

Wortham

Altar Flowers

4th & 11th Mrs J Coleman
18th & 25th Mrs S Rush

Church Cleaning

4th Cathy Hume
11th Janet & Sheila
18th Elizabeth Clark
25th Paddy Richards

Churchyard Clean-up

The next clean-up has been arranged for the morning of Saturday 10th August. We will start at 10.00am and anyone who would like to join us would be most welcome. Please bring your gardening gloves and any tools for grass cutting and clearing up. A large part of the churchyard is mown regularly but there are areas that get overgrown and we will be tackling some of them! Refreshments will be provided along with good company! Any queries to the churchwarden, Cathy Hume, on 650321.

Sponsored Cycle Ride

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride is on Saturday 14th September between 9.00am and 5.00pm. Is there anyone who would like to cycle for St Mary's Church? Please contact Sheila Rush for a sponsor form and all the details. Tel. 788124

Christmas Shoeboxes

Yes, it's time to start thinking about the Christmas Shoeboxes for our Shoebox service in October. If you could fill one (it's great fun!) or perhaps do one with a friend, it will help us reach our target of 200 boxes this year. Leaflets will be distributed with the September magazine and be available in the Post Office and the church.

SolarDome

There was a large turnout at Wortham Primary School on Friday 21st June for the official opening of the new SolarDome. Local resident and BBC Formula 1 commentator Ben Edwards made a short speech and cut the ribbon that was across the doorway. He also cut the Dome cake made and donated by the Park Hotel, Diss. Chair of School Governors, Andy Paine, thanked everyone who had worked to get the dome in place and everyone who had purchased a commemorative brick. These will be placed on the pathway up to the dome. You can still buy a brick to become part of this unique project but need to return the application form to the school by the end of term, July 23rd. Each brick costs £25 and your family or business name can be engraved upon it.

Ceilidh

Wortham & Burgate Twinning Association are holding a Ceilidh with the Hosepipe Band on Friday 9th August at Howards Nurseries Barn, Bury Road, Wortham from 7.30pm to 11.30pm. Tickets are available from Wortham Post Office Stores or email worthamandburgatetwinning@gmail.com and are £12, with under 15s being £8. The ticket price includes a buffet meal and there will be a fully stocked bar.

Midsummer Hare

On Saturday 29th June in Wortham Church, 140 people came to the premier performance of The Midsummer Hare, a musical fable written by Sue Heaser with music by Peter Creswell. Narrator Mike Breen, together with the seven piece orchestra, told the Hare's story on the fen separating Norfolk and Suffolk, creating a soundscape to the story with evocative instrumentation and arrangement. The Friends of Wortham Church raised £1180 for the ongoing Restoration Fund. The next performance will take place at the Redgrave Nature Reserve Centre in the autumn.

Tom Hughes

We are very sorry to write that Tom Hughes, formerly of Wortham, died on Saturday 29th June at the age of 83. Tom joined the RAF and rose to the rank of Squadron Leader, not as a pilot but in Ground Control and upon retirement came back to live in his childhood home at The Wigwam, Rectory Hill. Tom and his wife Pauline emigrated to New Zealand about 10 years ago to share a small holding with their daughter Angela and family. Sadly Angela died last year and Tom, who had not been enjoying good health, deteriorated further. The Hughes family have had a long association with the church at Wortham. Tom's mother Nora played the organ and was secretary of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary's for many years and his father Cecil was churchwarden. Tom was a member of the PCC, taking on the office of Treasurer and he was part of the committee that started the Friends of Wortham Church. He is fondly remembered by many Wortham residents and we extend our sympathy to Pauline and all the family. Tom's niece, Carol Rivett, is happy for people to telephone her if they would like any further information on 01473 717404.

Riding in Memory of Christine

Despite the 30 degrees heat Graham completed The Cheshire Cat Cycle Ride on Sunday 7th July. So far he has raised £900 for cancer research in memory of his sister Christine Gardiner and he wishes to thank everyone who has sponsored him for this event.

Village Hall

Open Gardens: A few more details as promised last month: 190 adults and several children visited 15 lovely gardens that included artists' studios. The final, total profit raised was £2311.40 including £543 from the sale of Howards Nursery's generously donated plants. A great many people were involved in making this event so successful - people working hard in their gardens, baking cakes, producing the programme map, planning, providing refreshments and manning the stalls on the day. The publicity was so good that we even had visitors from Australia - yes, really! They were coming to the UK (Cambridge), for another reason but had seen our publicity gurus' piece on the Open Gardens Website whilst waiting for their flight at Melbourne Airport! This event was truly a community effort helping to raise funds for a community building, Wortham Village Hall. Thank you to everyone who supported us including those from outside Wortham who helped on the day, particularly Brenda and John, and Jane Kelly.

Kitchen Upgrade: We have been awarded a grant of £5000.00 from Suffolk Community Foundation so we have approximately 50% of the total we need. We are currently waiting to hear what Mid Suffolk District Council will grant us. Hopefully in the September magazine we will be able to inform you of when the work will be done.

Date for your diary: **Village Hall Quiz, November 16th** (approaching rapidly!!)

No Village Hall Diary for August

Hall Booking Secretary Mike Burgess Tel. 898037

Mobile Library Wednesday 31st July and 28th August
Worham Post Office Stores 2.40pm to 2.55pm

Bus Services

The 143 bus between Bury St Edmunds and Norwich via Mendlesham is a new service that will pick up outside the Dolphin.

The 456 / 457 between Diss and Stowmarket via Eye and Bacton, picks up at the bus shelter in Mellis Road. Both timetables are available from the tourist information, Suffolk County Council website or contact Roella Trudgill, Local Transport Liaison Officer on 783063 for more information.