

*"Keeping  
the Community  
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

# Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 13 NO. 10 JULY 2018

## Flower Festival

A huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Flower Festival. It was a great success, with £1,051.23 made over the weekend. With £200 from Jumble Sale funds, this made a total of £1,251.23 donated to the Church Restoration Fund.

*Rosemary Sutton*

*And thank you too, Rosemary, for your inspiration and hard work - and Tony too for all the fetching and carrying!*



## *Not to be missed!*

### Songs, Tea and Cake

Do join us for Afternoon Tea and Music at Wangford Church on Saturday 7th July from 3.00 pm. The Sole Bay Singers will entertain you from 3.30 pm with their ever popular selection of songs past and present. Buy your tickets at the church on the day. £5 adult, £1 child under 10, to include a cup of tea, coffee or cold drink with a slice of cake.

In aid of the Church Restoration Fund.

### Uggeshall Country Teas

The ever-popular Uggeshall Country Teas will be held at the Old School Hall on Saturday and Sunday afternoons of July 28th and 29th and August 4th and 5th from 2.30pm to 5.30pm. Friendly villagers serve traditional home-baked drop scones, breads, Suffolk rusks and delicious forget-the-waistline cakes, all served with freshly-made pots of tea.

Proceeds go towards maintenance of St. Mary's Church and the Old School Hall. Parking is free and plentiful and the grounds are wheelchair accessible.



## First Thursday Knitting Group

Due to holidays the May meeting was cancelled, but the home knitting continued. We have no new projects at the moment but have supplied blankets and knitted garments to Jack Storey who is pre-paring clothes etc for the trip in July by his son Charles, to the refugee camps in Europe. Unfortunately the need continues as we hear only too often in the news.

We have been given a large quantity of wool for our use. What is superfluous to our requirements will go to Suffolk Sewers and Knitters who supply us with patterns, wool, and an outlet for any garments we make. It is nice to be able to give some back. Thank you.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> July at 2.30 in the Community Centre. All welcome.

*Valerie Beckett 578987*

## Fly the Flag in Celebration and support Wangford Church Restoration Fund

Mark that special occasion by flying the flag at the Community Centre that day for just £10.

Contact

Ray Lurkins on  
(01502) 578227

## WHAT'S ON IN JULY

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

### Knitting Group

Thursday 5th July 2.30 pm Community Centre

### Book Club

Thursday 5th July 8.00 pm Community Centre

### Songs, Tea and Cake

Saturday 7th July 3.00 pm Wangford Church

### Singing Group

Sunday 8th July 10.00am Community Centre

### Wangford Coffee Morning

Tuesday 10th July 10.45am Community Centre

### Singing Group

Wednesday 11th July 10.00am Community Centre

### Mobile Library at Wangford

Wednesday 11th July  
Millfields 10.10 - 10.30am Church 10.35 - 10.45am

### Uggeshall Coffee Morning

Thursday 12th July 10.30 am The Old School Hall

### Summer Fayre

Saturday 14th July 2.00 pm Community Centre

### Lunch Club

Tuesday 17th July 12.30pm Community Centre

### Whist Drive

Wednesday 18th July 7.00 pm Community Centre

### Wangford Coffee Morning

Tuesday 24th July 10.45am Community Centre

### Men's Breakfast Group

Saturday 28th July 8.45 for 9.00am Wangford Plough

### Uggeshall Country Teas

Saturday/Sunday 28th/29th July  
Saturday/Sunday 4th/5th August  
2.30 - 5.30 pm The Old School Hall

### Wrentham Film Night

Saturday 28th July 7.00 for 7.30 pm  
Wrentham Village Hall

## VOLUNTARY HELP CENTRE

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## Wangford Men's Breakfast Group

The next meeting is at the Wangford Plough on Saturday 28th July when Derek Rumsey will speak on 'My life for 30 years as a commercial diver'

Full English - £10  
Light breakfast  
(cereals, fruit juice, toast and jam/marmalade) - £6

Please let Bernard know on 578766 by midday on Thursday 26th if you wish to join us.  
8.45 for 9.00 am

## Wangford 100 Club 2018

Winners in the  
May Draw were

1. Richard Utting
2. Penny Mansfield
3. Mary Baldry

## Wangford Church Coffee Mornings

July's Coffee Mornings are on Tuesdays 10th and 24th at 10.45 am in the Community Centre.

Do come along for home-made cakes and scones, freshly-brewed coffee and a good old natter.

## Grand Henham Steam Rally

The 44th Rally is on 15th and 16th September at Henham Park.

Put the dates in  
your diary now!



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Stuart &  
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# JULY'S TEAM LETTER

Dear Friends

On Sunday 15th July at St Andrew's Walberswick we are holding an open-air celebration service in the ruins of the church. Bishop Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich, is coming to join us, and he will lead prayers for the rededication of the newly restored ruins. We hope that many from the village community will come to the service. Music will be led by a band, and after the service we hope that people will eat their picnics on the grass, raise a celebratory glass and enjoy a piece of celebratory cake. Hopefully the sun will shine and a happy morning will be enjoyed by everyone.

The service marks the completion of a conservation project that has stabilised the ruins, ensuring that the fragile stonework is safe. It is a major liability on a small PCC to be responsible for extensive ancient ruins, and we are grateful to Historic England for the grant support.

When first built, St Andrew's Walberswick was the same size as St Edmund's Southwold and Holy Trinity Blythburgh. Simon Jenkins writes that once it was a "mighty galleon" of a church. It was built during the second half of the fifteenth century reflecting the confidence in late medieval religion and the wealth of East Anglia. By 1696 however times had changed and the mighty structure must have been in a state of decay. It was too big for the small congregation, who decided to downsize. The church was unroofed, and the smaller church we see today was built within the shell of the earlier south aisle. I wonder how the church members felt when they took that decision? Were they saddened at an apparent decay in church life, or heartened by escaping a major liability? They took a brave and controversial decision. Could any of us imagine tackling such a decision today!

The churchwardens of 1696 would be astonished to know that in 2017 state funding would conserve the ruins of the church that they had abandoned, and that the community would gather in celebration of those ruins. I like to imagine that they would be thrilled, and that they would praise God for his faithfulness in every generation. In the hymn, "Abide with me" is the line, "change and decay in all around I see: O thou who changest not, abide with me." What might be perceived in human terms as change, decline and decay is, from God's perspective, part of the ongoing story of his church. That is a story of change, adaptation, renewal, new growth and new life. Christ died, was buried, but rose again to new life. In each generation of the church the same pattern is followed. The church family gives of itself in seeking to serve Christ in its own time and place. That might look very different to what happened in the past, but is obedient to Christ's call today. Tomorrow new life will grow from what is done today, and the life of the church continues in each generation.

Our ancient church buildings tell the story of many earlier generations of Christians who have served Christ and served one another in past years. Conserving, adapting and enhancing those buildings means that they stand testimony to a living faith. Our church buildings point backwards into history. They are a testimony to the lively faith of our forebears. They give us confidence that our faith has been tested by those who have gone before, and been proved to be true. Our church buildings point to the future and the life of the church tomorrow. It will be different from what has gone before, but it will also be a lively faith, sincere, sometimes tested but also alive and true.

I hope and pray that Sunday 15th July will be a happy day in Walberswick, a first day in God's new tomorrow.

*Simon*

## News from Sotherton

### Cake Stall

We need your help, please!

Sotherton Church are holding our annual cake stall outside the United Reform Church in Southwold on Monday, 6th August from 9.00 am onwards. All contributions, sweet or savoury, including preserves, will be very welcome. Contact Jane Walker (01986 874248) or Karen Flaxman (01986 873123).

### Steam Rally Pancakes

If you can help to make pancakes for our stall at the Henham Steam Rally or would like to help serve them during the weekend (15th/16th September), please get in touch with Karen on 01986 873123.

*Karen Flaxman*

## News from Wangford Vets

### Puppy Party

The next Puppy Party is on Wednesday 4th July at 7pm. The party lasts just over an hour and is FREE of charge to all - clients and non-clients; we do however ask you to reserve your place by calling our reception on 01502 578999.

Vets from the practice will be talking about some of the aspects of caring for a puppy to ensure it grows into a healthy adult dog as well giving advice on emergency first aid. Nurses Estelle and Steph will be on hand to answer any of your concerns and give you advice on anything from early dental care to the safest type of toys you can provide to keep your puppy not only entertained but safe too. Debbie for Paws N Pose will be taking photographs and Barking Mad Dog Training School have also kindly agreed to come along to complete the team to give your puppy the best possible kind of socialising experience.

## News from Uggeshall

### Uggeshall Country Teas

Would you like to help with the famous Uggeshall Country Teas?

This is the 49th year of the Teas; they will be held at The School Room as usual on the 28th/29th July and 4th/5th August from 2.30-5.30pm. You can help in many different ways, so there is something for everyone. Do join our friendly community to make the Country Teas a wonderful experience.

For more information, please contact Linda Hill on 01502 578789, or [lindadianehill@btinternet.com](mailto:lindadianehill@btinternet.com). There is also an open meeting for anyone to come on 3rd July in the School Room at 7pm.

### Uggeshall Country Teas Bric-a-Brac

We once again are collecting Bric-a-Brac to sell at the Teas. Please ring Jenny on 01502 578405, Laurence on 01502 578320 or Nick on 07860 268459 if you have anything to donate. We can arrange collection.

### Uggeshall Coffee Morning

This month's gathering will be on Thursday 12th July in The Old School Hall from 10.30 am.

## BOOK CLUB

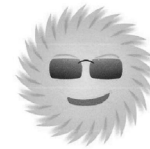
At our June meeting we discussed Elly Griffiths' book 'The Woman in Blue'. The book is part of a series and although it can be read as a 'stand alone' many of the references would have made better sense if we had read the earlier books in her Ruth Galloway series. It was engaging and atmospheric but rushed at the end. Set in Walsingham, Norfolk, against the religious history of the shrine, three murders are committed and Dr Ruth Galloway and DCI Nelson set out (in their different ways) to find out who did it and why.

Characterisation and plotting were good, although we felt there were too many 'types' of people. We also felt that just as we were being submerged in the story something would happen to jolt us into reality and awareness that it was just a story which was unsettling. We discussed the prevalent imagery throughout the book - the divine nursing mother Mary depicted in blue and the somewhat secret cult of worshipers (the lactans) that Ruth Galloway unearthed which was pitted against Nelson's police work and finding a (spurious) link between victims and suspects of a woman who had fostered many children over the years. In summary, the book was liked by the majority but would have been better if we had read the earlier books first.

We next meet on Thursday 5th July at the Community Centre at 8pm to discuss 'The Slaughter Man' by Tony Parsons. All welcome. Tea/coffee £1.

*Gill Smith 578620*

## Wangford and District Community Council



# Summer Fayre

**Stalls include Plants and Produce, Tombola, Giftware, Brand-new and Nearly-new, Bric-a-Brac, Bus Stop, Jumble, Books, plus Carolyn's Cakes for the Santa Paws Appeal, and the Raffle with many prizes**

**Saturday 14th July  
in Wangford Community Centre  
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Admission free;  
refreshments on sale**

**Proceeds to Wangford Community Council**

## Wangford Church News

In July we are looking forward to an afternoon of tea, cake and song on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> July. We shall be serving tea and cakes, holding our usual raffle, produce stall, and new for this year "bag a bag". See how lucky you can be. We shall be entertained by the Sole Bay Singers, always popular in Wangford.

Work on the fabric of the Church is in hand and we await estimates for work on the Church roof, which leaks in heavy rain, and renovation and restoration of the floor tiles and flooring generally.

Apologies for the times that the Church Clock ceased to work. We have had one estimate for the recommended overhaul thought to be needed, but as it is a great deal of money, we are waiting for a further opinion. Meanwhile, the problem seems to have been corrected, so we wait to see. I think we would all miss the church clock which is so much a part of this village.

We are grateful for the care given to our Churchyard, it looks beautiful.

Very good news for us all is that Sheila Scholes has agreed to be our new Treasurer. Many thanks to Jackie Casement, who has kept things going whilst we were without.

*Valerie Beckett*



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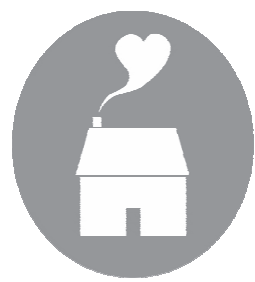


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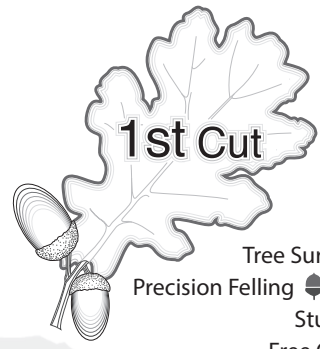
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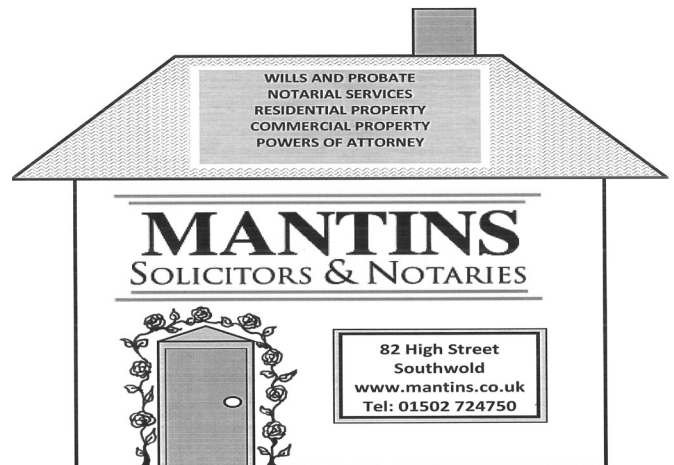
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# ABRAHAM

As I get older I find myself unexpectedly thinking of places in which my caravan-serai has rested, all too briefly in some cases, and pondered which, if any, I have called home. The wee Kingdom town of Tannochbrae where I was born and stopped for twenty two years should have a strong claim and might well do if I had been a happy wee boy, but alas. The next stop was an unattractive town west of Paisley where a year's dalliance made no lasting impression, although I did meet a grand chum. Next, for another one year sojourn, was a lovely town in the north east of the land of the barbarians where I acquired Mrs Abe and a little girl, but too short a time to claim my affections. Three years in East Anglia were insufficient to call home, but thirty four years in south west Essex held me long enough to cement us, and any small pin prick I made on society surely happened there. Lastly, (or not, as the case may be) back to dear old East Suffolk, where I have been happier than anywhere. I may have remarked elsewhere that I am a late starter in almost everything, but it's never too late, and these past twelve years have finally taught me that what truly makes a home is the sight of a little pussy cat wandering to the front door and claiming me as its own. Cracked it. Wherever I lay my moggie, that's my home.

I recently had occasion to complete an application form in order to do some voluntary work. I thought, blimey, why at my age should I have to do this, but then thought again how conceited and arrogant am I to assume that the recipient knew to accept me without some information, and, wait for it - two references, for goodness sake.

Be that as it may I was required to state what previous volunteering jobs I had done and I remarked to Mrs Abe that I had done nothing in this way. Hold on, she remarked and proceeded to reel off the stuff I had actually done. While not exactly earth-shattering at least it was something. The point is that, in the main, we are too self-effacing. Because we have likely lived unnoticed, saved no lives, fought no wars, never played for England or produced a great piece of literature, does not mean that our existence has been, or will continue to be useless. At an advancing age we may conclude that it is too late and just end up festering, leading an existence waiting for it to end. That does not make you a bad person. But there is another option. Take part, use what experience your long life and wisdom has given you, take a few risks to make up for lost time. There are volunteers required everywhere and this does not necessarily entail hiking off to Africa or the like. Look around your own village and environs, there is much to be done and enjoyed.

The latest crackerjack, back of a fag packet idea from Michael Gove, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to prevent the use of wood burning stoves and probably open fires. What house in the country, especially up north does not rely upon heating the rooms by solid fuel, particularly logs, and not just in winter? Very welcoming and cheerful to look at, will we be doomed to stare at radiators or storage heaters, or crawl off to bed to keep warm? My chum John and many others will lose out on exercising by not chopping and humping. Architecturally, there will be

no need for real chimneys and who wants to see a house without, such feature being the external soul of the cottage? Rural pubs will again lose out. Who is not attracted on a wild wintry evening by the lights and welcoming blaze of a fire? And, at Mrs Abe's pre-new year bash how will the old folk be toasted?

As I have told you umpteen times, I can't help it. I read that a certain local authority have installed rocks and raised plant beds around an area of common land in order to prevent Travellers stopping on the land. Disgusting. Will there never be an end to this institutionalised prejudice? Again I say again that there is no interest by politicians in protecting Travellers' rights because there are no votes in doing so.

*Abraham*

## WRENTHAM FILM NIGHT

Wrentham Village Hall on Saturday 28th July

### THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

2017 film inspired by the imagination of P.T. Barnum, The Greatest Showman is an original musical which tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a worldwide spectacle.

Doors open at 7.00 pm for refreshments.

Film starts at 7.30 pm. £4.50

Come along and meet your neighbours for a drink and chat before the film - everyone's welcome.

## CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 1st July 11.15 am Wangford	5th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist (CW) Patronal Festival and Baptism
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 8th July 11.15 am Wangford	6th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist (CW)
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 15th July 9.30 am Sotherton	7th Sunday after Trinity Eucharist (CW)
11.15 am Wangford	Eucharist (CW)
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 22nd July 11.15 am Wangford	8th Sunday after Trinity Wangford@Church
6.00 pm Uggheshall	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 29th July 11.15 am Wangford	9th Sunday after Trinity Team Eucharist
	(Uggheshall Teas, so no Evening Prayer)

# 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
Uggheshall	Colin Hill (Churchwarden Emeritus)	
	Colonel Giles Crisp	578251
	Clare Bailey	578679
Sotherton	Gerard Walker	01986 874248
	Stephen Flaxman	01986 873123
Wangford Community Council		
Chairman	Philip Hayes	578755
Secretary	Sue Hosking	578287
Wangford Community Centre Management Team		
Chairman	Malcolm Woolnough	578701
Bookings	Gill Rush	578062
Caretaker	Edna Urting	578311
Secretary	Sue Taylor	578408
Wangford Clubs		
Sports Club	Malcolm Woolnough	578701
Book Club	Gilliane Smith	578620
Parish Council Clerks		
Wangford	Jean Brown	675739
Uggheshall	Jean Brown	675739
Sotherton	Alison Cackett	01986 874442
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
Crimestoppers		0800 555111
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator		
	Teresa Wells	578186

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OR PUBLISHERS.

*"Keeping the  
Community informed"*

## JULY 2018 CENTRE DIARY

2nd July	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
3rd July	Imogen	Hall	9.30am
3rd July	Post Office	Bar	10.00am-12.00pm
3rd July	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	7.00pm
4th July	Barber	Cttee Room	3.00pm
5th July	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30am
5th July	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
5th July	Knitting Group	Cttee Room	2.30pm
5th July	Yoga	Hall	7.15pm
5th July	Book Club	Cttee Room	8.00pm
6th July	Salsa	Hall	7.30pm
8th July	Singing Group	Hall	10.00am
9th July	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
10th July	Imogen	Hall	9.30am
10th July	Post Office	Bar	10.00am-12.00pm
10th July	Coffee Morning	Hall	10.45am
10th July	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	7.00pm
10th July	Parish Council	Cttee Room	8.00pm
11th July	Singing Group	Hall	10.00aam
12th July	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30am
12th July	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
12th July	Yoga	Hall	7.15pm
13th July	Salsa	Hall	7.30pm
14th July	Summer Fayre	Hall	2.00pm
16th July	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
17th July	Imogen	Hall	9.30am
17th July	Post Office	Bar	10.00am-12.00pm
17th July	Lunch Club	Hall	12.30pm
17th July	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	7.00pm
18th July	Whist Drive	Bar	7.00pm
19th July	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30am
19th July	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
19th July	Yoga	Hall	7.15pm
20th July	Salsa	Hall	7.30pm
23rd July	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
23rd July	Blythvalley Labour	Cttee Room	8.00pm
24th July	Imogen	Hall	9.30am
24th July	Post Office	Bar	10.00am-12.00pm
24th July	Coffee Morning	Hall	10.45am
24th July	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	7.00pm
25th July	Artmakers East	Hall	10.00am
26th July	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30am
26th July	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
26th July	Yoga	Hall	7.15pm
27th July	Salsa	Hall	7.30pm
30th July	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
31st July	Imogen	Hall	9.30am
31st July	Post Office	Bar	10.00am-12.00pm
31st July	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	7.00pm

Barbers next visit 8th August.