



Woolverstone News

May 28th 2020

Dear All

Summer seems to have arrived several weeks early this year. The blue skies have continued throughout most of May and temperatures remain above seasonal averages. We desperately need some persistent rain, but it looks as if there is little prospect in the next two weeks. The soil from fields that are bare can be seen being blown by wind across the roads and the dusty hedgerows and banks look more like July than May.

I was saddened to read about the late April storm across the Mediterranean which engulfed house martins and swallows returning from Africa to our shores. The streets in Athens and the islands were littered with their tiny bodies after they succumbed to the ravages of ferocious winds and rain. This may partly explain why so few have returned this year. Let's hope that the lower levels of pollution, which seem to have encouraged the insect population, will help feed and restore their strength and they manage to raise strong broods this year.

The climbing rose in the photograph is called "Surpassing Beauty of Woolverstone" or the "Churchyard Rose". It has a glorious scent which you could swim in but it is prone to mildew and spot. It has been grown from the same stock as the one in our churchyard which is thought to be around a hundred years old and was re-discovered by the late Humphrey Brooke. This summer has been perfect for it.

They can be bought from Peter Beales Roses: <https://www.classicroses.co.uk/> There is a lot more information about the rose in Woolverstone: notes and queries.

Parish News

All public gatherings remain prohibited until further notice. The Parish Council will be undertaking their meetings by Zoom until such time as we are given the "All Clear" to resume.

The Thursday "Clap for Carers" at 8.00 pm has been well supported throughout the village. Our support is really welcomed by those who work in the NHS or carers in the village. Fortuitously, the 8.00 pm coincides with the shift change at Spring Lodge and they hear our support and see people out of their houses recognising their hard work and dedication. Last week people came from either end of the village to take part and James Hodgkinson serenaded us again. Thank you all.

A huge "Thank you" is owed to the team of COVID volunteers who have been collecting prescriptions, carrying out shopping, delivering mail, keeping an eye on our vulnerable and shielding residents over this difficult period. There has been a terrific level of support within the village. I hope that after all this is over we will be able to keep the idea running, in some form, as Woolverstone's Good Neighbour scheme and we can keep looking after each other.

Last month I wrote to Tim Passmore, Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner and Dave Wood, our County Councillor, expressing the concerns of many residents about excessive speeding through the village, asking how they propose to reinforce respect for the speed limit through our village as speeding has become habitual for some during this "lockdown" period. Here is the PCC reply which, incidentally, was addressed to a completely different couple – a Mr and Mrs Holmes:

I am sorry to read of the difficulties described within your correspondence below. It is important the note that the Police and Crime Commissioner is not responsible for operational policing as this responsibility remains with the Chief Constable, he would therefore be unable to direct the Constabulary on how to act in relation to this incident.

Mr Passmore is aware that the Constabulary continues to enforce speed restrictions during the Covid-19 period. He receives regular updates from the Constabulary Safety Camera Team and has noted that Woolverstone is visited regularly by this team with fixed penalty notices being issued. I understand that there are specific parameters that this team use when deciding the locations for speed enforcement and the Safety Camera Team will review locations regularly to ensure the whole county receive proportionate speed enforcement.

Both Mr Passmore and the Constabulary do all they can to promote the proactive speed enforcement around the county and have recently been supporting the roadsafetygb.org.uk social media campaign to encourage all drivers to consider the 'fatal four' to reduce the impact on the NHS, this has had coverage within the media and the Constabulary will continue to target motorists who fail to follow speed limits on the counties roads.

Mr Passmore would encourage you to make the Constabulary aware if you or any other local residents has speeding concerns around a particular location. You can contact the Constabulary by phone via 101, via the Constabulary website or email your Safer Neighbourhood Team (hadleigh.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk). I will also ensure your correspondence is shared with Suffolk Constabulary so this can be reviewed accordingly.

Thanks and regards

Cllr Wood's response followed a few days later:

I note the contents of your email and have noted Mr Passmore's response. Obviously this is really a Police issue so there is very little I can add.

However, Cllr. Wood is prepared to part fund a mobile speed sign for the village. Your Parish Council will pursue this as quickly as possible. In the meantime, if you are concerned about the speed of traffic through our village I would suggest taking up, and referring to, PCC Passmore's view that we should write to Suffolk Constabulary about the issue.

As shout out to the many delivery drivers who are helping slow traffic down by respecting speed limits. We should be grateful to them for the part they play. We can also play our part by ensuring we always respect the speed limits. Even where there is no speed limit, such as Marina Road, where there are people with young children, where there are dog walkers, where a footpath crosses the road and the unexpected could happen, please drive at a socially aware and responsible speed.

If there is any other information that I can help with, please get in touch.

Corona Virus or COVID 19.

Guidance has changed a bit. We are instructed to **Stay Alert. Control the Virus. Save Lives.**

However, we must still keep to the drill!

- **Wash your hands regularly**
- Whenever you come back inside, **wash your hands for at least 20 seconds**. Work up a good foam
- **Avoid touching your face**, especially around your nose, eyes or mouth
- **Keep a social distance** of at least two meters from other people

We can help our neighbours by keeping in contact by phone, text, over the fence

Keep in mind neighbours who live on their own and who may be in need of extra company or support at times through this emergency

Remember: There are things we can control and things we cannot control in our lives.

By concentrating on those things we can control we sustain our mental health.

Keep positive. Be kind and thoughtful towards others.

Woolverstone Neighbourhood Support during the COVID-19 emergency for those who are vulnerable, in self-isolation or shielding

It is essential at this unprecedented time to know there is help at hand if you need it and you are not alone. Within our village we have a team of volunteers who are available to support you if or when needed. All you have to do is contact one of the following villagers and a neighbour 'buddy' will be allocated to you:

Simon Pearce

Lorraine Wildbore

E: simonpearce@gmx.co.uk

E: lorrainewildbore@yahoo.com

T: **01473 780009**

M: **07748 258693**

Examples of how we can assist you are:

- ✓ **Collecting your prescriptions** from Shotley or Holbrook Surgery
 - ✓ **Posting your mail**
 - ✓ **Collecting urgent supplies**
 - ✓ **Walking your dog**
- or if you simply want to have a chat over the phone**

If, however, you already have a support system in place via neighbours/family would you also notify us, as it will be reassuring to know you have assistance on hand.

Just to reiterate the official guidelines.....

If you become unwell and unsure about what to do please call the NHS Support Line: 111

Please do not go to your GP, pharmacist or hospital in the first instance unless the NHS Support Line has advised you do so.

We have collated a number of local businesses which may be useful to you during your period of self-isolation – **but the situation may change as demand grows:**

Local service providers - who currently offer a free delivery service to local 'vulnerable' residents whilst stocks are available	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orwell Stores, Chelmondiston Open 8.00 – 12.30 	01473 780221
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hollingsworth's Store & Butchers, Chelmondiston Butcher. Veg. Post Office. Deliveries – order by phone Open 9.00 – 12.00 & 1.0 – 4.00 	01473 780225 Mobile 07402092829
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woody's Butchers, Holbrook Meat, eggs, honey, 90% alcohol hand gel, Antiviral surface cleaner. Open: 9.00 – 4.00 pm 	01473 327835
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stutton Community Shop Open. Mon – Fri 8.30 – 4.00. Sat 9.00 – 12.30. Sun 9.00 – 11.00 We are extending our ordering times which will now be 9-11.30 on Saturday mornings. But if you can, please try and order on a week day, 9-12.30 for delivery or collection in the afternoon. 	01473 328133
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milk & More – only for current account holders 	0345 6063606
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bourne Garden Nursery – are delivering on the Peninsula Try email: clairebgc@hotmail.com 	01473 691567
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tattingstone Garden Centre 	01473 327777

Bottled gas. Plus click and collect service.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglia Produce – fruit and veg boxes in 3 sizes: A - £10, B - £15 & C - £20 homedeliveries@angliaproduce.com 	01206 233471
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shotley's Premier Store Open Mon – Sat 7.00 am – 7.30 pm. Sun 8.00 am – 2.00 pm 	01473 787281
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peninsula Vegan Foods All that incredible fruit n veg for £20! Delivered straight to your door. Same day. For free We've got amazing spring greens, plums, pineapples, pomegranate - it's a tropical paradise! The strawberries, raspberries and blueberries are lush and our luxury fruit box contains a great pick of the bunch! Click and collect is available all day and we're open till 6! Please try to avoid 'browsing' in store as much as possible - it really slows us down! 	01473 845099 www.peninsulaveganfoods.com
Or you can phone to order and one of the village volunteers will collect from the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk Food Hall, Wherstead Open: 9.00 - 4.00 pm Weekdays. Sunday 10.30 – 4.30 pm We are also taking orders, please bear with us on these, it is around 48 hours currently. We're taking orders for Contactless collection too. Place your order with the team through our email at shop@suffolkfoodhall.co.uk and we'll process it ready for you to collect. We've got flour, self-raising, bread and white, plenty of bread fresh from the bakery team, fresh fruit and veg, lots of juices, some frozen fish and of course, a stocked up butchery counter. 	01473 786610
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-op in Holbrook 	01473 328214
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bourne End Premier Store, Wherstead Open Well stocked 	01473 601080
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veg at Number Nine Organic veg bags 	07395170654

The following local pubs/restaurants are currently offering take-away meals:

Shotley, "Rose"	01473 787237
Weds, Fri & Sat night. Sun lunch. Group order then happy to deliver.	
Tattingstone, "White Horse"	01473 328060
Stutton "Kings Head"	01473 328898
Order over the phone. Pay over the phone. Collect from the hatch.	
Lasan, Shotley Street	01473 787033/788987

Open 5.00 – 10.00 pm All week. Fish & Chips Fri & Sat 11.30 – 1.30	
Bristol Arms	01473 787200
Open: Thurs – Sun	Phone for times and availability
Dolly's Pizzas. Various locations pre order on 07856070123	
Open: 5.00 – 7.00 pm	
Outrageous Cake Company	01473 786687/ 07805 808 362
Open: Tues – Sat 10.00 – 4.00 pm Orders for collection E.g. brownie trays	
Lucca Enoteca	01206 390044
Bread and Pizza takeaways from 4.00 pm	

This list is constantly changing. It was accurate at the time of writing but may have changed. A good source to keep up to date is the Facebook site "Shaun's Shorts":

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

Some Dates for your Diary:

St Michael's Churchyard team

Fri 5th June 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.

Phil Mayhew cuts the main areas of grass with a ride on mower. However, he can't manage the narrow areas between and around headstones. These have to be done by smaller machines. It is quite possible to maintain social distance and do this work. If you have a mower or strimmer and would like to contribute by cutting some of this grass that would be great. Weather permitting.

Parish Council Meeting

Thurs 11th June 7.30 pm

This will take place via Zoom.

If there is anything urgent, please contact me simonpearce@gmx.co.uk or 07825708171. The PC will stay in touch with each other via email or phone.

Sunday Services at St Michael's.

Due to the Corona virus, St Michael's will have no services until further notice and the church building is closed on instruction of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. However, we are still waiting to hear when we may be able to reopen the Church, even if only for private prayer. We will let people know as soon as we are able to make any changes.

Revd. Jenny, our rector, and Duncan Myatt, our churchwarden, have the following message:

"Whilst the current restrictions are in place the Church Building may be closed but the Rector and Ministry Team are thinking and praying for all our villages. The Rector, Revd. Jenny Seggar would be more than happy to ring any residents for a chat while the crisis is ongoing.

We have also launched a new web site; tworiversbenefice.org which contains up to date information, a recording of Sunday's Morning Prayer, links to other recorded services and prayers

for personal use. We also have a children's page with some suggested links. The Rector can also be found on Facebook at 'Two Rivers Rectory'."

The Revd. Jenny can be contacted on 01473 327951 or email rector2rivers@outlook.com

Duncan Myatt the Churchwarden and Lay Elder can be contacted on 01473 781969 or email duncan.myatt@gmail.com

Revd. Jenny added:

"I will be praying for Woolverstone on a Tuesday, and would be happy to ring Woolverstone folk on that day."

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: Newspaper article re. Boating Disaster on the Orwell 1896; photo of Woolverstone WI in mid 1950s; photo of Freston and Woolverstone "Over 60s" club, with some names; Newspaper clipping of Woolverstone Hall sale in 1958; photos of Royal Observer Corps medal; photos of Woolverstone United F.C. 2016,1937, 1950, and one undated; photo of Samford Cup medal; Jock's grave in the grounds of Woolverstone Hall; photo and film of Queen's visit in to Suffolk in 1961 with close-up outside the village school; reference to J.A. Berners OBE JP in the book "Essex Schooldays"; and, an article on the civilian contribution in Woolverstone during WW2 to mark VE Day.

COVID has increased our membership which has now reached 237. 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/>

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.

TIP: How's your compost heap going? Save all that organic material going to the incinerator!

Try this site for starters: <https://www.edenproject.com/learn/for-everyone/how-to-make-a-compost-heap-10-top-tips>

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. Stay Safe. Keep your distance.

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