

The Village Link

Great Thurlow – Little Thurlow – Great Wratting

May

2018

Great Thurlow Hall
Summer Garden Open Day

Sunday 3rd June
2 to 5 pm

Home-made cakes and teas in the church



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County Council

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fringe

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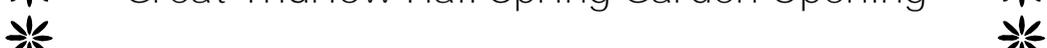
**THE SUFFOLK
WALKING
FESTIVAL
2018**

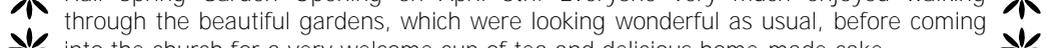
www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk

Editorial co-ordinator Alison Coffey 783478	Advertising Rates (per quarter page) Single advertisement - £10 Six months advertising - £40 Twelve months advertising - £65
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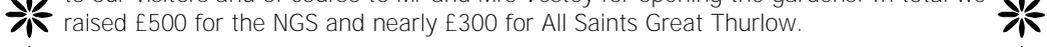



Great Thurlow Hall Spring Garden Opening




 Despite the slightly inclement weather, over 120 visitors came to the Great Thurlow Hall Spring Garden Opening on April 8th. Everyone very much enjoyed walking through the beautiful gardens, which were looking wonderful as usual, before coming into the church for a very welcome cup of tea and delicious home-made cake.
 


 Thank you to all of those who helped baking, serving teas and manning the entrance, to our visitors and of course to Mr and Mrs Vestey for opening the gardens. In total we raised £500 for the NGS and nearly £300 for All Saints Great Thurlow.
 


 The Summer Opening is on June 3rd, look forward to seeing you there,
 


 Alison
 





Website	<p>Don't forget to check out the Thurlow website. Keep looking as the site is updated regularly. WWW.THETHURLOWS.ORG.UK</p>
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Contact	<p>EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE VILLAGE LINK</p> <p>To contact The Village Link Team please email TheVillageLink @TheThurlows.org.uk View The Village Link Online at www.TheThurlows.org.uk Copy Deadline 15th Of Each Month</p>
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LITTLE THURLOW AND GREAT THURLOW
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2018

WEDNESDAY 2nd MAY 2018

7.30 PM AT THURLOW VILLAGE HALL

The Chairmen of both Parish Councils will preside and Refreshments will be served

The purpose of the Annual Meeting of the Parish is for the members of the electorate to meet and is an opportunity to discuss parish affairs and for village organisations to inform them and answer questions.

St Peter's Church, Little Thurlow

invite all to come and join us for

Spring Choral Evensong

on 13th May 2018 at 6.00pm

(followed by drinks and light refreshments)

Also an opportunity to see the recently restored Memorial to
Sir Stephen Soame (Lord Mayor of London 1598).

All are welcome, including children of all ages - noisy or quiet.

[Also "Save the Date" Friday 13th July 2018
for a "Summer Village Supper" at the Old Rectory, Little Thurlow]

LITTLE THURLOW PARISH COUNCIL met on 17th April with five Councillors and two members of the public in attendance.

The important matter of the new General Data Protection Regulations were discussed again. There are clearly a lot of unanswered questions as to the way these will be enforced but, for the time being, Councillors agreed to put in place a secure system for PC emails.

No progress had been made on the erosion of verges on Pound Green, damage to the roadway at the ford on Pound Green or road markings at the bottom of the hill at Church Road junction. However the Joint Village Litter Pick had proved to be a success with over twenty bags of rubbish collected.

A grant of £1000 to the Village Hall was approved as well as a half share of the cost of annual insurance for the play area.

There were no objections to a Planning Application for felling two conifers at 122A The Street but the PC objected to an Application for a Dwelling on land to the rear of Grange Barn and the felling of one horse chestnut at Lt Thurlow Hall.

Enquiries are to be made into the possible erection of an additional dog waste bin in the village.

The next meeting will be on 15th May 2018.

Full Draft Minutes of the Meeting will be displayed on the Village Website and on the PC Notice Board at the Village Hall in due course.

Molly Hawkins, Parish Clerk

WANTED – YOUR OLD SCRAP JEWELLERY!

I visited Griffith Jones Jeweller on Haverhill High Street (near to Barclays Bank and opposite Iceland) recently to have a piece of jewellery repaired. The jeweller asked if the part that was **removed could be donated to charity and he then went onto speak more about this scheme...**

Fantastically – people donate pieces of unwanted gold jewellery to him such as odd earrings, old rings and gold chains, even gold teeth – which are sent away to London for valuation and sale. Each gram of gold is worth around £11 and for every gram recycled via this method, this value is donated to St Nicholas Hospice by the Jeweller. The Hospice costs £11,000 per day to run and whilst Griffith Jones has been running this scheme, he and his team have raised a staggering £35,000 for them. Commendable and such a great and worthy cause.

My plea via the Village Link is to support this scheme with your donation of old and unwanted jewellery. All you have to do is take it to the shop on the High Street the next time you are **passing, and they will do the rest... its quite liberating to off load some of these old bits that we harbour, so be brave and do a great thing... get in those jewellery boxes and bedside drawers and help St Nicholas Hospice with your donation.**

Tim Gould

GREAT WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL met on Wednesday 22nd March for their quarterly meeting and were joined by Cllr Mary Evans (Suffolk County) with apologies received from Cllr Jane Midwood (St Edmundsbury Borough) and Cllr Steve Robinson. One member of the public attended the meeting.

The Council are pleased to report - a new council member Claire Martin was appointed; the updated village website is now accessible at <http://www.greatwrattling.onesuffolk.net/>, comments were agreed on the existing three planning applications within the village with confirmation that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd May.

Full Minutes of the meeting are available on the village website.

Members of the public are welcome to join the Council meetings providing an opportunity for you to have your say on any aspects relating to the village. The Council are always keen to hear your views.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 16th May at Little Acorns, Rook Tree Barn, Withersfield Road, Great Wrattling.

Public forum commences at 7:45pm

Cllr Diana Curtis

Great Wrattling Book Group

You can see our reading list for 2018 below to give you an idea of the type of books we generally read although we are always open to suggestions from new members. If you are interested in coming along or would like to find out more about our meetings then please call Jean on 01440 783111 or email molehill@tiscali.co.uk.

Date	Book Title	Author	Genre
10 th January	-	-	-
14 th February	<i>The Sport of Kings</i>	C. E. Morgan	Modern Fiction
14 th March	<i>From Doon with Death</i>	Ruth Rendall	Crime Fiction
11 th April	<i>The Essex Serpent</i>	Sarah Parry	Fiction
9 th May	<i>Moon Tiger</i>	Penelope Lively	Modern Classic
13 th June	<i>The Keeper of Lost Things</i>	Ruth Hogan	Modern Fiction
11 th July	<i>Birdcage Walk</i>	Helen Dunmore	Historical Fiction
8 th August	<i>Cartes Postales from Greece</i>	Victoria Hislop	Short Stories
12 th September	<i>Eleanor Oliphant is Fine</i>	Gail Honeyman	Modern Fiction
10 th October	<i>In the Days of Rain</i>	Rebecca Stott	Biography
14 th November	<i>The End of The Affair</i>	Graham Greene	Classic
12 th December	<i>The Invention of Wings</i>	Sue Monk-Kidd	Fiction

Nature note: where's Spring?

I used to listen devotedly every week to Alistair Cooke's weekly 'Letter from America'. He wrote 2,869 of them over 50 years and often used to complain that some big news item would break just after he'd done his radio recording, making a nonsense of what he had just said. Pity then the humble nature diarist, who has to submit his magazine copy a whole month before it will appear. I'm writing this one on 1 April and am tempted to say that we're victims of a national weather hoax. Where is the Spring? The Beast from the East froze us rigid in the first week of March and since then it has remained mostly dull, raw, chilly and wet. The chiffchaff – usually our first summer migrant – did arrive in late March but it has fallen silent again (who could blame it?), and I have yet to hear my first blackcap of the year or see my first brimstone butterfly. Meanwhile, the early spring flowers keep raising their heads only to bow them down again like drooping bonnets after yet another overnight frost.

Spring will surely have arrived by the time you read this, but it may be a short and accelerated one with the usual phased sequences tightly compressed. And that could be disturbing in a quite different way. For centuries people have looked for the first swallow or listened for the first cuckoo as the welcome signs of the new season. There is a Greek vase from the sixth century BC where two men and a boy are pointing excitedly upwards and their speech bubbles say: A 'Look, what's that?'; B 'Good lord, it's a swallow'; C 'So it is, it must be spring!'. These regularities are also a deep reassurance, as the poet Ted Hughes recognised, when he said of the swift's appearance in early May (one of our last migrants to arrive):

They've made it again,
Which means that the globe's still working,
the Creation's still waking refreshed,
our summer's still to come...

But if everything arrives at once all the carefully calibrated interdependencies will be disturbed. Will the right flowers be in bloom for the pollinating butterflies and bees? Will the teeming caterpillars that birds depend on to feed their young emerge punctually? Will the clouds of flying insects be available in the upper air for those swifts to Hoover up?

Other cultures have different seasonal markers. In Japan, for example, it's the flowering of the cherry blossom that is celebrated; in the USA the arrival of the purple martin, the blue bird or the robin – that is, the American robin, which is bigger than ours (of course!) and really a kind of thrush. Hence the scope for cross-cultural misunderstandings, as when Madame Butterfly in Puccini's opera complains that her lover, the American Pinkerton, said he would return 'when the robin comes' but didn't show up. Pinkerton was lying, but they were talking about different 'robins' anyway. Our robins are here all year, but they too are awaiting the spring.

Jeremy Mynott
1 April 2018

RAF Wratting Common
May Memorial Service Sunday 27th May 2018

A short open air service will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday 27th May 2018 at the RAF Wratting Common Memorial, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the opening of the airfield on the last Sunday in May (Sunday 28th) 1943 and to remember all those who served at the airfield, especially the 260 who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. We look forward to seeing some of the Veterans who served with XC Squadron, 1651 Heavy Conversion Unit and 195 Squadron. Cadets from 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron of the Air Training Corps will be on parade. The Memorial is situated at Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville, CB21 5NR and all are very welcome to attend the service.

This year's service is particularly special as, to mark both our 75th anniversary and the RAF 100th we are scheduled to receive a fly-past by an RAF Dakota at 2 p.m., hence the slightly later start time of 1 p.m.

The Douglas C-47 Dakota is without doubt one of the most successful aircraft designs in history. It became one of the world's most famous military transport aircraft and saw widespread use by the Allies during World War Two and subsequently by Air Forces and civilian operators worldwide. It is intended that tea and cake will be available while we await the fly-past.

For further information please email: rafwrattingcommon@gmail.com

We are always pleased to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with the Airfield Memorial. With just two services per year to arrange, as well as year-round general maintenance, this is not an onerous project to assist with but is very rewarding. It is hoped that, with the continued support of people in the locality, this key community asset will survive for many generations.

Thurlow Life - Past and Present Facebook page
follow the link...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thurlow/>

RURAL CRIME

Members of the public are encouraged to sign up to 'Suffolk Police Connect', a service that provides alerts and information by text, telephone and email:

www.suffolk.police.uk/services/police-connect.

Kedington Library

Customers of Kedington Library are being asked for their views on opening hours proposal.

Suffolk Libraries is considering changing the opening hours at Kedington Library and is asking local people for their views.

The proposal would involve the total number of opening hours staying the same but the library would be closed on Sundays and open on Fridays and would be open and closed earlier on Tuesdays. The proposals are designed to provide opening hours which would better meet the needs of local people and would be more in line with other activities at the community centre where the library is based.

There is already support from customers, from the Friends of Kedington Library and Kedington Parish Council but Suffolk Libraries needs to consult with local people on these proposed changes before making a final decision.

The proposed new hours are as follows:

Monday - closed (no change)

Tuesday - 11.30am to 1pm and 1.30pm to 6pm (currently 2pm to 5pm and 5.30pm to 7.30pm)

Wednesday - 9am to 1pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm (currently 9am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm)

Thursday - 1pm to 5pm (currently 11am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm)

Friday - 11am to 3pm (currently closed on Fridays)

Saturday - 9am – 1pm (no change)

Sunday - closed (currently 1pm to 5pm)

Local people are encouraged to give their views on the changes and about their use of the library. Surveys can be filled in at the library or online via:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/kedingtonlibrary2018>

The survey will run until 30 April and any changes will have to be approved by the Suffolk Libraries Board and Suffolk County Council before they take effect.

Haverhill Library also recently changed its opening hours:

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/news/haverhill-opening-hours-change/>

James Powell

Marketing and Communications Manager, Suffolk Libraries,

Tel – 01473 263837 Mobile – 0787 6554474

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

Would you be interested in starting and participating in a Heating Oil Club in our Villages?

I don't know about you – but I am often amazed by the fluctuating price of heating oil and how our local suppliers approach supply on a competitive but fair basis. I certainly chew my way through a sizeable volume annually and would welcome ways to reduce not only the cost but the carbon footprint for delivery too. Oil clubs are groups of people mainly in rural areas who combine their orders for domestic heating oil and they vary in size from just a few members to maybe several hundred. By combining our oil requirement, we could negotiate significant savings with some clubs reporting up to 10% reduction in supply costs along with less road miles to supply each of us independently. Further information on oil clubs can be found here:

https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/campaigns/current_campaigns/recent_campaigns/oilclubs/About-our-Oil-clubs-campaign/

There are several ways to set up and register an Oil Club and it would be great to keep this **local to our own communities and to work with local suppliers, but my first question is "are you interested?" and if so.... Can you help by volunteering some time with the start-up and on-going running of the club?** I have literature on how we do this and we would need a good proportion of the villages to participate to make it worthwhile. If you are interested, could you email me with your name, address and estimated annual volume of oil you use, along with an indication whether you could also help with some time to run the club. Alternatively, for those without email, do give me a call. We could establish the syndicate over summer when our oil **usage is low with a view to really benefit over the coming winter. Don't forget that if you do participate in the club, you are not bound to use it always and can still order oil independently if you chose to.**

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Tim Gould (01440 783654) Tim.Gould@outlook.com

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Councils secure additional temporary accommodation and further outreach support for vulnerable people

West Suffolk councils have secured the use of additional temporary accommodation and has taken on new outreach workers. The councils have invested to gain the use of a 12-bedroom hostel and flats owned by the Home Group in Bury St Edmunds. The investment, initially for one year, brings the number of temporary beds available in Bury St Edmunds to just over 40 and 70 across the whole of West Suffolk.

Temporary accommodation is used by the councils to help support people who are homeless. Last year West Suffolk councils helped assist and prevent more than 500 households from becoming homeless. The availability of temporary accommodation has been under pressure due to an increase in the number of people presenting themselves to the councils as homeless. That demand for temporary accommodation is expected to continue even after the Homelessness Reduction Act comes into effect from 3 April.

Councils will continue to have a duty to prevent and relieve homelessness but on the prevention side, this will be expanded to include everyone, rather than being based on priority need and intentionality. As part of the Act, tailored support will be developed in the form of a personal housing plan. This will look at the issues behind why someone is at risk of becoming homeless, the support that will be offered and **will also agree the expectations on the individual's behaviour and actions.**

West Suffolk councils will need to access a larger pool of temporary housing, as well as private and social housing – and the Councils are keen to work with more landlords to help meet this need.

Cllr Sara Mildmay-White, Cabinet Member for Housing at West Suffolk councils, said: **“Placing anyone, particularly families in temporary housing is never ideal but it is sometimes necessary.** The new legislation is a positive move but it is not without its challenges. West Suffolk councils will be looking for more opportunities to boost the amount of temporary accommodation that it can access, while we are also calling for private landlords to get in touch to discuss how the council can support them to **provide accommodation for those who need it.”**

The £45,000 investment will go toward the 24-hours-a-day cost of support staff to run the temporary accommodation. For more on the support West Suffolk councils can provide to private landlords willing to work with the Council, email: landlords@westsuffolk.gov.uk.

The support that many people who are rough sleeping or at risk of homelessness need is, however, much more than just housing. With this in mind, West Suffolk councils have appointed two new outreach workers, one of whom will specialise in drugs and alcohol support. The second outreach worker will perform a similar role to the rough sleeper prevention and support worker who has been working with the councils since last year. The two new appointments follow investment by both West Suffolk councils and funds secured from Suffolk County Council Public Health.

West Suffolk councils are also already looking ahead at winter provision for 2018/19. The winter night shelter operated in partnership with Havebury Housing Partnership at Northgate Lodge in Bury St Edmunds closes at the end of March.

Karen Mayhew, Chief Executive of Havebury, said: "Our partnership with West Suffolk councils has meant that together, we have helped accommodate those in greatest need over the severe winter months. It has been encouraging to see our community respond so positively to the Night Shelter at Northgate Lodge. We would like to thank residents for their generous donations over the past few months, and the dedicated team who have worked tirelessly to provide a safe place for those staying at the Night Shelter."

Cllr Mildmay-White said: "The response from our community has been incredibly supportive and we, and the people that we helped, were all very grateful for that support. Our aim has always been to support rough sleepers in getting off the street rather than helping them stay on them. Over the winter we were able to offer accommodation but unfortunately not all accepted – rough sleepers have a choice whether to accept the help offered or not, but we persevered throughout. We are aware that there are people who are genuinely in need of help and who are rough sleeping in our towns and a small number of people who are out street begging. In all cases, our simplest message is to ask residents to think about how they give. Change doesn't have to be about coins handed in the street but can come through supporting the charities that work with rough sleepers."

No further donations are needed for the winter shelter. However, anyone who still wishes to donate can support a number of local charities who support vulnerable people including The Bury Drop-In Centre and Gatehouse in Bury St Edmunds, Reach Community Project in Haverhill and Newmarket Open Door.

Mark Beaumont, Mark.Beaumont@westsuffolk.gov.uk, 01638 719236

What's On!

Month	Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Information
May	2nd	Wed	19:30	LittleThurlow And Great Thurlow Annual Parish Meeting	Thurlow Village Hall	
May	9th	Wed		Great Wrattting Book Club		01440 783111
May	9th	Wed	19:30	Thurlow Fayre Committee Meeting	The Cock Inn	01440 783478
May	13th	Sun	18:00	Spring Choral Evensong	St Peter's Little Thurlow	
May	15th	Tue	19:30	LTPC Meeting	Thurlow Village Hall	01440 783259
May	16th	Wed	19:45	Great Wrattting Parish Council Meeting	Little Acorns, Rook Tree Barn, Withersfield Rd Great Wrattting	
May	23rd	Wed	11:45 to 12:00	Mobile library	109 Bury Road Great Thurlow	01473 263838
May	23rd	Wed	12.45 to 13:05	Mobile library	Thurlow Sports Club Great and Little Thurlow	01473 263838
May	23rd	Wed	14:00 to 14:20	Mobile library	Coronation Cottages GW	01473 263838
May	27th	Sun	13:00	RAF Wrattting Common May Memorial Service	RAF Wrattting Common Memorial	
June	2nd	Sun	13:00	Great Wrattting Village Fete	Hall Farm, Great Wrattting	
June	3rd	Sun	14:00 to 17:00	Great Thurlow Hall Spring Garden Open Day	Great Thurlow Hall	01440 783478

Dates For Your Diary!



Great Wrattling Village Fete

Saturday 2nd June 2018 **1pm**
at Hall Farm

*For a traditional,
fun, family day out.*

**HAVERHILL SILVER
BAND**

**TRADITIONAL STALLS
WHITE ELEPHANT
RAFFLE**

**AFTERNOON TEAS
BARBEQUE**

**BEER & SUMMER COCKTAILS
CHILDRENS' AREA
BOUNCY CASTLE**

 @greatwrattlingfete

 @wrattling_fete

**Free Parking . NO DOGS ADMITTED
Admission £2 . Children under 16 Free!**

Horseheath Racecourse

Horseheath Racecourse is once again playing host to what is now becoming a firm and popular fixture in the British Eventing calendar, with our first BE event of the year booked in for the weekend of the 21st/22nd April. This event in particular has attracted a huge amount of entries, with Spring yet to show her true colours, various other events have been unable to run and everyone is now chomping at the bit to get in the saddle and compete.

We have had so much interest that, as soon as the book was opened for entries we were flooded with applications and we have had to go to ballot – this is great news for the event and means that we will be at capacity for both Saturday and Sunday with a total of 580 riders on the course over the two days. Once again this means that the organisers have had a huge task to get everything ready, especially with the ongoing inclement weather course preparation has **been tricky. The grass hasn't overwintered particularly well and has taken a while to "get going"** – plenty of hours spent harrowing, rolling and mowing have now resulted in a good running surface.



We have spent the winter months designing and building new jumps to include a huge 32ft long 5.5 ton monster jump, made from a single Oak tree, which will cater for all three classes of rider in one – we just have to move it into position now!

We have added a further feature to the course too – a new glade through one of the woods adjoining the course, hopefully providing the riders with more technical challenges and enjoyment – **if they don't get lost!**



Please do have a look at our Facebook page for further comments, pictures and videos of the day and general information about the event - www.facebook.com/HorseheathHT/

We are, once again, very grateful indeed for the tireless support of the committee, the advice and guidance of the BE area and technical teams and most of all indebted to all those volunteers who have offered their help to make the weekend such a success. Our sponsors too play a huge part in the success of the event – **without them this event wouldn't work they are** as follows: Price Waterhouse Coopers, NFU, Binders, Taylor Vinters and Saffrey Champness, Roythornes, Duck Plumbing, Newmarket Equine Hospital, Andrew Hodge, Rosssdales, Lockhart Garratt, Carter Jonas, Teversham Motors, Tabor Gorup, Candenza Eventing, Crows Hall Wedding Venue, Virbac, Godliphin Lifetime Care, Thunderbrook, Simply Feed Systems and TopSpec. Special thanks also goes to: Ben Burgess, Binders Ltd, British Eventing, Ernest Doe, Farrant Electrical Ltd and Newmarket Equine Hospital for their provision of services or equipment.

We will then look towards our next BE event on the 11th and 12th August which, we hope, will again build on the success of the previous events, again all information on this can be found on Facebook or our own website - <http://www.thurlowestate.co.uk/index.php/horseheath/british-eventing>

Returning for the second year, and again looking to build on its hugely successful debut event is The Wild Wood Disco will be at Horseheath on the 30th June and we are hoping that it will again attract large crowds. It is being billed in the **local press as Cambridge's coolest new festival and offers a "magical night of dancing and revelry under a canopy of the trees."** The **headliner for this year is Groove Armada (DJ set).**



In addition to the main event there will also be a more child friendly event, held on the 9th June called the Wild Wood Rumpus. This includes art installations, story tellers, **woodland crafts children's** theatre, plus fantastic food from local street food vendors, bars, and live music to stomp and dance to. Again further information and tickets for the event can be found at - <http://mylittlefestival.uk/events/>

**THURLOW
FAYRE**

**SUNDAY
2ND**

SEPTEMBER

12 - 4pm

Family Fun Day

Admission - Adults £3.00 - Under 16 free

CAR BOOT £8
from 8 am

CRAFT & FOOD FAIR

BEER TENT

**HADSTOCK
SILVER BAND**

PRODUCE SHOW

TEA TENT

CLASSIC CARS

MAIN RING ATTRACTIONS



Suffolk Wildlife
Trust



Gemma's Farm
Sheep Racing



Gun Dog
Display



Fire and Ice
Majorettes

ALSO LISA MASON



SCHOOL OF DANCE

"Ride a Winner"
on a Racehorse Simulator

Skipathon
Hula Hoop Challenge

Bubbly Circus Magic Show

Guess the weight of the



OTHER ATTRACTIONS

- * Gemma's Petting Farm
- * Archery
- * Fun Dog Show
- * Bumper Cars
- * Giant Slide
- * Bungee Trampoline
- * Swing Boats
- * Zorb Balls
- * Pony Rides
- * Bottle Stall
- * Thurlow History Display

NSPCC WEST SUFFOLK BRANCH COMMITTEE

is seeking a volunteer for the role of
BRANCH SECRETARY

After eight years in this role, the present Secretary will not be standing for re-election at the next Annual Meeting but is very willing to offer information and advice to her successor to ensure a smooth handover.

The Secretary will be required to minute Committee Meetings held approximately every six weeks, help with fundraising and prepare paperwork for various events. In doing this, the Secretary will be supporting the invaluable work of this excellent charity and helping vulnerable children. The Secretary may also call upon the assistance of the NSPCC Office for any major print or design work.

Please contact Ann Totman, Chairman, on 07808 730746 or email anntotman@googlemail.com for further details.

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Prayer needs and home Communions

If you are in need of prayer, or are aware of someone who needs to be included in prayer, please contact the Rector.

There is no need to go into detail and no-one will be mentioned by name in intercessions unless they give their permission but you can be assured that you or the person you bring forward will be prayed for. The same applies if you, or **someone you know, hasn't been able to** come to Communion because of illness and would like to receive. In these cases you can still be included by the Rector or a member of the ministry team bringing Communion to you in your home.

For all pastoral matters please contact Rev. Derek Hollis on 01440 763066.

The Rector Writes

Some years ago I visited Calke Abbey in Derbyshire, a property now in the hands of the National Trust, and referred to in their handbook as "the house that time forgot". Built at the very beginning of the eighteenth century, the house is described as providing a good example of the "English country house in decline." Many of the interiors of the house have remained unchanged since the 1880s. Electricity was only installed in the house in 1962.

Calke used to belong to the rather reclusive Harpur Crewe family. In 1886 the estate passed into the hands of the last Baronet Sir Vauncey Harpur Crewe, who became High Sheriff of Derbyshire in 1900. Sir Vauncey was evidently an interesting character. Like some of his ancestors he was an ornithologist, but he did not confine his interest to just watching birds. Whilst the park was treated as a private bird sanctuary, and his tenant farmers were instructed not to trim their hedges in order to provide cover for nesting birds, Sir Vauncey also built up a collection of stuffed birds, some of which he had bought, and others which he had himself shot. It is said that he was only ever parted from his gun on Sundays, when he left it in the church porch whilst he was at the morning service. Sir Vauncey lived in fear of fire taking hold in the house and imposed a smoking ban on the entire household. He turned one of his daughters out of the house when he found her breaking the smoking ban.

Sir Vauncey was reluctant to accept the modern inventions of the twentieth century. Until his death in 1924 he refused to allow cars into the park. Any guests who arrived in a motor vehicle were obliged to leave the vehicle at one of the lodges at the edge of the estate and wait whilst a carriage was despatched, complete with rugs and refreshments, to carry them across the park to the house.

Sally and I have visited a couple of fascinating museums over the years. We discovered a gem of a museum one afternoon in Skegness. Church Farm Museum is just a short distance from the centre of Skegness. The original 1760's farmhouse is furnished to the period 1900 - 1910 and the room settings are styled as if the inhabitants have just stepped out for a moment. The original farm buildings, cowsheds, threshing barn and workshops, now house displays of farming implements and machinery, reminders of an era when life was lived at a slower pace and the horse, not the car, was king. An audio presentation in the wash house reminds us all what wash day used to be like prior to the advent of the automatic washing machine.

Amongst the other buildings, Withern Cottage is a wonderful example of a Lincolnshire "Mud and Stud" thatched cottage, which was moved from the nearby village of Withern to be re-built at the museum which gives an insight to the living conditions of an agricultural labourer in the late 18th century. Sadly on the day we went we couldn't set foot in the cottage as it had flooded.

Another small museum we came across one summer was the Atholl Country Life Museum at Blair Atholl, one of Scotland's "finest wee museums" and rated by the Scottish Tourist Board a tree-star attraction. Again well worth a visit if you're passing.

I find it interesting as I visit such places to learn about life in times past, and to try to imagine what it would have been like to have lived in such a place. Life was certainly different, be it fifty, a hundred or two hundred years ago. Different, definitely, but was it better? I came across a piece of graffiti which said "Nostalgia isn't what it used to be". My dictionary lists nostalgia as a sentimental yearning for a period of the past: a regretful or wistful memory of an earlier time. Whilst we might well consider that life in times past was in some respects better, I suspect that few would want to "turn the clock back" so to speak, because in other ways life was probably much harder. We can tend sometimes to regard the past through rose-tinted spectacles, as some kind of golden age when things were much better than they are today. People sometimes speak to me of churches which used to be full of people. Maybe here in the countryside the churches were once quite well-attended. However, to say that in previous generations everyone went to church just isn't true. We must not assume that because we have in our towns and cities numerous vast church buildings that they were ever full of people.

Various books have been published which examine the history of church attendance in previous generations. One book I read pointed out that in 1851 around 40 per cent of the population were in church on an average Sunday, with most people attending on an occasional basis. The book describes a steady decline in churchgoing over many years, since the last decades of the nineteenth century. It also points out how many large churches had been built in the latter half of that century. Huge amounts of private wealth, often new industrial wealth, had been made available to finance the building of churches. In Barrow in Furness, for example, where numerous Methodist and Free Church chapels had been built, the Anglicans responded by building four identical churches, each of which had the capacity to seat six hundred people. These were financed largely by the nobility and the shareholders of the shipyard. The nineteenth century saw the speculative building of many churches and chapels, but at the end of the century many were only a third full on the average Sunday.

Around a hundred years or so ago the churches almost achieved their target of being present in every community and having an ordained minister present in each place. Many small country parishes then had an incumbent which in some cases had not had a priest resident in them since the middle ages. Sadly, an ordained presence at that level was not able to be sustained for long.

I enjoy visiting historic houses and learning about our heritage and our history. History is important as it has shaped the world in which we live. Churches provide a link with the history of our community through many centuries, a living history and one which continues to be written. The shape of ministry may be changing, but the story continues. In a time of rapid change our churches offer us stability and a link with the security we knew in the past. They remind us too of the historic faith of our nation which has over hundreds and hundreds of years offered purpose and hope to a mixed-up world. I number our parish churches amongst my list of places worth visiting – and visiting weekly – but then I would say that, wouldn't I?

Derek Hollis



May to June 2018 Church Services

Monthly Church Service Rota	Date	Time/Event	Time/Event	Time/Event	Time/Event
	Sun 6th May	10:00 SOTW Great Thurlow			
	Sun 13th May	09:30 HC Barnardiston	09:30 SOTW Kedington	11:00 HC Great Bradley	18:00 ES Little Thurlow
	Sun 20th May	10:00 HC Benefice Kedington			
	Sun 27th May	08:00 HC Kedington	11:00 HC Great Wrattling	18:00 ES Kedington	
	Sun 3rd June	09:30 HC Kedington	11:00 HC Great Thurlow		
	Sun 10th June	09:30 HC Barnardiston	09:30 SOTW Kedington	11:00 HC Great Bradley	

The Benefice service rota is also provided online at http://stourheadbenefice.org/Stourhead_Benefice/Service_Rota.html

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INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS. This is a brief guide, intended especially for newcomers to the villages, with information about the facilities and services available locally and some useful telephone numbers and addresses.

Services and Societies in Thurlow	Telephone
Thurlow Garage – Ray Sharrod	01440 783248
The Cock Inn	01440 783224
Parish Clerk – Little Thurlow – Molly Hawkins	01440 783259
Parish Clerk – Great Thurlow – Diana Allin	01440 783560
Thurlow CEVC School – Head Teacher	01440 783281
Tiddly Tots – Zoe Hunt Wednesdays 10 am - 12 noon during term time	078911 46931
Thurlow Fayre – Alison Coffey	01440 783478
Thurlow Gardening Club – Dawn Abbey	01440 783646
Thurlow Sports Club Secretary – Allan Loveday	01440 707416
Thurlow Village Hall Committee – Ros Bunting	01440 783528
Thurlow Village Hall Bookings – Robert Hunt Email: thurlovillagehall@gmail.com	07976 548205
Thurlow Womens Institute – President Dawn Abbey	01440 783646
Thurlow Tennis Club—Andy Quick	01440 783070

Services and Societies in Great Wratting	Telephone
Neighbourhood Watch — Clare Egloff - claretturner2003@hotmail.com	07780724798
Red Lion, Great Wratting – George and Linda Sykes	01440 783237
The Great Wratting Book Group – Jean Newlands	01440 783111
Great Wratting email Tree — gwemailtree@gmail.com	
The mobile library service stops at Coronation Cottages from 2.00 to 2.20 pm every 4 weeks, on Wednesday afternoons	01440 702638

Emergency	Telephone
Police Response – any officer, non emergency	101
Police Response – Emergency	999
Suffolk Fire Service	01284 558888
UK Network (Electricity) 24 hour Emergency helpline	0800 7838838
UK Power Networks - in case of power cuts	105
Anglian Water 24 hour Emergency Helpline (water/sewage)	08457 145145
British Telecom 24 hour fault reporting	0800 800151
Floodline 24 hour with recorded update	0845 9881188
In case of disaster or village is cut off, go to Thurlow Village Hall. Key Holder is Diana Allin – 89a Hill House, Great Thurlow	01440 783560

Community Contacts	Telephone
Churches – Stourhead Benefice – Rev. Derek Hollis	01440 763066
Haverhill Social Services	01440 764949
Haverhill Citizens Advice Bureau	01440 704012
St Edmundsbury Borough Council Planning	01284 763233
St Edmundsbury Borough Council	01284 763233
St Edmundsbury Borough Council (Haverhill office)	01440 702271
County Councillor – Mary Evans	01284 789478
Suffolk County Council General Enquiries	08456 066067
District Councillor - Jane Midwood	01440 820360
Age UK - Mary Hilton	01440 783649
Thurlow Estate – Tim Barling, Agent	01440 783661
Thurlow Estate – Tom Duffin, Assistant to Agent	
Libraries – Haverhill	01440 702638
Libraries – Bury St Edmunds	01284 352545
A mobile library visits the villages every 4 weeks on a Wednesday stopping at Sowley Green, 150 Bury Road from 11:30-11:40 am; Great Thurlow, 109 Bury Road from 11:45-12:10 pm; Little Thurlow, Thurlow Sports Club from 12:45-13:05 pm and Great Wratting, Coronation cottages from 14:00 –14:20 pm.	01473 263838
Suffolk Radio – BBC FM 103.9 or 104.6	01473 250000
Refuse Collection Bin collection is every Friday morning alternating between black and brown bins one week and blue bins on their own the next.	01284 757320
Environmental Health and Pest Control	01284 757084
Health and Wellbeing	Telephone
Doctors – The Christmas Maltings and Clements Practice	01440 269366
Doctors – Selby Practice	01440 702010
Doctors – Haverhill Family Practice	01440 702010
	01440 703667
Chemist – Boots, Haverhill	01440 702058
Chemist – Sainsburys Pharmacy	01440 708043
Chemist – The Co—operative Pharmacy	01440 702079
Hospital – West Suffolk (Bury St Edmunds)	01284 713000
Hospital – West Suffolk Accident and Emergency	01284 713333
Hospital – Addenbrookes (Cambridge)	01223 245151
Vets – Swayne and Partners (Haverhill)	01440 702007
Vets – Lida Vets (Newmarket)	01638 560000
Vets – Hawkedon Veterinary Surgery	01284 789428
Vets - Homefield Vets	01440 712021
Church Wardens	Telephone
St Mary's Church, Great Wratting—Simon Corbett	01440 783698
St Mary's Church, Great Wratting—Ben Stanton	01440 783103
St Peter's Church, Little Thurlow—Robin Vestey	T.B.A.
St Peter's Church, Little Thurlow—Iris Eley	01440 783534
All Saints Church, Great Thurlow—George Vestey	01440 783240

Great Wratting Parish Council Contacts	Telephone
Chair	
Vice-Chair – Gavin Acheson - gavin.acheson@icloud.com	01440 783515
Councillor – Tim Hayes - timandlornahayes@gmail.com	01440 783242
Councillor – Dawn Fisk - dawn.fisk@btinternet.com	01440 783993
Councillor – Steven Robinson - stevenrobinson150@gmail.com	01440 783131
Councillor—Diana Curtis	01440 783898
Parish Clerk – Richard Bowler - gtwrattingpc@yahoo.co.uk	01638 731300
VACANCY	
If you would like information about joining Great Wratting Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk. http://www.greatwratting.onesuffolk.net/	

Little Thurlow Parish Council Contacts	Telephone
Chris Field – Chairman	01440 783697
Jessica Hale –Vice Chairman	01440 783190
Will Griffiths	01440 783496
Chris Lowe	01440 783891
Andrew Dickson	01440 783385
Sue Acey	01440 783545
Geoff Patient	01440 783693
Molly Hawkins—Parish Clerk	01440 783259

Great Thurlow Parish Council Contacts	Telephone
Peter Thomas—Chairman	01440 783700
Conrad Hawkins —Vice Chairman	01440 783259
George Vestey	01440 783240
Stan Cook	01440 783532
Rod Pass	01440 783610
Naomi Watts	To follow
Jane Sheppard	01440 783209
Diana Allin - Parish Clerk	01440 762299 (office hours)

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