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A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



What a wonderful job Rotary clubs do, raising funds for charities worldwide - and the Woodbridge branch is no exception, with three members receiving the Paul Harris Fellowship Award. There are so many volunteers who give time and energy to their communities, it is lovely to see them receive recognition. Well done to all.

Please drop me a line to boost your business by advertising with us, in any or all of our six titles, or if you have any news or events you would like to share with our readers.

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Quote of the Month

If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.

Milton Berle



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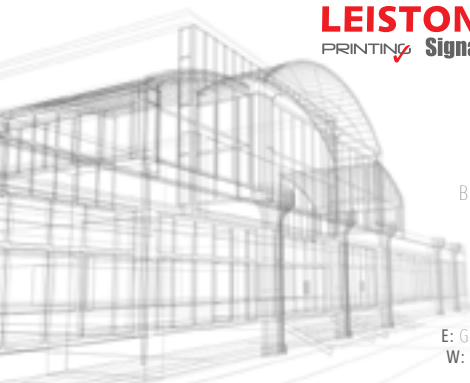
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Presents J.S. Bach's CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

at Snape Maltings Concert Hall

Saturday 28th November at 7pm

Following their sell-out performance of Messiah at Snape Maltings Concert Hall last year, **ALDEBURGH MUSIC CLUB** return to Snape on 28th November with another great choral masterwork for Christmas, J.S. Bach's **CHRISTMAS ORATORIO**.

Written in 1734, the Oratorio tells the story of Christmas - the birth of Jesus in a manger, the announcement of the birth by the Angels, the visit of the shepherds, and the arrival of the Wise Men with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Telling this eternal story, the choir will be accompanied by the Suffolk Baroque Players, and conducted by their musical director, Tom Appleton, with a great line up of professional soloists - Elenor Bowers-Jolley (soprano), Diana Moore (mezzo soprano), Jonathan Hanley (tenor) and Mark Saberton (bass).

Tickets for the concert, which starts at 7pm, are available from Snape Maltings Box Office, or online at: www.brittenpearsarts.org.

Tickets for under-18s are half price.

Saturday 28 November 7.00pm
Snape Maltings Concert Hall

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BY JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Aldeburgh Music Club Choir

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Suffolk Baroque Players
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Aldeburgh Music Club



WOODBIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

– MAYOR'S MONTHLY

With the summer holidays ending, Civic events are re-appearing in the diary.

On 3rd September, I unveiled a Blue Plaque for John Grout, a 19th century horse dealer of European repute and owner of The Bull Inn. He rose quite literally from rags to riches. Much of his estate was left to his godson and nephew, John Whisstock.

Later, in the afternoon, there was a ceremony down near Whisstock's Place to mark Merchant Navy Day with the raising of the Red Ensign. Merchant Navy Day serves as a powerful reminder of the courage, resilience and sacrifice of merchant seafarers during the second world war and throughout history. On Sunday 6th, a small delegation from Ipswich, Felixstowe and Woodbridge went to London for the commemorative service at the Merchant Navy Memorial near the Tower of London. On behalf of Woodbridge, the Mayor's Cadet, Elliot Astbury, and myself laid two wreaths.



Merchant Navy Day at Whisstock's Place, Woodbridge, County Councillor Ruth Leach, Mayor of Woodbridge, Councillor Nigel Phipps, Sandra Smith, Secretary of the Merchant Navy Association, Ipswich Branch and Richard Watkinson, Vice Chairman.

The Mayor and the Mayor's Cadet laying wreaths at the memorial to Frank George Firman and the SS Kirnwood, which was sunk in the Atlantic as it returned from Australia via New York with supplies. His parents lived in Woodbridge.

Before setting off for London on the Saturday, I greeted 117 ladies from the Red Hat Society, Bees of Bardwell, down at the Tide Mill and said goodbye to them at the Shire Hall.



Photos: Mike Whitby



They came from across Britain and from four other European countries. Thank you to John Risby and Choose Woodbridge for all the organization and to the shops and people of Woodbridge who made them so welcome. They had clearly had a very enjoyable day. One comment that struck me was from one of our overseas visitors who was quite

surprised on just how little investment seems to have been made in renewable energy – solar and wind.

Looking ahead, I continue to support our MP, Jenny Riddell-Carpenter's campaign for improvements to the train service on the East Suffolk line. If we could close the peak morning/afternoon gaps in service, get to a half hourly service, improve early/late connectivity to and from London and elsewhere in the region – then lives would be transformed. The impact on residents and visitors of constructing the green energy future in East Anglia could be given some urgently needed mitigation.

My September started on a high and I am sure there is plenty more to come. I wish you all a very happy post-holiday return (or as the French might say "joyeuse rentrée"). On that note, a member of the Town's Twinning Committee was in Doullens to move things on. Small steps are moving us towards the goal of establishing a full twinning.

Councillor Nigel Phipps

Mayor of Woodbridge

Councillorhipps@woodbridge-suffolk.gov.uk

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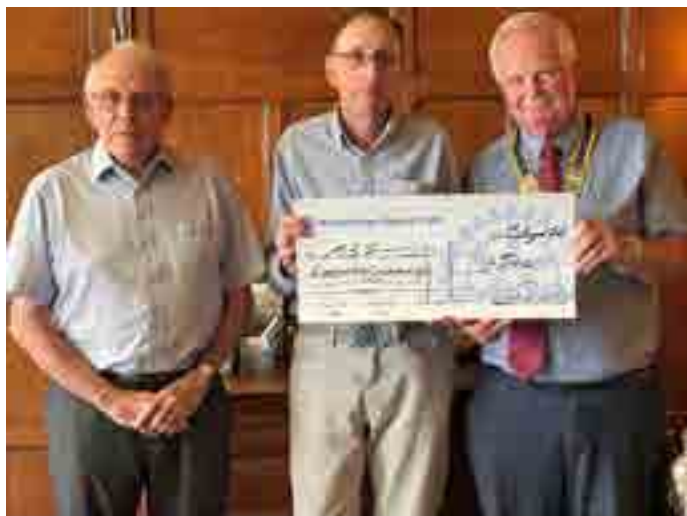
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ROTARY CLUB OF WOODBRIDGE

Fundraising is an accepted part of Rotary life and being able to make a contribution to the work performed by volunteers across many charities, both locally, nationally and internationally, makes the work more worthwhile.

At the beginning of July, Christopher Pesket from Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), or Doctors without Borders, gave an insight into the work of dedicated charity. To hear about the sad conditions in which some people with serious illnesses and injuries exist in mainly war-torn areas was sobering. MSF doctors, all volunteers, do remarkable work globally bringing medical help to those in great need. President Robin Pivett and Rtn. John Treadway, presented a cheque for £500 to help with the work of this charity.



Rtn. John Treadway, Christopher Pesket, President Robin

Members also heard from Papyrus, a charity helping to prevent suicide in young people and a cheque for £500 was presented by President Robin.

The busy month continued with a Charity Golf Day at Woodbridge Golf Club when members assisted the golf club in various ways. The Rotary proceeds of £2,050 for the Golf Day, will be presented to the St Elizabeth Hospice.

Rotary is all about Service - locally, nationally and internationally. Exceptional service by individual Rotarians is acknowledged by the award of the Paul Harris Fellowship. It was with great pleasure, therefore, that President Robin presented Paul Harris Fellowship Awards to three Woodbridge members: Simon Holloway, John Pearson and Ron Whitaker.

Simon Holloway is a past President of two years succession, a supporter of Heritage Open Day walks and promoted a cook book containing local recipes on behalf of the Club and, importantly, has maintained the club's website over many years.

Ron Whitaker is also a past President and very active member of the Fundraising Committee, stepping into the breach and organising many events when the Chair was unwell. He continues to take the lead and remains very active in supporting the current Chair and offers constructive and practical solutions to some challenging issues.



Simon Holloway, President Robin and Ron Whitaker

John Pearson is one of the longest serving members of the club, has held various roles including Secretary, President and chair of Foundation. He has led many projects within the Club, one of great note being the Ukrainian Appeal.



John Pearson and President Robin

The Rotary Club of Woodbridge meets each Friday lunchtime at The Bull Hotel in Woodbridge. Further Information about meetings and the work of the Club can be found on our website. www.woodbridgerotary.com



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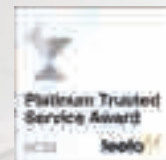
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WOODBIDGE FESTIVAL OF ART & MUSIC A GREAT SUCCESS

The fifteenth Woodbridge Festival Summer Weekend has been hailed an unqualified success by organisers, artists and audiences.

The event spanned the bank holiday weekend, featuring four days and nights of music, comedy, art workshops, visuals and film.

Geno Washington and The YoYos and Faze Action, the double headline acts, had the crowd dancing in Elmhurst Park. Scarlett Woolfe, Aruba Red, and Tom & Katie captivated the audience at New Street Market.

The Festival's first Stand-up night sold out. Resident DJs from Wood Street Bear, the East London DJ Bar, and The Maghreban took over the Red Lion Beer Garden for a 'Wood Street V Bridge' DJ stand-off.

The weekend began with the official opening of Deben Vinyl, the town's first dedicated record store. Audience members were invited to browse the shop's shelves and select vinyl for DJ Ben Osborne to add to his mix - often stretching beat-matching skills to the limits. (See more about Vinyl Bar below)

Carry Greenham Home, the film about the legendary 1980s' Women's Peace Camp, sparked lively conversations amongst an appreciative audience. The showing marked 45 years since the peace camp was set up. It was part of the festival's Clarkson Campaign.

Sunday in Elmhurst Park featured busy pottery, cyanotype printing, weaving, quilted hoop house and Saxon wood carving workshops. Partner organisations included Sutton Hoo Ship's Company, Suffolk Building Society and Deben Climate Centre - who said they experienced their most responsive and interested event audience yet. The food village and bars featured New Street Market, who made their Woodbridge Festival debut with a bespoke marquee, Phi Phi's Soul Kitchen, Mylo's Pizza and Suffolk Paella.

Suffolk Coastal MP, Jenny Riddell Carpenter, opened the festival, praising the community involvement it created. Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Robin Sanders, highlighted the legacy of the festival to culture over its 15 year existence.

Meanwhile festival goers made enthusiastic comments in person and on social media, with one person posting on Instagram: "Woodbridge Festival - fabulous music, atmosphere and friends. Many thanks for all that you do for Woodbridge to highlight music and the arts."

Woodbridge festival chair, Alice Stallard, says: "The festival committee worked especially hard to create this year's festival. But all the effort was worthwhile seeing the happy faces, on and off stage. Every event felt joyous and inspirational."

Festival Programmer, Ben Osborne, says: "All the contributions, in every genre, were special this year; with some acts making their only 2026 festival appearance. We were pleased we could include our Clarkson Campaign project. We aim at being inclusive and intergenerational, so it's great to see the range of people the festival continues to attract."

Simon Lee, founder of seminal disco and house act Faze Action, says: "We had a lovely time at Woodbridge Festival, such a welcoming atmosphere and great response. It was a real pleasure to be part of it."

We also just received this unprompted message from Geno Washington and The YoYos: "Woodbridge Festival is a lovely place to play. We all really enjoyed the gig."



Geno Washington



VINYL BAR

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PROJECT UPDATE

OCTOBER 2026

We have awarded contracts for the main construction works to deliver the Two Village Bypass to family-owned Suffolk company Breheny Civil Engineering, and the contract for the Sizewell Link Road to Kier. Construction of the roads remains on schedule.

As part of our commitment to bring 60 per cent of our materials to site by train and sea, the new rail line that bypasses Leiston is now operational, with new level crossings at Buckleswood Road and Abbey Road in Leiston. The first commercial trains are now starting to arrive at site overnight to avoid disrupting the daytime passenger service, delivering materials and aggregates. We will be changing the weekly traffic management update to include train times and movements, Sizewell C related traffic

management, road closures and rail movements – sign up on the Sizewell C Works Tracker.

On Sizewell Beach, construction has begun to install support piles that will hold the Marine Bulk Import Facility (MBIF) structure in place in the seabed. Onshore, the temporary sea defence wall (783 metres) is now complete, and we are preparing to begin construction of the rock armour flood defences at the southern end of the site that will enhance protection for both Sizewell B and the Sizewell C site.

The Park and Ride work capacity continues to increase at the Wickham Market and Darsham sites, with more of our workers parking their cars and accessing our sites on Sizewell C buses. The roundabout at the park and ride in Darsham is complete, with the required traffic management now lifted at peak times and all local roads are open to all traffic.



All our works and planned road works can be accessed on our Works Tracker. Please sign up to receive bespoke alerts via email or SMS. Thank you for patience during these works. To find out more about the progress of the works, the next round of community forums are:

Community Forum

Thursday 22 October 18:00, at the Sizewell Visitors Centre

Northern Transport Forum

Wednesday 4 November 18:00, at the High Lodge, Darsham

For more information and for more forum dates visit sizewellc.com/community/forums

*Calls to 0800 numbers are free from UK landlines. Call costs from mobile and international numbers may vary.



WOODBIDGE & MELTON SOCIETY

Talk: *'Protect and Survive: Cold War Archaeology of East Anglia'* By Dr Rik Hoggett

The next Woodbridge & Melton Society talk will be Dr Rik Hoggett, heritage consultant, describing the extent and impact of the secret activities in this area during the Cold War at The Quay Church, Woodbridge, on **Wednesday 7th Oct 2026**, at 7:30pm. Entry for members of the Society is Free, Non-members are very welcome, just £5 on the door. Bring your friends along.

East Anglia was home to a disproportionately large part of Britain's infrastructure for a potential nuclear war. It included V-bomber bases, one of the country's two nuclear bomb stores, Thor missile sites, Royal Observer Corps bunkers and much more.

This talk examines the archaeological evidence for the Cold War in East Anglia, with a particular emphasis on south-east Suffolk, and places it into its national context.

Dr Richard Hoggett is a freelance heritage consultant, lecturer and writer with over 25 years' experience in the academic, commercial and local authority heritage sectors. He speaks regularly on a wide range of archaeological and historical subjects to groups and societies across the eastern region, is an elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

More details: WoodbridgeAndMeltonSociety.org.uk

Cliff Hoppitt

www.woodbridgeandmeltonociety.org.uk

Orford Ness



BAWDSEY RADAR MUSEUM

The Block continues to open on Thursdays and Sundays until the end of October. We then have a rest over the winter period. 2026 has been a really busy year with very high visitor numbers.

We hope to again be offering conducted tours of the former RAF Bawdsey site and Bawdsey Manor over the winter period. Details and booking availability will appear on our website as and when confirmed.

There will also be a fundraising general knowledge quiz on **Friday 13th November** starting at 7.30pm at Newbourne Village Hall. Teams of up to 6 people would be very welcome. Again, further details will appear on our website nearer the time.

Finally, series 2 of the acclaimed podcast series 'Echoes of Bawdsey' is now available on the website and from wherever you stream your podcasts.

New volunteers will always be welcome at the Museum. If you are interested in finding out more, then please contact the number below or see our website.

Further details of all our activities may be found on our website: www.bawdseyradar.org.uk

For more information contact info@bawdseyradar.org.uk or phone 07821 162879.

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INNER WHEEL CLUB OF WOODBRIDGE

Having shared news of our summer antics and activities with each other over a delicious meal, members enjoyed a cup of coffee whilst learning about an amazing café which runs in Martlesham. The café goes by the name of 21Young Hearts and is situated in The Square at Martlesham Heath. To just call it a café would perhaps hide some of the amazing benefits that are the results of Sharon and Stuart's inspirational ambition to provide a place of meaningful work for young people with disabilities.

This opportunity offers free training and experience of skills which can be transferred to wider employment. In an effort to reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation, the self-sustaining café offers a welcoming space for the whole community, serving a selection of delicious homemade cakes as well as light snacks. Members showed their appreciation for the talk and the amazing work which is happening and many will be visiting in the very near future.

Members agreed to donate a sum of money to the Wolverstone Wing of Ipswich hospital in memory of Sheila Burgess, a very dear friend and member who, sadly, passed away during the summer.

Carmel Ambridge, the International Officer, is preparing to host an afternoon of tea and scones with a talk and skin care demonstration from Woodbridge Chemists.

Members are also preparing to bake in readiness for the Ruff Stuff bike ride, organised by Woodbridge Rotary, which is to be held on **October 25th**.



Another international charity supported by members is Hamlin Fistula UK which sends hand knitted blankets out to Ethiopia to give comfort to women on their journey back to health. Although many members have contributed knitted squares, Vanessa Clouting spent some very hot hours, during the summer, working her magic with the squares to produce a beautiful blanket.

June Kenyon asked members to please start baking again ready for the memory café which continues to be held at Woodbridge Football Club, for those with memory loss and their carers, on the last Wednesday of each month.

Deirdre Rothwell is about to host her 25th Macmillan Coffee Morning and the knit and natter group are still doing just that, each month, whilst partaking of suitable refreshments at Notcutts Garden Centre.

Woodbridge IW members meet at Ufford Park Hotel at 6.30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. Find out more about the club and its aims and objectives at District 8 <https://innerwheel.co.uk> or email district8innerwheel@gmail.com for further information.

MARK COCKER IN CONVERSATION

There is a chance to hear award winning author and naturalist Mark Cocker in conversation at Woodbridge Community Hall, Station Road, IP12 4AU on **Thursday 15 October 2026**, starting at 7.30 pm.

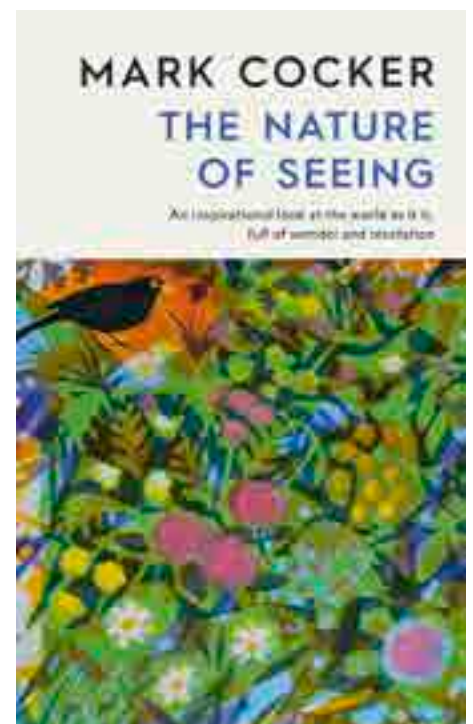
The evening has been jointly organized by Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Woodbridge Wildlife Group and Suffolk Bird Group. Chairman of Woodbridge Wildlife Group, Phil Smith, said *"This is going to be a great evening as we hear Mark in conversation with Adam Gretton, (Vice President of Suffolk Bird Group) talking about the birdwatching experiences at the heart of his latest book 'The Nature of Seeing – Finding Wonder in the Living World'. This new book is a celebration of the act of paying careful attention. It argues that the way we look at nature has a capacity not only to change ourselves; it can lead to change in the living world itself."*

Eddie Bathgate, Chair of Suffolk Bird Group said *"It's a real treat to welcome back knowledgeable and evocative Mark Cocker, speaking to us again after his last talk was a sell-out. I'm very much looking forward to it! Copies of Mark's new book will be available to purchase on the evening"*

Doors open at 7 pm for this talk. Entry is £5 for adults with under 25s free. No need to book - pay on the door by card or cash.

Light refreshments will be served during the evening and there will also be a raffle.

For more information about this talk please contact Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Woodbridge Wildlife Group by email: swtwoodbridge@outlook.com or telephone 01473 625630.



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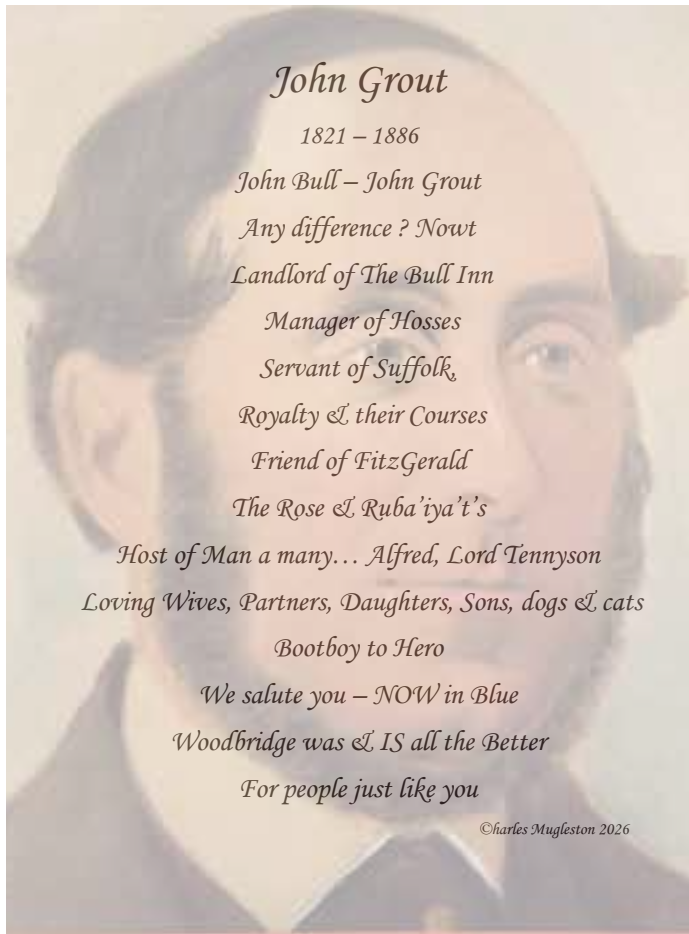
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WOODBIDGE MUSEUM



We are pleased to have now added a fifth book to The Woodbridge Museum mini-series. We are indebted to David Clarke of The Bull Hotel for writing this interesting booklet about such an important Woodbridge resident, John Grout. Although John Grout wasn't born in Woodbridge, he moved here as a very young man and eventually became landlord and owner of The Bull Inn. He was also a farmer, horse dealer and horse breeder of international repute. He was known as 'Honest John Grout' and when he died in 1886 such was the local affection for the man that church bells tolled, businesses closed their doors and thousands gathered to pay their respects. If you want to find out more about this remarkable man, who supplied horses to the Italian Royal Family and to clients worldwide, call into Woodbridge Museum to purchase a copy of the illustrated booklet. If you have an interest in local history and have an idea for a suitable subject for another mini-history please contact us on enquiries@woodbridgemuseum.com.

Our next Friends of Woodbridge Museum monthly talk is on **9th October** and will be presented by Mary Newton who is a retired forensic biologist and her talk is entitled 'Hidden in Plain Sight'. On **13th November** Terry Lock's talk is entitled 'WW1 through Stories and Pictures'. All talks start at 2.30pm and take place in Woodbridge Community Hall. Visitors are welcome. The museum will be open every day except Mondays & Fridays during term time. We plan to open every day during the October Half Term holiday, then move to Winter Opening Hours which is Saturday & Sunday only. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at Woodbridge Museum do get in touch.

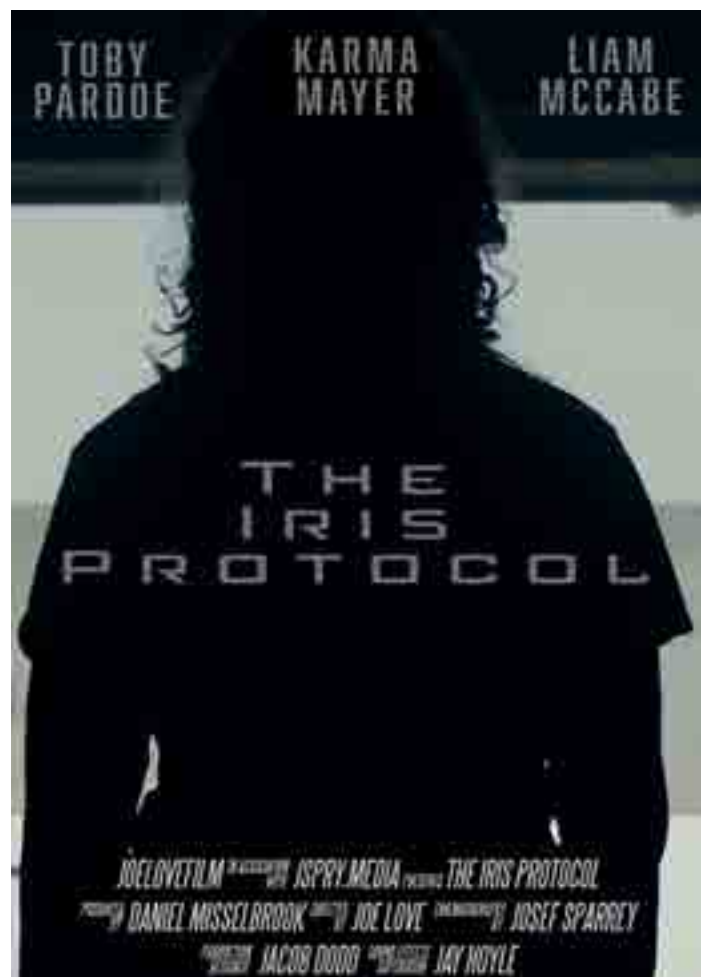
THE IRIS PROTOCOL

My name is Joe Love, a filmmaker and recent Film graduate. I grew up in Ipswich and attended Suffolk One before going on to study Film at Solent University.

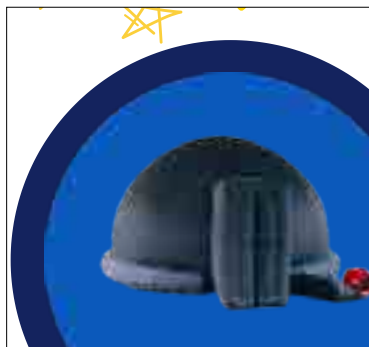
I recently wrote and directed 'The Iris Protocol', an independent short film which was partly filmed at Bentwaters Park near Woodbridge. The film has already received recognition at my university's film awards, where it won Best Film and Best Producing, and it has now been selected to screen as part of the Suffolk Shorts – EAST x EAST Festival. I'll also be taking part in a Q&A following the screening on **22 October at the Riverside, Woodbridge**, giving audiences the opportunity to hear more about the film and its production.

'The Iris Protocol' is a dark post-apocalyptic drama following 17-year-old Iris, who has spent years living underground with her father following an unexplained catastrophe. What initially appears to be a story about survival gradually becomes something much darker, exploring themes of control, trust and conformity.

A significant portion of the film was shot at the former RAF Bentwaters site, making Suffolk an important part of the film both behind and in front of the camera and as someone who grew up in Ipswich, it's particularly exciting for me to now have a film I wrote and directed returning to the Suffolk area to be screened as part of a local festival.



ICENAI DOMES



I'm the founder of Icenai Domes, a new Woodbridge-based business bringing immersive experiences to children, families and community groups across Suffolk.

The idea for Icenai Domes actually began while I was

teaching, when a planetarium dome visited the school I was working in. That experience completely changed the way I thought about learning and storytelling, and I was fascinated by the impact of being fully immersed in an environment rather than simply observing it. Now, with the development of modern projection technology, I am able to create any environment I wish for my sessions and bring those ideas to life in a far more flexible and creative way.

With a background of 25 years in teaching, I wanted to take the idea of an immersive projected environment beyond simply showing planets and stars. I have developed two portable domes, a 4m and a 5m, which can be transformed into completely different environments depending on the audience session. The dome can become an underwater world, a forest, outer space, a calming wellbeing environment, or the setting for one of my own children's stories.

In fact, my books are now also turned into immersive experiences within the dome, allowing children to step directly into the stories I have written.

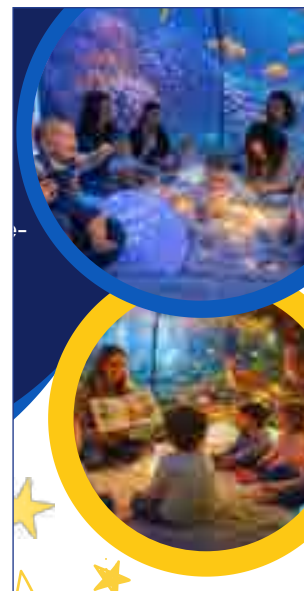
My books were published by Softwood Publishers in Stowmarket and are available online as print-on-demand editions. I can tailor the imagery, music, sounds and activities to suit different ages and needs, including early years, schools, SEN groups, wellbeing sessions and community groups.

Since launching locally, I have already held a successful immersive event at Woodbridge Library and have offered trial sessions to seven nurseries, as well as a Rainbows and Brownies group.

The response has been particularly encouraging, and I'm now developing the business to bring immersive experiences to an increasingly wide range of local groups.

For more information please visit:
icenai-domes.co.uk

Nicky Sanders



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Credit: Images By Anna

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WOODBIDGE RIVERSIDE TRUST

Many people know The Longshed because of its distinctive appearance on Woodbridge's waterfront. Others know it as the place where a reconstruction of the Sutton Hoo burial ship is taking place and 'The King's River' Tapestry can be viewed. But the story of The Longshed began long before its doors opened to the public in 2018.

The Longshed was created to celebrate and build on Woodbridge's rich maritime and riverine heritage across the ages whilst providing a place where traditional and modern, transferable skills could be learned, practised and shared. Situated on the site of the former Whisstock's boatyard, the building was designed to reflect the character of the working waterfront that helped shape the town for generation.

Today, the Longshed combines workshop space, exhibitions, education, volunteering, heritage activities, and community events within a single building. It belongs to our town and is a unique asset for our whole community to enjoy. Our next Talk in the Gallery is at 3pm on **Saturday 17th October**, when Peter Turner will enlighten us on 'Nelson's Race'. Peter writes *"The Battle of Trafalgar did not just occur out of the blue. The Royal Navy were spoiling for a chance to destroy the French fleet and thought it would happen in the Mediterranean."*

"But the French fleet escaped to the Caribbean under instruction from Bonaparte, as part of his plan for invasion of Britain. It did not quite work out as he hoped! Nelson was after them!"

Tickets (£8 to include tea and cake) are available from Eventbrite and The Longshed Gift Shop.

On **Saturday 14th November**, we have two rope-making workshops - one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The cost per person for adults is £16. We have set aside some free spaces for young people between 14 - 17 years of age. To register for a course, please contact admin@woodbridgeriversidetrust.org Spaces are being taken quickly, so please don't delay.

During the summer months this year, the staff at Hasketon Road Co-op very kindly raised funds for the Trust. One of their initiatives was a colouring competition for children, based on outline drawings designed by well-known local artist Claudia Myatt. All the entries were delightful, and here is a selection of the winning ones.

Well done to all who took part, and our grateful thanks to the organisers for their support. Please visit: woodbridgeriversidetrust.org





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U3A EAST SUFFOLK

East Suffolk's u3a members know how to bring yet more colour into their lives.

The older members of the community – anyone retired or semi-retired with time on their hands – can join this vibrant organisation and enjoy a wide range of activities.

For some u3a provides the opportunity to find new interests, to meet new challenges or to make new friends. For others it is all about lifelong learning in the company of other with similar goals.

Members enjoy walks, quizzes, dining out, visiting gardens or churches, discussing architecture, the arts, current affairs and much more.

Alongside approximately 150 different local activity groups, there is a varied programme of monthly talks held at venues in Kesgrave, Felixstowe, Woodbridge and Saxmundham.

In October the schedule includes talks on wildlife photography, Felixstowe Men's Shed, auctioning and valuation and 40 years as a forensic biologist.

Full up to date information is available on the u3a website: www.u3aeastsuffolk.org.uk. Please be aware that there is the occasional need to cancel or reschedule, so please check before setting out.

New members are welcome in East Suffolk u3a, with the expectation that they will contribute to the success of the group. Membership is on an annual basis and gives members access to all the u3a's many activities, subject to availability. For more information about u3a please see the website or call the secretary on 0300 123 3913.

WOODBIDGE LIBRARY

Opening Hours: Mon: 10am - 5pm; Tue: 9am - 6:30pm; Wed & Thur: 10am - 5:30pm; Fri: 9am - 7pm; Sat: 9am - 5pm; Sun: 10am - 4pm

Thursday 1st October 7pm for a prompt 7.30 start: The Friends of Woodbridge Library (FOWL) are hosting The Woodbridge Fashion Show. See collections from local retailers such as Chaffinch, Gigi, Moose, Laura Jane and Tilley & Grace. Book your place at the catwalk quickly because this extravaganza will sell out! Tickets are £10 (includes a glass of fizz) and are available from the library.

Tuesday 20th October, 12.45 - 1.30pm: Music at Lunchtime. Fantastic local band 'East of the Sun' are playing at this ever-popular daytime concert. This is a free event but donations to the work of The Friends of Woodbridge Library (FOWL) are most welcome.

Tuesday 13th October, 2 - 4pm: Write Now Writing Group. Are you interested in writing short stories and poetry? Looking to share your work with others and get peer support, exchange ideas and more? We would be delighted for you to join us! Everyone can write - all abilities are welcome. Bring your work or come along and listen to others share their words. For more information and to confirm your attendance, email jeannie@butterwicks.com

Tuesdays, 10 – 11am: Home Education Group: A great opportunity for Home Educated children and their adults to meet and share in a fun and engaging activity together. Suitable for 5-10 year olds.

Wednesdays: 10.30 - 10.50am: Baby Bounce: Soothing songs and gentle nursery rhymes for babies and their grown-ups;
11.15 - 11.45am: Tot Rock Rhyme and rhythm: music, songs and action rhymes for toddlers with their parents and carers;
1.30 – 3.30pm: Open Space: We are an informal drop-in for anybody interested in their mental health and wellbeing, as well as families and carers, run in partnership with Suffolk Mind.

Thursday 1st October, 2 - 4pm: New Group! Top Time Social - (first Thursday of the month) Join us for tea, coffee, cake and a chat in a friendly space along with board games, wordsearches, jigsaws and crosswords. A great opportunity to meet new people. Just turn up!

Thursday 8th October, 2 - 4 pm: Book, Banter and Biscuits Book Group – (second Thursday of the month). Open to everyone, They will be discussing 'Hamnet' by Maggie O'Farrell.

Thursday 15th October, 2 - 4pm: Top Time Play Reading – (third Thursday of each month). A group that reads all varieties and genres of plays in a shared format.

Thursday 24th October, 2 - 4pm: Top Time Games Club. Improve your vocabulary and exercise your mind muscles with Scrabble or practice strategy and balance with Dominoes. Tea and coffee are supplied!

Fridays, 9:30 - 10:15am: Stay & Play. A chance for new parents to meet and share experiences in a relaxed environment, gaining peer support; **10.30 - 11.00am: Story Time:** Stories and more for young children accompanied by an adult; **2 - 4pm: Knitting Group:** For all types of knitters from expert to beginners, sewing to crochet, come and share your knowledge or pick up some tips.

Saturday 3rd October, 10am - 2pm: Lego Club for Children - (first Saturday of every month). Come along to this free club and have a go at creating your own Lego masterpiece! Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Book Sale: Please have a browse of our ex-stock books and donated books.

Kate Fawcus
Library & Information Advisor
Woodbridge Library
01394 330855

SUFFOLK DOG DAY SUCCESS!

St Elizabeth Hospice's much-loved Suffolk Dog Day saw hundreds of dogs and their owners, descend upon Trinity Park to celebrate man's best friend and raise vital funds for the independent Suffolk charity.

Suffolk Dog Day featured a range of fun dog classes, dog agility and scurry activities, as well as over 50 stalls full of doggy goodies, Crufts' style competitions, children's entertainment and plenty of food and drink stalls for attendees to enjoy.

Held on 13 September, and with **donations and funds still coming in, Suffolk Dog Day has already raised over £35,000 for St Elizabeth Hospice.**

Hundreds of people attended the event, which celebrated man's best friend. For the first time ever **Best in Show was won by a family of Northern Inuit dogs who also won Happiest Family on the day too.**

The proud owners consisted of Georgina Heap, Tracey Fowler, Mak Harding, Sarah Crookes and Louise Lincoln, whose show winning pooches included Jimmy, Wulf, Mak, Kazue, Phoenix and Arnie.

James Fox-Golding, Events and Challenges Manager at St Elizabeth Hospice, said: *"What a pawsitively perfect day! Suffolk Dog Day is always a joy to host and this year was no exception as we welcomed the community to join with the hospice over our shared loved of our canine companions."*



SUFFOLK SINGERS

Suffolk Singers, the highly acclaimed chamber choir directed by Claire Weston, Head of Singing and Assistant Head of Music at Woodbridge School, will be giving two concerts entitled *'Whispers of Autumn'*, celebrating the shifting seasons with an evocative repertoire of classic and contemporary harmonies.

Firstly, in Stoke-by-Nayland on **Saturday 17th October** at 7.30pm, in the stunning architecture of St Mary's – one of Suffolk's iconic "wool churches" – often captured by John Constable. Then, the following afternoon of **Sunday 18th October** at 3pm the concert will be repeated as part of the Culpho Music season. Held in the tranquil, historic surroundings of St Botolph's church, one of Suffolk's hidden gems, the performance offers the perfect relaxing Sunday afternoon out for local music lovers. Tickets for either concert are £15 (£5 under 16s)

Saturday 17th October 7.30pm St Mary's Church – Stoke-by-Nayland. Tickets available at the door, from WeGotTickets, ticket line – 07843 840876

Sunday 18th October 3pm St Botolph's Church – Culpho. For seat reservations: cmp0601@hotmail.com/07925 251802/ culphomusic.uk



CITIZENS ADVICE EAST

Mediation: a better option than going to court

When a couple decide to divorce or separate, they invariably ask: What are the best arrangements for our children (if any), and how will we divide our money and property? If a couple can't agree, they may feel going to court is their only option. Court proceedings are costly, time-consuming, and can strain relationships between ex-partners. This in turn can have negative impacts on children. Using mediation is often a better option. Mediation is not relationship counselling; it focuses on helping both parties agree on child arrangements and dividing money and property. Mediators are impartial professionals with knowledge of family law and court considerations.

Using mediation to help make child arrangements: When a couple split up, they must decide where their children will live, when each parent sees them, and how to pay for their expenses. The two parties can speak with the Mediator jointly or separately, in person or by phone or video. A Mediator can also talk to any children about what they want, if agreed by both parties and the children themselves. When agreements are reached, the Mediator draws up a document that summarises what has been agreed. This serves as a record for both parties. They need do nothing further. However, to make the agreement legally enforceable, they can instruct a solicitor to draft a 'Consent Order'. This document is then submitted to the court, where it will be reviewed and, if approved, made legally binding. For more details see <https://www.gov.uk/looking-after-children-divorce>

Using mediation to help with dividing money and property:

When divorcing or ending a civil partnership, both sides will need to agree on how to split their finances. Their assets may include pensions, property, savings, and investments, held jointly or separately. Unmarried couples with children need to arrange child maintenance.

A useful resource in deciding about dividing money and property is Money Helper's 'Divorce and Money Calculator'. This gives both parties an overview of their financial situation: what they have, what they owe, and how they might split assets and finances.

<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/family-and-care/divorce-and-separation/divorce-and-money-calculator?source=mas#>
As with child arrangements, the Mediator will talk to both parties and draw up a document showing what they have agreed. They may use this to draft a Consent Order and apply to the court to make their agreement legally binding. For more details see: <https://www.gov.uk/money-property-when-relationship-ends>

Finding a family mediator: To find a local accredited family Mediator see: <https://www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk/find-local-mediator/>

Charges for mediation depend on the time needed and individual circumstances but will be a small sliver compared to the thousands charged if a divorce goes to court. These two websites give useful information on charges, including the government's voucher scheme.

<https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/blog/life-events/how-much-does-a-divorce-cost> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/family-mediation-voucher-scheme>

For help with this or any issue please contact us through our website: www.caes.org.uk/email-service. You can also phone us on 0808 278 7866 (lines open 10-2 Mon-Fri). Our website also gives details of our drop-in outreach sessions and how to make an appointment at one of our offices.

ORFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Another school year has begun and there is already plenty happening at Orford CoE Primary School! Firstly, we are pleased to announce that Morabe Rural Music will be leading our Stay and Play sessions every Wednesday from 9:30–10:30am, offering a great opportunity for young children to explore, play and enjoy our school environment. We welcome families from 0 - 4 to come and join us.

We are also excited to announce that our new EYFS outdoor area is coming soon, providing even more opportunities for our youngest children to learn, explore and play.

Meanwhile, children have been enjoying hands-on learning in our teaching kitchen, recently making delicious pasta Bolognese and chocolate chip cookies while developing valuable cooking and teamwork skills.

There is lots to look forward to as we continue to provide exciting learning opportunities for all our children so please contact the school office to come along and visit. Email: Admin@orfordcvap.org



WOODBRIDGE CRUISING CLUB

The summer cruising season is now over, and the club is moving to onshore winter activities, although members are still sailing locally and abroad when they can. The Walton Pond cruise led by Mark and Clare was the penultimate cruise, and one of the most sociable, all enjoyed the cruise dinner, walks and entertainment. The final Three Rivers cruise led by Graham and Alison was a triumphant end to the official sailing season. The annual cruise dinner held at the Royal Harwich Yacht Club marked the finale of the cruising calendar. For all yacht and motorboat owners cruising in company is one of the best reasons to join the club.

Commodore John organised a day sail, for new members without boats, as a chance to experience the beautiful River Deben and this was a welcome new initiative.



The August Bank Holiday picnic in the pleasant garden of the riverside club house, was one highlight of the summer and members are looking forward to future events, including the more formal laying up supper;



a lovely occasion to meet with other club members and enjoy a delicious three course meal. The autumn programme is now apace, with Thursday walks, Wednesday suppers and Sunday talks, which have a nautical theme, all attracting members to the clubhouse.



The Wednesday maintenance parties started again in September, when willing volunteers enjoy coffee and cake, and undertake essential jobs in the club house.

Other club events include the November AGM, under the auspicious of the Commodore John, when Officers will be elected, reports given and the opportunity for questions.

If you have a genuine interest in sailing and the sea, have a look at our programme of maritime related events on our website at www.woodbridgecruisingclub.org. New members are always welcome.



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We distribute the magazines door to door and to many varied outlets. The next issue will be published on Thursday 2nd November, copy deadline is 14th October - but the earlier the better to ensure inclusion. Contacts/Advertisers/Editorial: Louise Gissing at Leiston Press, Unit 1b Masterlord Industrial Estate, Station Road, Leiston, IP16 4JD

lou@tidecollection.com Tel 01728 833003

Reports, press releases; letters and other editorial contributions with news value are all welcome but are accepted on the understanding that there is no guarantee of inclusion and that they will be selected and edited at the editor's discretion.



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Mon 5th & Tues 6th Oct at 7.00pm
Wed 7th Oct at 2.00pm
Thurs 8th Oct at 7.00pm

**DE GAULLE:
LIBERTE** 15

Wed 7th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 11th Oct at 3.00pm
Wed 14th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 17th Oct at 3.00pm

PRACTICAL MAGIC 2 12A

Fri 9th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 11th Oct at 6.00pm

RUNNER 15

Mon 12th Oct at 2.00pm
Sun 18th Oct at 3.00pm
Wed 21st Oct at 7.15pm

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY PG

Mon 12th & Tues 13th Oct at 7.15pm
Wed 14th Oct at 2.00pm
Thurs 15th Oct at 7.15pm

BAD APPLES 15

Fri 16th & Sat 17th Oct at 7.15pm
Sun 18th Oct at 6.00pm
Mon 19th & Tues 20th Oct at 7.15pm
Wed 21st Oct at 3.00pm
Thurs 22nd Oct at 7.15pm

HEART OF THE BEAST 12A

Fri 23rd, Sat 24th, Tues 27th &
Thurs 29th Oct at 7.15pm

DIGGER 15

Sat 24th Oct at 1.00pm & 3.00pm
Sun 25th Oct at 3.00pm
Mon 26th - Thurs 29th Oct at 2.00pm

**SHAUN THE SHEEP: THE
BEAST OF MOSSY BOTTOM** U

Mon 26th - Fri 30th Oct at 11.30am

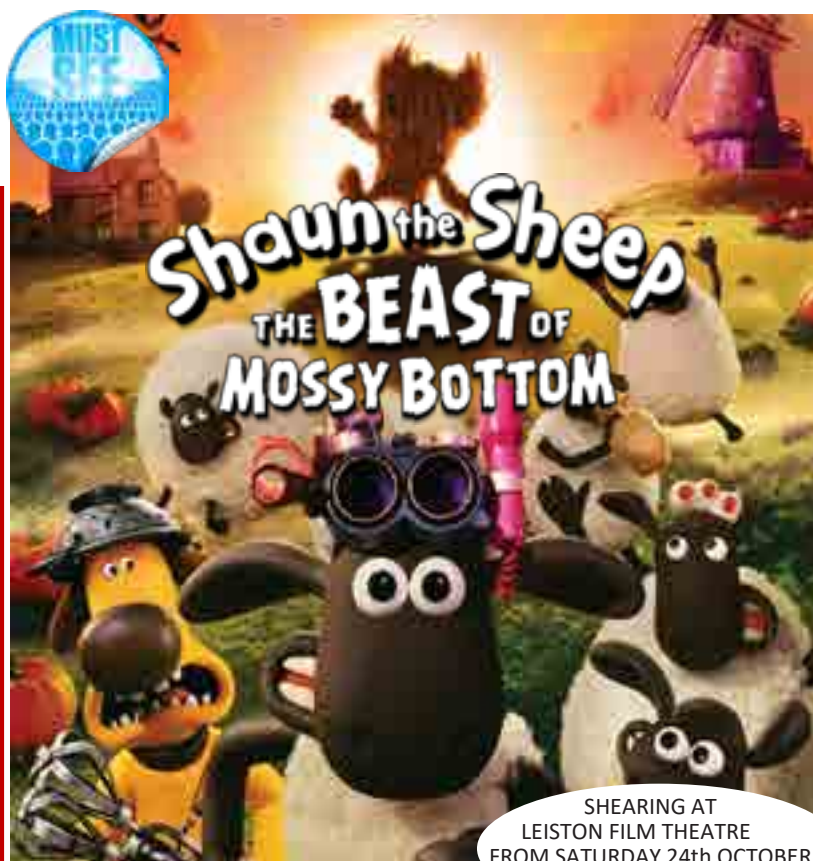
**DISNEY JUNIOR
CINEMA CLUB 2026** U

Sun 25th Oct at 6.00pm
Wed 28th Oct at 7.15pm

PRESSURE 12A

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THE COLDPLAY TRIBUTE

Friday 27th November, 7.30pm
DS:UK ... IN TRIBUTE TO DIRE STRAITS

Saturday 28th November, 7.30pm
HONEY AND THE BEAR

Friday 8th - SUNDAY 10th January 2027
PANTOMIME - SLEEPING BEAUTY

Saturday 16th January 2027, 7.30pm
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