



## Woolverstone News

December 29<sup>th</sup> 2019

*Dear All*

*The photograph above is of the sunset in Woolverstone on 21<sup>st</sup> December, the shortest day, or so I thought. Actually, this year the shortest day fell on 22<sup>nd</sup> December not 21<sup>st</sup>; the first time it had done so in a number of years. For the inquisitive, the 22<sup>nd</sup> December was fractionally shorter by only one second lasting 7 hours, 49 minutes and 43 seconds. (The previous day it had been 7:49:44)*

*But, that got me thinking. The evenings had been lengthening since December 12<sup>th</sup>; it is the sunrise time that keeps getting later making the day shorter. In fact, it is not until January 2<sup>nd</sup> that the sunrise starts rolling backwards again and our day gets longer from both ends.*

*The unseasonably mild and damp winter thus far is having a profound effect in the garden. Roses are still flowering. Snowdrops have started to bloom early. Our white camellia, which ordinarily loses its blossoms to frost, is clothed in a perfect spray of bright white flowers.*

*Our seasons seem to be changing. Many of our trees didn't lose their leaves until December. Plants seem to be flowering earlier, birds to be nesting earlier as our warmer weather extends at both ends of the year. A few weeks ago, a conversation with a fisherman in Aldeburgh revealed the extent to which his catch has changed in recent years with species he rarely saw latterly becoming quite common, seeing entirely new species to these waters as well as others becoming scarce.*

*Perhaps our New Year Resolutions should include one about what we can do, individually and collectively, to help our natural world as temperatures rise?*

*A Happy New Year and Happy New Decade to everyone.*

## Parish News

The Parish Council has recognised that there is a growing awareness and concern about our climate, our wildlife and our plant life. We have supported Babergh District Council's declaration of a climate and wildlife emergency. Do you have practical ideas that could help our village play its part in increasing biodiversity and reducing our impact on a warming climate? Would you like to help draft our detailed response? If so, please contact me by email and we'll find a date to get like-minded people together: [simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk](mailto:simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk)

Of good support for parents and grandparents over the remainder of the Christmas holidays is the offer of free swimming at Stowmarket Abbeycroft Leisure Centre for under 17s right up to January 5<sup>th</sup>. Visit [www.everyoneactive.com](http://www.everyoneactive.com) for further information. There's no need to book – just go along. Make sure to check their website for times.

## Woolverstone "Spring Clean" Weekend – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March

Our village "Spring Clean", an annual tradition, will be the weekend 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March.

The *Big Rubbish Clear Up* will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30 a.m. Meet outside Berners Hall. We have Hi-Viz waistcoats, litter pickers and bin bags. Bring gloves and a "litter picker" if you have one!

Please try to help out over "Spring Clean" weekend and keep our village looking beautiful. It could be a family event to help our young people feel they belong and care for their environment.

The **Bottle Bank** at RHYC can be used by everyone in the village. The money raised from recycling the glass is put towards the "Woolverstone Project" which supports sailing for the disabled – a really worthwhile cause. Makes a sensible home for your empties.

## News from Suffolk County Council Recycling Team

Christmas is a great time to think about [reducing waste](#), and improving our recycling knowledge.

We wanted to make you aware of [Suffolk Recycling's new Christmas Wrap Up](#).

This guide has tips on how to reduce waste and improve recycling habits over Christmas, all in one place - including information on what to do with fairy lights, wrapping paper, baubles, trees, food, metals and more.

[You can find the full guide on our website by clicking here](#), or by opening the attachment.

There are also plenty more tips for a [greener Christmas on the Suffolk Recycling website here](#), with festive recipes, gift buying ideas and advice on how to avoid over-buying.

We hope you find this information useful and please do support us. Thank you in advance for your support and we wish you a very Merry Christmas and New Year.

## ***The Waste Team***

Please find some useful links to get you started:

- [Christmas calendars and information about Christmas tree recycling](#)
- [Tool to check your collection day](#) – most residents should know their own collection day, however, anyone who doesn't have computer access can [contact our waste team to check](#).
- [2020 collection calendars for Babergh and Mid Suffolk](#)
- [Information about reducing waste](#)
- [What can go in your bins](#)
- [Glass recycling](#)
- [Recycling Centres](#)
- [Recycling specific items A-Z](#)
- [Home composting](#)
- As usual, we will continue to share recycling messages on our Twitter and Facebook channels over the Christmas period, so please do share and retweet wherever possible:

Babergh [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)  
 Mid Suffolk [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

The Waste Team – Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils

## Local History

Have you looked at Woolverstone's Facebook page yet? If not, stop by and see how it is growing. This month we have added: a documentary on Woolverstone Hall School (ILEA) filmed by Richard Denton in 1987 when its future was being decided; a newspaper report from 1856 concerned with a theft from a labourer in Woolverstone; and, an early 1960s photographic postcard of St Michael's church from an unusual standpoint.

Our membership continues to increase. We now have 179 members. Why not join and scroll through the information and contribute your local knowledge, too? Join the conversation! Our Facebook page is called: Woolverstone: Notes and Queries. Here's the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2044317292447243/>

Do please take a look at the site. It is a growing and fabulous collection of information about Woolverstone's past. Please join the group and feel free to add information and photographs about our historic village. Or, indeed, ask questions! Someone may have an answer.

## *Some Dates for your Diary:*

### **St Michael's Churchyard team**

**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan**

**10.00 -12.00**

Restoration and maintenance volunteers: keeping our churchyard and open spaces beautiful. We are meeting, weather permitting, St Michael's for 10.00 am. We'll be collecting leaves, repairing the rabbit fencing and clearing around headstones preparing for a new year. Any help would be much appreciated to keep the churchyard looking beautiful.

### **Parish Council Meeting**

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> Jan**

**7.30 pm**

Parish Council meetings take place on second Thursday of the month, except August. We receive reports from our County and District councillors as well as discuss local issues. If there is something you would like to raise, please contact one of our councillors, or come along to a meeting.

If you would like to raise your own issue(s) in the first 10 minutes of the meeting, please contact me, Simon Pearce, Chairman at [simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk](mailto:simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk) or Kathryn Deaton, our clerk, at [kathryn@deaton.org.uk](mailto:kathryn@deaton.org.uk) in the week preceding the meeting.

### **Advance notice**

**"The Astonishing Life of Mary Alice Berners" Berners Hall 27th March 7.30 pm**

Simon Pearce is presenting an illustrated talk about the extraordinary life of Charles Hugh Berners' eldest daughter Mary Alice Berners. It really is an astonishing tale!

Tickets: £6.00 - includes a glass of wine or a coffee and biscuit.

Tickets can be reserved through: Tel. 01473780009 or 07825708171  
Email: [simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk](mailto:simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk)

Or tickets can be bought at Orwell Stores.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Sunday Services at St Michael's.**

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	10.00	BCP Holy Communion - Revd Penny Brinkley
	11.00	Cafe at Church
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	11.00	Worship the Woolverstone Way - Jane Gould
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	11.00	Morning Prayer - Duncan Myatt
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	11.00	Holy Communion - Revd Jenny Seggar

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Helping our Community**

Our community is stretched out in a ribbon settlement, mostly along the B1456. People at No 1 are over a mile away from people at No 38. It is hard to stay connected. One of the ways to keep connected is through supporting local events, meeting and catching up with people. I hope you will be able to support the village through the different events that have been organised. We also need your help for some of the jobs that keep the community ticking away.

### **Services within the village**

This is a new addition! Why not share the service or trade you offer with people in our village?

I was amazed, and probably the last to know, at what an Aladdin's cave S& P Leisure is down in the Marina.

Here is some of what they have to offer:

**S & P Leisure at Woolverstone Marina.** Did you know we are here and what we sell? From camping and caravan spares and accessories, garden chairs, tools, trailer spares, number plates, fishing gear, knitting yarns and jigsaw puzzles.

**Tel:** 01473 780033

**Web:** <http://sandpleasure.co.uk>

If you would like to share what service you have to offer in our village newsletter, please get in touch and let me know. We may be able to create a space on our website, too.

### **Berners Hall**

The facilities at Berners Hall are available for booking by anyone in the community. There are special rates for residents.(see below) Sessions are up to 4 hours. e.g. 9.am – 1 pm. 6pm – 10pm etc.

Weekday session: £15.00

Sat/Sun session: £18.00

Please contact BHMC Booking Secretary for availability.

Sarah Hutton Phone: 07754075684; or, Email [sarahhutton7@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahhutton7@btinternet.com)

*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.*

*If your neighbour is not on the internet, why not print off a copy and pop it through their letterbox?*

Best wishes

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