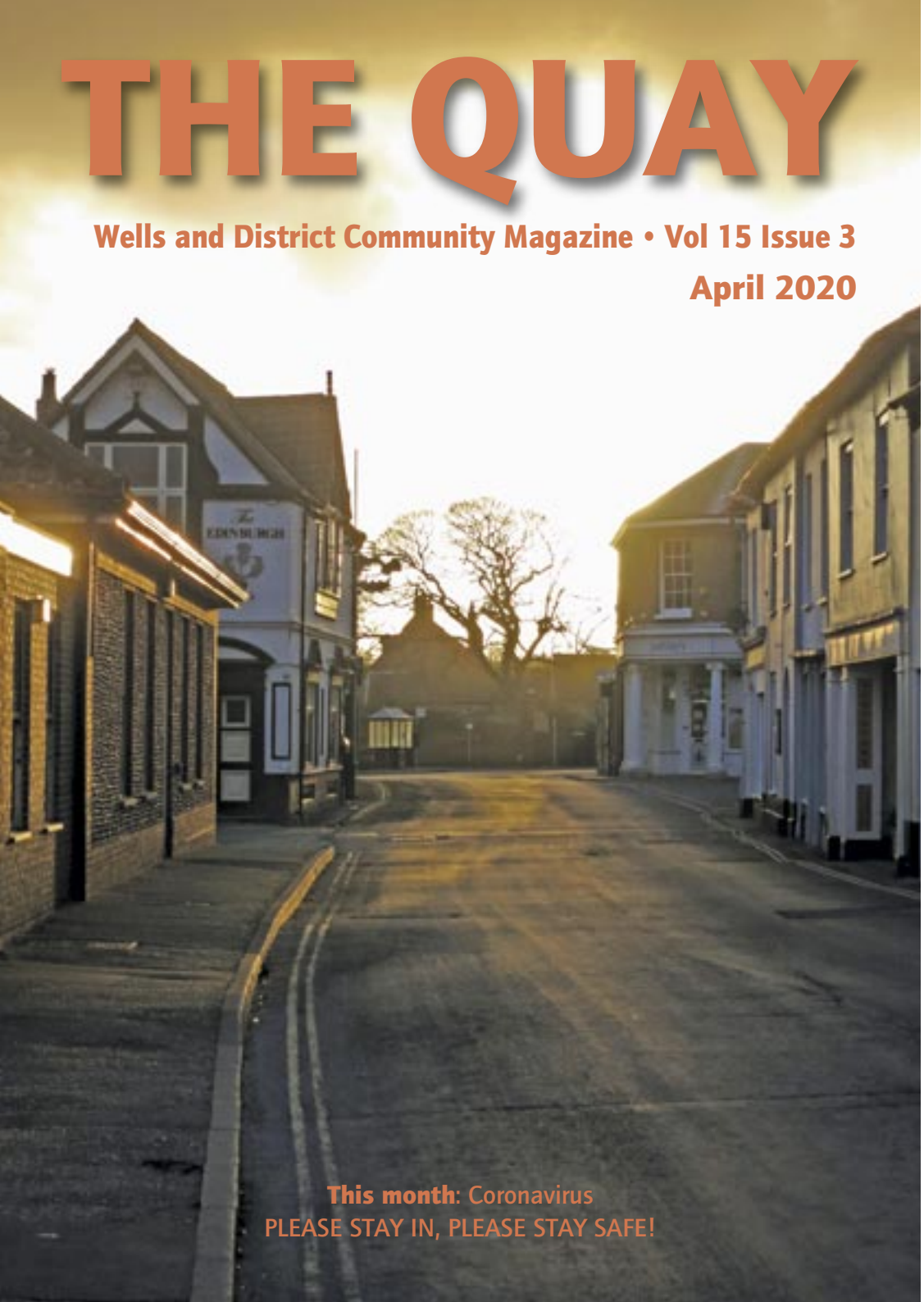
THE QUAY

Wells and District Community Magazine • Vol 15 Issue 3
April 2020



This month: Coronavirus
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Welcome to The Quay

Oh dear – this is hard! In my years of editing *The Quay* I don't think I have dreaded, or struggled so much with, writing my editorial. With the Coronavirus pandemic and seemingly endless bad news unfolding around us, it may seem odd to be producing *The Quay* at all. It's not been without discussion and extra work that we've been able to bring this month's issue out but we decided that some semblance of normality might be welcome.

This is clearly not the time to be flippant nor to be rousing. It's not my place to say it will be all right in the end and we'll pull through if we work together... but I fervently hope it will be.

Wells, as one would expect – because it's that kind of place – has risen wonderfully to the challenge. Several local food shops are offering deliveries and some of the pubs and cafés are doing frozen meals both for home consumption but also to send to the Queen Elizabeth hospital in King's Lynn – step up The Victoria!

There are also a number of groups that have been set up to assist people with all sorts of things – see the advert on page 5 and the Churches Together friendly phone line ad on page 15. Please don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it because there are people ready and willing to help!

Personally, I had what I think might turn out to be an idea to help all Wells businesses, b&bs and small traders, not necessarily immediately but as we start to pull out of this. It's in the early stages but there will be a website and fund-raising page at **www.wellshelpinghand.co.uk** if you'd like to get involved or make a donation.

Finally, I will say this – we have been asked not to go out more than is necessary. The thing we can all do to help this community is to do this, however difficult, however inconvenient, however unimportant it might seem. Our contribution to this crisis is to minimise the spread of the virus and to try to help our NHS by staying well – we'd all prefer to do other things but we can't. We'd prefer to be out in the sunshine, or visiting friends and neighbours but we can't. And none of us should.

Our quiet roads, deserted streets and empty public spaces show how well most people have understood and responded but there are those who think the rules don't apply to them... but they do. You might pick up this dreadful disease, you might pass it on to others, you might infect yourself, your family and friends or people you've never even met. Please stay at home as much as possible and please stay safe. **SP**

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Homes for Wells news

By David Fennell, chair, Homes for Wells

"Events, dear boy, events". Readers of *The Quay*, who can cast their minds back sixty years, may remember this quote, attributed to then Prime Minister, Harold Macmillan. It was his reply in answer to the question of "what disrupts governments' plans most?"

Events, in the shape of a pandemic, have changed things utterly in less than two weeks. Our Auction of Promises, booked for 20 March, was cancelled. Our small office in the Sackhouse is closed and tenants in need of support are asked to email Lotte at **office@homesforwells.co.uk** or Kady at **admin@homesforwells.co.uk**. Lotte and Kady are replying quickly. They are asking tenants to keep in touch and to let them know if their employment status is affected. If it is, Lotte and Kady will support tenants in applying for benefits. It's always best to start dealing with things as quickly as possible.

Our board meeting on 25 March was held by conference call, in order for us all to self-isolate. Readers who can't cast their minds back sixty years will doubtless be impressed to read that we did this courtesy of 'Google Hangouts'. Our donors will be pleased to know that this 100 minute phone call didn't cost us any of their hard-earned generosity!

Our board of trustees, acting together, has to ensure Homes for Wells meets its objectives. The paramount objective is to keep Homes for Wells safe and solvent and protect the assets which we provide for local families and key workers. We took the very tough decision not to proceed with the Warham project at this time. This was mainly because we had to prioritise a large increase in our contingency reserve fund.

The previous week, on 19 March, at the Warham parish council, I assured the meeting that Homes for Wells absolutely wishes to deliver the Warham development, not least because of the rarity of plots for affordable housing. We have set ourselves the target of meeting the need for affordable homes in Wells and adjoining parishes and we must seek every opportunity. We have been truly grateful for the wholehearted support shown to us in Warham. However, I had to point out as well that the coming months will subject many of us to great difficulties, through no-one's fault, and our auditors were encouraging us to freeze all non-routine expenditure. It was a great dilemma for our board to weigh up. I was encouraged by the understanding shown by the Warham councillors. I look forward to meeting them all again when the pandemic is over and we can see what lasting impact has been left.

Back in Wells, one of our local private benefactors has just given us another very generous personal donation, precisely to help us to cope through the uncertainties ahead. This heart-warming action also served as an injection of morale for us all!

Harold Macmillan is also remembered for his historic speech about "the wind of change blowing". We know that business is increasingly being done on line. The pandemic is speeding that up for most of us. (Not at my place though: we've been users of Asda's home deliveries for four years, but now it's impossible to place an online order. Thank goodness for shops in Wells!)

When the lockdown has been lifted, I'm sure everyone will return to their local cafés and pubs. And I feel sure that international travel will be replaced with holidays in the UK for many people. An opportunity for which Wells should prepare!

But what will happen in the property market? Could the economic impact of the pandemic bring a wind of change in the market for second homes? If so, in what direction? Will more people want to move out of cities and live here permanently? It's too early to say, but we need to reassess all our present assumptions.

To help us to keep a good balance on our board, as we work this out, I'm delighted to announce that Kayleigh Rumble, the manager at Nelson's, has joined us as a trustee. Her participation will lower our average age profile, which is ever-increasing!

Kayleigh is from a Wells family and is close to many of the Staithe Street retailers, some of whose employees are Homes for Wells tenants, and more who would like to be. This is a good moment for Homes for Wells to develop closer links with more Wells employers.

We already know that employees are moving away due to the unavailability of affordable housing. Our strategy is evolving, as we aim to widen our definition of 'key workers' to include those working for independent retailers and in local tourism. We look forward to gaining helpful insights into the exact needs of all local employers.

Wells Town Council

Coping with Coronavirus

Do you need help while self-isolating?

Then please contact

Wells Central Support Hub

on 01328 710564 or email hub@wellsmaltings.org.uk

We offer a single point of contact for help and support to the self-isolating members of our local community during Coronavirus.

If you would like to offer your services and be part of our volunteer team, please get in touch on the number above.

Please stay safe and keep updated via the government website.

Wells Central Support Hub is a collective of Wells Town Council, Wells Maltings, Wells Community Hospital, Heritage House, Wells Churches Together and Holkham

Alderman Peel High School news

By Alastair Ogle, Principal

I would like to start with a thank you to all our community members who continue to support Alderman Peel High School at this time. It has been unbelievably challenging and emotional for staff and students alike. I am aware that the unprecedented circumstances for students are also a great concern for parents and carers.

We are doing all we can to support our students and families and will continue to do so:

- All staff have provided a huge range of work for all students, making sure it matches their abilities and supports their future learning at APHS.
- We have put in place a wide range of online learning opportunities for the students in every one of the twenty six subjects we offer.
- We have organised additional 'tutor activities' for students including access to websites to develop their understanding of the current situation and the challenges we all face.
- We have shared online PE activity videos to support physical activity.
- We have provided weekly reading challenges and daily maths and numeracy challenges.
- We have shared advice with parents and carers regarding teaching and learning.
- We have placed on our website a list of agencies families can contact for advice and support.
- We have shared dedicated mobile numbers with specific students to ensure they can contact us if they need support.
- We are calling some families daily to ensure they are well or in need of additional support.
- All staff remain accessible online to students and parents/carers.
- We are contacting all families to check they have a PC or laptop they can use to complete school work and lending them a laptop if needed.
- We are contacting a number of families to ask if they would like to borrow a desk and chair so children have a dedicated place to work at home.
- We have organised food vouchers for all parents whose children are in receipt of Free School Meals which they can redeem at a supermarket of their choice.

Following a suggestion from Mrs Thompson we organised, in 24 hours, a prom for our wonderful year 11 students. This was widely publicised on ITV Anglia News and rightly so. It was a fantastic event which helped our year 11 students manage the very difficult situation they are in. We have been told that teacher predictions will be used, potentially alongside other data and evidence, to ensure students get the results they deserve.

As I approach ten years at Alderman Peel High School I could not be more proud of what we have achieved but in particular I am proud of our ethos, values and commitment to providing the best holistic education for every student. It is an absolute privilege to work with the staff, students, families and our community. I would like to express my sincere thanks to every member of staff who have all gone 'above and beyond' in the past few weeks.

I would also, on behalf of the school community, like to express our gratitude to all the staff working for the NHS and associated services. While the world of education faces a huge challenge at the moment, the work they do every day literally saves lives. We are all very grateful to you all.

Stay safe and thank you for your support.

Wighton news

The last Wighton news was full of plans for the Scarecrow Festival, Vintage Tractor Crank-up, Quiz Nights and newly launched Carpet Bowls on Monday evenings. Sadly, all these events are cancelled for the foreseeable future in line with government instructions to prevent the spread of Covid-19. We hope that all who are currently resident in the village and in the wider area stay safe and well. If anyone is in need of assistance, including shopping for essential food or medicines, please contact Wighton's parish clerk, Barbara Clark, on **01328 820678** or email **barbaraclark@btinternet.com** who will alert parish council volunteers to help.

Village thoughts are with the family of Dennis Savory who passed away peacefully at the end of March and with the family of Sid Bray who also passed away a few weeks ago. Both were Wighton stalwarts and we are sad to say goodbye to them.

While The Carpenters Arms is closed, chef Andy is cooking ready meals which can be bought from Walsingham Farms Shop. His meals are also being made available to NHS staff at local hospitals.

Memories of Margaret

By John Scott

Margaret Scott, who sadly passed away on 20 March, was a Norfolk girl. Born in Wells in 1932, she spent her childhood here before the exciting challenges of her career, romance and family took her to all corners of the UK including London, Herefordshire, Yorkshire and Gloucestershire. She returned years later with her husband Brian to a house along the East End to retire and find a quiet life. This was not to be – they soon found themselves running a bed and breakfast business and having been welcomed into the town became very busy with Wells life.

Margaret was an original member of the French twinning committee, loving the visits to France and playing host to French visitors in Wells. Following in her mother's footsteps she was president of the Wells Women's Institute, and was still contributing to the Centenary (2019) celebrations with her 'Historic Snapshot' tracing many great years of the Wells WI.

The Nelson club was important to Margaret, she enjoyed the many outings and of course the Bingo afternoons! She was a tireless organiser of events for the club and for some years looked after all of the secretarial work. A big supporter and fan of an evening at the Maltings Theatre, Margaret was also at the inception of the successful community cinema group Screen-next-the-Sea.

Margaret was a member of the congregation of St Nicholas church where she was married and there will be a memorial service there later in the year to celebrate her love of life.

Margaret, a great friend and resident of our town, we wish you peace, you will not be forgotten.

VE Day Street Party

By Steve Tuck, chair, Wells Street Party Committee

The Wells Street Party Committee has reluctantly come to the conclusion that, due to the Coronavirus emergency, it will not be possible to proceed with the Street Party planned to take place on the Buttlands on 9 May. This is a great shame as we were well advanced with the planning for this community event.

The 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe is an important national event that should be commemorated and it is our hope that we will be able to stage it later in the year – watch this space!

Wells Street Party has received some very generous donations, without which the event could not be staged. Obviously, some expenditure has taken place but every effort will be made to refund these donations, if required. Keep calm and be safe!

CrossFire postponed until October

By Jen Davies

The community play *CrossFire,* like many up and coming events, has been postponed.

The cast was naturally very disappointed but recognised that it was the right decision. We are determined that the show will go on and new dates, 1 – 4 October, have been agreed. For those of you who have already purchased tickets, these can be exchanged for the October performance or you can be reimbursed at a later date.

Thank you to all involved for your goodwill and patience! Take care, stay safe.

An annual £15 subscription to *The Quay* makes an ideal gift

The Quay is delivered free of charge to all properties in the NR23 area. If you have friends or relatives who live away, but would like to know what goes on in Wells, please help us to keep our costs down by suggesting that they take out an annual subscription – it's only £15! Send cash or a cheque made payable to Quay Publishing Ltd, for that amount to 2d Maryland, Wells next the Sea, Norfolk NR23 1LY and include the name and address of the person to whom the subscription should go.

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News from Wells RNLI

Coronavirus update In the current national emergency we should be highly appreciative of all those citizens who are continuing to serve in the emergency and caring services and key workers in essential services. This includes the Wells lifeboat and shore crews who continue to be on call for emergencies at sea. However, whilst the emergency continues there will be no crew training and no practice launches. Also, the public has no access to the boathouse. It may be accessed only by the lifeboat and shore crews.

Training Before the ending of training, Max Phillips and James Betteridge completed an AEC – MCA approved mechanics course at Poole.

Capsized dinghy at Burnham harbour entrance Humber Coastguard paged Wells Lifeboat on Saturday 14 March for a dinghy with two persons onboard which had capsized in the entrance to Burnham Overy harbour and was in difficulties being towed by a support craft.

The inshore lifeboat was launched at 9.45am and proceeded directly to Burnham Overy harbour. On arrival the lifeboat took the two persons on board and placed a member of the lifeboat crew on board the dinghy which was heavily waterlogged and barely floating.

The lifeboat commenced the tow back to Burnham Overy Staithe. The tide was starting to ebb fast and with the boat heavily laden with water it was decided to leave the boat on the adjacent beach and take the casualties to the staithe as they were starting to become very cold. The lifeboat landed the casualties safely into the care of the waiting coastguards who took them back to their local accommodation.

Beth with some of Wells lifeboat's volunteer crew at the boathouse

The lifeboat then returned to the dinghy which was by this time well up the beach on the ebbing tide. The crew bailed it out and secured it with an anchor for recovery on the following morning's high tide.

Wells Lifeboat welcomes round UK walker Beth Wickes Volunteer crew from Wells RNLI welcomed UK charity walker Beth Wickes at the lifeboat station on 9 March. Beth has been walking the UK coast along with some inland long-distance paths for the past year and a half. After graduating from university Beth started from Tower lifeboat station in London in October 2018. Walking unsupported, Beth is raising money for the RNLI, Lowland Search and Rescue and Mountain Rescue teams.

Beth is currently completing her adventure by following the coast through Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex before returning to London in May. Wells lifeboat crew members were delighted to offer her a cuppa and some encouragement at the boathouse as she walked from Titchwell to Wells.

Follow Beth's progress on her website: **www.bethfootforward.co.uk**, on Twitter **@BethFootForward** and on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/groups/2101268513217564.** Donations to Beth's charities can be made at **https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/BethFootForward**

ILB crew Jim Heasman (helm), James Betteridge and James Parr

Visit our website at www.wellslifeboat.org

Clubs, groups and societies

2nd Wells Brownies
Unfortunately we will have to postpone our 25th birthday celebrations until we come out the other side of this virus.

Wells Ladies Probus Club
At our meeting on 9 March, Chris Armstrong gave a very interesting presentation entitled 'Scholars, Saints and Sinners'. He told the stories of a number of clergymen whose behaviour put them into one of those categories, including Revd. Harold Davidson, rector of Stiffkey. Some were indeed very sinful, while one or two were very saintly!

Our meeting scheduled for 20 April has been cancelled and subsequent meetings will depend on government advice about social gatherings at the time.

Wells Men's Shed
What a difference a month makes. The concept of a Men's Shed is a social centre, a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. They're about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge, and of course a lot of laughter. It is all about improving wellbeing and is an outlet for those living in isolation, along with helping support community projects where we can. So, the government advice to socially distance and/or self isolate is in direct conflict with our mission. Common sense tells us this is the right thing to do if we are to fight this invisible war. So we have closed the Shed indefinitely but are keeping things under constant review.

We are engaged in a growing number of community projects, some time critical and we are going to handle them on a case by case basis. Our Shedders have retired to their own satellite sheds so work can continue albeit on a solo basis. How this will evolve we do not know – regular website posts, and updates through the columns of *The Quay* will be our front line news channels. Naturally we would like to help where we can within the local community but many of the Shedders fall into those categories that should self isolate, nonetheless we will try and do our bit.

Against this backdrop it was looking like a very promising month for us. Funds came through from the Central England Co-operative Community Fund and we have purchased the cordless tools we need. Unfortunate timing means we have not yet been able to use them. We have also been supported by a further grant from Dereham based Community Action for Norfolk – CAN – to purchase PPE (personal protective equipment) – masks, gloves, hard hats and the like. In view of the Shed's current closure we have not yet ordered the safety equipment as we are sure the need for such equipment is greater elsewhere. We need to support our health care professionals and other critical workers where we can.

So stay safe everyone and remember, 'Shed Happens' but in satellite sheds for the time being and as always, if you would like more information please visit us at **www.wellsnexttheseamensshed.weebly.com**, email us at **mensshedwells@gmail.com** or phone us on **07486 524603**.

Wells Nelson Club
Our talk and demonstration of sound bathing with Sally Collins on 5 March was great fun. There were lots of different sounds, some more relaxing than others. There was also a good question and answer session afterwards.

Following the latest government advice it is with great regret that we have cancelled all of our meetings until the end of June. We will make a decision on whether to resume our meetings in July based on government advice at that time.

Wells Textile and Embroidery Group
At our last meeting we had the pleasure of looking at a rather tatty green exercise book brought in by one of our members. I say 'pleasure' because the book was the property of 12 year old Shirley Price for Needlework in 1947 at Purbrook High School. The book was written in pen and ink in beautiful joined up writing. Every page showed a gem of dressmaker's seams, including small pieces of calico samples of Shirley's work. How to make knickers, how to darn a garment, how to put a patch in, plus many more beautifully made samples. What a treasure. Shirley has kept her treasure for all these years and so would I have if it had been mine.

Unfortunately, to keep all our members and WI members safe the hall will be closed until further notice. We hope we will again be making our own treasures soon. We have opened on Whatsapp for all to keep in touch while we are in isolation.

Wells Town Tennis Club
Good news, we are celebrating. Many congratulations are due to our hardworking secretary Mike Walker, who has been awarded a rare and much coveted Lifetime Service Award by Norfolk Lawn Tennis Association. In addition to this he has been appointed to the position of chair, a mark of the respect in which he is held by the Norfolk tennis community.

Sadly we have had to make the decision to close the tennis courts to the general public for the foreseeable future as it has been impossible for us to organise a safe and secure method of payment and access in these difficult times. Following LTA advice all junior tennis coaching activities are also cancelled for this year and our lovely club house is also closed.

For the latest information visit our website at **clubspark.lta.org.uk/wellstowntennisclub**

Wells WI
Our speaker in March spoke about the 'Art of Safe Driving'. Although this country has the second safest roads in the world, there are still about 1,800 deaths a year in road accidents. That is as many as six jet passenger planes crashing each year with no survivors!

Defensive driving, we learned, means Concentration, Anticipation and Observation. Distraction from the road can be caused by several things, of course, passengers talking (arguing in the case of youngsters), radio, hands free telephone and the illegal use of mobile phones. The speaker, Mike Weatherstone, showed some pictures of horrendous carelessness by drivers, from a young woman putting on her make-up whilst steering with her elbow and knee and a man with a hamburger in one hand, coffee in the other, steering with edge of both hands. From some other pictures he showed and questions we asked, we learnt to be much more aware of possible hazards on the road and will be more Observant and Anticipate possible problems by that observation. The mobile phone can ring its head off until we are able to leave the road safely!

Sadly, due to the current health emergency, all WI meetings and events are cancelled until further notice.

To keep the Quay Diary on page 42 up to date, please send dates of your meetings and events (or cancellations!) for 2020 to editorial@quaypublishing.co.uk

10 year old Fred sets Wells to verse!

By Jane Knight
In these worrying times I wanted to share with the people of Wells this lovely poem. During the February half term holiday Fred, aged 10, came to Wells for the first time with his family and two dogs. He stayed in our house in Freeman Street and as part of his thank you enclosed this poem that he wrote. I wanted to share it with the people of Wells.

WELLS
By the sea,
By dunes scattered with birds,
By the crashing waves and lapping tides
By the pines and the valleys where secrets untold,

To the north of Norfolk
Where ships sail by navy blue horses galloping into the air in great waves of fury,
Where people row on tamed waters,
And cats gently purr.

Where people eat good old fish and chips,
Right down by the bay,
While seals bob below the surface of seaweed tangled water,
For by the sea,
And by the pines of the north of Norfolk,
Is Wells next the Sea.

O where dogs plod along the sandy beach,
And an open fire is welcomed,
Where food is scrumptious and home-home made,
And cottages are warm and cosy,

By the wild but calm waters.
Is Wells next the Sea.

By Fred Savill, age 10

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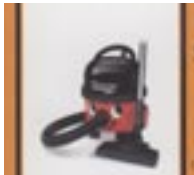

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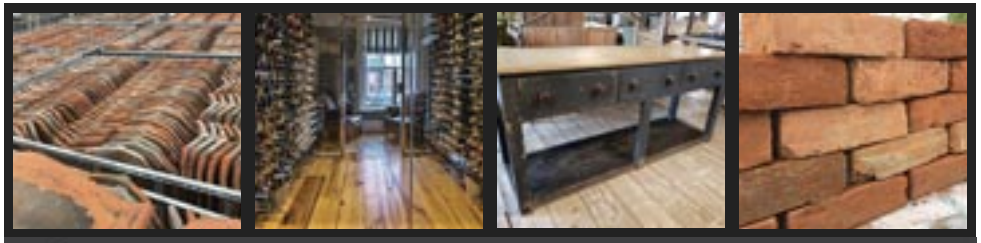

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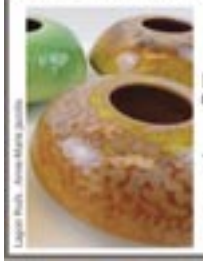

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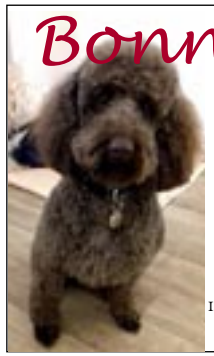
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News from the Anglican churches

By Rev Brenda Stewart

When I look back at what I wrote last month I find it hard to grasp how things have changed. Then I was looking forward to the very busy period of preparation for Easter but a month on I find myself seeking other ways of engaging with this most important Christian festival. With public worship suspended we have an opportunity to find other more contemplative ways of engaging with faith. Technology has been coming into its own and I will continue to live-stream a Sunday 'service' each week and circulate a weekly newsletter with the 'pew sheet'. If you would like to be added to my circulation, please e-mail me on **bas@con-brio.com**

But other more long-standing technology has come into its own once again as people keep in touch with each other by phone. We are all very aware that people may be feeling very isolated at this time. In addition to the Wells helpline that has been set up, Churches Together is offering a 'Friendly Phone Line' and details can be found above.

In these 'interesting times' we have time to take stock of how we lead our lives and it is my hope and prayer that some good will come out of this situation, not only for our own communities but for the wider world.

God's blessings be with you.

The Friendly Phone-Line

Churches Together in Wells is offering a friendly and neighbourly voice on the end of the phone to anyone who is fed-up or self-isolating.

Don't hesitate to call

Margaret **01328 710584** between 9am and 9pm and she will arrange for someone to call you.

All calls treated with complete confidentiality.

If you know of anyone who needs support at this time, please share this tel. no. with them.

For free Information and Advice call
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Methodist church news

By Sue Scoles

We are living in an unprecedented situation, so please be aware that the following information was correct when it was written but circumstances may have changed. There will be no services for the foreseeable future. If you need spiritual guidance or to speak to the minister, Rev. Cliff Shanganya, for whatever reason, his phone number is **01328 862174**. If you wish to speak to a member of our church in Wells phone Colin Garwood on **01328 711515** or Sadie Spalding on **01328 711931**. Think of others and remember them in your prayers.

There will be only one collection point for the foodbank and this will be in St Nicholas church. For those of you who normally leave your donations at my address, I will continue to take them and if for whatever reason I am unable, a member of my family will take them to Fakenham. There is going to be a huge demand for the foodbank in the coming weeks and months, so please think of those people who are struggling through no fault of their own.

The art group that meets in the hall is cancelled until further notice. Frances's phone number is **07398 127935**.

The plant sale due to be held in the church has obviously had to be cancelled, but there is a large number of plants for sale. We have varieties of tomato plants, hostas, cosmos, geraniums, petunias, osteospermums, and many other bedding plants. I think we might well be spending more time in our gardens this year and this is an opportunity to buy just what you need without having to leave Wells. The plants will all be at 49 Northfield Crescent from 17 April until they have sold out. Please phone Sandra on **01328 710931** or Marion on **01328 711254** with your order and they will have them ready for you. You can leave your (cash only) payment in an envelope through the letter box. By following these guidelines there will be no need to come into contact with anybody.

Please think of your vulnerable neighbours at this time and keep safe everyone.

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If you need a chat or some support...

Currently, we are all experiencing an unusual situation because we are social beings at heart: so we're all on a steep learning curve. But already, enterprising individuals and groups are sharing positive ideas about how to stay healthy in mind, body and spirit as we isolate or 'socially distance' ourselves. However, many of us are lighting a candle and sending our thoughts and prayers to someone in need.

Churches Together in Wells is offering a friendly and neighbourly voice on the end of the phone (9am to 9pm) to anyone who is fed-up or self-isolating. Do take up the offer if you need to! Phone Margaret on **01328 710584** and she will put you in touch with someone – see the box on page 15.

Christian Aid Week, 10 to 16 May

Usually we are well ahead with plans for our Christian Aid Week collections but I am writing this while the country is in 'lockdown', and it is impossible to know what the situation will be in May. One thing we do know is that whenever there is a crisis of a global significance, it is always the poor and disadvantaged who suffer the most and the Covid-19 pandemic is affecting people right across the world irrespective of their wealth or social situation.

The projects that Christian Aid supports, and which you have generously supported over many years, help some of the poorest people in the world by offering them the means to improve their lives. This year the monies raised will go directly to our partners in Kenya who are working to help communities made vulnerable by climate change and prolonged drought.

Building earth dams can mean the difference between life and death for these people. Please look out for notices nearer the time or, to donate directly, visit **www.christianaid.org.uk**.

Church service times

CHURCH	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
Church of England – Rev Brenda Stewart – 01328 710628			
St Nicholas, Church Street, Wells	Sunday	8.00am	Holy Communion
	1st Sunday of month	11.00am	Worship for All
	2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays	11.00am	Sung Eucharist
	1st Sunday of month	6.30pm	Taize service
	2nd Sunday of month	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
	3rd Sunday of month	6.30pm	Healing service
	4th Sunday of month	6.30pm	Celtic Worship
	Wednesdays	10.00am	Holy Communion
	1st and 3rd Thursdays	10.00am	Quiet Prayer
	2nd Saturday of month	11.00am	Messy Church
	2nd and 4th Fridays	1.45pm	Little Fishes Parent & toddler group
St Withburga, Holkham (Remembrance Sunday to Easter, services held in Hall Chapel; Easter to Remembrance Sunday in St. Withburga's)	1st Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion
	2nd Sunday	11.00am	Matins
All Saints, Warham; St Mary, Warham (Jul and Aug only)	3rd Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion
All Saints, Wighton	2nd & 4th Sundays	9.30am	Holy Communion
Methodist Churches – Revd. Cliff Shanganya			
Theatre Road, Wells	Sunday	11.00am	Morning worship
	Wednesday	10.30am	Prayer & praise
Holkham Longlands	4th Sunday	2.30pm	Sunday worship
Wighton	1st and 3rd Sunday	2.30pm	Worship service
Little Walsingham	Sunday	2.30pm	Sunday Worship
Evangelical Congregational Church Centre – Revd. Neil Woodruff – 07891 968966			
Clubbs Lane, Wells	Sunday	3.00pm	
	Tuesday	7.30pm	Prayer & Bible study
Roman Catholic – Father Keith Tulloch – 01328 713044			
Our Lady Star of the Sea, The Buttlands, Wells	Saturday	6.00pm	Holy Mass
	Sunday	9.15am	Holy Mass
Quakers – 01328 711387			
Friends Meeting House, Church Street, Wells	Sunday	10.30am	Meeting for worship
	Thursday	5.00pm	Meeting for worship

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County council news

By Marie Strong, Norfolk County Councillor

New information on Covid-19 is appearing all the time so I have made every effort to gather together information not only from reliable sources but that which I am assured is updated regularly.

My heartfelt thanks and admiration to all who are using their knowledge, experience and capabilities to fight this monster. And thanks to all those throughout Wells and our neighbouring parishes who are sharing their virtues to help others in so many ways. I would add one more way in that since I cannot presently suggest anyone without online access goes to the local library for help in checking on websites, if you know someone in self isolation who would be interested in something you read consider running them off a copy to go with any supplies being delivered by volunteers – or if your contact with them is by phone give them a summary.

Advice from the Department of Health and Public Health England (PHE) can be found here: **www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public**. Very useful facts and at present updated daily.

Norfolk County Council information Museums, libraries and recycling centres are closed. NCC's customer service centre is presently solely for priority calls regarding school arrangements for vulnerable children and children of key workers; social care; children at risk of immediate harm and registration services. For all other enquiries visit NCC's website or email **information@norfolk.gov.uk**. Useful sites are:

- **www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/service-disruptions**
- **www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus**

Websites specifically about Covid-19

- **www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus**

Resources for schools and communities Go to **www.norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirustoolkit**. The tool kit contains social media assets and posters. Kept up to date mirroring the latest advice from Public Health England.

Coping with Covid-19 and self-isolation There are two ways of contacting the combined Wells Town Council, Wells Maltings, Wells Community Hospital, Heritage House, Wells Churches Together and Holkham support hub. Either by phone on **01328 710564** or by emailing **hub@wellsmaltings.org.uk** for help and support – or to offer your services. Also Wells Churches Together offers a friendly voice – ring **01328 710584** between 9am and 9pm and Margaret will arrange for someone to call you in complete confidence. Share the number with anyone who might appreciate a call.

Reporting Highways Concerns In the light of the current situation NCC's Highway teams are only able to deal with the most serious situations e.g. highway flooding, trees fallen on the highways, potholes where there is a danger to the public and damaged safety fencing etc. Report such serious issues by email direct to **highways@norfolk.gov.uk** or telephone **0344 800 8020**.

Independent Local Government Commission Review of Norfolk County Council Divisions The second public consultation on the draft recommendations remains for now 2 June to 10 August. More news later.

Good news to end Congratulations to the following local councils on successful applications to the 2020/21 Parish Partnership scheme: Great Snoring – Access Improvement Scheme; Walsingham – Gateways; Wells – VAS (Vehicle Activated Speed Indication Sign). Applications for SAM2's will be decided in four to six weeks when the Safety Camera Partnership will state if it can contribute to the funding.

CONTACT Marie Strong by e-mail on marie.strong@norfolk.gov.uk or phone 07920 286597

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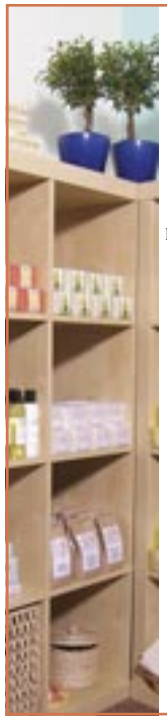

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Wells town council

By Greg Hewitt, town clerk

The town council managed to hold an extraordinary meeting on Monday 23 March, just before the country went into lockdown. The purpose was to give the clerk the delegated authority to continue running the town council's business during the Coronavirus emergency. The council also agreed to cancel all future meetings until September, subject to how the emergency progresses. The town council office will remain closed to the public but the clerk continues to work and is contactable through the normal channels.

Should there be any local planning applications to consider during the emergency, details will be posted on the town council's website and comments from the public for the councillors to consider can be emailed to the clerk. Councillors will communicate via email and consider any representations made by the public before instructing the clerk how to respond to the district council. In addition, you can view and comment on planning applications directly using North Norfolk District Council's planning portal: **www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/tasks/development-management/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application/**

Finally, you may have noticed the new double yellow lines in different locations about the town; new parking regulations for Wells are now in force which means the end of any seasonal restrictions. There are no longer any restrictions in the town which are only in force between Good Friday and 30 September, all the 'No Waiting' restrictions are now in force 365 days a year, although in some places the restriction is only applicable between 8am and 8pm.

There will be no town council meetings for the foreseeable future. To contact Wells town council go to wellstc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk or phone 01328 710564 or email clerk@wellstowncouncil.org.uk

Neighbourhood unplanned – but working

By Cllr Roger Arguile

With the coming of the virus all our diaries have been cleared. But not quite. You will know that a number of organisations, the town council, Heritage House, Wells Community Hospital, Holkham, Wells Maltings and Churches Together have been working together to ensure that no one is without food, medicines, basic help and someone to talk to and which has now been running since day one of the lockdown. So far all is working well. At the time of writing over forty people have rung the emergency number – **01328 710564** – and their needs have been met. Heritage House is delivering nearly thirty meals a day. The hospital is running a skeleton support service. The town council is acting as coordinators.

At the same time far more people have obtained meat, fish, bread, fruit and vegetables, and groceries from the shops in the town whose delivery rounds have massively increased. It may all have changed by the time you read this but so far all of the shops say that they are getting regular if slightly depleted supplies from wholesalers. The chemist is working well. Not only the NHS but also shop workers have been putting themselves at some risk in order to ensure that people get what they need. Payment systems are in place so that no one need go short because they have no ready cash. Some people have been very generous with their time, skills and money. We have nearly a hundred volunteers in and around the town ready to offer their services. The postal service is still operating.

The telephone support line seems to be working well. Meanwhile the number of people using the Facebook local forum has topped 4,000. We have friends far away as well as next door.

All of this depends on a thin line of helpers who, if they fall ill, will need replacing. We have made some arrangements to provide relief and, if necessary, replacements. Also, the District Council has established a coordination centre at Alderman Peel High School. The coordinator is a local person – Sandra King. It is already being demonstrated that local knowledge is not merely useful but vital.

It is far too early to congratulate ourselves on our success. It is, as we keep on saying, more of a marathon than a sprint. But so far we are demonstrating that we can operate as a town.

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Wells flood warden team news

By Mike and Marie Strong, joint coordinators

Last month we promised to follow up on the questions raised with us regarding NTSLF (National Tidal and Sea Level Facility – Tidal Predictions). We quizzed our contacts in the EA (Environment Agency) about why readings for Wells are unavailable and if they could exert any influence to have the service re-instated. At least it was confirmed that the forecasting team at NTSLF have changed the tidal surge model they use from CS3X to NEMO – and unfortunately NEMO does not have a site available for Wells so it has been removed and defaulted to Liverpool. Users may now have to use Cromer readings.

The EA promises it will continue to press NTSLF to see if there is anywhere closer that we could use but did suspect this might take a while to get a response due to the then ongoing floods around the country followed quickly afterwards by the emergence of Coronavirus. In the meantime you need to go to **www.ntslf.org/storm-surges/latest-surge-forecast?port=Cromer**.

Self-isolation If you have spring-cleaned the house to within an inch of its life and arranged every item in your shed into soldier-like uniformity you may now consider creating a Personal Flood Plan. You could start with checking your flood defences, moving onto what you would want to move in extreme circumstances. It is extremely helpful to list details of your suppliers of power, phone, insurance, as well as District Council contact numbers and details of your local radio station. A helpful guide can be found on **www.gov.uk/prepare-for-flooding/future-flooding**, follow the link to 'Protect yourself from future flooding.' Finally itemise what you would need for a 'grab bag' including essential items and important documents.

Travel matters

By David Hissey

Stay at home is the directive given by the government in its effort to stop the spread of Covid-19 and to protect those most at risk. This is hardly an invitation to travel but essential journeys for shopping and for essential workers still need to be catered for. All public transport service providers have brought in emergency timetables and the situation changes from day to day so if you need to travel go online or telephone for up to date information.

Sanders will not be running any services on Sundays and there are printed emergency timetables on its buses. Lynx has asked the public to be considerate and not use the front seats in its buses for fear of passing the virus on to its drivers and to use cards instead of cash if possible. However Lynx is still intending to operate a daily service, even if a somewhat reduced one. Network Rail is operating a less frequent service on all routes and asks that those who must travel do so during the less busy periods if possible. One piece of good news is that all concessionary pass holders – thanks to Norfolk County Council – can use their cards 24 hours a day.

As usual travel information can be found on these web sites: **nationaljourneyplanner.travelinesw.com**; **nationalrail.co.uk**; **sanderscoaches.com**; **www.lynxbus.co.uk/bus-times-fares/** and useful telephone numbers can be found in *The Quay* Directory on page 39.

Wells rainfall roundup

As explained in last month's issue Pete Lynn, after years of sterling service, has moved on to other things. I am very grateful to Keith Leesmith, who has stepped up to offer a regular update on the rainfall totals for Wells. Keith doesn't keep an eye on all the weather, but does measure rainfall, which he has offered to share with readers of *The Quay*. Thank you Keith! **SP**

By Keith Leesmith

March rainfall was 25mm as against a (30 year) average of 44mm. As well as measuring the millimetres I also keep a note of whether the rainfall is roughly average, or above or below it. March 2020 is the first month since August 2019 when the rainfall was below average. So yes, everyone is right in their suspicions – it was a very wet autumn and winter.

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Coronavirus, oil and the stock market crash

By Peter Barton

Thursday 12 March 2020 will be remembered in financial markets for many years. At the time of this report, the FTSE 100 suffered its biggest one-day fall since 1987, dropping 11% and wiping £160bn off the value of shares and it has continued to fall since. It was a similar story around the world, with US, European and Asian markets also experiencing large falls. Consequently, many of our pension funds and investments also suffered significant losses.

This sharp drop has been attributed to an oil price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia, which led to overproduction and a 50% fall in the oil price. In addition, the anticipated impact that Covid-19 will have on global productivity in an already weak economy is another major factor.

So, what can you do to manage the situation? Firstly, and possibly most importantly, don't panic. Markets have performed poorly many times before and although this recent volatility has been extreme, they could recover as they have previously. According to Morningstar, an investment research firm, after the crash in 2008 it took the FTSE All Share 24 months to recover but some active fund managers turned things around more quickly.

If you have a long-term investment horizon, possibly retirement, and you don't need the money now then nothing has changed. Selling just turns a paper loss into an actual loss. A common phrase at times like these is "time in the market, not timing the market." Essentially, by remaining invested when markets have fallen investors benefit when markets recover – even missing a few of the best days can significantly undermine performance.

Investing regularly, known as "pound cost averaging," can also help to reduce risk. Instead of buying on one day your contributions are spread over several months, or possibly years, therefore buying more shares when prices have fallen and fewer when they've increased. Overall, you receive an average purchase price. Alternatively, more confident investors may decide that market falls are exactly the right time to buy – after all, "buy low, sell high" is another common saying often heard.

But what if you're drawing an income from your investments or pensions and the markets have fallen substantially. Ideally, if you have available cash to maintain your lifestyle it would be sensible to stop taking any income until things have recovered. If not, it's likely to mean selling investments at low prices to pay yourself, thereby making it far more difficult for your fund to recover. This is especially important in the early years of retirement when using drawdown. If stopping the income completely isn't an option, consider reducing it.

If you're concerned about your investments and pensions and would like professional advice, Continuum can help with your financial plan.

Source **www.morningstar.co.uk/uk/news/200411/how-long-do-funds-take-to-recover-from-a-crisis.aspx**

The information contained in this article is based on the opinion of Continuum and does not constitute financial advice or a recommendation to suitable investment strategy, you should seek independent financial advice before embarking on any course of action. The value of an investment can go down as well as up, investors may get back less than the original investment.

Peter Barton is an Independent Financial Adviser at Continuum. Tel: **01603 879875** or **07787 561087**. Email: **peter@mycontinuum.co.uk**. Website: **www.mycontinuum.co.uk**

The show might go on!

By Pat Weston, Carnival chair

I hope you are all well in these strange times. It doesn't seem five minutes ago that the committee met to organise Carnival 2020, book acts and plan the busy week. Since then the whole country has gone on lockdown and we are asked to stay indoors and have minimum contact. Only going out for essentials (and pork pies).

The Carnival Committee directors met just before the lockdown and after speaking to the committee we have decided to wait till 28 April to make a decision on whether the Carnival, as we know it, goes ahead or if the format is reduced. The committee will be guided by advice from the government and the local Safety Advisory Group. We hope we can hold the

Continued on page 31

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Well, Well, Wells!

By Alison Bowles

The restoration of St Nicholas church has secured National Lottery support. This award is only Stage 1 which provides for Development Funding prior to applying for a full National Lottery grant at a later date. The Stage 1 funding will cover costs for the delivery of community projects with our partners across the town, plus inspections, surveys and architect's fees.

Even so, we are hugely relieved, delighted and very encouraged. The Restoration Steering Group is very grateful to all the many people in the community who have supported us in the NLHF bid and to the local partnerships that have been established over the last 12 months.

The project aims to restore the building, which is on the Heritage England At Risk Register, and will also deliver innovative new activities and interpretation of the heritage of the building and churchyards, enabling us to forge stronger links with the wider community.

Development funding of £39,200 has been awarded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to help Wells Parochial Church Council progress its plans to apply for a full National Lottery grant at a later date.

In addition to restoring St Nicholas church we plan to establish it as a heritage learning hub in partnership with other providers across the town. The project will also deliver a new interpretative scheme linked to the successfully established scheme at Wells Maltings and the 'Wonderful Wells' Town Trail, which uses the church as its hub but is also available at multiple outlets. As part of the project, a new wellbeing conservation area will be created within the churchyard, 'hard hat' days will be held, and training programmes for teachers, church volunteers and town guides will be delivered. People of all ages will be involved in the creation and delivery of activities, ensuring that heritage is better explained and interpreted and that new skills and learning have been achieved.

St Nicholas church is a focal point for the local community, used for church services, as well as many community, school and concert groups. The church is a Grade II* building situated in the central Conservation Area of the town. Originally built in the13th century, with a large scale restoration taking place around 1460, it was destroyed by a devastating fire in 1879. The only part to survive was the medieval tower and the main body of the church was re-built in 1883.

Commenting on the award, Revd. Brenda Stewart said "We're delighted that we've received this support and would like to say a huge thanks to National Lottery players. St Nicholas church has always been such an important building in Wells and it's great to know that we are a step closer to preserving it for future generations of local people and visitors to our town. We're also very excited about the community projects that are being planned and developing our churchyard as a green lung for all."

Continued from page 29

Carnival, if only just to have Carnival Day. The committee and friends love holding the event and in these disturbing times the community needs the Carnival more than ever.

For over 100 years the town has come together in August to hold the Carnival and the committee will do all it can to continue that.

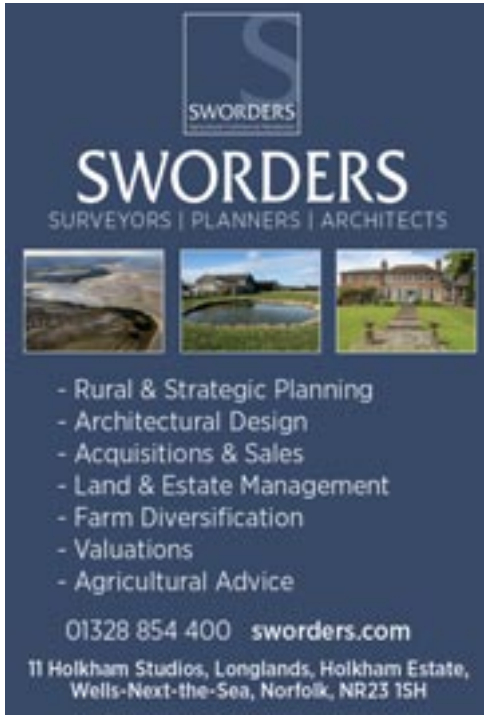
With the current lockdown in place, we had to cancel the interviews to choose this year's Carnival Royalty, so as soon as we know our final decision with regards to the Carnival week we can rethink our position.

In the meantime, the committee's main concern is making sure that you all keep safe and we will continue to monitor the situation and if at all possible provide a Carnival celebration when normal service resumes.

Please continue to check on Face Book and on our website as the committee has been busy giving out children's craft packs, helping the town council make sure the vulnerable are looked after and posting items on Face Book to help relieve the long hours at home – **www.wellscarnival.co.uk**

We hope with all our hearts that the show will go on but obviously we will follow government guidance. Let's all keep everything crossed!

Take care, stay safe and we hope to have better news very soon.



Predatory marriage

By Miranda Marshall, Hayes + Storr

Predatory marriage is the marrying of a vulnerable, often elderly, person for the purpose of inheriting their estate upon their death. Undue influence and/or deception are usually factors.

The complication with a predatory marriage is that a scheming younger partner (let us call them S) can engineer a solution that bypasses any future Will dispute, upon the death of the elderly person (who we shall call O). S then inherits O's entire estate with no grounds for the disappointed beneficiaries (usually O's children) to claim.

While the level of mental capacity to make a valid Will is high, the level of mental capacity to marry is lower; so that even a person suffering from dementia can marry.

Marriage revokes any existing Will, so that the intestacy rules govern the inheritance and S inherits O's estate.

Most of the English law relating to Wills still comes from Victorian and post-WWI society when marrying was such a significant step in a person's life that all the bride's or groom's earlier testamentary arrangements were no longer appropriate. This is why the Law stepped in, revoked any Will not expressly made in expectation of the marriage and applied the Intestacy Rules, until a new post-marriage Will was made. That logic is no longer in keeping with culture and society in 2020.

Amongst the confetti and organza people forget that marriage is a legal contract. So although a marriage can be voided, nullification is only possible during the person's lifetime, which does not help resolve things on death. The voiding of the marriage can never be retrospective.

It is relatively simple if the person whose marriage is voided (let us say, on the grounds of undue influence) then makes a new Will. But what if O does not have capacity to make a new Will or if O dies before the marriage can be nullified? This would be the classic predatory marriage situation. What if S connives to marry (perhaps abroad or in secret!) creating a marriage which is voidable – but never made void, because no one else knows about it? In such cases O's intended heir has no grounds to apply to the Court for the retrospective setting aside of O and S's marriage.

There are potential claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act but O's disappointed child must show financial dependency to succeed in getting any more than a small share of O's estate. Such litigation is costly and high-risk and will mire the family in years of torrid legal fights.

There is no relief under the civil law system for a predatory marriage, although forced marriage is a criminal offence under s121 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. In 2016 a Bill was introduced but did not succeed. If passed, it would have established that marriage should no longer always revoke an existing Will and sought to introduce other protections against predatory marriage.

CONTACT Hayes + Storr, Chancery Lane, The Buttlands, Wells next the Sea, Norfolk NR23 1ER
- **Tel** 01328 710210
- **Email** miranda.marshall@hayes-storr.com
- **Website** www.hayesandstorr.co.uk

The Yorke Trust's first 'Come and Sing' a triumph!

The last day of February was an auspicious date for The Yorke Trust when the organisation held its first Come and Sing day. Seventy singers turned out on a wet, windy Saturday morning to come and sing Mozart's *Requiem* in the Old Chapel in South Creake.

Under the leadership of the conductor, Christopher McMullen-Laird, accompanied on the piano by Robert Hill, this group of singers of widely varying musical abilities plus four soloists, all students at the Royal College of Music, were able to create and perform this challenging, but ultimately beautiful piece of music to a highly appreciative audience. Chorus members expressed their great appreciation of the leadership of the conductor, their enjoyment of the day and how much they had learned.

Christopher is planning to return in the summer to conduct Handel's *Jephtha* on 23, 24 and 25 July in St Mary's church, South Creake. Jennifer Hamilton

Continued on page 37

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Cooking with Carla Phillips

A super potato cake

In this difficult time, here is a simple step-by-step recipe for a delicious meal which can be made with ingredients you may well have on hand – with no need to shop. I suggest that you make two of these potato cakes even if there is just one of you – the remaining 'cake' will keep well, chilled in the fridge, for up to three days, ready to be cooked just when you need it.

Ingredients 440g potatoes (approximately a pound), peeled, and if large, cut into reasonable chunks; 1 bay leaf (optional); salt, pepper, a little grated nutmeg; chopped parsley (from 2-3 stalks); a small amount of chopped onion (approximately a tablespoon); flour – a rounded tablespoon; 1 egg; 50g cheese (I use strong cheddar); breadcrumbs (the 'Panko' ones from Howell's deli are particularly good); a little paprika (to make it look golden); fat – bacon fat, dripping, vegetable oil – nothing fancy.

Method Place the potato chunks and bay leaf in salted water to cover. Bring to the boil and cook until soft (approximately 20 minutes). Drain well and place back in the saucepan for a minute or two until the potato pieces are quite dry. Then mash them well. Season with the salt, pepper and nutmeg, then add the chopped parsley and onion. Mix together, then add in the egg, then the flour. Cut the cheese into slices.

Now, cover a dinner plate with breadcrumbs. Sprinkle these with paprika. Divide the potato 'dough' in half, then halve it again. Mould one of these quarters into a large-ish round cake and place it on the breadcrumbed plate. Depress the centre of it slightly and cover it with half of the cheese. Then cover this up with the other quarter. Gently form it into a neat and circular cake. With a fish slice, turn this cake round so that you have breadcrumbed the bottom. Slide this onto a tray.

Now, add a few more breadcrumbs and paprika to the plate and repeat the process with the remaining potato mixture and the cheese. You should end up with two good sized potato cakes, ready to cook.

Fry them in a nice hot pan, to which you've added a little oil, dripping or bacon fat, cooking them until they are golden on each side. They can keep in a low oven for a while, or reheated from cold, hours later. Serve with salad or cooked greens – an easy, trouble free meal.

Mailbag

Please address your news, views and comments to The Quay, 2d Maryland, Wells next the Sea, NR23 1LY. Please note that the views expressed in the letters we print are the views of the letters' authors and NOT the views of the editor or the board of Quay Publishing Ltd.

I recently spent a week in the Queen Elizabeth and Royal Papworth hospitals following a suspected heart attack.

Could I just say a huge thank you to all the hospital staff for their care, and grateful thanks to everyone at Wells Health Centre and Social Services, Fakenham for their help at this time. Last but by no means least, along with Roger, Pip and Daisy – family and friends who sorted us all out, thank you all so much

Lynne Bishop, Wells

We would like to thank all the people who sent best wishes and offers of help during these past three months.

We are so lucky to live in Wells next the Sea, a town which still cares for others.

Madge and Brian Barker, Wells

My husband died in December 2019 and our friends in Wells looked after our family, making sure we were included in many social gatherings and keeping an eye on me as a young OAP!

Now I'm self-isolating because of Coronavirus and I would just like to say a huge thank you to all those folk who've phoned to see if I need help. Wells is a very special place where everyone cares for others.

How lucky we are to live here.

Sheila Marshall-Andrew, Wells

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Wells Community Hospital news

Due to ongoing developments with Coronavirus, Wells Community Hospital Trust will continue to review its service provisions in line with government, NHS England and Public Health England (PHE) guidance.

At present we are providing essential services only. Please visit our website for information on the availability and updates for our services and events – **www.wellshospital.org.uk**

Please can we also ask that you follow government and PHE guidelines and stay at home.

● **Wells Central Support Hub**

We have committed to continue to support the vulnerable in our community by working in partnership with Wells Town Council, Wells Maltings, Heritage House Caring Group, Holkham and Wells Churches Together as well as our local Health and Social Care partners to form Wells Central Support Hub.

If you are vulnerable and need help or would like to assist our volunteer support team, please contact us on **01328 710564** or email **hub@wellsmaltings.org.uk**

You can also volunteer to support the Coronavirus (Covid-19) response at Voluntary Norfolk – **www.voluntarynorfolk.org.uk**

● **Supporting your local hospital – make a difference today!**

Donations to Wells Community Hospital Trust, however large or small, are much appreciated especially at this time and go towards providing the best local support we can for our community. As a local charity with no NHS funding, we rely heavily on your support.

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Thanks again to all our supporters, large and small, because without you we wouldn't be able to continue.

CONTACT Wells Community Hospital Trust
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• admin@wellshospital.co.uk
• www.wellshospital.org.uk

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will be directing, the soloists will be drawn from music conservatoires and the choruses will be sung by a Community Chorus, coached by Sue Valentine.

At the present time The Yorke Trust is intending to continue with preparations for the Summer Opera. We will follow all advice provided by the government and it is likely to be necessary to alter the chorus rehearsal schedule. If the opera has to be cancelled, all those members of the chorus who have paid for the course will be refunded in full.

We are looking forward to the chance to get together again after this pandemic is over to make glorious music! To whet your appetites, here is a wonderful recording of *Jephtha* with Ivor Bolton conducting: **www.youtube.com/watch?v=eef0azTtnoY**

Missing Coda review

By Joolz Saunders

What do Cold Play, Rachmaninoff and a small boy with a piano keyboard tie have in common? They were brought together by 'Missing Coda' aka Matthew Preston and Benjamin Howell, whose concert on 6 March in The Maltings Kiln Room gave such joy to their audience.

We were entertained by the sheer dexterity of their four hands on the keyboard. There was even another pair of hands when one of their pupils joined them briefly. And local musician Frances Purchas was honoured to have their unique rendition of "happy birthday" dedicated to her!

Oh, yes... the small boy had travelled three hours to get to the concert!

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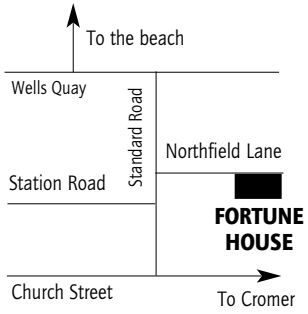

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Lifeboat Guild	01328 711823
Local Archaeology	01328 711449
Local History Group	01328 710261
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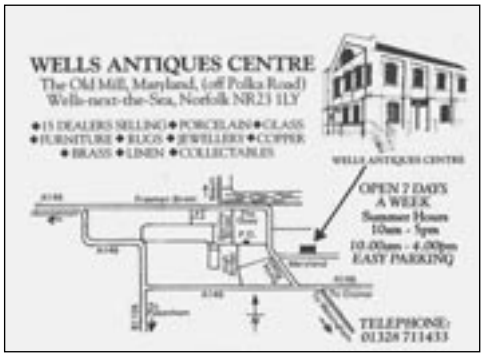

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The Quay Diary

Diary entries for the next issue of The Quay should be received by 24 April. Contact Editor Sara Phillips on 01328 711717 or e-mail editorial@quaypublishing.co.uk

I am leaving these in purely as a matter of record – all events are likely to be cancelled during the Coronavirus outbreak. But it's nice to know what we could have been doing!

APRIL

Date	Group	Time	Place	Event
14	Linda Pattrick & John Richter	11.00am	The Maltings	Inspired by Wells art exhibition
14	Royal British Legion	2.00pm	Gordon Barrett Hall	Monthly meeting: speaker will be Aliona Derrett
15	Wells Police Station	10.00am	Wells Police Station	Open morning: Pc Jason Pegden in attendance
15	Linda Pattrick & John Richter	11.00am	The Maltings	Inspired by Wells art exhibition
16	Linda Pattrick & John Richter	11.00am	The Maltings	Inspired by Wells art exhibition
16	Wells Nelson Club	2.00pm	Wells Community Hospital	Bi-weekly meeting
17	Methodist church	2.00pm	Methodist church	Annual plant sale – all welcome
18	Community Craft Market	10.00am	St Nicholas church	Community Craft Market
18	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome
20	Wells Ladies Probus Club	11.00am	WI Hall	Monthly meeting: Fakenham Ukes Band
20	Textile & Embroiderers Group	2.00pm	WI Hall, Church Plain	Weekly meeting
22	Wells Library	10.30am	Wells Library	Knit and Natter Group – all welcome
24	St Nicholas church	1.45pm	St Nicholas church	Little Fishes Parent/Toddler Group
24	Warham Reading Room	7.30pm	Warham Reading Room	Quiz for Easter
25	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome
27	Textile & Embroiderers Group	2.00pm	WI Hall, Church Plain	Weekly meeting
27	Screen-next-the-Sea	7.00pm	Wells Maltings	The Report (15)

MAY

Date	Group	Time	Place	Event
2	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome
6	Wells Library	2.30pm	Wells Library	Monthly book club
6	Wells Library	5.30pm	Wells Library	Monthly crime book club
7	Wells Nelson Club	2.00pm	Wells Community Hospital	Bi-weekly meeting
7	Wells WI	2.15pm	WI Hall, Church Plain	Floral Fun
7	Community Theatre	6.30pm	St Nicholas church	CrossFire community play
8	St Nicholas church	1.45pm	St Nicholas church	Little Fishes Parent/Toddler Group
8	Community Theatre	6.30pm	St Nicholas church	CrossFire community play
9	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome
9	Wighton village	All day	Wighton	Annual Scarecrow Festival
9	Community Theatre	6.30pm	St Nicholas church	CrossFire community play
10	Wighton village	All day	Wighton	Annual Scarecrow Festival
10	Wighton village	All day	Wighton	Annual Crank-Up Day and vintage tractor run
10	Community Theatre	6.30pm	St Nicholas church	CrossFire community play
11	Wells Police Station	10.00am	Wells Police Station	Open morning: Pc Jason Pegden in attendance
11	Wells Ladies Probus Club	11.00am	The Globe Inn	Monthly meeting
11	Textile & Embroiderers Group	2.00pm	WI Hall, Church Plain	Weekly meeting
11	RNLI Guild	7.30pm	Wells Sailing Club	AGM and Monthly meeting
13	Wells Library	10.30am	Wells Library	Knit and Natter Group – all welcome
15	Christian Aid	11.00am	Gordon Barrett Hall	Christian Aid Coffee Morning
16	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome
16	Community Craft Market	10.00am	St Nicholas church	Community Craft Market
18	Textile & Embroiderers Group	2.00pm	WI Hall, Church Plain	Weekly meeting
21	Wells Nelson Club	2.00pm	Wells Community Hospital	Bi-weekly meeting
22	St Nicholas church	1.45pm	St Nicholas church	Little Fishes Parent/Toddler Group
23	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome
26	Warham Reading Room	2.00pm	Bridge/river, Warham	Duck Race
29	Warham Reading Room	7.30pm	Warham Reading Room	Bingo
30	St Nicholas church	10.30am	St Nicholas church	Coffee and Chat – all welcome

JUNE

Date	Group	Time	Place	Event
1	Textile & Embroiderers Group	2.00pm	WI Hall, Church Plain	Weekly meeting
3	Wells Library	10.30am	Wells Library	Knit and Natter Group – all welcome

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