

VOLUME 16 NO. 2 NOVEMBER 2020

FLU CLINIC

Wangford Flu Clinic

Wednesday 18th November 3.00 - 5.00 pm

Wangford Community Centre

As the Centre can only accommodate 9 patients at a time, queuing will be outside whatever the weather. Entry is via the main door, with exit through the Bar and down the ramp.

To keep everyone COVID secure, face coverings must be worn, and social distancing of 2 metres must be observed. Please use the hand sanitizer provided from the dispensers in the foyer.

After vaccination please leave immediately.

And please don't all come at 3.00pm!!

Christmas Food Boxes

St Luke's Church, Beccles are making up Christmas Food Boxes again this December for the Trussell Trust Foodbanks.

If you would like to support this venture you can drop off donations in the foyer at St Luke's, or alternatively ring Linda Hill on $01502\ 578789\ /\ 07483\ 226269$ and she will collect.

The sorts of items needed are:

Christmas puddings / Custard / Evaporated milk Sponge puddings / Christmas biscuits Christmas chocolate for children Pickles / Chutney / Nibbles / Cheesy biscuits Squash / Non-alcoholic drinks (please, no alcohol) Children's games / dot-to-dot and pens Adult and children's socks (new) / Gloves / hats etc.

REMEMBRANCE



Remembrance Services on Sunday 8th November

Wangford at 10.50am

Uggeshall at 6.00pm

The short Wangford service will be in the churchyard, and social distancing must be observed. Please would wreath layers enter via the High Street gate, and members of the congregation through the Church Street gate.



Poppies on 4 Paws

Red and purple poppies are available from Reception at Wangford Vets. Please observe the COVID restrictions, and wear your facemask. Poppies are also available online and can be posted direct to your door. Go to https://www.wangfordvetclinic.com/ Products-Services

Money raised from red poppies will go to the Royal British Legion and money raised from purple poppies will go to Hounds for Heroes.



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-12.30 pm, 1.30 - 5.00pm Saturday 9.00am-5.00pm Sunday CLOSED

Face coverings must be worn.

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

Our opening hours are:

Monday – Friday 0830 – 1800 Saturday Strictly emergencies only 0830 – 1200 Sunday OUT OF HOURS ONLY

To minimise the barriers created by face coverings to clients with hearing loss who need to lip read we will be happy to wear visors instead of the standard face masks.

Please let us know when you book your appointment or on arrival at the practice.

Barber

Stewart Sharman's next visit is on Wednesday 25th November from 2.00 - 4.00 pm.

Face coverings must be worn. 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 2 metre social distancing.

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

If you need Stewart to make a home visit, please ring him on 01502 218838 to arrange for it on the same day. He is fully PPE compliant, and you will need to wear a face covering.

Mobile Library

The library van will visit on Wednesday 25th November.

10.10am at Millfields, 10.35am at Wangford Church.

COVID ALERT SYSTEM



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NOVEMBER'S TEAM LETTER

Remember, remember . . .

"Fings Ain't Wot They Used T'Be." I'm ancient enough to remember that slightly cheesy 1960s hit by Max Bygraves which they used to play on *Uncle Mac's Children's Favourites* on the BBC Light Programme. It was a lament about loss: trams, dance halls and melody; and the advance of the new-fangled: drainpipe trousers, frothy coffee and parking meters.

As a nation we love nostalgia. Retro is the new thing. On telly, even a series set in the 1950s is seen as a costume drama. Memories, remembering are important to us.

In the Church, November is a month for memories. Quite sombre ones. It begins on 1 November with All Souls' Day, also known as the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed and (especially in Mexico) the Day of the Dead. This is a day for prayer and remembrance for those who have died.

Then, of course, we have Remembrance Sunday on 8 November and Armistice Day on the 11th. Again, these are moments when we think of those who gave their lives sacrificially to protect us and our freedoms.

We look back with sadness, and sometimes regret. Loss is hard to live with. It disrupts us, dislocates us. And that's why remembering is important. *Remembering* is the opposite of *dismembering*. Remembering helps put us back together. It's worth noting that the Old Testament was largely assembled by the Israelites at a time when the nation was living in exile in Babylon. They used that time of dislocation to remember where they'd come from, to reshape their identity, and to plan for a future return to Jerusalem.

I'm fond of the story in the biblical book of Ezekiel, where the prophet has a vision of a valley full of scattered, dry bones. Then, these bones reconnect. As the old song goes: "The shin bone connected to the knee bone; knee bone connected to the thigh bone; thigh bone connected to the hip bone. . ."It was a powerful metaphor for the exiled community of Israel knitting themselves back together. They did the opposite of dismembering, they re-membered.

Remembering is more than nursing a nostalgia for some – probably mythical – golden age, where everything was perfect. Perhaps it's more about recalling the things that are important, of real value: friendship, selflessness, courage and persistence.

We live in dislocated times. So much of what we used to enjoy – maybe took for granted – has been swept away by this impersonal pandemic. Fings Definitely Ain't Wot They Used T'Be. And we mourn the loss. But it's not about nostalgia, about dwelling in the past. It's about re-membering –girding ourselves up for a new future. We've done it before. We can do it again.

Malcolm Doney

Malcolm is a writer, broadcaster and Anglican priest who lives in Blythburgh

News from Wangford Church

"It's so good to be back in church!

By the time you read this, the church will be open again after all the building works and the closure due to Coronavirus. The first service in church is planned for November 1st and we are all looking forward to worshipping together again after what seems like such a long time.

Measures will be in place to make the church Covid secure and as safe as possible for everybody, including hand sanitizer and social distancing measures inside church.

Remembrance Sunday will be slightly different this year with a shorter service outside the church by the war memorial. The service will start at 10.50 on Sunday November 8th.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held in church on October 23rd and Jackie Casement and Mark Notton were elected as Churchwardens. We would like to place on record our great thanks to Valerie Beckett for her tremendous efforts as the previous churchwarden.

Details of the PCC members elected will be confirmed in the next issue in December.

Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)

News from Sotherton

The turn out for Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October was great to see after the church had been closed since March lock down.

May I thank all the people who helped clean the church and put flowers in and also Sue for getting a choir together so we could hear singing.

Our next service is Sunday 15th November at 9.30am. All are welcome.



Karen Flaxman

Freda Grace Primrose Prime RIP

It was with great sadness that we learned that Freda had died peacefully at home on October 1st, aged 98. Her funeral took place on Tuesday 20th October at Waveney Memorial Park and Crematorium, and simultaneously a service of thanksgiving was held at Southwold Methodist Church for her friends to celebrate her life. Freda had planned her funeral service for some years, and the instructions in 'the notebook' were quite specific, including, in block capitals 'NO DIRGES' and definitely NOT 'Abide with me' or 'All things bright and beautiful'!

Freda was born on 19th April 1922, Primrose Day, to Ernest and Laura Neal at Theberton, where Ernest worked as a cowman. Later her three brothers, Eric, Roy and Noel, were born. It was customary for workers to move from farm to farm, and Freda recalled that, whilst living in Spexhall, her mother pushed her and Eric in the pram to Halesworth to catch the train to Southwold to spend the day on the beach. When they moved to Willingham Freda attended Sotterley Voluntary School, where she loved English, reading and poetry, but was not so good at maths, and was not too fond of geography and history. There was always music and singing at home, often from Handel's Messiah. The family attended Hulver Methodist Chapel three times each Sunday, and Freda joined the 'Bright Hours' singing group, and also the local Brownies. She left school aged 14/15 to go into service, first as a 'Tweenie' for the then Beccles town mayor, Dr Woodhill and his wife, and later, until the outbreak of war, as a general maid at Pakefield Rectory for Rev. and Mrs Stather-Hunt.

Freda always knew her own mind and made her own choices, and when 18 year-olds were required to register for military service, she registered as a pacifist, ending up in Beccles Laundry, sorting, washing and sewing number tags to dirty socks belonging to the military stationed all around. Working with 30 women at the laundry was a different world, and the girls had great fun telling dirty jokes to see if Freda laughed.

During this time Freda met Fred, a blacksmith from Wangford, and a local preacher, who came to visit her ill father. It took a little time for Freda to realise that she was the reason for Fred's continued visits. During their courtship she joined him at his preaching appointments, and usually sang an item during the service. They were married in Sotterley Church in May 1942, and set up home in Wangford, moving to Mill House in 1947. Life was very full, with the birth of seven children, the business to run, and a large garden with chickens, ducks and geese to tend. The family attended Wangford Methodist Chapel, and, after its demolition, held services at Mill House until Wangford Community Centre was built. Much later Fred and Freda enjoyed the fellowship at Southwold Methodist Church. Together they lived their Christianity.

Freda had the great gift of practicality with an open-hearted and generous spirit, and loved to welcome people into her home. Her children's friends were always welcome at mealtimes, and she and Fred expanded this hospitality to include foreign students - from Jamaica, Bermuda, Ghana, Nigeria, Malawi, Australia and Trinidad - whom they invited to spend their summer holidays.

After Fred's retirement he and Freda travelled extensively to many of the places they had dreamed of. Sadly Fred developed Parkinson's disease, and died at Mill House in April 2003. When the large house became too much for Freda to manage, she moved to Reydon, where she made still more friends, whilst still maintaining her contacts with Wangford through Lunch Club, Book Club and shopping at the Village Store.

Fred and Freda together contributed much to Wangford life, and as the family grew up Freda became involved with numerous local activities. As well as flower arranging, she enjoyed singing in the Wangford Singers, Halesworth Choral Society and Southwold Choir, and was a member of Wangford Parish Council, Lothingland District Council and Wangford Community Council. She served on the governing bodies of Henham Primary School and Sir John Leman High School, was a visitor at Blundeston Prison, helped with Meals on Wheels, and undertook various Methodist roles. She belonged to Wangford Horticultural Society, and for many years with Fred masterminded the Wangford Christmas Carol Concert, which she continued to introduce after his death.

At her funeral service, Rev Christine Kennell spoke of a remarkable woman who lived her faith, commanded a great deal of respect and love, and had a great impact on others. Even in her 90s there was still something girlish about Freda. She had very strong views about many things, but didn't force her opinions on others, preferring open discussion. The Bible readings she chose for her funeral reflected the principles she lived by, including John 15: 'Love each other as I have loved you'; James 2: 'What good is it if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Faith by itself, not accompanied by action, is dead'. And her sense of humour was clear in the photo montage of her life being accompanied by 'Always look on the bright side of life'.

Freda passed on her love of learning, literature and music to her large family - 7 children, 15 grandchildren and so far, 8 greatgrandchildren - and also her ethos of service to others. She described herself as 'just a cowman's daughter', but reflected 'I have had a very rich and rewarding life - a great family and many friends. I am richly blessed'.

Donations in her memory for the British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, or the Disasters Emergency Committee may be sent c/o Rosedale Funeral Home, Arcadia House, 19 Market Place, Halesworth IP19 8BB or via the much-loved online memorial tribute site—www.rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk





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ABRAHAM

It seems that, according to the National Trust dozens of renowned stately homes are polluted by slavery and colonial exploitation, being built and maintained in part with the proceeds of slavery and empire. Using today's moral standards to judge figures and buildings from history would mean hundreds of statues and houses that exist being demolished. Churchill (a double whammy with statues and Chartwell), Nelson, Baden Powell, Drake, Kipling, Stevenson, Darwin, Rhodes, goodness knows how many kings and queens, the list goes on and on. The renaming of institutions is fashionable now because the views expressed by the named icons would not be

countenanced today. David Hume, born in Edinburgh, a monumental philosopher and historian, has had his name removed from one of Edinburgh University's buildings because, today's high-ground moralists tell us, he had invested in a plantation worked by slaves and that he was 'apt to suspect the negroes to be naturally inferior to the whites'. Wrong, of course, but scarcely unusual views two hundred years ago. Presumably his name was honoured by a building because of his contribution to the Scottish Enlightenment. He also opposed slavery as did so many of the now shamed heroes. I question whether these complainants have nothing better (positive?) to do with their time. They need a life and to leave us to get on with ours.

Mind you, if I was inclined to be bloody minded, I might ask the protesters to have a go at all those past and present who have had anti-semitic tendencies (we can start off with Dickens) or (my hobby horse) racial prejudice against the travelling folk. That lot should cover most of the population.

An aside to my little piece about Julie Welch and 'The Fleet Street Girls' the subtitle of which, incidentally, is 'The Women Who Broke Down the Doors of the Gentleman's Club'; last year when she attended the opening of the new Tottenham Hotspur stadium she overheard one male journalist ask another why there was a women's toilet in the media centre, and he gave the two word answer: 'Julie Welch.' Nice one, Julie.

One of these pieces of trivia which is dear to me: the UK has produced the most Formula 1 world champions - but would you remember the names? Jensen Button, Jim Clark (twice), Lewis Hamilton (7 times), Mike Hawthorn (the first Brit), Damon Hill (son), Graham Hill, (father - twice), James Hunt, Nigel Mansell, Jackie Stewart (3 times) and John Surtees (still the only man to be world champion on both two and four wheels).

The wonderful Tony Hancock died in 1968. His last T.V. monologue in 1964 provided an ironic farewell and finished thus...Nobody will ever notice you're not here. After about a year afterwards somebody might say down the pub "Where's old Hancock? I haven't seen him around lately". "Oh, he's dead y' know. "Oh, is he?" A right raison d'etre that is. Nobody will ever know I existed. Nothing to leave behind me. Nothing to pass on. Nobody to mourn me. That's the bitterest blow of all. Sad -and prophetic?

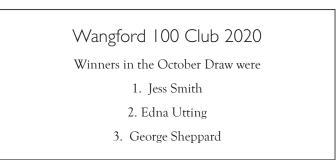
It's nostalgia time now. I doubt if any of today's youngsters read

this ageing man's jottings (to supplement my four loyal readers) but just in case: what we used to read in ancient times were The Beano, The Dandy (both still with us), Eagle, Buster, The Wizard, The Rover, The Hotspur, The Topper, The Beezer and not forgetting the other sex - Girl. The first issue of the Dandy emerged on 4 December 1937 and popular characters included Korky the Cat, dear old Deperate Dan and Biffo the Bear. On 14th April 1950, the Eagle first appeared. The first issue sold almost a million copies with, on the front page, in full colour, 'Dan Dare, Pilot of the Future'. Remember that daft looking mekon floating about in space? Others also appearing were Riders of the Range and PC 49, plus news and cutaway drawings of complicated machinery. My paper deliveries then took a fair time as I devoured them all going round. If mum and dad were well-to-do and one was rather swottish, don't you know, the Boy's Own paper was a monthly magazine to be bought for the grand price of 1 shilling. It included erudite articles about building balsa wood aeroplanes, on locomotives, sledging, stories of Red Indians and pirates, outdoor pursuits as well as educational stuff. Jolly good fun, what?

I have mentioned the French House in Soho before but alas have not managed for some time to see how it is surviving, if indeed it is, and if so in what form. Is it, for example, still the last blast of old bohemian Soho? Now I know. Tanya Gold, the food critic of The Spectator, dined there recently and she has a rare way with words. Harken : Soho : home of the brave...so good at despair. She reminds us of the 'lethal triangle' of The French, the Colony Room (now, alas gone) and the Coach and Horses 'where my late colleague Jeffrey Bernard would file his copy from a puddle made of regrets'. She climbs the old tiny staircase to the upstairs dining room where, she tells us, there is good art (De Gaulle with upside - down face; dead men who look fat and happy because they are, or were, in the French House). She eats food that is perfect, a pleasure to eat, French in style, and concludes with this perfect summing up: It is all sublime; then we sit and watch Soho thrive amid chaos, because that is what she is there for. Wonderful stuff, and as soon as this Covid caper lets up, Mrs Abe and I will return.

Nothing in the news but doom and gloom. Halloween, Christmas and New Year are almost certain to be cancelled. Still we've cheered ourselves up by having delivered a consignment of scotch pies from dear old Fisher and Donaldson in St Andrews. Absolutely delicious.

Abraham





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ЕS	,	November Wangford Uggeshall	All Saints Day Holy Communion (CW) Evening Prayer (BCP)
R < I C	,	November Wangford Uggeshall	Remembrance Sunday Remembrance Service Remembrance Service
H S E	9.30 am	h November Sotherton Wangford Uggeshall	2nd before Advent Holy Communion (CW) Holy Communion (CW) Evening Prayer (BCP)
U R C	11.15 am	nd November Wangford Uggeshall	Christ the King Holy Communion (CW) Holy Communion(BCP)
Ц U	11.15 am	h November Wangford Uggeshall	Advent Holy Communion (CW) Evening Prayer (BCP)

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