



WOBUL

Wortham & Burgate Letter

Your local news and interesting monthly newsletter

2017							MAY
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THE
NEW
DISS
CORN
HALL
WILL
BE

OPEN
FROM
THURS
MAY
4th
2017

OFFICIAL OPENING ON FRIDAY 5th MAY



The Corn Hall – Past Present Future

By Lucy Kayne

For a year and a half, I've been lucky enough to witness the evolution of the Corn Hall first-hand.

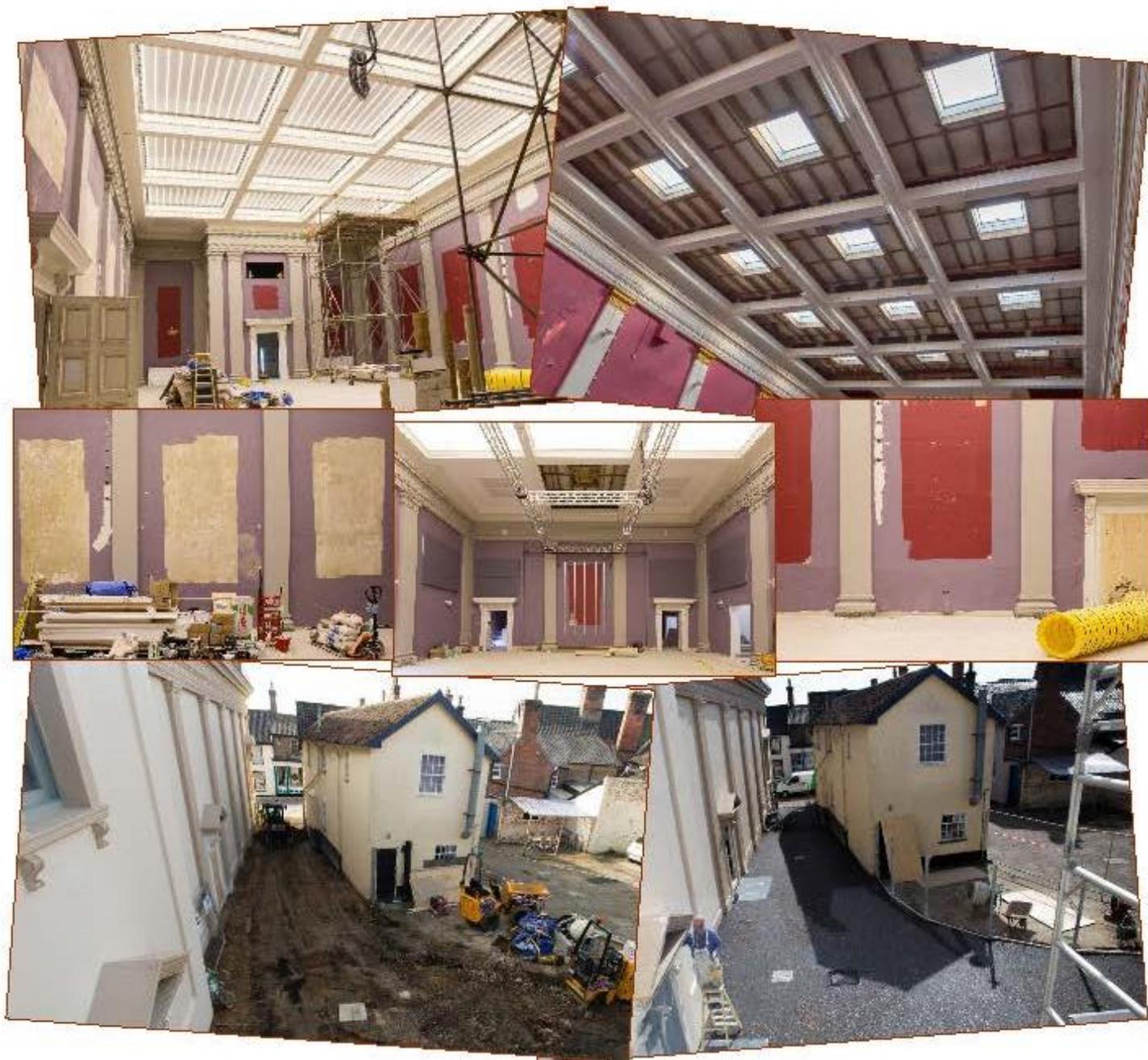
Every couple of weeks since the Corn Hall closed for its refurbishment, I've donned a hard hat and a huge one-size-fits-all hi-vis vest, and headed on in with my camera.

I was asked to document the progress, as well as any finer details. It's been quite a journey, seeing how the building has changed. From the early (and quite sad) stages when bulldozers knocked down walls and piles of rubble were everywhere, to the creation of the shell of what the Corn Hall was about to become, and finally, to smooth lines and this majestic structure.

As a commercial photographer who is quite addicted to architectural photography, this project has been fascinating. And as someone who is obsessed with shadows and light, there have been many, many moments that have simply stopped me in my tracks.

This exhibition is a selection of photographs taken over this period, telling the story of the project from start to finish. (See Lucy's exhibition at Diss Corn Hall from 17 May)





About the photographer

My relationship with the Corn Hall began when I moved to Diss in 2012. I began as a volunteer with the Arts Award sessions and stewarding. I was then coaxed into running a summer photography workshop (which I absolutely adored and which has led to more since) and I also had a photography exhibition in the (now non-existent) Old Stables Gallery. I now live in Bury St Edmunds, but Diss still plays a big part in my life.

My photography business encompasses working with small local businesses, taking photographs of premises, products and portraits, as well as running photography workshops and photo walks across Norfolk and Suffolk.

LUCY KAYNE
photographer

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Twinning Visit to Hédé 6th to 10th April

19 members of Wortham and area Twinning spent a delightful if unseasonably warm weekend visiting our French friends in Hédé. Two members of our party, Joseph Tustian, age 12 and his sister Amber age 8, had a very special time. Here is their account of the visit:

Joseph's Recount of the French Trip

The trip was a thrilling experience since I got to travel by plane for the first time in my life, the plane made my ears pop because of the pressure so we chewed Mentos on the way back which made me feel sick because of the sugar (they weren't minty). It was also my second time in France and my first I can remember. Alright let's start with my first day where I go to their French school...

At first I had a range of ideas, will the school be: boring, exciting, fun/enjoyable, interesting or scary. Luckily a person called Lyn translated for me and at break the children were very interested in me. They asked a mountain of questions which only 6-8 I understood so they used funny actions. To my exhaustion twenty of them asked to race me so after the seventh person I raced the rest all at once.

Later on in the next lesson, we did SPAG ('spelling', 'punctuation' 'and' 'grammar'.) It was very confusing because it was in French but I caught along. Next I had lunch out of school, it was a picnic, my sister Amber came back too from her other school. Soon I joined the school again realising I was having fun at their school. I joined in their charity event, running round a big track which tricked you into thinking you'd got to the end and then the realisation kicked in that you had another long stretch to go. Even though I didn't have anyone to sponsor me somebody funnily enough gave me a leaf with writing on!

The run was tiring but a lot of people sprinted and were tired out at the start which I think was mainly because everyone was better at short distance. I jogged so I managed to do 8 laps before I found out everyone else in my group had stopped and were watching me, apart from one other boy who finished with me. We were given cake (I love cake!) and some brand of orange squash I'd never seen before but tasted delicious (I love orange squash!). The rest of day was spent looking at Louis' Pokémon cards and Smurfs which in French are Strumphs or something.

The next day we went on a mud walk! It was really fun; me and my sister threw mud and also kicked water at each other. Our guide gave us a history of this amazing castle on a ginormous hill and the ruins of another castle on a wider



but shorter hill (what happened? Yes exactly the English invaded, got bored and left and so their fortress was sieged where they left it. Well done us 😊 I think there was also something to do with Germany trading stuff.)

After our mud walk in bear feet we looked at the refurbished shops in the castle that sold souvenirs, food etc. When all the adults were sitting down after we'd been around the castle, me and Louis secretly did rock climbing and we got onto a ledge because we found a bit that wasn't very steep but took some skill to climb.

Terrible news when we got back to their house, my feet were sun burnt and swollen red as well as my neck and legs, even though I put on sun cream (which I later found out was only lv 15) so I swam in their swimming pool and later we watched Big Hero 6 in their small movie theatre with an immense screen! (Of course it was in French with no sub titles).

On the last final day we walked on cliff edges with little railing (which would be illegal in England) and later had pancakes and tried to buy souvenirs but the French refused to let us pay for anything as in *a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g a-t a-l-l*, even the pancakes we ordered! Dad tried to hide the pancake bill so we could pay for it but they snatched it when he wasn't looking. We left a big tip because they served the drinks and food in only about 2 minutes.

It was the greatest experience in my life because it was my first time on a plane and second time in France except I wasn't 2 years old. To sum it up I hope more and more children will come next because my sister and I were the only English children. The French will also come over to England. I can't wait for next year.

OUR TRIP TO FRANCE by Amber Tustian

The first thing that happened On the Friday 7th was that I went to a school (a French school) with Louis. Everyone there were really friendly asking me if I would like to play this game with a huge stretchy cotton band that you put around the bottom of your legs, but that's all I know. I didn't understand what they meant and how to play it.

When we got there, the teacher of the class came out and talked to us in English because she learnt some so she could talk to us she also learnt English with her pupils so she knew a bit. We also played Simon Said and I stood at the front to tell them what to do.

I answered lots of questions about my school. My Dad drew a picture of Britain on the board and said it was an old lady standing or sitting on a pig. He then drew a dot for Wortham and said it was on the pig's derriere (rump/bottom) which made them laugh.

My favorite thing was the mud walk on the beach it was rather muddy and when we finished our poor legs and feet were so sun burnt they were sore but it was still fun especially when I got these really nice wafer biscuits which were so tasty. The guide also showed us how to get out of this mud hole then after that we walked over to some rocks to have some lunch.

RAHOF (Rickinghall Area Hospice Fundraisers)

this year celebrates 30 years of fund- and friend-raising
for St Nicholas Hospice Care, Bury St Edmunds,
our hospice for this catchment area.

Please support our special 30th Anniversary Concert in June,
a lovely summer evening of popular song.

MERELY DIVAS IN CONCERT

(RAHOF 30th Anniversary Concert)

Saturday 24th June

St Mary's Church, Redgrave

7.30 pm start

Grand Draw; Bar available

Tickets: £12 pp, incl. light refreshments
from June Hart on 01379 897180
or RAHOF committee members

Merely Divas, making a welcome return to Redgrave,
is a popular group of talented local lady singers and accompanist,
who perform harmonised arrangements of classic popular melodies.
Not to be missed, so please book early.

REDGRAVE HISTORY WORKSHOP

Redgrave Church Heritage Trust
presents the latest in its popular History Workshop series.

Redgrave Spring History Workshop:

SMALL REFLECTIONS ON THE GREAT WAR

Tutor: Julian van Beveren

Saturday 13th May

at St Mary's Church, Redgrave

10.30 am - 4.00 pm

Admission: £18 pp incl. light lunch

To book, apply with SAE & cheque payable to Redgrave Church Heritage Trust,
to Mrs J. Shepherd, Barn View, Chapel Lane, Botesdale IP22 1DT

This unusual study day looks back on WW1 from the angle of stamps and postmarks. Letters, postcards and airmails of the period yield fascinating insight into many areas of the 'war to end all wars'. Julian van Beveren is an expert on the subject who has studied postal history in depth, and written many articles for philatelic journals both here and abroad.

Book early for this fascinating event.

Garden open for charity Monday 29th May

For the sixth year **Batteleys Cottage** on The Ling in Wortham will be opening its doors again under the National Garden Scheme (NGS).

The May Bank Holiday weekend is a festival weekend for the NGS, celebrating 90 years of supporting nursing charities. Since 1927 when the scheme started over £50 million has been donated. It is the largest charitable funder of Macmillan Cancer Support and has donated over £16 million to this charity alone since 1984.

Last year £2.7 million was raised by the 4,000 gardens that opened their doors. Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie and Hospice UK each received £500,000 with smaller donations going to a further 5 charities.

Last year at Batteleys we had, on our open afternoon, an astonishing 260 visitors and raised £1500. Pre-arranged group visits in the year took this to just short of £2500 for NGS charities.

All the money we take on our open afternoon goes directly to the NGS scheme so do come along and support these very worthwhile and sadly necessary charities.

We will be open from 1pm until 5.30. There will be refreshments and plant sales.

Linda and Andy Simpson



GARDEN OPEN FOR CHARITY

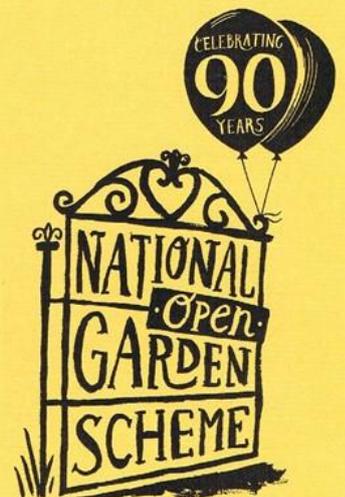
Batteleys Cottage

The Ling, Wortham, Diss IP22 1ST

Monday 29 May

1 - 5.30pm

Adults £4 Children free



TEA & CAKE



PLANTS FOR SALE



WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

More information at ngs.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1122014 | ngs.org.uk

SHEILA RUSH REPORTS

Good Companions. The club held its Easter Prize Bingo on Monday 10 April in Wortham Village Hall. The event was well supported and Chairman Betty Garnham thanks all those who came to support the club. Special thanks go to the Two Janets, Iris Audrey and of course, Tom Davis who was the Caller for the evening. There were many lovely prizes donated by the members, and £400 was made for the club.

The club went on its first outing of the year on Tuesday 18 April. Members and friends went to Wroxham. It was quite cold, but everyone had a nice time. On the way home, there was a raffle on the bus.

Easter Sunday. There was a Holy Communion Service at St Marys Church, Wortham on Easter Sunday. It was conducted by the Rev Adrian Watkins and the organist was Myra Pinnell. Readings were given by Paddy Richards and the gospel was read by the Rector. Intercession Prayers were given by Elizabeth Clark and included special prayers for **Billy Hines, Kyle Warren and Dominic O'Neill**.

The church looked particularly lovely, being decorated with beautiful spring flowers. The service ended with the Dismissal and was followed by refreshments at the rear of the church.

Spring Clean. The Annual Wortham & Burgate Spring Clean took place during April. Jacky Bradley thanks everyone who took part.

IN MEMORIAM

When the news of the fatal road accident in Pulham Market on 5 April broke in the media, I found it very sad that three young lives had been taken away so very early. I did not know any of the young men, being three generations older and not living in The Pulhams. It wasn't until I happened into Wortham Post Office Stores a few days after, and was told by Sheila Rush that one of the lads, Billy Hines, came from Magpie Green and had been a student at Wortham Primary School, as had another, his friend Kyle Warren, that the story became far more local for me. The third person, Dominic O'Neill, came from Harleston.

But then to read in the written media, particularly the Diss Mercury, the love and respect in which all three were clearly held by their families and peers, that the stories, anecdotes and reminiscences became more real and drew me much closer to the three friends. I was compelled to write this piece in acknowledgement, not only of their passing, but to report to you some of the stories in the accident's aftermath.

I have only seen the Mercury, and know that Diss Express also reported the accident along with several national newspapers, but I must commend Andrew Papworth, the Mercury editor for his respectful treatment of events, his personal reporting with bereaved friends and family members, and the way in which he conveyed the enormous impact the accident had on so many people in the general area. To give articles, photos and reports in twelve of the first fourteen pages of the newspaper must have been a rare occurrence indeed.

Apart from the dozens of floral tributes left at the accident site after the road was re-opened a day later, I was moved to learn that hundreds of people gathered at Eye Airfield to release Chinese Lanterns in memory of the trio. I learned that Archbishop Sancroft High School in Harleston opened specially at Easter to allow members of the community to grieve and share tributes and memories of Dominic and Kyle, who had both studied there. Billy was a pupil at Hartismere High School in Eye.

I read that a canvas was spread over a large advertising hoarding in Morrisons car park in Diss to allow several hundred friends and family to write their tributes, and at 5pm on Sunday 9 April at least two hundred cars, vans and lorries gathered there, and took them for a trip on the A143 to Great Yarmouth. There was much hooting and revving of engines on the journey, but this youthful mark of respect showed the esteem in which all three were held.

RIP, Billy, Kyle and Dominic.

Mike Bowen

Funeral photos: bbc.com/news/suffolk
Billy portrait: Hines Family



Billy Hines.
Suddenly taken from us on April 5th 2017 aged 16 years. Loving son of Jason and Mandy, much loved brother of Ryan, Jack and Leah and special grandson of John, Christine, Rosie, Paul and Iris. He will be missed by his family and many friends.

hello!

From 16th April The Forge Community Church will be at Hartismere School in Eye.

There will be a fun programme for kids and teens, great live music and amazing talks tied into your everyday life.

Every Sunday from 16th April, 4pm Hartismere School in Eye.

Get your diary, book the date and tell your friends.

See you there...

forge community church

Can't wait? Check out: www.forgechurch.com/eye

Suffolk's **FAB40 ADVENTURES**

fun for all outdoors whatever the season

Summer Autumn Winter Spring

Simply lay back, look and listen

Take a night time walk

See and hear the clash of antlers

Spot a Mad March Hare

outdoor adventures to enjoy with family and friends

Discover - Enjoy - Share
Sign up for some seasonal fun now!
fab40suffolk.co.uk
complete the adventures!
start collecting your certificates!

DISS CYCLATHON

A DAY TO CELEBRATE ALL THAT IS GREAT ABOUT CYCLING IN NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK

Including the: **NINE TOWN SPORTIVE | 25 JUNE 2017**

Register at: WWW.DISSCYCLATHON.ORG

East Anglian Air Ambulance

DISS A POWER TOWN AT HEART

midwich

Garden notes by Linda Simpson

A few years ago, I saw a variety of the biennial honesty (lunaria) that I was very taken with. It was called lunaria Chedglow. It is very different from most of the other honesty varieties I have come across in that it has deep purple leaves and stems and a bright purple flower that contrasts very well with the leaves. Being biennial the seeds germinate in the first year and flower the following year.

I scattered a lot of seed around the garden early last year and have been amply rewarded by a wonderful display which is currently brightening up several areas in the garden. To get it to flowering size the seed needs to have germinated by June to flower the following year so seed planted now or in the next month or so will flower next year. Leave it until late summer though and you will have a longer wait.

The first year I had them, the display was not as good and I think that subsequently the plants have benefited by being sown in situ rather than transplanted from pots – they don't really like disturbance.

Now the problem for me is that I didn't keep back many seeds to scatter this year and I don't know if the seed from this year's flowers will be ready early enough to sow in time for flowering next year. The moral of the story is that when starting to grow this in the garden keep back some seed for the second year. Once you have it flowering every year you should not be without it.



in

Jobs in the garden

At this time of the year there are so many jobs to do in the garden but I think during April and early May the emphasis has to be on seed sowing and gradually hardening off tender plants that don't like the frost. Although we have had quite a mild spring there are bound to be a couple of colder nights that could nip back tender new growth.

It's also important not to forget that spring bulbs need watering especially after they have flowered. If they are deprived of water at this stage they will not form next year's flowers within the bulb. Since we are currently in a period of drought I would recommend watering and if practical feeding as many of your spring bulbs as is feasible. Look how well the bulbs have performed this year in the main. I suspect this is because in the first three weeks of April last year we had lots of rain.

Of course, if you think you have run out of things that need doing look again. There are bound to be weed seedlings that seem to germinate as soon as your back is turned. Dealing with them before they can spread their seed around may save some work in future years – the saying of one year's seed, seven years weed is well worth remembering!

The Heritage Circle

Geoffrey Kay: The Crystal Palace and The Great Exhibition of 1851.

Henry Cole, who worked for the Board of Trade had the idea to hold an exhibition to promote improvements in design in British industry. Manufacturers would be invited to display their products. Cole was friends with Prince Albert, and told him of his idea, the Prince supported his idea, and thought it should be an international event.

A committee was formed which invited architects to compete for designs for an exhibition building, as no suitable venue was available. The next question was where to build the pavilion. Queen Victoria offered Hyde Park on condition the structure was only temporary. But all the designs submitted were rejected.

John Paxton, a young head gardener for the Duke of Devonshire at Chatsworth House had experience in building huge glass houses to produce exotic fruit for Chatsworth. His designs were sent to the committee and approved in the summer of 1850, to be completed by spring 1851. In autumn 1850, during construction, trees were obstructing the design. Queen Victoria refused to allow felling of the trees, so they were incorporated into the building.

Thousands of tourists flocked to see the building work, the use of iron and glass was a new innovation, and the 200 men working on the site had no experience, 5 were killed during the construction. The strength of the building was doubted, and soldiers were brought to march inside to test the strength.

Prince Albert brought beer for the workers. No expense was spared with proper plumbing and flush toilets, which cost one penny to use. In May 1851 the building was complete, an enormous structure the size of several football pitches, with galleries around the perimeter, and the iron work painted in bright colours.

World dignitaries attended the opening, and many countries sent examples of their manufacturing industries and crafts. America sent a steam locomotive, and Germany sent examples of their textiles. The building was divided into pavilions for each country's exhibits, and the centrepiece was a fountain playing on glass.

John Ruskin, the art critic hated the building, and named it Crystal Palace. William Morris also disliked the idea, as he promoted handmade and designed goods as against mass produced. But Charlotte Bronte thought it was wonderful, and visited many times. From May to October 5 million people visited and bought souvenirs. Thomas Cook started organised trips to the Palace.

A farewell concert was held attended by the Royal family. The exhibition had been a financial success, and legacies from this include The Royal Albert Hall, and the V & A Museum where many of the exhibits are displayed today. Despite protests the Queen insisted on the demolition of the Palace.

But Joseph Paxton and others bought it, dismantled it, and it was re-erected in Sydenham where it housed sculptures, sports concerts etc. On November 30th. the Palace was destroyed by fire, thought to have been possibly caused by an electrical fault. The site at Sydenham is still a pleasure garden, sporting large concrete dinosaurs.

Angela Bigley.

South African Success Story

Because of the pressure on space caused by important local news events and notifications, the promised and planned story about Carmen Stevens has been deferred until the June issue of WOBUL.

Mike Bowen



EYE TOWN HALL

SATURDAY 13TH MAY 2017

7.00 P.M.



*Igor Stravinsky **Symphony of Psalms***

*Karol Szymanowski **Stabat Mater***

*Joseph Haydn **'Nelson' Mass***



The Burgate Singers

with Henrike Legner *Soprano* Joanna Gamble *Mezzo*
Benjie del Rosario *Tenor* Alistair Bamford *Bass*

The Burgate Sinfonia

Conducted by Alain Judd

Tickets £20

from Eva at **01379 677333**

and at the door



Burgate Village News



Don't forget – **the kettle's on** every Tuesday at the Church Hall in Burgate. Do come along and enjoy a hot drink and homemade cakes, meet your neighbours, catch up with old friends, bring children. 10.00 am until 12 noon. Look for the 'A' board by the side of the road.

Burgate Plant Sale

The very popular plant sale will take place at **Burgate Church Hall** on Saturday 13th May, entry from 2.00 pm. There will be a wide variety of plants for sale (annuals and perennials, and perhaps some vegetables too), as well as tea, coffee and home-made cakes. Come early for the best selection!

PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE AND TIME

Additional car parking near the church if the hall car park is full.



St Patrick's Day Quiz

A total of 8 teams keenly contested the latest quiz to be held by the Friends of Burgate Church in the hall on St Patrick's Day – 17th March. The winners by a short head were U4, closely followed by the Dubliners, and Dick Pell's Burgate team came in third – his highest ever placing! A total of £342 was made for FOBC funds.

Church Flowers

7th May Shirley Sturgeon
14th May Shirley Sturgeon
21st May Gina Cole
28th May Gina Cole

Hall Cleaning

Fee Robertson

Church Hall Booking Secretary: Judi Tann: 01379 783302

**Festival of Flowers
and Music**

*10th and 11th June 2017
10.00 am to 5.00 pm
St Mary's Church, Burgate
Flower Festival on the theme of famous people
Entrance FREE*

*Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, a light lunch
& home made cakes during your visit*



Saturday 10th June at 7.30 pm

"Amici"

*"Suffolk's friendliest a cappella chamber choir"
Director: Adrian Knott
A concert of short pieces of varying styles.
Pimms and Canapes in the interval.
Tickets £12.50 - 01379 783 718 or
email ginacole49@gmail.com*

Bill's Birds for May

Although it is now May and hopefully you have heard your first cuckoo and seen your first swallow, can you cast your mind back to mid-March when we were eagerly awaiting our first warbler migrant, the Chiffchaff named because of its voice? I always listen for it on Redgrave's "Little Fen". Typically, one day when I went there intent on hearing my first sounds of spring, it was a cold day, a clear blue sky and a strong North Easterly wind sweeping in from the North Sea. And then I heard it, at the top of leafless trees singing happily and going quickly searching for food, from branch to branch. A lonely voice, sad, but proof was there that spring at last was on its way.

I watch on the internet for signs of migrating birds, typically at Portland Bill in Dorset. There were reports of "hundreds" of Chiffchaffs coming in over the sea when the wind was with them in mid-March. Notably on the same date, mid-March, flocks of Waxwings were seen in Suffolk at Woodbridge, Hollesley and Lowestoft, awaiting suitable winds to assist them on their journey to their breed grounds in the North!

On my visit to the Fen I also heard the unattractive cry of the Water Rail, a shy bird similar to our Water Hen but with a red bill. Another bird heard but not seen was the Cetti Warbler. At last it has reached our Fen. A loud voice similar to its name "cetti" with a soft c. Its gives one quite a shock. Then it is silent for five to ten minutes. This plain brown bird does not migrate. It first appeared in England in 1961. In Suffolk 1971. Now it is "common" on such Fens as Minsmere and Walberswick. Why has it appeared? There is no proof that Cetti Warblers born in England migrate abroad. Like the Collared Dove it has found its own niche, both are immigrants rather than migrants.

Our Fen Marsh Harrier has been seen this year on several occasions, once, three of them together. They bred here last year raising three chicks, one has stayed on.

There are several reports on the board at the Fen Reserve Centre of Bearded Tits, heard and seen. I keep noticing these reports but have never seen them here myself. I can recognise them by sight and sound – I am waiting!

I mentioned the first Cuckoo. What about the migrant and other birds (Reed Warbler and Hedge Sparrow) in whose nests the Cuckoo lays its single egg and the fledgling on hatching tips its in-laws out of the nest. Birds due to climate change are nesting earlier. Now, does the Cuckoo from its African winter quarters recognise this, otherwise if it keeps to its original arrival dates the hosts' young will probably have hatched and could oust a newly hatched Cuckoo.

Another bird that I have heard among the reeds is the Little Grebe. A small black diving bird; it hides itself in the reed beds and underwater. It has an attractive loud tinkling song. This year when I heard it, I had forgotten its voice of a year ago. Then it came flooding back through my failing memory. How welcome.

And lastly as a reward for searching for my first Chiffchaff, a pair, yes, a pair of Tree Creepers. Very small birds with curved bills, creeping round tree trunks and always going upwards. (The Nuthatch always goes downwards.) Up it goes then it flies down several feet and starts upwards again searching for food. The last time I saw one was at least 20 years ago on a wooded walk in Corsica. Here were two and they were English.



Public Meeting

Thursday 11 May 2017
6 pm - 8 pm

Diss Youth Community Centre
Shelfanger Road

Save Diss Post Office Campaign

Put your questions and concerns to
Richard Bacon MP

Please come along and support the fight
to save **OUR** Post Office

Please see full details and petition on Change.Org '**Save Diss Post Office** '
Paper petitions also available to sign in and around Diss Town Centre



FoBHC

The Annual General Meeting of
The Friends of Botesdale Health Centre
will be held at

The Botesdale Health Centre

Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at 7.30 pm

Come along and meet the Partners / Doctors.

At the end of the AGM the FoBHC Chairman, John Humphries, will present a short introduction based on recent research into 'micro-hospitals' followed by an Open Forum to find out people's thoughts and aspirations for an 'Ultimate Health Centre'.

Everyone is welcome, so do come along. We look forward to meeting you and sharing a glass of wine and refreshments.



Can you spare some time to help with a vital community service?

Borderhoppa, the provider of community transport across 56 parishes in South Norfolk and North Suffolk, urgently needs volunteer drivers to help with regular outings for residents in the areas covered by the scheme.

Community transport works because of the goodwill and time given by people who volunteer as drivers, office staff and trustees. At present Borderhoppa needs drivers to help with outings, including trips to the coast, lunches and visits to garden centres.

Service users value the outings as ways of getting out and about and meeting up with friends, which many people are otherwise unable to do, either because they don't have a car or don't have access to a regular commercial bus services to and from where they live.

Drivers need to have a D1 category on their licence, basically, entitlement to drive a minibus with no more than 18 passengers. Mileage expenses are paid but the time commitment is a gift to the community.

To find out more, call Borderhoppa on 01379 854800 or e-mail adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com.

NORTH HARTISMERE BENEFICE

Wortham and Burgate Sunday Club

Meet at Wortham Village Hall
from 10.00am to 10.45am on the
2nd Sunday of each month during term time.

Dates for this term are:

12th February, 12th March, 9th April

Stories Games

Crafts Singing

All children aged 4-11 Welcome.

Just turn up or ring Lyn on 788479 for more details



HERITAGE CIRCLE

Graham Higgins: The work and history of the Bury St Edmunds Magistrates Court

Graham Higgins gave an interesting talk to the April meeting of the Heritage Circle at Rickinghall Village Hall about the work and history of magistrates and the Bury St Edmunds Court. He explained that the 'crowner', now known as the coroner, is one of the oldest criminal officers in Britain. The post was introduced just after the Norman Conquest in 1066 to research suspicious deaths in what was then a very lawless society. After 1361 magistrates were formally appointed to provide local justice. Prior to this communities had to wait over two years in Suffolk for the visit of a judge from London. People accused of crimes just languished in gaol while they waited to be tried. Magistrates could decide whether there was a case to answer and they dealt with punishments for lesser crimes. They were expected to impose instant justice to deter offenders. The use of the birch was only ended in 1949, and flogging with the cat of nine tails for assaults on police and prison officers in 1964. Magistrates had two other functions. One was to control the movement of peasants and keep them in their parish where they would fulfil any contracts of employment. The shortage of labour after the Black Death of 1348-1349 had led to a sharp increase in wages as peasants were prepared to move to better paid jobs. In addition, magistrates regulated the price of beer and bread. In the 1640s and 1650s, magistrates were given other responsibilities. They had to find witches and later to marry people as church weddings were banned. Whilst there was reluctant acceptance of the banning of the celebration of Christmas from 1647, there were riots in Bury St Edmunds when dancing around the maypole was prohibited.

Only serious cases, such as murder or assault, were tried by courts where the prosecution just had to prove guilt as the accused had no right to offer a defence. The offender would be hanged and all of his property seized by the crown. Clerics were tried by an ecclesiastical court where the penalties were lighter. Proof of holy orders was the ability to read but anyone claiming to be a cleric to avoid a criminal court was branded on their right thumb. This led to the practice of holding up a right hand when swearing an oath in court.

By the end of the 18th Century people could be hanged for over 200 crimes. A more humane punishment was thought to be transportation. Initially, petty criminals were sent to America but the War Of Independence from 1775 meant that offenders had to be imprisoned on hulks, derelict ships, on the Thames until transportation Australia began in 1787. It was only ended in 1867. Murder and highway robbery were deemed to be so serious that those convicted were hanged. After that their bodies could be dissected in the court room where they were convicted. This happened to the Red Barn Murderer, William Corder, in Bury St Edmunds. The bodies of other hanged people were put in gibbets to rot near to where the crime was committed as a warning to the community. However, research of newspaper archives suggests that most reported crime in Rickinghall has tended to be petty and to consist of crimes like stealing poultry or coal, and selling short measures of cloth.

Graham concluded his talk with some stories about his own experience as a magistrate. He commented that many people appearing before him now have committed crimes to finance a drug addiction. Similarly, crimes involving mobile phones are very common, especially in cases of domestic violence where they can be used as a weapon. A worrying trend has been the increasing number of women appearing in court, often for violent crimes. He explained how there is a need at times to temper punishment with measures to rehabilitate offenders. However, the media are not always sympathetic to this approach.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be at 7.30pm on 24 May when Christine Adams will give a talk entitled *Miss Savidge Moves House* – the story of the ultimate house move when a woman saves her house from demolition. Further information about the Heritage Circle is available on its website, www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net.

Gerry Gurhy



SATURDAY 06 MAY, 7:30 pm

A STREETCAT NAMED BOB

SATURDAY 27 MAY, 7 for 7:30 pm

A SECRET GARDEN (LIVE THEATRE)

Sat 03 June, 7:30pm SULLY – MIRACLE ON THE HUDSON
Sat 08 July, 7:30pm LION (15)

www.palgravecinema.co.uk

Book in advance online, where trailers can be seen and reviews read.

TICKETS £5 each

WORTHAM & BURGATE HAS A NEW WEBSITE

<http://worthamandburgate.suffolk.cloud/>

The old site no longer exists.

Please change your favourites, and use this new community site.

Your contributions to the site are most welcome

Netty Verkroost, Wortham & Burgate Parish Clerk and RFO

07557 333 811

WORTHAM WALKERS

We walk on the first Wednesday of each month. Next walk – **Wednesday 03 May**

In April, David and Margaret Williamson chose a walk in and around Eye, and we learned quite a lot about the area. The photo shows us by the fully-blossomed Blackthorn hedge along ancient Park Lane. Afterwards, we had a delightful fish & chip lunch at a very special price for a full-sized lunch at The Queen's Head in the town.



Alan and Pam Miller have chosen the May walk in and around the Gipping Valley at Needham Market. The meeting place is The Lion at 44 Ipswich Road, IP6 8EH where there is adequate parking and a good lunch menu for after our exercise. The pub will wish to know the numbers for lunch before we leave.

John Scott

juliejohn_scott@yahoo.co.uk



WORTHAM BOWLS CLUB NEWS

APRIL 2017

Our Green Opening Day on 23 April was blessed with beautiful weather and a good crowd of members enjoyed a lovely afternoon on the green. Thanks to our greenkeeper and his excellent team of helpers, it was in the best condition though many players found it hard going after the "easy" play indoors over the winter.

A new member was signed up and another person came to give it a try so hopes were high for another good season ahead. The clubhouse was busy with fixture arrangements and new notices to be read while tea and biscuits were served.

But the vagaries of English spring weather hit hard in the following days and on the first evening of match play, 26 April at home to Elmswell, everyone suffered the rain, hail and cold wind. Wortham won this match but the second fixture for 27 April was postponed by our opponents. The condition of their green had been affected by the rain. Hopefully next week and a new month will bring kinder conditions.

Friday evening practice/roll-ups resumed on 28 April 28 and anyone interested will be welcome at 6.30pm. Any further information can be found on our webpage <http://worthamandburgate.suffolk.cloud> and choose Clubs & organisations, then Wortham Bowls Club.

Jean Hoskins

Wortham Bowls Club Secretary worthambowlssecretary@gmail.com

Tel: 01379 643641



Recycling at the Village Hall

The recycling centre for Wortham and Burgate is located at Wortham Village Hall. It is a Community Recycling Centre managed by the Village Hall. There are facilities for recycling glass, newspapers, magazines, clothes and shoes.

Did you know that everything you recycle earns money for the Village Hall? The Council gives the income to us, which last year was a useful £705.

When using the bottle bank please make sure you put the glass into the correct container. Clear glass has a higher value than coloured glass if the container has not been contaminated by a colour. You can recycle food jars as well as drinks bottles. Please help us by keeping the site clean and tidy.

Wortham Village Hall is a registered charity run by volunteers. The running expenses amount to some £600 per month. The income from recycling helps us to manage this valuable facility so that it can be used for clubs, organisations and members of the public. So please help us by recycling as much as possible.

The Village Hall Management Committee

VILLAGE HALL DATES FOR YOUR MAY DIARY

Wortham Morning Yoga	Tuesday	02, 09, 16, 23	10:00 – 11:30
Wortham Midday Yoga	Thursday	11, 18, 25	11:45 – 13:15
Ballroom	Monday	02, 08, 15, 22	18:30 – 21:00
Sewing Class	Monday	08, 22	09:30 – 14:30
Pilates	Wednesday	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	09:30 – 10:30
Tea's Made	Wednesday	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	14:00 – 16:30
Gentle Exercise Evenings	Wednesday	03, 10, 17, 24, 31	19:30 – 20:30
Gentle Exercise Mornings	Thursday	11, 18, 25	09:30 – 10:30
W&B Sunday Club	Sunday	14	10:00 – 11:00
Good Companions	Tuesday	02, 16, 30	14:00 – 16:30
Anglia Polymer Guild	Sunday	21	10:00 – 15:00
County Elections	Thursday	04	06:30 – 22:30
Village Hall Committee	Thursday	18	19:00 –
Private Function	Sunday	28	10:00 – 23:00

Wortham & Burgate Neighbourhood Plan

The future of your Parish is in your hands !



COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

Come along and find out what a Neighbourhood Plan would mean for the Parish
A Neighbourhood Plan can influence the type of housing, infrastructure and development locally.

A Neighbourhood Plan can be used in deciding planning applications.
District Councillor Diana Kearsley will attend the meeting

May 16th 6.30pm – 7.30pm

WORTHAM VILLAGE HALL

HAVE YOUR SAY !

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

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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.