

*"Keeping  
the Community  
informed"*

FREE ISSUE

WANGFORD UGGESHALL SOTHERTON

# Messenger

PARISH MAGAZINE

EDITOR: SUE TAYLOR

VOLUME 18 NO. 12 SEPTEMBER 2023

## 47th Grand Henham Steam Rally Henham Park, 16th & 17th September

It's Rally time again, raising money for Wangford and District Community Council, the PCCs of Sotherton, Uggeshall and Wangford, Blyth Valley Rotary, and this year's additional charities - Pear Tree Fund, Sole Bay Care Fund and Beccles Army Cadets.

There's something for everyone to enjoy, including Norwich and Norfolk Medieval Association, Heritage Horses, Lowestoft Dog Agility Display Team, Will's Working Spaniels, Children's Corner with Petting Farm and Punch and Judy, and craft marquees; you can even steer one of the steam engines!

There's a full programme of displays in the Len Murray arena and Parade Ring, and Lowestoft



Longshoremen, Spangle Steel Pan Band, Full House, Halesworth Strummers Ukelele Band and Muddied Blues Band on the Bandstand.

That's in addition to the large display of steam engines, working steam demonstrations, vintage vehicles of all sorts, the steam Fairground, trade, craft and food stalls - plus a licensed bar and food outlets to suit every taste and pocket!

Visit the Village Pantry in the big marquee (staffed by volunteers from Wangford and surrounding villages) for your freshly-made sandwiches and baguettes, cakes, scones, tea, coffee or soft drink. Hot-dogs and burgers are available from Wangford Community Council's stall, and, for a special treat, try Sotherton Church's pancakes. Please note that this year's Rally aims to be cash-free as far as possible.

Go to [www.henhamsteamrally.com](http://www.henhamsteamrally.com) by 5th September to buy discounted day tickets in advance. Adults and over 14 - £13 (£16 on gate); 8 - 14-year-olds - £3, and under 8s are free.



## Wangford Snooker Hall

The Hall will reopen on Monday 4th September. Former and new members are welcome.

Membership costs just £15 per annum for residents of

Henham, Sotherton, Uggeshall and Wangford, and £20 per annum for non-residents, payable in September.

If you would like to join, contact Malcolm Woolnough on 01502 578701 or email [malcolmjwoolnough@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmjwoolnough@gmail.com) for more details.

There's an open house on the evening of Sunday 3rd September from 7.00pm to meet up, play a few frames, and, if you've paid your subs, book your sessions for the week of the 4th. Feel free to bring your own drinks.

## Voluntary Help Centre



Whether you are joining us as a volunteer or needing help from a volunteer, the VHC welcomes you all.

The VHC has been in the community for over 30 years and needs volunteers to help with requests for transport as well as for non-driving requests, such as befriending and the fortnightly Lunch Club.

Volunteering with us does not commit anyone to a regular schedule. All volunteers decide for themselves when and how often they wish to help out. Volunteer drivers also receive 45p per mile per journey undertaken.

In particular, volunteer drivers are needed in Walberswick, Blythburgh and Wangford areas to help meet requests from those villages.

Come and talk to us at the Stella Peskett Millennium Hall and see how you can help, or phone us on (01502) 724549

## Food Bank

Items for the Food Bank can be left in the basket at the foot of the font in Wangford Church to be collected on Friday morning.

Most needed food items are UHT milk, tinned fish, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, tinned meat, tinned veg, baked beans, biscuits, rice pudding, and pasta.

Anything else is always welcome e.g. tea, coffee, chocolate, custard, toiletries, female sanitary items, baby food and nappies.

Lowestoft Foodbank can be contacted on 07307 866146 email: info@lowestoft.foodbank.org.uk

## Wangford 100 Club 2023

Winners in the August Draw were

1. Trish Cox
2. Carolyn Robinson
3. Edna Utting

## Wrentham Chapel 'Seedtime and Harvest'

Friday 22nd September 7.00pm

This Caedmon event is part of our regular seasonal celebrations in music, word and song. The evening's entertainment is a "bring and share" medley of items contributed by some of those attending. Once again, there will be a light buffet with wine and fruit juice, along with time to chat. There is no charge for this event, but we will greatly appreciate donations towards the work of Christian Aid.

*Sue Hardy*  
07771 882738

## WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

### Wangford Parent and Toddler Group

Resumes on Monday 11th September

9.30 - 11.30am Community Centre

### Body Conditioning

Tuesdays from 9.30 - 10.30am Community Centre

### Salsa

Wednesdays from 7.30 to 8.30pm Community Centre

### Wangford Art Group

Thursdays from 9.30am to 12.30pm Community Centre

### Wangford Ladies' Breakfast

Saturday 2nd September 8.45am The Angel Inn

### Book Club

Thursday 7th September 8.00pm Community Centre

### Community Garden Working Party

Saturday 9th September 10.00am - noon

### Wangford with Henham Parish Council

Tuesday 12th September 7.30pm Community Centre

### Uggeshall Coffee Morning

Thursday 14th September 10.30am Old School Hall

### Uggeshall Cinema

Thursday 14th September 7.00pm Old School Hall

### 47th Grand Henham Steam Rally

Saturday 16th/Sunday 17th September 10.00am - 6.00pm

### Wangford Church Coffee Morning

Wednesday 20th September 10.30am - noon

### CPR Demonstration and Training Evening

Wednesday 20th September 7.30pm Old School Hall

### Wangford Men's Breakfast

Saturday 23rd September 8.45am The Angel Inn

### Blyth Valley Labour

Monday 25th September 8.30pm Community Centre

### Afternoon Tea

Thursday 28th September 2.30pm Community Centre

### Mobile Library at Wangford

Wednesday 27th September  
1010 - 1030 Community Centre 1035 - 1045 Church

### Wrentham Village Hall Film Night

## THE BANSHEES OF INISHERIN

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Saturday 30th September

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Community Centre

## Wangford Vets

As many of you will know, Walter sadly lost his partner, Becs, to cancer last December. Around that same time Rachel, who has been part of our reception team for several years, was diagnosed with breast cancer. It's been a painful and difficult time, which makes Walter and the Wangford Vets team, all the more determined to do something positive to honour Bec's memory and show love and support for Rachel.

On Sunday 17th September, Walter and many of the team will be walking a circular route of 7 miles between Walberswick and Dunwich.

Our target is to raise a total of £5,000 for Cancer Research UK and we are asking our valued clients and friends for support. You can do this by:

- sponsoring us for the walk (call in or phone our reception - 578999) or
- donating via the dedicated page on our website or
- donating a prize of items or services that can be auctioned or
- joining us on the walk day

Any support you are able to offer would be greatly appreciated and will help to make a significant difference in the fight against cancer.

Thank you.



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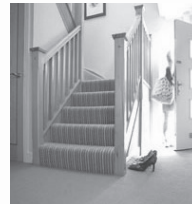
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**E:** [info@peartreefund.org](mailto:info@peartreefund.org)

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# SEPTEMBER'S TEAM LETTER

## Soil and Soul

The harvest is pretty much gathered in, but now's the time when we celebrate the fact in services and gatherings across the Sole Bay team. I've spent most of my life in London, but 14 years ago, my wife and I moved to Blythburgh. Harvest has taken on a new meaning since we moved east. In north London, we had a tiny, north-facing garden – overshadowed, damp, and a pilgrimage site for snails and slugs. The few things we managed to grow got munched. It's been a revelation since moving here. Summer and early autumn have proved to be ripe and luscious – well, some of the time.

One of the joys of moving here has been the sense of being more in tune with the seasons, the weather, and being closer to the soil itself. Harvest reminds us that the soil is not just dirt, it's alive! The Old Testament prophet Joel's song to harvest says: "Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things!"

The soil has soul. This isn't as ridiculous as it may sound. "Remember you are dust," it says in Genesis. Or, we are "Stardust", according to the singer-songwriter Joni Mitchell: "We are stardust, we are golden, billion-year-old carbon. We've got to get back to the garden." She wasn't making it up. Professor Iris Schriver, from Stanford University tells us: "Everything we are and everything in the universe and on Earth originated from stardust, and it continually floats through us even today. All the material in our bodies originates with that residual stardust, and it finds its way into plants, and from there into the nutrients that we need for everything we do – think, move, grow." You and I are built from the same material that formed the universe, and we share the very stuff of which our planet is made – so we are, literally, earthed. Not only are we and the earth made from the same stuff, our health and wellbeing depends on the relationship we have with each other. We live together in symbiosis. Many peoples who've directly lived off the land – whether they hunt, forage or farm – have seen the earth as more than simply a resource, they regard it as sacred. When you depend on your habitat for your survival, when you're at the mercy of the elements, then you respect your surroundings. You give it due reverence. This harvest season is an occasion for expressing reverence and giving God thanks for this remarkable creation. It's expressed beautifully in this anonymous blessing:

The earth is fruitful, may we be generous.

The earth is fragile, may we be gentle.

The earth is fractured, may we be just.

Creating God, harvest in us joy and generosity as we together share in thanks and giving.

*Rev Malcolm Doney*

## News from Wangford Church

In August we had a lovely family baptism in church; it's always nice to see people of all generations in church together. September 2nd sees the return to the church of The Jazz Goats with plenty of dancing and great music. We are always thinking of new ways to bring people into church and raise funds for the ongoing maintenance of our lovely church building, so please feel free to come and see us if you have any ideas.

September 16/17 is the Henham Steam Rally; as so many of our congregation and the village will be volunteering at this main fund-raising event for the whole benefice, there will be no service in church on September 17th. We hope that the weather will be kind and the Rally will be a great success.

September 20th sees the monthly Coffee Morning; if you haven't been before, please do feel free to pop along. Tea, coffee, cakes and snacks are available and there is a raffle each month along with the 100 Club draw. It starts at 10.30am and we look forward to welcoming you all.

A couple of advance dates for the diary.

Our Harvest Festival is on Sunday 1st October; this will be a Family-at-church service and not a Eucharist. As is now customary at this service, we will be collecting donations of non-perishable food for the local foodbank.

There will be no morning service on Sunday October 8th as we are delighted to welcome the Jubilate Choir to sing Evensong at 6.30pm. It promises to be a lovely occasion.

*Mark Notton, Churchwarden (578691)*

## Wangford Ladies' Breakfast

Our first breakfast on 5th August was very much enjoyed by all ladies attending.

John Brownfield, an expert bee keeper, gave an interesting and informative talk on how a colony of bees produces honey in a hive and the value of using honey as an aid to healing.

Breakfast followed - what a treat and no washing up!

Next month September 2nd, Jeremy Fournel, from The Amber Shop in Southwold will give a talk about Amber jewellery.

If you would like to join us at 8.45 for 9.00am at The Angel Inn Wangford please contact Jan on [perrypoppy@aol.com](mailto:perrypoppy@aol.com).

## Wangford Mens' Breakfast

Saturday the 19th August saw Charles Storer, MBE travel from Essex to entertain 18 good souls, including two new faces, with an insight to his charity Hope and Aid Direct. There were some harrowing pictures of the terrible conditions in Turkey (earthquake) and the Ukraine (war) where multiple artic-loads of essential supplies have headed. All goods are collected, packed and dispatched by volunteers. A truly commendable effort.

Next month's meeting is a week later than usual, 23rd, due to the Steam Rally, when William Seymour will explain 'European Weather Satellite Systems'. Usual time 8.45 for 9.00 at the Angel Inn.

Interested? Email [johnscholes@hotmail.com](mailto:johnscholes@hotmail.com).

## News from Uggeshall

### Uggeshall Coffee Morning

September's Coffee Morning is on Thursday 14th from 10.30am in the Old School Hall. Everybody's welcome.

### Uggeshall Cinema

The film for 14th September is Mrs Harris Goes to Paris, an enchanting tale of a seemingly ordinary British housekeeper whose dream to own a couture Christian Dior gown takes her on an extraordinary adventure to Paris. Stars Lesley Manville. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.15 pm

*Matt Grady*

### Group Parish Council

The next meeting is on Tuesday 5th September at Frostenden Village Hall at 7.30pm.

### Uggeshall Teas



This year marked 54 years of Uggeshall Teas and it was clear that their popularity never wanes.

Despite poor weather predictions Saturday 29th and Sunday the 30th July were dry and warm enough for the teas to be well attended in the Old School garden which looked beautiful. The usual scrumptious cakes, scones (with delicious home made jam and local

honey) and meringues were served with the addition of bite-sized sandwiches which were a roaring success. The bric-a-brac tent was overflowing with a great variety of items.

In all a little over £3000.00 was raised, and will be donated to St Mary's Church and The Old School, Wrentham First Responders, Access Community Trust and The Food Bank

The committee would like to say a big thank you to all who contributed both out front and behind the scenes. We would love you to join us for a drink and a chat on the evening of 6th September at 7.30p.m in The Old School, Hall where we will be joined by representatives of the charities.

## News from Sotherton

### Cake Stall

The cake stall on the 7th August was very successful; the sun shone and £250.00 was raised for St Andrew's church. The PCC would like to thank all who made cake and those who came along on the day to support us.

### Church Service

There is no service in September due to the Henham Steam Rally. We'll all be there on 16th/17th manning our pancake stall. Do come along to support us.

*Karen Flaaman*

## Book Club

At our August meeting we discussed Ambrose Parry's "The Way of all Flesh". This is a collaborative narrative by two authors - one an international best-seller crime writer, the other a consultant anaesthetist. We did wonder how the book would flow and how two very different perspective would be incorporated. However, the general consensus was that this is a fabulous book. It was quite graphic at times in dealing with the hardships of Edinburgh life in 1847. The main character Raven was a young doctor who became involved with the use of anaesthetics, particularly in childbirth and abortion. We noted the role of women as being marginal with little opportunity. Sarah was the housemaid at the Doctor's residence and became involved in the mystery surrounding the death of three young women, and turned detective with Raven. In course of their investigations, they saw how pharmacy shops ran and how doctors tested the new anaesthetics as an after dinner entertainment. We came to see the hunger in scientific recognition and the need to be the first to discover great things in medicine. We thought Raven was a flawed, character and Sarah was ahead of her time. We thought the characterisation was excellent and not overly emotional, and the plot was well drawn. We were surprised at the influence of the church, and that some priests would not allow women to have ether to alleviate pain because suffering was synonymous with faith. At the end of the book was an explanation about the story being based on the discovery of anaesthetics and the use of ether and chloroform. Highly recommended and we will definitely read another book by this author.

We next meet on Thursday 7th September at 8 pm in the community centre to discuss Ian McEwan's "Machines Like Me". a very successful morning, the sun shone and we raised £250, Thank you for thinking of us x

*Gill Smith 578620*

## **CPR DEMONSTRATION AND TRAINING EVENING**

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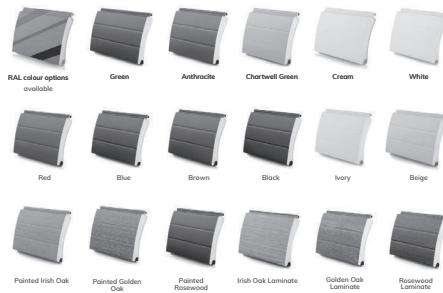
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# ABRAHAM

A wealthy Greek whose pen name is Taki writes a column in the Spectator entitled High Life. He tells us that his literary heroes are Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald, and that the best-ever opening paragraph is in Hemingway's A Farewell To Arms, and the most heartbreaking closing scene ever is Dick Diver blessing the beach in Cannes in Fitzgerald's Tender Is The Night. Anxious to check I scooted to the shelves to find alas, that the books were not there. Never fear, Mrs Abe immediately ordered them and now I have them. I can see what Taki meant, but I can come up with, in my view, more startling introductions and endings to great stories.

So, here's a little competition for our readers.

The first five are great openings and the second lot are closing lines. 1 point for the title and one for the author. No googling or peeking. (Answers on Page 12).

1. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.
2. I was born in the year 1632, in the city of York, of a good family.
3. I was set down from the carrier's cart at the age of three; and there with a sense of bewilderment and terror my life in the village began.
4. As I walked through the wilderness of this world, I lighted on a certain place where was a den and I laid me down in that place to sleep; and as I slept I dreamed a dream.
5. 'I have been here before,' I said; I had been there before; first with Sebastian more than twenty years ago on a cloudless day in June.,
6. "It is a far, far better thing I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest I go to than I have ever known"
7. The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.
8. But a great deal of us is together, and we can but abide by it, and steer our courses to meet soon. John Thomas says goodnight to Lady Jane a little droopingly, but with a hopeful heart.
9. And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us, Every One!
10. And when he speaks of Irene Adler, or when he refers to her photograph, it is always under the title of the woman.

Trawling through the shelves I have finally reached the end of the 'Cs': More Than Likely - Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais; 2 volumes about Leonard Cohen- (*cannot abide the man, master of misery and self-indulgence*); 4 by Richard Coles, ex-Communist and ex-vicar; 5 about Billy Connolly, the funniest man on the planet according to Michael Parkinson; 5 about Peter Cook and Dudley Moore who both died tragically; Tommy Cooper - (*made me laugh without saying anything*); A Time and A Place - George Crabbe - (*Crabbe's poem The Borough inspired Britten's opera Peter Grimes*); The Life and Work of John Craske, Fisherman and Artist; also a life of him entitled Threads by Julia Blackburn; The Making of Oliver Cromwell - self-explanatory, and, finally Long Time Gone, a 1989 biography of golden voiced ex-Byrd David Crosby, one of the finest rock biogs I have read. Still with books, the Times ran an article extolling the virtues of noir fiction, mentioning eight books one should read. Of the eight my favourite (which I have mentioned before) is praised. I'll say it again. The Long Goodbye, a Philip Marlowe tale by Raymond Chandler - literary magic on every page.

I really must give up watching Only Connect and University Challenge, they make me feel so STUPID. Oft times I can't understand the question, let alone the answer.

At the time of scribbling, we have witnessed a fine summer of sport. The Wimbledon final between Djokovic, who sounds like he should be Scottish, and Alcaraz, who was almost named after a prison, was a corker; the Ashes series was thrilling, and The Women's World Cup is on; all good stuff, spoiled by the constant wittering of inanities from the talking heads. We can see what's going on, for pity's sake.

Rachel Johnson, an honourable member of that clan, opines that when someone asks 'How are you?' they are merely being polite and that if the recipient of the question does indeed give you a blow by blow account of their miseries and ailments they should be sent to Coventry tout de suite. Rather harsh, I think. I do believe that some folk are genuinely interested in hearing about your troubles. However when it sounds like a badge of honour and a source of bragging as in "I bet you I take more tablets than you", it's time to duck out, pronto.

*Abraham*

The Arts Society, Southwold  
The 2023 series continues on Tuesday 12th September  
when Caroline Walker will speak on

**Discovering MacDonald Gill:  
Architect, Artist and Mapmaker**

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

## CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 3rd September	11.15 am Wangford 6.00 pm Uggheshall	13th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion (CW) Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 10th September	11.15 am Wangford 6.00 pm Uggheshall	14th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion (CW) Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 17th September	<i>No services at Sotherton, Uggheshall and Wangford due to Grand Henham Steam Rally</i>	
Sunday 24th September	11.15 am Wangford 6.00 pm Uggheshall	16th Sunday after Trinity Morning Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday 1st October	11.15 am Wangford 6.00 pm Uggheshall	17th Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival Evening Prayer (BCP)

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## SEPTEMBER 2023 CENTRE DIARY

Sept 1st	Private Hire		
Sept 2nd	Private Hire		
Sept 5th	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
Sept 6th	Salsa	Hall	7.30 - 8.30pm
Sept 7th	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
	Book Club	Cttee Room	8.00pm
Sept 11th	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
Sept 12th	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
	Parish Council	Cttee Room	7.30pm
Sept 13th	Salsa	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
Sept 14th	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00- 3.00pm
Sept 18th	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
Sept 19th	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
Sept 20th	Salsa	Bar	7.30-8.30pm
Sept 21st	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00-3.00pm
Sept 25th	Toddlers	Hall	9.30-11.30am
	Blyth Valley Labour	Cttee Room	7.30pm
Sept 26th	Body Conditioning	Hall	9.30-10.30am
	Post Office	Bar	10.00-12noon
Sept 27th	Salsa	Hall	7.30-8.30pm
Sept 28th	Wangford Art Group	Hall	9.30-12.30pm
	Post Office	Bar	1.00- 3.00pm
	Afternoon Tea	Hall	2.30-4.30pm

### Suffolk Wildlife Trust

(Blyth Valley and Southwold)

#### 'When Birds Sing'

Speaker: Saffron Summerfield

Thursday 14th September 7.30pm Southwold Arts Centre

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

#### Book Quiz Answers

1. Pride And Prejudice - Jane Austen
2. Robinson Crusoe - Daniel Defoe
3. Cider With Rosie - Laurie Lee
4. The Pilgrim's Progress - John Bunyan
5. Brideshead Revisited - Evelyn Waugh
6. A Tale of Two Cities - Charles Dickens
7. Animal Farm - George Orwell
8. Lady Chatterley's Lover - D.H. Lawrence
9. A Christmas Carol - Charles Dickens
10. A Scandal In Bohemia - Arthur Conan Doyle