

BLYTHBURGH

FOCUS

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BULCAMP AND HINTON



Issue No.42

<http://blythburgh.onesuffolk.net>

November/ December 2018

The church goes poppy-red



Holy Trinity bathed in red over armistice weekend Picture: Colin Huggins. WW1 dinner Page 8

Yes, we will go to the panto...

Thanks to the Blythburgh Latitude Trust, tickets have been booked for the annual trip to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal Norwich on Saturday 29 December at 2.30pm. This year's pantomime is *Aladdin*. The coach will pick up at the bus stop on the northbound A12 at 11.30am, and we should be back around 6.30pm. The start time should allow us to get to Norwich in time to have a bite to eat before the show and even hit the sales.

The trip is open to all residents in the parish of Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton, but places are limited so please book early. Deadline for applications is Friday 14 December. Apply in writing to Jenny Allen (Wolsey House, Chapel Road) or by e-mail (jennyanddick@aol.com) with name and address; the number of places requested; and a contact telephone number. Please also say if any children under 3 who would be sharing a seat with an adult. Please assume you have places if Jenny does not contact you.



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Home thoughts from a broad...



Lucy.

TRAFFIC WATCH

Beware – lunatics at large on the A 12

New heights of lunacy were reached in October with nine people recorded at over 80mph southbound on the A12. Two of these were travelling between 85 and 90 and one was travelling at over 90mph. As all these last three were recorded at about 5.30am it is likely to be the same person

A12 Northbound, monitored in October with the VAS (display). Overall the figures are similar to previous records with 89% (4,127 vehicles per day) driving at an acceptable speed, 11% illegally and 10 vehicles per day highly illegal. During the day 92% were acceptable, 8% illegal and one vehicle per day highly illegal. At night the figures were 71% acceptable, 28% illegal and 1.4% (9 vehicles per night) highly illegal. Late at night acceptable speeds dropped to 61%, illegal rose to 37% (67 per night) and the highly illegal to 3% (five per night).

A12 Southbound, monitored in September and October. Overall 73% (4610 vehicles per day) were acceptable, 26% illegal and 0.6% highly illegal. During the day 77% were acceptable, 23% were illegal and 7 vehicles a day were highly illegal (12). At night it was 51% (41%) acceptable, 45% illegal and 3% highly illegal. Late nights were 39% acceptable, 54% illegal and 13 vehicles per night highly illegal.

Dunwich Road Northbound, monitored in September. Overall 89% (1197 vehicles per day) were driving at an acceptable speed (0-35 mph), 11% were driving at illegal speeds (35-55mph) and 12 vehicles over the whole period monitored were driving at highly illegal speeds of over 55mph. During the day (07:00 to 19:00) 90% were acceptable and 10% illegal and at night (19:00 to 07:00) 73% were acceptable and 27% were illegal. Late at night (22:00 to 05:00) only 72% were acceptable with 28% illegal.

Roderick Orr-Ewing



Restaurant and bar

Bar Opening

Mon – Thurs
11.00 to 15.00
18.00 to 23.00
Fri – Sat
11.00 to 23.00

Sun
11 to 22.30

Food Opening

Mon – Thurs
12.00 to 14.00
18.00 to 21.00
Fri – Sat
12.00 to 15.00
18.00 to 21.00

Sun
12.00 to 20.00

Holiday openings

Bar

Christmas Eve
11.00 to 11.00

Christmas Day
11.45 to 4.00

New Year's Eve
11.00 to late

New Year's Day

Food

Christmas Eve
12.00 to 3.00
and 17.00 to 21.00

Christmas Day
One sitting for lunch
booking essential

New Year's Eve
12.00 to 3.00
and 17.00 to 21.00

New Year's Day The

01502 478217

BLYTHBURGH REFLECTIONS

Lest we forget...



The actual causes of World War I are complicated and still debated to this day but the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand on 28 July 1914 was certainly the direct trigger for what is known as the Great War.

Many expected this conflict to be over by Christmas 1914 but they were wrong and the conflict turned into a grim stalemate. This was a new form of warfare with far-reaching repercussions.

Zeppelins were sent to bomb British cities. Factories worked round the clock to try to meet the demand for munitions. Women joined the workforce to replace men who were being called up to the trenches. As the war dragged on, things got harder. German U-boats preyed on the merchant ships bound for our shores. Basic goods became scarcer and life was a struggle for many.

The Great War was fought across land, sea and air on an unprecedented scale. This global war led to the mobilisation of seventy million military personnel, sixty million of them European. But, as with any war, there were casualties. Military losses were exacerbated by the tactical stalemate caused by gruelling trench warfare and the introduction of new weaponry. Before peace was declared on the 11 November 1918, an estimated nine million combatants and seven million civilians died as a direct result of this war.

We owe them all an enormous debt of gratitude and on this, the 100 year anniversary of the Armistice, we remember and honour those Blythburgh residents who “gave their tomorrow for our today”.

Dudley George Blois: Lieutenant Colonel DSO, commanding 84th Brigade Royal Artillery. Died 14 July 1916, aged 41.

William John Borrett: Leading seaman HMS Negro. Died 21 December 1916, aged 26.

Jack Church: No information recorded.

Charles Benjamin Cross: Royal Naval Reserve. Died 6 April 1917. Deck hand on HMS Trawler Strathannock: sank in deep water off Eyemouth probably after hitting a mine.

William Nelson Cross: Private 1st Battalion the Buffs. Died: 21 March 1918 in the Battle of Arras.

George Goddard: Private 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Died 18 April 1918, aged 23.

Arthur William Hatcher: Private 1st Battalion Norfolk Regiment. Died on 18 April 1918, aged 19.

Harry Kett: Deckhand Royal Naval Reserve, HMS Drifter Qui Sait. Died 3 December 1918.

George Herbert List: Private 13th Battalion The King's Liverpool Regiment. Died 22 December 1917, aged 19.

Robert Meadows: Private 6th Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry attached 3rd Battalion London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers). Died, aged 27.

William Charles Muttitt: Private 17th Battalion Royal Fusiliers. Died, 8 December 1917.

John William Smith: Believed to be Private 10th Battalion, Queen's Own Royal Regiment (Royal West Kent Regiment). Died, 17 June 1917.

William Harry Smith: Private 11th Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Died between 9 and 10 May 1918.

George W Stockdale: Private 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Died 30 July 1915, aged 20.

Leonard James Edward Thompson: Gunner “D” Battery 107th Brigade Royal Field Artillery. Died 11 May 1916, aged 17.

Bertie Wilson: No further information.

Frederick William Wilson: Sergeant 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment. Died, 8 October 1918.

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Ken McKenzie, Silver Surfer Training

Ken.mckenzie1234@gmail.com

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The Blythburgh Trust

**The trust has already given
grants totalling**

£53,000+

Application should be made to the honorary administrator, Jim Boggis, Marsh End, Church Road, (01502 478687) who will be happy to help applicants.

The trustees are Jenny Allen, chair, Harry Waller, vice-chair,
Michael Nichols, Jeff Sutton and David Tytler.

Holy Trinity's festive services

Sun 2 December 6pm: Advent Carol Service with the Blythburgh Singers

Fri 14 December 7.30pm: *Handel's Messiah* by candlelight with Woodbridge School Choral Society.

Tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk/wbsmusic

Wed 19 December: Community carol singing around Blythburgh. Please meet at Wolsey House, Chapel Lane at 5.50 to move off at 6pm. Bring a torch!

Sun 23 December 4pm: Candle-lit service of Lessons and Carols with the Blythburgh Singers.

Mon 24 December 5pm: Crib Service – a favourite with families.

Mon 24 December 11.30pm: Midnight Communion.

Tues 25 December 10am: Christmas morning service (no communion)

Collections at this year's Christmas Day service will be divided equally between *Embrace the Middle East*, an organisation that tackles poverty and injustice in the region, and the *Access Community Trust* based in Lowestoft, which works with excluded people, including the homeless.

Here's a book wot I wrote ...

You may know that I'm a writer by trade – but a lot of what I scribble gets broadcast on Radios 2 and 4 at obscure times of the day and night. But now I've got something in print which is available to everyone to read at their own leisure. For the last couple of years I've been working with a pal of mine, Martin Wroe, to write a book which tries to explore big ideas in short sentences. It's called *Lifelines: Notes on Life & Love, Faith & Doubt* and is published by Unbound in time for Christmas.

We wrote it because some days arrive with questions so vast we feel like strangers on earth. Other times our joy makes us feel entirely at home in ourselves. So, where do we find inspiration for living a good life? Drawing on lifelines thrown down by poets, thinkers and dreamers, the sceptical and the faithful, we suggest that how we live is probably more important than what we believe.

Before we published it, we showed the book to a few people to ask them what they thought. I know this is shameless name-dropping but we were quite chuffed: Bono of U2 called it "Sacred text for the more earthy reader"; Prof Brené Brown author of the bestseller *Braving the Wilderness* said it was "beautiful, wise and playful". The creator of Wallace and Gromit, Nick Park, said it was "insightful, inspiring and humorous", and Matt Haig, author of *Humans* and *How to Stop Time* thought it was "full of simple and useful wisdom on how to live."

You can get *Lifelines* in normal bookshops or this link <http://smarturl.it/LifeLinesnoteson> will take you through to a choice of online booksellers. I do plan to have a local launch in December. I'll let everyone know through the Blythburgh Matters network, or you can email directly on malcolmdoney@me.com.

Malcolm Doney

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair: David Tytler
01502 478521

Planning advisory group: Alan Mackley
Cliff Waller and Sonia Boggis

Finance advisory group
Roderick Orr-Ewing

Jeff Sutton and Jim Boggis

Councillor, Jo Waller

Clerk: Jim Boggis 01502 478687

BLYTHBURGH ASSOCIATIONS

Blythburgh Latitude Trust
Jim Boggis 01502 478687

Village Hall and Film Club
Olive Forsythe 01502 478521

Horticultural Society
Jenny Allen 01502 478314

Blythburgh Matters
Ro Williams 01502 478484

Blyth Belles
Sarah Wickham 070810632987

Here comes the trench



Wendy and Jeff Sutton distribute Wendy's trench cake as it w

cake – catch it if you can



ould have been in 1918, by throwing it. *Picture: Colin Huggins*

Just guess what's driving me nuts

I'm all in favour of immigration. After all, how else could I guarantee my supply of home-made schnitzels, strudels and zwetschgendatschi? However, I draw the line at *Sciurus carolinensis*, the North-American grey squirrel.

A wave of introductions in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries led to the firm establishment of this alien species, now regarded as a pest and implicated in the decline of the native red.

I am a generous provider of food for garden birds and resent the toll taken by my local squirrel. We have had a long, intense conflict. Incomers I welcome but I will exercise an Englishman's right to defend his peanuts.

Protecting the seed feeders was not difficult. I bought devices that closed shutters on the seed supply when a weight was felt on the bird perches. Not only was the squirrel shut out but the wood pigeons too. Two plusses!

Defending the peanuts was more tricky. First I fitted a hemispherical shield over the feeder.

It did not take the squirrel long to realise that if it clamped a rear foot on the branch from which the feeder hung, and then used its body to tip the shield sideways until the lower edge touched the feeder, it could reach down with a front paw and execute a somersault worthy of an Olympic champion to reach the peanuts.

My next step required some arithmetic. The distance from the tree branch to the top of the

feeder plus one half the radius of the dome multiplied by π needed to be greater than the distance between the fore and rear paws of an outstretched squirrel. Some guesswork was needed because the squirrel would not cooperate for the taking of inside-leg measurements.

Nevertheless, I computed a new distance for suspending the feeder and the aerial route was closed off. But the squirrel was one jump ahead of me. Now the feeder was closer to the ground. With a vertical leap the squirrel executed its plan B and again feasted away. All was not yet lost.

Next I hung the feeder from a higher branch. Problem solved? Not quite. The squirrel realised it could jump sideways from the tree-trunk and reach its objective.

Now I had to find a hanging point high enough and far enough away from the trunk. I succeeded. After thinking for fully half an hour and trying every possible route, the squirrel admitted defeat.

It walked across the garden and fixed me through the window with a stare. 'I'll be back!' was the clear message. We raised two valedictory fingers to each other. My salute at least was in the Churchillian mode.

It was a pyrrhic victory. The squirrel could not reach the peanuts. But neither could I.

Alan Mackley

Welcome to the Blythburgh Christmas tea

The 2018 Christmas Tea will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 17 December from 4.30 to 6.00pm. Everyone in the village is welcome. It gives an excellent opportunity for everyone to get together, chat to their neighbours, and maybe forget the festive 'to do' list for an hour or so. Lifts can be provided to anyone who needs one. Ring Jenny Allen on 478314 to arrange it. There will be a sumptuous festive spread of home-made goodies, and, as long as you have been really good, perhaps a visit from a very special person. You'll receive an invitation through your letterbox but save the date now,

A big thank you to the Blythburgh Latitude Trust which meets the costs of the tea.



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Free tours of Blythburgh Church

Holy Trinity Church is undoubtedly the most impressive building in Blythburgh and the one that comes to mind when people think of the village. I am lucky enough to be able to see the church from my sitting room window. Whether in daylight, or when floodlit at night, the view never fails to impress. However, it dawned on me that I am not very knowledgeable about its history.

I often come across people admiring the church and asking questions, so I thought about giving guided tours. Having floated the idea with the Parochial Church Council and receiving their enthusiastic support, I set upon doing some research, both from available literature and by picking the brains of neighbours, most notably Alan Mackley who has been very willing to share his knowledge.

So, now I am ready and have started the tours. They take place every Thursday at 11am and last around 45 minutes. No booking – just turn up. Tours are free. Children to be accompanied by an adult.

The tours are of general interest as I cannot claim to be an expert on specialist subjects, but if you wondered when the church was built, why it is so large, and what is the real story behind Black Shuck, then I think you will find it interesting – and the answer may not be what you thought.

Colin Huggins

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Blythburgh Film Club

Films are normally shown on the first Friday of every month, doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm. Wine will be available but you may bring your own. The White Hart will provide fish and chips from 6pm to 7pm for cinema goers at £8 a head £6 small. Booking is essential.

Terms of the licence held by the hall restrict advertising the films to be shown.

Members of Blythburgh M@tters or those who have signed up to the film club's mailing list will be notified. Details will also appear on the Parish Council notice boards. To join the film club list, email oliveforsythe@btinternet.com or telephone 01502 4778521.



The Post



Darkest Hour



The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society



Journey's End

Recent films included *Journey's End*, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society*, *Darkest Hour*, and *Dunkirk*. There is no charge for the film but voluntary donations of £3 for adults and £1 for children towards the upkeep of the hall and its services would be appreciated. If you miss any of the films, DVDs can be hired for £1. Special film and meal nights have included a World War One commemoration night, Ascot and Henley Nights.

Supported by the Blythburgh Latitude Trust

Notes from Daisy Bank LXXXVII

The Gallery has now closed and, I must admit, it seems a bit strange now all the signs are down and what I call the 'punters' have ceased coming.

But hey ho, just another chapter in life. Even with all the junk various that I have piled in there, it still seems a relatively empty shell.

I have purchased an O Gauge

Hornby clockwork

train set so eventually, I

will lay it all out and remember my happy childhood by playing with trains. Not so satisfying as a double O gauge electric set but I'm afraid my parents could never quite afford that next step up, so there would be little or no nostalgia in buying one of those.

Due to circumstance and my history of bad car buying and even worse selling, we have acquired another Citroen 2cv which, because of its extreme colour, you are not liable to miss when I pass you by. Probably the only car that I have owned that in the event of hard times, I would pick as my favourite. The painting (above) shows one of them. This will be number four and all the previous three have been the most reliable of all the cars that have accompanied me through my motoring life. A Ferrari or failing that, an Aston Martin Vantage would be nice but the 2cv will have to do for now.

When I had the last 2cv and sometimes the battery was on the low side, I would park the car at the top of the car park. And then when I wanted to use it again, I would take the

handbrake off and run alongside the car until it had gathered momentum and then jump in and jump start it before I reached the bottom of the



car park. No room for error as if I had misjudged it, the car might have ended up in the lane and even on the roof of the Gallery.

Planting allium bulbs at the moment. Two hundred completed and one hundred to go. The last hundred are large

mixed and will take a spade to get them in and consequently a longer and more strenuous effort. But the results in the spring were worth it from the last lot I planted, and no doubt the latest lot will add to all that.

As I've said before, I'm not a real gardener like Sue next door or Derek the other side with his veg, but I'm trying, albeit in a desultory way. 'Mr Lazy' still continues to curse me with his malign influence.

Sad to see the marshes drained yet again for some reason known only to those 'in the know'. The effort that has gone into repairing the various breaches over the years must be worth it to someone.

When I first came to Blythburgh there were cattle grazing on those marshes but I suspect it will take many a year to see that again. Conditions for growing grass would I think be almost impossible but again, somebody must think it's worth it. I would think the reeds will have the final say and of course the river, when it decides to breach again, which I'm sure it will.

Paul Bennett

A date for your diary. The next meeting of the Parish Council is in Blythburgh Village Hall on January 8, 2019 at 7.15pm preceded by a public forum when all are welcome to have their say.