

Number 72

October 2011

Village Voice

The Dersingham Magazine



Dersingham Heritage photo competition winner - Bob Tipling



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Editor's Notes

Doesn't the St Nicholas Church Hall look better for it's recent paint up. OK it's not the greatest building in the village, but it is a hundred years old and you could look a bit shabby at that age. Lets hope the inside gets the treatment as well.

I know that some of the entries in the "Diary of regular events" are wrong so please let me know if the ones you are involved with need updating. I hope these pages are useful, but if they are wrong the usefulness evaporates.



David Watts has sent me this picture of football practice in the early sixties. From left to right he names Alan Lincoln, Bruce Sadler and Mick Collison with Archie Reed in the front. I note that the sun was shining, things were different in those days.

I am always pleased to receive letters from our readers. Normally they are just a few lines and are to be found in "Dear Village Voice". But for this issue Martin Skerrit has produced such a lengthy epistle that I have given it a double page spread inside the magazine. I am not complaining, in fact if it inspires

anyone else to put pen to paper or finger/s to keyboard well jolly good.

The 'big open space' on Sandringham View, that was the subject of our naming competition and is still being handed over to the parish by the borough - legal niceties are delaying this - has a name. The judges had quite a few suggestions to choose from but there was a majority view that "The Warren" should be the winner. I guess that the huge rabbit population might have swayed their judgement.

If you heard a loud pop one Thursday afternoon a couple of weeks ago you may like to know that was the last article being squeezed into place in VV. It's amazing just how much interesting copy comes for each edition. I now get borough councillors coming up to me having seen a VV asking if it's difficult getting articles to fill these pages. "Quite the reverse" I tell them. It comes pouring in not that I am anything other than grateful. They are quite jealous especially when I point out that it is entirely self supporting. There are a few tricks that mean it all fits together quite nicely without lots of white space, but in the main I usually finish with the pop!

So this time we have the usual mix of history, reports, coming events, stories and this time rather more pictures of me than is usual, but don't let that put you off. Don't forget that the next issue is the one that covers C*****s and the N*w Y**r so get your events and seasonal ad's in to the office in good time.

Finally our cover picture competition was rather poorly supported which is a shame as I am sure that lots of you have cameras but we do have a winner in bob Tipling. As before our judges only get to see the pictures and have no idea who the photographer is, all in the name of fairness. Bob's picture of the house in Chapel Road was voted for, two to one, with Steve Davis as runner up. □

Tony Bubb

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Dear Village Voice



In May I advertised for an accompanist for our choir The West Norfolk Singers and I am delighted to say that a reader of the Hunstanton Newsletter has come to the rescue.

William Moss lives in Hunstanton and is currently organist at Long Sutton Parish Church. He studied music at The Royal Academy of Music in London. From 1990 to 2004, William was Head of Music at City of Ely and Downham Market Colleges. With Nigel Wickens, our Musical Director, who is an accomplished professional singer and also teaches singing at Peterhouse, Cambridge, I feel that the future of the choir is very positive.

If you enjoy singing and are looking for something to do with the winter approaching, why not come along to one of our rehearsals. We are a mixed voice choir and sing both religious and secular music. No auditions are necessary but the ability to read music is beneficial.

The choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 19.30 to 21.00 at Heacham Methodist Church and rehearsals will commence on August 31st 2011. We are a friendly choir and would welcome some additional voices as we start our new adventure with Nigel and William.

Many members of the choir (including myself) live in Dersingham, so transport from the village is available. If you would like any further information, please contact me on 01485 542960.

Heather Titcomb (Chair)

I have been informed that Dog Waste Bins will be installed at the 'recreational land' by the Sandringham View Estate. Currently the most apt name for this land would be 'PooLand' and the Council are living in Cloud Cuckoo Land if they think the installation of bins alone will solve the problem of the land being used as a dogs lavatory.

It is possible, but not probable, that the Bins will be used by those dog owners who bag up their dogs poo but then throw the bags into the bushes or just leave them lying around. This will leave a hardcore of dog owners that take dogs to the field specifically to excrete and have no intention of clearing it up. I heard one such dog owner declare that this was what the field was for and dog owners brought their dogs to the field because they did not have to pick up after them !

Luton Council declared a period of Zero tolerance against dog mess. I do not know the details of how they enforced it but they solved the problem. Appointment of 'Enforcers' or 'Wardens' is an essential adjunct to the Waste Bins and let it be made clear that such measures to ensure the law is not broken is NOT snooping. We do not call our Community Police snoopers - and there is no point in having laws if they are disregarded and nothing is done about it.

A responsible dog owner. (name & address supplied)

I avidly read the issues and enjoy most of the articles and compliment you on a job WELL DONE

We moved to the village 18 months ago and we are fully settled in and joining various groups. However when I read the articles concerning the various businesses and names of places i.e. so and so corner or garage or even try to match with the old pictures I am lost. It would be wonderful if a map of Dersingham could be shown with all these places marked and possibly people from the past.

Any volunteers? Ed.

Bill McLaughlin

We have just come back from camping in Norfolk but dropped into your excellent butchers near the doctors surgery. It is there that we picked up your excellent magazine which left me wondering how you manage to do it. No doubt hard work comes into it.

After watching the events on TV this past week we could all do with a return to the community. Well done and keep it going.

It's jut a few scraps thrown together. Ed.

J. Nunn



In the last issue you published a photo of the view looking down Manor Road from the junction with Lynn Road. You pointed out that the shop that used to stand on the left has now gone. The photo I have sent shows Hannah Senter standing outside that very shop. Cadbury's chocolate seems to have been very popular. I was told that Hannah Senter was also a milliner. A little further down from Hannah's shop was a Blacksmith's shop that was once worked by a Mr. Blowers. There is still a name plate there to record the fact. Many villagers will remember it I'm sure.

Elizabeth Fiddick

Were you there when the circus came to Dersingham? I cannot remember the year exactly but it would be in the 1940s before I did my national service.

The big top was erected in the area that is now Bush Close. Then it was a large open field. Access was through the car park of Jannochs Court where Gamekeepers Lodge was and the houses now stand.

Before the performance one of the circus hands came over to where my friends and I were sitting and asked if we would be prepared to help putting things away after the performance. We would get paid, that could not be bad.

When the performance ended we were called. Step forward all those on the payroll. We were hired hands at a circus. Wow!

We rolled up the wall sections as they were taken down. When we had finished the circus guy said as there were too many of us to pay individually he would throw a handful of money in the air for us to collect.

I think it was mainly brown coins that fell into fairly long green grass.

Geoff Toop

Are there any pictures out there? Ed.

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BELONG TO YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CHOIR

Autumn approaches and Snettisham Community Choir welcomes new singers of all ages and abilities. Meeting on Wednesdays 10am – 12pm in Snettisham Village Memorial Hall. The Choir opens its doors for a new 12-week term starting on 7th September. Snettisham Community Choir is available to everyone even if they have never sung before and are less than confident about their singing abilities.

Musical Director and Natural Voice Practitioner Carol O'Neill's approach is sensitive and patient. Her sessions are light-hearted and always begin with a short, guided relaxation to settle the body and mind. After that you are guided through a series of warm-ups to encourage healthy and effective singing practise. The songs are taught aurally and there is great encouragement in the art of listening and being present. You don't ever have to sing alone unless you choose to. Emphasis is placed on exploration of posture, breathing, range, resonance and harmony to nurture mind, body and spirit. The songs, which are sung mainly without instruments, are from different genres and backgrounds, including Folk, Doo-wop, African, Sea Shanties, Gospel, Medieval and more. So that you know what you are getting, here is Carol's story. She was born into a large Scots family with a father who loved to sing. He encouraged his children to listen to an eclectic mix of Traditional Folk, Country & Western, Rogers & Hammerstein, the Great Tenors and Classical music. With no formal music training Carol's instinctive urge to make song led her to follow a life-long passion. From the age of nine she remembers experimenting with sound and listening out for harmony. She became sustained by the tenderness and passion of song in its raw state. She discovered that music needs no education, only an affinity with the natural rhythms of life. In the 1970's, inspired by Joni Mitchell and Simon & Garfunkel Carol learned to play the guitar in the wake of the great folk revival. For many years she performed as a solo singer-songwriter singing Folk & Country music as well as her own self-penned songs, touring widely with her guitar, whistles and bodhran. Eventually she began teaching groups for Adult Education and the WEA.

Carol taught herself to read music, which gets her by, though her heart lies in the aural tradition of teaching and learning. She trained with Access To Music and gained a qualification from the Open College Network as well as a City & Guilds NVQ in teaching adults. Discovering that working with groups was a whole new ball game she spent 3 years training in person-centred, psychodynamic counselling and gained her diploma in 2001.

In the past few years Carol has also founded Swaffham and Fakenham community choirs who

she currently directs. With 17 years experience she is used to training choirs for the fun and exhilaration of performance. There are a number of spaces available for those who are keen to join the choir.



Telephone
Carol O'Neill on
01328 838316 or email
carolone@homecall.co.uk
to find out more.□

The Taylor Bedmobile of Sedgeford by Tony Beadle

About a year ago we had an enquiry from Tony for information which would help him with a new book, well here it is. Ed.

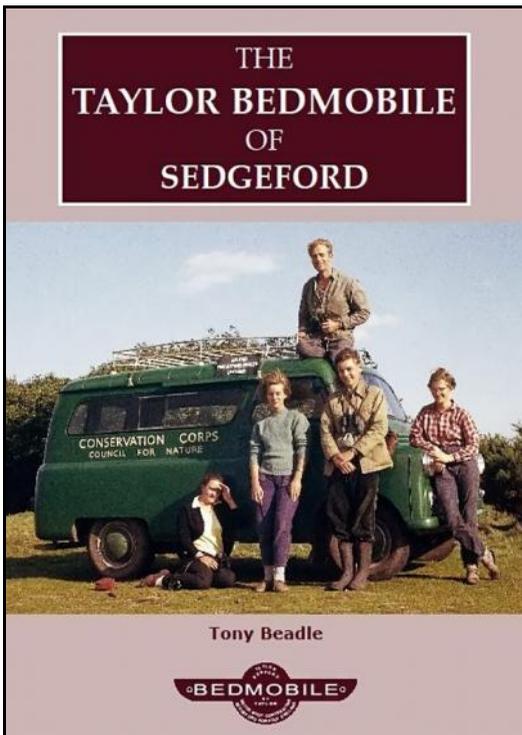
This fascinating book was launched at Sedgeford fete on 6th August and it describes an overlooked aspect of motoring and local history during the late 1950s and early 1960s. Thanks to more than two years of diligent research by its author, Tony Beadle. It contains the reminiscences of former employees and village residents who were involved in the production of more than 1,000 motorised caravans in Sedgeford during that time.

In 1954, when Gerald Taylor was faced with the problem of providing transportation for his wife and five children, he came up with an inventive solution. Purchasing a basic 10 cwt Bedford CA van he added side windows and the extra seats needed to accommodate his family. What set him apart from all the other amateur vehicle builders of this period was that, less than a year after his first van was finished, a company called Taylor Body Conversions was in business producing two

or three motor caravans a week and advertising in the national motoring press.

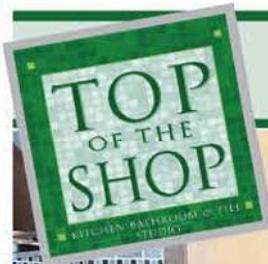
There was a boom in demand for motor caravans during the late 1950s and early 1960s and the firm expanded; new workshops were instructed and output increased to 5 or 6 vehicles a week at its peak. A range of 11 Bedmobile models was produced using Bedford, Ford, BMC and Commer vans. Taylor Motor Bodies Ltd was incorporated in 1964. Sadly, at the early age of 55, Gerald Taylor died of lung cancer in June 1968 and the company was then closed down.

The book is published in paperback and has 48 pages with over 40 illustrations. It is published by Panic Button Press, 55 Howletts Lane, Ruislip, Middx, HA4 7SA. Tel. 01895 630892. Email tonybeadle@gmail.com. Price £8.95 plus 95p post and packing. Cheques should be made payable to T. Beadle, or go to the website www.bigbadbeadle.com and order by Paypal. □



Gay Watt

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|--------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 |
| 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 9 |
| 4 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
| 3 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 2 |
| 6 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 7 |
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| 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 3 |



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New Parish Councillors

Gareth Hancock: I am 33 years old and recently married Yolander Wright. I was born in Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, Then I moved to Bedford, Bedfordshire, with my parents. I then moved to Dersingham in March 2009, to live with my partner (now wife).

I am a family man, putting friends and family first, but am a good listener, when people need to talk about things.

I am a qualified motor vehicle technician, working from cars up to lorries and buses. I have been in the motor trade since I left school at the age of 16. I had an interest in cars from an early age, as I helped my dad with the family car, before the days of electronics.

I was involved in Scouting from the age of 6 up to the age of 30, I was also an Archery, .177 rifle shooting, climbing and abseiling instructor for Scouting. I now help my wife with her Guide Unit as and when required.

My hobbies are mountain biking, walking/ hiking, formula one, speedway and looking after our pets.



Ivan Steel: I was born in Watford in Hertfordshire in 1949, that makes me a young 62 year old. I am a Mechanical Design Engineer working in the Water Industry, currently working for Anglian Water.

My parents lived in London, but we moved to Watford when I was young. Being brought up in a suburb of London, I am now enjoying living in the country and the close knitted community life.

My wife and I moved to Dersingham in 2000 and we have spent many a happy hour improving our house. We have two sons one living in Florida and one in Leighton Buzzard, both of whom enjoy visiting regularly.

I decided to join the Parish Council to try to improve the already good village life and improve the local environment.

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Green Tomato Recipes
from the Bluebell Cottage Kitchen
by Lindsey Davis

Last year I had so many green tomatoes that I couldn't possibly make them all into chutney so needed some new recipes. Here are some you may find useful if you have the same problem.

Green Tomato Soup

*1oz (25g) butter or margarine, 1lb (450g) green tomatoes, sliced
8oz (225g) potatoes, peeled and sliced, 1 onion, chopped
1.2 litres (2 pints) stock or water, ¼ tsp dried sage
salt & pepper, ½ pt (300ml) milk*

1. Melt fat in large saucepan and fry tomatoes, potatoes and onion until softened
2. Add stock or water, sage, salt & pepper and bring to the boil
3. Simmer for 30 mins – until vegetables are very tender
4. Whizz soup with hand blender or liquidise
5. Stir in milk and reheat but do not boil

4 generous servings



Fried Green Tomatoes

*3 large firm tomatoes, 4oz (125g) plain flour, 4
oz (125g) breadcrumbs
1/8 pt milk, 2 eggs beaten, salt & pepper,
olive oil*

1. Cut tomatoes into ½ inch thick slices, sprinkle with salt & pepper and leave to stand for 15 mins
2. Place flour, milk, eggs & breadcrumbs in separate shallow dishes.
3. Heat 2 tbs olive oil in pan or medium heat
4. Dip tomato slices in milk, then flour, then eggs, then breadcrumbs. Fry in hot oil a few at a time for about 5 mins each side, until brown.

Could give 3 servings!

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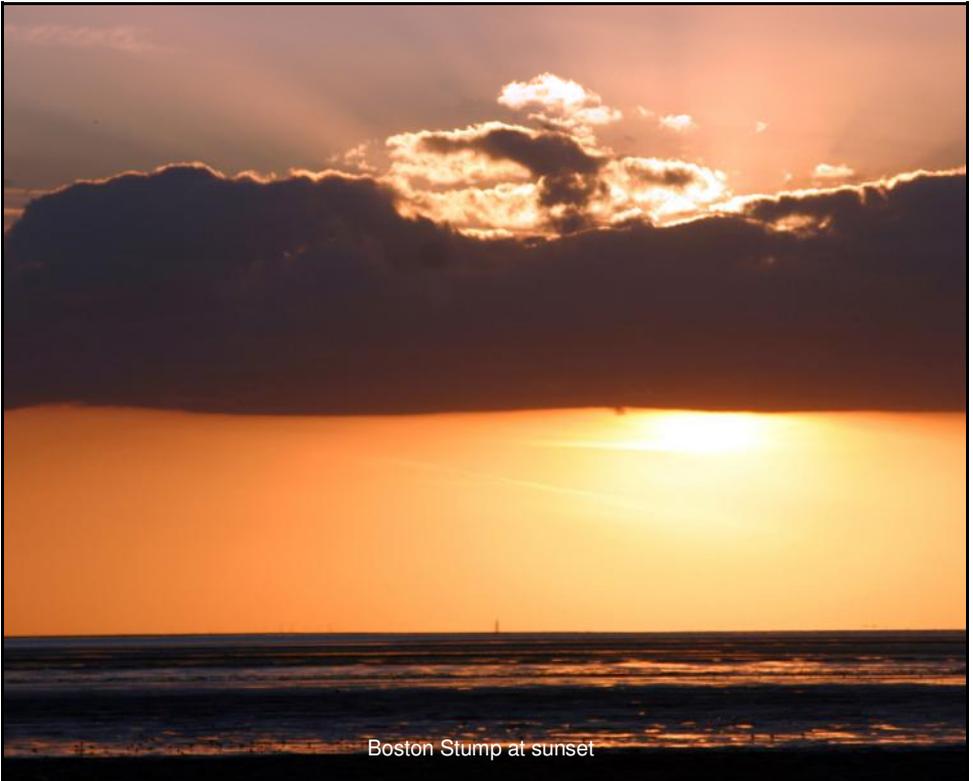
Dick Melton

About 25 years ago there was an article in the *Eastern Daily Press* asking their readers as to what they thought was the best views in Norfolk. I wrote in to say one of the best views was from the road that leads to the Old Mill at the top of Fern Hill: you could see right across to Bircham in the east, Kings Lynn to the south,

Hunstanton to the north; and if you look to the west you could and still can see right across The Wash to Lincolnshire. This view came in the top ten. There is still a good view from this spot though a lot of the trees have grown up to restrict the views to the north, east and south, but there is still a very good view to the west over The Wash.

One thing that always stands out is Boston Stump. This is the tower of St Botolph's church that stands right in the middle of Boston, about 16 miles away. There was a monastery on this site in 654 but the present church was built in 1309. Some people say that there should have been a spire on it like Snettisham Church but it was never built. At one time there was an iron basket on the top where a light would be lit to show the ships the way into port. There are 365 steps to the top of the tower, one for every day of the year; there are 12 pillars supporting the roof, equal to the months of the year; 7 doors for the days of the week; and 52 windows for the weeks of the year. So the church is just like a calendar in stone.

The land around being so flat, it can be seen from many miles away; the length of the church is 282 feet, it is 100 feet wide and the height of the tower to the top of the weather vane is 272 feet. Standing where it is beside the river and not far from the sea it has been flooded many times; on Wednesday the 11th of January 1978 it was flooded throughout to a depth of 18 inches. There is always plenty to see across The Wash and, if you happen to be up the top of Fern Hill on a very clear night, you might see the Belmont television transmitter aerial that is about 70 miles away to the



Boston Stump at sunset

north west of Lincoln. It is lit up with bright red lights and stands about 1,000 feet high; I have often seen it from the promenade at Hunstanton on a clear night.

So there if you fancy a nice walk on a Sunday afternoon, after you have a good roast dinner, walk up Fern Hill as far as the Old Mill house and have a good look out over The Wash.

The Fen fire

I was very interested in the pictures and write-up in the August Village Voice that Tony Bubb put in about the last ten years of Dersingham Fen between the bypass and the old A149; as I have said many times over the last few years that I have been writing in the Village Voice, the best way to control the growth of trees, ferns and grass on the Fen and the Warren at Wolferton is to control burn it in the autumn time. The pictures and write-up from Tony confirm this. As to the nightjars, it will not harm them or their habitat, as there is plenty of food for them on the cranberry area of the Fen and Wolferton Warren. It is a shame about the boardwalk but that can be mended and I am sure that Mother Nature will look after the rest.

The Emblems

Now just a little bit about The Emblems. It has come to my attention that in or around 1970 the Dersingham Parish Council had the chance to take on this area of land as an amenity area but they turned it down. If they had taken it on the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) at Bircham would have cleaned the pond and cleared the surrounding area as a training project. This is a great pity as the village has also lost 50 acres of fen to English Nature; this is about 100 acres of land that the people of Dersingham have lost out on.

The Flower Show

I went to the 130th Sandringham Flower Show on the 27th of July. This is the first time I had been for many years though I worked on it when I was with Brooke and Brooke caterers at Hunstanton. When we were at school we never broke up for the harvest holidays until the last Friday in July, so with the Flower Show always on the last Wednesday we would get a day off and free tickets for the Show. There would be a marquee where all the children from the estate schools would exhibit their handicrafts and win prizes; there was not all the side stalls that there is now but there has always been the flower marquees and, of course, the cricket match. We would nip up the showground in the morning to see if we had won anything then we would go to a harvest field in the afternoon to catch some rabbits.

Them old shops

Now then those pictures of the old shops in the last Village Voice. The shop on page three was situated on the corner of Chapel Road and Post Office Road. According to my Kelly's Directory of 1925 it was owned by a Mrs Rebecca Reynolds as a general store. The Reynolds family also had other businesses in the village including a coal yard, a hairdresser's and a nursery next to the shop in Post Office Road.

The other shop pictured on page nineteen belonged to Mrs Leah Senter who is down in Kelly's as a confectioner. There was also a boot repairer's in Manor Road run by Ernest Senter and Martin Senter; this is the reason this road junction is known as Senters Corner. Lots of gardens had flagpoles in those days but the pole on the left is not a flagpole as it held the sign for the Albert Victor public house.

My grandfather, William Melton, had a shop down Manor Road right opposite the turning for Brooke Road where he sold paraffin, candles and hardware items. When the Senters' shop closed down, my great uncle Tom Drew built a shop in Lynn Road two doors up from The Drift; this was a general store and over the years was run by Mr Whisker, Mr Mason, Mr Pullen and Mr Binder.

In 1925 there was over thirty shops in the village and only 1,412 people living there. Nowadays there is less than twenty shops and around about 5,000 people. There were also six pubs in 1925. That's all for now.□

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CAROLE BROWN HEALTH CENTRE (CBHC) PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) NEWS

From: Tom Morris, PPG Committee

Annual General Meeting. The meeting was well attended with patients, management and medical staff represented. Since there were no nominations – or volunteers – to assume any of the PPG offices, the Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer and committee members agreed to continue in office for a further year.

They are:

Chairman; Mrs Vanessa Blythe

Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs Dee Morris, 24 Tudor Way, Dersingham PE31 6LX

Committee Members: Barry Judd, Jackie Sisson, Ted Overall, Wanda Thomson, Louise Rushden, Tom Morris, Sandy Hyams

The Executive Manager of the Practice (Graham Dickerson) and the Practice Manager (Ana Weston) updated attendees on changes in and additions/improvements to the services provided to patients. These included the new telephone service, an improved website with the Carole Brown Health Centre having its own pages (<http://www.vidahealthcare.nhs.uk/>) and the additional facilities for making appointments at any hour of the day or night. Patients also can now register for an e-mailed version of the Practice Newsletter.

The Executive Manager thanked the PPG for its contribution to enhancing the facilities for patients at the Carole Brown Health Centre. Prior to the AGM, there was a short ceremony when a set of additional doors to the surgery were officially opened by the PPG Chairman. (See picture below). Early-bird patients will now be afforded shelter in the entrance lobby up to 10 minutes before official opening times for the surgery thanks to these PPG-fully-funded doors. An additional state-of-the-art ECG machine for heart monitoring was also donated by the PPG and pictured below are two young prospective GPs preparing to hand it over to the CBHC. □





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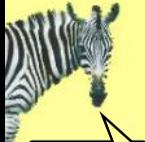
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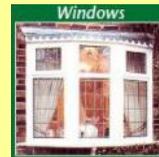
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Old Picture Corner - then and now

Hardly moving location from last times picture comparison, we are looking north this time with a view taken after 1970, judging by the typeface on the police sign (now absent). All these older views show how bare the village was, although we are still disfigured by lots of overhead wires.

New street lamps now grace the scene. Gone is the Dun Cow, replaced by Budgens, where you can still buy a drink but where you are less likely to be involved in a brawl than in days past.

If you have any old pictures that are suitable for this page do get in touch.



DERSINGHAM WALKING GROUP

Good weather was enjoyed for all the walks in July and August although the ominous clouds deterred some from joining Lindsey and Steve on their walk across Roydon Common on 10th August. In July all three walks were well attended with 16 on Pat's walk at Massingham and 19 on Christine and Geoff's around Syderstone.

Perhaps the highlight of the month was the walk around the nature reserve. One of the 22 who took part wrote:



"A guided walk around Dersingham Bog National Nature Reserve led by Ash Murray (Warden) with a hope to hear the Nightjars and see the glow-worms was what the programme promised. Although it disappointed in one respect (the glow-worms proving somewhat shy when confronted with 22 walkers and two representatives of Natural England (or was it that they had already happily mated? K.S.)), the Nightjars exceeded our expectations. Not only did we hear their distinctive, sustained churring song but we actually saw them, fleeting glimpses at first but, as we made our way to the exit, they began to fly over our heads. With

the additional detailed insights into the plant and insect life of the bog provided by Ash, it proved a very successful evening walk and, fortunately, many had anticipated finishing in total darkness by bringing a torch with them - although this did not prevent one from trying to demolish a road sign by hitting it with his head!"

Looking to the future, the leaders have agreed to lead nine walks over the winter, one on a Thursday, two on Sundays and the rest on Wednesdays. Details of those over the next two months are:

THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER

Start at 2.00pm from Ringstead Village Hall (map ref.L132/708 403) (parking £1 per car). A 5 mile circular walk around Old Hunstanton Park and Ringstead Downs led by Lindsey and Steve Davis (543138).

WEDNESDAY 12 OCTOBER

Start at 2.00pm from the car park on the right of Grimston Road about 0.75 miles from Knights Hill roundabout (map ref.L132/681 230). A 4.5 mile circular walk around Roydon Common and Bawsey led by Elizabeth Fiddick (540940).

SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER

Start at 2.00pm from Sandringham Visitor Centre (map ref.L1 32/689 287). A 4 mile circular walk around Sandringham Sculpture Trail and Country Park led by Steve Martyn (07879 885516).

WEDNESDAY 9 NOVEMBER

Start at 1.30pm from Snettisham Church (map ref. LI32/691 343). A 4.5 mile circular walk around Snettisham and Sedgford led by Pat Reed (540757).

There is **NO CHARGE** for these walks: just turn up on the day (wearing suitable clothing and sturdy footwear). **WELL-BEHAVED** dogs are welcome provided they stay at the rear of the group.

The leaders are happy to organise and lead these walks but stress that each participant must appreciate that there are hazards associated with walking and take responsibility for their own safety.

Should you have a problem with transport to the starting point, if you let me know a few days before the walk, I will see whether a lift can be arranged. If you would like more information please contact me or the walk leader.□

Keith Starks



NHS Summary Care Record – Your emergency care summary

The NHS is introducing a new electronic record called the Summary Care Record (SCR), which will be used to support your emergency care.

About Summary Care Records

The SCR will give healthcare staff faster, easier access to essential information about you, to help provide you with safe treatment when you need care in an emergency or when your GP practice is closed.

A SCR will contain important information about any medicines you are taking, allergies you suffer from and any bad reactions to medicine that you have had.

What are my choices?

If you choose to have a SCR, you do not need to do anything.

If you choose not to have a SCR, you need to let your GP practice know by filling in and returning an opt-out form. You can obtain an opt out form from your surgery or by contacting the Summary Care Record Information Line on 0300 123 3020.

Whatever you choose - you can change your mind at anytime. You will need to let your GP practice know.

Children and the Summary Care Record

Children under 16 will automatically get a SCR created for them unless a parent or guardian decides to 'opt out' on their behalf.

Where can I get more information?

- Phone the Summary Care Record Information Line on 0300 123 3020;
- Visit www.nhscarerecords.nhs.uk ; or
- Contact NHS Norfolk Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Monday - Friday from 9am to 5pm, on 0800 587 4132 or email pals@norfolk.nhs.uk.

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The Sandringham Newsletter

*by kind permission of the Sandringham Estate
compiled by Helen Walch*

Harvesting has begun on both the Farm and the Fruit Farm. All the crops have suffered because of the exceptionally dry spring – no rain was recorded between the end of February and the end of May and yield so far is poor for both peas and blackcurrants.

The main event of July at Sandringham is always the Sandringham Flower Show, which took place on 27th July on a cool and cloudy day. The vegetable, fruit and flower competitions, the display gardens and the many and varied trade stands were all popular, and we were privileged once again to welcome His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall to the Show. Their Royal Highnesses and their guests saw the competition entries and nurserymen's plant displays in the Royal Marquees before undertaking a walkabout, stopping at several stands en route.

The Flower Show arena entertainments this year included an extraordinary display by the Imps Motorcycle team, some of them as young as 5 years old, as well as the Minden Band of The Queen's Division, and we were also delighted to welcome back our very knowledgeable and entertaining garden judges and speakers Chris Beardshaw, Alan Mason, Terry Walton and Martyn Davey. The Flower Show is organised and run completely by volunteers from around the Estate, with help from local suppliers and contractors; at least one of the companies involved has been supplying marquees and furniture for the Show ever since the very first one took place in 1866.

Now that this year's Show is over, plans have already begun for next year's, which will take place on Wednesday 25th July 2012.

Once the Showground had been cleared and tidied, work began to get the Park ready for the Art & Craft Fair that was held in mid August and the Game & Country Fair on 10th and 11th of September; after that, the next event was the cycling Tour of Britain, which had the final of its Norfolk stage at the Visitor Centre on Saturday 17th September.

Apple-picking started at the Royal Fruit farm in August, with pickers working on the early varieties like Discovery. Pick Your Own started at the orchards in early September with Laxton's Fortune apples, followed by Cox and Bramleys. The arable harvest achieved some mixed results. Crops grown on lighter sandier soils suffered particularly badly from the very dry spring and yields here were low. In addition, some crops put on secondary growth after the rain eventually arrived so that, while the tops were ready for harvesting, the secondary growth was not, which made things more complicated for farm staff.



It had been hoped that the severe winter would have slowed the spread of horse chestnut leaf miners which, together with canker, are damaging and eventually killing horse chestnuts across the country. Sadly, the signs of infestation are all too clear on many trees around the Estate and it looks as if more will have to be felled.

Gardeners had to continue to use sprinklers throughout August, particularly in the Woodland Walk which is always drier than the rest of the gardens because of the almost continuous tree canopy there. They have also been clipping the yew hedges at the front of the House and the box hedges in the North Garden. A student working in the gardens department as part of the Historic and Botanic Garden Bursary Scheme designed and built a display garden at the Sandringham Flower Show and was delighted when it was judged Best in Show. The garden was called "Through the Gate", and she said it "aimed to capture the mystery and intrigue many people feel when they catch the first glimpse of a private garden through the gate". □

Coastal Stroke Group

A new stroke support group has been set up in Hunstanton. It meets fortnightly on Tuesdays 10.30 till 12.30 at Hunstanton Methodist Church, on the corner of Austin Street. It is usually the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month but there are some exceptions, when there is a 5 week month!

We have a very full programme which includes talks from a Speech and language therapist, dietician, a speaker from REMAP, which is a charity who designs one off aids or adaptations that are not available commercially. We also have a watercolour painting and an exercise session and much more.

We welcome anybody who is affected by stroke, whether they have had a stroke themselves or are the carer or relative of somebody affected. It is a chance to meet others and get support and also to gain information and enjoy other activities that they may not normally get the chance to do. It is quite small at the moment with only 9 or 10 members but we are hoping it will continue to grow. The group's programme is planned from the member's requests, any subjects of interest we will be happy to try to accommodate.

The first session is free; it then costs just £1 per person, which includes a hot drink!
For further information, a list of dates and details of the programme please contact Gemma Smith, communication and long term support co-ordinator for The Stroke Association on 01366 377803
gemma.smith@stroke.org.uk □

Programme

27 September - Dietician talk

11 October - Guide Dog Talk

25 October - Guide Watercolour session (tbc)

8 November - REMAP

22 November - Katherine, Speech and Language therapist

6 December - Lace making Talk and demo (tbc)

20 December - Christmas lunch



NICHOLAS GODFREY-COLE

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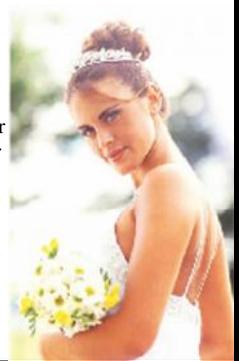
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Carpet Bowls Club

Dersingham Carpet Bowls Club staged a Tournament in June at St Georges School. Fifteen teams from Norfolk and Cambridgeshire competed for the Charity Rose Bowl. The final was between Norman Cross and Ramsey, Ramsey being the eventual winners.

The charity supported this year was Dersingham First Responders. We try to run a tournament every year. In previous years proceeds have been presented to Scouts and Guides, St Georges School, The Horse Sanctuary, Community Cars and Queen Elizabeth Hospital Baby Unit.

Members of Dersingham Carpet Bowls Club chose this years charity.

Chairperson Sue Eastmure presented Yvonne Fuller representing The Dersingham First Responders with a cheque for £250.00.□



Kidz Klub Dersingham starts up again after the summer !



Are you aged 5 years – 11 years ? Enjoy games, crafts, story, challenges, and more ? Then come and join us ! We are a group of volunteers from St Nicholas' Church offering you an action-packed two hours. It's on :-

- Saturday 8th October,
- Saturday 12th November, and
- Saturday 10th December



at 10am – 12 noon in the Church Hall, Manor Road, Dersingham. We meet every month on the second Saturday of the month.

Contact : Alan to find out more, tel. 543836,
or email : alanandjunec@tiscali.co.uk



The Property Market

One in our occasional series of articles written by one of our local estate agents



Here at our agency we are pleased to say that we are finding a much stronger market now than we have for some years when the market along with the general economy has been very depressed and on average we have seen house values fall by some 20%. There is little evidence of a general improvement in the economy at present and although the demand for property had undoubtedly increased we are not yet seeing any improvement in values and it may be some time before the economy improves and prices increase. Potential buyers appreciate that to a great extent it is a buyers market now and are negotiating very hard on prices and indeed if properties are marketed at figures substantially in excess of their true value buyers will show no interest. Whilst there is a demand for all types of property we have noted that properties in need of some tender loving care or indeed greater improvement do create considerable interest. Many buyers are preferring properties that they need to spend time and money on as they would rather install new kitchens and bathrooms and decorate to their own choice rather than purchase properties in well appointed order but where fixtures and fittings are not to their liking.

We are noting that there is a reduction in newly built properties becoming available as there seems to be less building land and plots available on the market, partly due to the expense of obtaining Planning Permission* and partly as the value of plots and land has fallen in line with properties, potential vendors are not exploring the possibility of obtaining Planning Permission on land and are not prepared to sell at the lower figures. Building costs continue to escalate and both the cost of materials and infrastructure having greatly increased whilst at the same time the value of the completed property has fallen thus builders and developers are finding that it is in many cases not an economic prospect to develop. There is much talk within parliament that planning procedure is to be eased which may cause more land to become available which in turn will reduce the cost of purchasing and may lead to more new home development. The experts tell us that we are not building sufficient new homes at present but there is little encouragement for developers to do so.

There remains a difficulty in the market for the First Time Buyer to achieve the first rung of the ladder principally because of the reluctance of Building Societies and Banks to make available finance. Many financial sources are asking for substantial deposits which First Time Buyers cannot raise. This has led to many young couples who previously would have been looking to purchase to now rent and this leads me on to the letting market where we are finding a very strong demand to rent all types of property from good quality tenants – who previously would have been house owners. We have seen a continuing demand for properties in the “buy to let” market where landlords can secure a much better return on their investment than is obtainable through Banks and Building Societies with their one or two per cent interest rate. Within the letting market it has become very noticeable that tenants demand good quality accommodation and Landlords must maintain properties at a high level in order to let and re-let and indeed if they allow their properties to become “run down” it is very difficult indeed to secure tenants.

What will happen to the property market during the next year or two – Watch This Space!!

* The borough council, as one of its endeavours to reduce expenditure, is requiring that the planning department is as self funding as possible - hence the greater expense. Ed.

Calling all Dersingham Artists – join an Art Trail

If you are one of the considerable number of villagers who are painters, sculptors, potters or other visual artists, you may be interested in an opportunity to make your studio or workspace part of a Dersingham Art Trail, under the umbrella of the Norfolk Open Studios scheme, in May 2012.



As a local artist originally based in Heacham but now living and working in Dersingham, I have taken part in Norfolk Open Studios on several occasions and I know that some of you have done so too. Open Studios is a great way for people to see and appreciate your work, chat to a real live artist, and maybe buy something too! Over the years I've met many interested and appreciative art-lovers, and generally found the experience of taking part in the scheme a rewarding one on all levels.

The power of Open Studios is multiplied hugely when a group of local artists forms a cluster of studios, so that visitors can follow an Art Trail round a variety of venues within the village. Art Trails are given special publicity in the Norfolk Open Studios brochure, and it's far more attractive to visitors if they can spend a pleasant few hours wandering on foot from one arts location to another.

I invite you all to join me in participating in a Dersingham Art Trail next year. I am quite prepared to undertake the co-ordination and local publicity of the Trail, and in return you will have to join the Open Studios scheme, which is administered by the Norfolk and Norwich Festival, and commit to opening your studio to the public on at least two weekends during the run of the event. The exact dates are still to be confirmed, but I would expect them to be the last two weekends in May and the first in June. One of those weekends will coincide with any jubilee celebrations that are taking place in the village.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss what is actually involved. There will be a joining fee to be paid, which covers your entry in the Open Studios brochure and other publicity material, and I anticipate that this will be around £100. However, I've never yet failed to recover more than this through sales of my work.

So, why not have a go. If you have not participated in Open Studios before, don't be put off, as you will be in good company and have the support of other artists who have previous experience that they will be happy to share with you. The village needs a strong arts community and I hope you will be part of it!

Stephen Martyn

*The Stephen Martyn Studio, The Birches,
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St Nicholas Church News



Thank you to all who came and supported the Flower Festival, despite the weather it was a great success. Just when you think the flowers cannot get any better the Flower people surpass themselves with the wonderful displays. I particularly liked the one about dancing in the Church Hall with the types of dancing and the tap dancer for her feet had a pair of taps!

It was also wonderful to watch the children from the Parent & Toddler Group create their display.



Arts & Crafts

Festival – 22nd to 24th September with paintings by local artists displayed in the Church and Photographic Display with Craft Stalls in the Church Hall. Refreshments served in the Church Hall each day. Church Open 10am to 5pm and Church Hall 10am to 4pm. Refreshments served all day.

Coffee Mornings at St Nicholas Church Hall are held on the first Friday of the month at 10am to 12noon, if anyone would like to come and needs a lift, please ring Pauline on 544561 and we will make sure you are picked up, this applies if you need a lift to any of our services, we are always pleased to arrange for you to be picked up.

Special Services during October & November:

Mid Week Communion – 1st Wednesday of the month at 12noon

A short communion service lasting between ½ - ¾ hour.

Harvest Festival – October 10th at 10.30am

The produce given at this service will be given as usual to a local Women's Refuge, so we are asking for tins and dried goods that have a long shelf life alongside our normal gifts of fruit & vegetables.

Service of Thanksgiving & Remembrance – November 3rd at 3pm

This is an informal service of hymns and prayers for a chance to give thanks for the lives of those we love that now rest with God.

Remembrance Service – November 13th 10.30am

Our usual service with the uniformed branches of the British Legion, Scouts, Cubs etc.

Advent Carol Service – 27th November at 6.30pm

Norman Towers the butcher by Martin Skerritt

Further to Dick Melton's reference to Norman Towers, the butcher (Village Voice August 2011), I would just like to add what may be some points of passing interest.

I started as a Saturday delivery-boy at the butcher's shop in Chapel Road, in 1966 at the age of 12 - riding about the village on the traditional trade-bike with orders in the basket at the front. The "wage" was five shillings.

This developed into weekday late-afternoons following school - when another bike-jaunt occurred on Fridays -and, during school holidays, accompanying Mr Towers on his Tuesday excursion (it was the half-day) around the surrounding villages in one of the two Morris 1000 vans.

These Tuesdays would begin at about 7.30 in the morning and end at about 6.00 in the evening. The "round" covered, roughly, Dersingham Mill House, the top of Dodds Hill, some of Sandringham (including Park House, the Stud and The Pheasantries), a large part of West Newton, a goodly part of Fritcham (where one notable call was to the house of Sir William Fellowes, the then retired Estate Agent), part of Hillington, most of Anmer, a lot of Shernborne, and finally some of Snettisham.

The shop had a slaughterhouse at the back (now newly converted into a house as part of the recent redevelopment), much of the work in there being done by Tom Drew who lived in Victoria Avenue at Hunstanton. Cattle (bullocks) bought at market were kept in a field where Clayton Close now is and driven up the road (literally: you cannot imagine doing it now!) to the shop. Sheep were kept in the pen for slaughter on the same day and pigs in sties at the rear. There were coppers heated by coal-fires under them (I can recall eventually lighting these first thing on Saturday) to boil water for scalding the pigs. Mr Towers killed animals for Sid Fakenbridge at Heacham and, I think but am not certain, for Billy Lord at Snettisham.

Haslets were made once a week for cooking in the cooling (but still hot) ovens of Benstead's bakery in Snettisham, from where they were collected at the end of the Tuesday van-round. Beef dripping was made and poured into waxed packets, hams were boiled from bacon, and joints of pork roasted in an oven for cold-meat. Pressed-beef and tongues were produced, as was brawn. Mr Towers also made his own sausages and I can recall winding the handle of the machine to force the meat through tube into the skins.

When I began, Mr Towers still had a "satellite" shop at Bircham (opposite the war memorial: it became an art gallery) but this was closed very soon after and its manager, Doug Daniels (who, if he reads this, will doubtless put me right on exact facts!), then did a round - that included parts of the Sculthorpe air-base - from the Dersingham shop in a Ford Anglia van. Later, he would acquire a mobile-shop to do the same thing. I can vaguely recollect going with him occasionally.

A duty I can recall on a Saturday was fetching a jug of coffee for "elevenses" from the Westdene (now Ashdene) guest-house, which was then run by the Sizelands. A jug of tea would be fetched in the afternoon. They cost two shillings. The shop's "sundries" - paper-bags, grease-proof paper, string and so on - were kept on top of the walk-in fridge in the shop and I can recall climbing up there to retrieve them.

Others who I recall worked there at that time were Norman "Joe" Simmons, Don Saxby, Paul Hewlett, and, as another delivery-boy of the same age and with whom I went to school, Stuart Riches. Paul, incidentally, would take on the shop years later until the developers moved in two years or so ago. Stuart is now - or was - a prison-officer.

The Towers lived in Lynn Road, just beyond the Manor Road junction at the house occupied



afterwards by your own Bernie Twite, when they moved to the house adjoining the shop in 1967/68. Mrs Bird, who I believe was the widow of the previous butcher, lived there when I arrived. I do not remember much of her but do recall one abiding image of a man in a van from Flowery Peeko Tips delivering packets of tea. At Christmas, the garage of the house in Lynn Road would have mounted on its flat roof a model sleigh and reindeer complete with Santa. Mrs Towers (Ruby) - who worked in the shop and could cut meat as well as any of the men, and also looked after the "books" - would continue running the shop for maybe a year or so after Mr Towers died in April 1969. Ray Scoles then bought the shop (several years later, I would discover he had one at Burnham Market, too) with "Joe" as manager, although Joe would die relatively young of cancer in the mid or late 1970s. Eventually, although I continued working at the shop on Saturdays whilst at the technical college after leaving school, I left when I went to work "proper", as it were, at seventeen to train as a draughtsman. Even though I never really learned the trade completely, I certainly picked up most of the constituent parts.

Mr Towers had been, I think, a prisoner-of-war under the Japanese but I cannot furnish any details of this. I never heard him mention it - as we know many others did not. He was proud of his warrant-holder status as a supplier of meat to the Royal Family, deliveries being made to Sandringham House when they were in residence. Of medium-height with a florid face, and of stocky build, he was, I think it fair to say, very nearly the personification of a butcher. He always wore leather brogue shoes that had a steel quarter-tip on their heels and you could hear him "clicking" his way across the yard at the back of the shop. He had a flat piece of wood in the shop that had stencilled on it: "Pleased to meet you with meat to please you."

The small, covered "wagon" in the photograph was pulled, alternately, by two Shetland ponies that Mr Towers owned. They were called, I think, Teddy and Winkle. From memory, this little wagon was originally acquired to give rides to his grandson, Gino. He owned other horses (a big grey called Finlay and a chestnut called Lucy spring to mind, and there were also donkeys) keeping them at various times in a field just over the railway line on the beach road and in the "field" below Ben Douran, the house that sits up the drive opposite Thaxter's. He may have used the field at Clayton Close for them but I cannot remember (likely being too young) his having a horse on the shut-up common. I can recall transporting hay for these horses on the bike - two trusses at a time, the trusses being kept in the loft over what became the new cutting-room when it was converted after the Towers moved house.



I also remember holding the lead-rein on the halter when Eric Riches (do any readers recall him?), the blacksmith at Docking, visited to trim hoofs and fit shoes. The Towers, I think, probably attended race-meetings at Fakenham on Bank Holiday Mondays and may have gone to Newmarket.

Just to finish, Mrs Towers in retirement moved to a bungalow at the bottom of Hawthorn Drive but I cannot remember when she died. A daughter Ann, I think, survives - as does Gino. This is only a snapshot of memories of Mr Towers over a very short while but I hope it has been helpful.

PS: He may know a lot of what I have written but, for possible future columns, does Dick have memories of, among others, the Rev Glass (who held cricket "matches" for village lads on the vicarage lawn, where he did all of the bowling with a tennis-ball towards two stumps only at the batsman's end, and declared runs could be scored only in odds - one, three or five as dictated by him - depending on the distance the ball had been hit, whilst dozens of us small boys spent what seemed like ages combing shrubbery and undergrowth in search of it), Billy Bird, and the Willans?



The Dersingham Beat

As the school holidays have ended, it has been a busy time. Sadly the school holidays brings an increase in Anti-Social Behaviour and crime. Over the last month we have suffered a number of reports of Criminal Damage & Anti-Social Behaviour on the sports field in Dersingham. The facilities on the sports field include; Cubs, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies, Football & Cricket for the people of Dersingham children & adults alike. The mindless vandalism by the youth begs the question why? I hear you question how we know it's the youth; because we are given information to say it is the youth. They are spoiling their own facilities and community facilities. I ask parents; do you know where you children are? Who are they with and what are they doing? We are now intending to erect cameras at the sports field in order to identify the offenders and deal with them robustly.

As you have no doubt noticed there has been a fence erected at the sports field so there will be no access to the sports field from The Feathers Hotel car park. Please do not leave newspapers for the Scout hut in the Feathers Hotel car park. Please contact the Scouts for information regarding dropping off newspapers for them, as they rely heavily on deliveries of newspapers

I am pleased to report that over the two months there have been no burglaries in Dersingham. We have only noted one crime, attempted burglary at St Georges Middle School, when four youths were seen running away. Please be vigilant, continue to secure your property.

At the last Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) meeting it was reported by Parish Councillors that the speeding problem on Mountbatten Road estate has, over the last three months, reduced significantly as a result of numerous speed checks carried out on the estate. Please watch your speed and don't get caught out!

The next SNAP meeting is at 7 pm 13th October 2011 at Dersingham Infant School so come along and have your say. SNAP meetings are chaired by a local councillor and the panel will be made up of a police representative, either an Inspector or Sgt from the local Safer Neighbourhood Team; a council representative, usually an Environmental Health Officer; and a representative from the West Norfolk Partnership, usually a Neighbourhood Officer. Other key local agencies which provide a service in the community may also sit on the panel, including neighbourhood managers, housing, health and education officials or voluntary organisations.□

You can contact the team on the non emergency 0845 456 4567 or contact Dersingham SNT, www.sntdersinghamandgayton@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Sgt Karen Faulkner



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Local art is a big draw

Dersingham based artist Jill Ilett had a successful exhibition of paintings at Brancaster Staithe recently with lots of visitors including some familiar faces from Dersingham. Paintings of the coast were popular and she spent an enjoyable time painting in situ, passing on tips to interested viewers especially the children.

She will be exhibiting again in a Winter Collection featuring paintings suitable for Christmas gifts or home furnishing. This time it will be at THE GRAPES GALLERY in Lynn Road Snettisham

from November 1st through til Christmas Eve. If you are looking for an individual piece of original artwork in watercolour, acrylics or oils then please go and view the exhibition. The gallery will be open from 9.00 - 5.00 daily. Closed for lunch from 1 -2 with early closing on Saturdays at 1.p.m. Closed on Sundays

Her paintings continue to be exhibited at TIMEOUT Beauty Salon in Manor Road Dersingham



Brownies out and about

The 1st & 2nd Dersingham Brownies and their leaders enjoyed a Summer Outing to BeWilderwood on 23rd July. BeWilderwood is an award winning wild and imaginative adventure park outside Wroxham with magical creatures, treehouses, zipwires, slides and boat rides.





It happened in Dersingham.....honestly!

Well, it's at least 90% true!

Reported by Steve Nowell

Edna Fetherbridge is the next door neighbour of Humphrey and Maud Wittlestone. Edna has a car port; so have the Wittlestones. The two car ports are semi-detached as it were. Edna and the Wittlestones have enjoyed a friendly, neighbourly relationship since the latter moved in some sixteen years ago. Edna does not pretend to be an early riser and anyone who calls before, say, 9.15 a.m. might expect to be greeted by a head, apparently detached from its body, peering round the edge of the door but Humphrey is in no position to criticise or ridicule. He is a 'one extreme to the other' merchant. He's either up at 05.45 hours, hammering out another literary masterpiece (if only!) on his clapped out keyboard; or lying in bed till 9.30 waiting for a blinding flash of inspiration to hit him. (Likewise!)

At 8.30 a.m. one morning in August, Edna opened her back door - which leads out into the car port where she keeps her car - to go to the dustbin. She was amazed, and more than a little frightened, to hear a loud and unfamiliar noise coming from her car. She could not dismiss the thought that it might blow up – sooner rather than later! So, in a state of mild panic, she turned on her heel, slammed the door shut, and tried to ring Humphrey next door. No reply.

“Typical!” she thought. “He either can't, or more likely won't, answer the phone! But to give him the benefit of the doubt, I suppose he and Maud might be away. I really don't know. Nobody tells me anything down here. Plop.” (A tear of loneliness dropped on to her left slipper...). “I'll try Stanley” (Humphrey's other neighbour.) “Now he's a steady, reliable policeman who seems to have the answers to most problems. He'll know exactly what to do. But his car's not there. He must have gone to work early this morning. Could be something to do with the recent troubles in London perhaps. Who else can I ring?” By this time Edna's panic level had risen significantly. Tentatively, she opened the back door again. That noise, definitely a motor or engine of some kind, was still there. How much longer had she got before she would be on her way, with car, to meet her Maker? She would ring another neighbour; Charlie Chatsworth, the chap who built her house. He was a constantly cheerful, but competent and sensible man. He would know just what steps to take – if they still had time of course before the mega explosion that was about to happen. In her trembling hands the telephone directory became a muddled blur of names and numbers. Try as she may she could not, and never did, find the number she was looking for. By this time the clock had ticked steadily round to 8.40 a.m.

Edna was elderly and healthy in mind and body. But by now she was doubtful about her sanity and wasn't over happy about the prospects for her blood pressure. A calculated pulse rate of 160 beats per minute didn't cheer her up too much either. She put her ear to the keyhole in the back door. The noise had changed. It was coming in five second bursts now. Was this a sign that things were improving?

A Mr Edwin Kraut looked after Edna's lawns for her that was the answer; she would ring him. He was always polite, cheerful and obliging. She was sure he wouldn't mind popping round despite the fact that he lived several minutes away. Edwin Kraut's phone rang eight times, then came that familiar recorded message. “Welcome to Call Minder. The person you're calling isn't available at the moment....” Edna's heart and hopes sank to floor level. Wasn't there even one Sir Galahad in the village at this time in the morning? If she dared to open the door she could do a quick check to see if the noise had gone away. She dared to.....and it had..... Glory be! However there was no possible doubt that the noise *had* been there and it *had* been coming from the direction of her car. Maybe this was merely a temporary reprieve and the noise would come back again. It had to be sorted. She looked through her personal telephone directory and came up with the number of the garage in the village which always carried out her services and repairs.

“Morning Mrs Fetherbridge And how are you today? Nice to hear...”

“Shut up! My car's about to blow up! Get round here ASAP!..... Oh; sorry.....Please!”

“One of my mechanics will be with you straightaway. Now don't panic!”

“Don't panic?! Dammit, man, I'm standing next to a time bomb and you tell me not to panic!” (Normally Edna would *never* use any 'dubious' words)

It seemed like only seconds before a mechanic from the garage was at Edna's house. As if on cue, the noise re-started in three-second pulses as the mechanic knocked on her front door. Although he couldn't actually see her car, he could only agree with her that there was a strange noise coming from it in short bursts. But to him it didn't sound like a car engine. He looked round the car, then around Edna's car port, and finally stuck his head round the corner to look into Humphrey's car port. He reported back to Edna.

“First of all there's nothing wrong with your car, and it *definitely* isn't going to blow up, so don't worry. Just one question though. Does your neighbour always set about the ivy in his car port with a clattering hedge trimmer this early in the morning?!”□



From the parish office... Rosie Kitchen

The best news of the summer is that Anita Moore, assistant to the clerk, who many of you know has been off work with illness since last autumn, is back in the office again. It is excellent news that she is recovering well and, from my (selfish) point of view, wonderful to have her back in the office and sorting out the mess I have allowed to build up while I've been on my own. I'm sure you will all wish her well, and will appreciate the resumption of the smooth running of the office which was so disrupted during her absence – I know I do! Thanks too to Gay Watt for holding the fort some of the time.

Perhaps you may have wondered what we do all during opening times at the office – it's not just tea and chat, though we always welcome members of the public who come in with any kind of query. So, a typical day might go something like this...

Opening the post and clearing the phone messages. Some of these will be routine things like reporting broken street lights, blocked drains, rubbish dumping or even graffiti. We'll then pass all these problems on to the relevant people, or arrange to have them fixed by the parish, depending on who is responsible for them. Grass-cutting and footpaths are always an issue in the summer, gritting and ice in winter.

As Village Voice and Data are administered through the office, there is usually work to do for those publications – specially the week they are due at the printers, when we often have last minute advertisers calling in with their copy.

If there are any council meetings coming up (which there usually are – four or five every month), I'll be preparing agendas to make sure they are posted in the notice boards in good time, then there are the minutes to write up afterwards.

Visitors to the office come in for a variety of reasons – from picking up a copy of Village Voice to viewing planning applications on the computer to looking at the electoral roll. Councillors call in to pick up meeting papers, and there are phone enquiries too.

We also deal with all the activities that arise from the meetings, as well as some ongoing projects. We have recently lodged details of the parish council's ownership of the Social Club with the Land Registry, and are still in negotiations with the Borough Council about the handover of the Sandringham View land. Claiming on the insurance for damage to the skate ramps and, not to be forgotten, dealing with the endless issues of litter and dog bins!

We try very hard to solve all the problems the parishioners bring us, as well as pushing forward new projects for the village – look out for the new notice board outside the office very soon!□

Dersingham Task Force



It is often said that there are many 'unsung heroes' in a community such as that in Dersingham and I was reminded of this when driving along Post Office Road on Tuesday 30th August.

What had come to my attention was a group of people busily working at weeding the small triangular patch of verge at the junction with Chapel Road, giving the flowers in that 'garden' room to survive.

It was quite a few years ago that the idea of forming a body of people who would carry out various tasks in the village was mooted, with the intention of these people being provided with backup from the Parish Council which would supply the necessary equipment for the work to be carried out. This was a truly great idea until the Borough Council decided that there were to be many restrictions placed upon this happening, being such things as insurance, safety clothing (H&S), training, etc. which could have led to the whole thing coming to a standstill.

However, not to be daunted, a determined group of enthusiasts, led and encouraged by Mrs Suzanne Eastmure, decide to go it alone, which they have done for quite a few years.

It struck me that although the Dersingham Task Force as they are known carry out many voluntary duties around the village, from setting out bulbs around the village sign, planting and weeding the area around the War Memorial, litter picking and one of the most unpleasant tasks, that of cleaning out dumped items such as carpets, shopping trolleys and other detritus from the ditch which runs along the sports field, little mention is made of the excellent work that they do.

I would like to show that their efforts are appreciated by at least one local resident by my contribution of this small acknowledgement and the attached photos of them at work, good on you all. □

Bob Tipling



How we used to live 1850 to 1950 Village Voice Live, Tuesday August 2nd

David Grimes presented, to a 65 strong audience assembled in the church hall, a slice of history in words and pictures from a bygone era. Although I have to admit I did actually live through a small part of that era - but only the last three years and my recollections of those are not very clear.

He first introduced us, by photographs, to some of the old farm tools and machinery which he has collected and now exhibits to the public, describing the uses of some of the more unusual implements. Then to photographs of his collection of posters and postcards from the early twentieth century, with a story attached to every one.

A series of old photographs of farm life followed. He explained that many of the photographs would have been taken on 'free' cameras given away by tobacco manufacturers in return for collecting several thousand of the vouchers which were enclosed, individually, within each packet of cigarettes. The main subject of the photographs was harvest time. Starting during a period when all work was done manually and everyone within a farming family had a role to play. Then progressing through the development of early harvesting machinery to the first combine harvesters.

He also showed some photographs of the home life within tied cottages where most of the farming community lived. These were accompanied by tales of the lives led by typical inhabitants of those homes. He talked of the experiences of youngsters growing up in such a community and finding out the ways of the countryside by first hand experience, but contrasted this with the life of toil and drudgery experienced by most women after they had left those early years behind.

This was the first time that I had heard David talk but it was clear that many of the audience knew him well, both from previous talks and his residence in the Dersingham area. I think most present would agree that it was a very interesting, entertaining and thought provoking talk.

Whiffler

A Musical Evening Tuesday September 6th

A blustery evening did not put off an audience of around sixty who came full of anticipation of a musical treat and they were not to be disappointed. Lindsay Davis rose to the challenge of arranging this event (having rather rashly suggested it) and put on a full programme of light entertainment that went down well with the crowd. Items included singing and guitar solos, keyboard pieces, a guitar ensemble, a flautist al the way from Kent and a vocalist. All performed well and demonstrated considerable talent. Not bad for a Norfolk backwater.

With a grand finale involving all eight performers the evening finished on a high note and with a £75 donation to the Musical Keys charity being made from the proceeds.

Dumpling



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Dersingham Community Lunches

Report and pictures by Stella Gooch

The July Dersingham Community Lunch, held at Dersingham Social Club, got off to an unusually early start this time due to the nature of its programme. At the entrance to the lunch, I found Tony Bubb, Steve Davis and volunteers (Cliff Prior was also there investigating the poor performance of the grill he had kindly lent) in attendance at a well set up BBQ. They were hard at work tending our lunch as they greeted the arriving lunch guests from 11.30am. Guests were invited to choose a named table to sit at with each table representing a local charity. Those joining each table made up a quiz team ready to compete to raise funds for the named charity nominated for each table.



Bob Tipling, President and founder of Dersingham's Community Lunch welcomed everyone to the July event and introduced Mayor Colin Sampson (and his wife Sue) of Kings Lynn. Mayor Sampson talked eloquently about his staunch support for the work of Tapping House Hospice and what a fantastic job they do in supporting terminally ill patients and their families through a very difficult time.

There was a real buzz around the room as we all put our heads together (and scratched very hard!!!) to puzzle over the searching questions about Dersingham over the years. It was soon revealed that the quiz questions were compiled by Dick Melton and Dersingham Parish Council.

I was not surprised that Dick Melton had inspired many of the questions and I had no clue at all but I did my best to help my team, although I fear they may have been better off without me. My fellow team members seemed to feel much the same as myself. We all appeared to be aged around 40, give or take, and we all feared we were not old enough to recall most of the necessary facts which would win the day. Our fears were justified when we were announced as being in last place



with just 5½ points out of 20.

Personally, I was amazed we achieved that many points as the quiz was amazingly difficult as you can see by the questions (and answers) if you check out the fuller story on Dersingham On Line. The charity teams included: Heacham Community Transport, Dersingham Army Cadets, Dersingham Brownies, Dersingham Scout Group, Friends of St Nicholas Church, Army Benevolent Fund Soldiers Charity, Dersingham Day Centre, the Royal British Legion and Puddle Ducks Play



Group. However, there could only be one winner and the winning result of an outstanding 14 out of 20 correct answers (I defy anyone to get 100%) was achieved by Puddle Ducks who were awarded the £105 raised from the raffle draw (which seemed to go on forever as there were numerous prize donations from the generous guests).

The July lunch was sponsored by Dersingham Parish Council and they were extremely generous with the food with an ample BBQ of chicken, burgers (of different varieties), copious salad and



sumptuous strawberries and cream toppings on meringue or shortcake biscuit bases (just check out the photograph!). Priors the Butchers had helped by pre-cooking some of the meat to ensure that everything was cooked through.

Appreciation was expressed towards Priors the Butchers, the volunteer cooks and lunch guests for attending. Dersingham Social Club was also warmly thanked for allowing us use of their facilities which included a large and comfortable main bar area.

Bob Tipling announced that Dersingham Data was currently under revision and requested that all organisations present check their entries for accuracy and advise any changes before 25 August 2011. Bob also announced the the September Dersingham Community Lunch would be sponsored by Budgens Supermarket with exact date and venue details to be advised at a later date.□



Steve Davis Now is the time!

“Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party” was a favourite sentence for improving typewriting speed with students and testing typewriting and printing equipment along with *“The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog”* of course. It is now four years since I became free of the rigours of the academic year as a College Tutor in Computing with its routine of weekly timetables, meetings, endless preparation of lessons, assignments and exams and of course the marking, always looking ahead and catching up, seldom quite making it! For the most part I enjoyed the actual teaching behind the classroom door when I did not have to worry about anything else for the next hour, but even then with increasing frequency we had to have someone sitting in to monitor and review our lesson performance! No doubt other careers these days have similar bugbears.



I must confess to not being a great role model for the discipline *“Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today”* and perhaps have more sympathy with the tongue-in-cheek graffiti slogan *“Procrastination Rules – Tomorrow!”* Nevertheless until two months ago I thought I had the summer pretty well planned out with jobs I wanted to do around the house and garden, working around family visits and holidays, etc. But all this was to change when the opportunity arose for us to realise a dream. Following a tip off from a friend one Friday afternoon we went to view, and making one of the quickest big decisions of our life agreed to the purchase of a beach hut at the south end of Sunny Hunny! Although a little shabby on the outside after not having been used for seven or more years, it all seemed very sound and well constructed. So after an agonising week of praying that nothing would go wrong, we were able to pick up the keys from Cruso & Wilkin like a couple of excited kids and for the next three weeks, all other jobs around the house and garden went on hold whilst we set about getting the beach hut in ship shape pending visits from our grandchildren and family. We brushed, swept and cleaned; I wire-brushed, punched in, treated and filled nearly eight hundred rusty nail heads, replaced rusty door fittings, put up shelves and lovingly painted the whole thing from top to bottom. I got to know the handy Owens DIY shop in Hunstanton quite well



during the three happiest DIY weeks of my life! Our house may have looked a wreck, but the beach hut looked immaculate! At the end of one long day’s work there we strolled up the couple of hundred yards in the evening sun to the very friendly Boat-House Café to sample one of their delicious speciality meals of spicy crab fish-cakes. Sitting outside on their decking overlooking the sea wall with the high spring-tide splashing against it, gulls and terns calling, a water skier going past, I could not have been more content had I been in the South of France or Caribbean! Several others have shared the experience with us since.

From early on we realised that we had not only bought into owning a beach hut but to yet another friendly little community of relaxed fellow beach hut and near by static caravan owners who have time to stop and share conversation, help and encouragement and cups of tea when most needed! Life seems so much more laid back and easy there in what quickly became for us a worry-free zone. Our dear friend Ruth from a few beach huts down, who is not one to hold back or worry about what others may think when she has a creative thought or idea, presented us with a framed printout of a prayer she had written superimposed on a photo of the view across the mudflats from the seawall opposite:





Lord, I come to you. Oh Lord I give myself to worship you.

Oh Lord thank you for this time.

Thank you for the rain and the noise of it on my rooftop.

Thank you for this now, this nowness, this moment right now, now.

Oh Lord hold me and wrap me in this now nowness and let this be my now.

Oh thank you for the peace, for the calm, the noise of the rain and for the pleasure of this now right now.

Glory, glory for my now in this now with you Lord right now. Amen.

Now at first, this might seem a little strange and Ruth was quick to point out that she would not be offended if we did not want to hang it up, but

quickly I saw that she had hit the nail on the head and what it was that I enjoyed so much about being at the beach hut: the sheer enjoyment and appreciation of the current moment. In fact looking back, I suppose it is what connects all the most contented bits of my life; – times when I have been totally caught up in my surroundings of the present time, whether rock-pooling on the beach, surveying an amazing view, watching an awesome bird spectacle, engulfed in music, or studying a flower or insect. Proudly, Ruth's poem and picture was the first thing to grace the wall in our hut.

A few weeks ago the BBC showed a programme in their Natural World Series entitled: *My Life as a Turkey*. If you missed it, you might still catch it online with *BBC iPlayer* or else it will probably come around again. However, it recreated the funny, sad and touching story of biologist



Joe Hutto who tried an experiment incubating and hatching a clutch of wild turkey eggs and ended up becoming the accepted surrogate mother of a dozen or so wild turkeys. He was obliged to walk, talk and even roost with them, spending hours in what to many would seem like a very passive pastime. Through it though he learned an important lesson. He says: *“So many others live in the past or in the future and betray the moment – and in some sense we forget to live our lives – and the wild turkeys were always reminding me to live my life. I think we as humans have this peculiar disposition to be always thinking ahead and living a little bit in the future and anticipating the next minute or the next hour or the next day and we*

betray the moment and wild turkeys don't do that. They're convinced that everything they need and all their needs will be met in the present moment, that the world is not better in another place or another day but now is as good as it gets!” Others have made comments along similar lines and John Lennon is popularly attributed with the quote *“Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans.”* We cannot really escape making plans or even from reviewing past shortcomings but all the while life is passing us by *now* and we need to make the most of what we can do *now* whilst we are able to do it!

Cultivating a love of the simple things around about us that are within reach, and spending time appreciating them seems quite a good recipe for contentment whatever else we do. Certainly I find living in this area helps a lot in that respect. But before I get too carried away again I think in the immortal words of Pete and Dud's song: *Now is the time to say goodbye. Goodbye!* I hope that you will manage some quality *nowtime* this autumn with all its local resplendent glory and should you happen to pass by our beach hut whilst we are in residence, do stop to spend some of it with us!

Email: steve@davista.co.uk or visit www.davista.co.uk for links to docs, photos & videos. □



Dersingham Rainbows visit Stow Bardolph

On Saturday 9th July the 1st Dersingham rainbows celebrated the end of term with a Special Coach trip to the Rare Breeds centre at Stow Bardolph. The girls had the opportunity to meet many different animals, including goats, sheep, pigs, donkeys, rabbits and chickens. They also had a tractor-trailer ride around the farm, providing a super opportunity to play I-Spy! The Rainbows also enjoyed playing on both the indoor and outdoor adventure play-areas, as well as in the sand pit and straw bales. The weather was perfect enabling us to eat our picnic and ice creams outside. We also had time to play some Rainbow games and to sing our Rainbow songs. All the Rainbows received a badge and goody bag and returned home tired, but after having had a very exciting day.

If you would like any more information, my contact number is 01485 544753

Lynne Wheeler



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Music in Country Churches Patron - H R H The Prince of Wales By Valerie Anckorn

Last year I reported my experience attending a musical evening in Dersingham Church attended by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, but I didn't explain how I came to be there.

At the time I was doing bed and breakfast from my home, and had a lady booked in. Unfortunately she couldn't make it at the last minute, but very kindly sent me her ticket for the Church musical recital. I didn't want to waste her money, so trotted along and had a most magical evening. I sent her my report of the evening, and we thenceforth entered into a pen-pal arrangement.

This year she booked in with me again as she intended to visit the Flower show. She also told me to make sure that I was available on the evening of the 26th July. I wondered if another concert was on the cards, and excitedly awaited the day.

It *was* another concert, and the location was Thornham Church, with the Royal couple once more attending. I patted on my best face powder, attired myself in my second-best Dowager Duchess ensemble (I had worn the first-best last year – and goodness knows, the Prince doesn't want to see me in the same-old-same-old). This time I wore a poppy top as bold as brass and a stunning red woollen cape top with matching scarf adorned with dyed pretend squirrel tails to match. My new friend wore a fabulous purple suit. We both had black canes to prop ourselves up with.

I was talking to some nice ladies in the pew behind me and almost missed the Royal arrival. Last year Camilla wore gold, this year she wore silver, but I clearly didn't have my journalistic hat on, not noting the details in the short time she walked by. Her ensemble was either a jacket and skirt or jacket and dress – lovely silky material, understated and yet regal enough to pass muster without fussy adornment. Had I been a fashion journalist, I would have recognised the designer, the maker and known the price to boot, but hey ho, I just thought she looked lovely. As they had at Dersingham Church, the Royal Two sat in the front pew with no special arrangement for them, no pomp and circumstance, which I thought was fabulous. You can't tell me they don't get nervous at times, but I was proud that they could sit in Thornham Church and feel safe. The police on guard were few, aged about seven, and very slight. One wondered if their training would be appropriate enough to overcome a mad terrorist, should such demented occurrence, well, occur. I am sure they would have leapt to successfully overcome any such fanatic, but their appearance belied assurance. (They do say you have grown old when policemen appear to be young, so maybe this is just an age thing on my part). Prince Charles, on his way out, smilingly spoke to one of the young policemen – isn't it good that he picks out someone to address other than the mayor? No doubt when that young man is a grandfather he will be regaling his grandchildren with the story of what Prince Charles said to him in Thornham Church, 26th July, 2011. A lovely thought.

Performing under the arched and no doubt wood-wormy beams was the English Chamber Orchestra, with Sergey Krylov violin and Kazuki Yamada conductor. The conductor's hands gracefully danced the whole evening, the players performed with smiles and gusto, the sound was splendid.

During the first half, the Overture: Coriolan Op 62 by Ludwig van Beethoven was performed, then Violin Concerto No 2 in G minor Op 63 – 1 Allegro moderato, 11 Andante assai and 111



Allegro, ben marcato. I have to say I wished I could have seen more of the musicians – I was too far back in the Church to see more than their heads.

There was an interval of twenty minutes – we all stood in respectful silence while the Royal pair left the Church, and then we shuffled in an orderly manner to exit the Church, past a row of sentinal portaloos hinged together and seemingly guarded by amiable policemen. We trod carefully, avoiding copious rabbit holes and even more copious droppings. I mused, as we passed the orderly queue for the loos, what would happen if a large person caused a portaloos to overturn? Would the whole row of them tumble too? It was a daunting thought, so I decided to forego that possible experience. A large marquee had been erected, wherein was served wine, elderflower cordial and plates of cheese straws. All very genteel and proper and the rain held off. I didn't see a single local face – I wondered how far people had come. My new friend had journeyed from Bury St. Edmund for this and the Flower Show on the morrow while the ladies in the pew behind had journeyed from Norwich.

After a while of polite and muted conversation amongst the tilting gravestones, a bell was clanged to indicate our time was up, and back we shuffled into the Church and to our pews. The local Thornham ladies had made little cushions for the pews – for hire at £1.00 a time – and I have to say that mine was far too flat and I sat in uncomfortable misery – the only downside to the experience. I do hope that the Royal Bottoms had plumper cushions provided. The second half was Symphony 39 in E flat K543 by Wolfgang Amedeus Mozart – I Adagio, II Andante con moto, III Menuetto and IV Finale: Allegro. As an ignoramus, none of this means anything to me, but I copy it down from the programme, as I know many of you will know the works well. All I can say was that the sound was truly splendid.

By now dusk was settling and the bats came out. In the Church. It was wonderfully evocative and Gothic, listening to this amazing music, inhaling the somewhat musty odour from the old building, with bats from the belfry flitting from one end of the church to the other. At one stage it seemed to me that the bats were dancing in time to the music, zooming hard down or up to the various arpeggios and crescendos. The Conductor's hands still danced, the bats wove fantasies to the rhythm, and I wriggled in discomfort on the hard pew - despite a Thornham Lady's cushion - enthralled by the whole affair.

Prince Charles was sat directly in front of a very attractive female violinist with pre Raphaelite locks whose smiles clearly captivated our Prince as I noted he was casting amiable asides to her, in-between pieces. (I had to insert a necessary comma after 'her' otherwise it read very differently!) All the performers looked happy – I would be too, if I were able to produce such heavenly sounds from a bit of wood and wire, a hollow tube...and especially to be playing in front of Royalty.

The show was over: HRH Prince Charles and his bride made their exit to our silent approval (I love the way we Brits behave) and then we all politely shuffled out once more into the somewhat chilly July evening to return homewards. My

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new friend and I waited for our chariot under a lamppost. Unfortunately we waited at the wrong exit, so we didn't see the Royal couple leave, or receive a regal wave, but just by being in such close proximity for those few hours was enough, and to share with them a beautiful evening and such heavenly music. The bats were the bonus.

I encourage you to book for next year's country church recital – but warn you that tickets get quickly claimed.

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If you would like to come and look round, please contact the Headteacher, Mrs. Gayle Platt, on 540022.

Please also watch out for information about the opening of our 'Multi-sensory Community Garden to develop life long learning at the end of September and come and see how you can be part of this Big Lottery funded project.



Preserving Our Heritage

In the opening chapter of her book, 'English Custom and Usage', Christina Hole informs the reader that many of our old 'customs and traditions' are in danger of dying out because of changes in our ways of living. She was writing mainly about customs connected with certain times of the year, but another part of our folklore, which has been under threat of disappearance, has been our folk music.

Many generations ago, when the working day had ended, the older men and women would regale the children with tales of ghosts and fairies, stories about family members, people famous and infamous, many of which were set to music.

Songs were written for different seasons, for the planting and harvesting of crops; there were love songs, happy songs, sad songs too; songs for funerals and weddings; songs for war and peace times, and all of these became part of our folklore over time, having been handed down through generations for so long that in some cases nobody is exactly sure where or who they originated from.

They have been called 'the natural unstudied expression of the common people' and whether these people were jubilant or downhearted, their singing was a way of letting go of their emotions; often it seemed easier to express their feelings to music.

Different communities had their own particular folk songs, especially those involved with the harvest of both land and sea. Fishing communities were an especially vocal group. Their songs could both celebrate and praise the sea for its pickings, or rage against it when it had been cruel, when storms struck and lives were lost.

One example of this type of community was the North End fishermen of King's Lynn. Like many such small communities, this was a fairly self-reliant group, and music played a large part in their lives, though not many outsiders were privileged enough to hear their songs. It is in such cases as this where traditional songs are often lost, even more so when the fishing community as it was ceases to exist.

Fortunately, one of England's favourite composers, Ralph Vaughan Williams, was a collector of traditional folk songs, and when he heard about the fisher folk of the North End, he came to visit. This was in 1905, when he was thirty-three years of age, and the visit was to prove both pleasurable and beneficial for all concerned.

Born in October 1872 in Down Amprey, Gloucestershire, Vaughan Williams came from a good family. At that time the piano formed the basis of much of the family's entertainment in households such as his and by the age of seven he could play both piano and violin. Hardly surprising that he was one of the first pupils of the Royal School of Music.

At Cambridge he studied history as well as continuing with his music studies with the composer Sir Charles Parry. Although he was comfortably off financially, with no need to go and earn a living, he became organist at the church of St. Barnabas in Lambeth, but once he obtained his Doctor of Music degree he found that writing and lecturing were taking up most of his time, so he gave up the position of church organist. Concentrating more on his writing, he began work on his own musical versions of poems by people such as Dante Gabriel Rossetti, putting together a

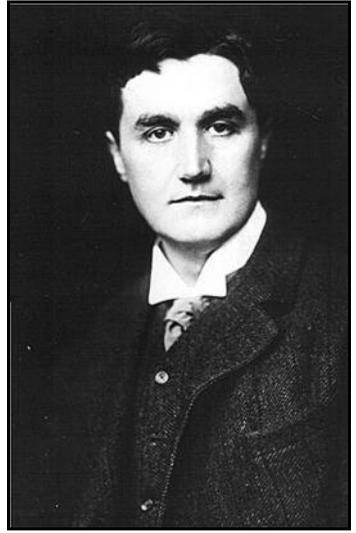


collection of songs which is what first brought him to people's attention.

He had a passion for music, and travelled the country, conducting orchestras and choirs, really getting in touch with people who shared his passion. In King's Lynn he met such an enthusiastic group in the Northenders. That group of resilient people, who lived in the North End of the town, were fishermen by trade and living with their families in cramped, often squalid conditions.

They composed, played and sang their own folk songs, and like many regional songs they were in danger of being lost forever. Vaughan Williams tried to prevent this from happening, to bring these local songs to a wider audience and it is said he was so impressed by the songs, which told of fabled heroes and disasters at sea, which he heard during his stay in the town, that he put together a collection of almost thirty songs, all of them exclusive to the north End of King's Lynn and its fisher folk.

The actual numbers of songs seems to vary. Different writers have their own versions of this, as they do about the music Vaughan Williams composed using some of the parts of these Northenders songs. 'The First Norfolk Rhapsody' is said to contain at least two, as does 'A Sea Symphony', although again there is some dispute as to whether or not the latter really had anything to do with Norfolk at all.



It is certain however, that he did use some, or part of some, of the songs the Northenders played for him, thus keeping them alive at a time when they could so easily have been forgotten altogether. As could much of the North End and its way of life, but thanks to a group of enthusiasts, what was left of this bygone fishing community has been preserved and can be seen at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum in King's Lynn.□

Nina

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Old girls patch

By Meetze

Laura has returned from Spain and picked up the two holiday cats Elsa and Kayla. Now there is more space in bed again and nobody has to move into another room for the night. Granddad is a bit sad since Kayla left. He took quite a shine to her. Well, he will get over her. Than there is big news. Apparently our house is being sold and we are going to move permanently to Dersingham. Finally. No more helicopters circling over our house in the middle of the night, no more police sirens at all times of the day, no more riots, just tranquillity.

It started off with the two legged female packing all her stuff into cartons. Then packing the two legged males stuff into cartons. Then ornaments and kitchen utensils went into cartons. Everything was put into small and big cartons. Those were put into the dining room and that room filled up quickly. That was seen as an adventure playground for Johnnie and Sidney. Those two went on top of them, between them, chasing each other around them. They even fell off of them, because they misjudged the distance between one and another. That was funny to watch. Then one morning a strange two legged male turned up with a massive white box on wheels. He took all the cartons out of the house and put them into his white box. After all the cartons were gone, he left. Just like that. Our two legged friends were not bothered about this and kept packing things and there were also loads of strange two legged ones turning up taking furniture away. They were all from the same company, because I heard the word ebay mentioned a lot. Then that male with his white box came again and put more things in it and off he went again. Really strange. This packing and collecting went on for weeks until one day there were only our travel cases and us left. And you guessed it right, we got packed as well. We than travelled first class in a big car with tinted windows to Dersingham. I fell asleep almost immediately and can't tell you much about the journey other than that I had an exciting dream, which I can't remember. Inside the house I went straight to my spot on the windowsill and watched how the two legged ones emptied the cars. Stumps went onto the settee, Beauty under the bed, Tiny Tatty next to Stumps on the sofa, Granddad to the toilet, Johnnie on top of the activity centre and Sidney was expertly in the way trying to help. This was an exhausting day and I am extremely tired. I think I am having a nap now. Stumps and Tiny throwing zeds in the air already. Honestly, they are both snoring. Not very lady like, is it? □

Memories of Japan

This is rather long ago but the recent disaster at Fukushima reminded me of another in Japan. In 1946 I went to Japan with the Occupation Forces and saw the result of the atomic bombing at Hiroshima - a long road leading to a little hill in the distance and, on either side, just ashes - houses and people one did not know. I picked up a piece of molten glass which showed the heat involved. Five of us (W.V.S) went to run a Forces Leave Centre on the island of Shikoku - former seaplane barracks called Takuma Bay.

We had brought furniture etc., and had four weeks to transform the barracks. It was a lovely place with wild pink azaleas on the hillside (and an old machine gun post) and a little road to the Inland Sea where we could swim. We had a 3 tonner and a jeep and ran trips to various places of interest, such as Zentsuji - a temple up 50 steps and another 50 steps to a huge anchor as it was a sailors' shrine.

We watched silk thread being wound off the silkworm chrysalises, bobbing in warm water, pearl necklaces being made up and sculptors of ivory. We suffered on our knees to watch the prescribed movements of the tea ceremony. A long wait for a tiny bowl of green tea. I visited a volcano at Beppu - a pathway bordered by hot pools of water spouting above which the Japanese had arranged little pots for boiling eggs. I looked in the volcano mouth - a slow swirly orangey thick treacle. Sadly after two years there was an electric short and flames spread rapidly through the wooden building while we frantically saved what we could. Luckily there were no visitors at that time. □

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DERSINGHAM DAY CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY



By the time Village Voice goes to press again the Dersingham Day Centre will be back in business after our summer break. We ended July with an outing to the Lavender Garden Centre on the 13th July and enjoyed a very pleasant lunch. There were a lot of visitors there that day but we still managed to take wheelchairs into the shopping area and were also able to get around the lovely lavender display and enjoy all the other plants on show.

On the 15th July Suttons Estate Agents held a coffee morning to celebrate their third anniversary in Dersingham. Proceeds were for the Dersingham Day Centre and we were delighted to receive a cheque from Mr Peter

Sutton as a result.

On the 20th July Teresa English paid us a welcome visit with her selection of clothing items. She is always very welcome and our Members so enjoy looking at the lovely things she brings. We also celebrated a very special birthday that day as Mrs Rosina Hale was to celebrate her 90th birthday on July 23rd and a special cake had been made for her by Alison Girling.

Our Autumn session started again on the 7th September and it was nice to see all our friends and catch up on all the news.

If you think you might like to come and help at the Day Centre on a Wednesday (any time you can spare would be appreciated) do come along to the Church Hall any Wednesday and see what we do – you will be very welcome. □

Alice Worth



THE DAY CENTRE'S

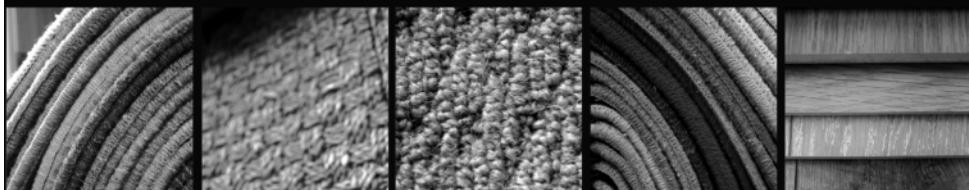
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Bog News from Tom Bolderstone



The heath is awash with colour at the moment. August is generally the best time to see the heather in flower and this year seems to be an excellent year for the heather flowering.

As you walk around the heath on a sunny day you can hear the noise from the thousands of insects including bees and hoverflies as they are feeding on the rich nectar that the heather supplies. The warm days that we have had over the last few months have allowed views of many other insects on the reserve including butterflies such as the Small Copper butterfly, many of the Damselfly species and Dragonflies as well.

You may remember from previous Bog news, I mentioned about the cattle that were being introduced to the site to help with the management and I thought I would give you a bit more information about them. We are asking that all dogs be kept on a lead when walking on the reserve.

Dersingham Bog supports one of the last remaining fragments of lowland heathland in eastern England. Since 1960 85% of the UK's Heathland has been lost, resulting in significant declines in the many species that are dependent upon it.

The heathland here has been used for thousands of years with much active management by local communities. Prior to the industrial revolution the heath was essential to the survival of the local inhabitants providing the food, fuel and building materials they required to survive and in turn they would have been managing the heath for the future.

Many locals would have used cattle as part of their management of the heath. Livestock helped to prevent scrub and grasses from dominating the heath at the expense of more sensitive species. In addition the mosaic of plant species and structures that grazing promoted has helped maintain the rich diversity of flora and fauna the heath supports.

With the assistance of the Norfolk Coast Partnership, Nick and Annalain Barrett of Glenariff Pedigree Livestock have teamed up with Natural England to introduce four pedigree Black Galloway cows and their Calves (two bull calves and two heifer calves) to the reserve. These handsome animals are perfectly suited to the rough grazing that the reserve provides. They will be 'hefted' to the reserve which means once on the reserve, they will remain here for the rest of their lives. As a result they will develop an intimate knowledge of the reserve: including where the best grazing is and which areas to avoid. In turn they will pass this information to their young ensuring a healthy happy herd of cattle.



For further information on Black Galloway cattle, visit www.gallowaycattlesociety.co.uk

Advice for walkers

- Where livestock are present, always proceed with caution
- Do not run
- Keep your dog on a short lead
- Do not get between cows and their calves
- If the cows become agitated and crowd around you, let go of your dog.



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Our summer works have progressed well and we are currently involved with bracken spraying across parts of the site. We manage the bracken on the reserve every year to allow the heather plants to flourish. The bracken needs to be managed because the bracken litter will shade out the vegetation beneath it and allow nothing to grow. We will not be removing all of the bracken though, as it is used by Nightjars as shelter for their nests and many insects can be found around them.

There have been a few migrant birds on the reserve recently with a Wheatear seen briefly on the heath, obviously refuelling for the long journey back to Africa and there has also been a Greenshank heard only briefly flying over the reserve towards The Wash.

In a few weeks we will be beginning our winter work of scrub clearance and over the coming few weeks we will begin to cut down some of the small scrub areas in the bog and on the heath to continue the restoration to heathland. This year seems to have been a particular good flowering year for the heather especially on parts of the reserve that have been previously covered in scrub. Many of the recently cleared areas are showing good signs of regeneration with lots of heather plants appearing where the litter layer has been scraped back.

As I am writing this article there is a small feel of autumn in the air with dew forming on the car windows in the mornings. Whilst working on the reserve recently there have been a few signs of autumn particularly in some of the bird species. Greylag geese seem to be flocking together and flying over in large numbers to and from The Wash and it surely can't be too long before we begin seeing the first few pink footed geese.

As ever if anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer with us please get in contact with me. Look forward to meeting some of you on the reserve over the coming weeks.□

Tom Bolderstone, Reserve Warden, Natural England, Dersingham Bog NNR



The Cattle will help to manage areas of grass such as these at the back of the picture.

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The Butterfly County

David Bingham

'And the highest enjoyment of timelessness – in a landscape selected at random – is when I stand among rare butterflies and their food plants. This is ecstasy, and beyond the ecstasy is something else, which is hard to explain. It is like a momentary vacuum into which rushes all that I love. A sense of oneness with sun and stone. A thrill of gratitude to whom it may concern – to the contrapuntal genius of human fate or to tender ghosts humoring a lucky mortal.' Vladimir Nabakov

Reading a book about butterflies in the depth of a cold dark winter conjures up welcome images of the long hot summer days to come. Last winter, I read Patrick Barkham's book 'The Butterfly Isles', in which he describes his attempt to see all of Britain's fifty-nine butterfly species in a single year. A far too ambitious project for me but it did inspire me to dust down my old copy of Butterfly Conservation's 'Millennium Atlas of Norfolk Butterflies', which describes all of the county's thirty-three species with distribution maps and flight periods. Nothing can stop a nerd on a mission and I was out on the first warm day of the year intent on starting what I hoped would be a full list of the butterflies that breed in Norfolk. I expected to see a bedraggled small tortoiseshell or peacock that had spent the winter hibernating in someone's garage or shed but this first sortie was unsuccessful. I saw my first butterfly of the year on the 24th of February - a sparkling fresh brimstone that looked newly emerged from its chrysalis. Unfortunately, this was in Bedfordshire so it didn't count. Neither did the one I saw from a train window on the 11th of March because I was travelling through Cambridgeshire at the time. However, the train was travelling at around 70mph so I will claim it as the highest speed identification of the year. I was driving through Dersingham the very next day at a sedate 30mph when I spotted my first Norfolk butterfly and again it was a fresh brimstone. Its distinctive sulphur yellow wings were very obvious as it flew towards the social club, over the head of a young boy who was holding some red and blue balloons. I was off and running and the summer has been a bit of a blur of butterflies as I tried to coordinate visits to the right places, at the right times, in the right weather conditions.

Norfolk is a fairly average county for butterflies and has lost eleven species over the past hundred years. So my task would have been harder in Victorian times in regards to the number of species I would have to find, but from accounts written back then the actual number of butterflies seen would have been far higher. Apart from the common garden butterflies I had to visit nature reserves and other protected sites to see butterflies that would have once been widespread. This is not to point a finger at the landowners of Norfolk because some butterflies have very exacting requirements, not only regarding their food plants but also the close relationship some of them form with species of ants that look after their caterpillars and pupae. It would be unreasonable to expect a farmer to know about this and many professional conservationists are only just coming to understand the complexity of butterfly ecology.

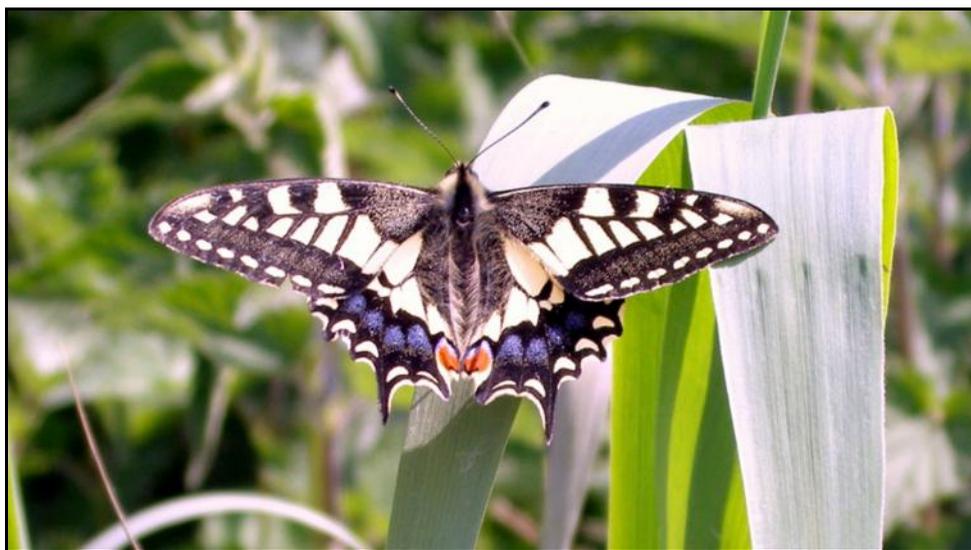
Norfolk is, however, home to Britain's largest butterfly – the spectacular swallowtail. Our swallowtails are a different subspecies from the ones that occur on the continent and we have a particular duty to look after them. They had a good year and I'm quite pleased with the swallowtail photograph I took. I saw them at the Strumpshaw Fen RSPB Reserve and in Dr George's garden, which is on rising ground adjoining the fen. He had a sign in the garden giving an open invitation for anyone to enter if they wanted to photograph swallowtails in his flowerbeds. This made a change from the usual Norfolk - '*get off my land*' - sign.

Peter Barkham filled his book with anecdotes about butterfly enthusiasts past and present. I met a number of butterfly watchers on my travels and they seemed a more relaxed bunch than their bird focussed brethren. I don't think that many catch and pin butterflies in cabinets these days. Posting photos taken with their high tech cameras on Flickr seems to have replaced this old fashioned and rather grisly aspect of the hobby. I met a man from Dersingham (Mick or Mike) on the disused railway line at Narborough who told me that he knew someone in Dersingham who was only one away from seeing all fifty-nine British butterflies. There were also a heartening

number of youngsters looking for butterflies and one young lad out with his mother at Narborough put me onto my first green hairstreak of the year. He was very knowledgeable and when we met his total for the year was well above mine. He was also the only person I saw using a butterfly net to capture and identify butterflies. If I'd walked around with a butterfly net at his age I'm sure I would have ended up wearing it! Not everyone I met was so focussed on butterflies and a lady on Kelling Heath used a few choice words *just* because my car was blocking the access road needed by the fire brigade as a raging wildfire swept across the heath towards her house. After the fire had been put out she calmed down and was more helpful – giving directions to where I could see some silver - studded blues. The funniest encounter of the year was with a chap who was returning to his car on a very hot day at Holkham. He had left his wife knitting and had been searching, unsuccessfully, for dark green fritillaries in the dunes. When I said I had seen some and pointed to the place, about an hour's walk away, his expression became a picture of indecision - torn between a desire to see the butterflies and fear of aggravating an already overcooked wife.

My favourite butterfly moment of the year was seeing the chalkhill blues at Warham Iron Age hillfort - a fantastic location with brilliant iridescent milky blue butterflies. The chalkhill blue is one of Norfolk's extinct butterflies and their unofficial re-introduction at Warham is frowned on by the purists (and actually illegal without a licence) - naughty but nice.

I'd expected to see painted ladies in the garden because, even though their numbers fluctuate, they are usually a relatively common butterfly. They are immigrants and start their journey from North Africa early each year – flying north in enormous numbers and breeding on the way. In good years, such as 2009, some of them get as far as the Arctic Circle. This hasn't been a good year and I was struggling to find one to complete my list. The idea struck me that finding a place near the sea where lots of heavily scented flowers grow would be a cunning plan. So I chose a hot sunny day and set out for the Sensory Garden in Boston Square, Hunstanton - in search of the elusive painted lady. And there it was (actually found by my wife) – mission accomplished. It was a fine specimen and was feeding well in the bright sunshine. It was amazing to think that this insect's great grandparents probably set out from the deserts of North Africa at about the same time that I started my list. This one may have flown over from the continent and could be part of the generation that will fly high into the sky and set off south this autumn on the long flight to Africa – retracing the journey made by their forebears. As the butterfly expert Matthew Oates likes to put it, “never underestimate a butterfly”.



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| My List | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| Brimstone | 12 March | Dersingham |
| Small White | 08 April | Dersingham |
| Peacock | 07 April | Dersingham |
| Red Admiral | 09 April | Dersingham |
| Orange Tip | 09 April | Dersingham |
| Holly Blue | 19 April | Snettisham (Churchyard) |
| Speckled Wood | 21 April | Snettisham (Ken Hill Wood) |
| Green-veined White | 30 April | Dersingham |
| Green Hairstreak | 01 May | Narborough (Railway Line, NWT) |
| Small Heath | 03 May | Snettisham (RSPB) |
| Small Copper | 03 May | Snettisham (RSPB) |
| Common Blue | 10 May | Foulden Common |
| Grizzled Skipper | 10 May | Foulden Common |
| Dingy Skipper | 10 May | Foulden Common |
| Brown Argus | 20 May | Snettisham (RSPB) |
| Wall Brown | 20 May | Snettisham (RSPB) |
| Swallowtail | 21 May | Strumpshaw Fen (RSPB) |
| Small Tortoiseshell | 10 June | Sutton Fen (RSPB) |
| Meadow Brown | 10 June | Sutton Fen (RSPB) |
| Large Skipper | 10 June | Sutton Fen (RSPB) |
| White Admiral | 21 June | Snettisham (Ken Hill Wood) |
| Comma | 21 June | Snettisham (Ken Hill Wood) |
| White-letter Hairstreak | 26 June | Holkham Meals (Natural England) |
| Ringlet | 26 June | Holkham Meals (Natural England) |
| Silver-studded Blue | 26 June | Kelling Heath |
| Small Skipper | 10 July | Ringstead (Courtyard Farm) |
| Gatekeeper | 10 July | Ringstead (Courtyard Farm) |
| Purple Hairstreak | 11 July | Narborough (Railway Line, NWT) |
| Large White | 17 July | King's Lynn |
| Chalkhill Blue | 24 July | Warham (Hillfort) |
| Dark Green Fritillary | 31 July | Holkham Dunes (Natural England) |
| Grayling | 02 August | Snettisham (RSPB) |
| Essex Skipper | 02 August | Snettisham (RSPB) |
| Painted Lady | 21 August | Hunstanton (Boston Square) |

Books to warm you on cold winter nights:-

- Millennium Atlas of Norfolk Butterflies, BR Watts & BJ McIlwrath (available from the Norfolk Branch of Butterfly Conservation at <http://norfolk-butterflies.org.uk/> - also a good site for info on where to find Norfolk's rarer butterflies)
- The Butterflies of Britain & Ireland, Jeremy Thomas & Richard Lewington, British Wildlife Publishing.
- The Butterfly Isles - a summer in search of our Emperors and Admirals, Patrick Barkham, Granta.

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Sandringham Squirrels

by Alan Coleby



Girl squirrels - Ella,
Eve, Cassie, Thora

Boy squirrels - Scoot,
Chip, Barney, Gus



‘Don’t Leave Me’

The days were getting cooler after the heat of the summer. The leaves were beginning to change their colour, and the fruit in the fields and orchards was big and colourful. The strawberries in the farmer’s field the other side of the houses were red and swollen. You could see the pickers working their way along the rows each day now, and then taking away full boxes of strawberries each afternoon.

In the orchard behind the fence the other side of the gorse, the apples and pears were ripening.



A bit earlier, Scoot, Cassie and Eve had eaten some of the cherries they had found, but just after that, the cherries disappeared and so the farmer’s men must have picked them all. The apples and pears changed a bit later - from dark green to red and a light yellow colour, and now Scoot, Barney and Chip, with Ella, Cassie and Eve, had gone to the orchard.

The girls stayed in the apple trees but the boys decided it was more fun to climb the pear trees because they were taller and thinner. The branches were close, and there was quite a lot of ivy, and so the boys constantly called to each other to find out where on the pear trees they were.

There was much munching and calling out about how good the pears tasted, when suddenly Barney let out a great scream.

‘What’s the matter with you?’ called Scoot. ‘We don’t want to let people know we are here, or that dog might come nosing round the orchard again.’

‘Well, there’s a great pain in my front paw,’ said Barney, ‘right in the palm where I hold onto the tree branches. Oooh! It hurts so much I can’t touch anything with it.’

‘Did it come on suddenly, then,’ asked Scoot, ‘or were you swinging from a branch and twisted it?’ Barney was not one to make a fuss over nothing, and Scoot was taking what he said seriously. He did not want him to scream again.

‘It came on suddenly. I was reaching up and holding onto a pear before pulling it. Then it came on.’

‘Is it swelling up?’

‘Yes. Oooh! It hurts so much,’ said Barney and he whimpered a little. Again, this was not like him.

‘Come to my tree and I’ll have a look,’ said Scoot. ‘I expect you’ve been stung by a bee or a wasp. There are lots of them round the fruit when it’s ripening.’

‘No. I can’t swing about because it hurts too much to grip the branches.’

‘Well, you’ll have to go down the trunk backwards, just holding on by one hand,’ said Scoot, ‘and I’ll see you on the ground.’

When Scoot had got down onto the ground, he had to wait some time for Barney, and he heard him coming down his tree slowly, calling out because his hand hurt so much. Chip also came to see what had happened, and they were joined by the three girls.



Barney's hand really was very swollen, and he was still moaning with the pain.

'Yes. It's a bee sting,' said Chip. 'You don't see them when they're the other side of the pear you are trying to get hold of. You'll just have to wait for the swelling to go down, which it will do eventually.'

'Sometimes it doesn't,' said Scoot, 'and it kills some squirrels.'

'Oh, thank you very much,' said Barney. 'That's very helpful.'

'I'm worried about how much it's swelling,' said Chip. 'If you can't climb very fast, we don't want to get caught by any cats or dogs. We'd better get out of here, and get you back to your drey.'

So they made their way slowly out of the orchard, with Barney hopping along painfully, just using one hand. They climbed over the lower part of the fence. As they were going through the gorse, Barney stopped and squatted down.

'I suddenly feel really ill,' he said, 'and I'm ever so thirsty. I really need to drink some water.'

'There's that pond at the far end of the gorse bushes,' said Chip.

'Yes, but I don't think I'll get there,' said Barney. 'I feel too faint.'

'We'll have to see if we can get some water and bring it here,' suggested Ella, 'in acorn cups or something, or soak some big leaves and let him suck them.'

'No. We shouldn't bother,' added Chip. 'We're not like cats or dogs, who get looked after if they are ill. If one of us gets ill or injured, we have to just leave them, and if they don't get better, they die. Do you remember Basil last year, when his leg was cut badly, and it got all swollen and changed colour and he couldn't walk or climb? Well, eventually he died because there was nothing we could do for him. We'll just have to leave Barney.'

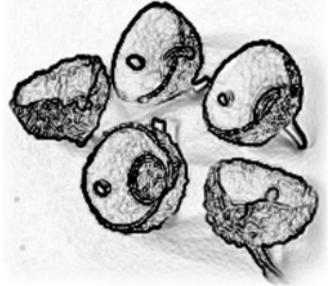
'Oh, no, you don't.' This was Eve's voice. 'If we leave him, he can't run fast, and something will get him.' Eve was usually a quiet girl, but she was full of anger. She was shouting and looking at Chip and Scoot. 'I'm telling you, Chip, and you, Scoot,' she said, 'if you leave Barney, I'll never be your friend again, even if you are my brother, Scoot.'

There was silence. Everyone was quite shocked at how loudly Eve was shouting.

At first, Scoot did not know what to say, but then he muttered, 'Alright, then.'

In the end, Chip crawled along to the pond with Barney on his back. Then he set him down at the water's edge and he had a good long drink of cool water. His hand was just as painful and the swelling had not gone down. Scoot and Chip took turns to carry him back to his drey.

His hand was really swollen and for a long time, but finally, because his mum looked after him so well, he got better and made friends again with Scoot and Chip.□



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REYNOLD'S SHOP Elizabeth Fiddick

The shop owned by the Reynolds family that was shown in the last issue of Village Voice used to stand at the junction of Post Office Road and Chapel Road. The late Mr. Peter Reynolds spoke of it



when we interviewed him for the village Millennium Project. He told us that it was built by his paternal grandfather on the land he obtained after the allocation of the former village Goose Green under the Enclosure Acts of 1870. He remembered that his grandmother kept the shop and that the holly tree that can be seen in front in the photograph was kept trim by the annual clipping of its berries at Christmastide. These berries decorated the Holly wreaths that were sold by his father from the nursery that he ran on Post Office Road. The only reminder of the nursery now is the house Roseneath built by Peter's father which still stands and was where Mr. Reynolds was born. Peter recalled the greenhouses there where his father grew tomatoes and cucumbers as well as the shrubs and roses that he imported from Holland.

At his grandfather's shop he remembered that a bell just inside the shop door rang whenever anyone entered. On the counter were scales and weights, jars of sweets and trays of many household things like laces, black lead, polishes and soaps. There was a large wooden cupboard at the back with drawers for ginger, cinnamon and cloves. His grandmother would serve the customers dressed in her black dress and white mob cap.

Walking on from the shop down Chapel Road towards the Main Road you would have passed a small storage shed and a stable with a hay loft above. Next there was a small yard, a barn with a piggery behind it and then behind a carstone wall was an orchard planted by his grandfather. All of these buildings were demolished and the bungalows of the sheltered housing and the library now occupy the site. Only the name Orchard Close reminds us of what once was there.

The Walden Family

After these old buildings you would have come to the yard that housed the Smithy and Wheelwright's shop which was owned and run at this time by Robert Walden the father of Millicent who was featured in the photograph. The house that still stands there today was called The Laurels and then at a later date The Old Forge.

The photo of the "troshin tackle" machine was taken in the 1920s and the steam engine and threshing machine can be seen. It was taken in the yard of the smithy and Robert Walden the blacksmith is on the driving platform with Mr. Porter the wheelwright in his white apron and a Mr. Hailstone standing alongside the rear wheels. Mr. Hailstone is wearing a leather trousered, belly bibbed, farrier's apron.

At a later date this house was the home of the owners of Twaite's garage that used to stand at the



corner of Post Office Road where the block of flats has been built. The black and white timbered building at the back of the house was once a workshop for that garage.

The Walden family are first recorded in the 1881 census returns. William Walden, born in Thornham, is listed as a joiner with wife Sarah, son William 3 and daughter Sarah just 11 months old. In later records William is recorded as a builder living in Chapel Road. If you look carefully at the front of the Forester's Hall which was opened in 1893 there is a stone there listing the members of the building committee and the builders *Chambers, Walden & Hudson*. Walden's Barns and the house that has just recently been renovated can be clearly seen on the map of 1884.

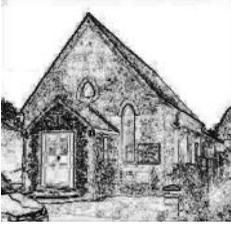
The barns were quietly decaying when I first came to the village but now have been restored to very pleasant residences. Next to the Barns stand Coronation Cottages which were built in 1902. The Waldens lived in Number 1 and ran an undertaker's business from there.

Tricia Ralph, who with her husband has renovated the "Old House" writes that, after the Waldens the house was sold to Mrs Eileen Ferris who subsequently sold it to Tricia's parents in 1951 and her mother, Vivienne Reynolds, continued to live there until her death in 2007.

Next time we will be exploring the renovations that have brought this property up to date in splendid style. □



Dated 2nd October 1902, this picture shows Mr Walden & his assistant standing where there is now a drive



Dersingham Methodist Church

The Methodist year began on 1st September, on behalf of everyone at Dersingham Methodist Church may I wish you all a Happy New Year! A new year always means looking back to what has happened before, we at Post Office Road have had an enjoyable year in many ways. We welcomed many people to our monthly lunches, monthly coffee mornings, monthly jigsaw club, fortnightly needle and pins club and weekly bowls club. We raised funds for several different charities including the QEH's transport incubator appeal, East Anglia Children's Hospice, Talking Newspapers, Action for Children, as well as supporting particular Methodist work overseas and at home. We were delighted to host the Village Community lunch in May and also raise funds for the transport incubator appeal.

Our Church hall continues to be well used for many village activities. Sunday services are well attended with between 45 and 55 in the mornings and up to 24 in the evenings. Visitors to the area have joined us on many occasions including the annual Easter visit of Wisbech scouts who camp at Wolferton. Looking back can also stir sad memories as during the year we have lost good friends who have died or moved out of the area, all of them, however, are remembered with great affection.

So what about our New Year? You will find us every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. and are very welcome to join us. Don't forget the monthly lunches 1st Monday of the month 12.15 p.m., Mondays needles and pins club fortnightly at 2.00 p.m., Wednesday weekly bowls club at 2.00 p.m., jigsaw club 3rd Thursday at 9.30 a.m. Coffee mornings will be held on Saturday 22nd October, Saturday 26th November, 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon. Join us for any of our activities. □

Elizabeth Batstone

Dersingham Community Lunches Announcement

After almost three years of running Dersingham Community Lunches a decision has been taken, with regret, to discontinue them due to difficulties found in the process of planning and co-ordination of the events.

Although a notice has been issued by e-mail to those people who are registered on our database it is felt that some of our regular attendees may not have received the information that our 'Swan Song' will now be the CHRISTMAS DINNER AND DISCO which is to be held on Thursday 8th December 2011 at the Best Western Le Strange Arms Hotel at a cost of £20.00 per head.

Having said this, there are some of you who have approached me with the hope that the lunches could continue and a suggestion has been made that, even though the present organisers are resigning, somebody else may wish to take up the reins and, if so, then I am quite prepared to assist in handing over to them.

Should you feel that this is for you, please contact me -

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Dersingham Library

Library Events



Step into Storysacks

A free 10 week course on Tuesdays from 10-1 starting on September 20th and run by Norfolk Family Learning.

A storysack is a cloth bag that contains a children's book and various items relating to it. These items may include puppets and games and help capture children's interest in reading, while helping parents to 'bring the book to life'. On this course you will make and fill a storysack of your choice.

Crèche provided.

Places are limited to 12 so must be booked in advance by calling the library on 01485 540181

Who do you think you are?

Want to find out more about your ancestors? Then come along and find out how the AncestryLibrary.com website can help you.

We have tasters coming up over the next few months, where you can learn how to use this subscription site to search birth, marriage and death indexes and the England and Wales census online. Places are limited so please book by calling the library on 01485 540181.

Circus Stars medal ceremony

We are holding a presentation for all those children who have read six books for the Circus Stars summer reading challenge on Thursday 15th September from 5.30-6.30pm.

It's not too late to read your books if you haven't already. Remember that you can collect smelly stickers, bookmarks and other rewards as you read!

Our rescheduled talk "**The Ancient Borough of Castle Rising**" with Fred and Sylvia Cooke is now on Friday 16th September from 10.30-12.

Tickets are free but please book so that we can make sure we have enough chairs!

The library is open

Mondays from 10am-1pm and 2pm -7.30pm:

Wednesdays 10-1pm, 2-5pm

Thursdays from 10am-1pm and 2pm -7.30pm:

Saturdays 10-1pm

From Monday October 3rd our hours will change so that we will open

Mondays from 1.30pm - 7.30pm

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NEWS FROM ST CECILIA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

In July, some forty intrepid members of the parish set out on our traditional mystery tour. These are always a bit of an adventure. Fr James is the only person who knows our destination ... and sometimes there is some doubt about that! This year the group visited the fascinating Triangular Lodge at Rushton, Northants. The lodge was built in about 1595 by Sir Thomas Tresham, a Catholic and mystic



numerologist, and the building plan is based on the figure three, an expression of Tresham's faith in the Trinity. This was followed by a visit to the Eleanor Cross at Geddington, and finally Fotheringhay, famous as the place of execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, where the group posed for the traditional photograph.

Our barbecue in August was held in the middle of some pretty wet weather, but we were lucky enough to have one of the dry and fairly warm evenings of the month, and the event was a great success. We also raised around £550 for church funds, so thanks to all who supported us.

We held three further fundraising events in July and August. A coffee morning was held to support the Dominican community in Cerdon, in the Rhone-Alpes region of France, where the daughter of one of our parishioners is Mother Superior. We were very happy to see Sister Myriam when she visited us in August, and it was lovely that she was able to join the Rosary Group for prayer during her stay. Later a coffee morning and a session on the history of the parish took place to raise funds for the East Africa Crisis appeal. All three events were very generously supported, and were enjoyable social occasions.

All ladies from the local community are warmly invited to our Autumn Ladies' Lunch which is planned for November 12th. Admission is free, but you are asked to bring some food to share. We like to have some idea of numbers, so please call May Davey on 01485 540737 if you would like to join us. You will be made most welcome.

There may be people reading this who were once members of this or another Catholic community. Please be assured that you will be very welcome should you decide to join us for a service or social occasion.



Refreshments are served after the 9am Mass at Dersingham on the first Sunday of the month. We also have a friendly and informal gathering after the 10.15 Mass at Dersingham on Wednesdays. Do come and visit – we'd love to see you.

For more photos and information, visit our website:

www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org

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The Dersingham Weather Observed by John F. Murray

The autumn seems to have arrived early this year with apples and pears fruiting about a month or so earlier than normal. This has certainly caught me out. I wasn't planning on picking them so early and subsequently the wasps have had more than their fair share of my fruit. I ended up hastily crushing and pressing pears and managed to make some wine with them so as not to waste too many.

I'm sure that you all noticed how our warm early summer seemed to disappear with the coming of July. This year the mean temperature was only 15.9°C. Last year it reached 19.1° and the previous year it was 17°. The high temperature was also down on previous years. I recorded a high of 27.2° whereas the previous two years were 31.4° and 30.4°. The lowest recorded temperature was 6.5° whereas previously it was 8.8° and 8.1° so overall you can see that it was a much cooler month.

In July we had 69.6mm of rainfall which is actually slightly lower than the average for the month at 71.7mm. However I am not totally convinced that this is a realistic average because in July 2009 we had a lot of rain, namely 106mm, which will have affected the average.

Initially I felt that August was not too good a month. The Met. Office also said that, countrywide, it was the coolest for 18 years but my figures do not support this and I was quite surprised, pleasantly, that is, when I looked at what I had recorded.

As far as rain is concerned we were once again below average. I recorded a total of 52.6mm; the monthly average being 73.2mm. However, last August was particularly wet with 113.2mm. There was one day that stands out as far as the rain is concerned and that was the 3rd. The rain started at 5pm and in the next half an hour we had 16mm. That is a little under two thirds of an inch. I was out in the car at the time and it really came down. As I drove along Lynn Road I could see that several houses had water lapping over the front door threshold. Budgens car park was like a swimming pool as the drainage system simply couldn't cope.

Temperatures for August were evidently better than the rest of the country that the Met. Office was monitoring. The mean temperature was 16.5°C which is a tiny bit warmer than last year at 16.2° but cooler than 2009 which was 18.1°. The high temperature was 31.2° compared to the two previous years at 26.5° and 28.4°. The lowest recorded was 7.0° which puts it slap bang in the middle of the two previous years. These figures seem to indicate that we fared better than the rest of Britain, which seems to support my long held belief that overall the weather here is the best in the country!

We are now two thirds of the way through the year and have had a total of 319mm of rain. This time last year I had recorded 402mm so we are still a long way behind and it will take some very heavy rainfall if we are to catch up. But of course, even last year was less than the year before so we shall see if we are going to continue the trend.

In the meantime I am hoping for a good September as I have some holidays booked and some logs to cut, split and stack before the winter sets in. Don't forget to check out the current weather conditions using the link from the Parish web site. There are plenty of you who are doing so and I am continuing to get plenty of hits. I was a little unsure when I first started these articles but the number of hits is showing me that, being British, we have an interest in our weather. □

Nar Valley Ornithological Society

Tuesday 25th October 2011, 7.30pm at the
Barn Theatre, Sacred Heart Convent School,
Mangate Street, Swaffham.

“Birding in Kazakhstan”

A talk by our own Professor Fred Cooke.
Visitors (£2) and new members will be most
welcome.

Come along to find out about our monthly
outdoor bird-watching trips and other events.
Refreshments available.

THE OLD BIDDIE AND HER COTTAGE GARDEN

By Valerie Anckorn.

The ladies who have the wonderful old horse chestnut trees in the garden opposite mine tell me that the trees have been aged at about two hundred and fifty years old and that the tree surgeons assure them that, despite the disease, the trees should have another few decades left, though they are coming to the end of their natural life span. Well, that's good news. Those old trees must have seen some comings and goings along Manor Road in all that time, then!

So, what is horse chestnut good for? It has apparently been used cosmetically to improve the appearance of varicose veins. It has also been promoted for relief of swelling or inflammation of joints, tendons and muscles and even haemorrhoids. It has been used orally to improve symptoms of fatigue and pain, night-time cramping, itching and swelling in the legs. I don't know what part is used – the flowers, oils, or what, but there we are, nature provides useful medical aid everywhere we look in our gardens and countryside. It's just a shame we don't know how to properly use them.

I'm fed up because the garden looks awful. I turned my back for a couple of minutes and overnight the blasted mares-tail had taken over the garden, growing so tall and hiding all the lovely plants. I can't work in the heat, even though July took a downward turn weather-wise, it's still been too hot for me – or maybe I've just used up my energy. The doc was horrified when I said I do a lot of digging and hauling around of pots – I thought the exercise would do me good, but it's supposed to be sedentary exercise that old biddies like me should pursue - like gentle perambulations along daisy strewn meadows.... I have to say I have had a few sharp pains as I have dug and delved out there then thought, carrying on, well I think I would rather be felled here than washing some boring old saucepan...However, some valiant attempts on my part and it's getting back in shape again.

Despite putting up wire to keep in the dog and the deer out, I saw a sweet little deer nibbling one early morning in the front garden. I was so thrilled to have seen it that I forgave it any damage, but while there is a gap for entry, it's not going to be stupid is it and think – 'I shouldn't go in there'. I'll have to get a nice wrought iron gate now - that's the next thing to think about.

I spoke about flies everywhere in the old days, last time I wrote. I think I spoke too soon in that we don't get many these days. I've been inundated with the horrid things, especially in my bedroom where I keep the windows open and have some high ones that don't open where the flies beat themselves to death trying to get out. (I have fat spiders up there with smiles on their faces) The flies, horse flies, bees, wasps, moths, mosquitoes all buzz merrily in and then can't find their silly ways out again and buzz and flap all day and well into the night. The other night I woke up a bit puzzled and felt pain in my leg and sleepily realised I was being stung – and there was a poor bee stinging me in the leg – clearly I had been squashing it. After carefully putting it outside on a

flower to recuperate and waking myself properly, I saw that I had been stung about five times. I thought bees could only sting once, and then their barb became stuck in you and they died in an attempt to free themselves. Well, my bee hadn't died, so there I was, in the middle of the night, googling 'can bees sting more than once?' and found out that yes, they can! Only honeybees have the barb, and there are different types of bees that can sting over and over. The rash covered about half my lower leg for over two weeks, and drove me nearly insane. I knew I hadn't had any allergic reaction – but what amazed me was that such a little bit of venom, bearing in mind the bee was quite small, could cause such discomfort. So, as well as coughing myself stupid with a virus and itching like mad I've been a poorly person. Added to which, in order to alleviate the itching at night, I left my legs out of the sheets to keep them cool, which thrilled passing mosquitoes as they dug into my flesh with relish. I've keep quite a few of these nasty creatures well nourished. I hope the bee venom somehow got to them via my blood and gave them a stomach ache.



By the way, a good old wives potion for sore and coughy throats: Squeeze half a lemon into a jug, add honey to taste and pour slightly cooled boiled water over. Leave for a while, and sip either warm or cold. It keeps the cough at bay, is soothing to a sore throat and is far better than any commercial product that I know of.

I don't know about you, but I'm of the old school of feet and inches and just cannot understand centimetres and metres. Tell me a measurement in inches or feet and I can visualise it immediately and would probably be exact if I was tested on it...but it's got to the stage now where old measurements are not included on anything, so I get completely flummoxed. I like eucalyptus bushes and trees very much – the leaf shape, the colour, the aroma, so decided to get one for outside my bedroom. I know that there are varying sizes and some eucalyptus grow very tall indeed. Well, I couldn't gauge what it said on the ticket and hoped it was a short bushy one, but after two years in the soil and despite some vigorous pruning, it's almost taller than the house now. When I find some energy I must try and dig it out and plant it elsewhere, bearing in mind that the root span of trees are more or less equal to its height and the last thing we need are huge eucalyptus roots pushing their way through the footings!

I think I might have spawned a monster, planting that fedge of mine. The part along the pavements behave themselves and have not grown a lot, but the part nearer the house I declare touched the clouds the other day. I am prone to exaggerate a tad, but I have been alarmed at the height. I thought, hmm, better cut that, then forgot for a week or so, and then off they went like Jack's demented beanstalks. I suppose I'll just about get the hang of it and then I'll be too doddery to wield the loppers.

I've managed a few vegetables this year, in pots – runner beans, French beans, peas and lettuce. I've never been a vegetable grower, preferring space to be filled with flowers, but pleased with this year's crops, shall endeavour to grow more next year – they look nice in the pots, I don't have to bend over so much and surprisingly the pigeons have left them alone. However, they do need to be watered more when in pots.

The butterflies are out in full force now the buddleia bushes are in flower. Buddleias are straggly affairs, but their flowers smell so beautiful, and bees and butterflies thrive on them, so they are always included in my gardens. They are very resilient too, finding toeholds in the most inappropriate places – I remember as a child visiting London after all the bomb damage, and noticing from the train that buddleias had seeded themselves on the ruins of houses, sometimes high up the tumbling walls and were blooming prettily away, making the sombre scene less, well, sombre. The flowers apparently can be used for infusions to treat a range of eye conditions, to reduce muscle spasms and can also be used to treat sexually transmitted diseases such as gonorrhoea. There's a bit more information you didn't ask for, but you never know, never know... The leaves are green all through winter too, an added bonus to our bare winter months. And talking of bare winter months it is a horrible thought to know that winter is actually just around the corner and the leaves will begin to fall and then the garden goes to sleep and the poor birds suffer...

As it is gloomy and bleak as I write this in mid-July it's not too difficult to think of winter. Let's hope for an Indian summer to cheer us up and take us right into November...think positive, think positive!

You may remember I have fallen through a few garden chairs this year. Well, having just cut the willow fedge and loaded it up in the car for the dump (willow bark is used to ease pain and reduce inflammation – white willow contains salicin, similar to aspirin) I thought I would sit carefully on the garden bench and admire my work. No sooner than I was down, then I was up again, like the Grand Old Duke of York. My legs were covered in irate ants – and sprinting fast up my trouser legs. I've never been attacked like that before, nor have I moved so quickly in years! I ran into the house shedding clothes and shoes – and to think I have only just got over the bee stings!

I've made a long list of desire from one of those 'dangerous' bulb catalogues. If I dare order them, my garden will be a riot of colour come Spring time. Will I be tempted or not? You will have to wait until March and April to discover. □

Cheers, The Old Biddie.

Dersingham Parish Council Office Opening Times

Due to staff sickness, the Parish Council Office at 7b Hunstanton Road will be open at the following times until further notice:

Monday, Tuesday 10.30am - 2pm Wednesday 10.30am - 12.30pm

Please telephone the office on 01485 541465 to check it is open before calling in, or to leave a message. You can also email to dersinghampc@tiscali.co.uk.

In case of emergency, please ring the Acting Clerk on 07950 169244

We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this .

DIARY OF REGULAR EVENTS

Do please let us know if any of these details change.

| Date | Time | Organisation | Event | Venue |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Every Monday | 2.00 pm | St. Cecilia's Church | Rosary Group | St. Cecilia's Church |
| Every Monday | 2.00 pm or 7.30 pm | Freebridge Community Housing | Bingo | Orchard Close |
| Every Monday | 6.30 - 8.00pm | Dersingham Cubs | Meeting for boys age 8 - 10 1/2 | Scout & Guide HQ Manor Road |
| 1st Monday of Month | 12.15 pm | Methodist Church | Lunch at the Chapel | Methodist Church, PO Rd |
| 3rd Monday of Month | 6 pm | Dersingham Library | Dersingham Reading Group | Library |
| Every Monday in Term Time | 12.45 to 2.15 am | Sticking Together | Toddler Craft Group Meeting | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| Last Monday in the Month | 7.15 pm | Dersingham Parish Council | Full Council Meeting | Infant and Nursery School, Saxon Way |
| Every Tuesday | 5.30 to 7 pm | 2nd Dersingham Brownie Guide Group | Meeting for girls aged 7 - 10 years | Scout & Guide HQ Manor Road |
| Every Tuesday | 10 to 3pm | Lavender Lace Makers | Lace Making | ? |
| Every Tuesday | 7 pm | Dersingham Bridge Club | Bridge Evening | ? |
| Every Tuesday in Term Time | 8.30 to 11.15 am | St Nicholas Parent & Toddler Group | Parent & Toddler Group Meeting | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| Every Tuesday | 8 pm | Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes | Sandringham Lodge Meeting | ? |
| 1st or 2nd Monday in the Month | 2.15 pm | Royal British Legion Women's Section | Dersingham & Sandringham Branch Meeting | Orchard Close Community Room |
| 1st Tuesday of the Month | 7.30 pm | Village Voice 'Live' | Presentations by Guest Speakers | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| 1st Tuesday of the Month | 7.30 pm | Dersingham Methodist Church | Art Club | Dersingham Methodist Church Hall |
| 2nd Tuesday in Month | 7.30 pm | Royal British Legion | Branch Meeting | ? |
| 2nd Tuesday in Month | 6pm | Dersingham Library | Crime Book club | Library |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Last Tuesday in month | 6pm | Dersingham Library | Book Club | Library |
| Every Wednesday | 10.00 am to 4.00 pm | Dersingham Day Centre for the Elderly | Recreation & Leisure and Mid-day Meal | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| Every Wednesday | 10.30 to 11.30am | Music+Movement | Pre-school Music, Dance & Drama | Dersingham Methodist Church Hall |
| Every Wednesday | 2.00 to 4.00 pm | Dersingham Methodist Church | Carpet Bowls | Dersingham Methodist Church Hall |
| Every Wednesday | 6.00 to 7.15 pm | Beavers | Meeting for children aged 6 - 8 | Scout & Guide HQ Manor Road |
| Every 2nd Weds of the Month | 10.30 am | St Nicholas Men's Group | Men's Group Meeting | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| Every 2nd Weds of the month | | Dersingham Walking Group | Circular walk | See programme for details or contact Keith Starks 542268 |
| Every 2nd Weds of the Month Sept to April | 7.30 pm | Albert Victor Bowls Club | Prize Bingo | Albert Victor Bowls Club, Manor Road |
| 3rd Wednesday of the Month | 7.15 to 10.00 pm | Dersingham Evening Women's Institute | Meeting | St Cecilia's Church Hall |
| Every Thursday | 10.3 am to 3.00 pm | North West Norfolk Phobbies Club | Meeting | St. Nicholas Church Hall |
| Every Thursday | 4.00 to 5.15 pm | 1st Dersingham Rainbow Guide Group | Meeting for girls aged 5-7 years | Scout & Guide HQ Manor Road |
| Every Thursday | 5.30 to 7.00 pm | 1st Dersingham Brownie Guide Group | Meeting for girls aged 7-10 years | Scout & Guide HQ Manor Road |
| Every Thursday | 7.00 to 8.30 pm | 1st Sandringham Guides | Unit Meeting | St Cecilia's Church Hall |
| Every Thursday | 7.00 to 9.00 pm | 1st Dersingham Scouts | Group Meeting | Scout & Guide HQ |
| Every Thursday | 7.00 to 9.30 pm | Norfolk Army Cadet Force | Sandringham Detachment Meeting | The Drill Hall, Dodds Hill |
| Every Thursday | 7.30 pm | St Nicholas Church | Badminton Club | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| Every Thurs Sept -June | 2 pm | Park House Hotel | Rubber Bridge | Park House Hotel |
| Every Thursday | 7.30 pm | Hunstanton and District Camera Club | Meeting | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| 1st Thursday of Month | | Dersingham Flower Club | Meeting | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| 2nd Thursday of Month | 7.30 pm | Dersingham Horticultural Society | Meeting | St Cecilia's Church Hall |
| 3rd Thursday of the Month | 9.30 to 10.30 am | Dersingham Methodist Church Jigsaw Club | Meeting | Dersingham Methodist Church Hall |
| Every Friday | 9.45 am | Freebridge Community Housing | Coffee Morning | Orchard Close |
| Every Friday in Term Time | 9.15 to 10.45am | Puddleducks Toddler Group | Toddler Group meeting | Scout & Guide HQ |
| Every Friday | 6.30 to 8 pm | 1st Dersingham Guide Unit | Unit Meeting | Scout & Guide HQ |
| Every Friday | 6.45 to 9.15 pm | Dersingham Carpet Bowls Club | Club Meeting | St George's Middle School |
| Alternate Fridays | 2.15 to 4.30 pm | Dersingham Seniors Club | Entertainment and Outings for the over-60s | St Cecilians Church |
| 1st Friday of month | 10.00 to 12 noon | St Nicholas Church | Coffee Morning | St Nicholas Church Hall |
| Every 3rd Saturday of the month | 10 to 3 pm | Lavender Lace Makers | Lace Making | ? |

Village Voice publication dates

We love getting your reports of events and meetings, advertisements and advance details of forthcoming attractions. To make sure you hit your targets please note the publication dates of this magazine:-

| No | Copy deadline | Publication date |
|-------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| No 73 | Wednesday 9th November | Monday 28th Nov |
| No 74 | Wednesday 18th January 2012 | Monday 6th Feb |

The earlier you get your copy to us the more we like it and the better position it gets.

Advertising in Village Voice

The Editorial Team would like to thank all of those who so generously support our magazine by placing advertisements in it, for without the income so generated there would be a possibility of the publication ceasing to exist. With this in mind it would be helpful if you were to support those who do advertise, and to then let them know that you used their services because you saw their promotion in our magazine. For those readers who perhaps provide a local service but who do not currently advertise with us, you may consider a fee of from £15.10 for an eighth of a page black and white or £21.25 for colour per issue, to be very cost effective. (Prices include VAT)

Advertisements for inclusion in the next magazine should be in the hands of Anita Moore, Dersingham Parish Council, 7b Hunstanton Rd, Dersingham PE31 6HH by **Wednesday 9th November 2011**

Enquiries regarding advertisements may be made by calling 01485 541465.

E-mail — villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk

Articles for publication in the next edition of Village Voice must reach The Editor c/o Dersingham Parish Council, 7b Hunstanton Road, Dersingham PE31 6HH or e-mail; villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk before the **deadline date of mid-day on Wednesday 9th November 2011 for publication on Monday 28th November 2011**. (Contributors who are promoting events should take note of this earliest date of publication). Should you be providing graphics to accompany advertisements or articles, it would be appreciated if these could be in JPEG format.

It must be pointed out that the editor encourages contributions but reserves the right to amend and edit as necessary. Any contributions received will be accepted on the understanding that, unless a specific request is made that names, addresses, etc are not used, these may be included in the publication and may be maintained on the Parish Council's database.

Due to limitations on space it is possible that some items received may not be published, or may be held for publication at a later date. Contributors should also be aware that published material will appear on the Parish Council's Internet web site. The copyright of all articles remains with the author. The editor does not necessarily agree with opinions that are expressed, or the accuracy of statements made, by contributors to the Village Voice.

Copies of most of the photographs published can be made available. Please enquire.

Village Voice is the bi-monthly Newsletter of Dersingham Parish Council

The Production Team for this edition consists of
Editor: - Tony Bubb. Editorial assistant - Rob Smyth
In the office - Gay Watt, Distribution - Steve Davis

Printed by Clanpress Ltd, Dundee Ct., Hamburg Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk

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VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday October 4th

THE PUBLIC VIEW OF STATELY HOMES

Helen Walch, who runs the public face of Sandringham, tells us how it's done.



St Nicholas Church Hall, Manor Road, Dersingham.
7.30 pm Admission £3.00 including refreshments & raffle

VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday November 1st

The Gaywood Valley Project

Gemma Cousins
&
Gemma Walker

The Gaywood River reaches out into the countryside to the east of King's Lynn. Its valley, which extends several miles either side of the river itself, is rich in wildlife and history and forms the Gaywood Valley Project

**GAYWOOD
VALLEY**

St Nicholas Church Hall, Manor Road, Dersingham.
7.30 pm Admission £3.00 including refreshments & raffle