

“Keeping
the Community
informed”

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 18 NO. 6 MARCH 2023



CORONATION

WEEKEND - MAY 6th - 8th

Flowers in Wangford Church

The Parish Council has agreed to sponsor floral displays in the church for the Coronation weekend, together with photos of community activities in the villages.

Flags, Bunting and Gardens

Let's turn Wangford red, white and blue from the beginning of May with flags, bunting, hanging baskets, window boxes and flower beds all round the village for people to admire and enjoy as they stroll around in what we hope will be pleasant Spring weather.

Bank Holiday Monday

The Big Help Out

This is designated The Big Help Out Day, when people are encouraged to volunteer, something we're already very good at around these parts. You may already be booked to support the efforts of your preferred charity or group, but if not, we hope you will come up with ideas for small tasks and projects to improve our villages that individuals or a group could volunteer to undertake. It could be something simple like a litter pick to involve the children, or flagging up a neighbour who needs help with their garden or would appreciate a visit or a trip out, or bigger projects needing specific skills. Cllr Sara Farrands is compiling a list of all your suggestions which will appear in the April Messenger.

Contact her at farrands.mars@gmail.com or on 01502 578594.

The Big Afternoon Tea

It's hoped that the day will culminate in Afternoon Tea (itself one of the volunteering opportunities!) for everyone who volunteers over the weekend, those who volunteer throughout the year, and our regular attendees. This is in the early planning stages so any suggestions or offers of help will be very welcome.

Please contact Sue Taylor at suethemusic@gmail.com or on 01502 578408.

LATITUDE

AT HENHAM PARK 20th - 23rd JULY 2023

Wangford and Henham folk -

would you like to go to Latitude?

Hurry to register your interest for concessionary tickets from **now until 12th March 2023**.

Email Adrian Smith southwold@jennie-jones.com

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.

1. All applicants must be **permanently resident** in Wangford or Henham and be registered on the Parish Council's Electoral Roll. A routine check is 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)
3. The price of the concessionary tickets is determined by the Latitude Festival organisers, Festival Republic Ltd.
4. Close of registration is **midnight on 12th March 2023**. 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.
5. Successful applicants will be notified after the closing date, together with the total cost, payment arrangements and ticket collection information. This information will also be published on public noticeboards in Wangford village.
6. Festival Republic Ltd. will print onto tickets the names as given at the time of registration, and such tickets will not be transferable.



Food Bank

Items for the Food Bank can be left in the basket at the foot of the font in Wangford Church from where they will be collected and taken to John and Jan Collins at 19 Lakeside Park Drive on Friday morning. If you need them to be collected from your home, please ring Val Beckett on 01502 578987.

If anyone is aware of someone in need who would benefit from a food parcel, please encourage them to contact Lowestoft Foodbank on 07307 866146 or email info@lowestoft.foodbank.org.uk

Community Garden Work Party

Sunday 12th March 10.00 until noon. Meet by the Community Centre. Spring is on its way and plants are beginning to come into leaf and flower. If you fancy helping to improve the village and the local environment please come and join our merry band of volunteers. You will get some gentle exercise whilst weeding, tidying up and meeting like-minded people for a chat.

Wangford Churchyard Working Party

And here's another opportunity to put your gardening skills into practice. Do come and join our churchyard working party on Saturday April 1st from 9.30 am to noon, with coffee and buns at half-time. Just turn up with secateurs, loppers, small saw - anything for cutting back - and lots of energy.

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

Wangford Parent and Toddler Group

Mondays 9.30 - 11.30am Community Centre

Body Conditioning

Tuesdays from 9.30 - 10.30am Community Centre

Salsa

Wednesdays from 7.30 to 8.30pm Community Centre

Wangford Art Group

Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm Community Centre

Yoga

Thursdays from 6.30 to 7.30pm Community Centre

Book Club

Thursday 2nd March 8.00pm Community Centre

Accessible Ceilidh Class

Tuesdays 7th and 21st March 7.00pm Community Centre

Uggeshall Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 7th March 7.30pm Old School Hall

Uggeshall Coffee Morning

Thursday 9th March 10.30am Old School Hall

Uggeshall Cinema

Thursday 9th March 7.00pm Old School Hall

Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Thursday 9th March 7.30pm Wenhaston Village Hall

Community Garden Work Party

Sunday 12th March 10.00 am - noon

The Arts Society

Tuesday 14th March 2.00pm Southwold Arts Centre

Wangford with Henham Parish Council

Tuesday 14th March 7.30pm Community Centre

Mobile Library at Wangford

Wednesday 15th March

1010 - 1030am Community Centre

1035 - 1045am Church

Wangford Church Coffee Morning

Wednesday 15th March 10.30am - noon

Wangford Men's Breakfast

Saturday 18th March 8.45am The Angel Inn

Afternoon Tea

Thursday 23rd March 2.30pm Community Centre

Charity Fizz and Quiz

Saturday 25th March 7.00pm Community Centre

More details from Lauren on 07429 112648

Blyth Valley Labour

Monday 27th March 7.30pm Community Centre

WangfordHelp

If you need any help, simply call or email us.

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wangfordhelp@gmail.com

Phone:

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or 01502 578408

Wangford Village Store

Monday to Saturday
8.00am - 6.00pm

Sunday 8.00am - 4.00pm



Wangford Post Office

Tuesdays
from 10.00am - 12 noon

Thursdays
from 1.00 - 3.00pm
Community Centre

Wangford Farm Shop

Monday - Saturday
9.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday CLOSED

Wangford 100 Club 2022/23

Winners in the February

Draw were

1. Dan Smith
2. Julie Manetas
3. Carolyn Sheppard

Wrentham Village Hall Film Night

ELVIS

The 2022 film exploring the life and music of Elvis Presley.

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Saturday 25th March
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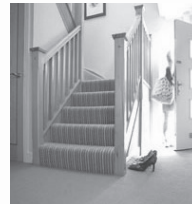
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MARCH'S TEAM LETTER

I am writing this before being fortunate enough to go on a skiing holiday for a week in Italy. Not yet too old to struggle down the slopes with thighs and knees protesting. For those of you who are familiar with skiing, you will understand when I say that my preferred skiing surface is the prepared 'piste' which is marked out and smoothed each night by machines called 'piste-bashers' so that intermediate skiers like me can proceed without too many crises of confidence.

Occasionally though, on the piste, we come across some large bumps caused when skiers push snow into mounds as they do sharp turns - these are called 'moguls' - don't ask me why. When presented with these, my skiing companions generally like to take serious avoiding action on the basis that they are too difficult to negotiate. But occasionally I suggest that we should try them as I remember being told that if you attempt something more testing, and rather out of your comfort zone, it will be good for you! Trying to ski through moguls forces you to concentrate on your skiing position, balance, weight and movement, and when you (hopefully) emerge unscathed back on the level piste, you are able to ski better there because of your efforts in the moguls.

It is probably the same in many areas of activity. Playing the piano, learning a language, learning to swim - we all need to push ourselves to take the next step - sometimes into uncharted territory - if we are to make progress.

The analogy with our spiritual lives is clear. It is easy to potter along on the spiritual 'piste' not really testing ourselves and probably tackling shallower and shallower slopes. We can run out of momentum and, imperceptibly, our contact with God, and our enthusiasm for finding meaning and purpose in our lives can wane.

Not an analogy I thought I would ever make, but maybe the church season of Lent which runs through March might be our spiritual 'mogul field'. Maybe we should not just let this season pass by, but stop and consider whether testing ourselves by tackling some spiritual bumps might be a good idea. What about a Lent book to read, or a Lent group to attend, or giving some time to prayer - or maybe just sitting in a church and finding some silence and reflection.

One thing I will guarantee - just like skiing - you will feel better equipped afterwards.

Philip Tarris

Wangford Mens' Breakfast

Saturday 18th February saw Melanie Wilson from melanie.wilson@uw.partners give sound advice on the best ways of using power and ideas for reducing the ever increasing utility costs. She assists in a scheme to analyze usage and steer people to the correct tariffs - all advice most welcome in our inflationary times. A total of 14 enjoyed the talk and polished off a good Angel Inn breakfast.

Future meetings will see- March 18th- Ian Lomas and travels in Iceland, 15th April- Helen Walker, Henham Steam Rally, 20th May- John Collins, Sole Bay Food Bank and 15th July- Charles Storer MBE, Hope & Aid Direct. All are welcome, 8.45 for 9.00am.

Contact johnscholes@hotmail.com.

The Arts Society, Southwold

The 2023 series continues on Tuesday 14th March when Patrick Craig will speak on

'Bach and Handel - Separated at Birth'

Lectures commence at 2.00pm in Southwold Arts Centre. Visitors and Members' guests are welcome.

News from Wangford Church

Firstly, we would like to send our best wishes to Canon Simon Pitcher as he starts his new ministry in Lavenham. We joined with the team for a lovely farewell service for Simon in Southwold at the end of February and we hope that Simon and his wife Rene quickly settle into life in their new home.

We are now in Lent and this year's Bishop's Lent appeal is for work in our link diocese of Kagera in Tanzania. The aim is to focus on sustainable farming and development, and training of hospital doctors. There is literature available in the church if you wish to know more about this.

Wednesday March 15th is the date for monthly coffee morning which starts at 10.30 in the church. Everybody is welcome to attend this event and the morning also includes the draw for the 100 club raffle. Tea and Coffee are served with an assortment of lovely home made cakes and other treats and it is great to see the numbers attending increasing of late.

March 19th is Mothering Sunday and we will have a family service on this day; do come along.

On Saturday April 1st there will be a churchyard working party from 9.30 am to noon, with coffee and buns at half-time. Just turn up with secateurs, loppers, small saw - anything for cutting back.

Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)

News from Uggeshall

Uggeshall Coffee Morning

March's Coffee Morning is on Thursday 9th from 10.30am in the Old School Hall. Everybody's welcome.

Uggeshall Cinema

The cinema will be back on Thursday 9th March with 'The Boat That Rocked' - a band of rogue DJs that captivated Britain, playing the music that defined a generation and standing up to a government that wanted classical music, and nothing else, on the airwaves. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.15 pm.

Matt Grady

Jingle and Mingle

I would like to thank the members of the Teas Committee who arranged the Jingle & Mingle event at the Old School. Although it was a frosty night there was a good turnout, of Uggeshall residents, who enjoyed a glass of mulled wine and various nibbles, while meeting friends and neighbours. It is hoped this event will be repeated this year. Well done to the organisers.

Philip Hall, Chair, Uggeshall Parish Council.

FROSTENDEN, UGGESHALL AND SOUTH COVE PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS A NEW CLERK

2 hours a week of paid work, rate to be agreed.
Training can be arranged.

Contact: Philip Hall on 01502 578405 or 07765 838233
Or via email to philiphall@talk21.com.



How would YOU like to celebrate
the Coronation in Uggeshall?

To be part of the planning group
or to simply share your ideas, please contact Jane at
skip177@btinternet.com or on 07896 315052

LATITUDE

It's not too late!

You have until 10th April to register your interest for
concessionary tickets for this year's Festival, which takes
place from 20th - 23rd July at Henham Park.

Strict conditions apply - see February Messenger.

Contact: - Pearl Felgate on 01502 578531
email: pearlfelgate@googlemail.com

Uggeshall Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 7th March, 7.30 pm at the Old School Hall

Joyce Edna Gladwell RIP

Family, friends and neighbours gathered in Wangford church on 10th January 2023 for the service of thanksgiving for the life of Joyce, who died on 19th December 2022.

Born near Blundeston in 1929, Joyce and her 2-years-older sister Audrey started school there, moving to Herringfleet (and Somerleyton school) after the death of their father William when Joyce was only 5. They all lived with their maternal grandmother in Somerleyton for several years.

Joyce left school at 14, and initially worked as a house keeper, but, having decided she preferred outdoor life, joined the Women's Land Army. From the hostel at Holton Hall the girls were trucked round to farms in the area to do all types of farm work - chopping out sugar beet, hedging, digging out ditches, and harvest work. Joyce, despite having a good time with the other girls, didn't find the job very interesting, so jumped at the chance to look after the herd of prize-winning Jersey cows on the De Quincey farm at Westhall. Joyce loved rearing the calves and showing the livestock - but the bull had to stay at home as he was too much of a handful. When the De Quinceys retired, Joyce moved to look after Peter Middleditch's milking herd of Friesians - which is where she met Curly.

She and Curly were married at Somerleyton church in 1951, and Linda was born in 1952 whilst they were living with family at Walpole before moving to Wrentham, where Gina was born. Curly was a keen motorbike racer, and Joyce supported him, travelling around the country at weekends.

After the girls grew up, Joyce worked as housekeeper for Dr. Bracewell and his family, and was well respected and loved by them all.

The family moved to the house next door to the garage at Barnaby Green, Wangford in 1969, and Joyce could be seen tending her garden, which she loved, and walking her dog down the lane, feeding the robins who waited patiently in the hedgerow for her, or riding her bike down to the village to shop or attend events.

She and Curly moved into the village, to a bungalow in Old Priory Gardens, 8 years ago, as it was more convenient for them, and away from the busy A12, and she set about bringing her new garden up to scratch using all the favourite plants which moved with her, and befriending her neighbours.

A familiar tiny figure on her daily walks, Joyce enjoyed her time in the village, going to church on Sundays, attending fetes and sales, Lunch Club and Coffee Mornings, and knitting blanket squares and Easter bunnies with the Knitting Group. Always a happy, joyful and caring lady, Joyce was loved by everyone.

Joyce loved the many generations of her family, having not only grandchildren and great-grandchildren, but also a great-great-grandchild.

The family would like to thank everyone for their care and support for Joyce and themselves through the very difficult times, the lovely floral tributes, and for the collection in her memory, which raised over £200 for Wangford Church and Cancer Research.

Joyce will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her. She was laid to rest in the churchyard.

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ABRAHAM

I recall once being in the company of Jeffrey Bernard in the Coach and Horses, Soho when Jeff began agitating, tapping his watch and muttering that he must 'get an idea'. He was concerned about the deadline for sending in his copy for his Low Life column in the Spectator. I can never aspire to his level of writing expertise but I do feel pretty much the same as the 11th of each month approaches. I don't suppose it over concerns the sainted Editor but nonetheless...

One thing I will not burden my loyal following with is MY HEALTH. When someone enquires of my wellbeing I invariably reply that I am fine. It's easier that way, and who wants to hear my list of woes, especially when they have their own problems? Nobody. Goodness knows, it bores me stiff so what must it do to anyone else. I remember being resurrected by a remote acquaintance of some 30 years ago. We met in Beccles and were 5 minutes into conversation when he asked me what pills I was taking. I groaned and had a drink.

The great chronicler of rural life Ronald Blythe died in January at the age of 100. I have mentioned him before. He was born in Acton from a very humble background, read voraciously from a young age and left school at 14. He was 'adopted' by the landscape artist John Nash and his wife Christine who lived at Bottengoms Farm in Wormingford. After their deaths he was bequeathed the house and lived there the rest of his life. He later befriended E. M. Forster and worked with Benjamin Britten. He was always writing, Suffolk being his main inspiration, and in 1969, his classic portrait of rural life in the 20th century, 'Akenfield : Portrait of an English Village', was published. It was made into a film by fellow Suffolk native Peter Hall in 1974. A gay man, Blythe had relationships but never settled with anyone, saying that he did not want to be distracted from his writing - "If I'd lived with someone I knew that I would be the one washing the socks". Pick any of his 30 odd books but his last publication 'Next to Nature - A Lifetime in the English Countryside' is a beauty, to be savoured. Slowly and gently, rather like I imagine Ronald Blythe to have been.

I cannot resist this one. J. K. Rowling is being pilloried over her stance on transgender matters. Further controversy is being created over a Hogwarts video game. Rowling's response last year about the suggestion that she was losing fans over her views was "I read my most recent royalty cheques and find the pain goes away pretty quickly". Way to go J.K.

Giles Coren, journalist, food critic and brother of the immensely intelligent Victoria recently reviewed a restaurant extolling the virtues of canned food. Has he forgotten his student days and the delights of Spam, corned beef, baked beans?

Apparently there are nine million adults in Britain who are functionally illiterate. Whether this is correct or not, let us assume that there is still a great number of illiterate people around. The big question is why. Were they not read stories by their parent(s)? Was there no reading material available to them? If not, libraries are still numerous and within easy reach of the majority of the population. Poverty is not necessarily a reason. Books are free in schools, libraries and even in redundant telephone boxes! Try to imagine the disadvantages of not being literate. Emails, payslips, road signs, letters, not being able to read to their children or help with homework - but most tragically, not being able to read for pleasure and fun.

Abraham

Book Club

We discussed Ken Follett's "Never" and many of us were surprised at how much we enjoyed the book. We also saw the frightening play-out of every event and any decision we make having consequences. The majority agreed that the technique was excellent and the four sections of the narrative were clear but entwined. It was felt that although many of the powerful roles were held by women the depiction of action and the decision-making process was not empowering and bordered on stereotypical portrayals of women through a male gaze. Also, some felt a few of the arguments were tedious and there were "cut out" cardboard characters. We thought the author had undertaken a huge amount of research and the narrative was very thought-provoking. The explanation of the beginnings of war was frightening. The ending was superb and conclusive. Juxtaposed with the politics of war were the human relationships which made us think about our personal freedoms and how quickly situations can escalate. In summary, an excellent book which the majority of us would recommend.

We next meet at 8pm in the Community Centre on Thursday 2nd March to discuss Mark Billingham's "Rabbit Hole".

Gill Smith 578620

C H U R C H S E R V I C E S	Sunday 5th March		2nd Sunday of Lent
	11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
	6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
	Sunday 12th March		3rd Sunday of Lent
	11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
	6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
	Sunday 19th March		Mothering Sunday
	9.30 am	Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.15 am	Wangford	Family Service (CW)
	6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
	Sunday 26th March		5th Sunday of Lent
	11.15 am	Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Uggeshall	Holy Communion (BCP)	

Wrentham Chapel

Is holding the first in its annual programme of Caedmon evening on Friday March 24th at 7.30pm.

This is a seasonal celebration featuring 'bring and share' items of music, word and song which are contributed by some of the audience on the night. There will also be a light buffet with wine and fruit juice.

This is a free event, but any donations made to our retiring collection towards the upkeep of the Chapel will be much appreciated.

DIRECTORY

Team Vicar	The Reverend Alan Perry	453624
Team Admin	Megan Buncombe	07475 739367
Parochial Church Council Secretaries		
Wangford	Vacancy	
Uggheshall	Clare Bailey	578679
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Wangford Community Centre		
Chairman	Malcolm Woolnough	578701
Bookings	Sue Taylor	
	suethemusic@gmail.com	578408
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Wangford Surgery		578257
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Police	Urgent 999	Non Urgent 101
Crimestoppers		0800 555111

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EDITOR SUE TAYLOR:

79 High Street, Wangford

Telephone: 01502 578408 Email: suethemusic@gmail.com

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TO ADVERTISE CONTACT ANGLIA PRINT LIMITED:

5b Moor Business Park, Ellough Road, Beccles NR34 7TQ

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MARCH 2023 CENTRE DIARY

1st Mar	Salsa	Hall	7.30 - 9.30pm
2nd Mar	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
6th Mar	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
7th Mar	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Ceilidh Class	Hall	7.00-9.00pm
8th Mar	Salsa	Hall	7.30 - 9.00pm
9th Mar	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30 - 7.30pm
12th Mar	Private Hire	Hall	10.30 - 3.30pm
13th Mar	Toddlers	Hall	9.30 - 11.30am
14th Mar	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Parish Council	Cttee Room	7.30pm
15th Mar	Salsa	Hall	7.30-9.00pm
	GHSR	Bar	7.30 - 9.30 pm
16th Mar	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30- 12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00- 3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
20th Mar	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
21st Mar	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Ceilidh Class	Hall	7.00-9.00pm
22nd Mar	Salsa	Hall	7.30-9.30pm
23rd Mar	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
25th Mar	Charity Fizz and Quiz	Hall	7.00pm
27th Mar	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-1130am
	Blyth Valley Labour	Cttee Room	7.30-9.30pm
28th Mar	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
29th Mar	Salsa	Cttee Room	7.30 - 9.30pm
30th Mar	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm

Suffolk Wildlife Trust (Blyth Valley and Southwold) 'Farming and Wildlife'

Speaker: Sam Hanks. SWT Wilder Landscapes Manager

Thursday 9th March 7.30pm Wenhaston Village Hall

Please note change of venue

Cost: £4 (including refreshments); under 25s free
 All are welcome