

VILLAGE VOICE

The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

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orfordtownhall@tiscali.co.uk or villagevoice@live.co.uk OR PUT THROUGH THE TOWN HALL LETTERBOX

PRIORITY FOR INCLUSION IS GIVEN TO ARTICLES THAT ARE ABOUT OR DIRECTLY AFFECT THE COMMUNITY OF ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE AND INCLUSION IS SUBJECT TO EDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF SPACE

ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

NATIONAL TRUST

Following feedback from some residents it has been agreed that the Parish Council should seek a meeting with the National Trust as soon as possible. If any resident has any matter that they wish to have raised with the National Trust then please write to or 'phone the Clerk at the Town Hall (459172).

Anne Macro - CHAIRMAN ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST

ORFORD RIVERSIDE PLOTS AND BOATYARD

The New Orford Town Trust is in the process of measuring up for further storage plots for when the Orford boatyard relinquishes its lease later in the year. Plots will be located in the yard behind the Quay Office and measure 8m x 4.25m, 7m x 4.25m, 6m x 4.25m, 5m x 4.25m. We already have some expressions of interest in these plots following our recent article in the Village Voice and if any other Orford resident wishes to be considered for a plot, please contact the Clerk at the Town Hall office before the end of February, indicating which size is preferred.

It is intended that plots will be leased out on a land-only basis for a period of 5 years, with a charge of £4.55 per m² with annual increases. Lessees would be responsible for erecting their own sheds. The design would need to be approved by the New Orford Town Trust, and the lessee would be responsible for applying for planning and any other permissions which may be required. Sheds would be for storage only, with no commercial activity allowed.

In the boatyard behind the sea wall it is planned to let spaces for craft up to 25 feet on an annual, summer or winter basis. Owners will be responsible for moving their own boats. There will be more information on this later in the year when the yard has been cleared.

EMERGENCY PLANNING GROUP

The Group met recently to review the actions taken on the evening of the tidal surge on December 5th 2013 when the river was within 2-3 inches of over-topping and possibly breaching the river wall. It is thought that the breaches above Aldeburgh and the overtopping at Snape may have reduced the pressure on the river walls further downstream and thus saving Orford.

February Dates for Your Diary

Friday 7th February: **Slumdog Millionaire** - Orford Town Hall Doors open 6.30

Monday 10th February: **Village Fund Deadline**

Saturday 15th February: **St. Valentine's Ball** - Orford Town Hall 7.00pm

Saturday 15th February: **Kiss Karaoke** - Recreation Ground

Tuesday 18th February: **Gardening Club** - Sudbourne Village Hall 7.30pm

The Group's main concern was what the situation would have been if the walls had breached and allowed the river to flood the properties in the lower parts of the village. Although residents were advised by the authorities to evacuate to the Town Hall, this is only advisory and a number of residents elected to remain in their property. Had these properties been flooded then rescue would have proved a serious problem - we understand that there are 3 rescue craft available at Lowestoft for fast flowing flood water in this area, with the fire service having flood suits that are only suitable for still water up to waist height.

Clearly the Group would wish the request to evacuate to the Town Hall only be given where the threat of flooding is real.

It was agreed to put the Emergency Plan and Contacts as an insert in the Village Voice and the Link as well as sending copies to local holiday let agents.

VILLAGE FUND

The New Orford Town Trust has already made grants to 4 local organisations from its Village Fund as reported in the November 2013 Village Voice, The next applications will be considered in February 2014, and should be submitted by Monday 10th February. Please contact the Clerk for more information and an application form.

Kara Reed, Clerk. Tel 459172, orfordtrust@talktalk.net

Michael Pearce - CHAIRMAN NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST

ORFORD & DISTRICT SURGERY CHARITABLE TRUST AGM

The ODSCT has two purposes. It manages and applies funds for the benefit of users of the Orford Surgery and it oversees the ODSCT Care Fund. The Care Fund was created when the ODSCT received the residue of Esmond House Day Care Centre Charity funds in 2012 and at present it is available via the District Nursing Team to the elderly and disabled of Butley, Chillesford, Iken, Orford & Gedgrave and Sudbourne.

The AGM will be held in Bart's Hall, Orford on the Thursday 20th March starting at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

Sue Johnston - CHAIRMAN ODSCT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

BARON'S MEADOW UPDATE

Working in close partnership with Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk County Council, Orwell Housing Association developed its first very sheltered housing scheme in June 2000, consisting of six purpose-built bungalows and a day centre in Orford designed to meet the local needs of older people. In recent years a reduction of funding for both Baron's Meadow and Esmond House has compelled the Association to reconsider how it provides services in the local rural area.

Orwell was determined to maintain a care service for local people, however, due to the small number of residents at Baron's Meadow it was a challenging task to maintain a feasible service. It was clear that to maintain a local care service Orwell needed to supplement these numbers by extending the service to provide care and support to people in their own homes within the wider community. Unfortunately, despite undertaking surveys of local people in the village and surrounding area, discussions with social care professionals and local advertising, the Association was unable to find sufficient numbers to maintain a care service based at Baron's Meadow.

Consequently, after 13 years of providing a high quality care service in the village, the Association has now taken the difficult decision to end the care service based in Orford. It continues to provide the original six purpose-built bungalows and is pleased to have recently added a seventh on the site. All properties feature 1 or 2 bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, shower room and garden. They are also provided with an emergency alarm which is monitored to provide a 24 hour response, a service which does not now require applicants to have a need for care.

The Association continues to provide care and support across the region, with Deben View in Woodbridge being the closest service to Orford. We take pride in our ability to meet local needs and will always be willing to work with local people should the opportunity arise to think again about providing care and support in Orford and the surrounding area.

Stephen Javes - CHIEF EXECUTIVE ORWELL HOUSING

ORFORD FLOWER SHOW

2014 SCHEDULES NOW AVAILABLE

The schedules for the 176 class entries for the Orford, Gedgrave and Sudbourne Flower Show are now available at Friend's Garage, Orford General Store or the Newspaper Kiosk.

Please collect your copy with details of vegetable, fruit, cookery, art, photography, handicraft, children's section and all other classes.

Children under 14 are invited to "Design an outfit for a Strictly Come Dancing contestant" and under 12's can think of entering as "Any fruit, flower or vegetable" in the Fancy Dress competition.

If you have any questions please contact:

Maureen Ballentyne on 450386, Ian Castle on 450188 or Alex Smith on 459732.

Michael Bellegarde

HELP TO KEEP WARM THIS WINTER

Winter weather can create serious financial and physical challenges, especially for the elderly, disabled people and families with young children struggling to keep warm in their homes. Last year, there were more than 350 excess winter deaths in Suffolk, believed to be connected with the cold weather.

Free help and advice is at hand.

Suffolk's Warm Homes Healthy People scheme offers support to those most in need.

The scheme can help home owners or tenants who privately rent and are on a low income or in receipt of a means tested benefit. The scheme also takes into account age, disability and cold related health conditions.

If you're struggling to keep warm or are worried about the cost of heating your home, you could get help with:

Emergency boiler and heating repair costs.

Winter fuel payments.

Free home energy survey with advice on insulation, fuel switching and cheaper oil prices.

Basic draught proofing.

Temporary loan of heaters.

People with vulnerable relatives or neighbours are also urged to help them find out more about the support available.

Eligibility criteria apply. For more information, call Warm Homes Healthy People helpline on 08456 037 686 (Local rate, lines open Monday - Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm).

Warm Home Discount Scheme

Did you know that electricity suppliers can award eligible customers with a £135 Warm Home Discount? Receiving this discount won't affect your cold weather or winter fuel payment. To find out more, contact your energy supplier direct.

Please keep warm this winter.

Laura Sampson and Sandra Brown - SALC ADMIN

ORFORD TOWN HALL CINEMA

The Town Hall Cinema based in Orford, Suffolk is run by the community for the community. Our aim is to provide Orford and the surrounding villages with a real cinema experience accessible to all. We are a non-profit group screening films in the Town Hall on the first Friday of each month.

The first screening on Friday 3rd January attracted an encouraging number of people our second screening will be on Friday 7th February 2014 when we will be showing "Slumdog Millionaire" (Cert.15).

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Tickets are £5 and membership is free!

Town Hall Cinema

FEBRUARY AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Sunday 2nd February - Candlemas Sunday

08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch

11.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch

Sunday 9th February - 4th Sunday before Lent

08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch

11.00 Family Service - Mr G Marshall

Sunday 16th February - 3rd Sunday before Lent

08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev S Affleck

11.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev S Affleck

Sunday 23rd February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch

11.00 Village Service - Mr T Allen

Sunday 2nd March - Sunday next before Lent

08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch

Wednesday 5th March - Ash Wednesday

7.30pm Team Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes -

Rev D Murdoch & Team Vicars

Friday 7th March

10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer Service -

Orford Church ALL WELCOME

Rev David Murdoch

LIGHTHOUSE NEWS

Since the lighthouse was acquired from Trinity House in mid September, the aim has been to ensure that as many people as possible from the neighbourhood can visit it before it is eventually taken by the sea.

Sadly the recent storms have caused serious damage so that the beach head is now only 11 metres from the lighthouse.

There have been numerous meetings, discussions and email traffic with a host of bodies, including the National Trust, Natural England, Suffolk Coastal, English Heritage, Alde & Ore Association and of course the Parish Council, the Orford Museum and NOTT.

The plan now is to obtain planning permission for short term "soft" sea defences in an attempt to enable key features to be safeguarded in the short term and for visitors to enjoy it meanwhile.

It would be much appreciated if as many people as possible could express support for the application by contacting the local authority.

Nicholas Gold

ORFORD MUSEUM CALENDAR 2014:

THE FIRST WORLD WAR

We still have a few of these wonderful calendars showing life in and around Orford during World War I for sale at £6.50. If you still have not bought yours and would like one, they can be obtained from Friends Garage, The Orford Craft Shop or Elizabeth Spinney at Brundish Lodge, High Street, Orford. Telephone 01394 450622

or email a.spinney43@btinternet.com

Elizabeth Spinney - CHAIRMAN FRIENDS OF ORFORD MUSEUM HELP US CELEBRATE ORFORDNESS LIGHTHOUSE!

The Orfordness Lighthouse was switched off in June 2013, and this iconic building is now threatened by erosion. To celebrate our lighthouse, a unique writing competition for fiction and non-fiction has been launched. The competition is supported by Touching the Tide.

'The Orfordness Lighthouse is much more than just a building,' explains competition organiser, Liz Ferretti, 'We all felt as though we'd lost something when it was switched off. This writing competition is a creative way to celebrate a building that is as central to our community as our church or our pubs,' she continues.

'For this competition, we want you to find inspiration in the Orfordness Lighthouse and the Suffolk Coast, but what you write after that is up to you,' Liz Ferretti explains. 'A fiction category entry could be a short story or an extract from a longer work, and be in any genre - crime, literary, adventure, sci-fi... The non-fiction category could be a contemporary journalistic piece, or it could focus on history, geography and coastal processes, people, the writer's own thoughts...

The decision to decommission the Orfordness Lighthouse was made because erosion is threatening its future. 'It is important to remember that the Lighthouse has been switched off for a reason,' says Liz Ferretti. 'The Suffolk coast has always changed, but we are now seeing increased rates of erosion and fiercer storms, which are part of the broader picture of climate change. For me, the Orfordness Lighthouse is the symbol of the changes we, and everyone else on vulnerable coastlines, will be facing over coming years,' she says.

The Orfordness Lighthouse Writing Competition is one of several events organised by the local community to mark the decommissioning of Orfordness Lighthouse. In September 2013, a Seafaring Day was held on Orford Quay when local

schools and 300 visitors were treated to sea shanties and a mass hornpipe dance. The celebrations will end in September 2015 with a major exhibition on the Lighthouse by Orford Museum, and a concert in Orford Church, with a world premiere of specially commissioned music.

'I'm really excited about the Orfordness Lighthouse writing competition,' says Liz Ferretti, 'I hope it will inspire everyone to take part, whether they've written before or not. If you've always wanted to write, if you've made it your new year's resolution to start this year - this could be your chance!'

The Competition is divided into two categories: fiction and non-fiction, and three age groups: 12 and under (up to 500 words); 13-18 (up to 1000 words); Adult (up to 1500 words). There is no minimum word count but please do not submit anything over the limit. The competition opened 1st January 2014 and closes on 31st May 2014.

There are some fantastic prizes to be won, including brunch for two on the Lady Florence river restaurant and book tokens. The winning entries will be published in the EADT's Suffolk Magazine.

This writing competition is part of Touching the Tide, a three-year Heritage Lottery Funded project along the Suffolk coast between Covehithe and Felixstowe, hosted by the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

For more information and for full competition rules, please go to www.touchingthetide.org.uk. Please submit to: Bill.Jenman@suffolk.gov.uk. We prefer email submissions, but if this is not possible then send hard copy to: Bill Jenman, Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB, Dock Lane, Melton, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1PE. Please mark communications "Orfordness Lighthouse Writing Competition".

Liz Ferretti

ORFORD SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB

Orford sports and recreation club hope everyone had a good Xmas and New Year. February brings Valentine's day, and on the 15th the popular Kiss Karaoke night will be held, entry for this is £4 for non club members and £3 for club members. For interested people an annual club membership can be obtained for £10 and as the club has various social functions and also its own snooker and darts teams plus very reasonably priced drinks some of you might like to consider becoming members.

A date has been set in March for a Darts Trophy Tournament which is on Saturday 15th March more details to follow. Not forgetting our families also in March we hope to have on Sunday afternoon March 9th a family get together which if it proves popular will then be held monthly.

The sports club hall can also be booked for private functions for which a fee of £30 is charged please contact me by phone on 01394 450809 for details.

Regards to everyone

Janice Mills - CLUB SECRETARY

ORFORD AND SUDBOURNE WI

During the year 2013 Orford and Sudbourne WI have sent monies to two charities and supported, by private collections at our meetings, two events that we wished to acknowledge.

£25 to the Orford 1st Responders

£50 to the Philippines tragedy

We collected amongst ourselves

£95 to the SARS Charity

£25 to the Arthritis Trust in memory of

Margaret Cuddiford

Joan Marshall

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

A FILM BY DANNY BOYLE
VIKAS SWARUP



FRIDAY 07 FEB 7PM

TICKETS £5 NO CARDS

DOORS OPEN 6.30PM

TOWN HALL

CERTIFICATE 15

CINEMA

ORFORD

@townhallcinema

townhallcinema@gmail.com

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE 2008
120 min

A Mumbai teen who grew up in the slums, becomes a contestant on the Indian version of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" He is arrested under suspicion of cheating, and while being interrogated, events from his life history are shown which explain why he knows the answers.

Directors: Danny Boyle, Loveleen Tandan
Writers: Simon Beaufoy, Vikas Swarup
Stars: Dev Patel, Freida Pinto, Saurabh Shukla

FEBRUARY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2nd February 10.30am Stephen Caley
Sunday 9th February 10.30am CAFE WORSHIP
Sunday 16th February 10.30am Mrs Hart
Sunday 23rd February 10.30am Rev. Martin Dawes
- Communion
4.30pm TEA TABLE SERVICE

Sunday 2nd March 10.30am Stephen Caley

MONDAY'S TEA ROOM is open from 11.00am for Coffee and Lunch, closing approx 2.00pm (winter hours) - Come and see what's on the menu, no need to book!

WEDNESDAY LUNCH is at 12.45pm - this is a set meal but open to local friends and visitors, although for this, booking is essential.

SHROVE TUESDAY COFFEE with SOUP and PANCAKE LUNCH is on MARCH 4th from 11.00am - come and enjoy!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

We were a little curtailed this year due to access limitations to the church (a situation which continues), however and despite the noise of the wind moving/flapping the tarpaulin roof covers, this did not stop our 'programme' of Christmas activities and worship taking place amidst a beautifully decorated Church and Wesley Room.

The four course Advent Candlelight Supper, although with a smaller number in attendance, was a very enjoyable evening rounded off with the singing of Carols. A much larger gathering of friends were seated (some 28) for the Wednesday Christmas Lunch held on 18th December. Another traditional Festive meal followed by coffee, mince pies and Carols. Sandra was the winner of the large Christmas Hamper with other prizes distributed. Talking of meals, as we often do, Monday visitors throughout December were also provided with Christmas fare on the menu and an opportunity to shop from the selection of goodies and crafts for sale.

Almost 100 candles/nightlights were lit as we 'unfolded the Christmas story' at the Annual Carols by Candlelight Service which was again followed by a delicious Tea.

All the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany services, including on Christmas Day were very special and well received - many thanks to those who lead our services and to the 'Kitchen staff' for all their dedicated time given throughout the season.

Collections from our Christmas Services will benefit 'Children in Distress' and EACH. Generous donations were also received for Church Funds for which we thank you.

Stephen Caley GARDENING CLUB

Country folk of earlier times knew what to pick from hedges as they searched for something to eat, or a cure for their ailments. "Hedgerow foods and medicines" is the subject of our meeting on Tuesday 18th February at Sudbourne Village Hall at 7.30pm. The speaker, botanist Martin Sandford, runs the Suffolk Biological Records Centre at Ipswich Museum. He is joint author of "Flora of Suffolk", and a gifted photographer.

Lorna Davis - 459449

St Valentine's Ball



Saturday 15th February 2014

7.00pm to Midnight

Orford Town Hall

Live Music

Fine Food

Black Tie

Wine and Dine

£35

Tickets and details

Email: tmef@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 01394450093

There will be a Raffle and a Cash Bar selling wine

Ticket price includes a £10 donation to the Thomas Marshall Education Fund

in aid of

**THOMAS
MARSHALL
EDUCATION
FUND**

Supporting Secondary & Tertiary Education in Mozambique