

WALPOLE OLD CHAPEL

*In the care of the Historic Chapels Trust
(Registered charity number 1017321)*

Annual Newsletter 2008



REDECORATION

As everyone who visited last season will know the interior redecoration was finished just in time for the new season and has met with general approval. What was wonderful was that thanks to everybody's generosity and one unexpected and generous gift we were also able to redecorate the exterior at the end of the summer. Walter Dowhan spent over four months inside and outside the chapel last year and his craftsmanship is such that we all hope he will still be in business when we need his services next, though that will be some years ahead.

THANKS

The Friends are grateful to Gerald Herbert who has conserved and reframed the crumbling posters which form the basis for David Holmes' book *An Inglorious Affair*. Also to Gilbert Burroughs and the congregations at the United Reformed Church in Halesworth and in Bramfield for the gift of a number of Congregational hymn books. The Halesworth URC have also given to the chapel a large engraving of the Westminster Assembly of 1644. While it was on display last September as part of the Heritage Open Days exhibition a visitor promised to send us a key with the names of all those portrayed in the engraving, so we now know exactly who was who, and it makes fascinating viewing. We hope to have more information about it on display this season.



'Assertion of Liberty of Conscience by the Independents in the Westminster Assembly of Divines, 1644'

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS



The exhibition held last September as part of the Heritage Open Days was made possible by the generosity of three local charities, the Adnams Charity, the Scarfe Trust and the Alfred Williams Trust.

Thanks to them we were able to offer a comprehensive exhibition showing buildings in the care of the Historic Chapels Trust; that exhibition is now touring other buildings belonging to HCT.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

We are delighted to be welcoming some old friends as well as new ones. The first event on **18th May**, before our official opening, is a concert given by the award winning **Wenhaston Girls Choir**. The concert begins at 2.30 and is to be followed by tea in the garden at Oak Cottage. Tickets at £4.00 (£2.00 concessions) can be bought either at the door or in advance from Anne Thomas or Simon Weeks, on 01986 784348. Proceeds to be shared between the Choir and the Chapel.

One of the highlights of last season was a visit by the Australian based singer/songwriter Emily Maguire. Following her visit, a booking was made by the group **AloneMe** (check them out on www.aloneme.com) who will be performing in the chapel on the **31st of May** together with **Pavlov's Cat**.

THE 2006 PROGRAMME, continued

Those who have heard them before will also be delighted to hear that **Alan Franks** and **Patti Vetta** will be performing on the **14th of June**. Alan's lyrics, sometimes thoughtful, sometimes funny, but always highly intelligent and Patti's great voice are too good to miss.

We are delighted that **Professor Clyde Binfield** has agreed to preach the sermon at the **annual service** on the **22nd June** and that he will give a **lecture** on the **previous evening**. What Clyde Binfield doesn't know about the history of Dissent is not worth knowing and he is an

excellent speaker.

The **Norfolk Gallery Quire** will be giving a **workshop** on **July 5th** for both instrumentalists and singers, so if that is an aspect lacking in your musical experience an application form will be available from the secretary shortly. This will be followed by an evening performance.

Details of these and other events are listed below, but please do check the website or local posters later as there are other events in the pipeline.

18 May*	Wenhaston Girls Choir 2.30 followed by tea in the garden at Oak Cottage.
31 May	AloneMe and Pavlov's Cat 7.30
7/8 June	Walpole Village Open Days 11.00 – 5.30
14 June	Alan Franks & Patti Vetta 7.30
21 June	Lecture, Professor Clyde Binfield 7.30
22 June	Annual Service, preacher Professor Clyde Binfield 3.00
5 July†	Workshop and performance, Norfolk Gallery Quire 2.30 – 5.30 & 7.30
13 September	Suffolk Historic Churches Sponsored Bike Ride 10.00 – 5.00
13/14 Sept	Heritage Open Days Saturday 10.00 – 5.00 Sunday 10.30 – 4.00
21 September	Songs of Praise accompanied by the Waveney Valley Brass 3.00
20 December	Carols & Readings for Christmas 3.00

* Tickets £4.00, £2.00 concessions, available at the door or in advance from Anne Thomas or Simon Weeks on 01986 784348.

† Advance booking required for the workshop. Cost of workshop £6.00, workshop and performance £8.00, performance only £5.00.

A pre-booked buffet supper can also be ordered for those attending both events at the cost of £6.50 (though of course you can bring a picnic).

OPENING TIMES

The chapel will be open as usual and a guide will be on duty to show visitors around on Saturday afternoons from **May 24th until September 13th, 2.00 to 4.30**. To visit at any other time either individually or for a group or to book the chapel for an event please contact the secretary:

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Walpole Old Chapel is in the care of the
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Three committee members of the Friends of Walpole Old Chapel, Gilbert Burroughes, Jeremy Henry (Treasurer) and Mary Henry, enjoying a drink at the private view of the Heritage Open Days' exhibition. They stand in front of a collage of the chapel by the late Jack Penton, given by his widow Honor.