

THE ORACLE

**SUMMER 2025
ISSUE 123**



A POSTCARD FROM...

ORAC NEWS

WHATS ON...

LUCY'NEWS

**QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FOR THE VILLAGE OF
OCCOLD & SURROUNDING AREA**

Issue 123 of The Oracle was compiled and edited by:

Gill Chapman

Would you like to be part of the editorial team? No experience required, just basic IT skills and the ability to work to a deadline as part of a friendly, collaborative team.

Please get in touch via email: oracle@occold.com

The Oracle is a quarterly magazine published in March (Spring), June (Summer), September (Autumn) and December (Winter). Deadlines for each edition are usually around the 14th of the preceding month.

To Advertise in the Oracle please contact Gill at orac.treasurer@occold.com with your advert. Prices remain the same for another year:

4 issues	Full page	£54	1 issue	Full Page	£15
4 Issues	Half Page	£30	1 Issue	Half Page	£8
4 issues	¼ page	£15	1 issue	¼ page	£4

Revenue from advertising in The Oracle goes to ORAC, helping to fund the production of the magazine and the maintenance and development of the Village Hall, playing field, playground and village green. Our thanks go to **Occold Primary school** who are involved in printing the magazine.

All submissions for publication should be emailed to oracle@occold.com

Use these settings in Word:

Font: Calibri 14

Narrow margins

Paragraphs: no spacing

No headers or footers

Submit a word, small pdf or jpg file

Guidance is on the village website www.occold.onesuffolk.net

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this edition.

If you have an interesting hobby or have visited somewhere of interest and feel you could write an article for the magazine, your input would be much appreciated. Particular thanks to Angela Pearce for this edition's wonderful 'Postcard From...'

Village Hall Bookings: villagehall@occold.com or 01379 678198

Cover photo: St Michael's Church – Gill Chapman

ORAC News

The Zip Line repairs were started in May but unfortunately a problem occurred with some of the parts that needed replacing and had to be ordered. This has delayed completion of the work but we hope the workmen will be back in the near future to finish off. Two new posts will be installed and the cable line and mechanism completely replaced. We have obtained a Capital Grant from Mid Suffolk District Council to pay for the original works quoted although there will now be some additional costs for the unexpected parts.

For VE Day we joined with The Friends of Occold School to put on a 1940's afternoon to commemorate this national event. The Friends put on an amazing display of stalls with the ladies entering the spirit by dressing up in 1940's outfits and hairstyles. They looked brilliant! ORAC provided the refreshments. It was lovely to see so many of our regular supporters during the afternoon and after 3pm the children and parents turned up to join in. Monies raised by the Friends from this event will be put toward new bark chippings for the play area.

In July we are hosting a Suffolk Branch Camping and Caravanning Club Rally on the field. It will take place over the weekend of 11th – 13th July from the Friday afternoon to the Sunday afternoon. We have given them special permission to bring their pet dogs with them in their caravans for this occasion only. They will ensure the field is kept clean and dog waste bins are used. The event is carefully supervised by club members and we are pleased to be trying a new event for the hall. Let's hope they have good weather.

The Coffee Mornings on the first Monday of the month continue to be very popular. They are very sociable events with lots of home-made cakes. All villagers are welcome.

Different village groups continue to run the monthly Soup Lunches on the last Friday on the month, raising funds for their organisations. They run from 12 – 1pm in the Village Hall. Please note, there will be no lunch in August.

Finally we will be holding our AGM sometime in late June/early July – date to be confirmed. We are very keen to welcome new members to the committee so if you would like to be involved, even in a small way, please come to the meeting or let one of us know.

Minutes of meetings are available at occold.onesuffolk.net

ORAC Committee 2024:

Vacant	Chair	email: orac.chairman@occold.com
Gill Chapman	Treasurer	email: orac.treasurer@occold.com
Carol Peters	Secretary	email: orac.secretary@occold.com

Nigel Woodhouse, Dan Hull, Russell Grange, Gordon Erhorn, Johanna Matta

What's on in the Village Hall:

Coffee Mornings

1st Monday of the month:
2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 1st September

Soup Lunches

*Last Friday in the month:
27th June, 25th July, no lunch in August*

Craft Club

3rd Wednesday of the month:
18th June, 16th July, 20th August

Table Tennis

*every Monday 6 – 7.30pm - New Players always
welcome, no need to book. £3 per person*

Bellicise

every Thursday morning 10 - 11am

WI meetings

1st Wednesday of the month –
3rd June (outing), 2nd July, 6th August, 3rd September

Orac meetings

*7.30pm - please contact secretary if you wish to
attend. Dates to be confirmed*

Parish Council meetings

1st Monday of the month, 8pm. Please check dates
with Clerk if you wish to attend

Friends of Occold School

*Summer Fete – Friday 4th July
Sensory Safari Adventure – School Summer Holiday
on playing field and park*

***Occold Village Hall is available to book for various events
including parties, celebrations, sales etc***

£10 per hour

Please check the booking calendar for availability at:

***occold.onesuffolk.net/services/village-hall and complete the
online booking form - or ring Di on 01379 678198***

A Postcard from ... Australia

During my recent trip to visit my family in Australia I had the opportunity to attend an Anzac Commemorative Service.

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

It is held on 25th April and is the equivalent of our Remembrance Day as for most Australians the landings at Gallipoli form the most iconic event of the First World War. This year it was the 110th anniversary of the landings.

It was originally devised to honour the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who served in the Gallipoli Campaign during the First World War as this was the day the troops first landed on the Gallipoli peninsula. Today it remembers both those who served in the 2 World Wars and those who serve today. Services are held across both countries and in Gallipoli.



The Gallipoli Campaign

In 1915, Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of an Allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula in the Ottoman Empire to open the way to the Black Sea for the Allied navies. The objective was to capture Constantinople, the capital of the Ottoman Empire, which was a member of the Central Powers during the war. The ANZAC force landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Ottoman Army. What had been planned as a bold strike to knock the Ottomans out of the war it quickly became a stalemate, and the campaign dragged on for eight months. At the end of 1915, the Allied forces were evacuated after both sides had suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. The Allied deaths totalled over 56,000, including 8,709 from Australia and 2,721 from New Zealand (source Wikipedia).

Anzac traditions

ANZAC Day is recognised as a civil ceremonial occasion rather than a religious event, to reflect on the cost of war and to remember those who have fought and died in war. Commemorative services are often held at dawn, the time of the first troop landings in Gallipoli, in cities and towns across both nations, in Gallipoli and at other sites where Anzac troops fought and suffered heavy losses.

One of the traditions of Anzac Day is the gunfire breakfast (coffee or tea with rum added) which occurs shortly after many dawn ceremonies, and recalls the "breakfast" taken by many soldiers before facing battle.

Also Australians enjoy traditional Anzac biscuits. These are thought to have derived from the hard biscuits in the soldier's rations, similar to 'ship's biscuits', called tiles. They were so hard they had to be soaked before eating then grated into water & cooked to form a kind of porridge. The modern recipe is very different to those eaten by soldiers in 1915 and the word 'cookie' is prohibited in commercial sales. They were very tasty; the main ingredients being from oats, desiccated coconut and golden syrup.

As well as dawn services and parades, schools commemorate the day with special assemblies. Wreaths are laid at the memorials but consist of native Australian flowers and foliage rather than poppies. Also the main symbol worn is a sprig of rosemary as this was the plant that grew wild in abundance in Gallipoli.

The service I attended was in the Brisbane suburb of Bullimba attended by more than one thousand people of all ages. It started with a march down the main



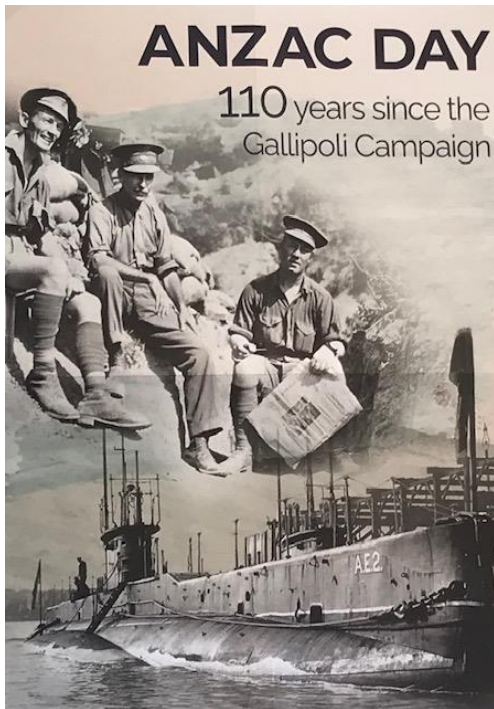
street followed by a service around the memorial with the laying of wreaths, the Reveille, Rouse, Last Post and Lament, very similar to our Remembrance Sunday services. Many readings were memories and accounts from past soldiers and a prayer was said but it was acknowledged that many of the people gathered may not share the same religious views so could use it as a time of personal reflection.



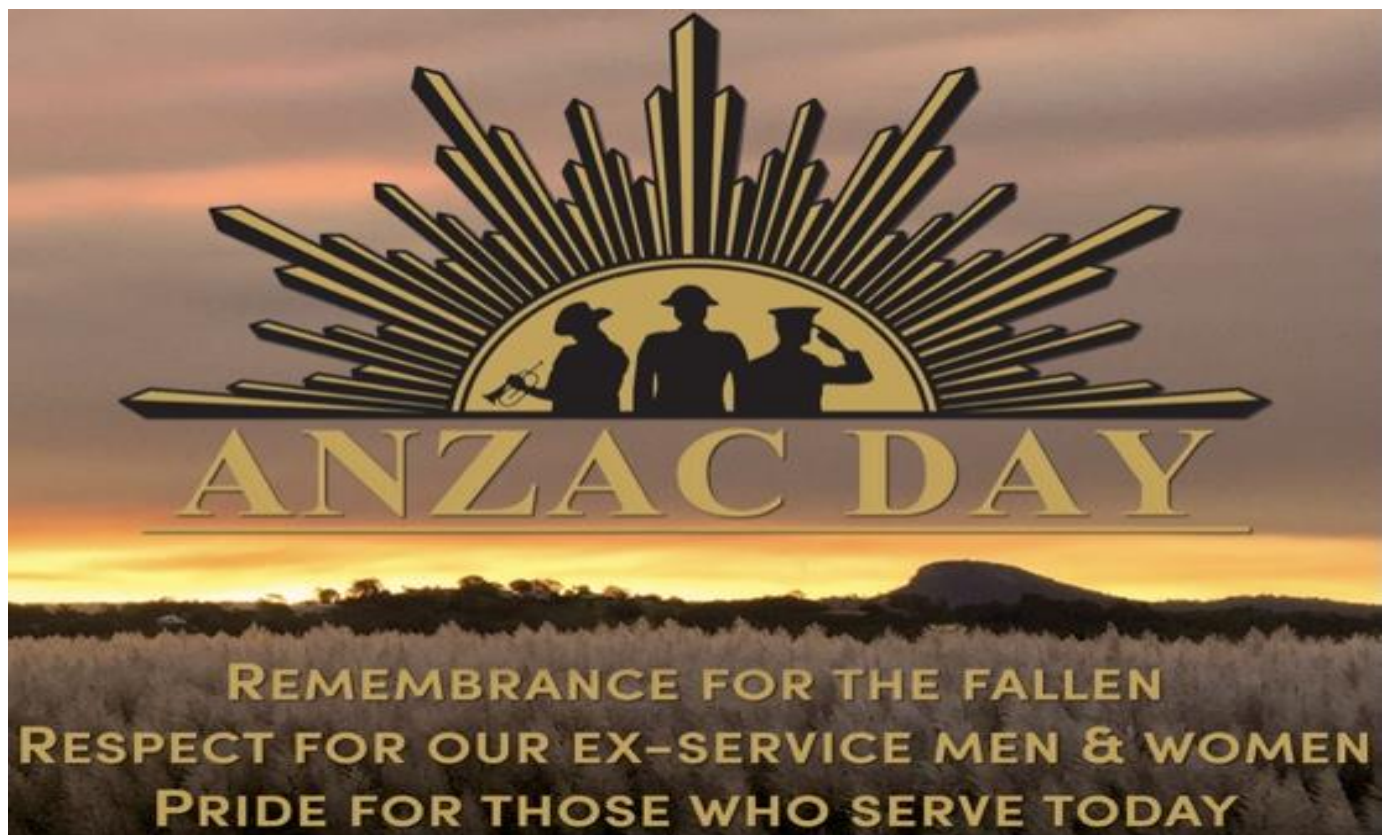
Later in the day we watched the live dawn service from Gallipoli, held on the beach of the first landings. Princess Anne was in attendance and gave a moving and dignified reading, followed by other dignitaries from all the nations involved including Turkey.

From a personal history perspective, a distant relative of mine married a Lieutenant Commander Martin Eric Nasmith who commanded the first submarine HMS E11 to successfully navigate the Dardanelles, the narrow strait linking the Mediterranean and the Sea of Marmara. His mission was to disrupt the Turkish troop ships, ammunition & supply ships

that were reinforcing the Turkish troops fighting the allied forces in Gallipoli. For his actions he was awarded the Victoria Cross and went on to have a distinguished naval career.



Commander Martin Nasmith and his crew on HMS E11.





At the heart of learning in our community

Occold Primary School News

office@occoldprimary.org.uk

Facebook: Occold Primary School

Over recent months, lots of children from Occold Primary School have been participating in a variety of sporting activities. Read on to find out more...



Belong Event

At the end of February, a group of Year 5 & 6 girls had great fun at a sports event at Thomas Mills High School. The purpose of this event was to help the girls develop their teamwork, resilience and enjoyment of team sports. They certainly had a fun-filled afternoon!



Freestyle Football workshop

In March, the whole school enjoyed having a go at a Freestyle Football workshop, led by Jamie Knight, a professional freestyle footballer. We loved hearing his story and watching him perform. It really opened our eyes to a whole new world of football!



Quicksticks Hockey

Mrs Winterbottom enjoyed taking our school hockey team to Harleston Magpies for this year's Quicksticks hockey tournament. The group played brilliantly as a team and came home with big smiles on their faces!



Swimming Gala

Just before the Easter break, 8 of our children went to Framlingham College for a swimming gala where they competed in a variety of races including front crawl and back stroke. Several of the children who participated came in the top three for their races.



Have you spotted our new fitness equipment?

Those of you who live near the school may have spotted our new fitness equipment in the playground. The children have certainly loved using this at break times. We were very fortunate to buy this using money raised by some of our parents who walked Mount Kilimanjaro!



Come and join us on Friday 4th July at our Summer Fete on the village hall field. There will be food, drinks, games and lots of summer fun!



ST MARY'S BEDINGFIELD FLOWER FESTIVAL

26th & 27th JULY 2025

11am to 4pm

“Somewhere Over The Rainbow”

Lots of flower displays in Church
and stalls in the Churchyard

White Elephant

Cake Sale

Plant Sale

Barbeque

Teas & Cakes

Tombola

Book Stall

Garden Games

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Vintage Vehicles on display

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4 Issues £30

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Contact Gill: orac.treasurer@occold.com

Suffolk Mobile Library Route 5

The mobile library visits Occold every 4 weeks on a Friday stopping in

The Street, 11.15 – 11.45

Next visits are: 6th June, 4th July, 1st & 29th August. Please note new time

We have a lift which can be used to help anyone with mobility difficulties access the bus.

For more information please visit our website: www.suffolklibraries.co.uk or call our customer service on 01473 351249.

It is free to get a library card.
You can reserve books online and collect from the mobile library.

Orac Coffee Mornings

First Monday in the month 9.30 – 12.00

Next dates: 2nd June

7th July

4th August

1st September

Come and enjoy home-made cakes, tea, coffee and good company



Come and play Table Tennis

Monday evenings 6 – 7.30pm

At the Village Hall

New members welcome

£3 per person

No booking required

Contact Gill on 01379 678446 for more information



Lucy's news – update from our local District Councillor

Lucy's Update – June 2025

Face-to-face help with Council issues

The District Council's friendly customer service team are now in Eye Library **every Friday morning, 9:15am to 12:30pm**. They can help with reporting problems, requesting repairs, making online payments and lots more. Mid Suffolk Citizen's Advice are also available at the same time, to advise on issues like housing, benefits and employment. No appointment needed - just drop in.

Local government reform – please share your views

The government announced plans last year to change the way local government is organised. Our current system of County and District Councils is to be replaced with single 'unitary' councils delivering all services. Suffolk County Council has proposed forming one single, large council for the whole of Suffolk. The District and Borough Councils are working together on proposals for two or more smaller unitary councils, as we think that will improve local delivery and keep councils in touch with residents.

The District Council would love to hear your views. You can share your feedback here (paper copies are available): <https://midsuffolk.govocal.com/en-GB/projects/have-your-say-suffolk>

The closing date for the consultation is July 25th

You can find out more about this, and also the government's plans for a new regional Mayor, here: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/devolution-and-lgr>

Small grants for local projects

The Locality Award is Mid Suffolk Council's grants scheme for smaller, local projects in each Ward. Please do get in touch with me if your group is interested, or see: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/locality-awards>

See you soon, Lucy (District Councillor for Eye Ward - Eye, Occold and Redlingfield)

For District Council issues, please contact me and I will try my best to help:

- email lucy.elkin@midsuffolk.gov.uk or phone 07928 512590
- For news and updates, find me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CllrLucy

Useful numbers

- Citizens Advice – for advice on benefits, debts, heating bills and lots more, call 01449 676060 / 01449 676 280 – or pop in to see Citizen’s Advice in Eye Library on Friday mornings (no appointment needed)
 - *Report flooding in your property:* <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/report-a-flood-in-suffolk>
 - *Report other types of flooding:* <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/report-a-flood-in-suffolk>
- To report a power cut, call [105](tel:105). You can also [search, track and report power cuts online: https://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/](https://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/)
- Damaged power lines – please stay away and call [105](tel:105). If there is an immediate risk to safety, please also call [999](tel:999)
- Fallen or overhanging trees – if there is an immediate danger, please call Suffolk Highways on [0345 606 6171](tel:03456066171). If not, you can report fallen trees or debris on the road at highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk
 - For updates on the Orwell Bridge, please go to www.trafficengland.com or www.twitter.com/highwayseast
- [Report a blocked drain](https://suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/highway-drainage/report-a-blocked-drain) to Suffolk County Council: <https://suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/highway-drainage/report-a-blocked-drain>
- If your water supply has been affected, please call Essex & Suffolk Water on [0345 782 0999](tel:03457820999).
- If your property has been affected by sewage flooding or there is a sewerage issue, please [report to Anglian Water](#) or call their 24-hour emergency number: [03457 145 145](tel:03457145145)
 - Floodline Telephone: [0345 988 1188](tel:03459881188) or visit [GOV.UK flood alerts](https://www.gov.uk/flood-alerts) for more information
- Dangerous structures please contact customer services on [0300 1234 000](tel:03001234000) (Option 5) **or** out of hours call [0808 168 7794](tel:08081687794)

St Michael's Church Occold, Flower Guild

The Flower Guild has been running for 17 years. This was celebrated at our last Guild meeting. We have had some excellent speakers and been on some very enjoyable walks & outings.

The club was started by Elly to have fun, friendship & flowers. Also to help raise the necessary funds for our Church.

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in church, unless otherwise stated.

New members are always welcome, you don't have to be a flower arranger!

Just come along, you will be made most welcome.



Our last meeting was on the 16th April for a Celebration of the 17th year of the Guild , it was also to celebrate Elly's 90th birthday! A huge milestone. Also to say thank you to her for starting the Guild & for all her commitment to it over the years.

Not forgetting all the help that she had, from Tom, my late Father, over all that time.

We Thank them both for all that they have contributed.

Thank you to all those that made delicious refreshments for this meeting & also to Caroline for the very interesting quiz.

Our next meetings are on:

18th June Garden Party;

16th July Talk by Andrew Bailey from Diss Garden Centre:

August 20th Talk by Sheila Barrett, My Life & Times in Occold.

(This one is not an open meeting, Guild members only)

New members are always welcome. We meet at Occold Church, 3rd Wednesday of the month. Any queries Judith Rivett- 873530.

Stoke Ash Gardening Club

Monday 23rd June – Visit to Langham Walled Gardens Near Walsham-Le -Willow

Monday 28th July – Visit to 'Place for Plants', East Bergholt

Monday 18th August – Visit to Otley Hall, Otley

Monday 22nd September – Talk by Pauline Harper on home grown soft fruit

Meetings held at Stoke Ash Village Hall from 7.30pm

For more information contact Caroline on 01379678871



Join the...

Crafty Crafters

Every third Wednesday in the month in
Occold Village Hall, 1 - 3 pm

Wednesday 18th June, 16th July,
20th August

Bring a craft activity to do or share or
just come to socialise and have a chat.

Tea, coffee & biscuits
available.

£2.50 per person





Redlingfield & Occold WI



Our group has had some interesting activities and speakers so far this year.

In March we had an enjoyable games night and social, with such diverse activities as table tennis, darts, Yahtzee, Scrabble and Ticket to Ride.

In April our group was very interested to hear from Dave Steward, a local historian, on the subject of a stonemason from Occold.

Master Mason Hawes worked on various Suffolk churches during the 15th century, most notably Wingfield church from 1430-35, mainly just before the Wars of the Roses, during the reigns of Henry IV, V and VI. His work was distinguished by a trademark window shape in which the middle window was elevated above those on either side. He embellished the windows and arches with flowers, leaves, mythical beasts and grotesques, crowns, lions, angels with outstretched wings and shields with a distinct ribbon decoration. Master mason Hawes' work survives on many other local churches, such as Bildeston, Burgate, Debenham, Palgrave, Stradbroke, Thorndon and of course, Occold. Inside the naves of many of these churches, arches with capitols show his skill in masonry with decorations of foliage, flowers, angels and winged hearts. Dave had a great selection of photos showing Hawes' work, which included fonts with angels and wildmen ('woodwose') at the base; and a marvellous dragon carved over the doorway of St Peter's, Palgrave. This was a fascinating talk of local and historic interest. Have a look for these features if you visit and of the churches.

In May, we discussed the WI Resolution 'Bystanders can be Lifesavers'. Last year Andy Davidson gave us an update on first aid, resuscitation and defibrillator use, so we were well placed to vote for this resolution.

We also had a talk from Hollie Hampson, who is a victim navigator for Justice in Care, a non-governmental agency dealing with modern day slavery and trafficking. Her operational team is embedded in the police force, giving help and support for victims to engage with the law and with support agencies. In the 21st century this issue has become a major problem, but it is only since the Modern Day Slavery Act of 2015 that the extent of the problem has been recognised. Slavery is defined as the control of the person, for example for forced labour, domestic servitude or sexual exploitation. Trafficking is the movement of people against their will.

The Justice in Care programme was set up in 2018 and Hollie is one of only 11 victim navigators. She has a wide area of engagement in the east of England from Norfolk to Kent and also across to Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Navigators are advocates for victims, helping them to get justice, but also with basic needs such as housing, health and schooling. A support plan based on the victim's needs is set up and the aim is to empower the victim to become independent. This may take some time as trust in authority is often an issue: Hollie may need to work with a victim for 2 – 3 years.

These issues affected more than 5,000 people in the last quarter, 20% of these are UK nationals. People from Albania and Eritrea are the next largest group: many of these have been enticed to the UK by people smugglers promising a better life. Hollie gave us a very informative talk on this extremely distressing modern day issue and how Justice in Care is attempting to support victims.

We have many interesting events planned for the rest of the year: we meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the village hall. Our next meeting, however, is our annual outing, this time to the Yum Yum Tree fudge factory in Woolpit. In July we have an exciting speaker: Mary Newton, a retired forensic biologist who worked on Silent Witness. We are hoping she'll divulge some of the 'behind the scenes' on this popular TV show. In August we are having a craft evening and will be making pressed flower tea light holders.



In May we took part in the Flower Festival held at St Michael's Church. Our 'Special Day' was May Day, originally celebrating the beginning of Summer. Traditions include gathering green branches and wildflowers, known as "bringing in the May" which were used to decorate buildings and made into wreaths. Our display represented the tradition of dancing around the Maypole.

If you would like more information about our activities please contact Sara Hampson (President) on 01379 678868, or just come along to a meeting. We look forward to welcoming you.

The image displays two rows of colorful, stylized books. The top row features books with spines in various colors (red, pink, orange, blue, green, yellow) and titles including 'The Moon', 'Gardens for Seniors', 'SHARKS LOVE PETS', '500 Fun Facts for Kids', 'Chemistry', 'MONEY', 'THE BLACK TABLE', 'MATH', 'Meditation for Kids', 'PINK PINKIES', '500', and 'JULY 4th'. The bottom row features books with spines in various colors (blue, green, yellow, red, pink, purple, brown) and titles including 'DICTIONARY', 'COOKING', 'A ZOO OF ANIMALS', 'Secrets in a Garden', 'GARDENING', 'WATERGARDEN', 'RED ROADS', 'HOW TO GROW A GARDEN', 'Pink is the new green for GIRLS', '1000 IDEAS for creative projects', 'original wall art', and 'JULY 4th'. The books are arranged on a yellow shelf.

In May we discussed *The Child Bride* by Cathy Glass. This was generally enjoyed by everyone, scoring a respectable 8/10. Everyone enjoyed finding out more about the foster system and we also discussed how, because it is a true story, this made what we read all the more shocking. We joked about the number of time characters poured a glass of water, but it was an easy read and not overly long. Some members had read other Cathy Glass books and said they quickly become a bit 'samey'.

The image shows a book display on a wooden bench. A large book titled 'THE TIMES CONCISE ATLAS OF THE WORLD' is prominently displayed on the left. To its right are several smaller books and a bouquet of artificial flowers in a vase. Two informational signs are attached to the bench. The sign on the left reads 'Oscar Wilde Week Club' and 'World Book Day'. The sign on the right reads 'Oscar Wilde Week Club' and 'Book Week'.

18

Soup Lunch

Occold Village Hall (Last Friday of every Month)

12 - 1pm

Homemade Soup & Roll £5



All Welcome

Tea, Coffee & Cake also available

27th June – ORAC

25th July – St Michael's

No Lunch in August

Going on Holiday.

Going off on holiday,
Compressing, packing all you can,
Remembering where you're going
Oh, so wishing you had a van!

Checking the Google maps,
Making sure the locations just right
Hoping him indoors is ready
Proceeding on time, such a delight!

We're going to Dedham Vale,
Constable Country all so grand,
Real beauty as it should be,
True splendour of the land.

Judith Rivett May 2025.



St Michael's & all Angels Flower Festival May 2025

There were over 20 beautiful flower displays at the Flower Festival this year celebrating a variety of Special Days, with arrangements made by local village group and individuals.

Throughout the magazine there is a selection of some of the photos of the displays. My apologies if yours is not included.



Special Days included:

Easter Day x 2
Valentine's Day
International Women's Day
Burns Night
Christening Day
Equinox
Chinese New Year
Pentecost and Jubilee
Christmas Day
World Book Day
St Patrick's Day
Mid Summer's Day
80th Anniversary of VE Day
Father's Day
St David's Day
Shrove Tuesday
May Day
Mothering Sunday
Birthday
Friendship Day , pew ends



MID SUFFOLK

Refuse and Recycling Collection Schedule 2025



December 2024 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	January 2025 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 2025 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	March 2025 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
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- REFUSE** (general rubbish) collection week
- RECYCLING** collection week
- Refer to the MID SUFFOLK Christmas and New Year Waste Collection Schedule 2024-25
- Collections following a bank holiday will be one day later than normal for the rest of the week

Please put your bin out by 6.30am

Check for delays and report a missed collection

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billbulstrode@googlemail.com

OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

The current list of Councillors and their responsibilities is:

Cllr Stephen Hubner - Chair and Planning

Cllr Andrew Duggett - Vice Chair/Personnel/Planning

Cllr Kevin Chittock

Cllr Heidi Stone - Personnel/Neighbourhood Plan lead

Cllr Tim Weller

Cllr Angela Hall

Cllr Roy St Pier

Cllr Colin Cripps

Clerk & Financial Officer: David Rayner

For more information please contact parishclerk@occold-pc.gov.uk

Occold Parish Council

At the annual meeting, held on 12 May, there were changes in appointed officers, with Stephen Hubner being elected chair and Andrew Duggett vice-Chair. Contact details for them and all Councillors are in this magazine and please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have queries or concerns about matters relating to life and activities in Occold.

The Council is also progressing the development of a new website (having for many years benefitted from the provision of a site created and maintained by a local family). This should be up and running shortly and village organisations will be invited to contribute information and notices to keep us all informed about things that impact or could impact residents and visitors.

Of course, the big issue at present is the proposed solar project being promoted by EcoPower Suffolk. Following on from meetings to consider this, and with the benefit of comments received from residents, the Council submitted a fairly detailed response to the initial non-statutory consultation. We will again seek input once the next stage is reached in the process. We are also aware of the further proposed development near Mendlesham and will liaise with other parish councils as well as district and county councillors to coordinate responses taking this (and projects which have received planning consent) into account.

The Council has for many years sought to reduce the speed of traffic through the village. There is a 20 mile an hour speed limit but sadly a lot of drivers do not observe this. We do occasionally install (with appropriate authority) apparatus that records vehicle details and have been advised that 600 drivers have received notices reminding them that the speed limit is not simply for guidance! We are continuing to liaise with the local highway authority and contractors to construct a safer crossing from the school to the playing field and hope this will finally be built this year.

Tim Bloomfield



Painter and Decorator

2 Ash Tree Close

Occold, Eye

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LAI BY OUR HENS AT
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OCCOLD

Chocolate and Coffee Roulade

Serves 8

6 ozs dark chocolate

2 tsp instant coffee dissolved in 4tbsp of boiling water

6 Large eggs separated

6 Ozs caster sugar

For the filling

3/4 pint double cream

3tbsp coffee liqueur

Line baking tray 14 x 16 ins with baking parchment.

Break chocolate into bowl add coffee liquid.

Place bowl over a saucepan of gently simmering water.

Heat gently until chocolate has melted.

Take off heat. Stir until mixed.

Mix egg yolks in a bowl, gradually adding the sugar.

Whisk until the mixture is very pale and thick.

Stir in chocolate and coffee mixture.

Pour onto tray and spread evenly. Bake @ 180 deg for 20-25 mins or until mixture springs back when lightly touch with finger.

Remove from oven cover with damp tea towel and leave several hours.

Place sheet of non-stick baking parchment on working surface and sprinkle with icing sugar.

Remove tea towel tip & roulade onto icing sugar.

Carefully peel off lining paper.

Whip cream with coffee liqueur until it just hold its shape.

Spread over roulade right to edges.

Roll up lengthwise, place on plate or tray.

Dust with icing sugar.

Enjoy, Elly

EYE & DISTRICT VOLUNTEER CENTRE Charity No 1156968

Do you have difficulty arranging transport?

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If you require our assistance please telephone Gill at Eye Volunteer Centre

Telephone No: 01379 871200

We would like to thank 'Tiny' Welch for refurbishing the seat on the village field in memory of Les and Nora Stone, past residents of Occold.



Telephone 01379 678833

**Come and enjoy a full Sunday Roast lunch – available til 3pm,
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**PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A FREE, NO OBLIGATION
QUOTE**

You may, like me, be old enough to recall the TV scenes celebrating the 50th anniversary for Victory in Europe Day back in 1995. Dame Vera Lynn and Sir Cliff Richard leading the sing-songs; Robert Hardy impersonating Churchill at the same venue. My future wife Di was amongst the revellers who filled the Mall in celebration.

Time passes and moving on another 30 years, we recently commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day. It was great to see the village put on an event to celebrate and commemorate the defeat, of Hitler and Nazi Germany. You would hope this will happen again for the 90th and the 100th anniversaries too, but what then? Will we also remember in 2039 the 125th anniversary of the start of the First World War? How far into the future will we keep on remembering?

Shakespeare's Henry V famously said "Old men forget." Yet, future generations also exhibit a tendency to a lack of recall. It's why we have Remembrance Day in November. Whilst wars continue to ravage the planet in Gaza, South Sudan and Ukraine (to name but a few), the acts of remembrance will hopefully continue.

People, of course, cause wars. Yet, that doesn't stop some criticism of religion – with some claiming it is a primary catalyst. Is that true? What are the facts?

According to the Encyclopaedia of Wars, "out of all 1,763 known/recorded historical conflicts, 121 or 6.8%, had religion as their primary cause." That seems quite a long way from all wars are caused by religion!

It is true, that religion is often used as a scapegoat. Numerous nations have claimed God is on their side whilst going into battle, even opposing sides will sometimes declare an equal claim to the Almighty's favour.

In the Bible, there are accounts of devastating battles in the Old Testament. However, these need to be seen in the context of the whole Biblical picture and, in the light of the New Testament. Jesus Christ came to wage not a physical, but a spiritual war, on sin and death and hell. He never took up a sword in battle to make His point. On the contrary, He said "whoever lives by the sword, shall die by the sword." He was and remains, the Prince of Peace.

During the Second World War, King George VI called the nation to prayer. Specific days were set aside for intercession. Those prayers were answered in miraculous ways. He is still a God who answers prayer in miraculous ways, today. It was a just war. The barbaric acts of Hitler and the Nazis had to be defeated. We can thank God that they were.

We can thank Him for 80 years of relative peace for our nation.

We can still pray for peace where there is conflict, today.

God hears. God answers.



**JUBILEE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

**Here are some of the
events we usually
run, we'd love to
have you come
along:**

Our website:

www.jubilee baptist church.co.uk is
currently being updated

Please call Rob (01449 774609) Greg
01379 678198) or Andrew (01379
678160) for more details

Weekly Sunday Service

10:45 AM / Village Hall or Chapel Hall

Youth Club

Alternate Fridays / Chapel Hall

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News from St Michael and All Angels

We are pleased to report that, despite tempting fate, the weather held for the annual Flower Festival, moved this year to 17/18 May. The displays reflected special days in the year and the church looked fantastic. Thank you to all of those who made arrangements. We are also grateful to the stall holders who added to the day with their crafts and products - we hope to see you all again next year! We are still collecting a few donations, but it looks as if the total raised will be just under £1,500, which is very pleasing and represents just over a month's worth of running costs. Thank you to all those who attended the event and for your generosity.

Our next fund raising event will be the Book Sale, taking place this year in September, so please look out for more details in due course.



We continue to hold services at 9:15 every second and fourth Sunday in the month, and the church is open daily should you wish to step inside for a moment of calm reflection.

Best wishes to all

Stephen Hubner (01379 678360) and Gill Richardson (01728 627916)
Churchwardens

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Enquiries, Booking & Payment

Photos from VE Day Celebration



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Tuck Shop (Fri 3-4 @ hall car park)



Thanks to ORAC for use of the field through the summer



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