

Your local journal
with news, past and
future events and
interesting articles

WOBUL

Wortham & Burgate Letter



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ADVANCED WARNING

There will be no WOBULs in February and March 2019 as your Editor will be taking a sabbatical. This will be the first time in my seven years producing this newsletter that there will be no issues published.

If you have material for events in January, February and March of next year, please send them to me by 28 December 2018.

THE BURGATE SINGERS FABRIC SALE

Burgate Singers will be holding one of their famous sales of quality designer fabrics on

Saturday 1st December from

11:00am – 2:00pm in

Burgate Church Hall

Tea / Coffee and cakes will be available

PALGRAVE COMMUNITY CENTRE

7:30pm, Friday 8 February 2019



MEDICAL DETECTION DOGS

A Talk by Norma Howell

Norma is an experienced speaker on the subject of Medi-Dogs and gives a fascinating insight into how dogs can save lives by detecting the odour of human diseases such as Type 1 diabetes, Addison's, various cancers, pain seizures and non-epileptic seizures.

The Bar will be open and light refreshments available.

Tickets £6, £5 for PDCC members

To reserve a place or find out more,

contact Elaine Bootman on bootmanelaine@gmail.com or

01379 640211.

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 Autumn 2018 are:

2nd 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
01379 788479 for more details



THE MAN IN THE HAT

COUNTRY ROCK SINGER - aka LEIGHTON PAGE

**PALGRAVE COMMUNITY CENTRE, UPPER ROSE LANE, PALGRAVE
FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2019.**

PERFORMANCE COMMENCES AT 7.30pm.

*SINGING SONGS OF GARTH BROOKS, TIM MAGRAW, TRAVIS TRITT,
BILLY RAY CYRUS AS WELL AS GROUPS SUCH AS EAGLES, LONESTAR,
DOCTOR HOOK, THE MAVERICKS AND THE TRAVELLING WILBURYS,*

Leighton is a well-known local country rock singer performing at many venues throughout Suffolk. Visit Leighton's website maninthehatmusic.co.uk to find out more. Come along and enjoy a toe-tapping evening of fun, a BBQ, and the Bar will be open.

Admission £6.00 (PDCC members £5.00)

Admission price does not include cost of BBQ or drinks.

To reserve a ticket, please contact Elaine on 01379 640211

Or email: bootmanelaine07@gmail.com



WARTS PRESENTS



AT BOTESDALE VILLAGE HALL

With kind permission
of Samuel French

*Season's
Greetings*
A COMEDY BY ALAN AYCKBOURN

6th, 7th, 8th DECEMBER

AT 7.30pm

Doors 7pm

Licensed Bar



**TICKETS £9 (under 16's £5) FROM:
PARK RADIO-DISS, WORTHAM PO,
REDGRAVE SHOP OR TEL 01379 687580**

JIM FROST, 15 October 1928 – 1 November 2018

AN APPRECIATION

'My grandparents and parents were all country people, living a life that had not changed much over the last hundred years, keeping alive traditions that had been handed down from past generations. Much has been told and written about bygone days and the way people lived and worked. Much of this is the same throughout the country, but each and every one of us, as individuals, has a different tale to tell.

The memory of the past, the things did and the way we used to do them will never return. With the exception of a few trades still hanging on to the old ways and some people trying to recreate the past, not much now remains. There is also the memory of the people we lived and worked with and the local characters. Some we felt sorry for and some we were scared stiff of, and then there were the school days (the best days of our lives if we had only known), also the war years and all the changes they made to people's lives.'



Thus introduced **Jim Frost** his book **'Memories and Recollections'** that had taken him several years to remember, write and self-publish in 2012. When I learned of this amazing feat from someone who left Wortham School at 14 and went to work at the Rash Family's farms in the village, I met him and helped his quest a little by advertising the book in WOBUL, and I hope it made local people aware of his charming and historical tome. Certainly, many readers of this newsletter responded and he sold out the first run of 100 very quickly and was feeling confident enough to repeat the order with the same result.

I was impressed by his innocent way of 'telling it how it was' and amazed by his seemingly photographic memory of things that happened to him, his family members and friends seven decades or more ago. His description of the cottage at the top of Rectory Road, Wortham in which he was born, raised and lived for his first 24 years, helps the reader understand how it was to live and work on the land. He developed a way of working with farm horses that conjures up visions of famed 'horse whisperers'. This at a time before tractors became commonplace in the Suffolk farming community.



But what caught my imagination most was his period as a wartime cadet, first in the Army Cadets, with which he disliked the parades and marching around Diss in a uniform that was ill fitting, rough to the skin and wearing boots that hurt his feet. When friends told him of the Diss Air Training Corps, 1070 Squadron which was based at Diss Grammar School, and their smoother uniforms, he applied to join and was accepted. His descriptions fired my imagination of what it was like to fly in warbirds at the age of 16, and especially the D.H. Mosquito which was based at RAF Fersfield. His description of his first-ever flight, and in a 'Mossie', was so lifelike that it brought tears to my eyes when I first read it. My respect for Jim was extended to reading part of his first flight during my regular appearance on Park Radio last week.

Although he flew many more times in that multi-role combat aircraft type, just by turning up in his uniform at any of the local airbases, Eye, Horham, Thorpe Abbots, Mendlesham, Old Buckenham, Knettishall or Metfield, British and American, he was virtually guaranteed a flight in whatever plane was next on the runway, but not going into battle. His recounting of a dangerous flight to Cologne in a Stirling Bomber, five days after the war ended and seeing the total devastation of the city and local area and which changed his outlook totally. Like so many who actually encountered the war, he was hardly able to talk about it.



However, when a men's group I am associated with ran a film presentation on the twin-Merlin engine DH-98 Mosquito, I invited Jim to be the Guest of Honour at a special dinner, as the only person **we knew** locally to have flown in a Mosquito during WW2, he was constantly overcome by being reminded of his flights and associated memories, and was unable to speak of the devastation he had seen.

The Mosquito, along with the Spitfire had been my favourites of WW2, and as a male child of the war, when the war stories and films emerged in post-war Britain, it became one of my passions. Seeking stories of wartime derring-do, to learn of the Mosquito attack that knocked out the main Berlin broadcasting station while Hermann Göring was speaking, putting his speech off the air, thrilled me enormously. Göring later said: "It makes me furious when I see the Mosquito. I turn green and yellow with envy. There is nothing the British do not have. They have the geniuses and we have the nincompoops." The 1944 raid on Amiens prison in France to help free Resistance fighters, or the hedge-hopping flight across Holland to seriously damage the Philips radio factory in Eindhoven that the Nazis had captured and was their main source of communication equipment, such tales thrilled this young chap.

What better champion of the air could I have had than this multi-role combat craft, which could be a light bomber, a fighter-bomber, a night fighter, a maritime strike or a photo-reconnaissance aircraft, which, when it was launched in 1941 was one of the fastest planes in the world helped greatly by its unique wooden frame, and nicknamed by its crews as 'The Wooden Wonder'. Before every massed bomber attack on Germany from this region in the latter part of the war, a Mosquito flew high over the area taking photos for analysts at home to quickly identify the main targets for the UK Lancaster and US B-17 crews to aim at.

My father, whose war effort was spent working underground on the development of radar in Freetown, West Africa, took me to the formative Heathrow Airport in 1948 or 49 and I had a tour of the mud patch where South African Airways was based, and I was thrilled beyond belief when I was allowed into the cockpit of a Lockheed Super Constellation and stood on the pilot's seat and peeked out of the side window.

That began my love affair with aircraft. I also joined the local ATC – 11F Squadron at Brooklands in Weybridge, Surrey - at the famous banked motor racing circuit and aerodrome where Barnes Wallis worked on his famous Dam Buster Bouncing Bomb project and Vickers Armstrong produced the WW2 Wellington bomber and post-war commercial aircraft: the Viscount, Vanguard and VC-10. Little wonder that I felt I had met a kindred spirit in Jim Frost.

A Mosquito, registration RL249 is being restored to flight in Sussex with major body and wing parts from four other Mossies and with specialist wooden parts from New Zealand for The People's Mosquito Ltd, a Lincolnshire company formed to raise funds for the restoration and then to operate the plane for flypasts and air shows.

So, by meeting Jim Frost, my interest in the de Havilland Mosquito was revived and rekindled. At the Bury St Edmunds Christmas Fayre last week, I purchased a beautiful light mahogany model of a Mosquito, which will be a permanent reminder of my friend. Jim just made his 90th birthday before passing away at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.

*The funeral of **James Frederick Frost** took place at St Mary's Church, Wortham on Thursday 22 November. The service was conducted by Rev'd Adrian Watkins and the organist was Myra Pinnell. After readings, memories, prayers and hymns, his committal took place in the Churchyard where so many of his family lay. After the service, the family and guests attended The Park Hotel for light refreshments. Jim leaves a widow, Betty, children and grandchildren.*

Mike Bowen

Wanted - a few Good Samaritans.

This is an appeal for a few big-hearted people willing to help an volunteer group that runs a weekly cake and chinwag get-together every Wednesday afternoon in Wortham Village Hall.

The original stimulus was the revelation in the Parish Survey that more than 50 people in Wortham live alone and might appreciate a regular opportunity to get together with neighbours. Since we started Tea's Made almost two years ago, the number of regular and occasional participants has grown to more than 40 including several couples. The weekly average is about 20 some of whom rarely miss a week.

We need help in two areas. First, our small team needs Good Samaritans to help set out tables and chairs or provide short car rides for those with limited mobility.

We would also appreciate help in identifying others in Wortham who would enjoy tea or coffee and a piece of cake over a chat about almost anything. (We do try to avoid Brexit and Donald Trump but rarely succeed.)

The reward for being part of the Tea's Made team? The knowledge that a simple event makes such a big difference to many people in our community.

If you can help in any way please contact Miriam Quinn on 01379 898864 or at gmiriamq@btinternet.com.

TEA'S MADE

You are invited to a weekly meeting with a difference. There are no agendas, no objectives and nothing on sale. The event is nothing more than an opportunity to meet new neighbours or old friends over a cuppa and a piece of homemade cake in a relaxed atmosphere. We meet every week in Wortham Village Hall on Wednesdays, between 2 and 4 pm.

Some of our regulars are among the 50 or so people who live alone in the Wortham area and they look forward to a weekly outing to have a natter. We try to avoid discussions on health problems, Brexit or Donald Trump, but we don't always succeed!

And the price for this get-together over tea, coffee and cake? Anything you like. We must pay for village hall hire and refreshment supplies and they're covered by voluntary contributions.

For more information call Miriam Quinn on 01379 898864.

Or just join us on Wednesday afternoon.

No reservation is necessary.

BILL'S BIRDS

On 25th October I was phoned to be told that a Field Fare had appeared in a Hinderclay garden. The first of the real autumn migrants. It looks like a thrush but has a finer plumage. Typically, it had found an orchard and was busy having a feast then 'chuckling' to itself (a characteristic communal Field Fare 'chatter') and to anyone who wished to know that the year was moving on. The owner of the orchard was quite happy to have this raid, having already stored all the apples she wanted. I have since heard that in nearby fields there are flocks of recently arrived Field Fares and Redwings. Also, a flock of Yellow Hammers. This is interesting. Yellow Hammers are becoming very much rarer these days. I wonder how they can find so many of their number to be able to flock together. In the past I have seen winter flocks of Skylarks and Pied Wagtails.

At the end of October, we had a holiday treat: a few days on the North Norfolk coast. No need to travel far from Blakeney and Cley: here were areas for 'marsh' watching that could not be improved.

Cley has a magnificent Norfolk Wildlife Trust public observatory with 'bins' and telescopes to use while participating in a quick coffee or even lunch. A good all-round shop and expert advice on ornithological aids and use. Here those of more advanced years are catered for with a constant tv-type monitor of nearby pools. With the warm dry weather which we had, we made use of a long outside observation platform which was very pleasant.

The pools on our visit were filled with duck, (Widgeon, Teal, Mallard, Shovelers and Shelduck), geese and waders. Waders were plentiful, mostly the easily recognised Black Tailed Godwits and a darker plumage Golden Plover. Curlews, singly, searching food in marshy tributaries, recognised by their light brown colour, size and long curling bills, also by their call - a sound reflecting their isolation on mudflats, a typical sound and a reminder of nature's wilder habitats. Its call anywhere reminds me of those East Anglian wild marshes.

The two types of geese on the pools were the smaller Brent and the larger, and noisier, Pink-footed. The Brent were fewer in number and lower in flight, constantly moving from pool to pool. They have come from Eastern Russia and Canada flying over the 10,000 feet mountains of Greenland. Single flights of over 1,000 miles at a time have been reported.

The Pink-footed Geese, coming from Iceland and Eastern Greenland, travel higher in the sky in huge well controlled skeins, and then suddenly, as though on a command, breaking formation, and dropping in a kind of uncontrolled way with flailing wings, on to a convenient pool. This is known as 'whiffing', a new word to me (and checked with the BTO!). This occurs to me as being similar to the fall-out of starlings which descend from a murmuration.

Pink-footed Geese are well known on the sugar beet fields of North Norfolk—up to 112,000 at a time, which is 40% of their world population. Google on 'whiffing geese' and you will get a close-up in real time and in slow motion of the 'whiffing' action.



What a treat those three days were. How lucky with the weather and memories to look back on during the winter months.

Keep your feeders full, and I hope you all have your personal Christmas Robin.

Garden notes by Linda Simpson

It has been a lovely autumn in the main – quiet often with warm sunshine and lovely misty mornings that we usually associate with this time of the year. It's been dry though and during September I had to water a few plants that were complaining of a lack of moisture on our free draining soil.

The lack of rain though, has meant that the flowers have continued to look good for a long period. The other day I picked a large bunch of garden flowers for indoors. Many of the flowering plants were having a second flush including delphiniums, alstroemerias achillea and astrantia. It has certainly paid to deadhead these plants after their first flush of flowers. Into them I mixed chrysanthemums verbena and some grass flower/seed heads. The grasses were pennisetum Dark Desire and Molinia Moorhexe. These are both very garden worthy decorative grasses.



Pennisetum Dark Desire is a late flowering variety which quickly makes a strong clump. The leaves are around 2ft/60cms with its flower heads held above them. As the name suggests the flower heads are very dark and are 'bottlebrush' style. I have it growing both in full sun and part shade and it seems to do equally well in both, having come through last year's cold winter with no problem.

The second of these two grasses, Molinia Moorhexe I may have mentioned before but I make no apology for doing so again. It is my all-time favourite and deserves to be more widely planted. It is well behaved and looks good for most of the year.

The flower heads, on long stems held above the leaves, appear fairly early in the summer and will continue to hold themselves well until the following spring. If you can, plant it where the evening sun will catch it and show off the bronzy stems and seed heads. Even strong winds do not seem to break them and it is usually with reluctance I cut the back in late March to make way for new growth.

With the weather set to become colder I dare say that the coming weeks will see a diminution of colour in the garden. I try to curb my desire to be tidy however since many plants look as good in their dying as in their living and ornamental grasses will often take on russet and tawny hues that can look wonderful in the autumn sunshine. When the frosts do arrive many plant skeletons will also look magical outlined in a hoar frost.

Restricting clearing up to the soggy heaps some perennials become also leaves plenty of material for insects and other wildlife to hibernate in. Hedgehogs for example, in my garden, used broken ends of decorative grasses to build into a nest in between the clumps of the grasses. It's amazing how dry these nests will remain even in wet weather.

THE SHEILA RUSH PAGE

Remembrance Service. A short service was held at the War Memorial at St Mary's Church, Wortham with the laying of the wreath by Stephen Rash, Chair of W&B Parish Council, Finlay Neve of Wortham Primary School, and Mike Erith of Wortham Bowls Club. Then everyone moved into the church for the Remembrance Service which was conducted by Rector Graham Reardon with Myra Pinnell on the church organ.

The Welcome was given then the names of the fallen from the War Memorial was read by Sheila Ruch; Silent Tribute was given by Graham. The service continued with the Two Minute Silence and The Last Post and The Reveille. The reading was given by Elizabeth Clark and intercession prayers by John Scott. A collection was taken for the work of the Royal British Legion. Thanksgiving Prayers were said, the National Anthem was sung and the service ended with The Blessing. Coffee and biscuits were served at the back of the church.

Good Companions Bingo. The prize bingo was held in the village hall on Monday 12 November. It was well supported and the Caller for the event was Tom Davis. Chairman Betty Garnham thanked the Two Janets, Iris, Audrey and Tom for helping at the event, and to all the members who had donated the many lovely prizes and supported the session. £360 was made for club funds.

FOWC Christmas Party. Dick and Maureen Ling will be hosting the Friends Christmas party from 7:00 pm on Sunday 9 December at Lime Tree Farm, Long Green. There is no charge and all Friends are invited.

Father Christmas has promised to come to visit us at Wortham Village Hall again this year. He will try to make it at 5:00 pm on Friday 21 December. There will be drinks and biscuits and a short story by Santa. Tickets cost £2 per child for this very popular event and will be available from Wortham P.O and Store from early December and will be restricted to 30 children. Accompanying adults are free, maximum one per child.

School Children. Wortham Good Companions Club was invited by 74 children from Wortham Primary School to the village hall on Tuesday 20 November for their annual visit to sing Christmas Carols and songs. Head Teacher Claire Flatman welcomed everyone, and accompaniment was by Music Teacher, Janet Kenyon and several colleagues.

The event started with ***It Was A Starry Night***, then a medley of songs. ***Frosty the Snowman*** and ***Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*** followed (with movements); then ***We Three Kings of Orient Are***. Then there was a surprise for Betty the Chairman when the children sang ***How Far is it to Bethlehem***, a carol that she sang when she was a little girl more than eighty years ago. The afternoon ended with the children singing ***We Wish you a Merry Christmas***. Betty thanked the school for its visit and a donation was presented by Tom Davis. Finally refreshments were served.

Quiz Night. On Saturday 17 November, eleven teams took part in Wortham Village Hall's Quiz Night, enjoying a delicious Hog Roast as well as a wide variety of questions to test their knowledge. The winning team was The Rat Catchers closely followed by The Investors. Barry Higgs, Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee thanked all who took part, and Lee Acaster for creating an enjoyable evening. The event raised over £350 for the maintenance of the hall.

Carols Around the Christmas Tree. This will take place on Friday 7 December at 5:00 pm at Wortham Post Office and Stores. There will be mulled wine and mince pies available,

THE BATTLE'S OVER

An estimated 200 people attended the Remembrance Sunday evening event on 11 November outside The Manor House and on Long Green.



The programme started with a selection of recorded Lone Piper bagpipe music, including *Battle's O'er* and *Abide with Me*, by Pipe Major Derek Potter, pipe to H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, 2008-2012.

Stephen Rash, Chair of W&B Parish Council then welcomed the assembly, explained the national coordination taking place at that very moment, and made the following introductions.

Children from Wortham Primary School - **Tegan & Lana Sawyer, Niamh White, Finlay Neve and Olly Hinton** beautifully read the names of the WW1 fallen from the parish, who were:
Burgate – *James Brown, Fred Collins, Alfred Copping, Arthur William Nunn and Charles William Ray.* **Wortham** – *Harry Angold, Arthur Bryant, Roland W. Bryant, Frederick Collins, George H. Collins, William Cox, Leonard Crane, Christopher Dixon, Arthur W. Fake, Alfred Fiske, Gerald Goddard, Walter Gooderham, Frank Hubbard, Frank L. Hunn, Percy A. Hunn, Bernie King, John R. Kirby, George H. Nunn, Harry E. Percy, Frank Potter, Frederick Potter, Lomas Potter, Philip Potter, Wilfrid Potter, Arnold W. Rash, Charles W. Ray, Ephraim H. Sharman, Martin Sharman, Samuel H. Smith, Dennis C. Wilby, George Wilby, Augustus F. Winearls, James R. Woods.*

This was followed by ***A tribute to the Millions***, powerfully recited by local resident, **Mike Breen**.

Then **Iain Sturgeon**, former pupil at Wortham School and who attended the Methodist Chapel on Long Green, a former State Trumpeter and member of the Band of the Lifeguards, now Bandmaster of Diss Salvation Army Corps Band, played ***The Last Post*** and ***The Reveille***, separated by the Two Minute Silence. In a moving performance, his notes rang out into the evening sky with crystal clarity. It was his fourth performance of the day.



The beacon was then lit and **Susan Wright**, a Parish Councillor, read ***A Cry for Peace Around the World***.

This was followed by a recording of ***The Peal of Bells – Eight Bells- Rounds and Grandsire***. The Firework Display followed, an excellent arrangement of aerial bombardment and flashing, falling coloured sparks, courtesy of The Manor House, into which many visitors settled for a round or two of drinks to close the evening's events.

Thanks are given to all of those of Wortham & Burgate Parish Council who organised the event, to those above-mentioned who performed so well and to the hosts, Nish and Julie at The Manor House.

Mike Bowen

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. 10.00am until 12 noon. Look for the 'A' board by the side of the road.

Burgate Village Autumn Dinner



On 27th October the Church Hall was once again full with Burgate villagers and friends. As well as enjoying a very appetising three-course meal, guests also played a mini-quiz and a round of bingo between courses, followed by a raffle. In total, £275 was raised for the Friends of Burgate Church. Many thanks to all those

involved.

Poppy Appeal

The house to house poppy appeal in Burgate raised a total of £235.91 – many thanks are due to the collectors and organisers, and of course to those who generously gave. In Burgate Church the First World War memorial was covered in poppies, carefully made by Rosie and Angela Goddard.

Church Flowers

No flowers during Advent

Hall Cleaning - Fran Jones

Did you know.....

..... that you can hire Burgate Church Hall for meetings, parties and other social events? It has a very well- equipped kitchen with excellent cooking facilities, fridge, microwave and dishwasher. Toilet facilities are modern and are fully disabled accessible.

Contact Judi Tann on 01379 783302 for further details.



PALGRAVE COMMUNITY CINEMA

**DECEMBER - SPECIAL TWO FILMS DAY
FREE TO PDCC MEMBERS WITH THANKS
FOR YOUR LOYAL SUPPORT**



Saturday 8 December
3:00 pm PADDINGTON 2
FREE TO ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN, ADULTS £2.50
7:30 pm Singalong with
THE SOUND OF MUSIC



Tickets £5 each, PDCC members FREE (Dec only)

Available at Wortham Post Office & Store

Or call / leave voicemail on 0783 671 3411 and
leave name and number of tickets being reserved

Jan: MISSION IMPOSSIBLE – FALLOUT

Feb: SINGALONG - MAMMA MIA Here We Go Again

Mar: The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society

Apr: JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN

Wortham & Burgate Twinning Association



A fundraising event for Twinning was held in The Barn at Ivy House Farm, by kind permission and participation of Jacky Bradley.

Mike Bowen performed his musical presentation about the start of UK Rock'n'Pop, with over 130 hit records and short clips played to a compact, enthusiastic, singalong audience.

A selection of cold buffet items, wine and soft drinks were consumed at the intermission to enable the audience to recover their energy to sing in the second part of the show. £197 was raised for Twinning funds.

		Open Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm 01379 652241 www.thecornhall.co.uk	
Date	Category	December Diary of Events	Tickets
18 Oct-1 Dec Box Office Hours	Exhibition in the Main Gallery	The Toy Department - Gary & Jo Hincks	FREE Unticketed
31 Oct-1 Dec Box Office Hours	Exhibition in the Upper Gallery	Drawing Soldier - Douglas Farthing	FREE Unticketed
Sat 1 Dec, 7.30pm	Music	The Pure Floyd Show	£16 / Students or Under 16 £12
Mon 3 Dec, 7.15pm	Screen Arts	Royal Ballet Live - The Nutcracker	£13 / Under 18 £10
Weds 5 Dec, 10.30am 7.30pm	Matinee Evening Film	Book Club 12A	£5 / Under 18 £2.50
Thurs 6 Dec, 7.30pm	Music	Diss Jazz Club - Jazz at the Movies: A Swinging Christmas	£12
Sun 9 Dec 11am-4pm	Community	St Nicholas Fayre - in the Diss Heritage Triangle	FREE
7-31 Dec Box Office Hours	Art Exhibition in the Main Gallery & Upper Galleries	Affordable Art Exhibition	FREE
Sat 8 Dec, 7.30pm	Music	Belshazzar's Feast	£14 / Under 16 £7
19-30 Dec, various times	Pantomime	Dick Whittington - LP Creatives	£12.50 / Concs £11.50
Sat 5 Jan, 4pm & 7.30pm	Theatre	The Scarlet Pipistrelle - Common Ground	£14 / Under 21 or income support £7
		For more information about any event or activity go to www.thecornhall.co.uk or ring the Corn Hall box office on 01379 652241	

BSEVC is a registered Charity No 1004198 – Co No 2636217

Are you missing a bus service? Can you get to your nearest large shopping centre or has your bus service stopped?

Can we help by picking you up from your house and taking you to Eye to connect with the bus services to and from Diss, or to Gislingham to connect with the buses to Stowmarket?

BSEVC Connecting Communities run fully accessible vehicles on which to book a seat you only have to phone us. We have one vehicle covering the whole of North Suffolk so therefore can suggest we may be able to help you by getting you to Eye to connect with the bus services to and from Diss and Bury St Edmunds or by taking you to Gislingham to connect with the buses to and from Stowmarket. If there is a group of you from the same area we may be able to take the vehicle all the way to Diss.

We do not take bus passes, carers and children under 5 travel free and the fares taken when travelling are: 1 to 5 miles £2.40, 6 to 9 miles £3.30, 10 to 14 miles £4.20, 15 to 20 miles £5.50

We realise the need for transport within your area and are working hard to engage volunteer drivers to drive their own vehicles to provide you with a community car service. This service should be up and running by the middle of July. The community car service is slightly more expensive than the minibus but is more flexible and will travel to and from destinations inside and outside of Mid Suffolk.

We have been running community car services from Stowmarket, Debenham, and Ipswich for several years and more recently have set up a service in Kesgrave. These services have proved very popular and are a lifeline to so many people who otherwise couldn't take trips to visit relatives and friends, enjoy the sociability of clubs, attend day centres, and for the energetic Stradbroke Leisure Centre.



The most valuable service this type of transport provides is to get passengers to hospitals, health centres, and dentists. For health appointments our drivers will wait for you for no extra charge and West Suffolk and Heath Road will not charge our drivers for parking. We also get requests to take people to parties and weddings or connect with buses and trains and even to catch planes at various airports.

The charges for the community car services are 54p per mile (45p plus VAT) charged from the driver's home to you to your destination and the return for the driver to his home if he is not required to wait for you. There is a booking fee of £1.20 (£1 plus VAT) for each single journey. Travel taken in the community cars will be invoiced to passengers the following month.

Our offices are in Stowmarket and to book any of our services please ring 01449 614271 between the hours of 09.00 and 16.00, we also have an email address bookings@bsevc.co.uk. One of our office staff Katie, Francesca, Cherie or Jan will be more than happy to help you. For groups wishing to make bookings for outings and social events we operate a much larger fully accessible minibus, a 15-seater. If you are interested in this service, please contact Fran on 01449 614271 or email francesca.callan@bsevc.co.uk



MID MORNING COFFEE BREAK
**CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES,
GROUPS, CLUBS, SOCIETIES**



**WE ARE INVITING ALL OF THE ABOVE TO BE PART OF PARK RADIO.
WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU, WE WILL PLAY 3 SONGS OF YOUR
CHOICE ON AIR DURING OUR MID MORNING COFFEE BREAK!
AT NO COST TO YOU**



AT



**YOUR CHANCE TO WIN YOURSELF A PARK RADIO TEA COASTER
SIMPLY SEND US 3 SONGS OF YOUR CHOICE AND WE WILL PLAY THESE
FOR YOU DURING OUR AFTERNOON SHOW**



LAST ORDERS

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**SEND US 2 SONG CHOICES OF WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE
TO LISTEN TO JUST BEFORE WE CALL LAST ORDERS AT 11PM
SO ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS EITHER EMAIL US AT info@parkradio.co.uk
or
call us on 01379 210000**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU

Beyond the Wall – Christmas ahead

It's a damp, bleak day and the air smells of dead leaves, smoke and ploughed clay.



Wonderful, but not an encouragement to work. Outside a fire is burning; inside staff and clients *are* working - propagating plants, or preparing for the arrival of the 'Lite Bites' club. And preparations are in hand, too, for the December events.



Season's Greetings from Beyond The Wall

Beyond the Wall will be **closed for Christmas** from Saturday 22nd December and will re-open on Wednesday 2nd January.

The Christmas party will take place at Thornham Magna Village Hall on Wednesday 19th December from 12.00 – 3.00, there will be music dancing and a buffet, tickets to be purchased in advance cost £10.00 please book asap.

We are holding a **Winter Fayre** on Sunday 9th December, 1.00– 3.30pm; there will be stalls – refreshments – and live music. We would love to see you there and would appreciate your support.

Raffle tickets for this amazing Christmas cake are on sale now at Beyond the Wall. The draw will take place on the 9th December.

All monies raised from this raffle will be spent on client activities. Please support generously.



Lite Bites is a monthly lunch club, supported by members of the local community and takes place at **The Walled Garden** on the last Tuesday of each month.

Lunch includes a main meal, dessert and tea or coffee all for the amazing price of £5.00 per person.

*The lunch is served by attendees of **Beyond the Wall** and the lunch is also prepared by attendees with the support of staff.*



*It would be great if you could join us, just book in advance by leaving a message on **01379 788700**.*

A very happy Christmas from staff, trainees, volunteers and the Lite Biters, to all WOBUL readers, and editorial staff!

RICKINGHALL & DISTRICT COMMUNITY BUS

Transport Needed?



Our bus is available for hire to readers of this publication. Typical journeys include shopping trips, health centre visits, dentist, optician, chiropodist, hospital appointments and visits. The bus is also available for visiting friends and relatives, in fact, pretty well anything you need. Door to door service, any help a pleasure. Wheelchairs no problem.

Unlike other services, our community bus is cheaper, there is no membership or booking fees because everyone providing our service are volunteers - there are no paid staff. We look forward to driving you.

Please telephone Gordon on 01379 897 109 (24/7 ansaphone).

WORTHAM WALKERS

This month's Walk is on Wednesday 5th December at The Cross Keys, Redgrave, starting at 10.30 am from the pub car park and returning for lunch at 12 noon (a bit early because 'Ladies who lunch' have booked for larger numbers at 12.30.

John Scott
01379 650009



HERITAGE CIRCLE

Nick Sign, The Home Front in Suffolk 1914-1918

Nick Sign gave a very interesting talk to the November meeting of the Heritage Circle at Rickinghall Village Hall about life in Suffolk during the First World War.

The outbreak of war in August 1914 had a huge impact upon life in Suffolk. Within four days of the commencement of hostilities, the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA) was passed which gave the government significant powers to curtail individual freedoms and rights, and to censor publications which might spread 'disaffection or alarm.' Possibly its most visible impact was to limit pub opening hours.

There was a pressing need to recruit soldiers as the peace-time army was small. Canon Bignold of Carlton Colville was active in encouraging recruits from his parish. He helped recruit 50 men by the start of September 1914. The number of recruits from the area grew to 400 during 1915 but this was insufficient and so conscription was introduced in 1916 with men aged 18-41 liable for service. Unfortunately, the quality of recruits diminished, with considerable numbers deemed unfit for service. The age of recruits fell during 1917 and the size of the army was smaller in 1918 compared to the previous year.

The absence of men created opportunities for women. They drove trams and ambulances. They did local policing and worked on the post. Women were nurses, doctors, fire fighters and repaired roads. They were very active working in factories such as Garretts of Leiston where they built over 200 planes between 1917 and 1918. The company also made munitions, like Ransomes and Jefferies in Ipswich. 260,000 women joined the Land Army. Agriculture was very labour intensive, especially as many horses had been commandeered by the army. There was some mechanisation of agriculture but the hard work of women was vital in producing food. By the end of the war, 3 million extra acres of land were used for agriculture. Despite this, the rationing of sugar, meat, butter, cheese and margarine was introduced in 1918. The price of food rose but the diet of the people improved, especially for the poor. Women were paid 50% of the wages of men and were forced out of their jobs when the men were demobilised but granting the vote to women from 1918 was a recognition of their contribution during the war years.

Suffolk was vulnerable to attack by the Germans. Coastal defences were progressively improved after 1914. Batteries were placed along the coast and forts strengthened. Pill boxes were built and trenches were dug to resist invasion. Airfields were created at Covehithe and Elmswell. Felixstowe was a base for seaplanes and became a military base with civilian access to the town severely limited. Lowestoft had no defences and suffered from a surprise attack by a German naval force on 25 April 1916. The bombardment killed four people and demolished 40 houses. The raid traumatised the people and led to many sleeping in the countryside for weeks afterwards. However, the most frequent attacks came from the air. Zeppelin airships spread terror. Yarmouth was the focus of the first air raid on 19 January 1915 and was followed by Lowestoft and Ipswich in April. Butter Market in Bury St Edmunds was badly damaged by incendiary bombs in April 1915. Gradually, air defences improved with a Zeppelin shot down near Leiston in June 1917.

Some country houses, such as Hengrave Hall and Ampton Hall, became hospitals for wounded and convalescing soldiers. The Elveden estate and Hardwicke House were used for military training. The war affected all levels of society and had a profound impact on Suffolk. It was the first total war.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 23 January when Graham Higgins will give a presentation about The Real Robin Hood. New members and visitors are very welcome. Further information about the Heritage Circle is available on its website, www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net.

Gerry Gurhy

VILLAGE HALL DATES FOR YOUR DECEMBER DIARY

Morning Yoga	Tuesday	04, 11, 18	10:00 – 11:30
Midday Yoga	Thursday	06, 13, 20	11:45 – 13:15
Ballroom	Monday	03, 10, 17	18:30 – 20:30
Pilates	Wednesday	05, 12, 19	09:30 – 10:30
Gentle Exercise Mornings	Thursday	06, 13, 20	09:30 – 10:30
Gentle Exercise Evenings	Wednesday	05, 12, 19	19:30 – 20:30
W&B Sunday Club	Sunday	02	09:45 – 11:00
Junior Tennis	Monday	03, 10	13:00 – 14:00
Parish Council Meeting	Tuesday	04	19:30
Tea's Made	Wednesday	05	4:00 – 16:30
Private Function	Thursday	20	10:30 – 14:00
Private Function	Sunday	22	11:30 – 19:00
Father Christmas	Friday	21	17:00

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