



The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

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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

WILL HARVEY

Thank you to everyone who has supported me, Will, Simon and Lorna through the past few months.

Thank you to those who attended the funeral, those who send cards and gifts, and those who sent messages which have been a great comfort to us as we have enjoyed reading them and their words about Will.

I know that Will would particularly want me to thank Laura, Tom and Mark at Friend's Garage for their friendship and support during his time working there and their kindness over the past few months.

Thank you.

Ali Knights

**ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
NATIONAL TRUST**

The Parish Council met the Regional Director of the National Trust recently and discussed the issues and concerns that had been raised by residents. It was agreed that in future the National Trust would provide more communication with the village in the spirit of their 'Life is Local' policy which says: '...we want our properties - built or natural - to be at the centre of life in today's communities, to help grow a sense of belonging, and encourage local pride and identity.'

Meanwhile they are supporting the plans to delay the loss of the lighthouse and the preservation of its artefacts.

Anne Macro - CHAIRMAN ORFORD AND GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST
BOFFINS MEMORIAL**

The late Paddy Heazell researched the history of the Ness (Island) from 1913 when the MOD purchased the site. He then wrote a book entitled Most Secret. In the book he describes the many varied activities that took place over 70 or more years involving Orford residents, scientific, service and civilian personnel.

He promoted the idea of a Boffins Memorial (rather on the lines of Bletchley Park) as recognition of their work which assisted the 1914-18 and 1939-45 war effort as well as benefiting civilian life.

The lottery funded initiative "Touching the Tide" took this idea up and after commissioning suggestions from local artists and sculptors, consulted the NOTT on design and location. The Trust has agreed to a Pebble design with

March Dates for Your Diary

- Friday 7th March: **Casablanca** - Orford Town Hall. Cinema Doors open 6.30pm
- Sunday 9th March: **Family Afternoon** - Recreation Ground
- Monday 10th March: **Orford Community Choir** - Orford Town Hall 7.30pm
- Tuesday 18th March: **Native Trees** - Sudbourne Village Hall 7.30pm
- Thursday 20th March: **Surgery Charitable Trust AGM** - Bart's Hall 7.00pm
- Sunday 30th March: **Mothering Sunday**

engraving to be located on the flagpole plinth on the Quay. The Trustee was particularly mindful of the contribution made by local men and women on the Ness over many years. A scale mock-up will be put on display at the Saturday Country Market during March.

Touching the Tide together with the National Trust will now be raising funds to enable the work to be commissioned.

Michael Pearce - CHAIRMAN NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST

SOPHISTICATION, ELEGANCE, ROMANCE.....there was none of it, but a good time was had by all at the St. Valentine's Ball.

Guests arrived to a glass of bubbly and delicious canapés followed by an even more delicious meal lovingly prepared by Teresa and Gary Cook from the Crown Inn at Snape (which by the way is now open again for business - hurrah!) It was no mean feat to serve 108 people but Teresa and her team made it look effortless. Many, many thanks Teresa.

Guy then 'hosted' the raffle during which we were treated to his impression of Rod Gilbert due to a slight technical hitch with his vocal cords! We had some very generous prizes including dinners at local establishments and stays in local holiday homes.

This was swiftly followed by 'Handle With Care' taking centre stage and playing and singing their socks off for the rest of the evening which had everybody up and on the dance floor.

A fabulous, fun party evening..... and best of all we raised over £3000 for Thomas Marshall Education Fund.

If you want to see how TMEF is progressing or want to have a look at the pictures taken on the evening please visit our website www.tmef.org.uk

Next event: Sunday 8th June - **T4T** at Chantry Cottage
Thank you one and all for your continuing support.

Wendy Marshall

WILLIAM HARVEY

There are some people who say that in order to be fulfilled in life, you have to see the world, achieve great things in business and amass a fortune in status symbols

Will Harvey's life shows us that that is a complete lie!



In one sense, Will lived a completely unremarkable life

He was born on the 4th January 1955 in the Phyllis Memorial Home in Melton and as a new-born baby, he was brought to live on Market Hill, Orford. He stayed there until he and Alison moved to Peacock's Pyghtle in Orford, in 1991. He lived there for the rest of his life.

59 years, two houses

He was educated at Orford Primary School and Butley Secondary Modern School and at the age of 16 he went to work at Friends Garage.

43 years, one work place.

And yet, no one could call Will unremarkable! For a start, during his 43 years at Friend's Garage, he must have helped thousands of the motoring population of this area. It seems to me that Friend's Garage is at the heart of Orford and Will was such a major part of Friend's garage!

But although the garage occupied a lot of his time, he still filled his life very full with all his other interests

Living so close to the river, boats and water skiing were regular pastimes in his younger years. The pictures of young people on the beach during hot summers beside a barbecue with the river and boats in the background look wonderfully idyllic.

Then there were the cars. An impressive Mk1 Capri and equally impressive orange Escort RS2000 were his pride and joy before he settled down to his Volvos

Will often told me of his days manning the Vibration Road show travelling disco. It wasn't until Alison showed me the photo albums that I got a glimpse of DJ Will in action, complete with leather trousers!

But Will's interests were far wider than the normal young man pursuits

He loved aircraft, especially the military kind, he was fascinated by buildings, especially church buildings and he travelled many miles to see them.

The "Power of the Past" festivals were a favourite event in Will's calendar, and of course there was his great love of walking and wildlife, with his regular trips up to Minsmere and early morning walks into the local woods. Owls and Deer were his particular favourites but anything that moved and caught his eye were of interest. They were often then caught by his camera as well. The Red Deer on the back of the order of Service was one of Will's snaps, I think seen in Chillesford Wood

You see, Photography was another great interest of Will's. It seems as though he was rarely parted from his camera and as a result, Alison now has a remarkable collection of albums full of churches, traction engines, animals, planes, as well as family, local events and some particularly spectacular pictures of extreme weather. Will was out and busy with his camera after the October hurricane and there are also some pretty impressive pictures of 7ft snow drifts on the road out

of Orford. As someone who is relatively new to this area Will's photograph albums were absolutely fascinating to me.

Will was a man who was truly interested in so many things around him. I can't believe he was ever bored.

He was also interested in things and events that weren't so close. He was an avid reader, both of books and magazines, cutting out countless articles for his scrap books, things that had caught his attention and grabbed his interest.

Although there were many parts of the world that he had not seen, his breadth of knowledge was staggering and that coupled with his natural wisdom meant he could converse knowledgeably with most people about most things. His observations on life were often very perceptive and always worth listening to. He was something of a philosopher with a very clear understanding of the world around him.

Will may not have scaled the heights of big business, or travelled the world, living in many countries, but he was always such an interesting and stimulating man to be with because he was so interested and stimulated by the world around him. These were qualities that stayed with Will right to the end

Having said all that, there was something that struck many people more than his natural wisdom and breadth of knowledge. And that was his sense of humour.

Over the past week or so, many people have described it to me as "dry", several as "lovely" and one "quirky".

He was usually understated, but you rarely spent long with Will without him giving you something to smile or laugh about.

His humour was a gift and he used it to very good effect, not to drag people down. Whether it was in welcoming people into church here, giving me more bad news about my cars, or just brightening up the world for just about everybody he spent time with, his humour was always welcome.

During his last few days in hospital, his sense of humour didn't desert him.

But if there was something that struck me more about Will, especially in the last few months, it was his obvious love for and devotion to Alison, Simon and Lorna. His pride in them and gratitude for them.

Will was a man who was blessed in many ways, he had so many interests and attributes. But there was no question as to where his priorities lay, what gave him most pleasure.

He seemed to me to have grasped the secret of happiness in this world. He loved discovering the world around him, but appeared deeply content and thankful for what he had been given.

All of these things combined made Will an absolutely brilliant person to know

The last thing I want to mention was his calmness and confidence as he faced death. There was no ranting, no self pity. Just the firm assurance that God knew what he was doing and Will was trusting him.

The hymns that he chose, speak volumes! "What a friend we have in Jesus" "Behold the man upon his cross, my sin upon his shoulders" Read them again when you get home. As Will faced death, his eyes were on Jesus

William Harvey - Born 4th January 1955, Died 2nd February 2014, living a full and happy life in Orford! A truly wonderful man for whom we all should thank God.

Visit www.stbaptist.co.uk to hear the service.

Eulogy by:

Dave Rushbrook MINISTER: SUDBOURNE & TUNSTALL BAPTIST CHURCH

WILLIAM HARVEY

William and Alison were two of the "original" shared-equity owners in Peacocks Pyghtle, completing their purchase in late 1991. In June 1996, William was elected a member of the committee of the Orford & Gedgrave Housing Association - a position he held continuously until his death.

He was a conscientious and helpful committee member; his contributions at committee meetings were sometimes wry, often funny, always thoughtful. All Peacocks Pyghtle residents have reason to be grateful to William for the work he put in on their behalf. He will be sadly missed.

Geoffrey Smeed (HON. SECRETARY, O.G.H.A.)

MARCH AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Sunday 2nd March – Sunday next before Lent

08.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

Wednesday 5th March – Ash Wednesday

7.30pm Team Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes -
Rev D Murdoch & Team Vicars

Sunday 9th March – Lent 1

08.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

11.00am Family Service – Mr G Marshall

Sunday 16th March – Lent 2

08.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

11.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

Sunday 23rd March – Lent 3

08.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

11.00am Village Service – Mr T Allen

Sunday 30th March – Lent 4: Mothering Sunday

08.00am Holy Eucharist – Rev D Murdoch

11.00am Family Service – Rev D Murdoch
& Mr G Marshall

Rev David Murdoch

FEBRUARY AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2nd March 10.30am Stephen Caley

Sunday 9th March 1st Sunday in Lent

10.30am Chris Finbow

Sunday 16th March 10.30am Service lead locally
4.30pm TEA TABLE SERVICE

Sunday 23rd March 10.30am Rev Martin Dawes
- Communion

Sunday 30th March Mothering Sunday
10.30am Rev Graham Thompson
(Chair of the District)
with coffee, tea and cake afterwards

Every Monday 11.00am – 2.00pm : Church Tea Room open for Morning Coffee & Lunch and offering a selection of preserves, biscuits, sweets, cards plus Art & Craft. This is a 'walk in' tea room - no need to book up, though most Mondays are very busy! You will have to wait a while longer before we change to our 'Summer time' opening Wednesday Lunch is served at 12.45pm for this 'set meal' it is essential you book – visitors very welcome!

SHROVE TUESDAY 2nd MARCH - SOUP AND PANCAKE LUNCH - serving Coffee from 11.00am

Please note: The Lent Discussion Group is postponed - however it is hoped to use the material from 'Embrace the Middle East' later in the spring or early summer.

ORFORD'S NEWS

What a relief to see the Church Building Specialists arrive to start work on the structural repairs to the front of the church building. A keen start has been made and with more scaffolding and plastic sheeting towering (almost) the height of the Castle! - (how has all this stayed upright with the force of such strong winds which we are experienced of

late?, not to mention the workforce having to cope with this hazard). Some of the stonework has returned from the Stone Mason's yard and will be reused in the process. In the meantime we have pedestrian access, but limited vehicle access to the yard. However, don't stop coming along, all is safe and well!

Café worship is always appreciated as are our Tea Table Services - both styles of worship are thought provoking and not only provide spiritual food but also delicious eats too - check the diary pages for the next session!

Stephen Caley GARDENING CLUB

"An Introduction to Native Trees and their Importance to People and Wildlife". That is the topic of our meeting on Tuesday March 18th in Sudbourne Village Hall at 7.30pm. This is an alteration of our programme. Originally Sally Hopher was going to speak about the "Joy of Spring Gardens", but now that she has recently started work for the Woodland Trust, she has chosen an arboreal theme.

Our Summer outing is to Elsing Hall in Norfolk on Wednesday July 2nd - a date for diaries, details later.

Lorna Davis 459449

LIGHTHOUSE NEWS

Some good news. After a lengthy battle, the National Trust finally agreed to withdraw their opposition to any form of sea defences to the lighthouse which has had a miserable time with the winter storms taking up to 4 metres in a night. The beach head got to within 7 metres of the base of the main building.



Emergency works were necessary and with a lull in the weather some temporary stabilisation defences have now been put in place. These were devised by Andrew Hawes, the geo-technical engineer from Aldeburgh. A digger and driver were very generously lent by Robert Orford who is restoring Saham Cottage on Quay Street. Babcocks provided their landing craft to get the heavy

equipment and materials over and Ollly Page took everyone to and fro on his fishing boat. The hard labour was provided by a valiant team from Orford and around. These included Peter Benstead, John Oakes, Mark Thacker, Jason Milne, Damion Bailey as well as Ollly Page. It was quite a task bagging up the gravel from the beach into large builders' bags and then wrapping and heat welding them all into a long geotextile roll at the top of the beach. But by the end of a week, the work was done and everyone was knackered! Congratulations and thanks to everyone involved. Fingers crossed these efforts survive long enough to allow recovery of the key features and enable all who want to visit to do so.

Finally, solar powered lights have now been fitted on the top so that the lighthouse can once again be seen at night from both Orford and as far as Thorpeness.

Nicholas Gold





NATIONAL TRUST

Last year marked the 20th anniversary of the National Trust's acquisition of Orford Ness from the Ministry of Defence in 1993. We were very pleased to be invited to contribute to this issue of Village Voice, to provide this update about our activities on the Ness.

Orford Ness is a vitally important landscape, notable for its natural significance and historic buildings. The Trust manages places for the long term, which means thinking about any decisions we may make today in terms of the impacts for years or even centuries to come.

As many people will be aware, there has also been considerable erosion in front of the lighthouse recently and we are working with the newly formed Orford Ness Lighthouse Company to help plan the next steps. The Company assumed ownership of the Lighthouse in September 2013, following its purchase of the building from Trinity House.

All of us at the Trust share the sadness of local people about the likely loss of the Lighthouse from the Orford Ness horizon. However, for the last 20 years the rate and speed of erosion at this part of the coastline has been very rapid. The storms and flooding many parts of the country have been experiencing since December have demonstrated that it is just not possible to defend all of our coastlines from the destructive power of nature when unleashed. The National Trust has a policy of adapting to and working with natural processes where possible. Sad as it is, we believe that the only realistic option for this historic and well-loved building is to allow natural processes to run their course.

That said, we are supporting the efforts of the Orford Ness Lighthouse Company to continue with the plans developed by Trinity House to ensure that the historic features and fittings in the lighthouse can be saved before they are lost forever. We are not opposed to the planning application for time limited, temporary, 'soft defences' of shingle filled bags which may help buy enough time for the historically important artefacts to be removed. We understand that the bags will be removed once the work to remove the artefacts is completed or if there is evidence of damage to the wider Ness as a result of the temporary defences.

The day after the storm surge event on 6th December 2013, a breach occurred in the American Wall in Lower

Lantern Marsh. We have been working with Natural England, the Environment Agency and Babcock Group to gather information about the extent of the breach and develop a Scope of Works. This includes topographical surveys, condition assessment and the development of outline proposals and cost estimates. The breach is a complex and technically difficult issue and with our partners we are thinking hard about next steps, as some of the options could potentially have impacts on the estuary as a whole.

I hope this update has been helpful. I know that there is a desire locally for people to feel better informed about the Trust's work. For that reason, in addition to our annual community day the Trust will be hosting two public drop-in meetings each year to share updates about the Ness at which anyone locally will have the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about our work on the Ness.

In the meantime I am always happy to hear from anyone with any issues or queries relating to our role on the Ness. Please 'phone me on 07808 889545 or email me on martin.atkinson@nationaltrust.org.uk, or drop into our quay-side office to speak directly to one of the team.

Martin Atkinson - GENERAL MANAGER

ORFORD SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUB

A new month and hopefully a better one for all of us weather wise, the hut on the rec ground survived the gales and wet weather which for you all is good news as our March social calendar is quite full. Saturday 1st March is a bingo night which is always very popular with a lot of you. Sunday 9th March will be a family afternoon so come along and whatever the weather decides to throw at us have a break from being stuck indoors. For the darts lovers who like playing or just watching, a darts tournament takes place on Saturday 15th March, an evening which will also include a BBQ is going to be one not to miss. Entry for the darts tournament is £2 and a special cup for the winner will be awarded, there are also other prizes on offer. Keeping on the sporting theme a race night will be held on Saturday night 29th March this is in aid of a children's charity but means you can all have the fun of being an owner trainer or jockey of your own horse, this is bound to be great fun and a way of helping a good cause plus the chance to have what could possibly be a nice little windfall [unless of course your horse falls at the first fence]. Look out for posters around the village with all the details of these events. Thank you to everyone who has paid their due annual membership fees, and lastly please remember the hut can be booked for private functions.

Janice Mills - CLUB SECRETARY

A CHOIR FOR THE PEOPLE OF ORFORD

Community Choirs are popping up all over the place. Thousands of people are finding inspiration and enjoyment up and down the country. It doesn't matter if you're not perfect. Being in a Choir is about producing a wonderful blended sound, singing for pleasure, having fun and learning something new.

The aim of the Choir is to bring people together, sing for fun and support the local community. We will sing anything from World, Pop, Gospel, Folk, and all the stuff in between!

Come along to our launch on Monday 10th March 7.30pm at Orford Town Hall (small room).

Weekly rehearsals will begin the following Monday 7.15pm - 9.30pm with a very small cost of £3.

If you have any questions, Contact 01394 420486

email: orfordcommunitychoir@gmail.com

Rachael Tecklenberg