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Issue No.20

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March/April 2015

Apply for your Latitude tickets by May 4

Applications for residents' tickets to the tenth Latitude Festival in Henham Park from July 16 to 19, 2015, will be opened at 9am on May 2.

Written applications using the form on Page 3 should be sent to Olive Forsythe, Abbey Cottage, opposite the White Hart by the village hall. They may be delivered before this date but will not be opened until May 4. Email and telephone applications **are not** acceptable.

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 apply for one weekend ticket each or one day ticket for each of the main festival days, July 17, 18 and 19. Weekend tickets are £45 (Normally £175); day tickets are £16 (normally £75). The prices include a dedicated minibus service for the three main days of the festival, running from Blythburgh Shop. 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 £6.50. These child tickets will be handed over to you at the same time as the normal residents' tickets. The child's name will be required together with the details of the parents or guardians applying for residents' tickets.

Accompanied teen tickets for those aged 13 to 15 inclusive will be available at £30 for weekend tickets and £10 for day tickets.



A family ticket is for the weekend and gives access to the campsite reserved for families. Normal weekend tickets give access to other sites at the festival.

The acts announced so far include:

Headliners Obelisk Arena, 17 July, ALT-J; 18 July, Portishead; 19 July, Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds. Headliners, BBC Radio 6 Music Sage, 17 July, Jon Hopkins; 18 July, The Vaccines; 19 July, SBTRKT. Comedians will include Alan Davies and Jack Dee. Special guests include Gareth Malone and the Latitude Choir, Sadlers Wells and Michael Rosen.

How to apply for tickets – Page 3

Raise a glass to the Villager of the Year 2015

Nominations are invited for the Blythburgh Villager of the Year 2015 to recognise the man or woman who has made a particular contribution to village life. Names should be sent to Jim Boggis, Clerk, Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton Parish Council, Marsh End, Church Road, or by email to blythburghpc@gmail.com, by April 30. The winner will receive a cheque for £50. Members of the Parish Council are not eligible. The presentation will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting in Blythburgh Village Hall at 7pm on Friday May 22. Wine and light refreshments will be served. You will be able to view an exhibition of local associations and meet county, district and parish councillors at the annual meeting.

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How to apply for Latitude tickets

Applications for the tenth Latitude Festival in Henham Park from July 16 to 19, 2015, will be opened at 9am on May 4. Payment must be made by June 1. Cheques should be made payable to Blythburgh Latitude Trust. Each Blythburgh resident can apply for one ticket. Remember residents have a right to apply and not an entitlement to receive tickets as Festival Republic limits the number provided.

When residents first arrive at Henham, 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. Festival details are on www.latitudefestival.co.uk

1. Please apply, using the form below, to Olive Forsythe, Abbey Cottage (the pink cottage opposite the White Hart and beside the Village Hall) stating:

- Contact's name, address and telephone number and email address.
- The name of each resident applying for a ticket (Maximum 1 per resident).
- Type of ticket, either weekend, day (stating day/s required), child (ages 5 to 12) or teen (aged 13 to 15). Children under five go free.
- Camping: family, general or not required (weekend tickets only).

2. Applications by telephone or email WILL NOT be accepted

3. Applicants will be contacted and notified whether or not their application has been successful.

4. Applicants' ticket allocation will then be held for 1 month. During this period 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 supplied then the tickets WILL BE re-allocated

5. Tickets to be collected from Blythburgh Village Hall on Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 July between 6.00pm and 7.00pm. Identification and signature will be required when collecting tickets.

Latitude Festival 2015 Ticket Application Form							
Resident's name for contact							
Address							
Telephone Number							
E-mail							
Ticket Application							
Name for EACH ticket	Child (5 to 12)	Accompanied Teens (13 to 15)	Fri	Sat	Sun	Weekend	Family Camping

Prices: Weekend, £45; Day, £16; accompanied teens weekend, £30 day £10, children, £6.50



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What Blythburgh wants from Sizewell

With the Stage 2 consultation on Sizewell C nuclear power station looming, the Parish Council has told Suffolk Coastal District Council and County Council leaders to “drop your wait and see stance and start providing leadership to protect local communities”. The decision was taken following the report back from its three representatives who all expressed concern about the process following a recent meeting organized by the two local authorities.

The consultation process for Sizewell C is opaque with all the cards held by the developer EDF. As a national strategic investment project there will be no public inquiry. Once EDF makes its application to the Planning Inspectorate it is feared that there will be little chance that it can be changed.

The submissions by consultees, including Blythburgh, are confidential to EDF. SCDC's planning officers are locked into joint working parties with EDF and are bound by confidentiality agreements. So the position of SCDC, itself a consultee, is compromised. EDF's proposals are difficult to challenge.

The parish council has urged SCDC and SCC to act to mitigate the vulnerability of local communities in the consultation process. In addition to wanting a pro-active approach, the council has asked for funding to pay for consultants to assist them (as in Stage 1) and a Community Fund to compensate for negative impacts from Sizewell C.

Particular developments highlighted by the council include the campus for 3000 resident workers proposed by EDF for Eastbridge. The

options should be published for public discussion. The campus should be sustainable and provide legacy housing and it should be located in or close to an urban location and not at a sensitive rural site.

A new road from the A12 to Sizewell was needed; the B1122 was quite unsuitable. The amelioration of wider traffic effects, including the load on the A12 and B1125 in Blythburgh, is also required.

The Parish Council has taken delivery of a speed warning sign to be mounted in turn on the southern entrance on the A12 and in Dunwich Road. It is hoped the sign will be operational at the beginning of May.

The parish council will be responsible for moving the sign to each of the sites following clear advice from the Department of Transport that fixed signs are less effective.

The council is still in negotiations with Suffolk County Council to find a suitable site for a sign on the A12 northern entrance. The council is also in discussions with the county council for the provision of prominent village gateway signs and is seeking ways to speed up the process.

Permission is being sought to mount a defibrillator provided by the East of England Co-operative Society on the village shop. Full details of how to operate the equipment will be provided.

Nominations will be sought for parishioners seeking election to the Parish Council on May 7. Nomination papers can be obtained from the clerk, with final details on parish notice boards.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chair: David Tytler
01502 478521

**Vice Chair/Chair planning
advisory group: Alan Mackley**
Chair finance advisory group
John Blakesley

Councillors
Alan De Thabrew, Debbie Gifkins
Roderick Orr-Ewing, Cliff Waller
Clerk: Jim Boggis 01502 478687

BLYTHBURGH ASSOCIATIONS

Horticultural Society
Jenny Allen 01502 478314
Blythburgh M&tters, Ro Williams
01502 478484
Film Club, Olive Forsythe
01502 478521
Blythburgh Trust administrator
Jim Boggis 01502 478687
Village Hall
Olive Forsythe 01502 478521

BLYTHBURGH REFLECTIONS

All's well that ends well

A splendid ruin closed by the Bishop of Norwich in 1881, Holy Trinity, Blythburgh became the battle ground for a war that raged for the next 25 years between the restorers and the conservationists, those who wanted a church to worship in and those who, said the restorers, wanted to prop up a ruin.

Finances were a key problem: £5,000 was needed (about £600,000 today). The church wardens had £40 in the bank and £30 a year income: a significant gap.

Many individuals were involved: the enthusiastic and energetic vicar, the Rev. James Sykes; George Street the architect, well-known for designing the Law Courts in the Strand; Sir John Blois, patron, responsible for the Chancel, and Lady Blois, fund raiser.

A two-day grand bazaar behind the White Hart raised £200 (many visitors arrived on trains run by Great Eastern to support the event).

Friends of Lady Blois raised £50 from a concert in London and a public appeal was bringing in £11 a month.

The funding gap was still significant and two key organisations had very different ideas on what needed to be done. The battle lines were drawn.

In one corner: the SPAB (Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings). Formed in reaction to the over-restoration of churches in Victorian times, SPAB believed buildings should be historic records and, like a book, you should be able to read them – perish the thought that you might want to use them.

For: repairs that preserved medieval fabric and respected subsequent changes. Against: restoration.

In the other corner: The Blythburgh Restoration Committee who wanted a dry, safe and presentable church. Replacing decayed fabric with copies was OK.

The two sides were poles apart and there was no chance they would - or could - agree on what needed to be done.

The church reopened for worship in 1884 with much still to be done. The battle was far from over; it became quite a public spat. They argued about priorities, project management, money and competence. Everybody seemed to be in conflict with everybody else, each person believing they were right - battles were being fought on all fronts – everybody was drained.

Intervention from the great and the good made no difference: William Morris (1895), and from a new appeal in 1905, Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll), John Seymour Lucas RA, Ernest Crofts RA, Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, the director of the V&A, Blythburgh residents and Claude Egerton (the new church warden)... still the arguments went on...

After 25 years everybody was exhausted and SPAB walked away. Who won?

Who lost? Were there any winners? I will leave you to judge for yourself but I think Blythburgh won.

Why? Well, the church didn't suffer the fate of the greatly reduced Covehithe or Walberswick. SPAB didn't get their way but the hands of the restorers were stayed because they never had enough money.

The church endured: we have a skeleton of medieval architecture, the roof was repaired, the angels saved, the floor levelled but not replaced with tiles and the light was allowed to flood in. A full recording of my conversation with Dr Alan Mackley will be available at www.onesuffolk.net/audioBlythburgh.

Sonia Boggis

Footnote: In early March, The Woodpecker and The Weasel hit headlines around the globe; on the theme of going into battle, Spike Gerrell has brought you his own version.



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 - Holiday home welcome packs

Alan and Katie look forward to seeing you!

Blythburgh Village Shop 01502 478833

Mobile: 07968 976933

Email: blythburghshop@live.co.uk

NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY

Springing into action...

It's a busy spring season across our Team of Churches, starting with Holy Week and Easter..

Holy Trinity's popular monthly café and mini-market re-starts on Friday 27 March and continues every last Friday of the month, so the next ones are Friday 24 April and Friday 29 May.

On Sunday 19 April at 3pm, *Amici*, the Suffolk-based *a cappella* chamber choir is bringing its varied repertoire to Blythburgh church, from Renaissance to contemporary. Admission is free but there will be a retiring collection in aid of the church.

On Thursday 30 April at 7pm, Holy Trinity's Annual Parish Church Meeting will take place in Blythburgh Village Hall. We warmly welcome anybody on the Church Electoral Roll to attend. If you would like to be on the church's Electoral Roll, please contact John Crane by email at hawthorn.farmhouse@me.com.

To mark Christian Aid Week (10-16 May) Holy Trinity will be distributing Christian Aid donation envelopes around the village, inviting people to fill them and return to a box in the village shop. There will be a Christian Aid service, with special guest speaker, Swaraje Jeyasingh, on Sun 10 May at 11am.

Saturday 16 May at 7.30pm sees the welcome return of Intermedii, the Choral Octet from Luxembourg to Wangford Church – infectious enthusiasm, stunning voices and repertoire, with all proceeds in aid of Wangford Church.

Intermedii will lead the worship at the 9.30 service at Blythburgh on Sunday 17 May.

From 16-31 May, Blythburgh church is hosting a spring art exhibition, *Speak of Angels*, featuring the remarkable work of Derek Nice who has deep Suffolk roots. Sculptural angels, boats, prints and drawings formed from scratched, worked and reformed fragments of wood and metal will fill the church. The show will be launched at 11am on Saturday 16 May. All welcome.

Sunday 31 May is Trinity Sunday and Blythburgh Church's Patronal Festival. It is also an Open Day for Friends of Holy Trinity, Blythburgh. We will be hosting a service for all the churches in the Sole Bay Team at 11am.

In the afternoon a cream tea will be served and Derek Nice will lead a final tour of his exhibition. Everyone is welcome to all, or part of the day.

Malcolm Doney

Holy Week services in Sole Bay

Monday 30 March 7.30pm Sotherton: Compline

Palm Sunday 29 March 11am Blythburgh: Holy Communion

Tuesday 31 March 7.30pm Wangford: Celtic Communion

Wednesday 1 April 7.30 Blythburgh: Reflection on the Laurence Edwards altar sculpture with music

Maunder Thursday 2 April 7.30pm St Margaret's, Reydon: Holy Communion with foot washing

Good Friday 3 April 12 noon Uggeshall: One hour meditation on the Cross

Easter Saturday: 4pm Blythburgh: Easter Children's Activity and Easter egg hunt

Easter Saturday: 7.30pm Walberswick: Easter Vigil

Easter Day: 5 April 11am Blythburgh: Holy Communion

NOTE: No Service of Choral Evensong

Pevsner revisits Blythburgh

One of the great monuments of English-language publishing is Nikolaus Pevsner's *The Buildings of England*. In 46 books published between 1951 and 1974 the German professor criss-crossed the country in his county-by-county series, describing churches, houses, public buildings and even tower blocks. The volumes are indispensable guides for anybody wanting to explore the man-made standing environment.

The Suffolk volume came out in 1961. It was revised by Enid Radcliffe in 1974. Now, after a forty-year wait, we have a new edition, completely rewritten by James

Bettley. It is on a much larger scale. Suffolk is split into two volumes, East and West. The 680 pages devoted to East Suffolk are more than originally allowed for the entire county. The entry for Blythburgh has doubled in length to about 1,600 words. And there are 120 coloured illustrations.

One test for a book of this kind is to see if Blythburgh is recognizable from its description.

There is no doubt that it is. Essential architectural information is put into an historical context with not only relevant dates but also economic and social information.

So we have the names of benefactors of the great church of the fifteenth century, and also modern artists such as Nicholas Mynheer, whose sculpture of the Trinity is above the entrance to the south porch. There is also mention of the controversial restoration from 1881 when William Morris's SPAB found itself at loggerheads with the local restoration committee. James Bettley has clearly done his homework.

Houses are not neglected. The Green and The Priory are correctly described as twentieth-century recreations of older more modest

cottages. There is room to note that Sydney, the architect son of John Seymour Lucas RA of The Priory, was a friend of Frank Jennings who did much re-creative building work in Walberswick and could therefore have been involved with Blythburgh as well.



rear porch and a cupola. The former House of Industry at Bulcamp is mentioned, including its reincarnation as the Blyth View residential complex.

If I missed anything it was adequate coverage of the ruins of the Augustinian Priory. 'Scant remains' certainly, but I looked in vain for the

suggestion, first made more than 35 five years ago, that Blythburgh's first church, and the rich church of Domesday Book fame were there. Time Team confirmed that. Something for the 2050 revision perhaps.

The book will be published by Yale University Press in April priced £35. A discount can be obtained on-line



until 30 April at www.yalebooks.co.uk by buying both Suffolk volumes for £60 quoting the code Y1430. Ideally go to a local bookshop but the greatest saving can be made with Amazon, if you are happy with the tax implications of being invoiced by Amazon EU in Luxembourg. Not cheap, but a must for the bookshelf of anybody interested in Suffolk's buildings.

Alan Mackley



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Big turn out for memorial quiz

Nineteen teams competed in the inaugural Owen Williams' Memorial Quiz on 24 January 2015 in aid of SUDEP (Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy) Action. Owen died in July 2014 aged just 39. The event was held in Blythburgh Village Hall and the quizmaster was Sarah Wickham. Teams included Owen's family, school friends, skiing buddies, family friends, the local panto group as well as local residents.

It was fitting that the questions were taken from one of the quizzes written by Owen before he died – he was a very keen quiz goer and question master. The evening included a fish and chip supper provided by the White Hart pub – one of the staff ran across the A12 with the food – in all we think he made 10 journeys.

The winners were the Mother Truckers, a team made up of staff and customers from the White Hart. Second was a local team called the Sad Bunch and third was Stow Highers from Owen's old High School.

There was also a draw and prizes included two tickets to the Latitude Festival and family tickets to a local panto, together with many other prizes donated by friends and family.

In total, £515 was raised for the charity, which was a fantastic effort by all involved. Thanks go to all who attended, gave prizes and made donations. It is hoped that this event will be held annually to ensure that Owen's memory is kept alive and money is raised for worthy causes.

Your chance to ring a bell

Ever thought about having a go at learning to ring (church) bells? Here is your opportunity. St Peter's Church Tower, Wenhaston, is currently looking for recruits to ring the bells. It takes about 10 to 12 lessons to learn to ring safely by yourself; then the fun of ringing with others starts. What's in it for you? Gentle exercise and a great mental workout, team activity, a warm welcome and a new skill. You would also become part of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers.

What more could you want? If you are aged over ten and interested then why not come to new learner practice nights at Wenhaston Church on the first and third Fridays each month 7.30–9.00pm. On Friday 17 April there is a have-a-go and cake evening in Wenhaston Church starting 7.30–9.00pm.

Please contact Peggy Meredith on 01502 478580 or Michelle Williams on 01502 478052 or email wenhastonbells@gmail.com



The Blythburgh Latitude Trust makes grants to meet specific needs to individuals and families in the parish. It has already given away more than £19,000, providing, for example, IT, sports equipment and school uniforms. The Trust also gives grants to groups to support projects to improve the quality of life in the parish of Blythburgh, Hinton and Bulcamp.

The Trust has, for example, supported the play site, village hall, the Christmas Tea, and the annual pantomime visit.

If you have a need, contact the honorary administrator, Jim Boggis, Marsh End, Church Road (01502 478 687).

All applications will be treated in complete confidence. Normally grants will not exceed £200. Parents or carers must endorse applications for children under 16.

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Derek Boucher 23/10/49–11/02/15

Derek and his twin Ken were born in Croydon and lived on the outskirts of the town until he married. He had an older brother Alan and all lived with their mum, as their mum and dad separated when the children were young. His mum did not remarry.

On leaving school, Derek worked in London for Dunn & Co, the men's outfitters for a short time and then went on to join IPC newspapers in the city in their advertising department for trade papers. He made his way up, becoming a manager working in different parts of London.

After marrying Brenda, they moved to north Essex, and commuted to London. Derek, getting fed up with the daily trip acquired a job with Eastern County Newspapers in Colchester and Chelmsford. He also worked on free newspapers, making many friends and playing football in the Sunday League. He also played in boules league matches.

Derek and Brenda had a daughter Victoria and the family moved to Blythburgh. The family later moved to Southwold. Derek and his loyal team cut the grass at Holy Trinity for many years.

After Derek left the newspaper business, he began making hand crafted chocolates to be sold in pubs and restaurants, becoming known as Chocolate Derek. He enjoyed the company of some builders in the pub and after jesting that building work was a simple affair, he was challenged to do a day labouring. So, donning slightly smarter than usual builder's clothes, he went labouring for the day. He enjoyed being part of a team so much and learning new skills,

that he carried on for four or five years. It was probably the camaraderie that he enjoyed the most. He was also a very hard worker.

Derek always loved the company of others, especially in the local pub, sitting in his favourite chair by the fiercely hot fire, throwing logs on, he was the fire monitor after all, and chatting with friends and visitors alike. If you told him your name, he would forget it the next instant.

There was more to Derek than met the eye. He was very artistic, with a flair for making paper mache items, stained glass fixtures and painting, and a great eye for putting colours together when decorating. He hardly ever spoke about these things. He was also very smartly dressed, even when just cutting grass in the garden or being on a building site.

He was an ambassador for boules, persuading many friends to join a club, organised the placement of pitches in Blythburgh, Walberswick and the Harbour Inn, Southwold. He set up games, playing league matches. He loved the game, especially when smashing the opponent's boule out of play earning himself the by-name Bomber Derek.

Derek's favourite activities were gardening, walking, watching football, seeing the grandchildren, a pint or two, seeing his fiends, holidays in Norfolk and a touch of sunbathing when given the chance.

Derek was a one-off: a gutsy man who would stand up for himself even if the other man was larger. He was full of character and wit, not easily to be forgotten.



Blythburgh Village Hall, which now has its own cinema equipment, is available for parties, events and clubs. The cost per morning, afternoon or evening session is £20 for village residents and groups and £35 for others. To book the hall, call Olive Forsythe on 01502 478521. Discounts for block bookings.

Notes from Daisy Bank LXVI

Many years ago I left a ship in the London Docks and, because of my profligate spending while on board, I realised that by the time I 'paid off', I would have very little money; in reality, just loose change. Realising that I would never make it back to Buckinghamshire where I then lived, by public transport, I decided to get a taxi as far as my money would take me and then walk or hitch the rest.

Difficult with several heavy cases full of uniform, souvenirs and tat from foreign lands. Resigned to a long and difficult walk, as I approached the dock gates, I spotted a deck hand from my ship whom I knew by sight but had never really spoken to. As he was going roughly in the same direction as me, we decided to share the ride.

Getting off at somewhere near Uxbridge in West London, and knowing by now what my financial situation was, he put a fiver in the taxi drivers hand and told him to take me home. As we said goodbye with me thanking him profusely, he made me promise that should another similar situation happen in the future, I was to return the favour for another poor soul. Several years later and in a similar circumstance but this time, with me having the money, I was able to fulfil that promise. Like him, I asked the recipient to continue the promise. I'm sure he did.

The other day in Norwich, I went to pick up my car in a multi storey and seeing the amount due on the machine, realised that I hadn't got enough money. As I fumbled and stumbled in my panic to retrieve the five pounds I had already put in, a lady waiting behind me offered to give me the extra pound needed: "Here's a pound, I'll be your good Samaritan."

Still trying to retrieve my money in the machine and start the process again with the correct amount and thanking her profusely while I did so, I pressed all the wrong buttons and become increasingly confused. So, in order to try to calm the situation, I started to tell her the story about the man who paid for my taxi trip home.

Meanwhile, having retrieved my coins, I suddenly found a fiver in my pocket and started to go through the process of feeding it in to the appropriate receptor. More confusion as I put it in the wrong way and then had to flatten it out to get it to work; it must have been a very old fiver and had probably been lost in my pocket for many a year.

By now, quite a queue had formed, waiting impatiently behind me. But, as my story continued it seemed to calm them down and suddenly, I realised that I had an audience that seemed keen to hear how it turned out in the end. So, having finally completed my transaction, I turn to the rest of the queue and finished my story, apologising for their delay and inconvenience. Smiles all round and I suspect very nearly a round of applause. What has this got to do with what's happening in Daisy Bank? Absolutely nothing.

As I write, the snow is on the ground looking pretty as ever, and the first rugby international beckons in a week's time, hopefully to make my winter just about bearable. If England loses to Wales in Cardiff, then our chances of winning the world cup get pretty remote. And then dear readers, there will be a very large bubble of depression emanating from Daisy Bank.

I continue to follow the dictum of, a painting a day keeps the doctor away and our sheds, various, continue to be stuffed with more and more examples of my work. Now, with no exhibitions and no other outlets apart from a very remote Gallery in the garden, there is little chance of anything changing in that direction. But, after having made a reasonable living over the past 25 years, I am finally painting for myself and not with my eye on the buying public.

In his last book, Neville Shute finishes with the following, concerning the main character: "*He has achieved the type of life he desires; he wants no other. He is perfectly, supremely happy.*"

Paul Bennett

A date for your diary: The next meeting of Blythburgh with Bulcamp and Hinton Parish Council will be the annual general meeting in the village hall on Tuesday May 19 at 7.30pm with the public forum starting at 7.15.