

Woolverstone News

December 9th 2016

Dear All

Christmas is fast approaching, although our weather feels more like Autumn than Winter. Walking along the river I was reminded how lucky we are to have so many feathered visitors appreciate the tidal fringes. I was delighted to see a large flock, (or is that deceit?) of lapwings on the shore, with their distinctive rounded wings in wheeling flight. Their numbers have collapsed rapidly in recent years and they are now on the red list of endangered species. I am glad we can still see them in our quiet corner of Suffolk.

Poppy Collection

A total of £327.00 was collected for the British Legion Poppy Appeal this year. Thank you to all who gave so generously. Our thanks must also go to Romy and Bea who deliver and collect the envelopes.

Woolverstone Monthly Market - Saturday 10th December 9.00 – 12.30

Woolverstone Monthly Market is Saturday 10th December at St. Michael's church. 9.00 – 12.30.

This Saturday there will be live Christmas music and new stalls including around 200 Cheeses by Antonio, and new craft workers. The launch of the "WOOLVERSTONE BANGER" - a new delicious sausage with a difference - at last month's market was a great success and will be available again this month, along with a wonderful selection of cakes and savouries, bread, vegetables, plants and hand crafted items, gifts for all ages. Including jewellery, hand spun wool, scarves, hats, toys, Christmas decorations and much, much more. Why have the stress and cost of parking in Town. Our parking is free and plentiful and as always hot bacon rolls and good coffee and this month banger in a bun are on sale.

A warm welcome awaits, so, come and solve your Christmas present and stocking filler buying. There is still time to order your Christmas turkey or take home wonderful goodies, all at the Woolverstone Market at St Michaels and All Angels this Saturday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm.

Additional Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 14th December 7.30

There will be an additional Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 14th December to discuss the issues arising out of the application for the Nursery Garden development. The owner of the site is proposing to seek additional development to make the site more viable and because of lack of interest in the ownership of the large house and its stewardship of the walled garden (listed). The current arrangement was approved, although outside the, as then, village envelope, because of the promise to protect the listed features of the gardens. Parishioners are welcome to come and listen and contribute to the discussions.

Freston Children's party

Elizabeth Aldous, Chair of Freston Parish Council, has kindly invited children from Woolverstone to join with Freston in their children's Christmas Party. The party is for children over three and under 10 years old. Date: Wednesday 21st December. The party is free but contributions of food for the tea would be much appreciated. The entertainer is "Abra Ca David" from Felixstowe. There are

pictures of last year's party if you follow this link: <http://freston.onesuffolk.net/assets/Village-Hall/Past-Events/Childrens-Christmas-party-held-on-21st-December-in-the-Village-Hall.pdf>

To help Elizabeth and Lucy plan for this event, please would you email me by Saturday 10th December to let me know if you would like a place(s). Please let me know how many and how old.

Parish Clerk

Denise Parkinson has kindly volunteered to take up the role of Parish Clerk. We are looking forward to working with her in the future.

Woolverstone Family Carol Concert - Monday 19th December. 7.00 pm

Woolverstone Family Carol Concert 7pm on Monday 19 December. We have been packed out for the last two years, must be the delicious mince pies, sausage rolls and mulled wine.....or could it be the great music.....or the traditional way to really get in the mood of the season....or maybe the whole lot!? It would be great to see you there.

Ganges update

We are still waiting for the decision by the Court of Appeal on our application for *leave to appeal* the judgement made in the High Court with regard to the Judicial Review into the proposed HMS Ganges development. I am told we will hear the decision "shortly".

If we are granted *leave to appeal* it is proposed that we convene a village meeting to share the information around this and take your views. This may need to be done in haste as the time frames are quite tight.

Regardless of the outcome, we need to continue to raise funds to pay for court fees and representation. If you want to help fund the legal costs incurred in relation to its Judicial Review proceedings that challenge the lawfulness of the planning consent granted by Babergh District Council for the former HMS Ganges site it is not too late! It may be that you didn't get round to it in the summer, but we do need your support. Please contact me and I can send you a pledge form. Or, simply make a donation. Cheques should be made payable to Woolverstone Parish Council.

If you have any brilliant fund raising ideas please make contact.

Criminal activity

We are lucky to live in an area with a very low crime rate. However, a week ago, a car was stolen from the drive way of a house on the Main Road despite the protection afforded by a gate and security lighting. Please make sure that you lock your vehicles, don't leave valuables inside them and take all the precautions you can.

Luckily, the car was found the next day in Ipswich.

I have included the News Release from the Suffolk Constabulary at the end of this newsletter.

Avian Flu

Veterinary advice has been released with regard to prevention of an epidemic of Avian Flu. I have included the advice and some links at the end of this newsletter for poultry keepers and keepers of other captive birds.

If you know your neighbour is not on the internet, or does not get this newsletter, please print of a copy and drop it through their letter box. If you know someone who would like to be on the mailing list please ask them to send me an email to the address below and I will add them to the group email list. Many thanks.

Best wishes

Simon Pearce. Chairman, Woolverstone Parish Council (780009. simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk)

1. Police News Release

Issue Date: 07/12/2016

Police appeal following series of burglaries across west Suffolk

Please see amendment below – these burglaries have occurred over the past two weeks

Police are appealing for witnesses and urging communities to be vigilant following a series of break-ins across west Suffolk.

There have been 26 burglaries across Forest Heath, St Edmundsbury, Mid Suffolk and Babergh over the past two weeks (since 21 November) which are similar in nature and detectives are exploring how many of them may be linked.

These crimes have typically taken place in rural locations, between the early afternoon and evening, at properties where the occupants have not been at home, and involved the offenders forcing entry. The items that are mainly being stolen are cash, jewellery and electrical items.

As the majority of the burglaries in this series involve houses being entered by force rather than because of insecurities, police are urging members of the public to be their eyes and ears and 'See it, Hear it, Report it'.

Detective Inspector Andrew Smethurst, of Western Area CID, said: "We are appealing for local communities to be on the look-out for any suspicious behaviour in their villages and neighbourhoods and not to disregard persons or vehicles that appear unusual or out of place. This could include a suspicious vehicle outside your neighbour's house or hearing the sound of glass smashing nearby.

"Note down the car registration number or description of any suspicious persons you may have seen and report it to us if you believe it to be unusual. These criminals may present themselves as genuine callers, so if their behaviour seems odd then let us know."

Anyone with any information about these crimes, or who believes they may have witnessed any suspicious activity in their local community, is asked to contact Western Area CID on 101, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

The burglaries have taken place in the following locations: Badwell Ash; Bardwell; Barking; Bradfield St Clare; Brandon (x2); Bury St Edmunds; Clare (x3); Culford; Fornham All Saints; Forward Green; Great Cornard; Hundon; Kedington; Lavenham (x2); Long Melford; Mildenhall; Moulton; Needham Market (x2); Nowton; Pakenham; and Ringshall.

By following a few simple steps, you can reduce the chances of becoming a victim of burglary.

1. LOCK

Lock all doors and remove the keys before leaving the house. This limits the amount of escape routes available to burglars.

Keep front doors locked even when you are at home and especially if you are in the back garden.

Close all windows fully before you leave the house, lock downstairs windows and remove the keys.

Use window limiters to allow air in instead of keeping windows fully open, even when you're at home.

Install window locks on upstairs windows that can be easily accessed by a flat roof.

Lock back gates using a sturdy lock such as a closed shackle padlock to no less than CEN 3-4 security grade or 5 lever lock.

2. LIGHT

Leave low-energy lights on timers around the house and keep a radio on to make it seem as though someone is home.

'Dusk-to-dawn' sensored security lighting is a cheap, low cost way of making sure the front of your home or shed/outbuilding is well-lit.

Burglars often prefer to work in the dark to avoid detection. Stop burglars from hiding in your driveway and paths by installing an ambient security light that will not disturb neighbours.

Visible burglar alarms can make burglars think twice; get specialist advice and consult your insurance company.

Hedging and shrubs to the front of your property should be pruned to no higher than 1m and trim trees up from the ground to 2m. This will allow a clear line of sight across your property and will stop the garden being used as a hiding place.

3. HIDE

Keep your valuables, jewellery, cash, passport and deeds to your property in a safe.

Never leave spare keys in an open place. Hide them away to prevent them being stolen.

Keep dustbins and wheelie-bins away from fencing/gates as these can be used by thieves to climb into windows or used to escape.

Make sure valuables are property marked. Take photographs and keep a note of any serial numbers.

Don't leave equipment and tools lying around that can be used by burglars to break into your home, such as hammers, shovels or gardening tools. Keep ladders locked away and out of sight.

For further crime prevention advice please visit the Suffolk Constabulary webpage www.suffolk.police.uk or contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team on 101.

2. Avian Flu

Please share this information with all your friends, family and neighbours, especially those that you know keep poultry or captive birds.

You may have already seen information in the press that the Chief Veterinary Officer has declared a Prevention Zone to help protect poultry from a strain of Avian Flu in Europe.

This now requires keepers of poultry and other captive birds across England to keep their birds indoors, or take appropriate steps to keep them separate from wild birds. Information on the new measures can be found [here](#).

Poultry keepers are advised to be vigilant for any signs of disease in their birds and any wild birds, and seek prompt advice from their vet if they have any concerns.

Any person in charge of poultry (such as chickens, hens, turkeys, etc.) and captive birds must take all appropriate and practicable steps to ensure that:

- a) poultry are housed or otherwise kept separate from wild birds;
 - b) other captive birds are kept separate from wild birds;
 - c) poultry and other captive birds are provided with feed and water which is not accessible to wild birds.
 - d) any person who comes into contact with poultry and other captive birds must take all reasonable precautions to avoid the transfer of contamination between premises, including cleansing and disinfection of equipment, vehicles and footwear;
 - e) there are reductions to the movement of people, vehicles or equipment to and from areas where poultry or captive birds are kept to minimise contamination from manure, slurry and other products;
 - f) vermin control programmes are implemented effectively, including preventing the entry of wild birds, around buildings where poultry or captive birds are kept;
 - g) housing and equipment is thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at the end of a production cycle;
 - h) disinfectant at the right concentration is kept at all points where people should use it, such as farm entrances and before entering poultry housing or enclosures.
- Further bio-security advice can be found [here](#).

The following guidance is also available:

- How to spot avian influenza (bird flu), what to do if you suspect it, measures to prevent it, and the Prevention Zone – <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu>
- Biosecurity and preventing disease in captive birds within a Prevention Zone - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#biosecurity>

- Clinical signs that poultry keepers should look - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu#about-avian-influenza>

Suffolk Trading Standards are providing up-to-date advice and information on their social media accounts (Twitter and Facebook), as well as via their weekly email alert. If you would like to receive this email, please complete the following form.