



## Woolverstone News

February 28<sup>th</sup> 2020

*Dear All*

*Spring is nearly here! And it seems to have been blown here on rather blustery westerly winds from across the Atlantic. Mercifully, we have avoided the worst of both storms, even managing to keep our electricity, although we did witness the Strand being flooded on numerous occasions. I suspect this is something we can expect to see more of in the future.*

*On the first day of February I paused to listen to a single Sky Lark's soaring song on the fields behind us, perhaps two weeks earlier than usual. The leaves on the Blackthorn by Horsepond's Green were emerging, also weeks earlier than usual. We must hope that this fervency of Nature is not caught out by a return to shivering Artic conditions.*

*The days are lengthening more quickly now, in fact by almost 4 minutes a day. Since February began, the day has lengthened by just over an hour and a half over the month. Increased light, alone, produces such change but combined with temperatures rising the furious dance of Spring is ready to burst into our lives.*

### **Parish News**

BT engineers have now removed their equipment from the phone box. We need to press forward with the renovation process. Thank you to those who have offered some of their time to return this iconic village landmark to its former glory. We hope to start when the weather improves. If you would like to be part of this challenge then give me a call or drop me a line, please.

The link here takes you to a successful renovation project in Brookwood: <http://blog.brookwood-expo.org.uk/search?updated-max=2010-05-07T21:01:00%2B01:00&max-results=9>

We are expecting the Planning Application from Geoff Mayhew Farms for a major development of 22 houses in Woolverstone to be put to Babergh District Council in the very near future. As soon as we have heard I will let you know. The Parish Council intends to hold a second Village meeting so we can share the detail of the proposals with everyone and any changes in what was presented at the previous Village meeting.

Freston are now officially part of the process as the three pairs of houses proposed at the opening of the village are actually in the Parish of Freston.

## **VE (Victory in Europe) Day 8<sup>th</sup> May** (Bank Holiday)

Your Parish Council will commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day with a WW2 themed "Afternoon Tea" on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May in Berners Hall. Discussions are on-going but the current proposal is:

- A free themed "Afternoon Tea" will be offered from 2.30 – 5.00 pm
- Sandwiches, cakes and sundries of the period
- Tea with cups and saucers
- WW2 era music
- Exhibition of Woolverstone's role in WW2
- It would be great if people came to tea in themed attire
- We will be looking for RSVPs to know how many to cater for
- **Watch out for your invitation!**

If you would like to be part of the team and contribute to marking this historic event, please make contact with me. Simon Pearce. [simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk](mailto:simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk) or 07825708171

## **Climate and Wildlife Emergency**

It is all very well discussing the Climate and Wildlife Emergency we are facing but we have to do something about it, practically. The question is: How can we reduce our impact on the planet?

Obviously, improving our recycling rate is one practical step we can all take. I have attached a copy of the latest Babergh District Council blue bin advice. Please try to get the contents of both bins right. I'm told that including the wrong items can spoil a whole load of material.

Across the UK over a million electrical items are being incinerated or sent to landfill each week. So many of our small electrical items and devices contain materials of which there are limited resources i.e. precious metals and other valuable materials. Circuit boards in electrical items use tiny amounts of gold, silver, palladium and rare earth elements. They also often contain copper steel, aluminium and plastic which can be recovered and turn into new products.

Recycling saves energy and land needed to mine new material and reduces the risk of toxic chemical leaching into surrounding areas.

Why not make a commitment that no more electrical items go into the black bin and that instead they go for recycling. Anything with a plug, battery or cable can be recycled!

I intend to ask the PC to consider offering a facility for villagers to deposit unwanted electrical items to slow this "tsunami of electronic waste". (House of Commons audit committee)

*Some Dates for your Diary:*

**St Michael's Churchyard team**

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> March**

**10.00 -12.00**

Restoration and maintenance volunteers: keeping our churchyard and open spaces beautiful. We are meeting, weather permitting, at St Michael's for 10.00 am.

**Woolverstone "Spring Clean" Weekend**

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March 10.30 am**

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.

**Parish Council Meeting**

**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> March**

**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 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.

**Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> March**

**12.00 noon**

There are two annual Church meetings a year. The first is the short Vestry Meeting, at which churchwardens are elected; the second is the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). They are usually held one after the other on the same day and at the same place and we always hope that neither meeting will be long. They are followed by a closed meeting of the new PCC which simply elects the PCC officers.

Anybody on the church electoral roll of the parish, and anybody who lives in the parish and is named on the register of local government electors, is entitled to vote in the Vestry meeting. For the APCM only lay persons named on the church electoral roll may attend and take part in the proceedings. The APCM reviews the work of the church in the previous year. We would like to invite you to attend. Details of the meetings will be posted in the church porch about 2 weeks before the meetings.

You are also invited to attend the short service of Morning Prayer beforehand, and we will be providing refreshments in the middle. It will be a good opportunity to pray for the church during the year ahead, and we hope that some of you will consider standing on the PCC, which will give you a real opportunity to be involved in what happens to St Michaels over the coming year.

**Spring Lodge**

**Open Day**

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March**

**2.30 – 4.00 pm**

Spring Lodge Care Home is having an Open Day for the public on Sat 21st March. The theme is World Flavours Day.

Entertainment will be provided by "Hara Tribal Bellydance", a Suffolk based dance group. You will also be able to try different foods from around the world from our staff and families.

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

This is a ticket only event. There is limited availability remaining.

Mary Alice Berners was the eldest daughter of Charles Hugh Berners, Squire at Woolverstone Hall between 1891 and 1919. Her story has fascinated Simon for over four years and is of quite extraordinary colour, breadth and interest spanning the British Empire at its height and yet so local to ourselves. The talk will be in two parts with a refreshment break in the middle.

Entry £6.00 - a glass of wine (or other refreshment) included with the ticket

Email me on: [simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk](mailto:simonrpearce@gmx.co.uk) Phone: 01473 780009

Tickets can also be bought at Orwell Stores, Chelmondiston.

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

<b>Sunday</b>	1st March.	<b>9.30</b> am	BCP Holy Communion (Revd. Jenny)
		11.00 am	Cafe @ Church (Duncan Myatt)
<b>Sunday</b>	8th March	11.00 am	Service of Worship (Duncan Myatt)
<b>Sunday</b>	15th March	11.00 am	Morning Prayer (Duncan Myatt)
		12.00 noon	Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Chair Revd. Jenny)
<b>Sunday</b>	22nd March.	11.00 am	Holy Communion (less formal) (Revd. David Newton)
<b>Sunday</b>	29th March.	11.00 am	Benefice Holy Communion at Freston Church (Revd. Jenny)
		12.00 noon	Benefice Bring and Share Lunch at Freston Village Hall.

**Lent Groups:**      Holbrook Methodist Hall 6.30 pm on Sunday March 1st; 8th; 15th and 29th  
All welcome.

The Rectory, 15 Denmark Gdns, Holbrook. 2.00 pm on Wednesday March 4th;  
11th; 18th; 25th and 1st April. All welcome

In addition there will be a service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at Holbrook on Ash Wednesday (26th February) at 7.30 pm. - Revd Jenny

**IMPORTANT:** Please note the earlier start time for the Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion on 1<sup>st</sup> March.

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## **Holbrook Academy**

Holbrook Academy are planning to set up a recording studio their premises for use by students and, after school hours, interested parties on the Peninsula. They are looking to raise funds within the local communities and have approached Parish Councils for support. There might also be individuals who would be willing to support this venture as they would be able to use this new resource. I asked the Head of Music, David Sansom for a brief summary of aims.

If you would like further details and/or would be interested in offering support, please contact David at [David.Sansom@holbrookacademy.org](mailto:David.Sansom@holbrookacademy.org) or [Sara.Rogers@holbrookacademy.org](mailto:Sara.Rogers@holbrookacademy.org)

The planned recording studio will open up many avenues for the students of Holbrook Academy and the community:

- Allow for a modern, engaging, and relevant course of study that will teach students how to become young sound engineers.
- Open up avenues for SEN students who normally can't access music due to their learning difficulties by giving them another way of being creative with music.
- Support the wider community by opening up the possibility of budding song writers, from the entire community (not just the Academy) to come and record their ideas with industry standard equipment.

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## **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: some new photos of Deer Park Lodge with memories and conversation; offer of reproduction of picture by ex Woolverstone Hall boy, Rusty Gentry; more photos of Thatched Cottage and Messenger family (Head Gardener 1893- 1937); and, a link to the East Anglia Film Archive and a clip of milk being delivered from Freston Lodge Dairy.

Our membership continues to increase. We now have 190 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/>

## **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))