

BLYTHBURGH

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Issue No. 2

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March/April 2012

Apply for Latitude tickets March 19

Applications for residents' tickets to the sixth Latitude Festival in Henham Park from July 12 to 15, 2012, will open at 9am on March 19.

Applications using the form on Page 3 or by email giving the same information may be delivered before this date but they will not be opened until then. The tickets are distributed by the Blythburgh Latitude Trust and are available to those living in the parish of Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton thanks to the continued support of Festival Republic, the organisers.

Residents can purchase one weekend ticket each or one day ticket for each of the main festival days, July 13, 14 and 15. Weekend tickets are £40 (Normally £175); day tickets are £14 (normally £75). Only residents with weekend tickets can attend the Thursday evening, when there is limited entertainment.

Children aged between five and 12 require tickets priced at £5, which can be obtained when booking adult tickets. The child's name will be required together with the details of the parents or guardians applying for residents' tickets.

The Trust has only a limited number of child tickets and these will be distributed in the order the applications are opened. Extra child tickets will be available from the festival website. Children under four go free and need not be registered in advance. Young people aged 13 and over require an adult ticket. All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

A family ticket is the same as a weekend ticket but gives access to the campsite reserved for families. Normal weekend tickets give access to other sites at the festival. When residents first arrive on site, they must swap their ticket for a wristband before they can enter the site. Once they have the wristband they can come and go freely. Residents are likely to be asked for photo ID or proof of address.

Details of this year's line up are on www.latitudefestival.co.uk

**How to apply for
Tickets-Page 3**

Blythburgh Villager of the Year 2012

Nominations are invited for the Blythburgh Villager of the Year 2012 to recognise the man or woman who has made a particular contribution to village life this year or over a period of years. Names should be sent to Jim Boggis, Clerk, Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton Parish Council, Marsh End, Church Road, Blythburgh, IP19 9LL or by email to blythburghpc@gmail.com by April 30, 2012.

The winner will receive a cheque for £50, a framed certificate and his or her name on the honours' board in Blythburgh Village Hall. Members of the Parish Council are not eligible. If more than one nomination is received the clerk will convene a small group of parishioners to make the award.

The presentation will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting in Blythburgh Village Hall at 7pm on Friday May 18. Wine and light refreshments will be served, so please come and join the celebrations.

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BLYTHBURGH CHARACTERS

Doreen Carwithen (1922-2003)

Browsing through films in the East Anglian Film Archive I came across a name I recognised – Doreen Carwithen – who had composed the music for a 1954 British Transport film *East Anglian Holiday*. She is better known in Blythburgh as Mary Alwyn of Lark Rise in Dunwich Road.

Doreen Carwithen was born in Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, to a musical family and her mother taught her piano and violin from the age of four. She started composing at sixteen and while still at school played the cello in orchestras. In 1941 she went to the Royal Academy of Music on a county scholarship.

There she was taught harmony by William Alwyn. Her overture *ODTAA (One Damn Thing After Another)* had its first performance under Sir Adrian Boult in 1947. In the same year she was the first RAM student to be accepted for training in film music composition under a scheme established by the impresario J. Arthur Rank.

She was to score more than 30 films including the Cannes 1952 prize-winner for the best short fictional film *The Stranger Left No Card*. Also in that year her *Concerto for Piano and Strings* had its first public performance at the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts. In 1953 she wrote the music for *Elizabeth is Queen*, the official film for the coronation of Elizabeth II.

Early success did not lead to a career as a

composer. Publishers were not interested in women composers. Two string quartets for which she was awarded prizes remain almost unknown. From 1961, she devoted herself to her former professor William Alwyn as secretary and amanuensis. She bought a cottage in Chapel Road Blythburgh in 1960 and together they built Lark Rise, completed in 1964.

There was a brief revival of composing activity. For the opening of a new concert hall at Framlingham College in 1964 she wrote a *Suffolk Suite* based on tunes she had used for that British Transport film in 1954.

After William Alwyn's death in 1985 (they had married in 1975) Mary, the name she much preferred, established the William Alwyn Archive and a foundation to promote her husband's work. His biographer wrote that Mary never once regretted turning her back on Doreen Carwithen.

In 1999 she suffered a stroke and had to leave Blythburgh for nursing homes, first in Lowestoft and Kessingland and then Fornsett St. Peter, Norfolk, where she died in 2003. She was still talking about returning to Blythburgh.

Her work is available on CD, including the piano concerto, two overtures, and the Suffolk suite, played by the London Symphony Orchestra under Richard Hickox.

Alan Mackley

Raise a glass to Blythburgh

Everybody is welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting on May 18 at 7pm in the village hall to raise a glass of wine and have a bite to eat to celebrate the Blythburgh Villager of the Year 2012.

Local associations will also keep you up to date with all that is happening in Blythburgh.

Reminder: The next meeting of the Parish Council is on May 14 at 7.30pm. Open Forum at 7.15.

MRS CLAPHAM INVESTIGATES

A very definite case of spring fever

You may have spotted me and Jenny Allen recently looking somewhat battered and bruised. She, apparently, fell on her face outside the church - not praying, just tripping - I fell down the stairs carrying a pile of laundry. And we were both sticking to these stories with some success when, unfortunately, we popped in to the village shop at the same time.

Katie took one look at the multi-coloured bruise on my cheek and Jenny's magnificent black eye, "Hmm," she said, "have you two been scrapping?"

Well, really. Of course we had - one man, two women - what do you expect? "I won, of course," announced Jenny, "but he's gone off me now I look like this." Hah!

Now that spring - for the moment - seems to be well and truly sprung, I've been witnessing a good deal of this behaviour.

Pheasants, handsome but daft, strutting their stuff, neighbours' cockerels picking their mates in a most ungentlemanly manner and tiny hedge sparrows puffing themselves up to such an extent that they fall off their twigs in their efforts to pull the ladies.

Delilah, naturally, has had a crowd (or should that be a 'howling') of tom cats fighting over her again. Unluckily for my friends Paul and Brenda, she prefers to do her courting in their back garden which makes for sleepless nights.

Thankfully, for them, all is now serene as she waddles smugly around the house, occasionally getting stuck in the cat flap. And going through the usual dumb-tortoiseshell routine of finding an unsuitable nest site - this time the preserving pan on the highest kitchen cupboard is favourite. And now our youngest female, Pixie, is making overtures to her big brothers, who, having been neutered, are somewhat bemused by this

behaviour but humour her with a good-natured wrestling match.

I think it's the vet for Pixie. Judging by her colour, I've always thought she was half-rabbit anyway and much as I love kittens...

It's clear that in the spring, a middle-aged woman's fancy turns to...um, well, kittens. I always knew I'd be labelled 'that mad old cat lady' - I've just decided to start a little early.

Don't get me wrong, I like the opposite sex - well, perhaps like is a strong word - and many of them make quite pleasant human-beings. But they're so much more demanding than a litter of kittens or a loyal dog.

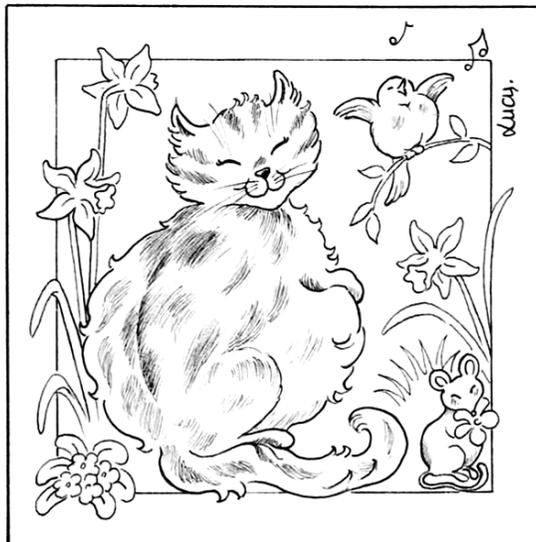
If you have a man who's always pleased to see you, sits on your knee, purring in a comforting way when you're a bit down, gazes at you adoringly, patiently waiting for you to tickle his tummy or scratch behind his ears and is always happy to garden or go

for long walk, should you so desire....well, frankly, you should get him on a reality TV show. Or take him to a psychiatrist.

And what man would bring you his dish when he's hungry or lie next to you on the sofa in a companionable way with his legs in the air, snoring gently and occasionally breaking wind? Come to think of it...don't answer that.

Changing the subject - which can only be a good thing - I'd like to sing the praises of the village shop. Friendly and welcoming, stuffed with home-made cakes, pasties, great bread and plenty of pet food! You only have to murmur you were looking for tin foil or a particular brand of something and, a few hours later - bingo - there it is.

I have a feeling Katie and Alan were educated at Hogwarts. Or perhaps they just give a damn. Whichever it is - thank you both.



BLYTHBURGH

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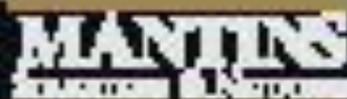
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Shop gets off to a cracking start

Alan and Katie are delighted with the response to the village shop from the local community. The shop is proving to be a place where people feel happy to stop and chat. Alan says: "We have all got to know our fellow villagers better: their likes and dislikes. Eggs are proving very popular."

The prescription service is now up and running. Repeat orders placed with York Road surgery on Monday afternoon will be available for collection at the shop from 7 am on Friday.

Alan Mackley emailed *Blythburgh Focus*: "It's good having the shop. Ursula can get updates on my condition."

Parish Councillors were reminded at their meetings in February and March that they should not come to meetings having already made up their minds, particularly over planning decisions. A council's decision will be safe from legal challenge if the councillors' approach is objective and fair, considering all relevant issues.

If there is evidence of pre-determination by one or more councillors then the decision could be subject to a successful judicial review as being tainted. The decision could be quashed and the council would have to re-make the decision. Many challenges come from those who have had planning applications adversely commented upon or refused. The council's Planning Advisory Group advises on the content of applications: it does not recommend decisions. It is for

councillors to make up their own minds at council meetings.

Suffolk Coastal District Council has refused planning permission for alterations to White Cottage, The Street, Blythburgh, in line with views expressed by the Parish Council.

The council has no objections to a small wind turbine at Redcap Farm, Blythburgh.

My Week With Marilyn in the village hall on Friday 16 March has been cancelled as the film's release has been delayed. The showing has been rescheduled for Friday, April 20 at 7:30pm. Bring your own refreshments and enjoy a night with Marilyn....

To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, Holy Trinity and Blythburgh [M@tters](#), supported by the Blythburgh Latitude Trust, are holding a Ceilidh in the church at 6pm on June 4.

A village picnic is planned for Sunday, May 13th at 12:30pm, the traditional day for Beating the Bounds. Bring a picnic and meet in the car park at Westward Lodge, close to the parish boundary. Willow wands will be supplied so that everybody can join in beating the bounds.

Blythburgh Speed Watch reports that between January 13 and 31, four motorists were reported to the police. The highest speed was 39mph on the Dunwich Road. During February, 16 vehicles were reported, the highest speed was 51mph on the A12.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair: David Tytler
01502 478521

Vice Chair/Chair planning advisory group: Alan Mackley

Chair finance advisory group
Roderick Orr-Ewing

Councillors

John Blakesley,

Lucy Clapham,

Alan De Thabrew

Clerk: Jim Boggis 01502 478687

BLYTHBURGH ASSOCIATIONS

Carpet Bowls

Beryl Stringer

Horticultural Society

Jenny Allen 01502 478314

Neighbourhood Watch

Rob Benson 01502 478047

Speed Watch

Binny Lewis 01502 478624

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Journey towards Easter at Holy Trinity

An exhibition of painting and sculpture, *Journeying towards Easter*, by four internationally recognised artists – Laurence Edwards, Iain McKillop, Nicholas Mynheer and Brian Whelan – is in Holy Trinity, Blythburgh, until Monday April 9.

The exhibition is open from 9am – 6pm daily and admission is free. An extra painting, *The Empty Tomb* by Nicholas Mynheer, will be added to the exhibition and displayed above the altar on Easter Sunday.

The aim of the exhibition is to provide a stimulating and reflective environment in the church, encouraging visitors and congregation to spend time exploring the themes of journeying and pilgrimage, fasting and prayer, the Passion and the Easter story. The artists have been chosen because of their interest in exploring these themes, but also because they each have a link to the church or to East Suffolk.

Born and raised in Suffolk, sculptor Laurence Edwards' studio is in nearby Butley Mills. His celebrated *Creek Men* were features of the Aldeburgh Festival at Snape Maltings in 2008. Sculptor and painter Nicholas Mynheer's relief of the *Father, Son and Holy Spirit* is Holy Trinity's

signature sculpture, above the main porch. (*Simon carries Jesus' cross*, by Nicholas Mynheer, pictured.)



Brian Whelan has lived and worked in the area for over 25 years. Many of his works are inspired by the medieval churches of East Anglia. Brian has two

paintings, *The Martyrdom of St Edmund* and *The Magi*, permanently hung at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, the Mother Church of Suffolk. He now has a studio in North Norfolk.

Painter Iain McKillop is a frequent visitor to Wenham. He works mostly in Christian religious art and has permanent works in Gloucester and Guildford Cathedrals, together with his *Stations of the Cross* and *Resurrection Altarpiece* in St. John's, Church, Bury St Edmunds.

Meryl Doney

Holy Trinity diary

The exhibition will form the focus for an hour of meditation led by Malcolm Doney at noon on Good Friday, 6 April. On Saturday 7 April, at 4pm we invite all children to help build the Easter Garden, followed by an Easter Egg hunt. The Easter morning service on 8 April, also led by Malcolm, will take place at 11am when a special, additional artwork will be installed behind the High Altar.

On Saturday 17 March at 7.30pm, Lowestoft Orchestral Society and Loddon Brass Band will perform light and popular pieces, as well as classical excerpts. There will be a retiring collection for MacMillan Nurses. On Sunday 22 April. Capella Antiqua, a local early music group will be in concert from 3pm.

The Annual Parochial Church meeting will take place on Friday 30 March at 7pm in the Village Hall, preceded by the vestry meeting, a meeting of very ancient origin, to elect the churchwardens. Anybody resident in the parish can attend and can nominate churchwardens.

On Sunday 29 April, by kind permission of Susan and Nick Haward, Holy Trinity will hold a short service of Nones at 3pm in the ruins of the 12 Century priory, which was granted to the Augustinian canons of St Osyth. A growing number of churches and cathedrals with an Augustinian background hold a service of Nones at 3pm on the Sunday nearest to 3 May and we shall be taking part for the first time in this historical re-enactment. Nones was the service which took place at 3pm, the ninth hour of the monastic day. Do join us.

Notes from Daisy Bank L

We have several clocks in our cottage most of which either don't work, have never worked or are unlikely ever to work. One that does has a Westminster chime. It does all the usual things such as chime every quarter and half but on the hour it seems to have a mind of its own.

Days will go by with the right amount of chimes according to the hour and then suddenly it will add several more just to keep us on our toes. So if you happened to be walking along the Daisy Bank Lane and hear seventeen chimes at whatever hour – the record so far – then fear not, Fern Cottage is close at hand.

When I first went to sea as a callow youth, my sense of timing and time-keeping was appalling. Missed watches and the consequent wrath from the powers that be cured me of all that. I am now a stickler for time and keeping appointments exact. It doesn't matter that the person I am meeting is late as long as I am not. Hence I have done a lot of waiting over the years and am finally resigned to my lot as an habitual waiter.

In my more affluent times, I've had a very expensive Rolex Oyster stripped from my wrist in London when under the influence and an equally expensive antique clock stolen by the shop that I took it to for a service. The Rolex had to be taken to the Rolex Offices, which in those days were somewhere near Marble Arch and left there for several days to be gone over. As far as I remember there was no charge.

I suppose they worked on the premise that having spent that amount of money to purchase

the damn thing, then the least they could do was do the work for free. Believe me when I say that I wasn't bothered when it went. The day after, feeling like death, I went out and bought a £30 Japanese job which was probably nearly as good as the Rolex.

Unfortunately the clock repairers where my antique clock disappeared were as a result of the owners doing a midnight flit. The shop was in Highgate and was called boringly enough, *Tempus Fugit*. I suppose they applied that principle when they relocated.

I swear I saw it on the Antiques Road Show a few years later. When I contacted the police it turned out that I was one of many and there was nothing that they could do. I considered a civil case, but would have to find the culprits before anything could be done. And here was me thinking a receipt was good enough.

Sadly my dear friend Ray St Clair Brown's wife died a couple of weeks ago. Together since their teens, life for them was a mixture of lots of excitement and lots of tragedy. But being good friends must help you through the good times and comfort you in the bad.

And Joan and Ray were good friends. My memory of Joan will always be her laughter resounding around the church at one of our private views when the Blythburgh Group was exhibiting.

Not a bad legacy, the sound of someone laughing.

Paul Bennett

Police warn on forged notes

Police are warning shop workers and businesses to be on the alert after a number of counterfeit notes were handed over in payment for goods. Portions of chips were purchased from a shop in Beccles on two occasions within ten minutes on Tuesday 21 February. In both cases forged £20 notes were handed over and change received.

A fake £20 was handed over for low-value goods at a shop in Wangford on Saturday 25 February. Again change was given. A fake note was presented to a shop in Aldeburgh High Street on Tuesday 21 February but the assistant realised it was a forgery and did not accept it. There were similar incidents in Saxmundham, Snape, Walberswick, Eyke and Woodbridge. Businesses should check all £20 for watermarks, etc. The forged notes feel different to standard notes in weight and texture. Anybody with information should call the police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.