

WOBUL

Wortham & BUrgate Letter



Your monthly community and local information

November 2015

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Palgrave Community Cinema – *Far from the Madding Crowd*
- 3 WABTA – Twinning News
- 4 WABTA – Forthcoming Events Suffolk Gardens Trust
- 5 Red Cross Support at Home service
- 6-7 Sheila Rush Reports
- 8 Better Broadband to Suffolk – Sponsored Internet opportunity
- 9 The Burgate Singers present JEPHTHA
- 10 SCC – Empowering Children ... Emma’s Jumble Sale
- 11 Something Happened at Christmas
- 12 Garden Notes by Linda Simpson
- 13 Bill’s Birds for October
- 14 Bill’s Birds for November
- 15 Borderhoppa An Amazing Result!
- 16 Friends of Wortham Church, Reports & Future Events
- 17 Wortham Village Hall’s Quiz Night
- 18-19 Heritage Circle – September & October reports, November event
- 20 Burgate Village News
- 21 Dates for your November Diary

PUBLIC MEETING

To view plans for a proposed
NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
on land adjacent to the A143 Wortham
on
Tuesday 3rd November, 7.30pm
at
Wortham Village Hall
All welcome

New Look Community Centre and new comfortable chairs

Saturday 7 November, 7:30pm



Sat 14 Nov 7:30pm



Sat 28 Nov 7:30pm

Kate Winslet

A LITTLE CHAOS

Licensed bar and Ice Creams during the intermission

NEW WEBSITE – www.palgravecinema.co.uk

YOU CAN NOW BOOK ONLINE AND PAY AT THE DOOR;
Reserve from robert.moore321@btinternet.com and pay at the door;
or BUY TICKETS FROM Wortham Post Office & Store

TICKETS £5 each

Murder Mystery Evening

40 members and friends joined in the fun when we held an interactive Murder Mystery Evening. We never suspected we had such acting talent in the Twinning and everyone certainly entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of the evening.



Set aboard the SS Libertania en route for Southampton in August 1914, Captain Bayard (alias Chris Grocott) started, the evening after welcoming the guests, by announcing that Britain had declared war on Germany.

Unfortunately before he could talk to the guests about this the lights went out and the good Captain was shot (Chris was later reincarnated as a passenger. First Office Daniel Warren (Andy Phillip) quickly took charge

and the ship sailed on.



During the voyage passengers and crew had to try and influence events according to the character briefing that they had been given at the start of the evening. Some got so into their role that they started inventing things and had to be gently guided back to their brief by Andy Simpson who acted as host/ adjudicator.



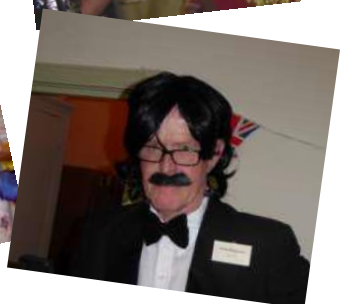
At the end of the evening Andy asked people to point out who they thought the murderer was (it was Stewardess Catherine New -Chrissy Odams) – only one got it right – Fran Weaver a guest (a lucky guess perhaps?). She won a bottle of wine.

A bottle of wine was also won by Ian Luff for his convincing role play as Second

Officer David Whitworth. The raffle prize (a magnum of Prosecco and two champagne flutes) was won by Alan Cowham.



The evening was judged a bit complicated but great fun and raised £383 profit for Twinning funds.



WABTA - Forthcoming Events

Christmas Market Hédé Sunday 6th December.

Pam and Gerry Gurhy, Lynn Clarke, Joy Cornish and Katherine Hughes will be travelling to Hédé in December to sell produce, crackers and gifts at the Hédé Christmas market. Popular with French shoppers there is usually a regular clientele of customers returning each year to buy marmalade, pickles, mincemeat and lemon curd. Crackers are always popular and we always sell out.

As usual we will also have a raffle and we are asking members for contributions to a hamper – we would like to fill the hamper with British products and any donations for this would be welcome. Please let Chris Grocott or Linda Simpson have your donation before the end of November (or let us know and we can collect it).

The Hédé market is a fund raising event for us, funds going towards the cost of entertaining the French when they visit Wortham. Nick will also be bringing mistletoe back from France in December and this will be on sale (together with any leftover produce from the market) at the Christmas Social.

Christmas Social Thursday 17th December 6.30pm Easter Barn Mellis

Invitations will be going out for this event in mid-November. If you have friends who are interested in joining Twinning please bring them along but please let us know when you RSVP to the invitation. Parking will be in the Multiyork car park - cross the road and follow the signs.

Tuesday 2nd February

Annual General Meeting followed (by popular demand) by wine and nibbles and a French themed quiz.

Friday 18th March 7pm

Following on the success of film night last year we will be having another film night. We will be showing Francois Girard's film The Choir. We will be showing it in French with English subtitles. This will be held once again in the comfort of Nick and Frances Beasley's home Easter Barn Mellis.

Suffolk Gardens Trust

Julie and John Scott organise winter talks for the Suffolk Gardens Trust. The next one is on Saturday 14th November at 2.30pm at the Blackbourne Centre, Elmswell, near Stowmarket.

'The Well Connected Gardener' by Sue Minter.

This is about Alicia Amhurst who wrote one of the first garden history books and was a rescuer of Chelsea Physic Garden, amongst her other achievements.

All visitors are welcome (£6) and a good tea is included afterwards.

We have two other talks on the 2nd Saturdays of February and March 2016 on the 'Islamic Gardens of Spain' and the 'History and culture of Roses'. (We are on 01379 650009)



Support at Home Service

Supporting the local community



Worried about going home? You needn't be.

Every year, our volunteers help many people in their own homes following a stay in hospital.

Volunteers can provide practical assistance and social support to help you settle back at home after your discharge.

We accept referrals from the community, GPs, Police, friends and family and self-referrals

Our service is totally FREE to all our beneficiaries.

For more information please call:

01603 288320 or chriscollect@nnuh.nhs.uk

The British Red Cross Society, incorporated by Royal Charter 1908, is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949) and Scotland (SC037738). Information correct at date of print.

Emma's Jumble Sale

Emma Thornton's Annual Jumble Sale was again a great success when held in Wortham Village Hall on Saturday 3 October. People were queueing a long time to get in, as there were some great bargains available. Emma's jumble sale raises money for school and university fees for children and young people in Uganda who would never be able to attend without her help. During the afternoon, a surprise presentation was made to Emma and Mark by her dinner lady from Wortham Primary School, Sheila Rush. Emma and Mark are getting married at the end of October and she presented a bottle of champagne to them for their wedding day. Emma thanks everyone who has helped her over the past eleven years, and who keep coming back to this event, which, this year, raised the wonderful sum of £1,110.55, the most that has ever been raised.

Friends of Wortham Church

FOWC had two very successful events in the past month:

The first was when eleven people took part in **Lucy Kaynes' photography course** on Tuesday 29 September. Due to the good weather, the group members were able to practice their newly acquired skills and enjoy a nice lunch. The event raised £280 for Wortham Church.

The second was a **Bring and Buy** plant sale on Saturday 17th October at Linda and Andy Simpson's home, Battelys Cottage on Wortham Ling. There was a wide variety of plants for sale and the chance to look around the stunning autumn garden. Tea, coffee and lovely home-made cakes were also available. The Friends would like to thank the hosts for their hospitality which helped to raise £423 for Wortham Church funds.

Harvest Festival

St Marys Church Wortham held its harvest festival service on Sunday 27 September, conducted by the Rev Adrian Watkins, organist Myra Pinnell. During the service a collection of tools was blessed by the rector. The tools were collected by a charity that sends them around the world. The rector also thanked the ladies of the church for the lovely harvest arrangements. After the service the congregation was invited to stay for a buffet lunch.

Howards Nurseries

The staff of organised a coffee morning on Friday 25 September in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The event stalls were manned by the Howards staff and there were plants on sale and cakes made and given by the staff. A treadmill was present and two workers, Marie Kemp and Matthew Everest each did a sponsored half-hour; Peter Fruman, another worker did a sponsored walk around the nurseries. Marie Kemp thanked all of the staff on behalf of Howards Nurseries for their help on the day and also all of the public who attended the event. A large raffle was also held and the event raised £760 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Cycle Ride

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust was held on Saturday 12 September and 22 cyclists visited St Marys Church, Wortham. PCC thanks everyone who manned the church and John Scott and Jacob Thuell who rode for the church.

Good Companions

The Good Companions Club is having a speaker from Age Concern at its afternoon meeting on Tuesday 10 November in Wortham Village Hall at 2pm. This will be an open meeting for all to attend and afterwards have a Q&A session with the speaker.

Shoe Boxes

A lovely Benefice service of Samaritans Purse International's annual Shoe Box collection for their **Operation Christmas Child** was held at St Marys Church, Wortham on Sunday 25 October. The service was taken by Rev Adrian Watkins and reader Graham Reardon. The whole service was relayed to a large screen and music was provided by The Palgrave Praise Band. Readings were made by Lyn Pelham Burn and Elizabeth Clark. There was a Samaritans Purse film clip and it was lovely to see the children's happy faces when they received their brightly decorated boxes. The congregation's boxes were then taken to the front of the church and blessed and prayers were read by Cathy Hume. The final hymn was played on the organ by Rev Nigel Ballard and after the service coffee was served at the back of the church.

Ed: To see more about Shoe Boxes and Operation Christmas Child and other support operations, and the same film, go to: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> There are also many other videos to see and download.



Poppies for Remembrance.



Our annual Poppy Appeal is now underway. Did you ever wonder where it all began? It seems that poppies were first suggested as a symbol of Remembrance in USA by a Miss *Moina Belle Michael*, a Professor at the University of Georgia and a Humanitarian, in November 1918. Inspired by the Canadian John McCrae battlefront-theme poem *In Flanders Fields*, she published a poem in response called *We Shall Keep the Faith*. In tribute to the opening lines of McCrae's poem -- "In Flanders fields the poppies blow / Between the crosses row on row," Michael vowed to always wear a red poppy as a symbol of remembrance for those who served in the war.



She began a campaign, which soon went nationwide, to have the flower worn as a sign of Remembrance, and became known as The Poppy Lady. Then the newly-formed American Legion used the flower in 1920, with more state legions following suit and at the end of September that year at a Legion Secretaries convention, a French secretary, *Anna Guerin* was inspired by Moina's campaign and returned home to found The American and French Children's League and women workers started making cloth poppies. In 1921 she visited Field Marshal Earl Douglas Haig, founder and President of The British Legion. She persuaded him to adopt the Flanders Poppy as an emblem for The Legion. This was formalized in the autumn of 1921, with Canada, Australia, New Zealand and other French allied countries acting similarly. Anna was now the *French Poppy Lady*.

The Lady Haig Poppy Factory, Scotland: The Earl Haig Fund Scotland was set up as a Scottish charity in 1921 by its founder Earl Douglas Haig. In 1926 his wife, Countess Dorothy Haig, founded the Poppy Factory in Edinburgh is birthplace now trading by the name of Poppyscotland. It continues to raise funds for the Scottish Poppy Appeal, supporting veterans and their dependants in Scotland. The Lady Haig Poppy Factory produces over four million poppies each year. Approximately 30 veterans with disabilities are employed at the Factory.



In 1922 the Poppy Factory was established in the Old Kent Road, south London. It was the idea of Major George Howson MC, founder of The Disabled Society for disabled ex-servicemen and women. By making artificial poppies for sale around the anniversary of the 1918 Armistice, the Poppy Factory could employ five disabled men during the year. In 1933 the demand for poppies for Poppy Day was such that the Poppy Factory had to move to larger premises in Richmond, Surrey. The demand for poppies continued to grow each year. Nowadays the Poppy Factory produces nearly 40 million poppies for wreaths, sprays and buttonholes.



Article based on a submission by Sheila Rush: Editor



I have attached some information for you on the 2Mbps scheme. It's worth being aware that, although it is billed by government as being subsidised, residents can actually already sign up for a free connection to satellite broadband, using suppliers such as the one here - <http://avonlinebroadband.com/>.

Nevertheless, the government scheme is in place, and a guide to the interim Basic Broadband scheme, and an Application Form, can be found at the following temporary URL:

<http://betterbroadband.solsticecloud.com/ApplicationForm.aspx>

Currently, we have two retail service providers ready for the start of the trial (more will be added shortly), and you can view the range of products and pricing options available at their temporary trial websites at:

Digiweb:

<http://www.digiweb.com/satellite/>

Primetech:

<http://www.primetech.co.uk/bduk-satellite-broadband-trial>

Please note that for the purposes of the trial your initial choice of product will be limited to the reference product offering, which offers a monthly data allowance of 10GB. If you would like to have a higher monthly data allowance, we will be able to upgrade you before the end of the trial period.

If you wish to go ahead with the trial, please complete the Application Form and submit it (it will automatically be emailed back to us).

If you are eligible to benefit from the scheme, we will provide you with a voucher code, which you will be able to use with one of the retail service providers under the scheme, to order an interim Basic Broadband service provided via satellite. The voucher code will offset most of the standard installation and commissioning costs for the satellite service, but you will be responsible for any other initial costs, the monthly usage cost of your chosen product (for a minimum period of 12 months), and VAT.

Before ordering your service, please make sure you understand the features (and limitations) of a broadband service provided by satellite. This information can be obtained from the retail service providers (links above).

We will also ask you to consent to providing us with feedback on the operation of the trial, and your experience of using the satellite broadband service.

So, to get started, please go to the trial website (link above) and read the Guide. If you have any queries, which are not answered by the Guide, or by the retail service providers (who should be your first point of contact), you can email us at the address provided in the Guide.



The Burgate Singers

Present

JEPHTHA

Handel's last great Oratorio.
Conducted by Alain Judd with professional
orchestra & soloists.

Famous aria
'Waft Her Angels Through The Skies'

The Church of SS Peter and Paul
Eye, Suffolk

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER 2015 7.00pm
Doors open at 6.30pm

Tickets £15
from Wortham Post Office,
The Handyman, Eye
or contact EVA on 01379 677333

Empowering children, young people and vulnerable adults to use digital technology safely

Listening to, and understanding the online experiences of children, young people and vulnerable adults has been fundamental to the success of the annual e-Safer Suffolk Cybersurvey.

In 2014, we received over 2,600 responses to the Cybersurvey. Today we need your help and commitment to reach this year's target of 4,000. Any organisation working with groups of children (min age 10), young people or vulnerable adults can help by encouraging their service users to take part. So if you're working with these groups – please support them to have their views heard and acted upon. Every organisation that takes part in the Cybersurvey will require an access code. To receive your code please contact: engagement.hub@suffolk.gov.uk

The e-Safer Suffolk Partnership is supported by Suffolk County Council, the Local Safeguarding Children Board, Adult Safeguarding Board, Suffolk Police and Suffolk PCC.

Closing date for responses is Monday 30 November

If have any questions regarding the content of the Cybersurvey please contact:
Marisa Batson, Co-Design Lead, Children and Young People's Services, Suffolk County Council.
Email: marisa.batson@suffolk.gov.uk

EMMA'S ANNUAL JUMBLE SALE

at Wortham Village Hall raised
£1,110.55

A short thank you from me to all of our helpers, everyone who came along on the day and also everyone who donated jumble and raffle prizes.

A man left for work one Friday afternoon. Instead of going home, he stayed out the entire weekend fishing with the boys and spending all his wages.

When he finally got home on Sunday night, he was confronted by his very angry wife.

After an hour, she stopped raging and said: 'How would you like it if you didn't see me for two or three days?' He replied: 'That would be fine with me.' Monday went by and he didn't see his wife. Tuesday and Wednesday came and went with the same results.

Thursday, the swelling went down just enough for him to see her a little out of the corner of his left eye.

A festive celebration of
music and laughter

SOMETHING WENT WRONG AT CHRISTMAS



'A fabulous evening' Sheila King, Pennoyer Centre

'This superb trio must be seen to be believed' Adrian Black, Milkmaid Folk Club

Saturday 5th December 7.30pm

Wortham Village Hall IP22 1PS

Tickets £9 01379 652241 www.disscornhall.co.uk

Garden notes by Linda Simpson

The relatively quiet few weeks we have been having weather-wise has ensured that there is a still lot of colour from both flower and leaf colour. However it now looks definitely like an autumn garden rather than a late summer one. The changes are subtle – a yellowing of some leaves and grass flowers, a few perennials dying gently as well as the more specular autumn leaf colour from some of the shrubs and trees. The flowering ‘key notes’ are shades of purple and pink as well as apricots and some reds. The berries on the trees – prolific on many of the berrying trees and shrubs this year – seem to stand out more. I don’t know if the berry colour intensifies or that they simply come into their own as the colour in the borders becomes mellower.

As I start to clear and tidy it feels like a gentle reversing of the process at the start of the year with the borders gradually getting less full and some plants taking a greater role as they have less competition. Of course a spell of harsh weather can quickly make a more dramatic impact but so far at least this year the changes are gradual.

I think the ‘star’ performer in the autumn garden has to be an imposing tall kniphofia (red hot poker). This particular variety is kniphofia rooperi and has tall neon orange and yellow flowers. It is as far as I know the latest kniphofia to flower and seems to be in flower over quite a few weeks – it is still looking stunning as I write. There are many other varieties of kniphofia not just the ubiquitous bright red version that flowers in mid-season. You can find them in flower from about June onwards. They vary in colour range from tawny coloured through salmon and reds to zingy lime green and yellows. I grow a number. One favourite of mine, a fairly early flowering form, is one called Tawny King. It looks really good grown with gaillardia if they can be persuaded to flower at the same time – some years I manage it although it depends on the season. Another favourite is one called Timothy which of course I had to have as this is my son’s name. It is one of the salmon-toned forms and flowers in July.



I find them fairly trouble free. They are not always that hardy, they originate mainly in South Africa, so you should resist the urge to propagate or cut them back until the spring. Let the old leaves give the crown of the plant some winter protection. I have only ever had trouble with one planting of kniphofia, a variety called Green Jade, which seems to suffer every year from a form of rot – possibly violet root rot. It starts to grow happily in early summer but then clumps rot off at the base of the leaves. I have disposed of infected material and remaining plants seem to be surviving. As a precaution though I shall not move any of these plants around the garden until I feel they will not spread disease.

A number of people have commented that they are not successful with kniphofia. I don’t do anything special with mine so perhaps it is just my sandy free draining soil they like. I remove any dead leaves and cut the more vigorous varieties back in the spring when danger of very cold weather has passed.

BILL'S BIRDS for October 2015



As predicted our Swifts left in the first week of August. One night they were 'screaming' their figure-of-eight races, the next day they had gone, though the day I thought they had gone I saw one creep under the eaves of our old surgery opposite. A late brood - you could almost hear the parent birds saying, "Come on, the others have gone already, eat up". We read about the British Trust

for Ornithology Cuckoos and their amazing flight to south of the Sahara, but the smaller Swifts are even more fantastic. They have been tracked with minute geo-locators attached, all the way to south of the Equator and as far as Mozambique. They then seem to congregate well above 'the Cape' and make a rapid return. One was tracked leaving Liberia on 5th May and being back at its breeding site in Cambridge on 12th May. We know that Swifts travel great distances to feed their young (carrying their food in bulging cheek pouches), but this distance in a week is quite extraordinary. Incidentally, in South Africa they meet their colleagues who go to and fro from Beijing.

The BTO has been very helpful with their cuckoos sub-Equatorial winter quarters. We now know that the males may leave England at the end of June and have a couple of weeks in Belgium and France! Perhaps they have run out of females here and carry on mating across the channel on their journey south!

I have had two instances of high-pitched calls from young Sparrowhawks in their nests at the end of July. In one case an adult was seen chasing a Buzzard across the local resident's lawn. Like Peregrines the Sparrowhawks are brave raptors who will tackle any intruder showing interest in their young.

At home, our garden Robin is making its appearance and on 1st August, I heard a few hesitant notes of its winter song, already claiming its territory. You may well hear Blackbirds and Thrushes 'tuning up' now. Warblers may give occasional calls on their way south but perhaps they are Chiff Chaffs or Blackcaps who have found they can winter with us (from Northern Europe) and don't need to go further south for winter food (perhaps because of so many garden feeders).

On a field edge near the footpath leading to Broomhills, I surprised a covey of about one dozen young Partridges. A wonderful sight as they appeared and disappeared into the long grass and hedges. There was the mother looking up at me with wings ruffled up trying to distract my attention from her young. No colourful markings on head and neck. This must have been a covey of the rarer Grey Partridge.



Many of you may know the picnic field in Iken overlooking the Alde estuary and Iken church. There is a pleasant pathway from the field to the church. Along this path there is a copse of fir trees and from it came the call of a Stock Dove, unlike our Wood Pigeon. Then, suddenly, the cry of a Little Owl. What a treat, and, as an encore, there was a young grey bird on the pathway which made small feeding flights for insects—a Spotted Flycatcher. Even a short walk has its unexpected ornithological interest.



Finally, I made my annual visit to Rutland Water Bird Fair. Very crowded this year, even queuing to get into the overflow car park at 11 am on the first day. The latest binoculars, telescopes, bird holidays, magazines, digiscopes, artists - everything about birds.

What interested me most was the section entitled "Action for Swifts". All the information on Swift nesting boxes - old buildings are now being updated with no room for their nests. But, most exciting were the results of geo-locator readings from Africa. There is always something new at the fair.

BILL'S BIRDS for November 2015

On 6th October, just as I was about to assemble what I thought was a slightly dull Autumn report, the phone went. "I think I have a Hoopoe in the garden". All thoughts of daily routine were abandoned! "Right", I said, "I am coming at once". I have been caught before. The caller says "If you had been here a few minutes ago you would have seen it. It's gone". I remember my days as a GP on an emergency call, we were on 24 hours duty in those days. I always advised doctors gaining experience, "Don't finish your coffee, stub that cigarette out" (when we smoked). Time is of the essence. You don't need a fast car. Just go straight there at once. Both were emergencies, ornithological or medical. Minutes counted. Now you say, "Am I a Twitcher?" Well, yes, occasionally, if it is round the corner, on my 'patch'. Yes, this time I just made it.

Why was the Hoopoe there? It was migrating south to Africa from north Europe and unfavourable winds pushed it over the North Sea. I trust it makes Africa. The Hoopoe is a Blackbird sized black and white bird with a touch of light orange. It has a long curved bill and a crest, and recognised in season by its call: "hoo-poo", on the same note. In this country it is a rare bird, only seen as a stray on migration. It does not breed here. In ornithological parlance it was a "mega tick" for me.



Some of you have reported groups of up to twelve Buzzards sailing happily overhead on a thermal. Our Buzzards, it was suggested, were probably groups of families and friends at a non-competitive time of the year floating around on warm thermals. Just enjoying themselves? Socialising? And why not? I envy



them! This behaviour is regarded by the BTO as "kettling" when groups of birds, usually in their hundreds (i.e. Storks), slowly gain height so that with a tail wind they can float (downhill) over long stretches of sea—Straights of Gibraltar, the Bosphorus and the Sea of Marmara, on their migration route. I was told by a visitor to Malta that he had met local "birders" watching Storks (through telescopes as they were so high) doing just this on their

passage over the Mediterranean.

And now, on a sadder note. On a narrow country road I came across a group of very young Pheasants. Obviously cage-bred and let out for this season's shoots. Poor things, they appeared quite lost, unaware of the dangers of the outside world. If they had been raised naturally surrounded by potential dangers and watched over by their parents, they would have been introduced to the "wild" slowly and would have developed a natural awareness and defence to outside dangers. Remember the covey of very young Partridges I surprised last month—wild birds, they disappeared in seconds into undergrowth and hedges. I saw their mother: she accosted me with flapping wings, attracting my attention from her children.

Winter and its new arrivals are on the way here for food and to avoid the bitter winds from the Arctic. Already Golden Plover and Lapwings have been seen on recently turned soil. Members of the Thrush family - Fieldfares and smaller Redwings - will soon be here looking for our apples and other fruits. Starlings will be building up their murmurations to number several thousands. Our nearest has been Little Fen on Redgrave Fen. They can be viewed about sunset, when they finally settle "chattering" into the reed beds.



Careful winter watching will have its rewards and may have more surprises. And don't forget this year we might have more Waxwings. Now that would be exciting!

Borderhoppa Outings – A great day out!



Borderhoppa has lots going on for our members in November & December including lunches out, visits to garden centres and Christmas Fairs and Markets to visit. If you or someone you know would like to join us, please call us on 01379 854800.

Membership is £6 for 6 months or £10 for 12 months, outings are individually priced.

November Outings 2015

Mon 2nd – Dereham - £15

Thurs 12th – The Range, Norwich & lunch at The Village Inn, Little Melton - £15 (lunch extra)

Mon 16th – Highways - £14

Sat 21st – Great Yarmouth Christmas Fair - £17

Mon 23rd – Ely £20

December Outings 2015

Thurs 3rd – Lunch at the Chip Inn, Long Stratton & Cherry Lane Garden Centre, Pulham - £7 (chips extra)

Sun 6th – Bungay Christmas Street Market - £8

Mon 7th – Bury St Edmunds - £14

Sat 12th – Ipswich Christmas Market - £14

Mon 14th – Xmas Lunch at Jolly Farmers, Forncett St. Peter - £25 includes lunch

An Amazing Result!

I would like to thank the enthusiastic 'Jumblers' who supported my Jumble Sale held on Saturday 5 September at Rickinghall Village Hall. The sun shone and we had a wonderful turnout with the result that some £2,151 has been given to St Nicholas Hospice Care at Bury St Edmunds. I would also like to thank all the helpers on the day for their hard work, and those who gave items for sale, which resulted in such a magnificent sum being raised.

Carol Amps



L to R Jennie Labdon, Miranda McCoy (St Nicholas Hospice Care) & Carol Amps.

Friends of Wortham Church

A Photography Course run by Lucy Kayne took place at The Rookery on Tuesday 29th September. Eleven people took part with a variety of cameras and experience. Topics included basic techniques, knowing your camera, composition and flash. The good weather enabled everyone to practice their newly discovered skills and a great lunch made the day very enjoyable. £280 was made for Wortham Church funds.

The Bring and Buy Plant Sale was on Saturday 10th October at Battelys Cottage Wortham. The weather was dry and visitors were able to look around their beautiful autumnal garden and enjoy teas and cakes served from the conservatory. Many interesting plants were for sale and together with a great raffle the total amount raised for Wortham Church funds was £423.



On Saturday 16th October Adnams Wine from Southwold entertained a group of over fifty people with a wines and spirits tasting evening. Eight various wines and spirits were sampled, followed by a delightful buffet. The evening raised £445 for Wortham Church funds.

Future Events

Dinner and Speaker

Saturday 6th February 2016. Tickets will be £25 each and the meal will consist of a pre-dinner drink with canapés, a main course and a sweet followed by coffee. The tickets will be available later in the year from Wortham Post Office or Maureen Ling on 01379 783236. Menu choices will be given to you with the ticket and will need to be returned as soon as possible. Wine and beer will be available.

After the meal Alistair Harrison will be giving a talk on his life in the diplomatic service, reflecting on a 37 year career in the Foreign Office giving an account of his varied experiences and special highlights from his career.

For more information go on line: www.friendsofworthamchurch.weebly.com

**Exercise your little
grey cells at**

WORTHAM VILLAGE HALL'S

Quiz Night

SATURDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2015

Starts at 7.30 pm

(doors open from 7.00pm)

Cost: £20 per team of 4 people

Bar & Raffle



***To reserve your table please contact Mike Cornish: 01379 309538
or e-mail: family.cornish@gmail.com***

Raising funds for Wortham Village Hall - Charity No.1113478

HERITAGE CIRCLE

Roy Tricker: *100 not out – 100 years of the St Edmundsbury Diocese*

Roy Tricker gave a very humorous, but well researched, talk about a potentially 'dry' topic to the September meeting of the Heritage Circle at Rickingham Village Hall. He totally engaged his audience when he spoke about the creation of the St Edmundsbury Diocese 101 years ago which was sanctioned by an Act of Parliament in January 1914. Roy traced the years of deliberation and argument leading to the founding of the diocese.

Population growth prompted consideration of diocesan boundaries in the mid-19th century. Essex was part of the Diocese of London because the county's boundary began at Stratford. However, as the population of London grew significantly, Essex was given to the Bishop of Rochester in 1845, despite the communication problems caused by the Thames. By 1907 it had become apparent that Essex needed to be reorganised again into a single diocese covering the county and at the same time the future organisation of the Church of England in Suffolk was questioned. Unfortunately, this presented a challenging problem as it was comprised of two counties, East and West Suffolk, for civic administration.

East Suffolk was part of the Diocese of Norwich which, by 1907, had 1,151 parish churches and 890 beneficed clergy. This was too much for the bishop to manage. By contrast, West Suffolk was part of the Diocese of Ely. A committee was set up to explore what could be done. There was early agreement that East and West Suffolk should form one diocese. Then the problems began.

Initially, the new diocese was going to be called the Diocese of Suffolk until it was realised that all Church of England dioceses were named after the city where the cathedral was located. This began a debate about the future cathedral city. There were two possibilities. Ipswich was the county town but Bury St Edmunds had a long history as a centre for pilgrimage although it did have the disadvantage of poor communication links with London and the rest of Suffolk.

Scrutiny then passed to which particular church should be the cathedral. Ipswich had 12 churches but they tended to be quite small and none had the possibility of being expanded. However, Bury St Edmunds had two large churches, St James' and St Mary's, with potential for expansion as both had church land around them. It was agreed that Bury St Edmunds would be the cathedral city but the next problem emerged. Where should the bishop live? A compromise emerged as Ipswich was chosen. However, the new bishop was to find himself with the unwieldy title of the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich which had to appear on all official documentation.

Just as the parliamentary bill was being written, yet another difficulty arose. Neither St James nor St Mary's had been designated as the new cathedral. This led to serious disagreements but there were only five days in which to make the decision or the bill would have missed its place in the parliamentary calendar. St James was chosen leaving the congregation of St Mary's outraged. There were accusations of malpractice as it seemed that a biased and unrepresentative group had got together in secret to make the decision.

Then further complications came as the location of the bishop's residence in Ipswich led to considerable debate. In addition, there were concerted attempts by parishes to opt out of the new diocese. The Lowestoft area was successful in staying with the Norwich Diocese after considerable pressure exerted by the local MP. A row over whether the bishop should have a new crozier, a papist symbol, was followed by fears that the Bishop Hodgson, a northerner, was not suitable for Suffolk. However, eventually the new diocese successfully established itself and has been able to celebrate its centenary.

Sue and Steve Williams presented a fascinating account of the Stowmarket Gun Cotton Explosion of 1871 to the October meeting of the Heritage Circle at Rickinghall Village Hall. Their talk was based upon considerable research into a story which had a profound effect upon the Stowmarket community.

On the afternoon of Friday 11 August 1871, there was a series of explosions at the factory of Messrs Thos. Prentice and Co on the edge of Stowmarket. The factory made gun cotton which was a material developed during the 19th Century to replace gunpowder. The manufacturing process involved treating cotton with a series of acids and other chemicals and then drying it. It was believed to be stable and safe for women and children to work on.

Graphic accounts of the destruction caused by the blasts were immediately published in the media. They circulated across Europe and even appeared in The New York Times. They described how wooden buildings on the factory site were reduced to matchsticks and how brick walls collapsed. There was a crater 10 feet deep and 40 feet across created by the explosions. Homes in Lime Tree Place were destroyed as it was very near to the factory but there was widespread damage to other houses and businesses all over the town. A common problem was windows being blown out but there was also some structural damage. The sound of the explosions was heard 30 miles away in Southwold. A local photographer, J Deazeley was commissioned by the government to take photographs of the destruction to provide evidence to the subsequent inquiry.

At the time there was speculation about how the explosions had occurred. There had been a hot summer in 1871 and the 11 August had been a very hot day. It was suggested that this heat could have caused the disaster. However, gun cotton is supposed to combust at a temperature of 300°F. Shoddy workmanship or carelessness might have been a cause as workers had been paid at lunchtime and then gone to the pub before returning work in the afternoon. There was always a feeling that someone had caused the explosion either by negligence or on purpose but no perpetrator was ever prosecuted.

The human impact of the explosions was enormous. Eyewitnesses who rushed to the scene described how terrified women and children fled to the fields after the first explosion. 26 people were killed. 11 men died, including William and Edward Prentice, the owner's sons. Among the remaining dead were seven boys and eight women and girls. The bodies of several victims were never found. Most of the dead were interred in unnamed graves and there were two mass burials of unidentified body parts. A number of people were injured but their fate was not explained. Public subscriptions raised several thousand pounds which was paid to the families of the dead and injured, as well as those whose homes or businesses were damaged as there was no other form of benefit system, other than charity, existed.

Sue and Steve Williams, together with other members of the Stowmarket History Society, have raised money to fund a commemorative plaque for the victims of the explosions and this may be found in the town's Old Cemetery where they were buried.

The next meeting of the Heritage Circle will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 November at The Village Hall, Rickinghall IP221HD when Mark Mitchels will be speaking about The Bayeux Tapestry – the story of 1066. The following meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9 December at Rickinghall and is the Christmas Social. There will be a buffet with a soft drink and Mike Wabe will be speaking about The History of Father Christmas. Tickets cost £10 and are available from Brenda Deaville on 01379 898561. The first group meeting next year will be on Wednesday 27 January when Neil Lanham will give a talk about Experiences as a Fine Art Auctioneer. Further information about the Heritage Circle is available at www.heritagecircle.onesuffolk.net.



Don't forget – **the kettle's on** every Tuesday at the Church Hall in Burgate. Do come along and enjoy a hot drink and homemade cakes, meet your neighbours, catch up with old friends, bring children. 10.00 am until 12 noon. Look for the 'A' board by the side of the road.

The Friends of Burgate Church present
Saturday 5th December at 7.30 pm
in Burgate Church

A Winter Concert

with

Amici

Suffolk's friendliest a capella choir
- singing a programme to suit all tastes

Music in the interval to be provided by John Wistow,
Burgate resident and renowned Flamenco guitarist

Suffolk Historic Church Trust Cycle Ride – Burgate

19 riders visited the Church on 12 September. The Bloye family (David, Fiona, William and Edward) rode in aid of the Church raised £12.50. Shudy Walker was sponsored for manning the Church throughout the day and raised £60, making a grand total of £192.50. Well done all.

Jumble Sale - 19th September

The jumble sale organised by Bonny Banham and Mary Spelzini attracted a good number of customers and raised over £365 for the Friends of Burgate Church. Many thanks not only to Mary and Bonny, but all those who helped sort and sell the jumble, manned other stalls, and provided teas and cakes on the day. Everyone's efforts were much appreciated.

Church Flowers

7 th November	Fee Robertson
14 th November	Fee Robertson
21 st November	Jennie Labdon
28 th November	Jennie Labdon

Hall Cleaning

Fee Robertson

Church Hall Booking Secretary: Judi Tann 01379 783302

VILLAGE HALL DATES FOR YOUR NOVEMBER DIARY

Wortham Morning Yoga	Village Hall	Tuesday	03, 10, 17, 24	10:00 – 11:30
Wortham Afternoon Yoga	Village Hall	Thursday	05, 12, 19, 26	11:45 – 13:15
Ballroom Dancing	Village Hall	Monday	02, 09, 23, 30	19:00 – 20:30
Sewing Class	Village Hall	Monday	02, 16, 30	09:30 – 14:30
Good Companions	Village Hall	Tuesday	10, 24	14:00 – 16:30
Good Companions	Village Hall	Monday	16	19:00 – 22:00
Tea's Made	Village Hall	Wednesday	04, 11, 18, 25	14:00 – 16:30
Polymer Guild	Village Hall	Sunday	22	10:30 – 15:00
Pilates	Village Hall	Wednesday	04, 11, 18, 25	09:30 – 10:30
Pilates	Village Hall	Thursday	05, 12, 19, 26	18:00 – 19:00
Quiz Night	Village Hall	Saturday	21	19:00 - 23:00
Private Function	Village Hall	Sunday	15	14:00 – 18:30
Private Function	Village Hall	Saturday	21	11:00 – 13:00
Private Function	Village Hall	Saturday	28	12:00 – 24:00
Parish Council Open Meeting	Village Hall	Tuesday	03	19:30

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

Members of the CAP: Terry Quinn (Chairman), Paul Bradley (Deputy Chairman), Michael & Paddy Richards, Sheila Rudland, Cath Aspinall, Paul & Alexis Burd, John Payton, Victoria Tustian and Chris Williams (Treasurer).

Editor: Mike Bowen. The Chalet, Union Lane, Wortham. IP22 1SP.

Tel: 01379 650192 email: wobul@mcb-biz.net

The Editor thanks all contributors for their timely submissions and states that the views stated herein are his or those of the article contributor and not of the W&B Community Action Programme.