

BLYTHBURGH

FOCUS

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BULCAMP AND HINTON



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March/April 2019

A chance to be a councillor



Three Blythburgh Parish Councillors, Alan Mackley, vice chair, David Tytler, chair, and Cliff Waller, have decided not to stand in the local elections in May.

If you want to join the council please contact Parish Clerk, Jim Boggis, who has the nomination forms and can offer any advice if needed. Nominations must be submitted to East Suffolk District Council by 4pm Wednesday April 3.

Latitude 2019



Applying
for your Latitude tickets,

**please see
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Inside: Vote for the Villager of the Year – Page 6

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Home thoughts from a broad...



TRAFFIC NEWS

A12 Northbound: Monitored in January with the VAS. Overall the figures are consistent with previous records with 88% (3166 vehicles a day) driving at an acceptable speed, 12% illegally and six a day highly illegal. During the days 91% were acceptable, 9% illegal and one vehicle highly illegal. At night the figures were 67% acceptable, 32% illegal and 1% (5 vehicles) highly illegal. Late at night the acceptable dropped to 58%, illegal rose to 40% (50 per night) and the highly illegal to 2.4% (3 a night).

In February this position was monitored by the Data Logger with, as usual, poorer figures than when drivers are told their speeds. Overall 86% were at acceptable speeds (3652 a day), 14% illegal and 11 vehicles highly illegal. During the days (07:00 to 19:00) 89% were acceptable with 11% illegal and just under two a day highly illegal. At night only 61% were acceptable, 37% were illegal and just under 2% (10 vehicles a night) were highly illegal. Late nights (22:00 to 05:00) 52% were acceptable, 45% were illegal and nearly 4% (six vehicles) were highly illegal.

Dunwich Road Northbound: Monitored by the VAS in February with figures very similar to November. Overall 90% (1095 vehicles a day) were driving at an acceptable speed (0-35 mph), 10% were driving at illegal speeds (35-55mph) and over the whole period monitored nine were driving at highly illegal speeds of over 55mph. During the days, 92% were acceptable and 8% illegal and at night (19:00 to 07:00) 76% were acceptable and 24% were illegal. Late at night 71% were acceptable with 29% were illegal.

A12 Southbound: Monitored by the Data Logger in January. Overall 66% (3373 vehicles per day) were acceptable, 33% illegal and 0.7% highly illegal. During the days 70% were acceptable, 30% were illegal and 8 vehicles a day were highly illegal. At nights it was 41% acceptable, 54% illegal and 4% highly illegal. Late nights 32% were acceptable, 59% illegal and 11 vehicles per night highly illegal.

Roderick Orr-Ewing



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Saturday

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Sunday

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Food Opening

Monday – Friday

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18.00 to 21.00

Saturday

12.00 to 15.00

18.00 to 21.00

Sunday

12.00 to 20.00

Events at the White Hart 2019

Quiz Nights: the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. Max 4 people per team. £4 per person of which £1.50 goes to the winning team and £1.50 to Blythburgh church/Blyth Belles. Booking essential.

First Friday in each month is film night in village hall with pre-show fish and chips. £8 or £6 small. Bookings only.

01502 478217

BLYTHBURGH REFLECTIONS

Daffodils, milestones and unusual weather

February has been an amazing month in so many ways and probably top of the list for many has been the unseasonably warm weather with records for the highest recorded February temperatures broken on a number of occasions.

Gardens have burst into life and it has been a delight to walk round the village spotting vibrant clumps of snowdrops and daffodils often in unlikely places. Strangely, there has seemed fewer daffodils in the churchyard this year but, as always, it is the daffodil "E" that prompts me to pause and remember.

The daffodils that cover the left bank as you turn from the A12 onto the Beccles Road are also reason to pause and remember. They were planted by St Felix School girls within living memory (best anecdotal estimates seem to suggest around 60 years ago) but, so far, no explanation has been forthcoming as to why. If you have any information that would shed light on this it would be lovely to hear from you.



February also brought a number of significant celebrations for Blythburgh residents: Rona T celebrated her 90th birthday, Poppy E celebrated her 80th birthday and Alan M celebrated his arrival some 40 years ago. Congratulations to them all.

Locally, it was the 144th East Anglian derby at Carrow Road. The fortunes of the two East Anglian teams have diverged this season with Norwich flying high at the top of the Championship and Ipswich very firmly anchored at the bottom - the result reflected this difference although I'm told that the match was actually much closer than the score might suggest. Apparently, the only league positions that matter will be at close of play on May 5 and, hopefully, supporters in Blythburgh of both teams will have something to cheer.

February is also an important month in the Rugby Union Six Nations calendar but hopes of an English Grand Slam were dashed with a loss to Wales at the Principality Stadium in front of 74,000 spectators. There was bad news for Scotland too: they were well beaten in Paris which means they haven't beaten France on French soil in twenty years.

It's February so, across the pond, it must be the Super Bowl. The Super Bowl is the annual championship game of the National Football League (NFL). It bears no resemblance to football as we know it but with 100 million plus viewers it's the most watched American television broadcast of the year. For the second year running the New England Patriots made it to the Super Bowl final. We were there in 2018 to see them beaten by the Philadelphia Eagles but stayed in Blythburgh this year to watch on TV as they beat the Los Angeles Rams.

While the Patriots were winning the Super Bowl in Atlanta, other parts of America were in the grip of a polar vortex that drove temperatures as low as minus 50°C. Friends reported that it was so cold "they've stopped delivering mail, closed grocery stores, and schools and shops — it's like a ghost town. Everyone is inside."

Contrast that with our situation in Blythburgh when, because of that same polar vortex, we were experiencing such lovely weather and it seemed like everyone is outside.

Villager of the Year Voting Form

Please complete the form below and return to Jim Boggis, Clerk, Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton Parish Council, Marsh End, Church Road by April 30. The presentation will be made at the annual parish meeting in the village hall at a 7pm on May 18. Wine and light refreshments will be served. The winner receives £50 with his or her name on the honours board.

Nominee	Proposers
Reason for nomination	

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How to apply for your Latitude tickets

Applications for the 12th Latitude Festival from July 18-21, 2019, will close at 9am on May 1. Blythburgh residents can apply for one ticket each but do not have an entitlement to receive a ticket. The price includes a return minibus between Blythburgh and the festival.

Applications will be opened at random and all will be notified whether or not their application has been successful. Forms should be addressed to Olive Forsythe at Abbey Cottage (the pink cottage beside the Village Hall). Applications by telephone or email WILL NOT be accepted.

Payment by successful applicants must be made by June 1 but **not** with your application form. Cheques should be made payable to Blythburgh Latitude Trust and sent to Olive Forsythe.

Applicants' ticket allocations will be held for one month. During this time the applicant must CONFIRM names to be printed on the tickets, the name of the person collecting the tickets and make payment. If confirmation of names or payment is not made then the tickets WILL BE re-allocated.

Tickets will be distributed in Blythburgh Village Hall between 6 and 7 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday 9 and 10 July.

The current line-up includes: George Ezra, Snow Patrol, Lana del Rey, Underworld, Lyle Garner, Nemeah Cherry, Sigrid, Tom Grennan, Cat Power, Khruangbin, Anna Calvi, Pale Waves, Baxter Dury, Walking on Cars.

Comedians: Jason Manford, Michelle Wolfe, Mark Watson, and Russell Kane, Tom Allen, Nick Helm, Rachel Parris, Nick Kumar, Lolly Adefope.

Dance: Dance Umbrella, Sadler's Wells, The Place.

Latitude Festival 2019 Ticket Application Form							
Contact name							
Address							
Telephone Number							
E-mail							
Name for EACH ticket	Child (5 to 12)	Accompanied Teen (13 to 15)	Fri	Sat	Sun	Weekend	Family Camping

Prices: Weekend, £45, Day, £16; accompanied teens weekend, £45, day £16, children, £8. Under fours are free and do not have to be registered in advance.

NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY

A first for Blythburgh Church

Choral evensong on Sunday 7 April will begin at 4pm to allow people also to attend the Lent lecture in Southwold URC at 6pm.. What would usually be the next Choral Evensong on Sunday 5 May will be a one-off special. It will take the form of sung Holy Communion with the Blythburgh Singers and an ensemble from Norwich Baroque, based on Schubert's Mass No 2 in G major, presided over by the Rev Malcolm Doney. The first time Holy Trinity has done this.

This year Holy Trinity needs to renew its Church Electoral Roll. All who are on the current roll will be contacted to fill in a new form. If you are not on the current roll but would like to join, please contact John Crane our Electoral Roll Officer: hawthorn.farmhouse@me.com or 01502 478 801, deadline Sunday 24 March.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place on Thursday 11 April, 7pm in Blythburgh Village Hall. Anyone on the Electoral Roll is welcome to join us.

The recently published book by Malcolm Doney and Martin Wroe, *Lifelines: Notes on life and love, faith and doubt*, is now the basis of a series of free daily 5-minute podcasts for Lent. To find details of the book and download the podcasts, go to: www.lifelines-book.com.

Join the gathered throng at our monthly café and mini-market on Friday 26 April 10.30am, till noon.

On Saturday 27 April at 6pm, there is a recital by the acclaimed choir, Bristol Chamber Choir directed by Gordon Pullen (formerly Co-Director of the Blythburgh Singers), featuring Yalda Davis on cello, with pieces by Wilbye, Kirbye, Bennet, Britten, Pearsall and Bach. Admission is free, but a retiring collection will be made in support of the church.

Easter Services in Blythburgh Church:

Palm Sunday: 14 April 11.15am

Maundy Thursday: 18 April 7.30pm

Good Friday: Building the Easter Garden plus egg hunt (family-friendly), 19 April 5pm

Easter Sunday: 21 April 11am

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

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Blythburgh Matters

Ro Williams 01502 478484

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Reading about Blythburgh

Like the proverbial bus, books of special interest to Blythburgh residents arrive irregularly. Then three arrive at once.

Fiona MacCarthy's *Walter Gropius. Visionary Founder of the Bauhaus* (£20.62, 567 pp.) is about a man at the very centre of European modern art and design from 1910 to 1930 and then with a late starring role in twentieth-century design and architecture in America. The author explains the inspiration she gained from meeting Jack Pritchard, a leading entrepreneur of the modern movement in Britain, and memorable weekends spent at his house, Isokon, in Dunwich Road. Jack found work for Gropius when he left Germany in the 1930s. Gropius lived at the Lawn Road flats in Hampstead, conceived by the Pritchards and opened in 1934. The Pritchard children lived with the Gropius family in America during WW2.

Jack and Molly Pritchard are centre-stage in *Isokon and the Bauhaus in Britain* by Magnus Englund and Leyla Daybelge (£19.49, 240pp.). Magnus Englund now lives in the Pritchard penthouse at Lawn Road. The book follows the Pritchards' lives from their meeting at Cambridge to their Blythburgh years. Their connections were legion, including artists, scientists, architects, designers and a network of notorious Russian spies. Le Corbusier, Alvar Aalto, Bertrand Russell, Nikolaus Pevsner, Henry Moore, Julian Huxley, Agatha Christie and the Cambridge Five, all with key roles in the Isokon story, are names to conjure with. Jack (d.1992) and Molly (d.1985) finally moved to Blythburgh in 1974, to the house built in the 1960s to a design by Jack's daughter Jennifer Jones. The Lawn Road flats, the first reinforced concrete domestic building in Britain, are now Grade I listed.

Lastly, a very different book: *A Very Dangerous Locality. The Landscape of the Suffolk Sandlings in the Second World War* by University of East Anglia authors Robert Liddiard and David Sims (pb., £19.49, 363 pp.). The Suffolk coast was felt to be particularly vulnerable to invasion and this was reflected in a sustained programme of defence works and the use by the area for training. From 1940 to 1942 the coast from Lowestoft to Landguard Point was defended by a single infantry division (about 15,000 men).

The study has drawn on documentary sources, landscape studies, and oral history. Many of the changes to the landscape attributable to the defence work can still be found today. Some readers might be put off by an overly academic introduction but they should persevere. The book is illustrated in colour by many excellent maps and diagrams and photographs. And there are illuminating vignettes. For example, a safe walking-out area for soldiers, within which they were permitted to move freely, conveniently stretched from the White Hart to the Queen's Head at Blyford.

Prices are from Amazon at the time of writing. They can change.



Alan Mackley

Writing a history of Blyth View

Do you have any information, photographs or memories of the former workhouse? Perhaps your ancestors are buried there? When it was a hospital did you, or a member of your family, work or visit there?

If so, Judy Linard, a resident of Blyth View and a book designer by trade, would love to hear from you. Together with some neighbours she is collecting information to compile a book to record the history of the building from

Bulcamp House of Industry through its redevelopment as a hospital and finally into 55 private dwellings. She is hoping that snippets of local information will form an important memories chapter setting down the importance of the building for future generations. Please email Judy at judylinard@aol.com



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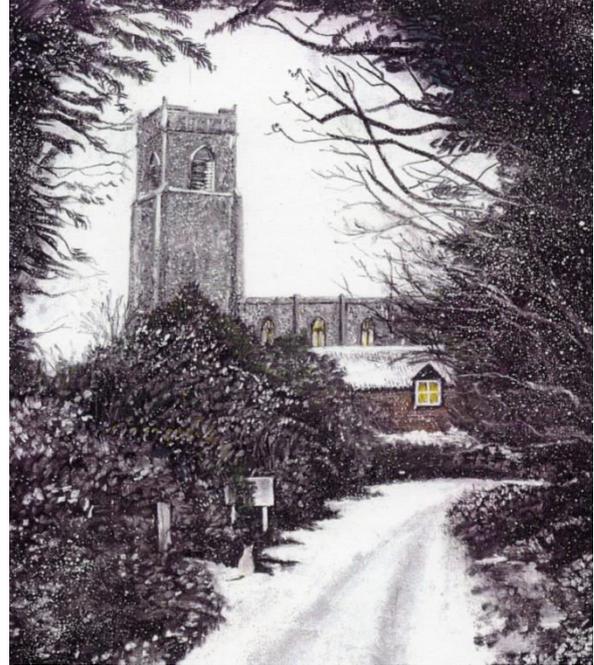


Notes from Daisy Bank LXXXVIII

These are the months that I like least although I acknowledge the stark beauty of the marshes and the russet golds and ambers of the garden and the sea of reeds beyond our back gate. Chris Packham would be in his element on Appleton Marsh and the river Blyth at this time of year.

At night we always look forward to the twinkling light that emanates from Hawthorn Farm probably a mile or so across the other side of the Blyth Valley. Whoever lives there must be able to see us and if not, very definitely the night lit glory of Blythburgh Church. We are so lucky to live under its presence and protection. Or have I mentioned that before?

On the darker side, the bus service from Blythburgh to Southwold, Halesworth and Norwich is due to cease at the end of March if a new bus company isn't found to take over the route. The time has come for bicycles and for some, electric wheelchairs in order to go shopping. Unless of course, you fancy a long walk. It's what the politicians, busy ruining our country with all this Brexit nonsense, call progress. Nothing cynical about me.



We still get the odd visitor leaning over the gate and being complimentary about Fern Cottage. Never quite sure whether if they were faced with the reality of living here they would prefer it to their possibly more modern home. I'm too lazy to do any decorating and of course the cobwebs abound and it's beginning to look like Miss Havisham's wedding breakfast. But maybe one day. Watching something like *Escape to the Country* and the buyers complaining about the lack of space, I sometimes wonder how they would cope with living here. Tiny but cosy is the operative phrase. Thank God that B and I get on so well. To live in such a confined space with somebody that you don't get on with must be purgatory. But then, we don't believe in arguments and rows and definitely not consequential sulks. We just believe in day to day peaceful happiness and let tomorrow take care of itself.

Christmas past by and a sigh of relief from me. Never quite the same as yesteryear Christmas's which were mostly joyful and contain many happy memories. Mind you there were a few that weren't. I remember one Christmas on a beach in New Plymouth in the north island of New Zealand, having a barbecue along with copious bottles of beer. The only trouble was the sand was black and inevitably got mixed up with the steaks and sausages. I've never been a fan of barbecues since. Another in an oil refinery in the Persian Gulf. Another in a 'pukka sahib' club for expatriates in Madras in southern India; I think it's been renamed Chennai now. And one in the Malacca Straights repairing a telephone cable. All equally ghastly. Much better to be home with my family in Dorking, Surrey, eating turkey and Christmas pudding with thick snow outside the front door. Suffolk and Blythburgh were all in the mythical future then.

PS: Apologies again if guilty of repeating anecdotes and the drawing is an old Christmas card of DB

Paul Bennett