

*"Keeping
the Community
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 15 NO. 12 SEPTEMBER 2020

Up on high at Wangford Church

Vicar Alan somewhat nervously ventured up with church architect Alan Greening to inspect the work on the roof. After taking off the pantiles, all the construction of the nave south roof was found to be in good condition; perhaps surprisingly so, but all appears to have been cleaned out at the same time as the south lead gutters were renewed 30 years or so ago.



There are no major constructional defects apart from one or two instances of timber decay at the lower edges of some rafters where the water has got in through the pantiles, but nothing of significance. All can now be recovered and with a bat-safe membrane for the future. No bats were evident.



Dog thefts

Recently Suffolk has seen a huge increase in the theft of dogs. These have been taken from their own gardens or kennels, from outside shops etc, from elderly people or children just walking, or from cars. Thieves seem to be canvassing properties, especially in rural areas, and marking them with white paint.

Stolen dogs are sold on for breeding, resale, ransom - or, most horrific of all, for baiting or fighting.

All local vets and animal charities are advising you to keep your dogs safe by never leaving them alone outside, even on your own property, never letting another person walk your dogs, and never leaving them outside shops or unattended in the car.

Make sure your dog is microchipped, and the details are up to date, so that, if the worst happens, they might be traced. It doesn't seem to matter if your dog is pedigree or cross-breed; they all have a value to these criminals.

SUFFOLK CHURCHES RIDE AND STRIDE

Saturday 12th September

The annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride will go ahead, albeit with some modifications due to coronavirus. Go to their website at shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride to read the guidance. You can also download the list of churches that will be open, and a sponsor form. These are also available from either of the Wangford acting churchwardens - Jackie Casement 578992 or Mark Notton 578691. This is a great fundraiser for the nominated church you ride for as they receive 50% of your sponsorship.

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.

Although it seems that many people are now venturing out, the home delivery service is still available for those vulnerable and unable to shop in person. Deliveries are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. To order please ring 01502 578246 or email rj.miller@btinternet.com by 3.00pm.

We now stock an enhanced range of bread and cakes, Clarkes' frozen meat, and other groceries including flour.

Mobile Library

The library van will visit on Wednesday 2nd September.

10.10am at Millfields

10.35am at Wangford Church.

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

For all appointment enquiries please call us on 01502 578999.

Our opening hours are now:

Monday - Friday 0830 - 1800

Saturday - strictly emergencies only 0830 - 1200

Sunday - OUT OF HOURS ONLY

We are now booking routine appointments and vaccinations. Please be aware that due to the backlog of these we are booking them on a priority basis. There is an overdue period allowed of three months for dogs and one month for cats. If the overdue period is exceeded due to the restrictions surrounding COVID -19 and you have to restart the vaccinations, we will honour the booster-only price.

We are now also able to carry out routine neutering operations. Please contact Reception to book.

Free bottles of water

Veterinary care isn't just about treating the pet... It's about looking after the client too. Covid - 19 regulations mean that clients are still having to wait in their car or in the car park, and we know it can get pretty hot out there just now, so please ask for your free bottle of water.

New booking-in system

When you arrive for your appointment text us on 07921 852661 (displayed on the board in the parking bay) to let us know you have arrived with your pet.

Text your pet's name, your surname and your bay number.

If you are unable to text, please knock on Reception door and wait for a team member to answer.

When your pet has been returned to you, please go to reception to make payment.

Please wear a mask at all times.

New clients

Unfortunately, we are unable to take new clients at this time. However, this is only a temporary decision that we are monitoring all the time.

Public transport

Border Bus

(borderbus.co.uk)

Service 146 Has resumed the normal through route to Norwich, running hourly.

Service 524 Normal service

First Bus (firstgroup.com)

Service 99 Wangford has the usual 4 buses per day.

Due to scaffolding encroaching on the High Street/Church Street corner, all buses have been temporarily diverted along Norfolk Road.

Barber

Stewart Sharman's next visit is on Wednesday 16th September 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.

The gents' toilet is now unisex, but should only be used in emergencies. Please do not go anywhere else in the building.

If you are completely housebound and 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.



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In 2018 Saint Barnabas opened a family-based Day Centre for older, frail people and those with dementia.

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We have a variety of different activities to suits all needs. The Day Centre is open 4 days week from 10.00am to 4.30pm.

If you would like to discuss what Saint Barnabas can offer in further detail please contact The Manager Mrs Nicki Fountain 01502 722264

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SEPTEMBER'S TEAM LETTER

Contemplating Prayer

Looking toward autumn in this strange year, it's probable we've had more time than usual for prayerful reflecting and contemplation of our lives and relationships. In the absence of common gathered worship, we developed new virtual habits of being church and witnessing to Christ in the community, until we could meet together again.

As I write, I'm still remote working from home on project development and clinical governance work. Both support improved standards to deliver better patient care. Alongside that a project closer to home has also emerged, building on an idea discussed with Sarah Wallington Smith, and my colleagues.

Sarah and I want to offer a short course offering an opportunity to explore and understand new approaches to different, deeper ways of praying. In this 'Introduction to Contemplative Prayer' we invite those interested to explore along these lines: an introduction to an approach, examples of how they can be used or adapted, an opportunity to discuss and try out the idea, then the opportunity to practice it in our own time before the next session. At the next meeting, the intention would be to share our experiences of that approach, before exploring another, in a similar fashion.

We aim to arrange this for end October/November (pre-advant) and at present are just looking for expressions of interest. Due to uncertain times we are likely to set this up as a 'virtual' group meeting e.g. weekly via Zoom so that whatever the virus has in store for us this winter we can continue to meet. God willing, next year we can meet and develop this work together in shared space face to face.

Through this, we can contemplate a 'Harvest' of prayer for, and within, the team, for ourselves and the world, through learning different ways of withdrawing to a quiet place to pray, as Jesus did.

Please email judym61@btinternet.com or call Sarah Wallington-Smith 07471949005 if you are interested in hearing more.

Revd Judy Miller

News from Wangford Church

The scaffolding on our church is clearly visible to all and the workforce have been meticulous in protecting the churchyard and monuments. Best of all is the progress on the chancel roof. Our sadness is that while all this is going on we cannot meet together as a church family in the community. We hope to have a Harvest Festival service on 27 September, but it will probably be via Zoom; further information will be on posters nearer the time.

Please join in the Ride and Stride in aid of Suffolk Churches on Saturday 12 September. Wangford church will not be able to play host this year due to the works, but we can join in the fundraising. You really do not need to have to cycle (or walk) miles if it is not your thing; just persuade your friends and family to sponsor you for as much as you feel able to do. We will receive 50% of the money we raise, so we will be helping both ourselves and others.

Jackie Casement, Acting Churchwarden (578992)

Thank you

Many of us owe a big THANK YOU to the many villagers who have been living up to the Scout/Guide promise of "Do a good turn to someone every day" during the Covid-19 pandemic.

There are far too many to name.

The Wangford Observer

News from Sotherton

There will be a Harvest Festival service in St Andrews on October 4th at 4pm. More details in the October Messenger.

News from Uggheshall

St Mary's Book of Common Prayer Evensongs have resumed, with as much music as regulations allow. Although the congregation still can't sing, we are fortunate to have Clare Palmer, who, suitably socially distanced, sings as much of the service as possible.

You will be made most welcome if you wish to join us at 6.00pm on the first three Sundays of the month.

The importance of words

Whether spoken or written, words can have enormous power and influence. At a Zoom service during lockdown, we listened to the words of Reverend Alan Perry when he made reference to the true story of a local couple who had been treated unjustly over a hundred years ago. The point of the sermon was that sometimes rumour or unguarded words can have truly devastating consequences. The couple concerned were William and Alma Smith, who were the respected headmaster and teacher at Henham and Wangford School.

In 1914 with the outbreak of war, there was a climate of suspicion in the country, and William was reported to the police as a spy, largely because he wasn't a local man - he came from Devon - and his son had lived for a time in Germany. The sermon had the immediate effect for many of us of wanting to know more about this extraordinary local story, so we obtained a copy of Angela's Lawrence's book: 'Rumour'. Having had a career in journalism and broadcasting, Angela had researched the case comprehensively and what emerged was a story of true human tragedy. Both William and Alma had taken their own lives because of the distress that these untrue accusations had caused them. They were both buried in the churchyard at St Peter and St Paul, Wangford near the vestry door, where their daughter Gladys Valletta, who died at eighteen years of age, is also buried. (*Ed: this was unusual at the time, as suicide was still considered a crime, and many suicides were buried outside churchyards without full rites of the Church of England. The involvement of Lord and Lady Stradbroke in the case was presumably the enabling factor.*)



Angela Lawrence, Rev Alan Perry and Chris Ure at the grave

However, the grave stones have suffered significant weather damage over the years, which motivated some of us to want to have both graves restored in their memory. To this end, enquiries were made about potential costs, and it was also decided to invite Angela to meet with us to discuss a future visit to talk about her book. On a lovely sunny day in July, a small group of us met in the churchyard at Wangford, and afterwards had lunch together to discuss a possible way forward. The happy outcome is that Angela has been invited to provide a talk at St Peter and St Paul, Wangford, after which there will be an opportunity to ask questions and to purchase her book. This and other fundraising ideas will hopefully contribute to the cost of the graves being cleaned, restored and maintained for the foreseeable future.

The provisional date for Angela's visit is Saturday 6th February at 3 pm. If you would like to purchase the book in advance of Angela's talk, you can contact her direct (angelaclawrence13@googlemail.com.)

For all other enquiries concerning the fundraising, grave restoration or donations, please contact Reverend Alan Perry: adperry64@gmail.com.

Chris Ure

Music Groups

Helen Hayes is sadly unable to run our regular local music groups at the moment but has set up a Youtube channel called Sing with Helen where she has been posting regular singalong videos that you can access for free.

She is also hosting weekly online ukulele sessions every Friday morning. There is a beginners and improvers session and everyone is welcome to come along - you just need a ukulele to take part.

If you are missing social contact and feel that some feel good singing may be for you, Helen is hosting a Sing with Helen Social every fortnight online and everyone is welcome. These sessions are inclusive and dementia-friendly.

For further information, please contact Helen on 01502 578971/07917 799456 or email: helenhayesmusic@gmail.com



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ABRAHAM

Reluctant to leave the subject of free speech I mention that an English writer, Evelyn Beatrice Hall (1868-1856) writing under the pseudonym S. G. Tallentyre wrote in her book *The Friends of Voltaire* : "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it". This is often cited to describe the principle of Freedom of Speech.

Compare this to the exchange in that super film *Inherit The Wind* (a fictionalised version of the 1920's 'monkey trial' in which a young teacher is prosecuted for teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution) between Henry Drummond, the defending advocate (played by Spencer Tracy) and E. K. Hornbeck, a hard-bitten cynical reporter (played by Gene Kelly). Near the end of the film, when the trial is over, Henry says to E. K.: "You poor slob! You're all alone. When you go to your grave, there won't be anybody to pull the grass up over your head. Nobody to mourn you. Nobody to give a damn. You're all alone." And Hornbeck's reply: " You're wrong, Henry. You'll be there. You're the type. Who else would defend my right to be lonely?"

In one of the so-called quality rags a person wrote to the advice column bemoaning that, wishing to furnish her second home in Spain, she could not locate a decent furniture store in or around Malaga. Isn't it reassuring to know that amid pestilence, disease, famine, poverty and a pandemic raging throughout the world, some vacuous airhead has her priorities in the right order?

A chum asked me whence the expression and explanation of 'knocking on wood' or, more often, 'touch wood'. As usual, the answer is never that simple. I had heard that yew trees were found mostly in churchyards because they had religious significance and were poisonous and that generally churchyards were surrounded by fences or walls in order to protect humans and straying animals from harm. Not entirely true as you can find yews anywhere, particularly in ancient times as they were the favoured wood for making English longbows. Be that as it may, the favoured reason for touching wood is that in Celtic folklore supernatural beings are thought to live in trees, and can be invoked for protection. Pagans believed that trees were the homes of fairies and other mystical creatures and that, in these instances, people might knock on or touch wood to request good luck, or to distract spirits with evil intentions. Or you just might awaken and release the good wood fairies dwelling there. Not terrifically exciting, what? If wood is not around and you touch your napper instead this is merely a jokey response.

Another piece of cracking news is that the registration of newborns has been delayed due to the coronavirus lockdown and that, as a consequence (wait for it), thousands of families are being denied a holiday abroad because, without being registered, *newborns cannot be given a birth certificate which is needed for a passport*. A certain person is quoted as saying: "We have no chance of a family holiday until this is sorted. Our friends are making plans and we are left behind". Heaven forbid, the deprivations some folk have to endure.

Police Constable Harper, four weeks after his wedding, attempting to intercede in the theft of a quad bike was dragged a mile to his death by the getaway car. The three men convicted of the

crime laughed and joked throughout the trial and when the verdict of manslaughter was announced the public gallery, crammed with their supporters, cheered. This act and their behaviour was unforgivable. The three young men happen to be from the traveller community. Is that fact relevant and is the mentioning of it merely reinforcing the bigotry and prejudice of the non-travelling community and the centuries old persecution of a group of people because they lead a lifestyle that is alien to gorgios (non-gypsies - in itself a misnomer) that many folk do not, and will not, attempt to understand. I do not pretend to know the answer but those of you who have followed these scribbles may remember that I have oft times written about my (and Mrs Abe's) dealings with the travellers and have found them to be more sinned against than sinning. They have added to my understanding of the human race, to be fair not always in a positive way but generally so, and when the occasion demands I shall continue to bang the drum on their behalf.

I don't care for the indiscriminate spreading around of birthday honours. It seems that you will eventually find them given in cornflake packets. However, if lesser mortals such as Stokes, Murray, Farah, Botham, etc. are being awarded gongs, what on earth does Lewis Hamilton have to do to earn a knighthood? An easy target for some folks (tax exile, over-gobby about racism, taking few prisoners in his comments) let us remember that he is the greatest F1 Champion this country has ever had, or is ever likely to have, and a great ambassador for the sport. It's surely long overdue time for Sir Lewis to arise.

Isn't it super to see the wee Angel up and running again, albeit in a slightly different format? No standing around talking drivell to your oppos, which I miss. Nonetheless I have not heard anyone say anything but good about the pub.

The Red House in Aldeburgh, home of Benjamin Britten (from 1957-76) and Peter Pears (57-86) is open once again for visits by the public. Do have a look, even if Britten's music does not interest you. Lots to see, including a fine art collection, and bear in mind that Britten was a good old Suffolk boy, born in Lowestoft, appropriately on St Cecilia's day, Patron Saint of Music, 22nd November 1913. An interesting local village connection is that some years ago, Jeff, from Church Close delivered BB's newspaper to the Red House and, as a gratuity each Christmas, BB would present Jeff with a ten bob note. (I reckon the youngsters might be a mite baffled by the mention of the. ten bob note). It's just no fun any more.

Abraham

Wangford 100 Club 2020

Winners in the August Draw were

1. Jim Swindley
2. Karin Olley
3. Sara Campbell

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 | |
| Uggeshall | Clare Bailey | 578679 |
| Sotherton | Karen Flaxman | 01986 873123 |

Church Wardens

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------|--------|
| Wangford | Jackie Casement (Acting) | 578992 |
| | Mark Notton (Acting) | 578691 |

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--------|
| Uggeshall | 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 | |
| | booking.wcc@outlook.com | 578311 |

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| Caretaker | Roy Hodgkins | 07871 044120 |
| Secretary | Sue Taylor | 578408 |

Wangford Clubs

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------|
| Book Club | Gilliane Smith | 578620 |
|-----------|----------------|--------|

Parish Council Clerks

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------|
| Wangford | Jean Brown | 675739 |
| Uggeshall | Jean Brown | 675739 |
| Sotherton | Caroline Cardwell | 01986 781349 |

Henham Steam Rally

| | | |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Chair | Helen Walker | 07557 784927 |
|-------|--------------|--------------|

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Wangford Surgery | 578257 |
|------------------|--------|

| | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Sole Bay Health Centre | 722326 |
|------------------------|--------|

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|----------------------------|--------|
| Wangford Veterinary Clinic | 578999 |
|----------------------------|--------|

| | | |
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| Police | Urgent 999 | Non Urgent 101 |
|--------|------------|----------------|

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Crimestoppers | 0800 555111 |
|---------------|-------------|

Church Services in September

There is a mixture of zoomed and church services. The latter are subject to government regulations, which means that there can be no singing, but a single soloist, and organ music are permitted. Holy Communion is permitted, but there is no Communion cup. Wangford church is closed due to the building works, and Sotherton is closed until the next stage of easing.

For log-in details for the zoomed services please contact Rev Alan Perry (453624), or Harriet Notton (07713 939701) for technical advice and support.

September 6th

| | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------|
| 8.00 am | Southwold | Holy Communion |
| 9.30 am | Reydon/Southwold | Holy Communion |
| 10.30 am | Zoom | Family Service |
| 6.00 pm | Uggeshall | Evening Prayer |

September 13th

| | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------|
| 8.00 am | Reydon | Holy Communion |
| 9.30 am | Reydon/Southwold | Holy Communion |
| 10.30 am | Zoom | Family Service |
| 6.00 pm | Uggeshall | Evening Prayer |

September 20th

| | | |
|----------|------------------|------------------|
| 8.00 am | Southwold | Holy Communion |
| 9.30 am | Reydon/Southwold | Holy Communion |
| 10.30 am | Zoom | Family Service |
| 3.00 pm | South Cove | Harvest Festival |
| 6.00 pm | Uggeshall | Evening Prayer |

September 27th

| | | |
|----------|-----------|------------------|
| 8.00 am | Reydon | Holy Communion |
| 9.30 am | Reydon | Harvest Festival |
| 9.30 am | Southwold | Holy Communion |
| 10.30 am | Zoom | Family Service |
| 6.00 pm | Uggeshall | Holy Communion |

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"Keeping the Community informed"

Wangford Community Centre

We aim to facilitate activities which are necessary to support the community, and are constantly reviewing the situation in the light of government guidance and our ability to ensure a COVID-safe environment

Consequently, the Centre remains closed at the moment, apart from the Post Office, open every Thursday from 1.00 - 3.00pm, and the Barber, who visits every five weeks.

We will also be opening for Longshore Surgery flu jabs. More details will be in the October Messenger.