

*"Keeping
the Community
informed"*

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 16 NO. 12 SEPTEMBER 2021

Uggeshall Teas

Our village teas were held this year on Saturday 31st July and Sunday 1st August in the pretty gardens of our old school room. They were very well attended, with customers enjoying a wonderful range of breads, homemade scones, teabreads, cakes and meringues. The large bric-a-brac tent was brimming with interesting and unusual items and is always a hit with the public.

The event was a great success and raised £2253.00, a large proportion of which will go to St Mary's Church, Uggeshall. Donations will also be made to the First Responders at Wrentham and to Access Community Trust, a Lowestoft based charity that looks after the homeless.

We would particularly like to thank :

Morrisons for donating the breads

Dan Hill of Zagwear for donating the PPE

Sheila Worts for donating Henham school history books

Halesworth bookshop for selling Uggeshall history books and Uggeshall recipe books

Sue Ashton and Denise Baker for arranging the flowers for the tables

Daphne for the use of her pretty garden

We would also like to say a big thank you to Linda Hill and the committee for organising the event, and to everyone who donated cakes, bric-a-brac and/or their time before, during or after the event.



Left:
Rev Simon and family enjoying the new-look Teas.

Easing out of COVID?

Common sense mostly seems to be prevailing as we ease out of COVID restrictions, and activities are beginning to resume.

Uggeshall Old School Hall has reinstated Coffee Mornings and Cinema, and at Wangford Community Centre, Book Club and Body Conditioning have returned, with Parents and Toddlers due to resume from September 13th, and our friends from Blythburgh Bowls coming back from October 5th. Other outside bookings are set to resume from October.

You are also invited to join a monthly Working Party on the first Sunday of the month from 10.00am to tend the Greening Project garden - with coffee and cake provided!

We are even beginning to plan for some Christmas activity, with the popular Christmas Bazaar pencilled in for 13th November.

Ride and Stride 2021



The 2021 Sponsored Ride and Stride will take place on Saturday, 11th September. It is the main source of income to Suffolk Historic Churches Trust to enable it to make grants to churches and chapels of all denominations towards repair and restoration costs. Participants are sponsored for each place of worship visited between 9.00am and 5.00pm or by a donation.

The money raised is shared equally between the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and the place of worship nominated by the participant. For sponsor forms, a list of churches that will be open, or if you would like to be put in touch with someone you can sponsor, please contact Jeff or Judith Bridges on 01502 578208 or 07789 934972.

Wangford Village Store

Monday to Saturday
8.00am - 6.00pm
Sunday 8.00am - 4.00pm
For now, we ask you to wear face coverings in the store.
Please keep your distance from others.



Wangford Post Office

Tuesdays
from 10.00am - 12 noon
Thursdays
from 1.00 - 3.00pm
at the
Community Centre.
Please continue to observe social distancing and mask wearing.

WangfordHelp

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Uggeshall Community Support

If you would like support, or would just like to discuss your worries please telephone Sarah Butt 578519 /07979 770383

Mobile Library

The next visit is on
Wednesday 1st September
10.10am at Millfields
10.35am at
Wangford Church.

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Mobile Library

Wednesday 1st September
1010 - 1030 Community Centre
1035 - 1045 Wangford Church

Book Club

Thursday 2nd September 8.00pm Community Centre

Greening Project Working Party

Sunday 5th September 10.00am - 12 noon
Millfields

Uggeshall Coffee Morning

Thursday 9th September 10.30am
Old School Hall

Uggeshall Cinema

Thursday 9th September 7.00pm for 7.30pm
Old School Hall

Suffolk Churches' Ride and Stride

Saturday 11th September 9.00am - 5.00pm

Wangford Harvest Festival

Sunday 12th September 11.15am

Wangford Parent and Toddler Group

Monday 13th September 9.30 - 11.30am
Community Centre

Wrentham Chapel

'Seedtime and Harvest' Friday 17th September 7.00pm

Wangford Parent and Toddler Group

Monday 20th September and Monday 27th September
9.30 - 11.30am Community Centre

Uggeshall Teas Thank You Party

Tuesday 28th September 7.00pm
Old School Hall

Music for Health

Helen Hayes from Uggeshall has started up various music for health and wellbeing groups across East Suffolk. The sessions are free and everyone is welcome. She is at Holton Village Hall every Wednesday afternoon where her dementia singing and Sing to Beat Parkinson's groups run on alternate weeks, 2-3.30pm. She is at Kessingland Sports and Social Centre on alternate Thursday afternoons with a new dementia singing group. If you would like to find out more about the sessions, please email: info@swellmusic.org.uk, or ring Helen on 07917 799456.

Barber

Sadly, Stewart Sharman has decided to discontinue his visits to Wangford due to lack of support following the lockdowns.

Many of our readers have benefited from his expertise over the years, and we thank him for his long years of service to our community.

Food Bank

Please continue to donate to the Lowestoft Food Bank. This can be done by leaving food with John and Jan Collins, 19 Lakeside Park Drive, Reydon or telephoning 01502 725731.

The foodbank is particularly in need of UHT milk, rice pudding and tinned tomatoes, fruit and fish at this time.

Help with delivery

If anyone would like help to deliver their donations to Jan Collins, Valerie Beckett would happily help when she takes her own every Friday morning.

For more details please contact her on 578987.

Collection point

There is also a basket for your donations at the foot of the font in Wangford Church.

Wangford 100 Club 2021

Winners in the August Draw were
1. Dan Smith
2. Audrey Lamb
3. Jess Smith

Wangford Farm Shop

Monday - Saturday
9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday CLOSED



Peggy Sue Rush, who ignores the rest of the mail, but always delivers the Messenger. Discerning girl!



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News from Uggeshall

Uggeshall Coffee Morning

On 12th August a good number of regulars and visitors spent an hour or so chatting over a cuppa and one or two diet-defying cakes.

A Jigsaw Puzzle Borrowing Scheme has proved popular in the past and it is decided to extend this to include Reading Books by way of an experiment.

The next Coffee Morning will take place on 9th September 10.30am to 12.30pm. in Uggeshall Old School Hall.

Come and join us!

The Coffee Morning Team.

Uggeshall Cinema

This month's film in the Old School Hall on Thursday 9th September is "The Dig" which is based on events just down the road at Sutton Hoo.

Doors open at 7.00 for 7.15 pm.

Uggeshall Teas

The steering group would like to invite all of you who volunteered and helped setting up, running the days, clearing up, baking etc, to a Thank You evening, with drinks and nibbles supplied, on September 28th at 7pm in The Old School Hall, where we also will be handing over cheques to the other 2 charities which are Wrentham 1st Responders and Access Community Trust for the Homeless.

SEPTEMBER'S TEAM LETTER

Dear Friends,

"Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12: 1c)

Having just secured his third gold medal of Tokyo, British swimmer Adam Peaty said: "It's a fun event and that's what sport needs. It needs to be fun." He had been part of the first British mixed relay swimming team to compete in the Olympic Games. Other mixed relay races were also introduced at the Tokyo Olympics, in both swimming and athletics. Relay events also feature at the Paralympics.

When the author of the Letter to the Hebrews urges Christians to "... run with perseverance the race that is set before us", I always think of a relay race, not an individual event. The Christian life is lived in the company of, and with the support and encouragement of, our sisters and brothers. We have different strengths and weaknesses; different aptitudes, some better in a sprint of enthusiasm and energy, some better at the slow and steady long-distance slog. We compete as a team, men and women, with a range of abilities and disabilities, and together we are stronger than the sum of our parts.

The Christian faith did not begin with us, and it will not end with us. We took the baton from those who ran before us, and in our turn, we will pass it into other hands. Let us use our best endeavours to make sure that they start ahead, not behind! A lot of the time, hopefully, it will be fun, but even when it becomes sad and painful, a team mate is there to take the baton, for a while at least. There are sad and difficult stages of the race too. We encounter wrongdoing, abuse, loss, grief, and a host of other human experiences. To persevere, we must keep our eyes fixed on the Victor, whose laurel wreath never fades. Think of the way He persevered against such opposition, misunderstanding, slander, betrayal, torture, and barbaric execution, and then we will not lose heart and abandon the race.

We are in this together, and we belong together. When one competitor wins through, we all win through, and we rejoice together. The victor's laurel wreath awaits us.

With every Blessing,

Fr. Stephen

News from Sotherton

You are warmly invited to our service of Holy Communion at St. Andrew's at 9.30 am on Sunday 19th September.

Wrentham Chapel

will be hosting "Seedtime and Harvest" at 7pm on Friday September 17th. At this celebration of music, spoken word and song those attending are invited to bring along an item to contribute to the evening's programme. Items may be serious, humorous, religious or secular. There will also be an opportunity to socialise over a light buffet with soft drinks and wine.

Sue Hardy

News from Wangford Church

Following the latest easing of lockdown restrictions, it has been so nice to hear everybody singing the hymns again and also being able to offer refreshments at the end of each service.

We still ask that people wear their face coverings when entering church and moving around inside the building, but they can now be removed when people are in their pews for the service or sitting for tea/coffee following the service. Many thanks to all for their continued understanding of this.

A couple of dates for the diary:

September 12th is the date for the Harvest Festival at church and all donations will be forwarded to the Lowestoft Foodbank. Whilst donations of any non-perishable food items would be very much appreciated, the foodbank is particularly in need of UHT milk, rice pudding and tinned tomatoes, fruit and fish at this time.

September 26th will see the return of our Family@Church services and we will also be welcoming the Trelawny Family for a baptism. We look forward to celebrating with them.

Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)

Greta Millicent Sarah Seaman RIP

The funeral service for Greta, who died on 2nd July, took place at St Peter and St Paul, Wangford, on 27th July.

Greta was born at Southwold hospital on 3rd June, 1932 weighing just 4½lb. An only child, she lived with her parents George and Alice Martin at Barn Cottages in Wangford (now Hillside Farm), where George was the cowman. In the war George decided to leave the farm and got a better-paid job with the War-Ag, and they moved to stay with Alice's twin sister Sarah at 'The Haven', a small two-up two-down next door to the old bakery. When the council bungalows were built in Church Street (with running water and flushing toilet) they jumped at the chance to move into number 22.

Greta attended Henham and Reydon schools and on leaving she worked at Denny's in Southwold for several years, and then at the Pye television factory in Lowestoft.

In 1956 she married Sam and they had a council bungalow two doors down from her parents. After the birth of their first two children, Kevin and Linda, they moved along the row to a house at number 32 and Caroline and Richard arrived.

When the children were small Greta would do field work picking potatoes, hoeing or anything that was available to earn a bit of extra money. In the winter months she also worked at hand trimming sprouts off the stalks, a job she was very good at and did for many years. When she got a job cleaning at Reydon High school, she bought a moped, but never actually passed a driving test, just kept her 'L' plates on.

The family never had holidays, and, as they didn't have a car, a bus trip to Yarmouth was as far as they could travel. However, when Caroline married and moved to Australia in 1982, and in 1990 had twins, Greta decided to get a passport and go out to see them. Sam wasn't so keen at first but they both had a wonderful holiday and Greta absolutely fell in love with Australia and couldn't wait to go back.

Sadly Sam died quite suddenly of a brain tumour in 1994. A few years later while enjoying her favourite hobby of bingo Greta met Bernard, who had lost his wife a few years previously. Greta and Bernard became good friends and they would go on holidays and weekends away together. In 1997 and again in 2006 they flew out to Australia to visit Caroline and had a fantastic time. Sadly Bernard died in January 2020.

Greta's lifetime of manual work eventually caught up with her, but a successful knee replacement helped her to keep active and she was often seen zooming around the village on her electric bicycle. Unfortunately, after the second knee replacement she needed more help. Carers visited daily, and she was able, as she wished, to spend her final days in her own home.

Family was the most important thing to Greta, and she leaves four children, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She was buried with Sam in the churchyard, and donations in her memory were invited for the First Responders.

Pauline Winifred and Dennis John Whiting RIP

Devoted Wangford couple Pauline and Dennis Whiting tragically died just 5 weeks apart. Pauline passed away after a short illness on 22nd May, and was buried at St. Nicholas Church, Wrentham on 15th June; Dennis died at their home on the eve of Pauline's funeral, and was buried with her on 30th June. They had celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 10th September 2020.

A Wrentham girl, Pauline was born in 1937; the family lived first at Fisherman's Row and later in Bonsey Gardens. She attended local schools and the Sunday School at St Nicholas, and when she left school she went to work for Mr and Mrs Middleditch.

Dennis was born in 1935, and the family moved from Ditchingham to Wangford in the 1940s. When he left school, he undertook his National Service in the RAF, posted to Liverpool.

Pauline and Dennis were married at St Nicholas, Wrentham in 1960, and set up home in Sotterley, later moving to 'The Elms' in Wrentham in 1962, and then to Wangford with their four children - John, Gillian, Bob and Richard. Dennis, after working for the Kents at Elms Farm, joined Suffolk County Council in the Highways department.

Dennis and Pauline were very involved in the Wangford community. Dennis served on the Community Council, and was a Trustee of the Alms Houses. Both passionate gardeners, he and Pauline were members of the Horticultural Society; their garden was always colourful and immaculate. Dennis also took part in short-mat bowls and cut the grass in the churchyard. Pauline was very involved in the many fundraising activities at the Community Centre. She was also a member of the Mundees Club, and latterly used her lifelong knitting skills in the Knitting Group, making blankets and baby clothes for charities at home and abroad. They both attended Wangford Lunch Club alongside many of their contemporaries.

Dennis was a man of principle, held strong opinions, and was always ready with a word of advice or caution. Pauline, on the other hand, with a smile of encouragement, worked quietly but no less effectively in the background. Their joint contribution to village life was substantial.

Six years ago, Dennis was diagnosed with cancer, and Pauline supported him, eventually becoming his carer when the cancer returned.

Dennis and Pauline were loving parents, grandparents and great-grandparents. They will both be missed very much by their family and the wider community. Donations in their memory were made to the Sole Bay Care Fund.

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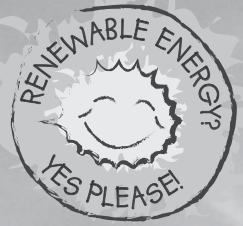
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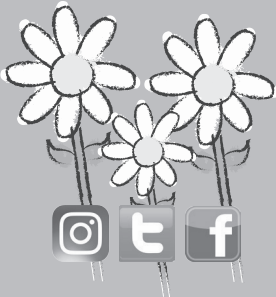
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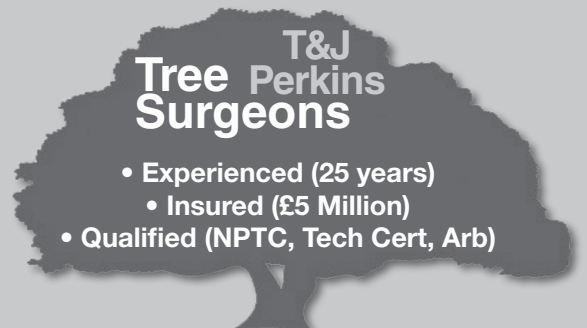
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ABRAHAM

On the public toilets on the cliffs at Southwold there is a sign stating clearly, in bold red letters: DANGER KEEP OFF THE ROOF. So what do we see? A girl sitting on the roof jabbing away at her infernal machine, smoking a roll-up with a can beside her. Charming, or as the barbarians would have it, speaking ironically, a 'real stoater' (*Ed: Glaswegian for excellent, wonderful*). Mind you, that's the type of person you get in Southwold these days.

Even if you do not wish to read about it, it is difficult to avoid press coverage of the racial abuse hurled at individuals. What is to be done to eliminate or temper this behaviour? Being pessimistic, I believe it cannot be done. Racial prejudice has ever been, and always will be, with us and we shall have to deal with it. And that will be done by simply ignoring it, shrugging our shoulders and refusing to give these half-witted cretins more publicity by responding to it. After all, which nationality or section of society has not been subject to some abuse or other for centuries? Precious few, and not just black communities. Who amongst us has not heard remarks, casual or downright offensive or couched in the form of a bad joke, about our American cousins, European neighbours, far-Eastern trading partners etc.? And let's not kid ourselves that the liberal middle class and ordinary folk in the United Kingdom are free from prejudicial verbiage. The Scots, Irish and Welsh have all been subject to racism one way or another throughout the ages. Good grief, how many times have I had to listen to the ghastly clichéd remarks about meanness (moths flying out of my wallet) and awful attempts at the Scottish dialect (Och aye the noo blah, blah)? To be even slightly amusing a remark has to have a scintilla of truth and there is none in the scabrous comments about our neighbours. The Jews and travelling folk particularly, among our so-called tolerant race, have suffered abominably and this will, along with world-wide abuse, never cease, simply because societies will always have a small minority of ill-bred, stupid, ignorant and just plain nasty people. Let us get on with it and admit that there are many millions of decent, courteous, even-minded smashing folks out there to make life a delight. I meet them every day.

Now that one of the Marks has shaken Wangford's dust off his heels shall we advise our Estate Agent friend to sell houses to at least one in ten folks on the condition that there is a Mark involved?

Still the controversy rumbles on about the rail station for Wickham Market being situated some two and a half miles away at Campsea Ashe. I have long regarded that situation as yet another of Suffolk's quaint eccentricities, along with the weird pronunciations of place names. It is also rather daunting though to be informed that 'rail staff unfamiliar with that part of East Suffolk seem unaware of its position and have directed passengers to the wrong place'. Mind you, it's probably another Suffolk idiosyncrasy to expect rail employees not to know where their stations are.

Idly wandering round the village, as one does, on a bright sunny day, I stopped for a rest on Philip's bench and meditated: the short time I knew him, long enough to like him for his companionship and sense of humour; the generosity of the villagers who created this beautiful, peaceful space. My little mind then drifted to other matters, including others who are

no longer with us and life's vicissitudes. Realising that too much introspection leads to moroseness I did what I normally do in such circumstances - I nodded off, to wake up some time after and toddle off to the wee Angel for a medicinal glass of wine. Decadent, or what?

Can we go back? No, of course we can't. Never again can I feel the great adventure of seeing snow fall for the first time; or my first day at school; or the pain when I fell down the ditch and split my head. Can I again experience the joy of guddling (*Ed: fishing with your bare hands*) in the burn for trout, or walk without footwear in the summer-melted tar in the street, or the misery when my bag of chips was knocked from my hands? I may recall them with nostalgia but never again can I think as I did then, or feel or react as then. For I am a different person that the years have moulded and changed, sometimes beyond recognition. Just the same, it can be worth the attempt to cast ourselves back, to recapture that simplicity of outlook. In my moments of wandering down memory lane in Muchty the mood has now and then crept upon me and it is surprising how different things look, and how simple what I thought were problems become. We need a sense of wonder. We had it when we were young and possibly it was the most valuable thing we ever had. It is not too much to hope that it might come to us again in rare unguarded moments.

If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.... (Albert Einstein)

Abraham

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 5th September	14th Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 12th September	15th Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Harvest Festival
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 19th September	16th Sunday after Trinity
9.30 am Sotherton	Holy Communion (CW)
11.15 am Wangford	Holy Communion (CW)
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 26th September	17th Sunday after Trinity
11.15 am Wangford	Family@Church with Baptism
6.00 pm Uggeshall	Holy Communion(BCP)

In addition, for those unable to attend in person, all services from St Margaret's, Reydon are live-streamed via YouTube. Simply Google 'YouTube', and search for 'St Margaret's Reydon Parish Church'.

DIRECTORY

Team Rector	The Reverend Simon Pitcher	725424
Team Vicar	The Reverend Alan Perry	453624
Team Admin	Tania Birtwistle	724115
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Uggeshall	Clare Bailey	578679
Sotherton	Karen Flaxman	01986 873123
Church Wardens		
Wangford	Jackie Casement	578992
	Mark Notton	578691
Uggeshall	Colin Hill (Churchwarden Emeritus)	
	Colonel Giles Crisp	578251
	Clare Bailey	578679
Sotherton	Gerard Walker	01986 874248
	Stephen Flaxman	01986 873123
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Secretary	Sue Hosking	578287
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	racheldade@hotmail.co.uk	578311
Caretaker	Roy Hodgkins	07871 044120
Secretary	Sue Taylor	578408
Uggeshall Old School Hall		
Bookings	Denise Baker	578190
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
Wangford Veterinary Clinic		
		578999
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SEPTEMBER 2021 CENTRE DIARY

2nd Sept	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Book Club	Bar	8.00pm
7th Sept	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
9th Sept	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
13th Sept	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
14th Sept	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30am-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Parish Council	Hall	8.00pm
16th Sept	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
20th Sept	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
21st Sept	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30pm-10.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
23rd Sept	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
27th Sept	Parent & Toddler	Hall	9.30am
	Blyth Valley Labour	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
28th Sept	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00am-12noon
30th Sept	Post Office	Bar	1.00pm-3.00pm

Book Club

We were able to meet for the first time in 18 months in August and it was wonderful to see everyone and catch up with all our news and also all the books we have managed to read during that time. At the meeting we discussed Robert Bryndza's 'Last Breath' which was a detective story. Even those who would not usually read in the genre agreed that it was well written and he is a good storyteller. We examined the front cover and someone enlightened the rest of us that, turned sideways, it represented a face in shadow! Bryndza has written several books using the same female detective and we would have understood the various relationships better had we read the earlier books. It was quite graphic but not overly so and we enjoyed the narrative style. The first part of the book was the classic 'who did it' and the second part concentrated on catching that person. The author made it known who was guilty and this should have allowed a greater insight into the workings of the killer's mind but much of the information given was quite surface and without depth and this made the killer one dimensional. We agreed the power of social media is not always a good thing. We also discussed the emphasis on image and how it shapes perception in unexpected ways. We next meet on Thursday 2nd September in the Bar at the community centre at 8 pm. Please could I remind everyone that subscription fees to the end of the financial year are due so please can you either bring £7 to the meeting or collect details for a bank transfer. At the moment we are unable to provide communal tea or coffee so do please bring your own refreshments if required.

Gill Smith 578620