



WOBUL

Wortham & Burgate Letter

St David's
Day
1 March
2015

Your monthly community and local information

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Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

IMPORTANT NOTICE

REPAIRS TO THE POST OFFICE TRACK

**WORK WILL COMMENCE ON MARCH 2nd
AND IS ESTIMATED TO TAKE 2½ - 3 WEEKS**

**Vehicular and pedestrian access
will be maintained at all times**

THE POST OFFICE STORE AND TEA SHOP WILL TRADE
AS USUAL, PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THEM

Thank you in advance for your patience

Parish Council Election, 7 May 2015



Media coverage of the parliamentary election on May 7 might create the impression that there will be only one election that day. In fact, there will be other elections for County, District and Parish Councils. And some might argue that the election of people who manage our parish is more important than that for MP's who rarely set foot in our community.

After 12 years serving on Wortham & Burgate Parish Council I have decided not to stand for re-election on May 7 and hope that some younger candidates will now come forward. I want to take this opportunity to say why I believe this is important.

As the result of extensive parish surveys in 2001 and 2014¹ we know what residents value most in our two villages - the countryside, commons and openness, all features that are highly vulnerable. As in most other parts of England, there is a growing demand for new

housing and some communities have suffered from the addition of estates with large numbers of characterless, computer-designed houses. Yet we do need additional homes for young families and people who don't want to be forced to leave the village in which they were born.

We can be proud that Wortham may claim to have come up with a unique solution to a seemingly insoluble conflict. Since the 2001 survey, we have added 62 new homes without resorting to large green field developments. We have done this by encouraging infill buildings within the existing developed community which has permitted architecture that fits and an absence of boring rows that have destroyed the character of some old villages like ours.

Although we have not been completely successful, we have resisted the building of large houses when the need is for smaller, less expensive properties for young families. Hopefully, future councillors will main pressure for what our people want rather than the expensive, large houses that developers prefer for obvious reasons.

We are currently working on plans for the extension of one of our affordable housing projects. This may be described as the third such project in Wortham and we do not know of any other village that can match this achievement.

Other achievements of the Parish Council have included purchase of large parts of the commons for permanent ownership by the community, building of a children's play area, improvement of parking at the sports pavilion, planning the soon to be implemented improvement to the Post Office track and publication of a Village Design Statement to help protect us from the ugly buildings that have blighted some other communities. Plus, of course, the hundreds of routine actions to keep Wortham & Burgate operating smoothly for the benefit of residents.

All this has been achieved by a group of people who care about protecting and improving what we all treasure. They volunteered to stand for election as Parish Councillors because they know that if we do not look after our own best interests, no one else will.

I believe that is important that electors be given a choice of several candidates so that they can vote for the people they consider will be the most capable guardians of the character, beauty and openness of our ancient villages. Without caring, competent people to represent us, what we treasure most will possibly succumb to the constant threats by economic interests who don't give a damn about how Wortham & Burgate will look in ten or twenty years' time.

If you cannot consider standing, how about trying to persuade a neighbour who you believe could help to maintain the council's record of accomplishment Watch WOBUL or the Parish Council web site, (worthamandburgate.onesuffolk.net), for information on how to stand for the May election.

If you are considering standing and would like to chat about it or ask questions, give call me on 01379 898864. I'll be happy to tell you more about why it is such a satisfying job.

Terry Quinn

PALGRAVE COMMUNITY CENTRE CINEMA

On its way to us - PCC refurbishment, new heating and floor & Dolby 7.1 surround sound for all our feature films

Saturday 14 March, 7:30pm



Coming soon

18 April

Gone Girl

(Note - 18 cert)

16 May

Theory of

Everything

Sunday 15 March, 7:30pm

Full support programme, Licenced Bar & Ice Creams available during intermission



£5 Tickets available at Wortham Post Office & Store

or reserve from robert.moore321@btinternet.com and pay on the door



It was a sunny winter's day in January when Mike and I arranged our initial meeting with Miranda McCoy, Fund Manager at St. Nicholas Hospice in Bury St Edmunds. The sunny day was enhanced when we entered the reception area of the hospice. The brightness of the decor and warm welcome were very evident. Being a reception area, busy people were hurrying past purposefully but still having time to greet others with a smile as they went about their day.

We were there by invitation of Miranda to show us around and chat about our idea for the fund-raising event in the summer. I was instantly struck by the warmth which seems to permeate the fabric of the building. Nestled in the corner just past the reception area is a subtle non-denominational chapel where patients, family and friends can take time out in contemplation and prayer. A stained glass feature graces one wall which casts streaks of colour in the dimly lit area. This sets the scene for tranquillity.



From here we went into the offices. We met the first responder's team: here is the hub of the hospice where all calls are answered and either attended to or passed on to the relevant department. We met members of the Human Resources team, Accounts, Advertising and Fund Raising departments; the IT specialist. We were introduced to so many workers, some voluntary, some employees too numerous to keep their names in our heads. In total as at December 2014 the headcount is nearly 800 volunteers and 200 staff. Maybe the names were not retained in our old grey matter but the most memorable part was that everyone had time

for us and everyone was smiling. They all truly work as a team.

We saw the counselling rooms, the therapy rooms, the family rooms complete with soft furnishing, games and a TV; the Children's Room where young ones are encouraged to play and talk; the Anger Wall where children or adults can throw things to vent their emotions and the Inspirational Wall of the Fund Raising department.

Not forgetting the pink floppy bunny ears which are used for the annual 'Girls Night Out' in September. Last year's event saw 1,500 women sign up for this fun event walking around Bury St. Edmunds at night in their pyjamas and pink floppy bunny ears. It is something I am contemplating for this year with my friends on 19th September 2015.

Mike and I finished our trip with a delicious lunch served in the friendly canteen. All food is cooked on the premises and the food choices are balanced and nutritious with the odd 'naughty but nice' home baked cake.



If we were not compelled to our Fund Raising cause before, then we were certainly convinced after this tour. Observing at first hand the good work which benefits not only the patients but their families, making each day of living fulfilling, as happy and comfortable as possible.

Nothing is too much trouble.

Try Walking in my Shoes

'Try Walking in my Shoes' is our contribution to raising money for St. Nicholas Hospice. The event will be held at the Diss Methodist Church on Saturday, 20th June from 10am-4pm. We are seeking good condition used shoes; women's, men's and children's footwear: boots, sandals, high heels, low heels, flashing light shoes, designer shoes, lace up brogues - any footwear appropriate for resale.

The initial 'drop off' place will be our home: The Chalet in Union Lane, Wortham and Mike's office: QLS Automotive at 8 Roydon Road in Diss, next to Cherry Tree Vets. We are looking for helpers on the day and for sorting the shoes before the day. Raffle price ideas and donations are also welcome.

We are happy to head up this appeal but would really appreciate any contribution of help. Our personal walk has taken us into a place of inspirational purpose and to this end we are appealing to your good nature 'to walk this way' and donate your surplus shoes.

Parking at rear
Refreshments
Face painting

Diss Methodist Church
Saturday 20 June, 10am – 4pm
A fundraising shoe sale event

Opposite
Hughes Electrical
in Victoria Road



TRY WALKING IN MY SHOES



together
we can help



St Nicholas
Hospice Care
A Registered Charity No. 267773



**DONATIONS OF LADIES, GENTS
& CHILDRENS SHOES NEEDED**
PLEASE RING 01379 650192



Shoe Sorters needed to assist us at home and Sales Helpers needed on the day at the Methodist Church.

We have already been greatly helped with storage and transport by our friends at Coleman's Removals in Vines Road, Diss; by QLS Automotive of Roydon Road, Diss which will act as a Collection Centre for donated shoes; to Rich Jones of Little Melton who has provided the above printed posters and flyers.

And now we are asking you, our friends and neighbours, to join in and help us make this a truly deserving event by raising lots of money for a brilliant cause.

Lesley Bowen



WOULD-BE HARE COURSERS' VEHICLE SEIZED

Police have seized a vehicle from would-be hare coursers after receiving a call from a member of the public on Sunday morning.

Officers were contacted around 8.10am on Sunday, 22 February, after an alert member of the public noticed a suspicious vehicle in the Clockhouse Lane area of Little Stonham. It was reported that two dogs were in a field there, along with several men and that they might be there for hare coursing.

The member of the public gave a registration number for the vehicle – a silver Subaru that was registered to an address in Surrey – and also reported that the men had got back into the vehicle and left the field on the Stowupland to Mickfield road. Police immediately mobilised and the Subaru was soon spotted close to the A140/ A1120 junction.

Officers stopped the car and spoke to the four male occupants – from Surrey – and seized the vehicle after discovering it was not insured. Although, on this occasion, there was insufficient evidence to prosecute a hare coursing offence, strong words of advice were given and police would like to thank the member of the public who called in, resulting in the taking of the uninsured vehicle off the road.

Hare coursing incidents have fallen by approximately 78 per cent across Suffolk since Operation Galileo was re-launched September 2013 and police are continuing to urge anyone who notices any suspicious activity to contact officers immediately. Help us keep our communities safe by reporting any suspicious activity

Please use the following link to pass useful information to Suffolk Police about any incident.
<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/safetyadvice/reportacrime/tellthepolice.aspx>

DO NOT USE THIS LINK IN AN EMERGENCY OR IN A SITUATION THAT REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE POLICE RESPONSE WHEN YOU SHOULD RING 999.

Police Connect Team

HOW STRANGE IS THIS?

PRESBYTERIAN: When you rearrange these letters into: **BEST IN PRAYER**

ASTRONOMER: rearranges into **MOON STARER**

DESPERATION: can become **A ROPE ENDS IT**

THE EYES can be rearranged into **THEY SEE**

THE MORSE CODE can actually be rearranged into **HERE COME DOTS**

A late January morning and I go to the terrace to check the overnight temperature and am conscious of the volume of bird song. Admittedly it is mainly the Collared Dove and my friendly Robin, but the Dunnock is very adamant it should also be heard. It has a lovely soft but persistent 'trilling' voice, and is rarely silent and not always recognised. You will see it underneath the bird feeders busily picking up the surfeit of leftovers coming from above. It is a very common garden bird, the male and female look similar: Brown back and grey chest. (It lays lovely blue eggs).



There are not many birds coming to my feeders, mostly sparrows and tits. I move on to check my oil tank and there is a dark bird the size of a crow perching on the fence. It is a Sparrow Hawk. We gaze at each other and, suddenly, it flies off silently over my head (how impertinent). I have seen it before. I think the birds attending my bird feeders are also easy pickings for the Sparrow Hawk, and is possibly the reason for my lack of garden birds. I am on its regular hunting path.



A neighbour of ours has a feeding container which attracts Long Tailed Tits. When I looked at it there must have been at least a dozen crowded together. I thought that with their long tails they must get in a muddle, but it did not seem to worry them. Perhaps, like the Wren, they get into a bundle in winter like this to keep warm at night.

A new interesting winter bird: a Jack Snipe. This was noticed on the ground on The Street in the middle of Redgrave in January. My informant, thinking it was dead, was able to pick it up, whereupon it flew away, it must have been stunned. This snipe is smaller than a 'Common' Snipe. It has a shorter bill (7½ cms as opposed to 10½ cms) with yellowish streaks on the back of its head and body. It is only a winter visitor here from the north and breeds in swamplands of northern Scandinavia. It travels singly or in small groups in winter in areas both north and south of the Sahara Desert. It is very secretive but, apparently, when flushed, travels slower than the Common Snipe and, sadly, is easier to shoot.



Lakenheath RSPB Reserve has been developed from arable farmland back to an original 740 acres of reed beds and grazing marshes, all within twenty years. In this time Reed Warblers have increased from four pairs to 355, two pairs of Marsh Harriers have arrived and Bearded Tits are there throughout the year, plus a Bittern. And then to crown it all, the Common Crane has arrived and bred for the first time in this country in 400 years! The Reserve also has breeding Golden Orioles in the copse of Balsam Poplars which were originally grown for Bryant & May matches.

Lakenheath is due north of Mildenhall which you can now bypass crossing the new dual carriageway A11. Local observers went there recently and saw the Cranes, heard the Bearded Tits and saw a Great White Egret, (a magnificent magnified Little Egret).

I recommend a visit in May when the warblers have arrived, the Cranes should be there and there should be an arrival of up to eighteen migrating Hobbies which presumably meet up there ready for dispersal around East Anglia. You might even hear the 'fluting' song of the Golden Oriole.

I hope to remind you about this reserve later in the year.

GISLINGHAM VARIETY CLUB

Presents



By Jimmy Perry and David Croft

GISLINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Wed 25th to Sat 28th March 2015

Tickets £8 (£6 for children under 16)

Box office 01379 788411

An amateur production licensed by Samuel French Ltd., London

Don't panic, but 2015 marks the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Home Guard when men were asked to join up in the expectation of an imminent German invasion. It was soon nicknamed 'Dad's Army', owing to the relatively advanced age of its 1.5 million members.

To mark this significant event Gillingham Variety Club are performing three of Jimmy Perry and David Croft's hilarious scripts from the popular BBC TV series 'Dad's Army'.

All the well-loved characters are here including: 'Stupid boy' Pike, 'Don't panic, don't panic' Jones, 'Doomed, we're all doomed' Frazer, 'May I be excused, sir?' Godfrey, and all under the command of the redoubtable Captain Mainwaring and his effacing deputy Sergeant Wilson.

Performance nights are Wednesday 25th to Saturday 28th March. Tickets: £8 adults, £6 for under 16s from 01379 788411. You are advised to book early to avoid disappointment as this will sell out very quickly!

HERITAGE CIRCLE

Pip Wright: Lucky is the Name – The story of a Suffolk farming family as told by Alf Burrows (1904-1969)

Pip Wright is a popular speaker at the Heritage Circle. He held the riveted attention of the group at its February meeting at Rickinghall Village Hall when he spoke about Lucky Burrows and his farming family. His talk was based upon a journal kept by Lucky's youngest son, Alf. Lucky was born in 1858 and was given his father's name. Its origin was from a bet. Lucky's grandfather was wagered half a crown (12½p) that he would not call a child 'Lucky'.

Lucky grew up in poverty in the 1860s. Agriculture was experiencing a depression but the family was further impoverished by his father's drinking. He left school at 9 but had learned two lessons in his early life. Never work for someone else and do not waste money in pubs. He left Suffolk and went to Burton-on-Trent to work in brewing but found life there no better. He decided to return home and had a number of temporary jobs on his journey. The worst was fishing off the Norfolk coast as he was constantly sick!

Consequently, Lucky decided to join the army and signed up for seven years, serving in Ireland, India and Afghanistan. On enlisting, Lucky sent his fishy, damp clothes home but without a letter of explanation. His family thought that he had drowned. He only found this out sometime later when he met a man from his village. He quickly wrote home to explain his resurrection. When Lucky returned to Suffolk and married Alice Peck. They rented a small holding of 26 acres. Hard work and thrift meant Lucky was able to rent Oak Farm at Wickham Skeith.

Alf was born in 1904, the eleventh child and sixth son. His journal describes aspects of life on their remote farm which had no electricity or sewage provision until the 1950s. For example, his mother used bake for the week in a brick oven on Fridays. She heated the oven with faggots and then skilfully placed her pies and bread in the oven using a peel or long shovel once fire had burned out.

The journal outlines Lucky's plan that his sons would initially work for him rather than attend school. Then he would set them up on their own rented farm supporting them for their first year. His daughters would act as housekeepers until the son married. He had no ambitions for the girls. Only Jack, the fifth son, rebelled against his father's wishes and emigrated to Canada.

Alf hardly attended school and had left in 1914 aged 11. He was more use on the land with so many men away at war. His journal bemoans the fact that his father never gave him or his siblings any encouragement or praise. He describes an innocent life where he never heard anyone swear as he just lived with the family. He mentions chasing on his bike after a burning Zeppelin which eventually crashed near Saxmundham.

During the 1920s, the family moved closer to Stowmarket. A weekly treat was to attend the Thursday market with his father. Eventually, Alf met Eva Bannister and married her after a long courtship. In 1929 they rented a 200 acre farm at Dagworth which had a dilapidated house. They struggled with a number of problems, including low prices for food and dying animals. They almost gave up but eventually found a winning formula, selling milk from tea urns in Stowmarket. They survived the depression and World War II and managed to buy their own farm in 1946. Eva died soon after but Alf remarried a younger woman and lived until 1969 but the journal entries finished about 1952. Pip Wright has spoken to people who knew Alf Burrows. They describe him as 'lovely', like a 'big child', but he was a typical farmer. He was never making any money!

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 March at The Village Hall, Rickinghall IP221HD when Brian Dyes will give a talk about industry in Ipswich since 600AD. Further information about the Heritage Circle is available on its website, www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net.

Gerry Gurhy

SHEILA RUSH REPORTS

STARS & CELEBRITIES

The dinner and Speaker on Saturday 7 January at Wortham Village Hall, organised by the Friends of Wortham Church was a great success. 41 people enjoyed a splendid three-course meal followed by an interesting, informative and amusing talk by Deborah Preston who was for a time. Head Housekeeper at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London. She told of various events and occasions when members of the Royal Family and celebrities had visited the hotel. A total of £822.50 profit was made for the church.

BRIDGE DRIVE

A very successful Bridge Drive was held on Tuesday 17 February in Wortham Village Hall in aid of roof repairs. 40 people gathered at 10am for coffee before playing Chicago bridge until lunch time, when they could choose between Lasagne, Fish or Shepherd's Pie followed by a fresh fruit dish. Play continued in the afternoon until 4:30pm when tea and cakes were served. Winners of the competition were Val and Eric Clarke. A profit of £420 was made. The committee thanks everyone who supported the event.

ASH WEDNESDAY

The Ash Wednesday service of The Imposition of Ashes was held at St Mary's Church, Wortham on 18 February. The service was taken by the Reverend Ginny Manning and reader Graham Reardon, with organist Reverend Nigel Ballard. The welcome was given by Reverend Ginny. Hymns were sung and the two readings given by Lyn Pelham Burn and Cathy Hume. Gospel was read followed by a short sermon. The congregation was then invited to the altar for the imposition of ashes and were given the sign of the cross. Holy Communion was given and silence was kept. The Dismissal gospel was read and the congregation made its way to the font where prayers were said and the blessing given.

WINE TASTING

Burgate Village Hall was full on Friday evening for a very informative and enjoyable wine tasting organised by the Friends of Burgate Church in aid of the Nagajuna Trust, a charity which supports and educates orphaned children in Nepal. A total of just under £500 was raised which will go towards the purchase of a new boiler to provide much-needed heating for the school room and dormitories in the orphanage.

Wortham & Burgate Spring Clean will be held on the weekend of 27 March.

THE PUPPIES

A client brought a litter of Golden Retriever puppies to the local veterinary clinic for inoculations. As the lookalike pups tumbled over and under one another in their box, the experienced vet realised it would be difficult to tell which had been treated and which hadn't. So the vet turned on the water tap, wet her fingers and gently moistened each dog's head as she finished giving it the necessary shots. After the fourth puppy, the vet noticed that her hitherto talkative client had grown silent and was looking rather reverent. As the animal doctor sprinkled the last pup's head, the owner leaned forward and whispered, "Thank you very much. I hadn't realised you baptised them too!"

Thanks to funding made available through the Department of Work and Pensions, Suffolk Wheels 2 Work has recently launched a 6 month project offering scooter loans to individuals registered with Sudbury or Stowmarket Job Centre Plus, who are unemployed and have been offered a job placement.

Initial training, safety equipment and 10 weeks loan of a 50cc Honda Vision moped is offered free of charge. The partnership aims to improve employment outcomes for individuals living in Babergh and Mid Suffolk over the next 6 months helping to tackle transport barriers that may be preventing access to work, either due to home or employment locations, shift patterns that do not fit public transport timetables, or work involving daily travel such as agency care work.

Jonathan has recently passed his basic training and is now travelling to his job with Johnson Controls in Lower Glemsford, Sudbury thanks to Suffolk Wheels 2 Work.

“Before being accepted onto the Suffolk Wheels 2 Work scheme my only means of transport was by bus or having to walk everywhere, but by the time I finished work there was no public transport available so I had an 11 mile walk home. Without Suffolk Wheels 2 Work my job opportunities were severely limited and I suspect I would still be seeking employment. Now I have my own transport which means I can get to and from work, and it has also given me the opportunity to extend my social life beyond the transport limitations I had before. It is an excellent scheme and I hope many others can also receive the same opportunity and massive benefits that it has given me.”

Kevin Davies is employed by the SVC Agency in Nayland and is also benefitting from the scheme.

“Public transport in my area is not too bad but it restricts me with many jobs where I finish work late at night”. When I attended the Sudbury Jobsfair in October, I was informed that on the successful acceptance of a firm job offer that I would be eligible for a scooter loan from Suffolk Wheels 2 Work. The scooter is helping to change my life and allowing me to open more doors in my working life, and socially. Suffolk Wheels 2 Work also recognised that I travelled long distances and have provided me with a Honda Vision 110cc scooter which has been fantastic, it’s a great scheme which I would highly recommend to others.”

Suffolk Wheels 2 Work is open to anyone aged 16+ who have difficulties getting to work, training or college due to a lack of suitable of transport, working patterns outside of public transport timetables, or who live or work in a rurally isolated location. You will also be able to use the scooter in your own time to get out and about. If you can prove to us that you have a real need for transport, we may be able to help you.

If you would like to find out more or think you may be eligible for the Suffolk Wheels 2 Work scheme, visit www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk/wheels2work or contact the Project Coordinator, Terry Charles, on terry.charles@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk or 01473 345322.

*Campaigning and communication * Children and young people services * Community development * Enterprise and investment * Organisational and business development * Training, learning and skills * Volunteering*

TEA'S MADE

Every Wednesday afternoon in Wortham Village Hall

You are invited to a weekly meeting with a difference. There will be no agenda, no objectives and nothing on sale. Just a weekly opportunity to have a chat with others in this village over tea and cake between 2 and 4 pm on Wednesday afternoons

There is no sponsor, no ulterior motive and no pressure to do anything other than sit down and chat with old friends or perhaps to meet new neighbours.

The recent Parish Survey revealed that there are more than 50 people living alone in our village and they may be particularly interested in a weekly outing to have a natter. The Parish Survey also showed that 'chat with neighbours' was the second most used source of information, so here's your chance to catch up on whatever interests you.

And the cost to you for this 'get together' over a cuppa and cake? Whatever you like! We will have to pay for the hire of the village hall and buy supplies for the refreshments, but contributions are voluntary. If you'd like to help cover the costs, we suggest 50p or £1.

Volunteers are needed to man the kitchen and perhaps make the occasional cake. We may also need volunteer drivers to pick up those without transport.

TEA'S MADE started in Wortham Village Hall on Wednesday 21 January. Please spread the word to your neighbours and then just show up.

For more information, to express interest or volunteer to be an occasional driver, **contact Miriam Quinn on 01379 898 864.**

Our thanks to our neighbours in Burgate for giving us the idea to emulate their weekly 'Kettle's On' sessions that have proved so popular.

Transport needed?

COMMUNITY BUS

Your 8-seater community bus is available for you to use for all your needs—shopping, visits to the doctor, dentist, optician, chiropodist, and trips to hospital as a patient or visitor. The bus can also be used for visiting relatives or friends. In fact, even to go and see your favourite aunt.



Door to door service. Any help you need. Wheelchairs no problem.

The criteria are that public transport is not an option for you and you must not have access to a car.

If you would like to take advantage of this excellent service please ring Gordon on 01379 897 109 (24/7 ansaphone).

Friends of Wortham Church

The dinner and speaker on Saturday 7th January at Wortham Village Hall organised by the Friends of Wortham Church was a great success.

41 people enjoyed a splendid three course meal followed by an interesting, informative and amusing talk by Deborah Preston who was for a time head housekeeper at The Grosvenor House Hotel in London. She told of various events and occasions when members of the royal family and celebrities had visited the hotel.

A total of £822.50 profit was made for the church.

Future activities under consideration this year include day courses on photography, willow weaving, first aid and wire sculpture.

Follow us on Twitter @DissCornHall

Friday 27th March 8pm

Advance £9 Door £10 Min Age 18

grain Bar & Chilli & Rice from 6.30pm

Dave Johns

Ian Smith

Lewis Schaffer

Corn Hall Comedy

Tickets: 01379 652241 www.disscornhall.co.uk

Dale Devereux Barker

and Prints from the 2014 workshop evening viewing Wednesday 4 March 6.30 - 7.45



CORN HALL GALLERY 4 - 28 MARCH



THE STANDUP POETRY CLUB

Featuring Elvis McGonagall & Luke Wright

Friday 6th March 8pm

Tickets £8 / Students £6

Grain bar open from 6.30pm

These are but a few of the March events at Diss Corn Hall



FolkEast Productions Ltd present

Mad March hare Ceilidh with Skiplire

5th March at 7.30pm

Ticket prices
Standard £10.00
DCH friends & concessions £ 8.00
On the Door £12.00

Diss Corn Hall,
St Nicholas Street, Diss, IP22 4LB
www.disscornhall.co.uk
www.folkeast.co.uk



THE ROYAL OPERA

WAGNER'S UNFORGETTABLE TALE OF A MAN DAMNED TO SAIL THE SEAS
BRYN TERFEL | PETER ROSE | ADRIANNE PIECZONKA

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER

Diss Corn Hall
Sunday 1 March 2pm
Tickets £15 / Under 18s £12.50
www.disscornhall.co.uk 01379 652241

FOR MORE MARCH EVENTS, VISIT THE CORN HALL WEBSITE AT: disscornhall.co.uk

OR PHONE:
01379 652241

Signs of spring are in the garden and I always like to make sure I have some pots of early flowering bulbs on show near the house so that I can see them whatever the weather. My favourites are the very small iris, iris histroides and danfordiae. Of these two the iris histroides is the most rewarding since the bulbs will flower for many years whilst iris danfordiae, although a heart-warming cheerful yellow often seem to just disappear after the first year.

At the moment in my garden I have the rich blue iris h. called Lady Beatrix Stanley, a paler blue one with striking markings called Katherine Hodgkin and a rich purple form called George.



Seeing these colourful beauties me feel that the worst of winter is

every morning really makes on its way out.

Of course, needless to say, I have not been just sitting around admiring the iris. I have been gradually working my way around the beds taking things in hand where necessary. In my garden ground cover plants are quite valuable to try and make sure that the areas at the back of the beds and in the shade are covered with plants that will help keep the weeds at bay. Of course sometimes the groundcover becomes a weed in itself!

I have spent the last day or so trying to keep the lovely variegated periwinkle, vinca major variegata, in bounds. I will not grow the ordinary rather boring green version. The variegated form is a different matter altogether though. Whilst it shares the vigour of its drab cousin it looks so lovely lighting up a dark corner that its worth putting up with its attempts to overwhelm everything.

I think I must have turned my back on it last year because suddenly it seemed to be covering a much larger area than I want. It increases by putting out long trailing shoots and rooting anywhere it touches soil. Having uprooted large quantities from the nooks and crannies it has found amongst other plants I have decided that the best way to deal with its wandering tendencies is to shear off all the long shoots and try and restrict it in this way. Being an evergreen it has lots of fresh growth at the base of each plantlet. I will see how it develops and if necessary cut it back again if it is threatening to overwhelm its neighbours again. I am hoping though than a single annual prune in this way will be enough encourage it to be better behaved and a bit less of a thug.

A number of members from Wortham Garden Lovers Group visited Anglesey Abbey on a cold blustery afternoon recently. It was part of Anglesey Abbey's snowdrop festival but we also enjoyed seeing the winter garden at its best. It was instructive as to how many flowering shrubs were performing well and we were also very interested in the way in which many of the shrubs had been pruned to stunning effect.

One such group of shrubs, Cornus Midwinter Fire had been pruned and then left to grow tall giving the impression of a fiery haze at head height. It certainly gave us all inspiration for features in our own gardens in the winter.

The Garden Lovers Group meets from time to time on an informal basis. There is no membership fee and we all put forward ideas for activities and organise events from time to time. Sometimes a group member may invite others for tea and ask for ideas for their own garden, we also arrange to visit gardens, borrow gardening books, help out with holiday watering, exchange surplus plants, etc.

We are hoping to arrange a coach to visit Hampton Court Garden Show on 2nd July this year. If anybody who is not yet on our e mail circulation list is interested in joining us then or at other times please let me know. If you would like to know more or to hear about Garden Lovers Group events please e mail me and I will include you in on further e mails.

Linda Simpson 01379 644174 lindaruth11@gmail.com



Diss Corn Hall and Heritage Triangle Project Progress Report

While we were waiting to see if we were successful with the HLF application, fundraising went ahead full steam and there was a lot of behind the scenes work, but the project as such was on hold. We still await permission to start from the HLF but we are now underway and we have decided to produce a regular newsletter to keep volunteers and supporters informed about progress.

Project progress The three elements of the project – the refurbishment of the Corn Hall, the improvement and interpretation of the streetscape and the garden and boardwalk received planning permission in December.

The project will be dealt with in three overlapping phases:

- the Corn Hall construction starting July 2015
- the Triangle streetscape development starting late 2015
- the boardwalk and garden starting early 2016.



All work is to be completed in summer 2016 and the Corn Hall will reopen in September 2016. Consultants – Hudson Architects, Mott MacDonald, Conisbee and Sky Acoustics have been appointed; Sheila King will be the programme manager. Advertisements for an expression of interest from contractors are being placed now. Overall the project is on schedule.

Heritage Lottery Fund

Following the grant of £1.65 million in November, permission to start is expected from the HLF in early February.

Project costs and funding

The project cost remains at £2.95 million, but our funding target has been extended to £3.05 million to add an additional contingency and take maximum advantage of the refurbishment to create the best possible venue, while controlling costs tightly. To date £2.82 million has been secured – 92% of the new target.

The first phase of the very successful local fundraising campaign raised £125,000, helped by Garfield Weston's generous support through the Big Give. Local authority funding stands at £750,000, private trusts have contributed £220,000 and volunteer time is assessed at £70,000.

Many thanks to the large number of people who contributed so generously; we are always very happy to get more contributions to the appeal! We have also just received an Arts Strategic Development grant of £2,000 from Norfolk County Council on top of the £150,000 they are contributing to the streetscape redevelopment.

The Corn Hall on Tour and lead up to re-launch – we still need volunteers!

The Hall will close in June 2015 and, while closed, the Corn Hall on Tour will present a reduced programme of events. At present we have about 14 events a month and this is likely to be halved. But we hope to stage events around the area – in schools, sports clubs, churches, and local village halls. Angela is starting to pull this plan together and as a significant section of our audience comes from villages surrounding Diss, it would be good to hear if you would like us to bring the Corn Hall to you. Do let Angela know - angelamsykes@gmail.com.

This means we will still need support from stewards, and we will keep our box office volunteers busy as we aim to keep a box office in the Triangle. And of course we will be planning the reopening in 2016 with our volunteer teams.

The Triangle team and traders will also be staging events in the Triangle, starting with an archaeological dig, 'Diss Dig', led by UEA's Department of East Anglian Studies on 13th to 15th March. We hope young people will be able to have their own 'pit' and to involve adults as much as possible – more later.

UEA will be filming this and we plan to make a film of the whole Triangle project as it goes along. Our Arts Award team will be doing this – and we hope other members of the public can join in.

A great start to 2015

There was no Christmas/ New Year hangover with great performances and audiences in January. Paul Jones and Dave Kelly were a sell out and our first Comedy Club drew a record 150.

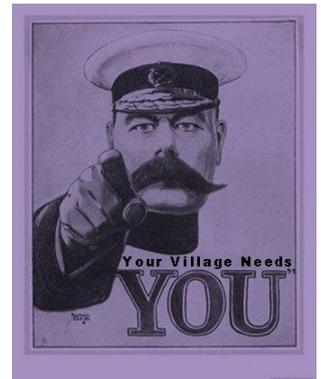
February was packed with goodies - Saturday Club's 'Arthur's Dream Boat', top folk band featuring Will Pound, Barb Jungr singing Dylan and Cohen, our second 'live' performance from the Royal Opera House – the Flying Dutchman – and lots more. As Henning Wehn is already sold out on 17 April, we have arranged a second performance on 19 April, and it's already half sold out!

I hope these regular newsletters will help keep you up to date.

David Case, Chair, Diss Corn Hall Trust – davidcasefineart@btinternet.com

Management Committee

As mentioned previously, at the AGM in June, the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman will be resigning. Therefore we need new members to join the remaining stalwarts on the committee. You might be an individual who uses the hall regularly and/or represent a group that uses the hall. It is a lovely hall with a well-appointed kitchen (*and by the way, the dishwasher is working a treat now!*), but there is more upgrading needed and the roof needs attention. So...



Village Hall Fundraising

Bridge Day

On Tuesday February 17th, forty two people enjoyed a day of friendly, progressive, Chicago Bridge. This had been organised by Jacky Bradley who had prepared a delicious lunch, and with a little help from her friends, provided yummy cakes for coffee and tea time.

Val and Eric Clarke won the competition and were presented with two rose bushes.

The total profit raised for much needed Village Hall funds was £420. This was a splendid result and thanks go to everyone who took part in the day and particularly to Jacky for all her hard work.

Call Me Duff, Saturday March 28th

Following the success of last year's adaptation by Ian Haywood of the BBC's panel game 'Call My Bluff', this delightful event returns as above on March 28th. Ian 'Robert Robinson' Haywood will be in the Chair presiding over panel members Mike Breen, Jacky Bradley and Leslie Dumbell.

The contestants are you the audience in teams of four. You will be fed and mightily entertained for £26 per team. Book now to avoid disappointment: Katherine Smith, 01379 687207; Mike Cornish, 01379 309538.

Open Gardens

The next Open Gardens raising funds for the Village Hall will be in 2016. We are very lucky that Joy Cornish has volunteered to head up the planning team for this event. Much more on this later in the year.

Katherine Smith

WORTHAM VILLAGE HALL

'CALL ME DUFF'

an adaptation of the BBC Panel game 'Call My Bluff'

SATURDAY 28th MARCH

At 7.00 pm

in Wortham Village Hall

£26 per team of up to 4 people

FINGER BUFFET included

also

cash BAR & RAFFLE

To Reserve Your Table - Please Contact
Katherine Smith: 01379 687207; ksmith6838@btinternet.com
or
Mike Cornish: 01379 309538; family.cornish@gmail.com

ALL TABLE RESERVATIONS TO BE RECEIVED BY MONDAY 23rd MARCH

Raising funds for Wortham Village Hall - Charity No.1113478

Mid Anglia CAMRA 2nd BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL



35 local real ales, local real cider, wine, food and music

Thurs 14th May: 5pm-11pm

Fri 15th May: 11am-11pm

Sat 16th May: 11am-11pm

Music on Saturday:

The Classic Dixieland Trio

The Harvs

Yaxley Village Hall, near Eye, Suffolk, IP23 8BX

Admission £2.50 - free to card carrying CAMRA members

Supporting local Community First Responders

Find out more at www.midangliacamra.com

DORMITORY rearranges into **DIRTY ROOM**

SLOT MACHINES can become **CASH LOST IN ME**

ANIMOSITY can possibly rearrange into **IS NO AMITY**

ELECTION RESULTS can be rearranged into **LIES – LET’S RECOUNT**

SNOOZE ALARMS becomes **ALAS! NO MORE Zs**

A DECIMAL POINT can read **I’M A DOT IN PLACE**

THE EARTHQUAKES can read as **THAT QUEER SHAKE**

MOTHER-IN-LAW becomes **WOMAN HITLER**

ELEVEN PLUS TWO can be rearranged as **TWELVE PLUS ONE**

These anagrams are courtesy of Paula Halfhide

DATES FOR YOUR MARCH DIARY

Wortham Morning Yoga	Village Hall	Tuesday	03, 10, 17, 24	10:00 – 11:30
Wortham Lunchtime Yoga	Village Hall	Thursday	05, 12, 19, 26	11:45 – 13:15
Gentle Evening Yoga	Primary School	Thursday	05, 12, 19, 26	19:00 – 20:30
Ballroom Dancing	Village Hall	Monday	02, 09, 16, 23	19:00 – 20:30
Sewing Class	Village Hall	Monday	09, 23	09:30 – 14:30
FOWC fundraising Dinner	Village Hall	Saturday	07	19:00 – 23:00
Good Companions	Village Hall	Tuesday	03, 17	14:00 – 16:30
Good Companions	Village Hall	Monday	30	19:00 – 23:00
Tea’s Made	Village Hall	Wednesday	04, 11, 18, 25	14:00 – 16:00
Call My Bluff	Village Hall	Saturday	28	10:00 – 16:00
Polymer Guild	Village Hall	Sunday	22	11:00 – 15:00
School Friends	Village Hall	Friday	20	17:00 – 22:00
Quilts & Saucers	Old Stores, Long Green	Monday	02, 09, 16, 23, 30	15:00 – 17:00
The Kettle’s On	Village Hall, Burgate	Tuesday	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	10:00 – 12:00
Various art classes, events & expos	The Bank, Eye	All days each week		Various times

WOBUL is published monthly as a service of the Wortham & Burgate Community Action Programme

Members of the CAP: Terry Quinn (Chairman), Paul Bradley (Deputy Chairman), Michael & Paddy Richards, Sheila Rudland, Cath Aspinall, Paul & Alexis Burd, John Payton, Victoria Tustian and Chris Williams (Treasurer).

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The Editor thanks all contributors for their timely submissions and states that the views stated herein are his or those of the article contributor and not of the W&B Community Action Programme.