

*"Keeping  
the Community  
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

# Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 18 NO. 1 OCTOBER 2022



Queen Elizabeth II, John, Earl of Stradbroke (Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk from 1948 - 78), and Barbara, Countess of Stradbroke with, in the background, two of the earl's grandchildren, Caroline and Charles Forbes, Lady Penelope's younger children, and their nanny.

The photograph was probably taken during the Queen's visit to Suffolk in 1961.

*(Photo supplied by Caroline Forbes)*

Appreciations of the lives of Maureen Beales and Dr Hopkins will appear in the November Messenger.

## FLU CLINIC

### Longshore Surgeries Wangford Flu Clinic

Wednesday 26th October 3.30 - 5.30 pm  
Wangford Community Centre

The Clinic will operate in the same way as last year, using a one-way system. Entry is via the main door, with exit through the Bar and down the ramp.

You will be encouraged to use a face covering, which will be available at the door, and hand sanitiser will be provided. After vaccination please leave immediately.

### Sole Bay Health Centre

Sole Bay Health Centre Flu Clinics will be held from mid-October to mid-November, and you will be contacted by letter or text message when it's your turn.

### Benedictine monk returns to Wangford

On 5th September there was a Funeral Mass in church for Dr Christopher Hopkins. Our church was requested to host the service as Southwold RC Church was too small. There were over 200 people in attendance. It was a beautiful



*Fr. Edward Corbould,  
Ampleforth Abbey (centre)*

service led by Fr Christopher Smith, Fr Edward Corbould OSB and Reverend Alan Perry. It was the first time since 1536 that a Benedictine Monk presided at the altar at Wangford since the original monastery was dissolved. It was wonderful for Roman Catholics and Anglicans to be able to mark and celebrate Christopher's long life together.

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## Wrentham Film Night

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Saturday 29th October  
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# WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

## Wangford Parent and Toddler Group

Mondays 9.30 - 11.30am Community Centre

## Body Conditioning

Tuesdays from 9.30 - 10.30am Community Centre

## Wangford Art Group

Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm Community Centre

## Community Council

Tuesday 4th October 7.45pm Community Centre

## Book Club

Thursday 6th October 8.00pm Community Centre

## The Arts Society

Tuesday 11th October 2.00pm Southwold Arts Centre

## Wangford with Henham Parish Council

Tuesday 11th October 8.00pm Community Centre

## Uggeshall Coffee Morning

Thursday 13th October 10.30am Old School Hall

## Uggeshall Cinema

Thursday 13th October 7.00pm Old School Hall

## Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Thursday 13th October 7.30pm Southwold Arts Centre

## Wangford Men's Breakfast

Saturday 15th October 8.45am The Angel Inn

## Community Garden Working Party

Saturday 15th October 10.00 am Community Garde

## Wangford Church Coffee Morning

Wednesday 19th October 10.30am - noon

## Flower Arranging Class

Thursday 20th October 1.30pm Wangford Church

## Mobile Library at Wangford

Wednesday 26th October  
10.10 - 10.30am Community Centre  
10.35 - 10.45am Church

## Wangford Flu Clinic

Wednesday 26th October 3.30 - 5.30pm Community Centre

## Afternoon Tea

Wednesday 27th October 2.30pm Community Centre

## Blyth Valley Labour

Monday 31st October 7.30pm Community Centre

## 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 would prefer for them to be collected from your home, please ring Val Beckett on 01502 578987.

Donations have been rather depleted in recent weeks and the need is greater than ever.

Food urgently required includes: UHT milk, tea, coffee, tinned veg, tinned meat, tinned tomatoes and small packs of dry goods. 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](mailto:info@lowestoft.foodbank.org.uk)

## Community Garden Working Party

The next working party is  
on  
Saturday 15th October  
from  
10.00 am to 12 noon

Please bring your own  
gloves and hand forks/  
trowels if you have them.

## Wangford 100 Club 2022

Winners in the September  
Draw were  
1. Penny Mansfield  
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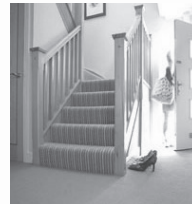
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# OCTOBER'S TEAM LETTER

6 *And the LORD God prepared a gourd, and made it to come up over Jonah, that it might be a shadow over his head, to deliver him from his grief. So Jonah was exceeding glad of the gourd.*

7 *But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.*

8 *And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live. (The Book of Jonah Chapter 4)*

I am feeling a little like the prophet Jonah in his sorrow for the gourd. I planted a small Christmas tree in the vicarage garden, my contribution to the Queen's green canopy. But the extreme heat of our long hot summer in July and August has killed it, and like Jonah's gourd it has turned brown and withered.

October is the month in which many of our churches will be celebrating harvest. But it has been a very challenging harvest for farmers across Europe. We have experienced the hottest summer and the worst drought for over 500 years. Crop yields are down across all sectors and prices are up. Against this background we are increasingly aware of the fragility of our way of life, the reality of climate change and the inevitability of having to live a simpler life, thankful for the gift of enough.

At St Mary's Uggheshall harvest festival on October 9th we are welcoming a guest speaker from the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute, who will talk about their work in supporting farmers. It can be a lonely profession, and when harvests suffer, economic pressures can build up. We therefore give thanks for all who produce our food, and we pray for them.

The Old Testament prophets such as Jonah might have looked upon our world as it currently is, and they might speak of judgement. War in Ukraine, climate change, the real pressures of the increasing cost of living all have the appearance of the disasters that befell God's people in Old Testament times. But when Jonah looked forward to the destruction of evil Nineveh he was disappointed. The people repented, amended their ways and turned back to God. A merciful God forgave Nineveh and a new start was possible.

There may be current pressures and challenges ahead for us, but we too can turn back to God and find help in Him. I am reminded again of the poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins; 'God's Grandeur' speaks of the wornness of tired earth, and the promise of renewal through the grace of God.

*The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon his rod?  
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;  
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;  
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil  
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.*

*And for all this, nature is never spent;  
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;  
And though the last lights off the black West went  
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs –  
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.*

*Simon*

## Suffolk Wildlife Trust

(Blyth Valley and Southwold)

### 'Arctic and Sub-Arctic Wildlife'

Speaker: Liz Cutting

Thursday 15th September 7.30pm

Southwold Arts Centre

Cost: £3 (including refreshments); under 25s free

## The Arts Society, Southwold

The 2022 series continues on Tuesday 11th October  
when David Cross will speak on

John Ruskin:

his impact, achievement and legacy

Lectures commence at 2.00pm in Southwold Arts Centre.

Visitors and Members' guests are welcome  
for an entrance fee of £5.00.

## Book Club

At our September meeting we discussed 'Sixteen Horses' a debut novel by Greg Buchanan. The story began with finding 16 horse heads strategically placed in a field with their single eyes facing the sun. There were lots of characters, none likable, and at times, unbelievable. The descriptive language around the environment was good but the character dialogue was ambiguous and often contradictory. It became difficult to know which voices could be trusted. Many people thought the book was gratuitously violent, not stopping at the decapitation of the horses. There was murder, lies, self-mutilation and anthrax poisoning. Closure came from knowing that the policeman's 17 year old son had carried out the violent acts which started when he was stopped from seeing his 16-year old girlfriend who was rather fond of horses. He took his revenge on the entire village and it became a lost place. We questioned whether there were any truths and concluded we could not rely on the memory and the shifting views of the characters. An unsettling book.

We next meet on Thursday 6th October at 8 pm in the Community Centre to discuss Ruth Ware's 'The Death of Mrs Westaway'.

*Gill Smith 578620*

## News from Wangford Church

The long and very hot summer is coming to an end and, as the schools open after the holidays, we wish all children and young adults all the best for their studies. As summer winds down, we look forward to our Harvest Festival which will take place on October 2nd at 11.15am. As in recent years, all food items donated to church this year will be donated to local foodbanks which need our help more than ever. We would be grateful if donations could be non-perishable goods. The Trussell Trust website has more information about what items they can receive.

We continue to look to world events and pray for countries all over the world which are suffering from drought, flood or war. In church, we have been working with World Vision over the past five years sponsoring a child called Asha from a village in India called Vaishali. Asha means "Hope" and our sponsorship ensured that Asha went to school, and her family and community were also supported. As our sponsorship comes to an end, Asha is entering her teenage years and wishes to study as a nurse. Also, we have learned that households in Vaishali are more food secure, there has been a reduction in domestic violence, more children go to secondary school and 98% of parents believe their community is a safer place for children. As a parish, we feel that we have helped to make a real difference and while we will never meet Asha and her friends, we believe that we are doing as our Lord commanded when he said "whatever you do the least of my people you do unto me."

September 9th saw a memorial service for Maureen Beales. Maureen was a lovely lady, a friend and a loyal member of the church, and number of people in church was testament to how much Maureen was loved by her family and friends. An appreciation of Maureen's life will appear in the November Messenger.

We were delighted to celebrate the baptism of Isla Acworth on August 28th, and to see so many of Isla's family and friends in church. It was a lovely morning and we wish Isla all the best for her future.

Dates for your diary: the Church Coffee morning is on Wednesday October 19th at 10.30. There will be a tea, coffee, cake and a raffle and all are welcome. Also, on Thursday October 20th from 1.30 - 3.30pm there will be a flower arranging class in the church. This is free of charge with refreshments provided. Everybody is welcome and people just need to bring two bunches of flowers with them. Please do contact Jeff or Judith on 578208 or 07789 934972 if you are interested in attending.

Finally, I am writing these notes as the country is mourning the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and adjusting to a future including a new Monarch which is something that many will not have not experienced before. The Queen was a constant in the lives of many and we pray for the new King as undertakes the huge task of continuing to build upon the legacy of the late Queen. God save the King.



*Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)*

## News from Uggeshall

The Hill family and friends at St Mary's on 4th September for the baptism of Rory Colin Hill, son of Alex and Bethan.



### Uggeshall Coffee Morning

This month we meet on Thursday 13th from 10.30am in the Old School Hall. Everybody's welcome.

### Uggeshall Cinema

The film for October 13th will be 'Dream Horse'. Twenty years ago, one woman convinced her neighbours to buy, rear and train a thoroughbred racehorse, Dream Alliance. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.15 pm.

*Matt Grady*

### Thank you

I would like to say a sincere thank you to everyone involved in helping me recently after a fall at home: organising an ambulance, supporting and caring for me whilst awaiting transfer to hospital. I'm extremely appreciative and grateful.

*Daphne de Garis*

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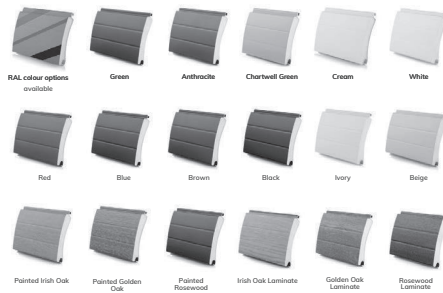
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# ABRAHAM

I finally managed to reach the end of the top shelf in my trawl through my biogs and here they are, with some comments. The Beatles - lots, but the only one that grabbed me was *One Two Three Four - The Beatles In Time* by Craig Brown, who, I believe, lives in Aldeburgh. This is a rip-roaring read crammed with interesting snippets designed to delight even the doubters. The diaries of Cecil Beaton, fashion designer, photographer, etc - gossipy and uninteresting; and Tony Benn, much like himself - boring. 4 books about the talented Irish family the Behans, especially the roistering Brendan - "When I came back to Dublin, I was courtmartialled in my absence and sentenced to death in my absence, so I said they could shoot me in my absence". What is it about dissolute Celts that make them so interesting? I feel I would have liked Bacon, Behan, Donleavy and Burns but not one on whom I have 10 (yes, 10) volumes, the weaselly drunken Welsh poet, Dylan Thomas. Something now that is much more pleasant - Adrian Bell : Voice of the Countryside, apprentice farmer, recording East Anglian country life, writing for the Eastern Daily Press for more than 30 years and composing the first Times crossword puzzle. Get copies of his great trilogy (Corduoy, Silver Ley and The Cherry Tree) if you can - wonderful reading. Oh yes, also father of Martin Bell, the man in the white suit. Doorstep volumes about and by, Alan Bennett. Never seemed to do it for me but Mrs Abe loves him. A smashing little treatise entitled *Architecture For Pleasure* by my chum and architect John Bennett. I do not pretend to understand it all but it fascinated me anyhow. You can buy a copy from John at his studio. Two books about one of the great songwriters of the 20th Century, Irving Berlin. They don't make them like that any more. Finally, the best of them all? Difficult to say but right up there. For delightful reading, pick up anything by Ronald Blythe; Akenfield for sure but also a super one is *The Time By The Sea Aldeburgh 1955-1958*, when he was drawn into the artistic circle of the Aldeburgh Music Festival of Britten and Pears. Still with us at the age of 99. I bet you can hardly wait for shelf 2, starting with Dirk Bogarde, ending with Andrew Devonshire.

A television drama over four episodes we had the misfortune to watch in August with the leads played by two fine actors, Nicola Walker and Sean Bean, was entitled yes, you knew I was going to say, *Marriage*. This was the most stultifying, mind-numbing piece of television hokum I have seen in a long time, if ever. The dialogue was drivel, the plotline such as it was non-existent, and the acting incredulous. Four hours of my life I shall never see again. I suppose I should feel for the actors being given a script so banal and dull. After the first episode we vowed not to go on and then relented and watched all three remaining at once, hoping it would improve. It didn't. Mrs Abe commented that if our marriage had been like that she would have shot herself long ago. Or did she mean me? Whatever. Two *Times* reviewers thought it was terrific, a true picture of marital status. Did we watch the same programme? Have we got this all wrong? Tell me. If you feel like replying perhaps the sainted editor might find space for a couple of your responses.

I never had the opportunity to tread the hallowed halls of one of the ancient universities but I'm sure in the event I would have floundered, being remarkably immature for so long. However I savoured the experience vicariously later in life when my little girl attended the, to my mind, most venerated of the great institutions - St Andrews. I often pondered whether or not she enjoyed her student days beside the barbarians (note: there are more non-scots at St Andrews than jocks or jockettes). I found the answer some years ago when I heard a programme on Radio Orkney entitled *Musical Milestones*, a sort of Desert Island Discs with only the subject presenting the chat and music. Frances it was, and she confessed that she loved her time as a student. She also let it out that her dad can't sing. True enough. Mentioning DID, there was one Christmas a special edition featuring members of the public and their favourite pieces of music, hosted by Kirsty Young and yes, Frances was featured. She was the only one who was favoured with two discs. Thank you for reading this unashamed dollop of pride and nostalgia.

*Abraham*

## CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 2nd October	16th Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Harvest Festival
6.00 pm Sotherton	Harvest Festival
Sunday 9th October	17th Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Harvest Festival
Sunday 16th October	18th Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 23rd October	Last Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Family@Church
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 30th October	All Saints Day
11.15 am Blythburgh	Team Eucharist CW)
6.00pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)

## Wangford Mens' Breakfast

At our September meeting of the Wangford Men's Breakfast Club Rev. Alan Perry gave an interesting illustrated talk on his recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Around a dozen attended and all were well entertained, and looked after by the staff at The Angel. At the next meeting on 15th October at 8.45 am our speaker will be James Hewitt from the Halesworth to Southwold Railway Society, part of a group dedicated to reopening this long-closed 3 foot gauge line, which ran from Halesworth Station to a Southwold terminus opposite the Blyth Hotel. Come along to learn more.

New members are welcome, contact [johnscholes@hotmail.com](mailto:johnscholes@hotmail.com).

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 Community informed"*

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# OCTOBER 2022 CENTRE DIARY

3rd Oct	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
4th Oct	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.30pm
	Community Council	Cttee Room	7.45pm
5th Oct	Salsa	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
6th Oct	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	8.00-9.00pm
7th Oct	Brampton Church Quiz	Hall	6.00-10.30pm
10th Oct	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.00pm
	Parish Council	Cttee Room	8.00-9.00pm
13th Oct	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
17th Oct	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
18th Oct	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.30pm
19th Oct	Artmakers East	Hall	10.00-3.00pm
20th Oct	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
24th Oct	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
25th Oct	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Blythburgh Bowls	Hall	2.00-4.00pm
26th Oct	Flu Clinic	Hall	3.30-5.30pm
27th Oct	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Afternoon Tea	Hall	2.30-4.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Yoga	Hall	6.30-7.30pm
31st Oct	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
	Blyth Valley Labour	Cttee Room	7.30-10.00pm

## Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

