

# Aldringham cum Thorpe with Sizewell Newsletter



**Website:** [www.aldringham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.aldringham.onesuffolk.net)

**April 2021**

## **Extra funds needed for coastal protection, says Thorpeness Coastal Futures Group**

Extreme weather at the beginning of February caused a lot of damage to the beach in Thorpeness, some of it at the north end irreparable, say Thorpeness Coastal Futures Group (TCFG).

The cliffs beyond the Red House and the defences immediately in front of and to the south of that property are now extremely dangerous, they warn. Walking and cycling along this area should be avoided if at all possible and if not, great care should be taken.

However, they say that all is not doom and gloom. They have been working hard over the last few years to develop a long-term sustainable plan for the defence and enhancement of the village. This plan will tackle coastal and Meare defences along with improving leisure facilities by incorporating walkways and cycle paths within the village and along the shoreline, and making sure there is access to the beach for everyone.

Also, following the Thorpeness Coastal Management Options Consultation in 2019, Coastal Partnership East (formerly Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils), have commissioned a feasibility study to come up with preliminary designs for a sustainable scheme to defend the Thorpeness coastline, taking into consideration present and future environmental issues, climate change and enhanced access and leisure facilities. This study will form part of the TCFG plan.

A new Community Interest Company (CIC) is being set up in conjunction with TCFG to work with the Parish Council, Coastal Partnership East and other local organisations to oversee the implementation of the village defence and improvement plan and to raise funds for the works. The CIC will share these plans with the community over the next few months.

Any works will be implemented in stages. Stage One plans are currently being drawn up to tackle the immediate requirement to defend the north end of the beach with works expected to take place late spring. The money the CIC can raise may not fully cover the immediate plans or the long-term plan and it is certain that council and government funding will not be easy to come by, so it will be necessary to look to the community and other grants to help raise the money needed to save and improve the village

They conclude: "The TCFG/CIC 20-30 year plan will enhance and futureproof our village for residents, holiday makers and visitors for generations to come but if we do not immediately pay attention to and tackle the dangers of our changing climate conditions we are in danger of losing parts of this unique village." More details of how you can get involved will be on the TCFG website soon.

## **Parish Council Update April 2021**

### **Parish Matters**

The Parish Council held its first-ever meeting via Zoom on March 8<sup>th</sup>, which included attendance by two East Suffolk councillors, TJ and Jocelyn (a precis of their monthly report follows), and five members of the public. It appears the Annual Parish Meeting will also have to be held on Zoom, and will take place on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. All village organisations are invited to report on their activities throughout the year. These officers and any members of the public wishing to attend should contact our Parish Clerk Shirley Tilbrook on [shirley.tilbrook@mail.com](mailto:shirley.tilbrook@mail.com) and she will send an email inviting you to attend on the evening just prior to the meeting.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

As lockdown regulations are eased, The Neighbourhood Plan is being revived, led by Councillor Eric Atkinson. He has had some initial discussions with Planning Officers at East Suffolk Council, who are offering advice and guidance.

### **Energy Companies**

Having submitted Written Representations to the Planning Inspectorates dealing with applications by Sizewell C and Scottish Power, councillors continue to monitor the progress of the DCOs online. There was a Webinar online meeting with representatives of Nautilus and Eurolink on March 1<sup>st</sup> reporting on their progress towards bringing windpower from the continent. They are hoping for a coordinated approach between the various companies.

A similar Webinar is due to take place with representatives of Sizewell C on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Yellow Lines

Suffolk Highways have informed us that the yellow lines due to be painted outside the Almshouses will be undertaken between 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May, according to weather. Councillor Maureen Jones had asked for the work to be carried out before visitor numbers got too high.

### Noticeboards

It is becoming difficult to read notices on the parish boards owing to weather corrosion of the Perspex. Unfortunately, repair has been found impossible, so quotes for new boards are being looked at.

*Pippa McLardy*

*Parish Councillor*

### Planning Update

Between 1st December, 2020 and 12th March, 2021 the Parish Council received 16 planning applications. Six applications were for extensions, five were for tree removal or pruning, two were for new buildings and the remaining three were for minor building changes. The breakdown by location is as follows :- Eleven in Thorpeness, four in Aldringham and one in The Fens. The Council supported 10 of the applications, objections were submitted against two and four are still under review.

### Speed Indicator Device (SID)

In December, we shared a summary of almost two years of analysis from our neighbourhood Speed Indicator Device (SID). This was accompanied with a request for drivers to pay more attention to the speeds that they are reaching as they drive through our village. More recently, the Police Safety Camera Team have conducted a number of traffic surveys throughout our Parish and found that 46% of vehicles were travelling at prosecutable speeds on the B1122 near Aldringham Park, and 41% on the B1122 near the Parrot. This level of speeding exceeded the criteria for commencing enforcement and therefore The Safety Camera Team have started to regularly position themselves near to the hotspots within our village.

*Alan Williams*

*Parish Councillor*

*Footnote by Christine Laschet, a regular attender at PC meetings:-*

“At the start of the monthly Parish Council Meetings, 10 minutes or so are reserved for the Parishioners. Questions can be asked and issues raised for the Council’s consideration. No previous notice is required. The dates are usually on the website and will continue once restrictions are lifted. Also the Editor puts them in the ‘What’s on’ section of this newsletter. The meetings are currently held on line, we hope for not much longer. If you wish to attend a Zoom meeting please contact our Parish Clerk with your email. Come along and support our Parish”.

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## **District Council Report**

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### East Bags

20,164 people are shielding in East Suffolk. If you know of a lonely or vulnerable person or a carer who would benefit from a bag of goodies, including encouragement to stay active, notify your District Councillor or Council Clerk who will pass their names on to the Communities Officer.

### Dog poo

There has been a noticeable increase in unbagged dog poo being left on streets and in parks and open spaces. Dog owners are reminded to clear up and use bins provided.

### Rapid Covid Testing

Tests for people **without symptoms** of Covid are now available at Aldeburgh Church Hall for 4 hours every weekday (mostly in the morning). Contact <https://commisceo-pcs.shiftpartner.com/sign-up> or call **0333 772 6144**.

Anyone **with symptoms** should call **119** or visiting [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test).

### Local Elections

Elections of Suffolk County Councillors and the Police and Crime Commissioner take place on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Because of Covid restrictions, people are encouraged to send for a postal vote. See [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/elections](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/elections) for a form which can be scanned and emailed to return, or request a postal vote form through [elections@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:elections@eastsuffolk.gov.uk). Deadline for postal applications is April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Scottish Power

Therese Coffey has expressed her ‘deep concern’ surrounding the ‘devastating impact’ the 30 acre sub-stations at Friston would have, and is pressing for a co-ordinated approach by energy providers. The final examination timetable is now available. For details contact PINs help desk 0303 444 500 or [https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010078/EN010078-002441-200929\\_Rule%208%20Letter\\_EA2%20\(ExA%20FINAL\).pdf](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010078/EN010078-002441-200929_Rule%208%20Letter_EA2%20(ExA%20FINAL).pdf)

### AONB Projects

£70,000 of grants are available from The Sustainable Development Fund for projects to benefit communities within the Essex Dedham Vale and Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONBs. There were 43 winners last year getting amounts from £500 to £4,000. Details on line on AOBBS websites of by phoning 01394 445225.

## **Business Support**

A new £2m scheme to support businesses in the hospitality industry has been announced. Eligible businesses, such as pubs, restaurants, cafes, and clubs could qualify for amounts between £4,000 and £9,000 according to rateable value. The payments are in addition to the Local Restrictions Support Grants (LRSG) or the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG), available since the national lockdown in November 2020, A new round of these are also being calculated. Further support for businesses operating on-line is also available through the Digital Advice Service, launched last November.

**Delivering Local Plans** Full details of homes and industrial sites developed over 2019/20 are available in the newly published Authority Monitoring Report 2019/20 on East Suffolk's Open Data Portal.

## **Smart Towns**

Aldeburgh and Saxmundham will be among 11 East Suffolk venues being transformed into Smart Towns over the next 2.5 years. As well as free public wifi, digital monitoring will allow authorities and businesses to measure the success of events and promotions.

## **Leiston Dentist Closure**

Patients of MyDentists, which is closing, are to be offered access to alternative practices through NHS England. If urgent care is required, NHS 111 can refer patients to emergency hubs in Diss, Ipswich or Lowestoft.

*TJ Haworth-Culf and Jocelyn Bond  
(The Monthly Reports of TJ and Jocelyn and Annual Reports from our three councillors including Tony Cooper, are also now available in full on request)*

## **Scottish Power and Sizewell C latest from ECS**

Lisa Chandler, Planning Project Advisor on Sizewell C to East Suffolk Council, emailed recently: "The Section 111 agreements in relation to the SPR projects were signed and sealed by the Council this morning (March 22<sup>nd</sup>), they are now on their way to the applicant and will be submitted into the Examination.

Deadline 8 for the SPR Examinations is this Thursday (March 25<sup>th</sup>) – we will be submitting our oral submissions post the last round of hearings, and other documents such as the Statements of Common Ground will be submitted in their final state. As you can imagine, Naomi Gould is working very hard to pull all this information together over the next few days. The final deadline, Deadline 9 is just past Easter, Naomi is hoping to have everything ready for that deadline before Easter. Then the waiting game for the Examiner's report and Secretary of State's decision will begin.

The Sizewell C element focused on the Preliminary Meeting taking place tomorrow, a detailed agenda has been published on the PINS website and we are pleased that some of our written comments have already been included such as Coastal Geomorphology and

Community Impacts being identified as Principal Issues in their own right. Andrew Tait QC will be representing ESC tomorrow with Philip Ridley as officer support if required. I will be co-ordinating behind the scenes.

We are continuing to draft the Local Impact Report jointly with SCC – it is a mammoth task but we are trying to make sure all impacts are identified and included.'

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## **Website**

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Do you Have Something You'd like to see Featured on our Website? Maybe you're organising an event or perhaps you're a keen photographer with some great shots taken within our lovely parish? You might have a human interest story about one of our parishioners or would like to tell us about a good deed that someone has recently done? If you've got something you'd like us to see and read about, then please send in to [pc@aldringhamcumthorpe.suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:pc@aldringhamcumthorpe.suffolk.gov.uk) and mark your message For The Website.

*Tracy Norman (editor)*

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## **Community Emergency Planning**

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Happy Easter to you all. I hope you can all enjoy the Easter holiday and take advantage of the lifting of some of the restrictions imposed on us because of the Covid-19 virus.

### **Covid-19**

This year, due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, you may not be able to participate in traditional activities or events. A number of local fetes and festivals have already been cancelled. But as the restrictions are lifted and we venture out to restaurants and pubs we must remember that the virus is still active and out there. It's important for everyone to continue using all the protective measures available to help stop this pandemic from spreading again. You will be familiar, by now, with the safety advice:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a well-fitted mask when around others
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid crowds
- Avoid poorly ventilated spaces
- Wash your hands often.

If you are offered the opportunity to get a vaccine take it as you will then be protecting yourself and others around you.

### **Severe Weather**

We recently had some severe weather, although not as bad as we had 3 years ago when the 'Beast from the East' struck East Anglia. That was cold!

Suffolk Highways successfully treated our roads throughout the most recent period of snow and ice.

The 'Winter Service Plan' is published by Suffolk Highways each year and gives a detailed account of how and when the roads throughout Suffolk will be treated, gritted, salted and cleared by snow ploughs. The plan shows that Suffolk Highways is prepared to treat over 2000 miles of highway in the county and it can be found at:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/Roads-and-transport/check-which-roads-are-gritted/2020-09-30-FINAL-WS-Plan-20-21-v1.pdf>

Do you have a grit bin close by? Grit bins are provided by borough, town and parish councils in support of 'self-help' in the clearance of snow and ice. Grit bins are usually stocked by Suffolk Highways in readiness for the Core Winter Period and replenished at such intervals that it considers to be appropriate. However, local councils can choose to re-stock the grit bin at its own cost if Suffolk Highways is unable to do so.

It is worth checking the level of grit in your local grit bin and if it needs replenishing drop me an email giving the location of the bin, any other relevant information and I will ensure Suffolk Highways are tasked with replenishing the contents.

### **Prepare for Emergencies at home**

Emergencies happen at a moment's notice. There may not be any warning. Being prepared for domestic emergencies can make the difference between a 'near miss' and a tragedy. Following these basic steps will help reduce the risk of an emergency situation happening in your home.

- Know basic preparedness skills to protect your family and home.
- Eliminate common electrical and fire hazards around your house and property.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and test them regularly.
- Teach your children what to do when they hear the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Know how to turn off utilities such as water and electricity.
- Have emergency supplies in place at home, including batteries and torches.
- Plan the evacuation route(s) out of your home in the event of a fire and ensure everyone living in the house knows the way out.
- Pay attention to local authority and government alerts and warnings.
- Include your pets in your emergency plans and have somewhere you can place your pets should an emergency happen.

Don't forget to look out for your neighbours and together we can ensure we stay safe. Happy Easter to you all.

Roger Brown [roger.brown72@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.brown72@btinternet.com)

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## **Uppen about – some Parish News**

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***Uppen:** to mention, disclose or reveal  
(a word 'much used around Aldbro' according to Edward Moor's dictionary of Suffolk Dialect published in 1823)*

### **Big plans for expansion at The Dolphin**

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Parish Council received details of a planning application proposing alterations, additions and refurbishment of Thorpeness's Dolphin Inn to provide additional guest rooms and a new reception, following a feature in the East Anglian Daily Times.

The shop is to be moved from its existing location to the main restaurant/bar building as part of a new shop and guest reception area that will form the main entrance. The existing barn and two small storage buildings are to be demolished, and landscaping and car parking areas are to be reorganised.



*Artist's impression by Curry-Hyde LLP*

Architect Charles Curry-Hyde, who designed the proposals, outlines the main points below:

“The Hotel Folk (who own the Golf Course and Country Club) have recently submitted plans for changes to The Dolphin Inn in Thorpeness. The Dolphin and its rooms will continue to be run by David James.

The plans entail:-

- Moving the shop across Peace Place, where it will double as a reception and David James' office, to make it more viable.
- Making guest rooms in the old shop, flats and barn.
- New rooms on the Inn side of Dolphin Close.
- A new internal bin area for the Inn.
- Peace Place itself will be rearranged to make a central area of garden and trees that will create a better separation between the Inn and the houses.  
This has been achieved, along with an increase in the number of parking spaces.

No changes are proposed to the restaurant or bar and it will remain open throughout the work.

A printed version of the application documents will be available at the Dolphin shortly.”

Mr Curry-Hyde says he would be happy to answer any questions and is prepared to arrange an outside public meeting to elaborate on the plans, if needed.

Publican David James, who has recently signed a new five-year lease on the main premises, and a one-year lease on the adjacent shop and barn, has had no input into the plans and, while happy to try to answer queries, suggests that questions and comments should be directed to Hotel Folk [david.scott@thehotelfolk.co.uk](mailto:david.scott@thehotelfolk.co.uk)

### **Baggers and mulchers - prepare for action**

From March 29, 2021 strictly in accordance with Government Guidelines, as they stand, we are allowed to return to the "rule of six" with people from up to six households allowed to meet outside. Therefore we are planning to launch two Easter initiatives on Good Friday 2nd April:

#### **1. Random orchard project mulching party**

We need 10 volunteers working in groups of two to mulch the fruit trees and the hedge. All the mulch will be delivered to site. You will need rakes, spades and a wheelbarrow or two. Starting at 11 a.m. on the Sports Field.

#### **2. Beach & village clean**

This is envisaged as a totally unsupervised clean up with volunteers working in groups of two collecting their litter pickers and bags from the Sports Field at 11 a.m. - guidance will be given as to "go" and "no-go-areas". You will be requested to take your litter picker and bag home with you for us to collect over the weekend. All pickers and bags safely collected will be rewarded by an Easter Egg!

Both initiatives will be undertaken by registered volunteers only. If you feel like a bit of fresh air and doing something for your village you must signal your intention by emailing me on [wjcrow@aol.com](mailto:wjcrow@aol.com) please.

*Bill Crow*                      **THORPENESS BEACH BAGGERS TRUST**

*(Please do not attempt to phone. We are in temporary accommodation and there is a complicated phone system).*

### **On the beach**

North-easterly storms and high tides wrought havoc on the beach over winter, bringing down the retaining wall of The Red House at the end of North End Avenue, and trashing sea defences.

But the shifting shingle also revealed the fascinating wreckage of a doomed vessel, which has attracted many interested spectators, and 300 others who joined in a Zoom investigation hosted by Nicholas Mellor, who works in heritage management, but usually on site abroad. Physical examination of the wreck by marine archaeologists has been hampered by Covid, and the planks have now been over-shingled again. But discovery officer Andy Sherman of Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeological Network (CITIZAN), believes the wreck could date to a 150-year period from the late 16th Century through to the 17th Century, Other experts have different theories, and trenails (wood tenons) discovered in the

wreck would seem to suggest 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> Century construction.



Further to the South, The Coralline Cairn is a work of art 'commissioned by the sea' in the words of Henry the artist ([www.henryif.xyz](http://www.henryif.xyz)), who has recently been working on a project in Iceland. Built from lumps of coralline crag laid in the style of a dry stone wall, the slabs are over 2.5 million years old and contain many fossils, including scallops. Built in the storm zone, the cairn will eventually return to the sea. In its present form it presents a striking feature on the shore, particularly when the sun catches the orange-brown sandstone in a noose of light.



*Photos of cairn and wreck courtesy of Janey Blanchflower*

### **Bubble Wrap helps Covid blues to float away**

Despite the many downsides of the pandemic - the lack of socialising, not travelling, people being isolated and hearing the constant toll of victims from the virus - some good things have happened over the past year. Who would have imagined a year ago we oldies would have become familiar with the workings of our computers? No longer do we use them only to get and send e-mails or write letters. We have now become "experts" in Zooming, muting, finding passwords and joining in to all manner of groups, which has helped to open up the world for us.

On line there are hundreds of classes from line-dancing and book groups to cookery and DIY.

Amongst this abundance of choice, there has been a course called Bubble Wrap, devised for young-at-heart people over 65 by the Wonderful Beasts Theatre Company in conjunction with Wardens Charitable Trust. If you had been a fly on the wall recently within some local houses you would have observed a number of elderly people (mostly women, but with the odd brave man joining in too) dancing uninhibitedly around their sitting rooms as freely (though maybe not quite so professionally) as Isadora Duncan; arms thrown up in the air, twirling and twisting (and hoping to avoid cats, dogs and armchairs) as with gay abandon they let themselves go in time to the music.

On other occasions, the same groups would be singing silly songs (thankfully muted), reciting poems or having a try at improvisation. For an hour and a half once a week for a month these older people could forget everything and have fun and often a good laugh.

All had been participants in Bubble Wrap, a multi-media course run by Wonderful Beasts in Aldeburgh. Oh, and there was "Homework" too, when they were encouraged to write poems, stories and songs to share with one another - and all in a relaxed, non-threatening atmosphere. A few hours to forget all worries, meet new people, and realise Spring is just around the corner. The culmination to all this creativity were two concerts for each group to share their contributions to each other and other "guests". These were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The wide range of creativity was heart-warming to watch and a tonic of hope for a brighter future, all thanks to Bubble Wrap and Wonderful Beasts. Advice:- Watch out for their next course...thoroughly recommended!

*JillHubbard,,Christine Laschet and Elizabeth Tipping (3 participants*

### **And on the subject of floating away....**



*David Cook and his original glider*

Long term residents of this parish (and Heritage Group members who attended a talk) may still recall a day

nearly 43 years ago when a brave Aldringham aviator took off from the cliffs at Deal in an attempt to become the first low-power, rigid-winged hang glider to fly to France. David Cook and his friends were a familiar sight, practising on the cliffs at Thorpeness for this and many other notable flights. Brought up in Beaconhill Cottage in Thorpeness, where his father was accountant to Thorpeness Ltd for 60 years and private secretary to G Stuart Ogilvie, David left at 19 to join the RAF – the start of a long association with flying.

Moving to Aldringham in 1971 with his wife Catherine, David recalls how he built the record-winning glider at the house where he still lives.

"It was built in my home at Aldringham and powered by a 9hp Go-cart engine driving a 28 inch propeller carved by myself. Crossing the English Channel (on May 9th 1978) from Deal I landed at Bleriot Plage - the very place that Bleriot took off from in 1909 to achieve the first crossing of the English Channel. My flight took about one hour and was the lowest powered flight in the history of aviation. Prince Charles awarded me with the Aviation Achievement Medal at the Royal Aero Club in London.

"Duckhams Oil sponsored the flight, £100, because Alexander Duckham backed Bleriot on 25th July 1909 - my birthday! We were both 37yrs old."

After flying at more than 80 airshows ,including opening the Farnborough Airshow in 1980,the Vj-23 hang glider was retired to Manchester Air & Space Museum.

You can learn more about David's exploits in his book 'Flying from My Mind', published by Pen and Sword, and on the website davidcookaviator.com.

### **Rare finds give clues to bygone ages**

A metal detectorist from Leiston has made some intriguing finds while exploring in fields around Aldringham and Knodishall over the last three years. Strictly with the owner's consent, Andrew Pegg and two companions spend several hours a week metal detecting when fields are fallow. With the help of a researcher friend, who has been checking historical documents for further evidence, they now believe they may have discovered the exact site where a Cold Fair was held annually from the 1600s on St Andrew's Day, November 30<sup>th</sup>. They are basing their theory on the large concentration of numbers of 17<sup>th</sup> Century traders' tokens (used as small change) they have found, which were issued by merchants from 15 different locations as far afield as London and Great Yarmouth. Finds from much earlier eras have also been uncovered in Aldringham, including a number of broken Bronze Age tools in former wetland areas, which may have been destroyed on the death of their owner, as was the custom. To prevent illegal nighthawking (robbery of artifacts), Andrew is not revealing the exact location of his finds. The Long Shop Museum is considering a display of the friends' discoveries, while Aldeburgh Museum is to display a rare penannular ring found by Andrew. Penannular rings usually date from between 1150 and 750BC and are incomplete circles, probably worn in the hair or clothing, or sometimes through the nose. Typically only five or six such rings are found in Britain every year.

## Missing Links

Is there anyone out there who has memories, or better still memorabilia, of the old Hazlewood Golf Club at Aldringham? If so, Michael Thomas from Felixstowe would love to hear from you. Having written a short book about a 'missing' golf course in Felixstowe, he is now investigating other Suffolk lost links.

Hazlewood GC first appeared in the 1930s and disappeared after WWII. An 18 hole course, green fees were 1/6d a round or 2/6d a day, and play was allowed on Sundays. The pro and greenkeeper was CH Maggs. Call Aldringham 77 to book your round!

If you can help, contact Michael on [mttwicker@gmail.com](mailto:mttwicker@gmail.com)



## Local Groups



### St Andrew's Church

The church has been open every day during lockdown. Our loyal Jenny and Jeanne have seen to that and everybody is very grateful to them. Certainly the considerable number of visitors who have recorded their visit on our sheet in the porch have been grateful. There have been more visitors, I think, than in non-lockdown times. And we are just gearing up for more of those lovely outdoor services in the churchyard, starting with Palm Sunday 28 March at 11am when we expect the weather to be fine. There are to be two donkeys to lead a procession - and this is not, I hasten to add, a reference to the celebrant! There will be a service also at 11.00 on Easter Day, following a sunrise service at 6.30am in Aldeburgh churchyard. Normal services (fingers crossed) will then be resumed at 11.00 each Sunday and details will be on the church noticeboard. For the time being there will be no 8am service.

David Copp Churchwarden [davidcopp@hotmail.com](mailto:davidcopp@hotmail.com).

## Friends of St Andrew's

**Quiz Night.** Ten teams took part in the Quiz Night on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Thanks go to all who took part or bought raffle tickets, which helped us raise £396.30 for the Church Fabric Fund. Thank you, Christine for preparing and delivering the quiz questions, Mary our Scorer, the Kitchen Crew and those who made cakes and sandwiches, Budge and Peter who sold the raffle tickets and those willing helpers who set up the hall and cleared away afterwards.

Due to the Coronavirus no further planned events took place. A table top sale was held on Sunday morning 18<sup>th</sup> July after the Service in the churchyard. Many and various items were donated. People came to make their purchases one at a time, socially distancing. £166 was raised for the Fabric Fund.

**Future Events.** The Friends of St Andrews Committee have not been able to commit to any social or fundraising events. As soon as current restrictions are lifted, we anticipate organising and running social and fundraising events once more.

**Current Committee Members.** Mr David Copp (Chairman), Revd. Sheila Hart, Mrs Anne Norton (Membership Secretary), Mrs Angela Chandler (Treasurer), Mrs Budge Little, Mrs Susan Hawkes, Mrs Sheila Boulwood, Mrs Rita Browne, Mrs Betty Jeffs. There are currently 89 members of the Friends of St. Andrews which includes single and family memberships. Thank you for continuing with your membership of the Friends of St. Andrews. If you would like to receive future updates on Friends Events by email, please [email](mailto:anneenorton@btinternet.com) me using 'Friends of St. Andrews Events' as the message title. Using email will save the cost of stationery, printing ink and stamps.

Mrs Anne Norton Membership Secretary  
01728 830519 [anneenorton@btinternet.com](mailto:anneenorton@btinternet.com)

## Pilgrims Together

The last 12 months have been a very lonely time for a lot of people. But many groups, whatever or whoever they represent, have come up with some ingenious ways to keep going, and Pilgrims Together is no exception. Thanks to technology, we have been able to maintain a weekly (instead of fortnightly) act of worship on Zoom for a year now, which is regularly visited by more than 20 people.

But it hasn't stopped there; at the end of 2020 with the long dark days of winter approaching, we decided to organise a series of events on Saturday evenings, usually once a fortnight. At the moment, these have alternated between a quiz and a ceilidh! You may have thought that a ceilidh was a Scottish dance but that is only part of the meaning of the word; ceilidh is the Gaelic word for 'a gathering' which in many instances does include music and dancing. But for our ceilidh, we asked for anyone with a bit of knowledge with a local twist (we refer to it as a 'nugget') to share it. So far we have had two ceilidhs and another is planned, (date to be announced). Subjects have ranged from Ranulph de Glanvill, founder of St Andrew's church, Memories of Aldeburgh, the Aldringham

village sign, A.S. Neill, founder of Summerhill School, the history of Snooks' statue in Aldeburgh and many, many more. Questions and anecdotes follow after each short talk. We have never yet had enough time to cover all the subjects offered but these are then put towards another evening. It's great fun and you learn a little more about our wonderful locality.

We have also been hosting Zoom Bible Study classes which have attracted a large group of followers. Prior to lockdown, we had been handing out village information packs and a small gift of a houseplant to some of the new people who have recently moved into the parish. This had to be suspended due to Covid restrictions, but we hope to begin again soon to welcome our new neighbours into our community personally. In collaboration with Chris from the Parrot we have also organised two Zoom cooking classes; the first was to bake Jammy Dodger biscuits, and the second a hilarious attempt at making and tossing pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Another cooking master class by Chris is arranged for Saturday the 3rd April at 2pm and is a ZOOM EASTER CAKE BAKE. A list of ingredients will be published soon so you can do your own baking at home if you want to. It should be fun, even if you only watch! All age-groups welcome. Our thanks go to Chris for all his time and effort.

Anyone wishing to know more about our group can visit us on:  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/1886/page/66566/view/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/1886/page/66566/view/)  
 email pilgrimstogether473@gmail.com , or phone me, Sue, on 01728 830497.

It would be lovely to hear from you and you will be made most welcome.

Sue Atkinson *On behalf of Pilgrims Together.*

### **ImpACT (Aldringham Community Team)**

#### **A Covid Singing of Carols on Aldringham Green**

Just before the country went into indefinite lockdown, while we were still living under the Tier restrictions, members of ImpACT, after discussions with Mark Lowther, our esteemed Rector, felt that it would be possible, and legal, to hold our annual singing of Carols with various readings on Aldringham Green. So, with family bubbles, and safe social distancing, our two founder members, Jill Hubbard and Christine Laschet, conjured up a successful and uplifting occasion taking up most of the Green. Night-lites were placed at specific safe spacing and people appeared out of the darkness. All were signed into a register, as required by the restrictions, and given copies of the running order of readings and carols - one per family bubble- and then escorted to a night-lite. Forty- five programmes had been printed in expectation of a cautious turnout, yet these were exhausted and many of us had to resort to memory to carry us through. Music was supplied by Ben O'Dwyer and the whole of us were shepherded by Mark and our annual sheep, Shaun, munched his way through a largish square of Aldringham grass. Special mention should be given to Chris Theobald, Cara Chinery and family -well done Tommy- Liz Everett, Eleanor O'Dwyer, Jo Ogilvie

and Family and finally, the Cooks, who all gave readings, squinting in the darkness.

It was a wonderful and unfortunately short evening as Chris was unable to open the Parrot's doors for the traditional mulled wine and mince pies, but people went home lifted by some human contact and hope. It was, on reflection, a record turnout.

### **Aldringham Village Sign**

The Parish Council would like to think that everybody would have noticed the terrific refurbishment of the Aldringham village sign, now restored to its former glory. If you haven't, go over and get a closer look. Maybe it was the weather-battered condition, but this writer had never noticed the wealth of detail that has now been brought out by this excellent restoration, especially Aldringham Church. Look out for the explanatory brass plaque, soon to be re-fixed to the oak post. Well worth crossing the road for!



*Photo courtesy of Bill Seale*

### **Coffee Caravan**

All being well, and depending on Government restrictions, the popular Coffee Caravan, which provides company and advice to anyone who stops by for a hot drink, will resume its visits to Aldringham again from June . Dates are June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, Aug 10<sup>th</sup>, Sept 14<sup>th</sup> and 'Oct 12<sup>th</sup> from 2pm until 4pm on The Green. Visits to Thorpeness are

not scheduled, as there is a regular coffee morning in the Dolphin.

Ann Osborn reports that after their recent appeal donations of £12,000 cash and slow cookers resulted in 509 slow cookers being given to needy families.

### Thorpeness Art Group

Following the success of the Scottish Colourist programme at the Aldeburgh cinema in the autumn of 2020, I am resolved to mount another series of lectures in the same venue this year.

My only remaining problem is subject matter. Initially I was taken by the hard gritty realism of George Bellows and the American Ashcan School. Then I became distracted by the sheer quality of the French Realists: Carot, Millet, Courbet and Cailebotte. When I do make a decision I will endeavour to blow the last of the Corvid's creepy cobwebs with some profoundly powerful pictures (I do love a bit of alliteration! Vulgar as it may seem.) Watch this space.

Bill Crow: for further information [wicrow@aol.com](mailto:wicrow@aol.com)

### Good Neighbours

**Helpline Number 07521 047 843**

Unsurprisingly, 2020 was a challenging year for AcT Good Neighbours. The lockdown in March created an immediate call on the GN volunteers to help our vulnerable neighbours, but worryingly many of our volunteers also needed to self-isolate as they too were vulnerable. Luckily, a call out to the Parish brought forward some younger and fitter temporary volunteers who helped see us over the peak demand. This year there were some 250 requests for help for shopping, help at home and transport and our 33 regular volunteers were augmented by a further 22 temporary volunteers. After an initial rush, calls dropped off markedly, but this was after regular assistance schemes had been instigated, such as weekly shopping expeditions, or prescription pick-ups. The good news is that 12 of our temporary helpers have now joined us permanently. Sadly we were not able to enjoy our quarterly lunches at the Parrott and the Dolphin but perhaps the highlight of the year was the takeaway GN Christmas Lunch from the Parrott when a team of volunteers delivered lunch to some 41 neighbours and we even managed a 'Zoom' raffle to finish it off, which augmented our dwindling funds. As always our thanks to Chris and his team at the Parrot. Our AGM will be held on Zoom on Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Please email me if you would like an invitation to join in, and sadly, we must ask you to bring your own refreshments!

Michael Hall, Chairman - [mjhpan@gmail.com](mailto:mjhpan@gmail.com)

### Thorpeness and Aldringham Heritage Group

Things are coming along nicely at our new Heritage Centre beside Thorpeness Car Park. The latest and probably most noticeable improvement is the planting of shrubs around the perimeter. These were provided by Bill Crow and his wonderful band of Beach Baggers, the plants coming from the Botanica nursery near Wickham Market, who advised us on what was suitable for such an open and unprotected area. They already make a difference and will be fabulous when they get established in the summer with the help of some warmer weather. More outside signage and information lecterns have been ordered and will soon be in place. Through the hut's window you will see that there is a bench, funded jointly by TAHG and the Good Neighbour scheme, and dedicated to villager Roger Searle who was a leading member of both groups. It will be formally installed on the patio with a suitable ceremony as soon as larger gatherings are allowed. Also, hopefully, the grand opening day we are planning is getting nearer; no date as yet, but please be assured as soon as we are able to proceed we will let you all know.

We are all looking forward to being able to meet up with you again. As I write this we are marking the first anniversary of lockdown 2020, although, on a positive note, these recent difficulties have brought us together as a community.

On behalf of the TAHG committee may I take this opportunity to thank you all for the support you have shown us - we couldn't have done it without you!

*On behalf of Maureen Jones*

*Chair of the Thorpeness and Aldringham Heritage Group*



### Thorpeness Halt Restoration Group

Progress is being made by the group who are hoping to restore the old Thorpeness Halt train stop. "We are at present awaiting further information from those in higher places," says Bob Alexander (who has just found a photo of his great, great grandfather on our website!). He adds that he and the rest of the group can't wait to "put spade to sod, as it were"! "Nothing of course is certain, but we are really hoping to get news in the very near future. I am somewhat reluctant to elaborate, but saying that, we have not had a rejection". Anyone interested in the project should contact:

Bob Alexander

[bobinnovator100249@gmail.com](mailto:bobinnovator100249@gmail.com)

## **Ogilvie Pavilion and Sports Ground**

The Pavilion remains closed at the moment due to the Government restrictions and we don't know exactly when we will be able to welcome regular users back once more. During this last year, general maintenance has been carried out on the field, and last Easter, in line with the scattered orchard project, Bill Crow and his trusty Beach Baggers planted a variety of fruit trees along the boundaries. They look good and are doing well, despite the bad weather that winter brought.

After our AGM held last year on Zoom, we now have a greater number of Trustees. With all this new blood, we hope we can now move forward with building a new facility for the community.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of long standing trustee Andrew Paris (*see croquet report*), the representative from the very successful croquet group. We hope to welcome his successor shortly.

*Sue Atkinson* Secretary, Trustees Committee.

## **Momentous Year for Thorpeness Cricket Club**

To mark its Centenary this year, Thorpeness Cricket Club is celebrating both on and off the field. As well as some national-level matches in The Voneus Village Cup (a knockout tournament for 300 teams running throughout the summer and culminating in a final on the 'Hallowed Turf' at Lord's), there will be an expansion to three in the number of teams (including one for women), and a celebration barbecue and cricket match in August.

Club stalwart Francis Byrne writes: "Thorpeness Cricket Club was inaugurated by Stuart Ogilvie in 1921. The original Pavilion, situated on the east side of the playing field, not far from the now croquet green, was bombed by the Luftwaffe – perhaps a bomber releasing the remainder of its deadly cargo on a land target before flying home.

"The club thrived after the war to the extent of employing a full time groundsman. The present Pavilion, of solid concrete block construction, stored the grass cutting machinery, among other uses.

"The Pavilion today has a photo of players, umpires and chairman taken, we think, in the late 1930s with four participants identified. Any help with the remainder would be much appreciated.

"The club is planning to expand to three teams this summer including a ladies team. The first team, captained by Dylan Churchill, has entered the Village Cup a national competition. The first game of 40 overs per innings is booked at Great Totham, Essex, on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

"Next year, league cricket is planned but considerable improvements in the wicket and outfield have to be attained. All three teams will be playing friendly matches this summer.

"To mark the centenary anniversary of our historic club we are playing cricket and having a barbecue at least and would be delighted if local people, whether connected with the club or not, would like to support this event from 12 noon Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August.

"We would of course be very interested to hear from anyone who has any information about the club during

the 90s and all those previous decades and extend a warm invitation to ex-players to come along and celebrate a truly historic day".

*Francis Byrne*

07775791441

[byrneengineering@zohomail.eu](mailto:byrneengineering@zohomail.eu)

## **Croquet Club**

The latest Covid lockdown has to some extent fortunately coincided with the time of year when only the most hardy of us would have been out on the croquet lawn.

It has however been a sad time for the Club as we lost both our Chairman (Andrew Paris from Aldringham) and Secretary (Colin Hart from Rendham) to the other Big C. Andrew was absolutely key to the club's move (and renaming) from Benhall to Thorpeness a few years ago, which fortunately coincided with the bowls club merging with Aldeburgh and leaving us with their lawn and 'club house' on the Ogilvie sports ground. He will be very much missed as a leader and great croquet player, and our thoughts go out to his wife Sue.

Outdoor sport, including croquet, will be allowed from 29<sup>th</sup> March and our members are very much looking forward to getting back to playing soon after that. Covid restrictions for now mean that we can only have six people (one doubles game and one singles game) playing on our single full-size lawn at any one time. While our roll-up afternoons will commence on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday afternoons it will be necessary to log in with our new chairman Gerald Lomax ahead of time to ensure we don't exceed these numbers. This also applies to bookings to play at any other time.

Guests will be very welcome on the same basis. So if you know the game, or would like to try it out if you haven't played before, do ring Gerald on 01728 768846. We look forward to having an Open Day once we can welcome more people. Croquet offers sport, friendship, fun, competition and a whole lot more. It sounds easy and is for beginners but for experts is a game of skill, strategy, angles, tactics and guile.

[www.thorpenesscroquetclub.onesuffolk.net](http://www.thorpenesscroquetclub.onesuffolk.net)

*Angela Clark*

*for Thorpeness Croquet Club*

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

A hard act to follow! As most of you are aware, Bill Crow has completed 19 years in his role of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator in Thorpeness, and will in fact be leaving the village a little later in the year.

We haven't heard so much from Bill recently, caused by the fact that we no longer have a Community Police Officer in our area, and hence any local information isn't readily coming our way. As this is the case, it is even more important we keep our eyes and ears open, being aware of any questionable activity in the village. Please do email me if you become aware of anything untoward, and if appropriate, I can then pass on.

Be aware also, of the ever more clever scams. We all think we are invincible, but we hear all too often of intelligent people being scammed. Keep vigilant. Keep well.

*Evelyn Rumsby* [evelynrumsby@aol.com](mailto:evelynrumsby@aol.com) 07809 840924

## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

### Aldringham cum Thorpe Parish Councillors

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Maureen Jones    | 01728 453915              |
| Alan Williams    | 07802 175184              |
| Eric Atkinson    | 01728 830497              |
| Pippa McLardy    | 01728 454565              |
| Bill Seale       | 01728 832306              |
| Shirley Tilbrook | Parish Clerk 01728 830001 |

### District Councillors

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| TJ Haworth- Culf                            | 01728 451933 |
| terry-jill.haworth-culf@eastssuffolk.gov.uk |              |
| Jocelyn Bond                                |              |
| Jocelyn.bond@eastssuffolk.gov.uk            | 07825 720522 |
| Tony Cooper                                 |              |
| Tony.cooper@eastssuffolk.gov.uk             | 01728 830181 |

### County Councillor

Russ Rainger (standing down in May 2021)  
01728 688739 russ.rainger@suffok.gov.uk

### Police - Suffolk Constabulary

#### **Always Dial 999 for Emergencies, including Coastguard**

Non Urgent Issues 101  
Community Engagement Officer, Halesworth Locality,  
Halesworth Police Station Simon Green (PC 187)  
[ceohalesworth@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ceohalesworth@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

### Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Aldringham – Maria Chapman-Beer  
[tribunegang@gmail.com](mailto:tribunegang@gmail.com)  
(Aldeburgh Rd and roads off except Aldringham Park,  
to borders with Leiston, Aldeburgh, and down Thorpe  
Rd towards Thorpeness)  
Thorpeness – Evelyn Rumsby 07809 840924

### Hospitals

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Aldeburgh & District Community Hospital |              |
| Park Road, Aldeburgh                    | 01728 452778 |
| Ipswich Hospital Heath Road             | 01473 712233 |

### Doctors' Surgeries

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| The Peninsular Practice                            |              |
| Church Farm, Victoria Road, Aldeburgh              | 01728 452027 |
| The Surgery, Main Street, Leiston                  | 01728 830526 |
| The Surgery,                                       |              |
| Lamsale Meadow, Saxmundham                         | 01728 602022 |
| <b><u>Non-emergency</u></b> health problems advice | 111          |

### Covid Rapid Testing Centre (no symptoms),

Church Hall, Aldeburgh 0333 772 6144

**Power cut line** 0800 31 63 105 or simply call 105

### Dental Surgeons

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Aldeburgh Dental Practice  |              |
| 167 High Street, Aldeburgh | 01728 452884 |
| Saxmundham Dental Surgery  |              |
| 9 High Street, Saxmundham  | 01728 602537 |

### Pharmacies

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Aldeburgh Pharmacy            |              |
| 125 High Street, Aldeburgh    | 01728 452763 |
| Leiston Pharmacy              | 01728 832231 |
| East of England Coop Pharmacy |              |
| High Street, Saxmundham       | 01728 602051 |

### Veterinary Surgeons

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Aldeburgh Vets   |              |
| Hall Farm Lane, Saxmundham Rd, Aldeburgh                                     |              |
| <a href="mailto:contact@aldeburghvets.co.uk">contact@aldeburghvets.co.uk</a> | 01728 598111 |
| Leiston Veterinary Clinic  |              |
| 1d Eastlands, Leiston  | 01728 833566 |
| Fromus Veterinary Group Fromus House,  |              |
| Street Farm Road, Saxmundham   | 01728 602599 |

### Thorpeness Croquet Club

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Gerald Lomax | 01728 768846 |
|--------------|--------------|

|                                     |                  |              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <b><u>Good Neighbours Group</u></b> | <b>Help Line</b> | 07521 047843 |
| Chairman Michael Hall               |                  | 01728 451464 |

### Local Heritage Group

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Chairperson Mrs Maureen Jones | 01728 453915 |
|-------------------------------|--------------|

### Rainbow Tots

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Ms Anja Shaw                | 01728 453295 |
| Every Tuesday 10am - 1:30am |              |
| Aldeburgh Community Centre  |              |

### St Andrew's Church

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Churchwarden David Copp   | 01728 635816 |
| Tea & Toast Mrs E Tipping | 01728 454165 |

### Ogilvie Pavilion

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Mrs Wendy Sturmeay | 01728 452586 |
|--------------------|--------------|

### Thorpeness Cricket Club

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Mr F Byrne  | 01728 830834 |
| Email: <a href="mailto:byrneengineering@uwclub.net">byrneengineering@uwclub.net</a> |              |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b><u>Connecting Communities Transport</u></b> | 01728 635938 |
|--|--------------|

## WHAT'S ON – April 2021 to August 2021

| Month                                   |         | Place                        | Event  |
|---|---------|------------------------------|--|
| <b>April</b>                            |         |                              |  |
| Thur 1 <sup>st</sup>                    | 7pm     | On Benefice You Tube channel | Maundy Thursday church service   |
| Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>                     | 11am    | Beginning on Sportsfield     | <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> beach clean and tree mulch  |
| Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>                     | 2pm     | On Zoom                      | Chris's Easter Cake Bake – get your ingredients ready to follow our local master chef! |
| Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>                     |         |                              | <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>   |
|   | 6.30am  | Aldeburgh Churchyard         | Early Easter Service   |
|   | 11am    | St Andrew's Church           | Holy Communion   |
| Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>                     |         |                              | <b>BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY</b>   |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>                    |         | All SCC Schools              | <b>SCHOOL SUMMER TERM BEGINS</b>   |
|   | 7pm     | On Zoom                      | AcT Annual Parish Meeting  |
|   |         | Countrywide                  | Gatherings of 6 people allowed in open air   |
| Tues 20 <sup>th</sup>                   |         | Countywide                   | Deadline for applying for Council elections postal vote                                |
| Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>                    |         | Great Totham, Essex          | Cricket club –Voneus Village Cup First Round   |
| Tues 27 <sup>th</sup>                   |         | On Zoom                      | Good Neighbours AGM – bring your own refreshments!                                     |
| <b>May</b>                              |         |                              |  |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>                     |         | Countrywide                  | Council Elections  |
| Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>                    |         | Countrywide                  | Bars, Restaurants and hotels reopen  |
| Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> |         | Via Zoom                     | Sizewell C Open Floor Hearings   |
| Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> following Service  |         | St Andrew's Church           | Annual Parochial Church Meeting  |
| Wed 26 <sup>th</sup>                    |         | Sizewell                     | Deadline for written responses to plan changes   |
| Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>                    |         | All SCC Schools              | <b>HALF TERM BREAK BEGINS</b>  |
| <b>June</b>                             |         |                              |  |
| Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>                     |         | All SCC Schools              | <b>SCHOOLS BACK FROM HALF TERM BREAK</b>   |
| Tues 8 <sup>th</sup>                    | 2pm-4pm | Aldringham Green             | Coffee Caravan returns (restrictions permitting)                                       |
| <b>July</b>                             |         |                              |  |
| Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>                   | 2pm-4pm | Aldringham Green             | Coffee Caravan   |
| Tues 20 <sup>th</sup>                   |         | All SCC Schools              | <b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL SUMMER TERM</b>  |
| <b>August</b>                           |         |                              |  |
| Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>                     | 12 noon | Thorpeness Sports Field      | <b>Cricket Club Centenary match and barbecue</b>                                       |
| Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>                   | 2pm-4pm | Aldringham Green             | Coffee Caravan   |
| <b>September</b>                        |         |                              |  |
| Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>                     |         | All SCC Schools              | <b>SCHOOLS BACK FOR AUTUMN TERM</b>  |

Every Tuesday, 10.30 – 11.30 on Zoom - Rector Mark's weekly Coffee Morning

Every Wednesday 6.30pm on Zoom – Pilgrims Together weekly worship followed by get-together

Rapid Covid Testing Centre (no symptoms) 0333 772 6144 - St Peters & St Pauls Church Hall, Victoria Road,

Aldeburgh IP15 5DU Opening Hours: Mon 7am to 11am; Tue 7am to 11am; Wed 7am to 11am; Thu 3pm to 7pm; Fri 7am to 11am; Sat/Sun Closed

Every Sunday – St Andrew's Church Services resume from Easter Sunday.