

Your local news
and interesting
monthly
newsletter

WOBUL

Wortham & Burgate Letter

SEPTEMBER 2017						
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SAT 02 SEPTEMBER, 7:30 pm

VICEROY'S HOUSE

Gillian Anderson
Michael Gambon
Hugh Bonneville

Sat 07 Oct, 7:30pm THEIR FINEST
Sat 28 October, 7:30pm CHURCHILL

www.palgravecinema.co.uk
Book online, where trailers can be seen and reviews read.
TICKETS £5 each

NORTH HARTISMERE BENEFICE

Wortham and Burgate

Sunday Club

Meet at Wortham Village Hall from 10.00am to 10.45am

on the 1st Sunday of each month during term time.

(followed by coffee and cookies, for parents/carers too!)

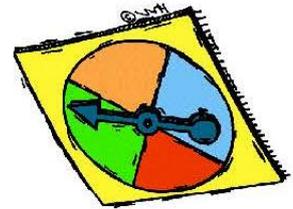
Dates for the Autumn term are:

3rd September

1st October

5th November

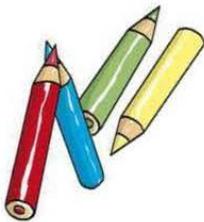
3rd December



Stories

Games

Crafts



and lots of fun!

All children welcome, and parents/carers can stay
if they wish.

Just turn up or ring Lyn
on 788479 for more details

WORTHAM WALKERS

We walk on the first Wednesday of each month. **Next walk – Wednesday 06 September**



In August, Linda and Andy Simpson organised an interesting and enjoyable walk through Blo' Norton and Thelnetham Fens, starting at St. Nicholas Church, Thelnetham and returning there via Mill Road, the lane passing by the windmill. The 3-mile walk ended with a light lunch for some at the Beehive Coffee Shop at the Dutch Barn nursery in Blo Norton.

The September walk has been arranged by Joy and Mike Cornish, and features the area around Gislingham. It will start at 10.30am from the car park of the village hall in Gislingham. It's a walk of 3.25 miles to the south east of the village along woodland walks and field paths. The walk includes a couple of stiles and a scramble through a fallen tree. The pub in Gislingham is not open at lunchtimes during the week, but for anyone who fancies refreshments afterwards the cafe at Thornham Walks is a short drive along the road. Looking forward to seeing all who can make it.

John Scott

juliejohn_scott@yahoo.co.uk

Emma's Jumble Sale

Saturday 7th October
Wortham Village Hall from 2 – 4pm

Please start sorting out your jumble for Emma's 13th annual sale.

Any unwanted books, toys, CDs, clothes, linen etc can be dropped off at the village hall on the morning of the sale, or phone Gill on 07745687681 if you are unable to make that date. Any items left over will be donated to the British Heart Foundation.

Ex-Wortham primary school pupil Emma, spent four months in 2004 in rural Uganda teaching at a primary school. She established the charity because of an 11-year-old boy called Wagobera Christopher, who finished top of his class, was unable to go to secondary school because his family could not afford the fees.

Because of Emma's commitment, Chris is now starting his final year at Kampala University studying clinical medicine and is due to graduate in November 2018. Over the years, Emma's jumble sales have raised over £7,000 for disadvantaged children and young people in Uganda.

For further information, email Emma at wagobera@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/wagobera

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.

On Tuesday 26th September, we will be combining the usual **Kettles On** with a **Macmillan Coffee Morning**. Come along and enjoy the usual coffee and cakes and help add to our contribution to a very worthwhile cause.

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Friends of Burgate Church

JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 30th September

From 2.00 – 4.00 pm

Burgate Church Hall

If you would like to donate any good

Church Flowers

3 rd September	Gina Cole
10 th September	Flo Tyler
17 th September	Flo Tyler
24 th September	Liz Chapman

Hall Cleaning

Linda Pell

Church Hall Booking Secretary: Judi Tann: 01379 783302

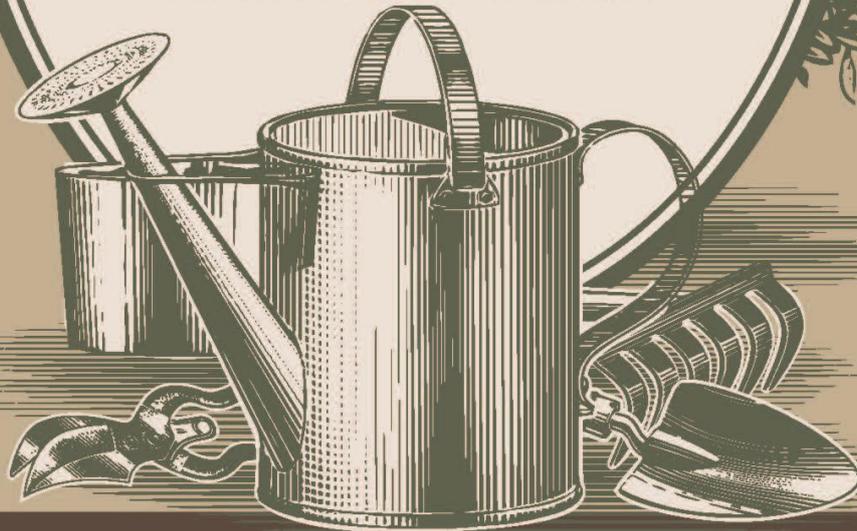
FROM
WORTHAM
TO
CHELSEA

THE STORY OF

DAVID HOWARD

& HIS NURSERY

DAVID TALKS ABOUT HIS
LIFE AND EXPERIENCES



**BAR &
RAFFLE**



SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER - 7.30^{PM}
WORTHAM VILLAGE HALL - DOORS OPEN 7.00^{PM}

ENTRY BY TICKET ONLY - £7.50

Available at WORTHAM STORES & POST OFFICE or CALL MIKE ON 01379 309538

The Friends of Botesdale Health Centre

Invite you to a



*Family Fun
Car Treasure
Hunt*



£25 prize for the winner

Sunday September 17th 2017

START ANY TIME BETWEEN 10.30am AND 2.00pm

Just turn up on the day between the above times, with your family, your car, your thinking head, in-car refreshments/snacks or even bring a picnic to enjoy when you return.

Approximate 2-hour local run seeking direction clues and 'Treasure Items'

Fun for the whole family

Winner will be announced at approx. 5.00pm

Entry £7.50 per car

START /FINISH - RICKINGHALL VILLAGE HALL

Tea / Coffee and Squash available

All proceeds from this event will go to buying essential equipment for Botesdale Health Centre and is organised by The Friends of Botesdale Health Centre. Reg. Charity No 285606

HARVEST JAZZ at MELLIS CHURCH

Sunday Sept 17th 7.30pm

'If the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who then will prepare himself for the battle?' Corinthians 14.8

This of course should be a reminder not just of uncertain sounding trumpets, but misplaced paradiddles, reedy squeaks, conflicting keys and countless bum notes. Even now the bats are seeking alternative roosting spots because they know what to expect after enduring so many 'Harvest Jazz' concerts.

Surprisingly the audience has grown in size since a youngish band lined up before the rood screen and assaulted them with 'Just a Little while to Stay'. More surprisingly they stayed at least until the eats and wine had been served, and the intervals are always appreciated.

Pete Scott.



So once again, coming to Mellis Church

HARVEST JAZZ

Sunday September 17th
Doors open at 7:00 for a 7:30 pm start

Tickets at £12 include a light supper

Wine Bar

For tickets tel: 01379 783434
(Tickets can be obtained at the door, but it is quite a popular event)

Cushions are recommended to protect bottoms from hard pews!

Proceeds to Mellis Church



An Introduction to Flower Arranging

on

**Friday 22nd September
at Wortham Church
9.30am - 12.30pm**

Cost £10

**To book or for more details ring
Maureen on 898176 or Cathy on 650321**

A PLAGUE OF HEDGEHOGS

by Terry Quinn

In our first 29 years living at Willow Corner, we saw a hedgehog in the garden only twice. This was disappointing because most people have a soft spot for these appealing creatures.

In the past month, we have been visited thirty times by three different sized hedgehogs. So why the major increase?

It all started when Barry Higgs called to ask if he could release a four-inch-long baby hedgehog in our garden. Barry's dogs had spotted the prickly, alien-looking, beast in their garden and would have played ball with it if given the chance. The small hoglet was at risk.

So Barry came up the lane with a young hedgehog in a shopping basket. It was a welcome gift and our first question was what to feed it. We knew that it is not a good idea to put out bread and milk which cause problems for their digestive systems so we bought a can of cat food at the PO Store. We added a second bowl for water which is equally important. The baby tucked in immediately in full daylight and then scuttled off and did not reappear until a few days later.

As hedgehogs are usually nocturnal we check the feeding bowls by aiming a torch through the house window. They did not appear to be stressed by this but we always switched off after a few seconds.

The day after the release of the baby, we checked at around 11pm and there was a mid-sized hedgehog eating cat food and the hedgehog nibbles we'd bought from Ark Wildlife. That "teenager" came every evening while it was still light but now comes after dark.

On several occasions, we spotted what appeared to be the same teenager coming to the bowl twice and even three times in a few hours. Was this a single hungry little chap or maybe there is more than one teenager?



We got the answer ten days after the importing of the young hoglet. We took the torch to the window in the front door and lit the area around the food bowls. There were four hedgehogs outside the front door, the original baby, two mid-sized teenagers, and one much larger adult of about ten inches.

It is obvious that there have always been several hedgehogs around but we didn't know where to look. They could have been anywhere in the garden, hedges or surrounding fields. Experts say they can travel up to two miles a night so where to look? Now we know exactly where they can be seen. They come to the feed bowls just a couple of feet from our front door.

Hedgehogs usually hibernate from around November to March so now we have bought a ready-made hedgehog house to provide a cosy hibernation shelter during the cold weather. We'll remember to scatter a few nibbles around in case they wake up for a snack.

It beats me why we make these strange creatures so welcome. Maybe it's because they can eat up to 80 slugs and snails in a single night. Or maybe we just enjoy their slightly comical snuffling around on their surprisingly long legs. Whatever the reason, we are enjoying having a plague of hedgehogs at our front door every night.

Terry Quinn

PROSECCO & PUDDING

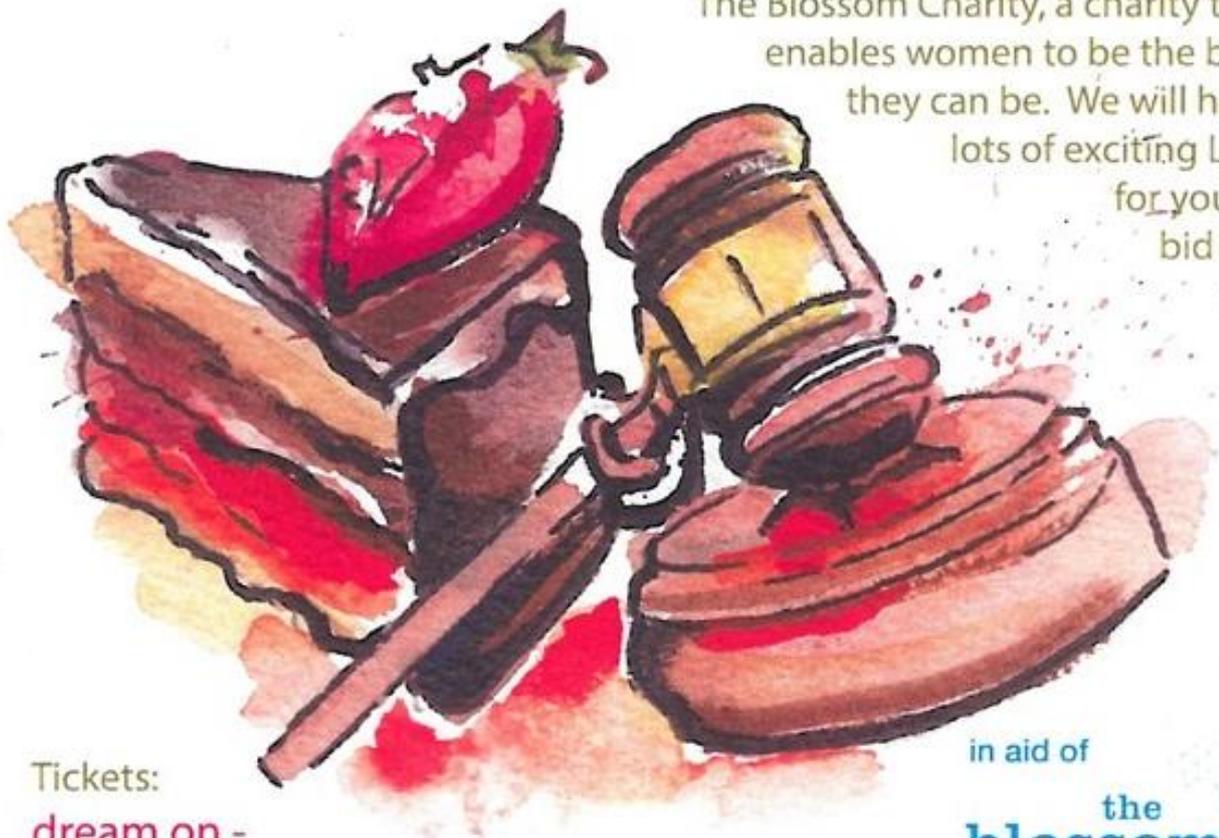
includes glass of Prosecco and a yummy pud!

CHARITY AUCTION

Saturday 16 September 2017

7.30pm @ Thorndon Village Hall, IP23 7LX

Come and join our fabulous auction in aid of
The Blossom Charity, a charity that
enables women to be the best
they can be. We will have
lots of exciting Lots
for you to
bid on!



Tickets:

dream on -

01379 678483 or

katie@dream-on.co.uk

£10

in aid of

the
blossom
charity

www.theblossomcharity.co.uk

After the excitements of my July report, everything seems to go quiet. With the rearing of their families and the heat wave, the birds must have been quite exhausted.

Our Thrush had a sudden burst of song for several days, and we saw it several times coming to the drinking fountain. One time it saw me, and we stared at each other. I am sure it has had a nest nearby.

Amidst the relative quietness, I have heard instances of a Blackbird's soft voice. I am sure it is a young male practising, and showing its potential future authority.

I have more time to watch the Swifts. Not so many this year. But what acrobats they are. Just recently, while watching the Queen's birthday celebrations on television, we saw the Red Arrows fly over. In perfect formation, but watch Swifts. They keep in formation for a moment and then speed apart. Never touching each other. Watch a hover fly. It is still one moment and then speeds off in any direction, eventually it comes back to its original hover. No trouble with the forces of gravity or bumping in to another quick-moving insect. Nature really is wonderful, but we just accept it!

Which brings me to the Blackcap Warbler and Darwin. Darwin stated that evolution was "the survival of the fittest" over millions of years. But it is possible to see what is taking place with some of these warblers over just a few years. I have already written that some stay here in the winter. Apparently, on closer examination, they have longer and narrower bills. This enables them to get food from our bird feeders. Think of the millions of us who put out food in our feeders for the birds in winter and the common sense shown by those birds that have developed longer and thinner bills - they can keep going with our supplies, (instead of making the long trip to the Mediterranean in the winter). I quote a leader in a popular daily paper. We are in fact perpetuating Darwin's theory.

One of my previous queries has been answered concerning the morning departure of Starlings from their murmurations overnight roosts. Whether this was by an observant watcher who could not sleep and got up and had a look again at last night's murmurations drop to rest. Apparently on waking they rise and fall in small groups until linking with other groups they fly straight back to the direction from which they came, to an established daytime feeding area.

And now to another warbler which has recently reappeared in Suffolk, the Dartford Warbler. This bird had usually only appeared in south-west England. Here it came to Dunwich Heath. The Dartford Warbler does not migrate, it is similar to the Cetti Warbler. Looking at Ticehurst's 'Birds of Suffolk', 1932, this warbler seemed to inhabit gorse bushes in typical coastal heathland areas. Many of such areas have disappeared due to housing and changes in farming practices. But after 60 years birds appeared on Dunwich Heath in 1993, and in the year 2000, 61 pairs were recorded. The Dartford Warbler is a small, dark long-tailed warbler with a tail which it flips up and down, and which keeps hidden in gorse and heather. I have seen it on Dunwich Heath. It was pointed out to me by a friend visiting from Australia. Such is life!

Remember last month, French Partridges had appeared to residents in Water Lane? Well, they obviously so appreciated the welcome and good food they received that they brought their recently fledged chicks to their generous hosts and here is a photo to prove it!



Enjoy your summer break. *(This is a repeat of last month's article.)*



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

HERITAGE CIRCLE

Georgette Vale, Elizabeth Fry

At the August meeting of the Heritage Circle at Rickingham Village Hall, Georgette Vale in the character of Elizabeth Fry welcomed her audience to tea. She gave a fascinating account of Elizabeth's life. Georgette explained that Elizabeth Fry was born in Magdalen Street, Norwich in 1780. Soon after, the family moved initially to Bremerton and later to Earlham Hall. Elizabeth had what she described as 'a pleasurable childhood' but she was an anxious child as she was afraid of the dark and quite fearful of other people.

Elizabeth Fry was a Quaker and this had a profound affect upon her life and work. She believed that all people were equal before God. Words were 'the coins to exchange thoughts' and so she liked plain speech. She adopted a similar attitude to dress. She wore plain colours but the clothes could be made of fine fabrics.

In 1799 Elizabeth married a fellow Quaker, Joseph Fry whom she regarded as her 'rock.' His uncle was a renowned confectionery maker but Joseph was a tea importer. Quakers were barred from any profession which required the swearing of an oath. They thought that it was unnecessary to attest to honesty and truthfulness because that was how they behaved. Elizabeth's parents came from families involved in banking. Her father was a member of the Gurney's who owned a bank in Norwich and her mother was a Barclay.

Elizabeth's involvement with social conditions began while she was still living at Earlham as she began a school for local children so that they could learn to read the Bible. When married, she went to live at Plashet House, East Ham, on the edge of modern day East London. Here she founded a girls' school. However, Elizabeth Fry is most famous for her work in reform of prisons. In 1813, she made her first visit to Newgate Prison. She firmly believed that inhumanity would not reform criminals and that flogging made people more hardened in their behaviour. While people were kept in filthy, overcrowded conditions they would not see the 'goodness of the Lord.' Pregnancies and family financial problems prevented Elizabeth taking a more active role until 1817 when her work began in earnest. She talked to the women in prison and found clothes for children held with their mothers. She started a school in the gaol. This gradually attracted the women as they realised that some basic literacy, combined with useful work skills, such as knitting and sewing, would improve their future lives. She also pressed for more humane treatment of prisoners being transported to Australia.

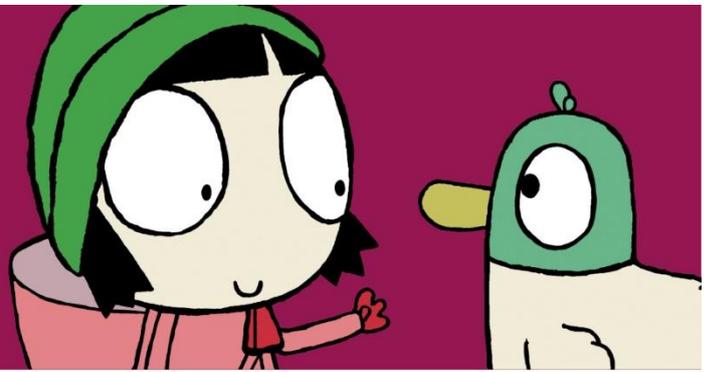
In 1818 Elizabeth was invited to appear before a Commons Committee investigating prisons. She was the first woman to speak to a parliamentary committee. They were impressed by her practical recommendations. The Gaol Act which followed in 1823 provided for the payment of prison officers, allowed visits by chaplains, introduced the supervision of women by female warders, and prohibited the use of manacles and chains. Elizabeth was also involved in the abolition of slavery and improvements in the training of nurses. She promoted night shelters for the homeless. Elizabeth was helped in her work by engaging with royalty. In particular, she was supported by the future Queen Victoria. However, this created a dilemma for her as she regarded all people as equals and found it difficult to be deferential. Similarly, she was criticized for courting fame by mixing with royalty and for neglecting her own family.

Ill health took its toll on Elizabeth Fry. She gave birth to 11 children, 10 of whom were born in 16 years. Her youngest son was born on the same day as her first grandson when she was aged 42. She suffered bouts of depression. Her work in prisons affected her emotionally, especially when she witnessed executions. She died in 1845 aged 65.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be at 7.30pm on 27 September when a short AGM will be followed by Peter Driver giving a talk on the Suffolk connections to the Battle of Waterloo. Further information about the Heritage Circle is available on its website, www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net.

Gerry Gurhy

CORN THE HALL



MUSIC Saturday 2 September 7.30pm
A Night With Frank, Dean and Judy • £16 / £15 Concessions

OUTDOOR Sunday 3 September 2pm • Diss Park, IP22 4PU
The Pantaloons • A Midsummer Nights Dream
£11.50 / £7.50 Concessions

HERITAGE 6 September – 4 October Box Office Hours
Built To Last Exhibition and Activities • FREE

FILM Wednesday 6 September 7.30pm • The Innocents (15) • £5 / Under 18s £2.50

MUSIC Friday 8 September 8pm • Pop-Up Bowie • £15

FILM Wednesday 13 September • **BIG SCREAM** 10.30am / **Evening** showing 7.30pm
Viceroy's House (12A) • £5 / Under 18s £2.50

MUSIC 14 September 8pm • Diss Jazz Club • Snake Davis & The Chris Ingham Trio • £12

FILM Wednesday 20 September • **SENIOR SCREEN** 10.30am / **Evening** showing 7.30pm
Their Finest (12A) • £5 / Under 18s £2.50

SCREEN ARTS Thursday 21 September 7.15pm
Royal Opera House • The Magic Flute (12A) • £12 / Under 18s £10

DANCE Saturday 23 September 7.30pm
Ian Waite and Camilla Dallerup • £26 / £24 Concessions

TODDLERS Wednesday 27 September 10.30am • Sarah & Duck (U) • £2.50

FILM Wednesday 27 September 7.30pm • Moonlight (15) • £5 / Under 18s £2.50

THEATRE Thursday 28 September 7.30pm • Vamos Theatre • Finding Joy
£10 / £8 Concessions / £6 Carers

COMEDY Friday 29 September 8pm
Comedy Club • Tim Clark • Lucy Roper • Martyn Hill
Advance £10 / Door £12 Min age 18

FAMILY Saturday 30 September 2pm
Saturday Club • Storyteller, Storyteller • £6 (Suitable for 3 yrs+)

MUSIC Saturday 30 September 8pm • The Dave Thomas Blues Band • £12

BOX OFFICE 01379 652241 Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm
The Corn Hall, St Nicholas Street, Diss IP22 4LB www.thecornhall.co.uk

Good Companions. The Wortham Good Companions Club and friends attended a lunch at The Park Hotel on Tuesday 8 August. Chairman Betty Garnham welcomed everyone to the meal. Two lady members of the club will be celebrating their 80th birthdays this month – Yvonne Gulley and Jill Rust were each presented with flowers from the club by member Gerry Bennett. As there will be no club meeting on 22 August, names were taken for a trip to Clacton.

Bowls Club. Wortham Bowls Club played in the Upper Waveney League Division One Knockout Cup Plate Final on Saturday 19 August at Thornham Magna. They played a team called 'The Beeches' from Hempnall. The game had to be played at a neutral venue. At long last, the weather was kind to them, but sadly Wortham lost the game by 12 shots. Afterwards, light refreshments were served and a competition was run and the winners were Rachel Garnham and Jimmy Bromley from Wortham.

Cheese and Wine Evening. A talk by Anthony Cobbold showing the film 'In a country churchyard' about Wortham and Richard Cobbold will be given at a cheese and wine evening on Friday 6 October at 7:30pm. Tickets will be £10 each, and will be available from Wortham P.O. Stores in September.

Richard Cobbold was Rector of Wortham for 50 years in the 19th Century. His legacy is remarkable because he not only painted many of the people and houses in the village, but he also made notes about the characters and lives of the villagers. Anthony Cobbold, who is Keeper of the Cobbold Family History Trust, will give a talk on Richard Cobbold and his time in Wortham.

German Cottage

An English lady wanted to have a holiday in a German village in the mountains. As she did not speak any German, she wrote to the local schoolteacher for help, hoping he would understand English. She asked him to send full particulars of the cottage she planned to rent, in particular, did it have a WC?

The teacher understood all the letter except for the abbreviation WC, so he asked the local priest if he knew what it meant. Together they concluded that the lady must be a devout Wesleyan chapelgoer, and replied as follows:

My Dear Madam

The WC is situated five miles from the cottage in the centre of a beautiful pine forest. It is open every Tuesday and Sunday which is unfortunate if you are in the habit of going regularly.

You will be glad to know, however, that many people take a packed lunch and make a day of it. As there are a great number of visitors, we advise that you arrive early to get a good position with a seat. A bell will ring 10 minutes before the WC opens and closes.

I recommend that you go on Tuesday as there is an organ accompaniment on this day. If you know well in advance when you want to go, we shall try and reserve a seat for you. You will find hymn sheets behind the door for your personal use. Unfortunately, my wife and I have not been for eight months, which pains us greatly, but it is such a long way.

Yours very truly.

CALL FOR CURRENT BROADBAND SPEEDS

Hello Everyone,

Jo Churchill, our MP, is organising a meeting with BT Reps shortly. Unfortunately, this is not going to be a public meeting and only a few people are being invited to represent the village. But it is our chance to really put our case so I am anxious to present them with a dossier on the parlous state of broadband in the village.

Broadband speeds have definitely been dropping for everyone in the last 6 months and I need to update my information.

So please can you send me your current usual broadband speed; also any comments you want to make about how badly it affects your life etc.

If you are new to this mailing list, please also send me your phone number, address and postcode.

FIBRE CABINETS IN THE VILLAGE

As I explained in the last mailing, both Suffolk County Council and BT are still stating that we are due for a fibre cabinet for both Botesdale and Mellis numbers to be installed in the village in the next 6 months. But we need to keep up the pressure to ensure that this does not get put on hold. The next lists for **Better Broadband for Suffolk** roll-out of fibre are due in early September - I will keep you posted when I have any news.

Best wishes,

Sue Heaser

The Fathings, Wortham

Dear WOBUL Readers in Wortham

Can I add my request for you to spend one or two minutes responding with your broadband speeds? All you do is place ' My Broadband Speed' in Google or any other search engine and the test will give you your download and upload speeds in MBpS (Megabytes per second.) Just send these figures to Sue at Sue Heaser at: sueheaser=live.co.uk@mail15.suw15.mcsv.net with your name, address and phone number.

Thank you, Mike Bowen. Editor



WORTHAM BOWLS CLUB NEWS

August 2017

Almost the end of the outdoor bowls and September is approaching fast. After another month of good and bad results and with the weather not always favouring bowlers, Wortham has enjoyed the games despite the ups & downs.

We had some success in our bid to win the Upper Waveney Plate competition by reaching the Finals on Saturday August 19. This was played on a lovely sunny afternoon at Thornham Magna Bowls Club. Our opponents were The Beeches Club but sadly they were too good for us this time and we lost the match. Our welcome at Thornham Magna was much appreciated however.

Our progress to the semi-finals in the Bullen Cup was halted at this stage with a defeat at the hands of Woodfield Club in Stowmarket. Maybe we can try again next year as this challenge supports the Suffolk Bowls Benevolent Fund so is a worthy cause and presents an opportunity to meet with clubs not usually among our fixtures.

Wortham also plays several friendly matches during the summer season and two have been played recently. Firstly, we were at home to Scole Bowls Club on Tuesday August 22nd. However, playing at home is no guarantee of success and we were beaten by 9 shots. A return match at Scole will be played on September 5 at 2pm when Wortham will be looking for a reverse of fortunes!

The second was our annual challenge with Walsham-le-Willows played on Sunday August 27 at Walsham on their annual Open Gardens Weekend. This made for some added passing spectators in a busy village setting on a beautiful afternoon. Wortham was successful for the fourth year running and so retains the cup. Score 88-45. A traditional BBQ was held afterwards and we expect Walsham-le-Willows to be keen to regain that cup in 2018.

Club competitions continue and the Club Finals Day is on Sunday September 3 beginning at mid-day. Prior to this the Whisky Draw takes place so there may still be time to purchase tickets for this from any club member.

Any further information and match results can be found on our web-page under Clubs & Organisations <http://worthamandburgate.suffolk.cloud> or email worthambowlssecretary@gmail.com 01379 643641

Jean Hoskins
Hon. Secretary

Garden Notes by Linda Simpson

Now our grandson Alfie is toddling and enjoying exploring our garden, we are thinking about his safety. Many plants we grow in our gardens could be poisonous if eaten but now he is past the stage of putting everything in his mouth, it is the berries that pose a potential danger.

How is a toddler to understand that the black round berries growing on a hypericum are not his favourite blueberries that he regularly is given to eat? Obviously the first line of defence is for him to understand that he doesn't pick or eat anything in the garden. However, a toddler's natural inquisitiveness doesn't mean we can rely on that so I have adopted an alternative strategy.

As I go around the garden, I look at the plants within toddler sight and reach and remove berries that are forming. I am quite surprised at how many plants are berry-bearing, sometimes relatively unnoticed, until looked at through a toddler's eyes.

Honeysuckle, for example, has a range of different berries depending on the species. Some are bright glossy red and others are blackish purple. It will not hurt the plant to have a light trim at this time, and we have plenty of honeysuckle out toddler reach that can supply the birds with berries.



of

Cuckoo pint (wild arum) has a stem of bright red berries. I grow the decorative marbled leaf arum italicum but the common wild form is also present in the garden. It can spread more than wanted so it is probably quite good practice to remove the seed spikes in any case.



A few years of this style of pruning will give us peace of mind and a chance for Alfie and our next grandchild due in October to enjoy the garden without us having to say no all the time.

I was interested to visit the Poison Garden at Alnwick Castle a few years ago. Kept under lock and key and open only to visitors with a guide, it is a useful reminder about just how many plants could be considered poisonous. For example, laurel and some similar plants in the prunus family contain cyanide which will give the familiar almond smell if the leaves are crushed. Digitalis (foxglove) can be poisonous if taken in large quantities but used as a medicine in the correct quantities. Daffodil bulbs and seed heads are also poisonous as are I suspect many bulbs we use freely in gardens. The annual poppy, papaver somniferum, is of course opium poppy but it doesn't deter us from using it.

Other plants such as those in the euphorbia family exude a sticky sap that can cause skin irritation and blisters need to be treated with respect too.

It would of course be possible to try and exclude poisonous plants from the garden, but I suspect the list of plants would be endless, and would make for a very uninteresting garden. More sensible is to be aware of those on the most poisonous list and of course it goes without saying don't eat anything randomly without checking its safety – it may look decorative to put flowers as decoration on food but do check first!

Completely Batty on Wortham Ling

After 4 nights of taking part in a survey run by the Thetford-based British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), the surprising and rather exciting conclusion is that in a one-kilometre square centred on Wortham Ling there are upwards of nine different bat species to be found.

From dusk 'til dawn on 28th to 31st July we recorded the calls of passing bats on equipment loaned by the BTO and then passed the recorded data back to their experts for analysis. Their detailed breakdown of all the recorded sounds showed that the most common were of course pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle, but a good number of Natterer's, Noctule and Serotine bats were also registered. In some locations, a special bonus were Barbastelle bats (one of Britain's rarest species), and Leisler's bats as well as Daubenton's and Brown Long-eared bats.



A Barbastelle Bat

Not surprisingly, after such an experience we shall be repeating the exercise next year to monitor the survival of so many of our least appreciated mammals in this corner of Suffolk.

Andy and Linda Simpson



Borderhoppa is looking for volunteers and trustees to join our vital community transport service in south Norfolk and north Suffolk.

Users of the service include the elderly, young people, community groups, the rurally isolated and those with impaired mobility. Our door to door dial-a-ride service helps people to carry out important tasks such as attend medical appointments, go shopping, pay bills, participate in social events and visit friends and family.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer/trustee or both and supporting us, we would love to hear from you.

For more information please contact Tom Clarke 01379 854800.

Wortham & Burgate Parish Council

If you are a resident of this parish and wish to be kept informed of news by the Parish Council, please email the Clerk to the Council as below to confirm your wish and that you are happy to receive information from it.

Your contact details will not be revealed to any other organisation, and would be for the sole use of the Parish Council to contact you with its news and information.

Netty Verkroost
W&B Parish Clerk
0755 733 3811
wandbpc@gmail.com

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



Friends of Botesdale
Health Centre

Patient Transport

CAN YOU HELP ?

This increasingly busy service is in need of more volunteer drivers.

If you have a car, time to spare and would like to help please phone Val Goodwin on 01379890190 for details.

VILLAGE HALL DATES FOR YOUR SEPTEMBER DIARY

Wortham Morning Yoga	Tuesday	12, 19, 26	10:00 – 11:30
Wortham Midday Yoga	Thursday	14, 21, 28	11:00 – 12:00
Sewing	Friday	08	09:30 – 14:30
Ballroom Dancing	Monday	04, 11, 18, 25	18:30 – 20:30
Pilates	Wednesday	06, 13, 20, 27	09:30 – 10:30
Tea's Made	Wednesday	06, 13, 20, 27	14:00 – 16:30
Gentle Exercise Evenings	Wednesday	06, 13, 20, 27	19:30 – 20:30
Gentle Exercise Mornings	Thursday	07, 14, 21, 28	09:30 – 10:30
Private Function	Saturday	23	15:00 – 18:00
David Howard Talk	Saturday	16	19:30
Good Companions	Tuesday	05	14:00 – 16:30
W & B Sunday Club	Sunday	16	10:00 – 11:00
Anglian Polymer Guild	Sunday	17	10:00 – 15:00

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

Members of the CAP: Terry Quinn (Chairman), Michael & Paddy Richards, Jacky Bradley, Sheila Rudland, Paul & Alexis Burd, John Payton, Pete Antill, John King 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.