

# VILLAGE VOICE

The newsletter for the community of Orford and Gedgrave

ISSUE No. 284 NOVEMBER 2015

**Edited by:** Roger Hipwell **Published by:** Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council and New Orford Town Trust **Printed by:** Leiston Press Ltd.

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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

Also available online at [www.orford.org.uk/community/parish-council/village-voice/](http://www.orford.org.uk/community/parish-council/village-voice/) or by email from [villagevoice@live.co.uk](mailto:villagevoice@live.co.uk)

## COBRA MIST NEWS

The Cobra Mist site is a spooky part of the Ness. Originally built as an early warning over-the-horizon radar station at the height of the Cold War it cost



nearly £1 billion to construct in today's money. It then used to transmit the BBC World Service.

The building, even though it may be ugly, is in good condition and is capable of being used for activities which could create and sustain local employment.

The Cobra Mist site has however been flooded for nearly two years. Many will not realise that the flooding did not come about simply as a result of the tidal surge in December 2013, but because of the National Trust omitting to reinforce and then repair a short section of what is known as the "American Wall". This is about a mile and a half South of the Martello tower - on the National Trust's land.

The background is that in 1993 when the National Trust came to Orford they expressly agreed to prevent flooding of the Cobra Mist site, in addition to having the usual legal duties of care towards neighbours. Regrettably, once the MoD left, such duties were largely ignored. River walls were not maintained as before and a breach was deliberately made in 1998 in a section of the river wall in Upper Lantern Marshes closer to Aldeburgh. This was done without ensuring that the next line of defence - the American Wall - would be sufficient as a flood defence.

As it deteriorated, an investigation on the American Wall was made by independent experts in 2008 who advised the National Trust that, unless suitable repairs were carried out, it was very likely to breach in the short term, even without any tidal surge. Regrettably this advice was ignored. The situation was then made worse when the wall top and sides were damaged by National Trust vehicles using the wall as a roadway. The present flooding is the result.

Apart from the difficulty of using the Cobra Mist site, there are other repercussions which could well concern everyone in the village. As a result of the flooding and no maintenance, there is a stretch of approximately one and a half miles of the river wall on the other side of the river which is now being undermined by a very substantial body of water (approximately 600 acres) on the Ness which shouldn't be there. If the wall fails it could make Orford itself much more vulnerable to serious long term flooding.

A second issue is the damage that is being done to the river banks as a result of the increased amount of water coming in and out of the estuary every day to fill the unseen Cobra Mist site. Apart from creating additional scouring of the walls, readers may have noticed that the speed of the tide has increased near the quay. This is the main reason. Finally, apart from the loss of natural habitat caused by the flooding, there is a concern that quantities of creosote are now leaching into the Lantern Marshes and then the estuary from nearly a quarter of a million impregnated railway sleepers that make up the roadways around the Cobra Mist site. They are starting to emerge in quantities from the aerial site as a result of being submerged. Creosote is toxic to humans and wildlife.

Obviously Cobra Mist Limited is trying to do its bit, but any help that readers can give to persuade the National Trust to behave in the interests of Orford and its wider community would be much appreciated.

## November Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November: **Orford Bonfire and Fireworks**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November: **Remembrance Day Service** - St Bartholomew's Church

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November: **Armistice Day** - Orford War Memorial.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November: **Christmas Craft Fair** - Orford Town Hall

So that everyone can see for themselves the damage that has been created by the flooding, readers are encouraged to walk down from the Martello tower to see the breach and the extensive flooding that has occurred. You will also see how vulnerable the whole estuary now is to a possible breach from the sea. Please keep to the main track which Cobra Mist has a right of way over. Permission is not required from the National Trust.

On the plus side, readers may be interested to know that the company is in discussion with a broadband operator which is keen to use the Cobra Mist site to provide very high speed broadband (maybe up to 100Mb) to areas around and beyond Orford which currently suffer a dire service. There is also the possibility of another operator using one of the high masts to provide a significantly improved mobile service to the area.

**Nicholas Gold - COBRA MIST LIMITED**

## ORFORD SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

We, the club, would very much like to thank everyone who contributed to the refurbishment of the building. We now have a lovely club house which can be hired for events such as parties, fundraising, functions etc. as well as club nights. To hire the hall please contact Mark Lambert 450434 or Julie Thacker 450538.

Upcoming events for November are:

**Children's Halloween Disco Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**Annual Pool competition 14<sup>th</sup> November**

**Quiz Night Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

**Bingo Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

Remember we are a family orientated club and we welcome new members or if you would like to join the committee and help manage the club you would be very welcome. We have a full size snooker table, darts, ping pong table and pool table as well as organising other events. We are also fully licensed for alcohol and music events.

**Julie Thacker - CLUB SECRETARY**

## ORFORD BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

This year's Bonfire Night will be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 6.00pm, field adjacent to Mill Close. If in doubt look for smoke and flames!

**Nicky Ehlert**

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

Remembrance Day service in Orford church starting at 10.45

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November**

Armistice Day A brief ceremony with two minutes silence at the Orford War Memorial.



**Peter Hamilton-Jones**

## NOVEMBER AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November - All Saints' Day  
08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev Dr J Hare
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November - 3 before Advent  
08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch  
10.45 Remembrance Sunday Service - Rev D Murdoch
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November - 2 before Advent  
08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev S Affleck  
11.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Christ the King  
08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Advent Sunday  
08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch  
11.00 Cluster Advent Carol Service - Ms J Bishop
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Advent 2  
08.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch  
11.00 Holy Eucharist - Rev D Murdoch

One or two new distributors for the Link magazine are needed. If you feel you might be able to help please contact Shirley Smith 459128.

**Rev David Murdoch**

## NOVEMBER AT ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
10.30am Stephen Caley  
3.00pm AFTERNOON TEA & SING SERVICE
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November REMEMBRANCE  
10.30am Traditional Remembrance Service  
Followed by Soup & Pud Lunch
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November PRISON WEEK  
10.30am Heather Bentley
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November YOUTH SUNDAY  
10.30am Rev Martin Dawes - Communion
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November ADVENT SUNDAY  
10.30am Stephen Caley - Followed by Soup & Pud Lunch
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December  
10.30am Stephen Caley

MONDAY TEA ROOM - open for Morning Coffee and Lunch from 11.00am - 2.00pm Winter timing!

Recommended as 'The best eating place open on Monday in Orford'  
Wednesday Lunch at 12.30pm continues to serve an excellent and affordable meal - booking is essential for this!

Harvest Festival and Thanksgiving was celebrated with a wonderful display of produce, grocery and flowers. Our service was dedicated to 'Farmers' and with a new song to sing 'Push little seed' - learning and singing this was fun and some even managed to put actions to the song and music! Afterwards everyone stayed for coffee and harvest lunch which was another successful and delicious meal - with 11 out of 10 as one diner quoted! Many thanks for generous gifts toward the harvest display and donations of money and not forgetting Pam's excellent lunch preparation.

We recently held special lunch to mark 16 years of Wednesday Lunch. It all started in 1999 following weekly Lent lunches with a request to repeat similar lunch sessions during the Autumn and Wednesday lunch has been ever since, except that instead of a simple 'Lent style lunch' we now enjoy a two course meal. Numbers attending each Wednesday nowadays is much smaller - however we were encouraged to 'bring a friend' along to the 16th 'Birthday Meal' and all those in attendance enjoy a 1st class meal, cake and 'party gifts' to take home! This is a good time to thank all those who prepare, cook, serve and clear away. Thank you all very much.

**Stephen Caley**

## GARDENING CLUB

Calling all potential new members!!! New Venue and day of the week in 2016!!

From January 2016 we will be moving to 'the back room' at Orford Town Hall and to the first Thursday of each month. This is so that the Gardening Club meeting will not clash with so many other local events and we hope more of you will join us!!

We have an exciting programme in the making which includes:

Crown Nurseries on "Unusual trees and ornamental shrubs that grow well in the area"

Sarah Cook of Malmaison talking about "Roses and Irises"

Elaine Heeler at Valley Farm Vineyard discussing planting and maintenance of vines together with sampling!!!!

Funghi walk and talk by Dr Tony Leech "The good, the bad and the ugly"

Watch this space for more information or contact me about joining ...

**Polly Sharkey - creativefutures98@btinternet.com**

**01394 450959**

## THE ALDE AND ORE ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON HOW WE PROTECT OUR ESTUARY COMMUNITY**

The Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership has been working with County and District councils and statutory bodies to develop a plan for the future management of the river defences to protect the Estuary, including businesses, houses, land and wildlife, and the local economy. The Partnership has now completed the Estuary Plan and a public consultation begins on 5<sup>th</sup> November.

This is your opportunity to get involved and it is important to hear your views about the plans we propose as your feedback will help shape the final document. We would like to hear from everyone who visits, lives or works in the Estuary from Snape in the north to Shingle Street in the south.

### **VISIT OUR DROP-IN EVENTS**

**SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER - Aldeburgh Church Parish Hall**

Victoria Road Aldeburgh 9.30am - 1.00pm

**THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER - Snape Maltings**

Oyster Bar 2.00pm - 7.00pm

**THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER - Orford Town Hall**

Market Square Orford 2.00pm - 7.00pm

You can also download the consultation documents from 5<sup>th</sup> November at [www.aoepp.co.uk](http://www.aoepp.co.uk) or view them at Suffolk Coastal District Council Offices at Melton or Parish Offices or at Aldeburgh or Woodbridge libraries or contact us by email at [aoepconsultation@gmail.com](mailto:aoepconsultation@gmail.com). Your comments are very valuable to us, and will help determine the future shape of the estuary so please let us know your views.

The consultation closes on 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**Mandy Bettinson**

## ORFORDNESS LIGHTHOUSE FILM

Veronica Worrall is pleased to say she has finally put her film:

### **"Tribute to Orfordness Lighthouse"**

on Youtube (38mins)

This means it is now available to anyone with internet connection

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBw0Cf25bYg&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBw0Cf25bYg&feature=youtu.be)

## BOOK STALL AT THE CHURCH BAZAAR ON SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2015

We are always so grateful to all of you who supply us with books to sell on this stall. We find that those that sell best are novels of all kinds, biographies, autobiographies and history and travel books. We CANNOT sell old cookery books, old gardening books, magazines (new or old) or videos and cds. It is really difficult to dispose of large quantities of these afterwards as even the charity shops do not want them so, please, please could you take them to the book banks to be found at all the household waste sites rather than bringing them to us.

**The Bookstall Team**

## SUDBOURNE ART GROUP

We would like to invite you to join the Sudbourne Art Group this autumn if you have an interest in art. We are a small friendly group of amateur artists who have got together to support and learn from each other. We work with a wide range of subjects and mediums from pastel landscapes, oil portraits, animal pencil drawings and watercolour still life, so there is usually someone who will try their best to help with any questions on techniques or materials if you are a beginner or want to try something new.

You are free to concentrate on your own work, but we also try to vary what we do to go beyond our comfort zones. Once a month we model for each other (fully clothed, I hasten to add) to sharpen our figure drawing skills, and also once a month, draw or paint a still life together. We have had over the past year a session painting outdoors, sessions on palette knife painting and monoprinting, two sessions on painting portraits in oil, others on how to tackle a still life, perspective and colour. We have had a mixed media workshop by Suffolk artist Dawn Pretty, and hope to be able to hire a professional model to draw and paint from in the future. Thanks to the £3 paid by members each week, we have built up a good selection of books to borrow, basic materials for enable people to experiment with unfamiliar media, and mountboard and cutter to set off our work.

Once again several members did very well at the 2015 Orford Flower Show in the art categories, and we are considering mounting an art exhibition of our own next year. With all this and coffee and biscuits too, we hope you will consider joining us!

We meet every Tuesday from 10.00am to 12noon at the Sudbourne Village Hall. There is ample parking.

For more information call Kay Briggs on 01394 459874.

**Kay Briggs**



## UPDATE ON THE ORFORD "BOFFINS" MEMORIAL



Already over half the c.£10,000 needed for the Orford Ness memorial has been raised, from private donors plus the contributions from Touching the Tide, the New Orford Town Trust, and the National Trust.

The working group, which also includes Orford Museum, met recently and pencilled in next September for installation on the old crane plinth on the quay - it was important to avoid school holidays when the area is at its busiest. The group also agreed to approach some of the larger organisations with historical links, to ask them to contribute too.

You can help reach the target at Justgiving; [www.justgiving.com/National-Trust-Orford-Ness-National-Nature-Reserve/](http://www.justgiving.com/National-Trust-Orford-Ness-National-Nature-Reserve/) or by post; to Lisa Smith, The National Trust, East of England Regional Office, Westley Bottom, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3WD. The NT are acting as bankers for the project, so please make cheques payable to The National Trust. Don't forget that the Chancellor will add another 25% if you fill in a gift aid form!

Any surplus will be passed to the New Orford Town Trust for future maintenance.

### **Bill Jenman - TOUCHING THE TIDE PROJECT MANAGER ORFORD BADMINTON CLUB**

Now that the dark evenings are upon us, as you draw the curtains how are you going to fill the evening's void? Why not come along and join us at the Town Hall on a Wednesday evening (7.00pm - 9.00pm) for a game of Badminton. You don't need any experience of the game (watch some of our players and you'll understand why!). All you need is a pair of trainers and a modicum of enthusiasm, we will supply the rest. We also play on Monday mornings (10.00am - 12.00noon). Any further information please ring Jill Robinson on 01394 450976

### **Jill Robinson**

### **KING'S HEAD NEWS**

Now the excitement of the Rugby World Cup is all over the TV goes back in to the cupboard for a while. Thanks to everyone who came along to watch and cheer on their respective nations.

Thanks to everyone for their patience during the essential building works we had during October, especially for the over run by one day. We have had a new oil tank, boiler and pressurised system fitted, as well as having the bar area fully re-wired along with a few other electrical elements.

We are delighted to welcome Emma Moss to our kitchen team, alongside Suzanne and Zoe we look forward to creating some more culinary delights for our menu.

If you have passed the pub I am sure you will have seen Hannah's signboard and you will know our first food themed night is fastly approaching with only a few spaces left. So if you fancy a French Feast then book fast for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November, at 8.00pm.

Quiz Night continues on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm, a chance to rack your brains and answer the questions pitched by the Gardiner/Millband team. Only £1 per person to enter and winner takes all - and then gets to set the next quiz.

Looking forward to December on the 12<sup>th</sup> we have live music from Soul Serenity, an acoustic duo covering a wide selection of music over recent decades. More live music on the 23<sup>rd</sup> with David playing Christmas Carols and Songs, and hopefully you providing the voices; a good old fashioned sing song in the bar. The last day of 2015 sees Dave Taylor performing live to see us in to the New Year.

On the sports front our Darts team have been putting in some much improved performances but still await that allusive victory, don't forget if you fancy a game contact Matthew Smy or just call in at the pub. With more wins behind them it is great to see Real Orford F C making a great start in this return season.

The Adnams Pub Awards voting closes on 1<sup>st</sup> November and we would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to vote for us, it is much appreciated. If you haven't voted you still can at [www.adnams.co.uk/pubawards](http://www.adnams.co.uk/pubawards) until midnight on the 1st.

As always we look forward to seeing you all in the pub over November, where the wood burners will be providing that much needed nice warmth.

**Ian & Suzanne Ballantine - [thekingsheadorford@gmail.com](mailto:thekingsheadorford@gmail.com)**

## THE CHARPENTIER CONSORT

Presents

CREATOR OF THE STARS of NIGHT

An Advent Miscellany

at

ORFORD CHURCH

for the benefit of Orford Church Fabric Fund

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 p.m.

Tickets: £12 at the door

(including interval refreshments)

payment by cash or cheque

Please reserve tickets in advance:

[jackimaslin@btinternet.com](mailto:jackimaslin@btinternet.com) 01394 450799

[lizzie.fargher@gmail.com](mailto:lizzie.fargher@gmail.com) 01394 450266



## ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2015 FROM 2.00pm

The popular annual Christmas bazaar will be held in the Church from 2.00pm on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December with 80% of the proceeds for the Church Fabric and 20% going to the Thomas Marshall Education Fund.

Always a great start to Christmas. Come along with your family and friends and have some fun on the Human Christmas Machine, bottle tombola and raffle and grab bargains galore from the Bric-a-Brac and Book Stalls. Pick up those 'must have' gifts from the Christmas Stall which will be full of edible Christmas goodies and the latest limited 'knitted Christmas editions' of Father Christmas, snowmen, angels and robins.

Refresh yourselves with delicious mulled wine, mince pies, teas and cakes and listen to Nick Raison playing your seasonal favourites on the piano.

The Toy Stall, Father Christmas, bran tub and other games will help keep the children amused.

Any items that you can offer to be sold, raffled or put on the bottle tombola would be greatly appreciated and can be brought to the Church on the Friday afternoon (4<sup>th</sup>) and on the morning of the bazaar, or alternatively contact the people below.

### **Books**

Dizzy Spinney Brundish Lodge, High Street 450622

### **Bottle Tombola**

Suki Pearce Beacon Cottage, Broad Street 450011

### **Toys**

Shirley Smith The Old Police House, Ipswich Road 459128

### **Cakes**

Rosemary Unwin 53, Church Street 450362

### **Raffle**

Christine Murdoch The Rectory, Front Street 450336

### **Bric-a-Brac**

Caroline Gill Seawinds, Gedgrave Road 450302

### **Christmas Stall**

Wendy Marshall Chantry Cottage, Gedgrave Rd 450090



### **MACMILLAN NURSES**

At the coffee morning held on 21<sup>st</sup> September the sum of £276.50 was raised.

Thanks to all who supported and helped on the day - a great result.

**Betty Sykes**





**Orford Bonfire and Fireworks**  
**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Ipswich Road**  
**from 6.00pm**  
**Come and join in the fun**

**All Saints' Church  
 Hollesley**

**Craft Fair**

**Saturday 21 Nov  
 10.30am - 4pm**

*Craft items,  
 cakes and  
 produce stall,  
 books, children's  
 games & raffle*

**Light lunches  
 Refreshments  
 all day**



**CHRISTMAS STAY & PLAY**

Children's Play Session for children  
 aged 0-5 years and their families  
**1.00pm – 2.30pm**

ORFORD RECREATION GROUND PAVILION  
 ORFORD IP12 2NY

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
 HOLLESLEY VILLAGE HALL  
 HOLLESLEY IP12 3QU

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December

For more information please call  
 Rendlesham Children's Centre on (01394) 462191

*Starting January:  
 'Let's Play' sessions at Hollesley and Orford.  
 More information soon!*



'Garden of Eden' etching by Jan Tagg

**Sudbourne Park Printmakers**

**WINTER  
 EXHIBITION  
 OF ORIGINAL PRINTS**

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Open 10.00 am – 4.00 pm with mulled wine  
 and mince pies

Bothy Yard, Sudbourne Park IP12 2AJ  
 (off the B1084 Orford Road)

[www.sudbourneprintmakers.com](http://www.sudbourneprintmakers.com)



**CHRISTMAS  
 CRAFT  
 FAIR  
 ART AND CRAFTS  
 AT  
 ORFORD  
 TOWN HALL  
 ORFORD**

**SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

**10:00am to 4:00pm**

**BUY LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS  
 HAND MADE GIFTS AND GOODIES**

**FREE ADMISSION - REFRESHMENTS**

**NO PARKING PROBLEMS - NO CRUSH**

**FRIENDLY SERVICE - ORIGINAL PRESENT IDEAS**

**ORFORD TOWN HALL MARKET HILL ORFORD IP12 2NZ**

**PROCEEDS TO ORFORD SHRIMPS PLAYGROUP**

**Christmas  
 Bazaar**

**St Bartholomew's Church Orford  
 Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December from 2.00pm**



Refresh yourselves with delicious mulled wine, mince pies, tea and cakes and  
 enjoy Nick Raison playing your seasonal favourites on the piano

Proceeds to St Bartholomew's Church and the Thomas Marshall Education Fund