford Community Centre

Chairman Malcolm Woolnough 578701  
 Bookings Rachel Dade  
 racheldade@hotmail.co.uk 578311

Caretaker Roy Hodgkins 07871 044120  
 Secretary Sue Taylor 578408

Uggheshall Old School Hall  
 Bookings Denise Baker 578190

## Parish Council Clerks

Wangford Jean Brown 675739  
 Uggheshall Jean Brown 675739  
 Sotherton Caroline Cardwell 01986 781349

## Henham Steam Rally

Chair Helen Walker 07557 784927

Wangford Surgery 578257  
 Sole Bay Health Centre 722326  
 Wangford Veterinary Clinic 578999  
 Police Urgent 999 Non Urgent 101

# JANUARY 2022 CENTRE DIARY

4th Jan	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	9.30-12noon
6th Jan	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
	Book Club	Cttee Room	8.00pm
10th Jan	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
11th Jan	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.00pm
	Parish Council	Cttee Room	8.00pm
13th Jan	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Afternoon Tea	Hall	2.30-4.30pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
14th Jan	Snooker Club	Cttee Room	7.30pm
17th Jan	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
18th Jan	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.00pm
19th Jan	Artmakers East	Hall	10.00-3.00pm
	Benacre League Meeting	Hall	7.30-9.00pm
20th Jan	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
24th Jan	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
	Blyth Valley Labour	Cttee Room	7.30pm
25th Jan	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.00pm
26th Jan	Steam Rally	Hall	8.00pm
27th Jan	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
31st Jan	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am

## Wangford Village Recorder

After great consideration and with much regret, Angie Bliss will no longer be taking on the role of Village Recorder. Due to work, family commitments and time constraints, Angie does not feel she can give the voluntary role the time it deserves. Since taking on the role it has snowballed and generated a great deal of enthusiasm amongst residents. On a more positive note this enthusiasm has shown there may be someone else within the village who has more time and fewer commitments who may like to take on the role. Anyone interested in the role should contact Janette Robinson of the Suffolk Local History Council via their website.

*Ed: Thank you Angie for the work you've done thus far.*

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDITOR SUE TAYLOR:

79 High Street, Wangford

Telephone: 01502 578408 Email: suethemusic@gmail.com

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Community informed"*

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