

Friends of Woolverstone



Art Show & Sale

Sat 31st Aug & Sun 1st Sept

An opportunity to view and buy local artists' work

Textile art demonstrations

Books, local interest and antiquarian prints

Sale will include a "silent auction" for the chance to own one of several original works by a local artist or of local interest

FREE Entry

Refreshments available throughout the day

Open 10.00 am – 5.00 pm

Berners Hall, Main Road, Woolverstone. IP9 1AR

For further information contact 01473 780009 or Email: simonpearce@gmx.co.uk

Woolverstone News

August 27th 2019

Dear All

Summer is coming to a close with the mercury reaching record heights. These recent endless blue skies have given children memories of summer that will live with them for years to come. These are the summers of childhood, as are their fingers, purple-stained from plucking blackberries hanging heavily in the hedgerows. Yet only a couple of weeks earlier it was a case of donning fleeces to keep the chill out and we had a deluge which disappeared in no time!

The combination of heat and damp produced a supreme crop of mushrooms on Church Field which we picked for a week while they were growing quickly and before the caravans arrived. I'm full of anticipation that the next rains will send forth more delicious wild food. The elderberries are already ripening with their heads bending on the stem under their weight. Grab them before the blackbirds do!

It has been a treat this summer to see the field nearest Dairy House allowed to grow, mature and seed. A slight breeze sends ripples across the fine and varied grasses. The colours have advanced during the summer from greens to purples and onto golds.

Our village is such a fortunate place wrapped as it is in countryside, farm land and nature. Long may it continue to be so.

Parish News

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have produced a Draft Local Plan which will shape development and building of houses in the district between 2018 and 2036. Your parish council will be looking carefully at the draft document during the 10 week consultation period which closes on 30th September. This will be the key item in our Parish Council meeting on September 12th. We provided a careful and thoughtful response to the initial consultation last summer which can be found on our website in the drop down menu under Newsletters: <http://woolverstone.onesuffolk.net/>

You can have your say, too.

It should be noted Woolverstone has been reclassified as a “hamlet” in the settlement hierarchy due to the lack of services and facilities in the village, as we had argued. This designation *should* afford a certain level of protection from development. However, the settlement boundary has been extended, contrary to our view, to include two areas of land on the south side of the Main Road and re-routed around the north of the Walled Garden. This has specific implications for us as planning rules give “presumption in favour” of development within settlement boundaries. These new areas will be designated for housing. Furthermore, Woolverstone has been set a **minimum target** of building 31 houses within the village which equates to **at least** a 30% increase in housing. To me, this seems at odds with the concept of sustainability, the protection of greenfield sites and our Conservation Area status.

I have received the hard copy of the document – all 460 pages that cost £13.95 to post. If you would like to view this please just give me a call. You can send your responses direct to Babergh or channel them through your Parish Council. It would be great to have your views. There are several opportunities to drop in and talk to officers about the draft plan.

There is a new list of drop in venues to ask questions about the JLP.

I have only selected local venues. The full list and accompanying letter can be found at: <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/residents-invited-to-quiz-councils-on-draft-joint-local-plan/>

28 Aug	3pm - 7pm	Pinewood	The Lounge, Pinewood Community Centre, Laburnum Close, Pinewood IP8 3SL
18 Sept	3pm - 7pm	Shotley	Shotley Village Hall, The Street, Shotley IP9 1LX

Berners Hall

Have you noticed how beautiful Berners Hall is looking? I would like to thank Sarah Hutton for all the work she puts into managing and maintaining our village hall. Sarah has painted the iron railings at the front, the drain pipes and all the outside windows over the summer. She has also been working on internal decoration. It is looking very smart and very tidy!

Harold Ship also works hard to keep the lawn and flowers looking beautiful. Thank you.

We are very lucky to have such a wonderful venue for our use. If you would like to be part of the small, friendly team that maintains and manages Berners Hall please contact Sarah Hutton: 07754075684; or, Email sarahhutton7@btinternet.com

Phone Box

At the last Parish Council meeting it was decided not to oppose the planning application from BT for the removal of our iconic red phone box on the Main Road. The phone box has not been used in the previous 3 years. Improvement in the mobile phone signal strength in the area has rendered it less important for emergencies and, anyway, few people would carry the phone card needed to use it.

The process of "adopting" the phone box has started. The question is: What shall we use it for? Art installation? Book swap stop? Defibrillator? What would you like to see there?

If you have any ideas for the use of the phone box, please let me or any other Parish Councillor know so these thoughts can be discussed at forthcoming PC meetings.

Ipswich High School

Work on the Dairy House continues apace in readiness for taking the school's first boarders in just a few weeks. The conservation work in the "creamery" has been achieved to a very high standard; new stone has been cut, new oak window frames shaped, new window latches formed and Victorian tiles re-created. This will be a study area for the students. I was impressed to see the natural ventilation system which was designed to keep the creamery cool – without the use of any electricity.

We wish Ipswich High School well with its new venture.

Local History

Have you looked at our Facebook page yet? If not, stop by and see how it is growing. This month we have added: references to "Slice of Suffolk" - Bob Roberts, "History of Suffolk" 1895 - J.J Ravens, "History of the County of Suffolk" 1847 – Augustine Page, "East Suffolk Illustrated" 1908 and an exciting sequence of photographs many taken on Cat House Hard or the River Orwell during WW2 from "Exercise Attack" shared with us from the George Wilden Collection, Stowmarket.

It has been another busy month. Membership continues to increase. We now have 160 members. Why not find out more about the history of our village 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. It would be of huge interest if we gathered history of the older houses in the village and the memories of villagers of Woolverstone in the past before they are lost to us. 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:

Woolverstone Art Show Berners Hall Sat 31st Aug & Sun 1st Sept

The Second Woolverstone Art Show and Sale will be held on Sat 31st Aug and Sun 1st September in Berners Hall. The show will be open from 10.00 - 5.00 pm on both days.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

Your chance to view and buy work by Peninsula artists – four from Woolverstone: Anne Plummer, Julia Pearce, Barbara Norman, Pauline Jackson - for Peter, Peta Hillier, Michael Norman, Anna Block, Rosemary Claydon, Jill Hodgson and Maggie Lamb.

Do stop by and visit us! Enjoy viewing the works of art in a variety of mediums and styles. Enjoy a tea or coffee and cake in our beautiful and historic grade 2 listed Berners Hall. Why not take part in our silent auction? And maybe grab a bargain. I do hope we will see you over the weekend.

Retreat Day St Michael's Church Sat 31st Aug 10.00 – 4.00pm

"Return of the Prodigal - 'Coming Home to the Loving Father'" - Led by Sue & Chris Monckton-Rickett. They will explore the various aspects of the parable – homecoming, forgiveness, affirmation & reconciliation & how the love of Father (God) transforms us into His likeness. For further information see attached flyer or contact Sue and Chris: suechriswings@sky.com or 07966 176767

St Michael's Churchyard team Fri 6th Sept 10.00 -12.00

Restoration and maintenance volunteers: keeping our churchyard and open spaces beautiful. We are meeting at St Michael's at 10.00 a.m. Grass cutting and clearing around Headstones. Any help would be much appreciated to keep the churchyard looking beautiful.

Parish Council Meeting Thurs 12th Sept 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.

This meeting we will be looking at our response to the Joint Local Plan consultation. Plus a discussion about speeding along Marina Road.

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 or Kathryn Deaton, our clerk, at kathryn@deaton.org.uk in the week preceding the meeting.

Macmillan Coffee morning RHYC 27th September 10.30

Bake or buy a cake to support this wonderful cause being hosted at The Royal Harwich Yacht Club. Bring some friends and buy coffee and cake. Every penny raised means Macmillan can help more people with cancer live life as fully as they can.

Coffee morning starts at 10.30 a.m.

Would you be able to help?

Woolverstone Art Show and Sale

Help with the refreshment area? I'm looking for help with the hospitality. Thank you to those who have already offered. The Show is open from 10.00 until 5.00 on both days. I'm looking for volunteers who would be willing to help make tea/coffee etc. and perhaps take a two-hour slot on one or both of the days. (e.g. 10 - 12.00, 2.00 - 4.00)

If you feel you could help, please let me know when you would be prepared to slot in? (780009 or 07825708171 or simonpearce@gmx.co.uk)

Sunday Services at St Michael's.

Sunday 1st	Sept	10.00	Holy Communion from the Book of Common Prayer. A traditional "said" service. All are welcome. Communion will be celebrated by Revd. Anthony Lury
		11.00	Café church
Sunday 8th	Sept	11.00	Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Stutton marking the retirement of Revd. Marian Carter, followed by a bring and share lunch.
Sunday 15th	Sept	4.00 pm	Harvest Songs of Praise. Following this service there will be a Barn Dance and BBQ
Sunday 22nd	Sept	11.00	Informal Holy Communion
Weds 25th	Sept	7.30 pm	Holbrook Church, the installation of our new Rector, Revd. Jenny Seggar. All are welcome.
Sunday 29th	Sept	11.00	Benefice Holy Communion service to celebrate St Michael's feast day.

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.

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

Community Speedwatch

In order to have a continuing presence we really need people who are prepared to give a couple of hours a month to support us.

If you would like to be part of the team to help keep the traffic flow through the village to safe limits, please make contact with me. Contact details below.

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)