

Issue 52

June 2008

Dersingham Village Voice



Dersingham Station
1959 see page 13

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Editor's Notes



I am grateful for the kind comments I have received about the last issue of the Voice. Whilst I enjoy the challenge, I am quite prepared to relinquish the post to someone else but as I have not been overwhelmed with applicants wishing to wrest the position from me and as I am “timed out” as PC chairman I will do the job for the time being.

Not only should this magazine be about Dersingham, it should also be by Dersingham. Tell us about your travels, they can inspire others. Whilst the old adage “a day out of Norfolk is a day wasted” still holds good, most of you go out on trips and away on holidays and presumably you enjoy them, so go on, share them. Do you have a favourite place? I have just been to mine - Buttermere in Cumbria pictured below. Send in a picture of yours and tell us about it.

Have you, or someone you know, achieved anything - academically, shed vast quantities of weight, walked the Pennine Way or raised money for a charity etc., etc.? Let us know.

The Dersingham website is back. Due to the government body “JANET” which regulates .gov sites being slower than a very slow thing we have a new address :- www.dersingham.org.uk . Our man is beavering away to get the site up to date but it takes time. If you spot something that is wrong please let the office know. Talking of websites do let us know of any favourites that you have. I will list a few each issue. Here is one of my choices to get the ball rolling:- www.subbrit.org.uk this is Subterranea Britannica - all about things underground.

The topic of ghosts came up the other day which set me to wondering if Dersingham has any? I don't recollect hearing about any hauntings but if you know differently please tell.

Readers will find the first offerings in our eating out section. Do feel free to send in your restaurant critiques but do make them positive. I will not be publishing damning reviews, only praise. Now I will let you go and devour the rest of the magazine. □

Tony Bubb



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ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



Dear Village Voice



I have recently moved back to Dersingham and received a copy of Village Voice 51 with the photograph on page 29 "these folk look glum can you shed any light?". The gentleman standing I am fairly sure is Mr Carr who was headmaster of the primary school opposite the Feathers during the late 50's and early 60's, the other gentleman sitting to the right of the page is Major Middleton who was my neighbour next door to Heath Garage, to the left facing the garage entrance.

Valerie Tyers

I'd like to let you know about Terry and John Wyer who used to live in the village up until 1963. They were the sons of Ronald and Connie Wyer and were born in 1940 and 1942 on Hunstanton Road in Dersingham. Ronald was a born and bred Dersingham lad and Connie was born in Snettisham in 1912. Ronald's parents, Kate and Edward also lived in the village until they passed away. Ron and Connie married in 1939 and bought a grocery shop on Hunstanton Road. They named it Cyclists Rest and served many customers up until 1963. During the 23 years that they owned the shop, the whole family loved serving the locals and really enjoyed meeting customers every day. John and Terry both enjoyed village life; John attended the Grammar school and Terry attended St George's school in the village and remembers some familiar faces, such as his best friend Robin Toop who still lives in the village and Sandy Morrison who left for London in the 1970's.

Terry was always found out on the village green playing football, or cricket whilst John was studying hard. Terry joined Kings Lynn football club for a short while in late 1950's, John left the village to go to Birmingham University in 1958 to study Chemistry. He used to travel back and forth from university on his scooter to see his parents come rain or shine. Terry began working for Boulton and Paul in Norwich at the age of 18, during which time he also studied at Norwich City College to become a Chartered Structural Engineer. He went on to design a stand at Norwich City football club whilst John was studying to finish his 7 years at university. He married a Lowestoft girl and they settled in Norwich with their daughter and now lives in Old Catton near Norwich Airport. John married one of his fellow students from university and they went to live in Whitley Bay for two years before moving to Guildford, where he became a lecturer in Chemistry. In 1986 John spent a year in California with his wife and two sons on an exchange with an American University.

Both of the boys are now in poor health. Terry attended a school reunion about three years ago for those who were 65 then and now that he has turned 65 he would love for that to happen for his year group. He is unable to organise it at this time but wondered if perhaps local lads Trevor Mace and Robin Toop may feel able to do it.

Janet Wyer

How I agree with the article in the April issue from Ann Chapman regarding parking on public footpaths and grass verges in the village. This is quite unnecessary especially in quiet traffic free side roads where virtually all the premises have driveways which will take at least two cars. I am pleased to see that since the article the grass area at the end of Post Office road has been re-laid and hopefully this will deter parking there, as it was gradually being turned into a muddy mess. There is ample room to park safely at that end of Post Office Road where it is wide enough for two cars to pass, even when there are cars parked there (as I have seen). There have been instances when my sister, with her grandson in a pushchair, has been forced to walk in the road because of vehicles parked on the pavement in Chapel Road. There is no reason for this at all.

D. Munkenbeck

This photo of George Tee and his family was taken about 1919 at Church Row, Shemborne Road.





George was one of the few Dersingham men to return from World War I. Standing are daughters Mary (Mrs Harry Leggett) and Joyce (Mrs N.P. Whilly of Woodside Close).

Joyce was born on 16 August 1914 and died on 4 February 2008. Her mother came to Dersingham about 1911, working as cook to Mr Dighton Probyn at Mill House. Joyce was the granddaughter of Sarah Elizabeth Tee, the daughter of 'Honest' John Green (who was mentioned as a cricketer at Sandringham in *Village Voice*, issue 48, October 2007, page 39). He died in 1899.

John Green, who married Charlotte Drew, was brother of Robert, and uncle of Richard Green. Richard married Emma Chambers of the Dersingham family and was twice Mayor of King's Lynn, dying in office in 1923.

My special thanks to Lynda McInemey and her team of carers at *The Gables* Residential Care Home, Post Office Road, for giving

Joyce excellent care and attention over seven years.

A.M. Whilly

I will be rather sad to leave Dersingham – where I have lived for nearly nine years – and West Norfolk – where I have lived since 1963, but we all have to make the most of what life throws at us, where e' re we may go!! Having seen two sisters and their families off to Australia in the early 1970s (they are still there!), my move from West to South Norfolk seems a doddle!! Thanks to the *Village Voice* for publishing my poems in the past. I have just composed the following poem for you. *Kathys last poem for us is on page 67.*

Kathy Jordan

A comment on Dear Village Voice, edition 51. Ref the letter from Bernie Twite. Bernie states that "*at one time a cricket match was part of the flower show and at that time all school children on the estate got complimentary tickets.*"

Although the show moves on, the traditions do not change a cricket match is still part of the Sandringham Flower Show, and all school children at schools on the Sandringham Estate still get complimentary tickets.

Paul Murrell R.V.M. Treasurer & Show Organiser Sandringham Flower Show

It was lovely to see the picture of the airman and his Penny Farthing cycle again. Some years ago they printed another picture taken at the same time in the local paper in the "Look Back" series. This time however, there was a picture of a young girl watching the activities in the background. The young girl was me! I was really pleased to be able to buy a copy of the picture. I have very few pictures of when I was small because a camera was quite an expensive toy then!

The mention of the White Horse also brought loads of memories back to me. My Mum, Rita Bush was the barmaid there. The pub was indeed very old fashioned. There were two main rooms, one of which was the "Dart" room, where regular matches between local pubs were held. These were very busy nights for the landlord and his wife and my mum. I also liked these nights as there were quite often sausage rolls and sandwiches left over. The other smaller room was where the locals mainly sat, usually playing dominoes. Both rooms had a small step down to the "Cellar". Not a cellar below ground as you would imagine, but the area where the barrels of beer were kept on "stills". These were long wooden frames, and the barrels would be lifted on to them, with

wedges either side to stop them moving. I can remember Harry Chester would get the barrels ready, then knock the tap into the front of the barrel and adjust the spigot on top. My great delight was usually on a Saturday morning, when I helped out by putting the empty bottles into the crates and tidying up outside. I was then rewarded with a Threepenny bit and a packet of Smith's crisps, taken out of the metal storage tin they were sold from.

As there was no actual bar in the pub, customers would knock their glass on the table and mum would duly go and collect it, take it and fill it from the beer barrel, then take it back to the table. That was what you call service! So you can guess that when there were darts matches, she would be very busy running to and fro. Sometimes the half size door or "wicket" to the bar would be closed and people would have to come to that to place their order.

On other occasions mum would be asked to play the piano which was in yet another room of the pub. She would be able to get a good sing-song going. There was also one other room, which was the best room, but I only remember that being used for a funeral or if every other room in the pub was crowded out.

Mum used to work very hard, as in the morning before opening time she would get the mop and bucket out and clean right through. No "Flash" in those days! As you can imagine the flagstone floor was very sticky with the beer having to be taken from the cellar. There were also the fireplaces to clean. I can remember helping her wash the walls down in the darts room. This was a really smelly job as the nicotine washed from the walls made the water filthy.

One of the characters who I can remember playing dominoes in the pub was Percy Southwell. When I grew up and worked at The Feathers Hotel, I found out that The Feathers was his last port of call before going across the road to his home in "The Emblems". Rumour had it that he did a round trip and visited all the pubs in the village, starting at The Coach, then to the Old Hall, The White Horse, The Dun Cow, Albert Victor and finally The Feathers! Percy was one of the local characters and knew a great deal about the village and local area.

I believe someone mentioned a track from opposite The Feathers to the top of Dodds Hill. There used to be a stile leading to this track which went beside the pond. I can remember when I attended the Primary School (now the Community Centre) how excited we were if the pond froze over. Brave boys used to climb over the school wall and slide down the slope to the pond. If it was really snowy and icy they also made a slide all the way down the playground towards the school. Of course, in the autumn, the lovely horse chestnut tree in the playground provided conkers for playtime – no goggles needed then!

I am not sure how many people can recall walking across the road from the school to have lunch in the small chapel opposite, which had been converted to the school dining room. Lovely memories of chocolate sponge and chocolate sauce but horrible memories of being made to eat Semolina with jam. Christmas was very exciting at the school. The big tree would be put up in the main room and a Christmas party was held. I think I can also remember seeing a picture show with a Laurel and Hardy film on. Unfortunately, I missed several parties because when I was little I suffered from Bronchitis. But I can remember Nurse Earl visiting me and bringing me a dish of jelly from the party. I can also remember Dr. Ansell visiting me and knowing for certain that he would bang his head on our very low doorway. Mind you he was always very keen to stand in front of our fireplace warming himself!

I remember the garden cottages, Mr. and Mrs. Hammond lived in one of them, with the Spurdin family in another one. Not sure of the other people. Like our house and several in the village they were all condemned as unfit for human habitation. I believe that happened to the cottages in Manor Road, but remarkably they are still being used! My Dad's brother Len Bush lived in the second or third of these cottages before moving to King's Lynn. There was also another set of cottages half way down Dodds Hill, set out in a similar way to the Garden Cottages. I must say moving to the very top of Dodds Hill to a bungalow with a bath, sink and hot and cold water (indoors!) and no rats running up and down through the carrstone walls was marvellous. Of course I was also right next door to the school too.

Jackie Frusher



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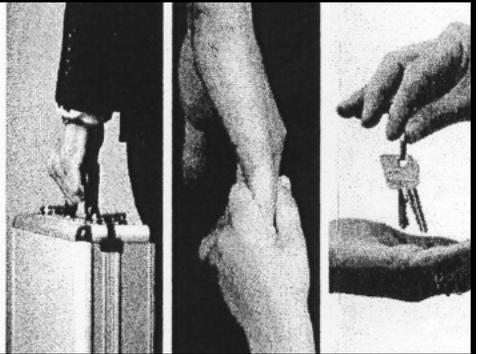
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DERSINGHAM WALKING GROUP

We were delighted that 28 people took part in our first evening walk of the summer and hope to see similar numbers in the future. Details of the programme up to the end of June were given in the last edition of Village Voice but, just to remind you, there is a walk from Syderstone on the 11th June and a leisurely stroll from Ingoldisthorpe on the 25th.

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE - start at 6.30pm from Syderstone Church (map ref. L132/833 327). A 4.5 miles circular walk around Syderstone led by Christine Taylor and Geoff Toop (542807).

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE - start at 6.30pm from Ingoldisthorpe lay-by (opposite the recreation ground) (map ref. L132/683 325). A 3.5 miles LEISURELY circular STROLL led by Keith Starks (542268).



The programme for the remainder of the summer is:

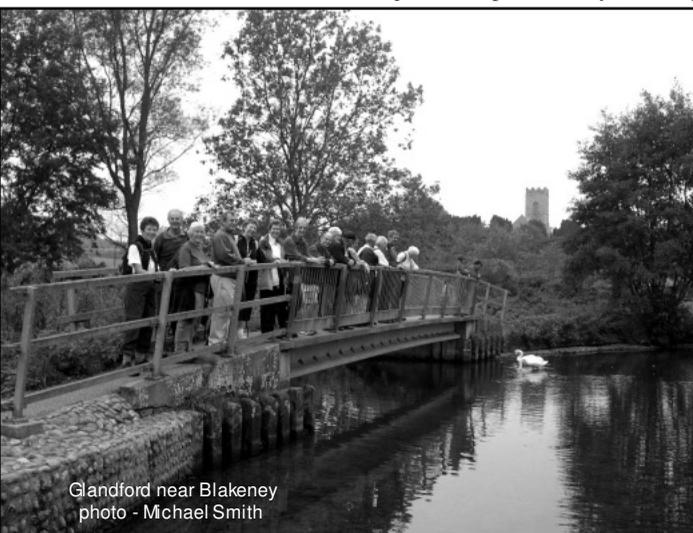
WEDNESDAY 9 JULY - start at 6.30pm from Snettisham Common car park (Beach Road) (map ref. L132/673 336). A 4 miles circular walk around Snettisham led by Elizabeth Fiddick (540940).

WEDNESDAY 13 AUGUST - start at 6.00pm from Sandringham Visitor Centre (map ref. L132/689 287). A 4 miles circular walk around the Country Park led by Chris Chater (541177).

WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER - start at 2.00pm from Gayton Thorpe Church (map ref. L132/744 185). A 5 miles circular walk around the West Acre Estate led by Pat Reed (540757) and Elizabeth Fiddick (540940).

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER - start at 10.30am from Blakeney Village Hall car park (map ref. L133/026 438). An 8 miles circular walk around Blakeney led by Valerie and Michael Smith (540728). BRING A PACKED LUNCH.

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 are kept at the rear of the group.



Glandford near Blakeney
photo - Michael Smith

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. If you would like any further information please contact me or the walk leader. □
Keith Starks (542268)

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WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 2008

Sandringham Flower Show is one of the most prestigious horticultural events in the East of England.

Set in the magnificent surroundings of Sandringham Park, with Sandringham House and Sandringham Church as a backdrop, this one day show attracts around 20,000 visitors each year.

Many of the region's leading nurseries and horticultural specialists exhibit at the Show. In addition to these displays the show features show gardens and this year, courtyard gardens, by leading designers built on the showground, in excess of 200 trade stands, both horticultural and general, a craft marquee, main arena events, children's entertainment and a military band.

The Cottage and Amateur marquees contain the judged displays of vegetables and fruit, flowers, floral art and include open classes. In the Amateur marquee local gardening and horticultural societies also enter a judged display competition, whilst the Horticultural Trades marquee features amazing displays by leading nurseries.



The Gardeners Forum is the venue for gardening talks by top television gardeners Chris Beardshaw (R) and Alan Mason (L) who are joined by Martyn Davey who is head of Horticulture & Design at Easton College. There is also a Gardeners' Questions event where you can put your questions to this panel of experts.



This year will mark the 127th Sandringham Flower Show which remains a unique event providing a memorable day for families, whether gardeners or not!

The Arena events this year include The Yakovlevs four aircraft display team, The Jason Smythe Adrenaline Tour (Quad Bike Stunts), Ye Olde Redtail Falconry Display, The English Mongrels Dog Display, and a marching Display by the Central Band of the Royal Air Force.

Additional attractions this year include a Victorian Steam Fairground with original steam galloping horses, and a marquee of traditional rural crafts.

Entry to the Show is just £6 for adults and £1.50 for children and this includes entry to Sandringham Grounds, Museum and Church.

The profits from each show are donated to local charities and since 1977 the Committee have donated in excess of £391,743 to local charities. Last year £24,000 was donated.

For further information contact Paul Murrell RVM on 01485 541501
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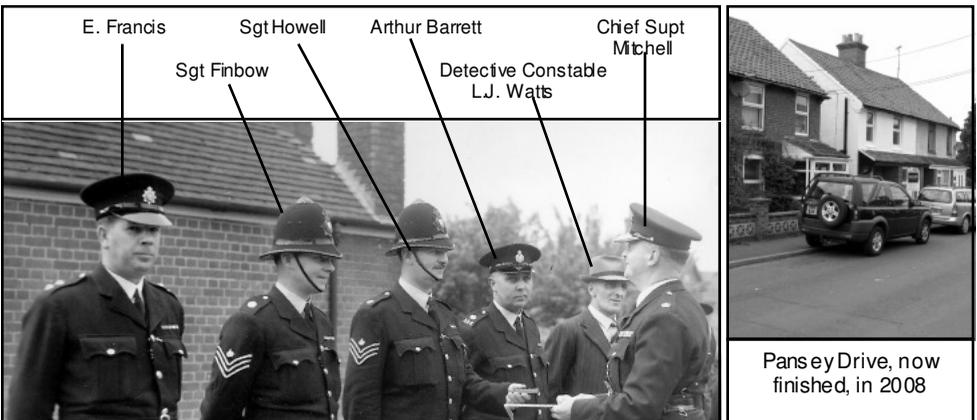


We seem to have sparked off some controversy with the identifying of the policemen, as queried in Village Voice number 50.

Mr D. Watts, son of Detective constable L. J. Watts, has given us a different name to at least one of those supplied by Dick Melton. Who is right and are there any more opinions yet to surface?

Also from the Watts archive is a picture of his mother (Edna, now aged 103 and living in North Wootton) doing a bit of navying in Pansey Drive. We think the other ladies are Mrs Reynolds and Daisy Lines. The date of this photo is unknown until you tell us.

Mr Watts also supplied the splendid picture of the steam train on the cover, so come on rail way buffs, let's have chapter and verse on the rolling stock.



The footballers on page 55 of the last issue got several responses. Thanks to John Bunn, Sue George and one anonymous contributor who sent identifications. Alternative initials in brackets.



Dersingham Reserves 1946/7 season.

L Jakeman, B Macro, L Kendal, P Reynolds, T, Soanes, R Allen, B Playford

J Playford, W (B) Sadler, C Playford, B (R) Bowman, R Eastwick, C Asker

G Reed, B (W) Andrews, S Overton, B Flegg



Parish Council report

Parish Council Meetings were held on 31 March and 28 April, respectively.

The meeting of March heard an interesting presentation by the Vice Chairman of the Village Hall working party. There is a bit of a stumbling block in that it appeared that the PCC wished to say who or who not should hire the hall, with village funds potentially being committed, this restriction was not acceptable, it might even be illegal.

The Public right of way from Station Rd to the Drift has been cut off and it was resolved that the County and Borough Councils be asked to gain the reopening

Parking is still a problem, especially outside the Post Office on Post Office Rd, our County Councillor was asked for dividing lines to be painted, separating the bay into two.

The meeting of April heard that grass cutting and whitelining were carried out on a rolling programme by the County, how quick the programme rolls is the question.

It was agreed that the Parish Council donate £500.00 towards the Village fun day, that was a good move, it being something for the village.

The number of enforcement orders from the borough planners relating to Dersingham are down slightly, every little helps.

Discussion took place about litter bins. The Borough want to meet representatives of the Parish Council to discuss emptying and who pays for what. More cost cutting?

It was resolved that the Clerk should alert the Chairman of the Council as Planning Applications are received in order to stop 'nastys' slipping through without the Council being in time to be able to object. The Chairman will be able to call for site meetings etc., if he feels the necessity. An insurance policy so to speak. □

Ann Chapman

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17 th May	Saham Toney	Away
24 th May	North Runcton A	Away
31 st May	KIRKLEY & LOWESTOFT RAILWAY	HOME
7 th June	Garboldisham	Away
14 th June	HORSFORD	HOME
21 st June	Mundford	Away
28 th June	SHERINGHAM	HOME
5 th July	DEREHAM	HOME
12 th July	Swardeston A	Away
19 th July	SAHAM TONEY	HOME
26 th July	NORTH RUNCTON A	HOME
2 nd August	Kirkley & Lowestoft Railway	Away
9 th August	GARBOLDISHAM	HOME
16 th August	Horsford	Away
23 rd August	MUNDFORD	HOME
30 th August	Sheringham	Away

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9.30-10.15am



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The Friends of St Nicholas Church Annual Dinner



An unique example of circa 2nd half period of the 20th century, in excellent condition and with no damage, very popular with collectors, a perfect stand-alone item for the home and a good buy for the discerning investor". That's how Keith Blythe, Chairman of the Friends of St Nicholas Church introduced David Battie, Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, as the guest speaker for an entertaining evening at the Sandringham Visitors Centre on 14th March. David has been one of the The Antiques Roadshow experts since the TV programme's inception 31 years ago.

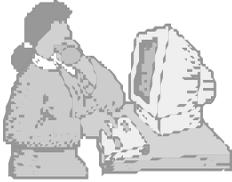
Before his amusing and informative talk, 120 guests enjoyed a champagne reception and a 3 course dinner which included Potted Salmon and Brown Shrimps as a First Course, Braised Local Venison as the Main Course and Chocolate Pots with Caramelised Clementines as

Dessert. Catering was by Deborah Stewart Specialist Catering.

Entitling his talk "My Unlikely Career", David Battie explained how he became to be a member of the Antiques Roadshow and an expert on porcelain and pottery. He recalled how his initial interest in antiques had been encouraged by a maiden aunt who allowed him to handle and read the family bible which dated from 1575 and which triggered his lifelong interest and love of books. She later took him to the British Museum where he was attracted to the mummies on display. He gave this a reason for, as a young boy, preserving the mummified remains of a rat which he found on a road and which he kept in a cardboard box until it was found later by a family member and disposed of expeditiously!

David claimed that his career developed as a result of a succession of 'accidents'. After leaving a series of boarding schools with few qualifications, he trained as a graphic artist and worked for three years with Readers Digest only having been taken on by "accident" because his interviewer liked to employ people with the name "David"! Here, in the mid 60s, his delight and expertise in old books continued to develop and he later joined Sotheby's as a Book Porter. He claimed that his migration to the world of porcelain only came about because, when sometime later he was employed as a porter in a Bond Street gallery - later taken over by Sotheby's, - he fell asleep from tiredness and boredom and was spotted by the head porter. He wasn't dismissed but by another 'accident' was moved to the porcelain department. Initially, he hated his work there but, when he saw a Martin Brothers stoneware owl, his love of ceramics was born. He was later appointed Head of Ceramics at Sotheby's in Belgravia. His progress into being a member of the Antiques Show began with a radio programme called "Tuesday Call on Antiques" where a team of experts gave a free valuation of items presented to them. A three-man team filmed this as an item for television news, a TV producer saw it and thought it might be the basis for a TV programme, made a "pilot" which was a success and, as a result, the "Antique Road Show" was born. Another fortunate 'accident'! David concluded his talk by explaining how the show is produced and recalled many amusing and sometimes exciting incidents that have occurred during the programme's long life, it is seen by up to 100 million people worldwide.

The talk was very well received by those attending and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was concluded with a raffle and with a book sale where David had pledged a percentage of the receipts to the Friends of St Nicholas. The Friends raise money to help with the maintenance and enhancement of the fabric of St Nicholas Church and the chairman thanked all who had contributed in whatever way to the success of the evening. □



From the parish office....

Over thirty parishioners attended the Annual Parish Meeting in St Cecilia's Church on 12th May to hear a presentation by County Councillor Janice Eells on the possible amalgamation of the two Dersingham schools. PCSO Sally Callaby gave a short presentation on the provision of a youth shelter in the village. Funding sources and a site for the youth shelter now have to be researched. Other matters raised by parishioners included dog fouling, parking problems etc. This meeting, which is the Annual Electors Meeting, is one way of bringing local issues to the attention of Dersingham Parish Council.

Another way is to attend the Full Council meetings which are held on the last Monday of each month (unless that happens to a bank holiday) where 15 minutes are set aside at the start and end of each meeting for parishioners to raise anything of concern.

The third way is to pop a note in the Suggestion Box which you will find near the checkouts in Budgens Store. Some very useful suggestions have been received in this way. Parishioners have asked for bus shelters, dog bins, improvements to the crossing outside Budgens, etc. Suggestions are presented to the relevant committees. Two new bus shelters have been ordered and should be erected shortly. Two extra dog waste bins have been purchased and erected recently at sites where the existing dog bins were often overflowing. Following several concerns raised about the crossing outside Budgens, Norfolk County Council have enhanced the crossing beacons by the addition of haloes. Do please continue to pop your suggestions in the box.

The Annual Parish Meeting was immediately followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting. The first item on the agenda was the election of Chairman. Tony Bubb did not stand for re-election and Roy Johnston, who is also one of our two Borough Councillors, was duly elected. On taking the Chair, Roy thanked Tony for all his efforts as Chairman. Tony will now have more time to devote to Village Voice, editing Village Voice is a very time-consuming task. Keith Manship was re-elected as Vice Chairman.

The Community Centre has been booked for the Dersingham Open Day on Saturday 20th September. This is a great opportunity for organisations to advertise themselves. Unfortunately, due to several empty tables at the last Open Day, there will have to be a £10 booking fee for a table this year. This will be refundable if the table is used or if the table is cancelled by 11th September. Booking forms will shortly be sent out to local organisations.

If you have a problem, query or suggestion, do come along to Full Council meetings, fill in one of our slips for the Suggestion Box, or call in at the Parish Office during opening times, and there are still vacancies on the Parish Council to be filled by co-option if you would like to become fully involved. □

Irene, the Acting Clerk

Dersingham Parish Council Office Opening Times

Monday 10.30 am to 2.00 pm Tuesday 10.30 am to 2.00 pm
Wednesday 10.30 am to 12.30 pm Thursday 10.30 am to 12.30 pm

The Dersingham Parish Council Office is at

The Police Station, Manor Road, Dersingham, Norfolk PE316LH
Tel: 01485 541465 E-mail: dersinghampc@tiscali.co.uk

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News From Your Village Schools

Dersingham Infant and Nursery School

It's been an exciting time in our school recently with a surprise visit from a dinosaur who left his footprints down the corridor! He was last seen climbing on to our roof but hasn't been seen since! This is all part of 'normal' life at our school to make learning fun and exciting (as much for the staff as for the children). Blue and Green classes are visiting the Dinosaur Park too to bring their learning to life and Orange and Red Classes have visited Park Farm where the children enjoyed feeding lambs.

The Governors have been working hard to seek to appoint a new Headteacher for September and they have been supported by Norfolk Children's Services in this process. The next round of interviews will take place in early June when they are hopeful that an appointment will be made.

And finally as we move towards the end of this school year an important date for your diary is **Friday 11th July, when from 5.30, we will have our Summer Fair.** All village people are encouraged to come and support the Friends of the School as they seek to raise money to benefit the children. Do come along if you can.

Jackie Austin

Dersingham St George's Church of England Junior School

There has been much discussion about the weather over the Easter holidays and whether or not it was really Easter! However at the end of last term many of our youngsters took part in an Easter egg competition about Egg-citing scenes to do with the Year of Food and Farming. The Rev'd Michael Brock and Jonathan James judged the entries. The prizes were given by Budgen's store.

The two schools have been working together to improve the liaison when the children move from one school to another. We had an extremely useful staff meeting together which will help St. George's ensure the best for the new pupils coming to us in September. They will be having at least one day's visit to us but we would welcome further visits if necessary.

Several of our children had a really good time at Premier Racquets in Sedgeford over the Easter holiday. They were really pleased with the variety of sports they could try. This term after school other children are taking part in the Grand Slam study centre at Sedgeford and the Speedway study centre in King's Lynn. This is all part of our extended schools activities.

Midsummer Madness is on Monday July 14th from 6.00pm. Please come and support the children.

Ann Pope

The Infant School Visited the Ancient House Museum in Thetford



On Friday Red and Orange Class went to Thetford Museum. We got there by coach, it was yellow. It took one hour and ten minutes for us to get there. There were four activities: they were Farmer George and his Three Little Pigs, Hansel and Gretel, Jack and Jill and Old Father Hubbard. In the three pigs I was Pig 1, Bronwyn was Pig 2 and Martin was Pig 3 and Ryan was the wolf!

By Alex aged 7

In Old Father Hubbard's room he told us things about a long time ago, what they had in the old days like, like they had no electricity so they had candles instead. In the Hansel and Gretel room he told us about the character with a cheese grater on his hand for the witch and he used a carpet beater for the stepmother!

By Emelia Aged 6

Grand Slam Learning Centre

The Grand Slam Learning Centre is great fun! So far we've practised running and breathing techniques, hurdles, stepping in and out of a ladder on the floor and playing games. We sometimes work in teams and compete against each other.

Adam, the manager, showed us around the centre, showing us all the different courts and what we do in our PE kits. Then we went into the classroom to start our activities.

When we've done this we have a healthy snack of toast. While you're waiting you have a choice of playing pool, ping-pong or relaxing on a comfy chair.

We work on laptops and have been designing a leaflet to encourage other people to go to Grand Slam. □

By Lauren MacGowan aged 11

£1,000 Community Giveaway

Organisations in Dersingham have the chance to share in a £1,000 community giveaway.

James Graven & Sons Ltd, which operates the Budgens supermarket in the village, has a community chest scheme, which enables the company to provide funding to local community activities.

Any groups which would like to apply for a community chest award must submit their applications by 31st August 2008. Applications are welcome from any small voluntary or community organisation, group or charity that is based in or works in the Dersingham area for the benefit of local people.

Grants last year were awarded to a wide and varied range of projects including Dersingham Community Centre, 1st Sandringham Guides, 1st Dersingham Scout Group, 1st Dersingham Guides, Phobbies North West Norfolk and the Puddleducks Mother and Toddler Group.

Jonathan James, owner of the Budgens store, says "As a local family business, we wanted to give something back to the community on a regular basis. The community chest awards allows us to do just that, helping some very worthwhile organisations improve both facilities and the lives of residents in the community. We hope that these awards allow local groups and organisations the chance to access funding which would otherwise be difficult to obtain."

Application forms for the awards can be collected from the customer service desk at Budgens in Dersingham.

For more information, please contact Sarah Stevens, Community Manager on 07884 282869 or alternatively email sarahs@jamesgraven-retail.co.uk.

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My Patch

By Gardenwatcher



Easter Sun. Awoke to find the garden covered in snow! What is going on? Has the magnetic pole switched or has global warming gone into reverse? I want the facts. Managed to filch some roast turkey which they left unattended every cloud has a silver lining.

Sat. This morning's walk revealed the first tadpoles of the season wriggling in the pond. Hopefully they will grow big and strong on all the blanket weed giving me a good view of the fish. I also found evidence of the hedgehogs reawakening. These amiable creatures seem to be held in high esteem by the staff, perhaps I should grow some spines to get a better deal!

Tue. Was able to ease the passing of a woodmouse to a better place last night. If I can help I will.

Thur. Much improvement in the weather so I have been able to do some of my resting in the sun. The sunflower seeds that they lure the birds with have suddenly started to shift. Chaffinch and greenfinch (a bit chewy) are regular customers with the usual dunlocks and blackbirds clearing up after them. There is a pheasant next door making a racket, I don't think I could manage a whole one.

Sun. Bumper day for birds. Spotted a goldfinch on the hedge and then managed to catch a collared dove. They were quite voluble in their rejection of my offering - I wonder why I bother sometimes.

Wed. He has been planting seeds in the veg patch. Cabbage, Spinach, Spring Onions, Carrots and Lettuce have all been buried and before I could check his work a load of wire panels got placed on top. They will have to come off sooner or later so I will seize my chance then.

Sun. In all my years I don't think I have seen better Tulips. I can't eat them but they look good. The new Hyacinths that he buried last autumn are now going over but were very smelly.

Wed, I was, to quote Ian Fleming, "luxurious with sleep" when a particularly noisy attack from the vacuum cleaner narrowly missed me, it's presumed target! Thus disturbed I went for a saunter round the garden. The Rowan Tree has the most leaves of any of the trees and even flower buds, so spring is on the way for sure. Lots of little fish have appeared in the pond, now where did I last see Delia's book on sushi?

Thur. Just when you think you have the world all sussed along comes something to throw you. Take this morning, I went out for a pre-breakfast constitutional only to see the milkman leaving gardening stuff! Several bags of bulbs there alongside the semi-skimmed. What next, sand and cement? The master hurriedly took them inside and planted them out during the PM, I gave him a good watching.

Fri. I thought I would dig in a few bulbs of my own amongst his new arrivals, when he comes round the corner with a great cry of "OI" and chased me away. There is, however, no protection to this area and he must sleep sometime.

Sat. They are both crowing about the appearance of a couple of jays in the garden this morning. Peanuts have been scattered on the sacred turf in the hope of keeping them around. No doubt the staff will want some of their fluid to clean the patio with.

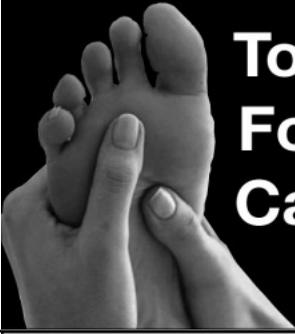
Wed. We seem to be inundated by wood pigeons. Only yesterday I counted 13 (not easy when you have no fingers) in a nearby tree and the racket they make is not conducive to sleep in the sun. My lack of digits rules out my using a fowling piece on them!

Sun. All sorts of noises today. Endless cockerels crowing - where have they all come from? The frogs and toads that have supposedly bred successfully, judging by the vast number of tadpoles, are croaking again and the peep peep of a coal tit rends the air. Good job the plants are silent!

Thur. Early May and the sun is beating down on me, plants are wilting and men have been seen in shorts! and they now say that global warming is to be put on hold for 10 years. I thought we cats were supposed to be indecisive.

Sat. One day they were there the next they were gone, just like last year. Tadpoles that is. No legs yet, still with tails, all gone. Not that I had designs on them but I want an answer.

Mon, There has been a marked decrease in their enthusiasm for my hunting habits. Not content with sharp tongued scolding she has taken to drenching me when I am only "studying the menu". This will force me to operate under the cover of darkness but I will leave them the remains to enjoy! □



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SPRING ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL 2008

St Nicholas Church, Dersingham

This proved to be a great success. It appears to be gaining momentum as more people are requesting either to exhibit or demonstrate. Also, the number visiting is steadily increasing in spite of often inclement weather.

The main body of the Church was filled with over 200 paintings; the vast majority, the work of locally based artists. Most were for sale and, indeed, a good number of visitors did in fact purchase.

In the Chancel area, the Hunstanton Camera Club again mounted an excellent display of photographs. The beauty of the building enhanced all these exhibits.

With each Festival a growing number of people have agreed to demonstrate their crafts and explain the intricacies of card making, sketching, painting, needlecraft, spinning, weaving, lace making and sugarcraft. The finished products were amazing and all marvelled at other's talents and dedication. This proved to be an absolute fascination for all those watching and, on occasions, being encouraged to 'have a go'.

Over in the nearby Church Hall a variety of craft stalls and our now famous second-hand bookshop provided a further area of interest for our visitors. The catering team supplied morning coffee, hot lunches and afternoon teas. Such was the demand for the lunches, early bookings became essential if one was to enjoy a sample of our now famous traditional hot puddings.

Such an event would not be possible without many volunteers

assisting in a great variety of ways. In particular the Events Committee, responsible for the overall organisation of the Festival, thank Liz Stockley for organising the paintings, Pat Moss for masterminding the catering, Pat Franklin for overseeing the stewarding within the Church, and all the men whom so willingly assisted with the logistics.

The Festival finished on a note of high drama with the 'Strolling Players', directed by Liz Stockley, giving a first class performance of 'Travelling On'. A compilation of words and music much appreciated by the audience.

This second Spring Festival was hugely successful, raising over £2500 towards the upkeep of St Nicholas Church. It is fitting that the many talents, given by God to those living locally, should be so effectively displayed within a Church built to worship Him. Further, that the monies so raised as a result, go towards maintaining this magnificent building for the continuing use by the local community and future generations. The whole Festival proved to be a very happy and welcoming occasion. So many visitors, some here for the first time, were so complimentary about the friendly reception received in Dersingham. □

Ian Stockwell, Chairman, Events Committee, Dersingham PCC.



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'PRIVATE HEALTH RECOGNISED'

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

On 17th April, a joint meeting of the Carole Brown and Gayton Road Health Centre PPGs was held at St Cecilia's Church. Vanessa Blythe welcomed members of the Gayton Road Health Centre PPG to the meeting and introduced Jill Brock, their Chairman. She also introduced Dr Lynne Leibowitz, a professor in microbiology, the guest speaker for the evening. Vanessa & Jill are pictured right.



SURGERY NEWS

Graham Dickerson advised members that progress was on schedule to open the new Health Centre on 15th July. To allow for the transfer of equipment and facilities from the Saxon Way premises, the Health Centre would be closed for 3 working days, the 10th, 11th and 14th July. GP cover would be provided on these days from the Gayton Road Health Centre. The 'Official Opening' is planned for January 2009.

With regard to the subject of extended opening hours, these will be publicised once details of the requirement are released by the government at the end of May. The 'extended hours' – probably 11 hours in total - will be for booked appointments only – i.e. they are intended for those who cannot attend during normal opening hours and will be spread among early opening, late closing and occasional Saturdays and between the Carole Brown and Gayton Road Health Centres.

Members were briefed on the scale of operation at the two health centres served by Vida Care. In March alone (a short working month due to the Easter break) there were 13,000 telephone calls for which the average time of waiting on the telephone was 81 seconds and the doctors and nurses averaged of 9,000 patients appointments per month.

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Michelle Nowers from Gayton Road introduced Professor Lynne Leibowitz, pictured left,



Consultant Microbiologist from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn. Professor Leibowitz trained at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and is now a recognised expert on infection control. She gave the most informative talk on bugs and the effect or otherwise of anti-biotics upon them. She began with a brief history of the discovery of these life saving medicines which have only been recognised and in regular use since the 1940s – a comparatively short time in the evolution of man.

She explained how difficult it was to eliminate the bacteria which cause infections because of the speed with which they can replicate and the speed with which they can mutate when they are attacked by one form or another of anti-biotic. She stressed the fact that scientists constantly have to evolve fresh strains of anti-biotics to counteract the bacteria which she labelled as 'super intelligent organisms with no brain'. Clinical trials now indicate some of the earlier decisions on treatment are having to be revised and it is generally recognised now that over-prescribing of anti-biotics has been a huge mistake and proved costly both medically, with bacteria having become resilient to them, and financially, with money being spent on unnecessary and ineffective prescriptions. It is now accepted 'high doses of anti-biotics for a short time' is the best method and that if the patient has recovered, it may not be necessary to complete the full course.

Dr Leibowitz also covered the subjects of MRSA, CDifical and the Winter Vomiting Bug, all of which have plagued the hospital wards nationally. She stressed that the Queen Elizabeth Hospital has made huge advances in cutting the prevalence of these so called 'Super Bugs' a fact recognised by the Department of Health which places the hospital amongst the national leaders in infection control.

This was a most interesting and informative talk presented in easily understood 'layman's terms' by a highly qualified scientist. □

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Bernie Twite

When my parents married in 1932 they moved into a new house in Lynn Road, the adjoining house was bought by Alec Hooks, who had a son Peter. They lived there till round about 1960 when they moved to Hampshire, but we lost touch. Through Village Voice I made contact with Peter again, and before I moved to Cyprus, he visited me whilst on holiday in the area. We have now met up again in Cyprus. He was on holiday in Paphos and I was able to go there and see him. I don't think either of us ever thought after being neighbours for so long we would meet up so far from where we started. It just shows with Village Voice, the internet and planes the world is a small place. We both enjoyed a long chat about the village and old names and here is a photo of us at the hotel.



Never say never again. The running shoes have been on again. On Sunday 30 March a charity run was held in Lamaca, on the sea front, for cancer care. I did the 3k run raising 135 euros, the time wasn't important but was close to what I was running in my marathon days. I don't think I shall do another run for a while but I enjoyed it.



About the photo "they look glum" in issue 51. From the left, Bernard Roscoe, Margaret Borley, Jean Skeritt, Jean Riches, Eve Roscoe, Clifford Carr, Maj Middleton.



Bernard and Eve Roscoe were my neighbours in Lynn Road, some may remember Bernard as a very good cricketer, Mr Carr was the headmaster of the junior school known to all as the bottom school,

now the community centre, Maj Middleton was our district councillor on the old Docking Rural District Council. The photo was taken in the church hall and was a parents meeting on education, I think to do with reorganisation, possibly bringing in comprehensive education.

Reading the council report and the piece on funding street lights set me thinking and comparing Dersingham to Oroklini. Here at Christmas there are displays hung across the roads and on light poles which are lit up. Large Father Christmas, sledges and reindeer are at different points on the pavements through the village and there is a large nativity scene at the entrance to the village.

At Easter there are large chickens with chicks or eggs in baskets, and Easter eggs on the roadsides. On Easter Monday evening half the main road through the village is closed for a party, there is dancing and singing with local music groups, games including egg and spoon and tug of war, free local Easter cakes, nuts and wine are provided and it's a good evening with the locals and English getting together and I am pleased to say there is very little vandalism of the displays. □



The Safer Neighbourhood Team

Dersingham and Gayton Neighbourhood

Dersingham Surgery (At St Cecilia's between 5pm and 7pm) open to residents from Dersingham, Wolferton, Sandringham, West Newton, Anmer and Flitcham.

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ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED March 2008

Membership of the Trustees is limited to nine volunteers who manage approximately 100 acres of land in Dersingham. This land is divided into farmland, fuel allotments (commons) and field gardens (allotments). Revenue from the land is used to provide funding for general benefit to the poor and those suffering hardship and in assisting persons who are preparing for a trade. During the year two committee meetings, the obligatory number, were held and were well attended. Regular meetings also took place with representatives from Norfolk County Council and English Nature to oversee work on both commons and the Fen.

Mr Alan Cross holds the office of Chairman. He is a representative trustee appointed by the parish council who also appoints four other representatives to run for a four year term. They are Mrs Jean Riches, Mr Alan Hayward, Mrs Sarah Harmer, and Mr Simon Davidson. Other trustees (co-opted) are Mr Eric Riches, Mrs May Davey and Prof. Walter Blaney who serve a five year term. Revd Michael Brock vicar of the parish of St Nicholas is the ex officio member, an automatic appointment as Ecclesiastical head of the parish.

Annual accounts are produced at the end of March and sent to the Charity Commissioners. Copies are available on request from the clerk of the trustees (see heading for details). Charity donations are distributed to local charities and individuals whose criteria meet the requirements detailed in paragraph one. Dersingham Day Centre for the Elderly and Orchard Close Community Group have benefited in the past year. Donations have again been awarded to students, resident in Dersingham, who are studying practical subjects at the College of West Anglia. This is to provide tools and equipment relevant to their courses. **Donations are made by application only**, and should be received by the clerk of the trustees by 1st November each year, to be considered by the committee, for December distribution.

Norfolk County Council manages Dersingham Fen and maintenance is progressive. The area is an important conservation site, being one of the few acid valley mires in the country. Rare species of moss and lichens grow there and it is vital to keep an open site. Trustees Sarah Harmer and Walter Blaney worked in conjunction with NCC to produce information boards which have been installed on both the 'shut up' common and Fen. Maintenance of public footpaths and fire breaks is the responsibility of the D.U.C and is ongoing on both commons; keeping walks open for residents to enjoy the area.

All allotment tenants now belong to the Allotment Association which organises working parties to maintain site access, ditches and boundaries. Some large plots have been divided into garden sized areas to accommodate people on the growing waiting list. The annual competition to find the best kept allotment continues to create feverish activity during the month of June and certificates are awarded at the Annual General Meeting of the Association in October.

Ruth Mountain March 2008

DERSINGHAM UNITED CHARITIES
Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2008

	2007	2008	2007	2008
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Allotment Rents	422 00	409 00	267 09	267 09
Other Rents			350 00	450 00
Sandringham Hill	853 00	885 00	00 00	00 00
Snettisham Ken Hill Estates	140 00	140 00	500 00	500 00
Town Land. (Richard Stanton)	725 00	725 00	70 80	70 80
Sandringham Estate	330 00	330 00	1406 00	1048 50
Heath Road	130 00	130 00	00 00	00 00
Dersingham Fen	000 00	610 94	36 71	00 00
Other Income			<u>£2630 60</u>	£2336 39
Eastern Electricity (Way/leaves)	71 09	73 63		
Interest on Bank Deposits	347 82	444 74	1432 84	2400 02
Total Income	£3018 91	£3748 31	<u>8583 87</u>	<u>9028 61</u>
Balances at Start of Year	1392 35	1432 84	£12647 31	£13765 02
Bank Current Account	8236 05	8583 87		
Bank Deposit Account	<u>£12647 31</u>	<u>£13765 02</u>		
Expenditure				
Public Liability Insurance				267 09
Clerk's Salary				450 00
Administration Expenses				00 00
Commons Maintenance				500 00
Rent Charge				70 80
Charity Donations				1048 50
Allot Assoc.				00 00
Adv. Sand. Hill				00 00
Total Expenses				<u>£2336 39</u>
Balances at end of Year				
Bank Current Account				2400 02
Deposit Account				9028 61
				£13765 02

NOTE: FIGURES IN SHADED ITALICS REFER TO PREVIOUS YEARS ACCOUNTS.

St. Nicholas Church

Dersingham



Flower Festival 2008



**“SAYINGS, LEGENDS &
OLD WIVES TALES”**

Thursday 17th to Sunday 20th July

Church Open 10.00a.m. – 6.00p.m.

Church Hall 10.00a.m. – 5.00p.m.

Stalls – Used Book Shop – Nearly New Clothes

Morning Coffee – Lunches – Afternoon Teas

CONCERT IN CHURCH

NORFOLK REEDS

Octet of Clarinets

Saturday 19th July at 7.30p.m.

Tickets £5 incl. refreshments

SERVICES IN CHURCH

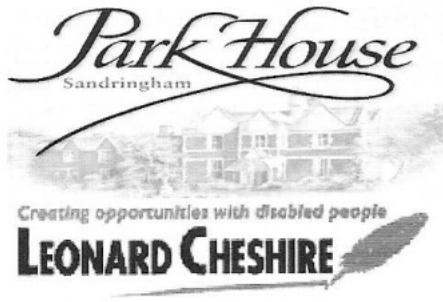
Sunday 20th July

10.30a.m. Morning Service

6.30p.m. Evening Service

“Songs of Praise” with Archdeacon Martin Gray

Also Salvation Army Band



*We are grateful to Nigel Sisson of Park House News
who sent in the following report on the historic 60th Anniversary
of the Leonard Cheshire organisation*

'A Little Light Music'

An Evening Concert at Park House, 11th May 2008

A musical theatre journey captivating the excitement and
romance of the great songwriters from the last sixty years

How better to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Leonard Cheshire Disability? And who better to do it than our old friends, the West End production company Clearer Productions, with their talented team of singers and musicians, including two new faces in Jack Pinter (five instruments - not all at once!) and Drew Kidger (songs and dance).

Sixty years from 1948 to 2008 provided a rich fund of music from the theatre for all of us. Great names like Irving Berlin, Gershwin, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Lerner & Loewe, Cole Porter were all there; but so too were less familiar numbers from the 1970s, 80s, and 90s to bring us up to date. Lovely scoring and arrangements by Neil for his piano and Jack's clarinet, flute, alto sax, and - in particular the sonorous bass clarinet - gave Neil and Drew freedom to sing and dance together and delight us all with rapid exits, entrances, and costume changes.

Neil moved as usual from time to time among the audience and brought smiles to many individual faces with numbers like 'I Could Have Danced All Night'. And there was no escape for several of the audience - invited to go on stage and share the action in boisterous numbers such as 'Get Me To The Church On Time' and 'The Lambeth Walk'.

Once again this experienced team of professionals sent us home with songs in our hearts and (in some cases) a hop-skip-and-jump when no-one was looking, on our way back to the car. I'm sure LC himself would have been pleased.

They will be back, we are assured, for Christmas at Park House, if not before. □

Nigel Sisson

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DEC – 2008 Dersingham Summer Funday

Following on from the success of last year's funday and Christmas Fayre, DEC (Dersingham Entertainments Committee) is once again organising a funday on the recreation ground for **Saturday 16th August**.

Like last year, you will find a range of craft and games stalls, a bar, food and entertainment. There will also be the opportunity to join in the village games - all you need is a team of willing volunteers and to be able to pit yourself against last year's winning teams in events such as 'tug o war', wellie wanging, wheelbarrow race and any other that MC Seals thinks of.

For 2008, DEC will be seeking sponsors for the event as well as the involvement of local groups, businesses and organisations willing to show Dersingham what they have to offer.

Further details can be obtained via

nigelkelk@btinternet.com

Some of 2007's choice moments!





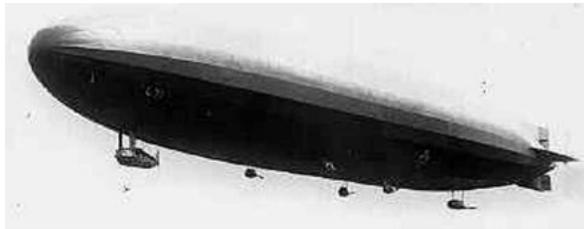
Dick Melton

Looking through some old books and papers that have come into my possession I found two interesting reports about Sandringham. The first report is from 1863, when the Prince and Princess of Wales were staying at Sandringham House. One of their guests was Lady Macdesfield and this is what she had to say about Sandringham and the surrounding area. "No fine trees, no water. No hills. In fact no attraction of any sort or kind. There are numerous coverts but no fine woods. Large unenclosed tumip fields, with an occasional haystack to break the line of the horizon, it would be difficult to find a more ugly or desolate-looking place. And there is no neighbourhood or any other countervailing

advantage. The wind blows keen from The Wash and the Spring is said to be unendurable in this part of Norfolk. It is of course a wretched hunting country and it is dangerous riding as the banks are honey-combed with rabbit holes. As there was all England wherein to choose I do wish they had bought a finer house in a more picturesque and cheerful situation."

Of course the Prince and Princess of Wales, who had just bought Sandringham, did not agree with her as during their life time they spent as much time as they could there.

The other report is from the 17th of September 1916 and it is taken from a letter Queen Alexandra wrote to her son describing a Zeppelin raid over Sandringham. "We have been living through some gruesome moments here - just a fortnight ago we had those beastly Zepps over us. At 10 o'clock that Saturday evening they began. We were all sitting upstairs when we suddenly were startled by that awful noise and lo and behold, there was the awful monster over our heads. Everybody rushed up and wanted to go downstairs, the house was pitch black. We all stumbled down in the darkness and went outside, but saw nothing as the Zepps had by this time flown off somewhere else, but at about 4 am they came back and dropped bombs all over the place."



Next morning the Queen's first thoughts were for the villagers of Dodhill on whom the bombs had dropped. She went immediately to visit them and to see the damage for herself. It was an awful sight. Everything destroyed both inside and out. On that Zeppelin raid a bomb was dropped on The Green at Dodhill that damaged and destroyed some of the houses, another bomb was dropped near the church at Snettisham and another one on Dersingham Fen. After the war the crater that was left by the bomb on Dersingham Fen was made into a duck decoy, and it is still there today. In them days the small hamlet to the east of Dersingham, consisting of some thirty houses occupied by estate workers, was called Dodhill. It was not generally known as Doddshill until much later.

Name changes

In the local paper there is a planning application by Sandringham Estate to turn an old barn into a dwelling; the name of the barn was *Sheep Dip Barn*. (*This has now been withdrawn.* Ed) Now all the time that I have spent researching and writing about Dersingham I had never heard of this place so I sought to find out where it was. I am pleased to say that I was successful. The barn in question is the one that I had always been told was *Dersingham Field Barn*, situated down the green lane that runs from the Ling House road to Shemborne road comer. Why all of a sudden it has a change of name I do not know, as for well over one hundred years now it has always been called *Field Barn*. At one time there were two cottages on this site and a large crew yard; when I was a boy the

Easton family lived in one cottage and the Pease family lived in the other.

The same thing happened with Dersingham Fen. As soon as English Nature took over the management of it they changed the name to Dersingham Bog, but why? For hundreds of years it was called Dersingham Fen or Cranberry Fen, with Wolferton Fen and Wolferton Warren to the south west of it. Even on the latest Philip's street map of Norfolk 2007 it is still called Dersingham Fen, and so it should be.

The Emblance

The Emblance, where is that you might say. Well, it is the piece of waste land between the Community Centre and the smallholding by the same name opposite the Feathers Hotel in Manor Road, Dersingham. This area of land stretches from Manor Road right up to the boundary of St Georges School playing field. It covers about sixty acres and it is part of the Sandringham Estate. Today it is just sixty acres of wilderness with overgrown trees and bushes. But when I was a boy it was not like that at all. There was a large pond in the middle that was full of small fish and all sorts of wildlife, like newts, frogs, sticklebacks, and many duck and water fowl. If you went up the slope in the direction of Dersingham Wood in the springtime this area was a mass of wild primroses and daffodils, also lots of rabbits and wild deer.

There was a foot path that went from the five bar gate opposite the Feathers right the way up to St Georges School and a lot of us lads would walk that way to school. The best time of year on The Emblance was in the wintertime when we would skate on the pond and sledge down the grass slopes.

As far as I know nothing has ever been done to this area of land over the years. It is a shame that it cannot be turned into a nature reserve as it has everything going for it.

The word emblance or emblems is taken from the word emblems that means annual crops or profits of land cultivated by a tenant farmer. ►



Sheep Dip Barn showing the sheep dip.

Reflections on last issue

What a lot of interesting features and letters there were in issue 51 (April) of the *Village Voice*.

I would like to start with the inscription 'G.C.1823' on the front of the Old Pottery in Chapel Road. I don't think it is the initials of George Chadwick; I am sure that it is the initials of a Mr George Chambers, who at that time was a builder in Snettisham. There were many families with that surname in Dersingham and Snettisham and most of them were in the building trade.

In the 1904 edition of *Kelly's* there is listed three families of Chambers, who by then were living in Dersingham, and two families living in Snettisham. The Snettisham ones were *Chambers Brothers*, Carpenters and Builders, and *Chambers and Haylett*, who were butchers. At that time the Dersinghams were *Chambers Brothers*, Builders and Contractors, Henry Chambers, carpenter, and James William Chambers, who kept the *Temperance Hotel*. In 1950 there was a James or Jimmy Chambers, a builder still living in Hunstanton Road. I think I am right in saying that there are still some relatives of the Chambers family living in Dersingham today.

Next we come to the photo of Dersingham Old Hall. It was taken in 1906 and at the time the occupant of the hall was Theodor Jannoch, who according to *Kelly's* was a nurseryman, florist, and lily of the valley grower by special warrant to Their Majesties the King and Queen Alexandra. There had been a dwelling on that site since the 1600s. Around about that time (1906) my grandfather Mr William Drew kept a hardware store in Manor Road in Dersingham and Mr Jannoch offered him the hall and six acres of land for £1,000 pounds, but my grandfather could not raise the money.

In Ivan Green's article he mentions Jack Marborough who lived in the old farmhouse down Centre Vale. In fact his name was John Narborough, and as Ivan says he was at one time the landlord of *The Sportsman* at West Winch. Also he was a demolition expert and he would travel all over the country blowing up old World War Two pillboxes and gun emplacements. He had a son, Mick, who was a policeman in Kings Lynn.

There is in the *Village Voice* a mention of *Frost's Smithy*. Now this blacksmiths' shop was on the corner of Post Office Road and Centre Vale with a mounting stone standing outside. When the Frosts gave this smithy up it was taken on by a woman, a Mrs Susannah Dodman.

Place name changes

John Bunn asks in issue 51 of *Village Voice* if any one knows when Middle Road was changed to Post Office Road and when Manor Road was extended from Parkers Comer to the church. I think I am right in saying that Middle Road was changed to Post Office Road in around 1905-06 after the Post Office had been established there for a few years. As for Manor Road being extended as far as the church, I think this must have been in 1910 when the Stanton family moved down from Ling House Farm to take over Manor Farm from Edward Tingey. Up till then the manor had been in Manor Road somewhere near the old workhouse, Albert Victor Cottages.

There have been, over the years, a lot of name changes for roads and places in the village. Dersingham itself started out being called Dersincham, and Darssingham, which meant the homestead of Deorsige's people, or the people of Ham (homestead). In 1826 there were not many houses at all in Dersingham and the only built up areas were Chapel Road and Manor Road. When Lynn Road was built up around about 1900 it was called Dun-cow Lane.

The area where Dodds Hill is now situated was called High Crops. It was then called Dodhill before it was changed to Dodd's Hill. When I was a boy in the village we always called Lynn Road and Hunstanton Road the main road, as it was the main road through the village. The Beach Road was known as The Concrete Road, because we have no beach.

A lot of the old names have been changed like the fen or Cranberry Fen is now called Dersingham Bog. Why? There is no bog there. Names like Shut-up Common, Parkers Piece, The Emblands, Sugar Lane, The Drift, Hoddy's Hole, Eight Mile Stone Corner, Lindfords Corner, Jannoch's Corner, Parkers Corner, and The Dump will all be forgotten or changed as some of them have already.

Lizzy

In the *Lynn News* there was a letter from a Mr Anthony Maynard asking about a lady who used to drive a high wheel horse and cart and hawk shell fish around the villages, especially Dersingham. She died in 1948 from a tragic accident.

The only lady that I have any recollection of was Mrs Elizabeth (Lizzy) English who came from Snettisham. Lizzy lived in a row of cottages down past the Queen Victoria public house and this area of Snettisham was the days called Fisher End. Lizzy would go down to the beach and gather her own shell fish, cockles, mussels, winkles and samphire, when they were in season; and then hawk them from her horse and cart around the villages going as far a field as Gayton, Bircham and Docking. Lizzy would go in the Queen Victoria pub at night and have a bottle of Guinness. She would always leave a drop in the bottom of the glass to rub on her hands as she said that it kept the cold out in the winter. Lizzy also told fortunes and put spells on people. She lived to the ripe old age of one hundred years and she passed away around about 1968. Lizzy had a big family. Her youngest son Jimmy once climbed up one of the very tall trees in Lady's Walk to rescue a cat that was stuck up at the top.

There was another family from Snettisham by the name of Daniels, who hawked shell fish around the villages with a horse and cart before and just after the Second World War. So it might have been one of them that had the tragic accident, but it certainly was not dear old Lizzy English. □

Scottish Country Dancing in Dersingham.



How many residents of the village know that a Scottish Country Dance Group meets in the Methodist Church Hall at 7.45 p.m. every Wednesday evening? Even more amazing is the fact that they have been doing so for over 20 years.

The group attracts people of a wide age range from twenties to eighty plus! They come from a wide catchment area stretching from Thornham to King's Lynn.

What is Scottish Country Dancing? It is a socially enjoyable occupation for anyone who has a liking for dance & a sense of rhythm. It is not "Ceilidh Dancing" which most people have heard of and possibly participated in. There are "proper" steps which can be easily learned and the dances are combinations of various formations making up the three tempos of dance – Jigs, Reels, and Strathspeys. Of these the first two are fast and the third, slow and graceful. Dances are usually danced in "sets" of eight and it is not necessary to come with a partner. The music can only be described as infectious foot-tapping and well worth listening to, even if not dancing.

Many people in the group are content to come and enjoy the mental and physical exercise of the weekly meetings. Others on a Saturday night can choose to go further afield to events in Cambridge, Norwich and Peterborough where there will be live bands and they can join with dancers from other groups.

Dancing holidays in this country and abroad have been enjoyed this year by some of our members, so if you are a Scottish Country dancer "the world is your Oyster!"

The new season starts on Sept. 3rd.

Contact Mary or Dair on 01553 761798. □



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The National Garden Scheme 2008

Members of this scheme open their gardens to the public to raise money for charity. The charities supported by the scheme include Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Help the Hospices and several other related charities. Applicants for membership have their gardens inspected rigorously, and a high standard is required. Three of the gardens belonging to members of Dersingham Horticultural Society have been chosen, and a fourth is under consideration to be included in the list for 2009.



The garden of Walter and Jane Blaney (on the right in the picture) was the first of these to open this year, and on Sunday 27 April 117 members of the public came to visit the 2.5-acre site, to enjoy the shrubberies, ponds, woodland walks and formal gardens. Visitors were able to buy cream teas in the adjacent Church Hall, where bric-a-brac and books were also available. The garden was host to Creake Plant Centre who had high quality plants for sale. The garden raised £347 for the charity and the Church Hall enterprise raised nearly £200, which will help to fund the Dersingham Flower Festival.

The garden of Steve and Elsa Garden in South Wooton is open on the Sunday and Monday of the May and August bank holidays, and the garden of David and Jackie Dingle is open on 20 July. Full details of these openings, and those of the other Norfolk gardens in the scheme are in the yellow booklets that are available, free of charge, from Thaxters Garden Centre. □

Walter Blaney



**Women's
Institute**

Dersingham Evening Womens Institute

In March, Margaret Waite, who has been Denman College Representative for Norfolk for some years, gave us an insight into the history of the W.I.'s own college, a Georgian Mansion near Oxford bought by the Women's Institute in 1948 when all institutes raised £3 a year for 3 years towards the cost. Named after a former National Chairman, Lady Denman it enables members to enjoy learning about almost any subject they can think of including architecture, many branches of music, cookery, and numerous types of crafts. Margaret has recently handed over the role of Denman Rep. to Gill Pope.

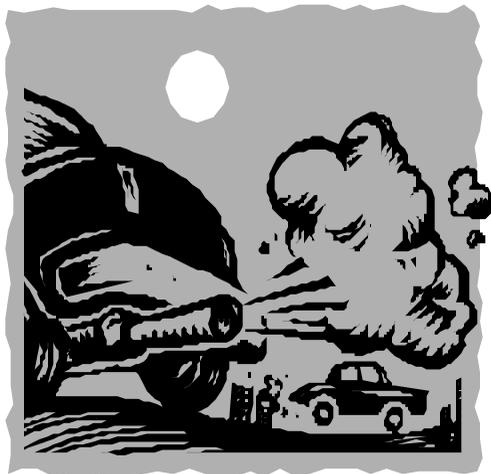
A detailed and interesting report on the Norfolk Federation Annual Meeting was given by our delegate, Sue McDonald.

In April we celebrated our W.I.'s 46th birthday, with wine and refreshments provided by members and the committee. Linda Scoles, an American lady who came to this country in 1971 with her U.S. Air Force husband, kept us highly entertained with her talk entitled 'Help I Need A Life-Style Adviser', filled with numerous hilarious anecdotes about the six resolutions she'd made at the beginning of the new century and her success - or not - at keeping them! The evening was rounded off with Sharon Fettes' Name the Bird Quiz. □

Phyl Jones

What are *your* green credentials as a driver?

Following the recent Budget, we have all once again been reminded of the constant pressure for motorists to become greener. No doubt, when you buy your next car, it will be cleaner than your current one. Manufacturers have done an excellent job at improving engine efficiency and reducing harmful exhaust gases whilst maintaining impressive performance. Their quest goes on and the next wave of technology will soon have more of us driving each manufacturer's perception of where the future lies. Bio Fuel? Hybrid? Hydrogen? Time will tell.



It's not long ago that we drove ordinary family cars that barely did 25 mpg with inefficient and maladjusted carburettors. All too often drivers ran with the choke out for far too long in the mornings. Remember sitting in traffic jams smelling the fumes from that Morris Marina in front? Even today, sometimes you'll find yourself behind a poorly set up older car as black sooty smoke billows from its exhaust pipe. Not long ago, those fumes were normal.

For those who are not planning to buy that newer more efficient car yet, there are many ways you can reduce emissions. Plenty has already been written on this subject, but here are another one or two more unusual examples of ways you can help.

Round the bend.

Emissions from a car's exhaust are at their worst when accelerating. Consequently, slowing down more than necessary to negotiate a bend requires more acceleration afterwards to resume your cruising speed. The car that rewards you with 50 mpg whilst cruising on the flat may give as little as 15 mpg under acceleration. The driver that maintains a reasonable speed through a bend will use far less fuel than the driver who slows by another 10 mph and then needs to accelerate afterwards. A good driver will read the bend by looking through it as far as possible, moderate speed as little as necessary and flow through the corner with a smooth constant gentle line. It's better for you, the car, other road users and the environment.

There's no magic to roundabouts.

Which approach best sums you up? *"Roundabout ahead, I'll stop and then see if can go"*, or, *"Roundabout ahead, I'll keep going unless I have to stop"*. Two radically different approaches to a roundabout.

We've all seen the former who slows more than necessary, mainly because they are not assessing traffic flow soon enough. They often end up virtually stopping when the roundabout is actually free of traffic. Instead, they could have flowed onto it, slowing less and then, more importantly, needing to accelerate less afterwards.

Much better to ease back on the approach, constantly assess traffic flow well before you reach the roundabout and only stop if traffic is actually approaching your entry point. (This is where you really appreciate drivers who indicate clearly at roundabouts. It makes earlier decisions easier). If successful, you haven't slowed so much and therefore need to accelerate less. Motorists behind are grateful for your efficient progress too. The result is a smooth flow, less congestion, more economy and consequently lower emissions.

Mechanical health. Medicine for cars.

Low tyre pressures increase rolling resistance. Think back those days on the recreation ground with the under inflated football. Billy tuned up with his bicycle pump, gave us a few p.s.i. after which the ball simply flew across the surface. It's the same with your car. By keeping your tyres at the correct pressure, you help optimise rolling resistance. Result: better and safer handling, and, of course, more economy and less emissions.

Also, I am a great supporter of super unleaded fuel. Often with fancy names like Optimax, Ultimate, V Power and Supreme, it does have one disadvantage though. At over 6p per litre more than normal unleaded, it doesn't come cheaply. Tesco offer a highly acclaimed 99 octane fuel at a slightly more competitive price as well. Some of this extra cost is negated though by better economy, a slightly sweeter, more efficient running engine and lower emissions. Some cars respond to super unleaded better than others, particularly those with "intelligent" Engine Control Units. But nearly all cars will run cleaner though.

There are many other ways to improve your efficiency, but for now, flow with grace through those bends, blend onto those roundabouts when you can, sort out those tyres and give your car some special brew. □

OBC

Can you spare three hours a week as a helpline volunteer for beat (the national eating disorder charity based in Norwich)?

beat[™]
beating eating disorders

Have you ever thought that you would like to spend some of your time helping others but not known where to start? Over a million people in the UK have an eating disorder and don't know where to turn for help. By volunteering to work on our helpline you could be the person who helps them on the road to recovery.

Beat is a national charity offering help, support and information to people whose lives are affected by eating disorders, in particular anorexia, bulimia nervosa and binge eating.

The national helpline is based in Norwich and is open Monday - Friday from 10.30am-8.30pm and on Saturdays from 1- 4.30pm and we need volunteers to work on the line. You would bring your own skills and personality to the role and we would train you to do the job. No experience of eating disorders is necessary, rather the ability to offer a listening ear and a non-judgmental response and a willingness to become familiar with **beat** information and policies. We ask for a commitment of three hours a week of your time and in return you would gain new skills and be part of a friendly team with ongoing support and training and the fulfilment of knowing you are helping others.

Beat pays travelling and car parking expenses.

If you would like to know more about becoming a telephone helpline volunteer, please telephone beat on 01603 753325 between 10.00am-8.30pm Monday to Friday and speak to a Service Co-ordinator.

Revolution

The picture of the Revolution set in V V 50 has prompted these memories of an extra.

Despite it being a big flop at the box office, on its release in 1985, the filming of "Revolution" was a source of fascination for myself and my mum, Mrs Christine Sullivan, who enjoyed the fun of learning about life as a film extra.

As I worked in King Street at the time, which was virtually at the centre of the film set, I was able to take photographs of the streets and buildings being 'taken back in time', such as the streets being cobbled, and the stocks being put up to punish and humiliate any wrong-doers. The area used included the quayside, King Staithe Square, King Street, Purfleet Street, and some old buildings by the river (where we now have the flats at Baker Lane). The roads were closed off when scenes were being filmed, with access only for business. I took photographs from my office window of all the extras passing by, including my Mum, who was one of the common, poor people, and had her face blackened accordingly. They had to endure getting very wet sometimes, with the aid of hoses, and were paid accordingly. The rates of pay were:- days £20, nights £30 and £25 for being soaked to the skin! The extras soon learned a useful trick - to wear bin liners under their heavy costumes. There was





some night-time filming, and Mum had 23 days filming altogether.



The basis of the film was the American Revolution 1776, which contained a story within about a man and his son during the struggle of war. The main actors were Donald Sutherland, Al Pacino, Nastassia Kinsky, Annie Lennox, and Sid Owen (ak.a. Ricky Butcher in Eastenders), who was then a young boy. Also, there were smaller acting roles for Joan Plowright, Robbie Coltrane, and Frank Windsor,

amongst other lesser-known names.

According to mum, who met some of these, Al Pacino was nice, quiet, a man of few words. On the other hand, Annie Lennox swore like a trooper.



The well-known photographer, David Bailey, wandered amongst them all, 'snapping away' with his camera. He did get a photo of mum and friends as they sat waiting for their next scene. This photo was used in a magazine, but



Bon viveur!



Following our request for reviews of local eating places we have received the following. Establishments mentioned on these pages are purely the recommendations of our readers and, as far as we are aware, not sent in by the places mentioned.

For starters I can point you in the direction of **CROFTERS**. Located in King Street, King's Lynn, they offer a great range of cakes, pastries morning and afternoon with light lunches, soups and snacks in the middle of the day. With tranquil surroundings and excellent service, it makes an oasis of calm and refreshment.

Mr & Mrs Headon write:-

We can heartily recommend the following for lunches:-

(1) **SALLY ANN'S** - on the ground floor of the old granary building at the by-pass end of Station Road, Snettisham. There is a wide range of home-made soups, sandwiches, jacket potatoes and salads, etc., with a variety of sweets.

All the food is freshly cooked/baked on the premises and the gateaux in particular just have to be experienced. (Also open for morning coffee and afternoon teas.)

(2) **FRAN'S PANTRY** - on the High Street at Heacham. Again, open for morning coffee and afternoon tea and providing food freshly cooked/baked on the premises, with a choice of dinners each lunchtime, other snacks, homemade cakes and a sweets menu that includes goodies for diabetics.

(3) **SILK ROAD II** Cantonese Restaurant on the A149 by the Lavender Hill petrol station at Heacham, for those who like Chinese food (or would like the opportunity to sample it). We recommend the three-course lunches at £6.50. The menu offers a very wide choice of meals and the service is friendly and efficient. (They also offer an even wider range of meals on their evening menu.) □



Lifeboats

NEWS FROM HUNSTANTON LIFEBOAT GUILD

The Hunstanton Lifeboat Guild got off to a good start of a busy year with the RNLI SOS day on 25 January. The Old Coach House, Thornham, hosted a Sip Our Soup lunch and raised £238.

Events planned later in the year include a midsummer lunch on 18 June at Mulberry Cottage, Thornham (by kind permission of Mr & Mrs T Morris) from 12 noon onwards. Admission is by ticket only, price £10.

The second event is the ever-popular Summer Fair on Wednesday, 9 July at Hunstanton Town Hall from 10 a.m. till 12 noon. There will be the usual raffles, sales of cakes, produce, bric-a-brac, RNLI gifts, etc. Entrance is 50 p to include coffee and biscuits.

There is also the sandcastle competition on 21 August and a reception and harpsichord recital by Dr Gerald Gifford of Thornham at Houghton Hall on 4 September.

For further information on all our fundraising events, please contact: Margaret Bullen (01485 535542), Glynis Allen (07917 757328) or Sandy Hyams (01485 542380).

Notes from the farm

From Edward Cross of Abbey Farm, Flitcham, home of Abbey Farm Organics and the Abbey Farm bird hide

Happening on farmland near you....

I was asked to write this column to help people understand what is happening on farmland around Dersingham. One drawback to this is that I neither live nor farm in Dersingham. So, if anyone better acquainted with the village's land would like to come forward, you are very

welcome. That said, here's an update on what is likely to be going on down on the farm.

During May the bright yellow fields of oilseed rape make a striking sight. The rape that is now in flower was sown at the end of the 2007 summer and will be the first crop to be harvested this July. There is also spring-sown oilseed rape. This will flower later and will not be harvested until August.

The crop is grown for the oil in its seeds. Some

varieties produce oil that is edible and so is used in cooking and food processing. Other varieties produce oil that is not edible but has industrial uses, including production of biodiesel. The remains of the seeds left after crushing are used as a source of protein in food for livestock. The nectar is an important part of a lot of UK honey, though is often blended in with honey from other plants.

Oilseed rape is also well known because sufferers of conditions like hay fever and asthma dislike it. A quick search on the internet reveals widely differing views on whether the crop is responsible for allergies. It seems likely that the response to the crop is something that varies greatly from person to person.

Wheat and barley crops are now all a carpet of green. Barley crops sown last autumn are the first to come out in ear, the 'ears' being the tassles of flowers that go on to form grains. Each seed on an ear of barley has a long hair so the ears appear to have bristles. The ears of autumn-sown wheat will appear shortly after the barley and do not have bristles.

Wheat seems to be the most common cereal around Dersingham, though if you take the roads to the east, uphill into the more chalky, sandy part of the landscape, barley is a common crop. However, on the flat fields of richer, silty soil towards the beach, wheat is far more common than barley.

Wheat has four main uses in the UK. The best quality varieties, known as 'hard wheats', go for bread making. Softer wheats are used for biscuit making and general baking, while the lowest grades produce animal feed or go into industrial processing. The UK is self-sufficient for most wheat requirements, but we have to import about 15-20% of our needs for bread making.

The other common crop is sugarbeet. This is sown in rows about 20" (0.5m) apart in March and the plants tend to grow slowly to begin with. So, during April and some of May, beet fields are distinctive as they seem to be bare! However, during June the rows gradually knit together so that they meet by the end of the month. □



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David Bingham

LITTLE BROWN JOBS



In birdwatching parlance a 'little brown job', or LBJ, is a small anonymous looking bird that is glimpsed but not properly identified. It is a matter of pride to be able to name these LBJs, particularly when they are closely related to similar looking species. Unfortunately, it is not easy to get people interested in these birds when their populations begin to tumble – how do you interest someone in the fact they are losing what they didn't know they had? We have three local LBJs that visit Norfolk in the summer whose populations have been in steep decline in recent years.

The first of these is the spotted flycatcher. Spotted flycatchers aren't very spotty and for me they have borderline LBJ status because of their unmistakable upright stance when perched on exposed branches (or often gravestones because cemeteries are one of their favourite habitats) and their acrobatic darting flight as they chase after flying insects. They also lack a close and similar looking related species so are actually difficult to misidentify – they are more likely to be ignored than misidentified because of their general brownness. Up until ten years ago, they were a very common local bird. They bred in larger gardens, parks, churchyards and were often found near small rivers where their prey is abundant. I remember seeing one lying dead next to the river in Walsingham. It had been hit by a car at the very instant it caught a fly which was still held trapped



in its half open beak. They were also regular users of open fronted nest boxes. Their decline has been rapid and nationally we have lost 86% of our spotted flycatchers in recent years. I'm sure this percentage is even higher in the east because I can't recall seeing one in Norfolk last year (although they are still relatively easy to find further west and I did see some in the Peak District).

The second of the trio I want to look at is the willow warbler. This is a true LBJ because it is closely related to the chiff – chaff, and these birds are not only difficult to separate by eye they often live in the same locations and behave in a similar way. Modern optics have made it possible to spot the subtle differences between them as they flit through the trees, such as the distance the final wing feathers project past their neighbouring feathers, but to be honest I never look and only identify willow warblers by their rather melancholic song – as opposed the chiff-chaff's repeated chiff – chaff call. Willow warblers are still locally common but their population is about half what it used to be.

Finally, we have the tree pipit. These are also true LBJs because they are mainly brown and could easily be confused for the related, and locally common, meadow pipit. Just as with the willow warbler I don't stress myself worrying about the visual differences between these pipits. I wait until I see a pipit perched on top of an isolated pine out on Dersingham bog and then suspect I may be looking at a tree pipit. If it flies up into the air and does a parachuting display flight back onto the perch while singing its characteristic song I know for certain. Sadly, this is not such a common sight any more because tree pipits have declined by 75% nationally.

It is not known for certain why the populations of these birds have declined so rapidly but suspicion is definitely pointing towards problems in their winter quarters. All three migrate to the Sahel – a dry scrubby region south of the Sahara desert. The Sahara is expanding into the Sahel and this can be seen on photographs taken from satellites. More subtle changes to the habitat in the Sahel is difficult to detect but this is a very poor part of the world and pressure on resources is bound to be high.



Of course, it is not only the LBJs that are suffering; it is also familiar and well loved birds such as the swallow and the cuckoo, which make the same annual migration. It was once reasonable to ask – when will I hear my first cuckoo this year? Perhaps the question will soon become – will I hear a cuckoo this year? □

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TUESDAY	10.45-11.45 6.30-7.30 7.35-8.35	50,s+ Aerobics Latino Aerobics	Ingoldisthorpe village hall Ingoldisthorpe village hall Ingoldisthorpe village hall (starts 1st April)
THURSDAY	8.00-9.00	Bodyconditioning	Dersingham Methodist Church

As from January all my classes will cost £4.00 except my 50's+ which will stay the same (£3.50). If you attend twice in one week you get £1 off the second class or if you do two classes back to back (mon morn, Tues eve) the price will be £6 for the two.

any enquiries call Suzie on **07900 818311** R.S.A qualified / Fitness Professional Member

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That's my business

Martyn Baverstock tells us about his business - Torc Motors.

Hi, readers of Village Voice. I am the proprietor of Torc Motors in Dersingham which is primarily a quality car sales garage stocking up to forty, truly hand picked, cars. This is a far cry from my roots when I qualified as a fully trained motor mechanic.

I started Torc Motors in Snettisham, in 1977 using the name Torc, spelt that way because of the famous and magnificent Roman gold upper armbracelets found in Snettisham. At the time we mainly did servicing and repairs but by 1982 I was using my mechanical skills to

refurbish older cars for resale, which many customers found better value and more reliable than what was on offer locally. 1984 was my first working relationship with Tony (your editor).

1988 saw an increase in staff with Peter joining us as a top car valet and in 1989 we gained the approval of the AA to have quality reports on our sales cars.

By 1990 through to 1994 we were having great fun competing in local stage rallies as an advert for our reliable cars.

A very big move for us happened in 1993 when we relocated to the current premises which saw a slowing down on refurbishment and an increase in servicing work on our own customers' cars.

I bought the premises in 1995 which secured the future for the business and staff alike.

By 1997 we had decided to try to offer a selection of good quality estate cars, although now the small multi purpose vehicles (mpv) have taken some of this role. We also became an approved Black Horse Motor Finance dealer.

Early millennium saw the take off of the internet site www.torcmotors.com and, with that, what an amazing time we have witnessed, it never ceases to amaze me. This week we have sold cars to a micro-light pilot from Aberdeen, a power (para) glider pilot from Kent and a builder from Manchester, all through the technology of the internet.

Currently, our cars are presented fully valeted and serviced and come with long MOTs and we can also offer very reasonably priced extended warranties with Auto Protect (Administered) for 3 – 36 month periods. We also take on quality servicing work.

To address a statement made in last year's Lynn News, outline planning application had been sought on our current premises, which was and still is for an opportunity to expand the business to further its success.

Therefore, Peter and Alec and I would like to extend to you an informal friendly service and to all our customers past, present and future we say – roll on these good times! □

Martyn



Torc Motors site around 1950



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Taking our environmental responsibilities into consideration, we have installed a state-of-the-art environmentally friendly refrigeration system which enables us to reclaim heat for use elsewhere in the building. In addition, we use low energy light bulbs throughout the store and aim to reduce the number of plastic bags we issue customers by providing jute alternatives. All of our home deliveries arrive in crates rather than in plastic bags. We also offer glass recycling facilities, conveniently located in our car park.

To make life a little easier for you we offer a bag packing and carry to car service, glass hire, and very shortly will be able to offer a cash machine with free withdrawals. Our home delivery service, available Monday to Friday, is free* within a five mile radius of the store. We also offer PayPoint, the convenient and easy way to pay your household bills, top up your mobile phone and make other payments in cash. Pop down to your local community store and see the difference for yourself.

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Honeybee Swarms

The next two or three months mark the peak of the swarming season and there are volunteer beekeepers to come and collect swarms but only of honeybees.

Seen a swarm ?

the King's Lynn Swarm Co-ordinator
01553 828651 or 07860 573719

Please have ready: location inc. postcode, size (e.g. "tennis ball" / "football"), height off ground, roughly how long it has been there and a contact person on arrival.

All swarms collectors are volunteers, and would appreciate cost of petrol to collect swarm – there is no other charge.



HONEYBEE CHECKLIST BEFORE CALLING SWARM COORDINATOR

Describe the bees :	Implications	Action
Do they have distinct yellow/orange bands around the abdomen (ie the main part of the body)? →	Almost certainly wasps →	Refer to Pest Controller
Do they have a distinct blob of colour on the body, quite fat and slightly fluffy?	Almost certainly bumble bees	May be a protected species or in decline, so unless they are a real nuisance, they should not be disturbed or killed
Are they a fairly non-descript brown/browny yellow?	Almost certainly honey bees	Check other questions below
Numbers:		
10's	Likely to be normal activity focussed on a good food source	No action required
100's	Likely to be wasps or bumble bees in the vicinity of a nest	Refer to Pest Controller if a real nuisance.
1000's	Likely to be honey bees swarming	Call Swarm Coordinator
Nests:		
Does nest look as though it's made of a grey/white papier mache?	This is wood pulp and they are wasps.	Refer to Pest Controller
Does nest look as though it's made of yellow/orange wax?	These are bumble bees	See bumble bee note on line 2
Is nest white with obvious honey comb cells?	These are honey bees.	Call Swarm Coordinator
Activity – what are most of the bees doing:		
Hanging in a big cluster ?	Can only be honey bees	Call Swarm Coordinator
Going into a wall?	If you can see where they are going and can get to it	Call Swarm Coordinator, else call Pest Controller
Going into a chimney?	If they are coming out into a room & fireplace is not sealed	Light a smoky fire to encourage dispersal
Going into a roof?	Is it accessible / can you see nest?	Call Swarm Coordinator, else call Pest Controller
Going into the ground?	Most certainly bumble bees	See bumble bee note on line 2
Milling around flowers/plants	Normal feeding activity -no cause for alarm	Leave well alone

Honey Bees



Bees make a huge contribution to agriculture by pollination – estimated at £165 million per year in the UK – and they produce delicious honey too.

Have you thought of taking up beekeeping ?

You can come along one weekend in the spring/summer and spend an hour hearing about beekeeping and having a look in a beehive (weather permitting).

Contact - Terry Gibson, phone 01553 674051,
email: bee-aware@gmx.com



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - WOMEN'S SECTION DERSINGHAM AND SANDRINGHAM BRANCH



Our quarterly Group Meeting was held at Hunstanton Conservative Club on 25th March. This enabled us to meet members from other branches within our Group and to catch up with news - some of us even managed to win a prize in the quiz.

Our meeting at the Orchard Close Community Centre on 7th April was a very lively one, with us all voicing our ideas for future events.

Gaywood Branch of the R.B.L. W.S invited us to their service of dedication for their new Standard and for the laying up of their old one, at St Faith's Church on the 6th April. It was a very poignant service with all the Branches displaying their Standards, we were very proud to have ours there as well.

We were invited by the Hunstanton Branch of the R.B.L. W.S. for their 60th Anniversary Lunch at the United Services Club in Hunstanton on 7th May. It was a lovely sunny day; we had a very enjoyable lunch and felt privileged to take part in this very special occasion. □

Please note that the correct phone number for RBL secretary R. W. Haddow is 544774

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So What Are You Going To Do Then?

Ever since I gave in my notice to take early retirement people have been saying to me “so what are you going to do then?” These are a few of the answers I have come up with so far!

As a wife – I know that Nick and I will enjoy the flexibility of being able to take ourselves off for a day out somewhere, and enjoy being able to take holidays in term time! We shall enjoy a leisurely breakfast reading the papers, sitting out in the garden for as long as we want to.

As a mum of my two grown up daughters - I am waiting with excitement for the birth of Bec and Simon’s baby in June which will be our first grandchild, so I shall enjoy baby sitting and taking the baby a walk to feed the ducks! I shall be busy planning Jo and Ian’s wedding for sometime next year and making all the practical arrangements – it’s a long term project!!

As a daughter and daughter in law – I shall be able to offer more practical support to our parents who live in Kent and Dorset and be able to visit them more frequently than I can when I am working full time.

And for myself - I hope to re-discover the joy of watercolour painting, do more cross stitch, keep up with our daily walks and honour my commitment as a Methodist Local Preacher. I know too that I will miss my career tremendously. I expect I shall spend the first few weeks thinking “I wonder what the children are doing now”. I shall miss their funny little ways, their spontaneous comments, their ever smiling faces and the way they couldn’t wait for me to open the door each morning as they were so keen to come to school. I shall miss the super support that the people of Dersingham have given me; the parents, the Governors and the countless village folk who have offered their time and energy to us all at school in so many ways.

And so “what am I going to do then?” Well I have listed some possible answers to that question, but none of us really know what lies ahead and I suppose that is the joy of retirement isn’t it? The freedom to just ‘be’ and in being to see the next phase of life as an open book waiting to be written.

So as I hang up my chalk (or what ever retiring Headteacher’s do) I know that in time I will wonder how I ever found time to work, as many other retired people have found out before me! Thank you all for your support over the last seven years; it has been a privilege to educate and care for the children of this village as Headteacher of Dersingham Infant and Nursery School. □

Jackie Austin

CHILDREN SEEN GOING TO BED ON THE BEACH

An explanation is due for those people who saw the strange sight of children climbing into bed on the beach on a misty, cold March morning. It wasn’t a stunt for U tube but a photo shoot for a new web site for the Wrought Iron & Brass Bed Co. of Dersingham.

The frozen look on the little girl’s face was genuine as temperatures just rose above freezing. The boy’s decided to keep themselves warm by taking running jumps onto the beds (good job they are all handmade here in Norfolk). □

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Dersingham Library



It's the National Year of Reading and this is the perfect time to come along to the library and find out what you're missing! If you are busy during the day, remember we have two late nights - Monday and Thursday until 7.30pm. Hopeto see you soon!

The ARCH (Archiving Rural Community History) Project continues at the library. You can see what has been added so far by looking at www.remembernorfolk.org. Our display of photographs at the library attracted a lot of interest - particularly the story of the samphire lady - Rose Anna Dewson, and the cockle lady - Lizzie English.

We've had some stories of early scout group adventures and have added pictures of guide camps from the 1980s, so now we'd like some stories and photos of earlier guiding/scouting activities. If you have memories of cooking over the campfire, of skinning a rabbit or Sandingham jamborees, please contact Alison or Helena at the library on 01485 540181.

We also have a story about the Dersingham Dance Band from c 1920. Does anyone have a photo of them, or know anyone who was a member?

One June 3rd from 10-1 we've got a special training session when you can learn how to do oral history interviewing and record people's memories using a digital recorder, and on June 6th 10.30-1 you can find out how to add the sound to the Remember Norfolk website. Places are limited for these two sessions so please contact the library to reserve your place.

We need your help!

Can you spare a few hours of your time?

If you're interested in helping your local community, we're looking for volunteers to help us deliver the home library service to people in their own homes.

The men and women of the Home Library Service provide books on wheels to people in the community who like to use the library service but are unable to get there due to age, disability or restricted mobility.

In return we offer you - all expenses paid, training and support, the opportunity to meet new people, the opportunity to help your community.

On Friday 20th June at 11am, we are having an open meeting at Dersingham Library for anyone interested in finding out more, and the opportunity to meet volunteers and find out what they do.



For more details contact the library on (01485)540181 or the Norfolk Home Library Service co-ordinator Jo Anderton on (01603)506848. □

Alison Thome

Hunstanton & District Lions Club.

This Summer Hunstanton Lions Club will have a great presence on “The Green”. Every weekend just by the Bandstand we will be raffling a brand new

“YAMAHA MT-03” motor bike



This bike is worth nearly £5000.00 , and it could be yours for just £10.00 ! We have **limited the number of tickets to 599** so you will stand a very good chance of being the proud owner of this really smashing machine.

Come and see us, and the bike every weekend (weather permitting) on The Green and don't miss this great chance.

All the profit will go to Hunstanton Lions Club and be distributed to the many local, national, and international causes that we support.

On the weekend of August 9th and 10th we are arranging an **Open Bowls Tournament**. This is being held at Old Hunstanton Social Club. Entries for singles and/or trebles are available to anyone at an entry fee of £2.50 per person per category. Telephone 01485 533 108 for information about how to apply. This event coincides with a “Beer Festival” being held at the club, and a Bar B Q will also be available during both days. A perfect place to take your children.

In March we held a very successful “Race Night” at Searles Leisure Park raising about £1500 for our funds. There were some lucky winners among the attendees also!

At Easter Messis “Tesco” kindly gave us permission to collect outside their store in Hunstanton and we raised £221.00. Thank you all for supporting us, and thank you Tesco.

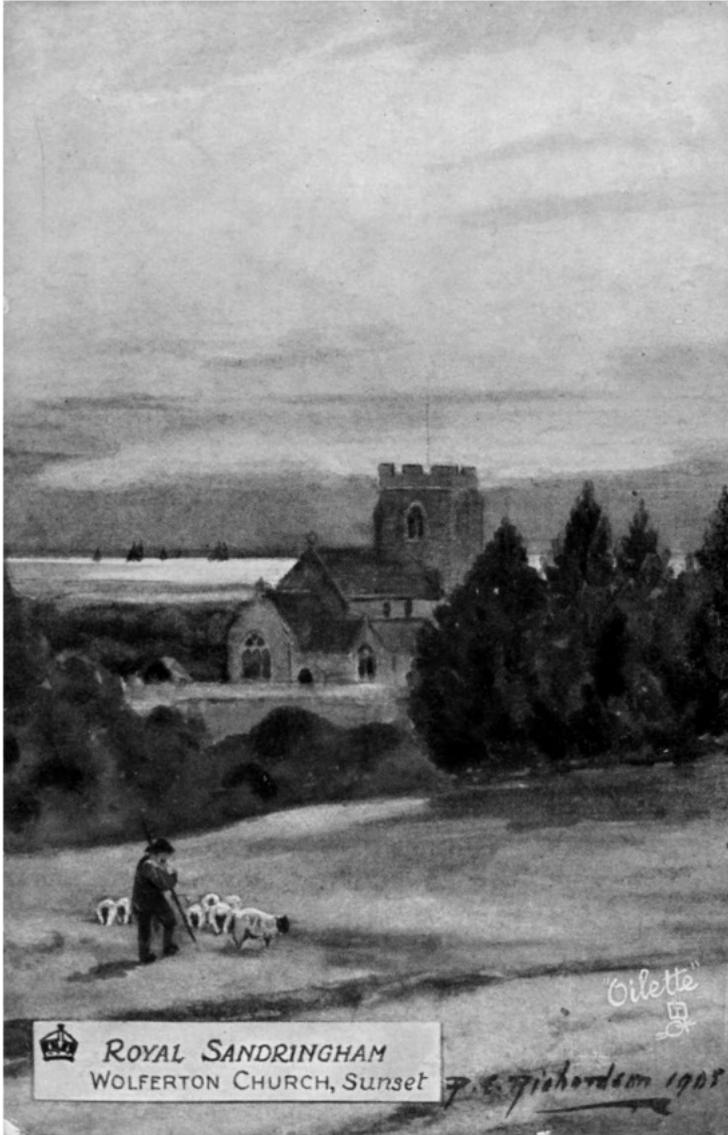
Many of you know of us through our “Car Boot Sales” which we used to hold regularly at the Community Centre. Regrettably we are no longer allowed to hold these there, but we are looking into alternative venues. We are sorry that we will not be able to hold any car boot sales this year.

If you would like details of the worthy causes we have supported in the past, or if you know of any good cause needing help, please contact us.

We look forward to seeing you on “The Green” during the summer. □

Hunstanton & District Lions Club.

Can you complete the set?



Around 100 years ago Raphael Tuck were publishing their "Oilette" range of postcards and amongst these was a series of six showing the Sandringham Estate. I have five of them, these being the one above of Wolferton Church, Dersingham Church which often appears in Dersingham Data, Sandringham House from the lake, The Lake and Gardens and the Clock Tower and Entrance to House. I would love to know what number six was of and even get a copy. Is there one out there? □

Tony Bubb

THE SURVEYOR OF HIGHWAYS

Today if you see a hole in the road you can just ring the Parish Office and report the problem and the clerk will contact the County Highways Depot and get it sorted out. But not so in days gone by.

In 1555 an Act was passed 'For amending of High-ways being now both very noisom and tedious to travel in and dangerous to all Passengers and Carriages'. This provided that yearly every parish should elect two parishioners as Surveyors and Orderers for one year, who should take office on pain of a fine. The Surveyors nominated four (later six) days between Easter and Midsummer on which 'the Parishioners shall endeavour themselves to the amending of the said Ways'.

So thankless a task was that of the surveyor, supervisor, or waywarden, as the officer was variously designated, that the position was frequently thrust upon an unpopular member of the community.

This system was described in "The King's Highway" by S & B Webb in 1913.



Upon the Surveyor of Highways onerous duties were imposed. From the day on which the Parish Constable brought him the warrant showing that he had been nominated by his fellow parishioners and appointed by the justices at their special 'Highways Sessions', he found himself entangled in multifarious and troublesome obligations.

First he had to take over from his predecessor any balance of 'highway money' and to learn, as best he could, the manner in which the highway accounts were made up, and how he would have to enter the complicated series of fines, compositions, and commutations in order to satisfy at the end of his year of office the audit of the magistrates and their clerk.

What may be called the police duties of his office were numerous and troublesome. Three times during the year, at least, he had to View all the roads, highways, water-courses, bridges, and pavements within his precinct, and make presentment upon oath in what condition he finds the same to the next Justice'. He had to see to it that the owners of the lands adjacent to the highways cleared these ways of 'any timber, stone, hay, stubble', etc., that had been placed on them; cleansed and scoured the 'ditches, gutters, and drains adjoining'; laid 'sufficient trunks, tunnels or bridges' where any cartways entered the highway from their fields; cut down, gubbed, and carried away any trees, bushes, or shrubs standing or growing in the highway; and kept 'their hedges cut and pared right up from the roots, and not spreading into or hanging over any part of the highway', in order that, from one end of the parish to the other, there might be 'a clear passage for travellers and carriages', and that the sun may shine into the ways 'to dry the same', and enable them, as the phrase ran, 'to grow better of themselves'. And, if this was not enough, he was at all times to keep a look-out for and waylay waggons, wains, cart, and carriages that were drawn by more than the statutory number of oxen or horses, or had these arranged in any but the statutory way.

The very next Sunday, after he had discovered any 'default or annoyance' in breach of the above regulations, he was expressly required to stand up in the parish church, 'immediately after sermon ended', and proclaim the offenders, giving notice that, if not amended within three days, he would himself put the matter right and charge the expenses to the defaulters.

Possibly, after some weeks of this unpopular activity, he might find some relaxation in his journey to attend the special Highway Session at the neighbouring town, to listen to a solemn 'charge' from the

assembled Justices as to his duties, to make his presentments, and to answer the magistrates' questions about them; or in his occasional jaunt to the Quarter Sessions at the county town to do his best to defeat an indictment of the parish for neglecting its roads, or, from the end of the seventeenth century, to extract from the Justices an order to levy the sixpenny rate, by which alone he could hope to recover the outlay to which he had been driven.

But any little interest or excitement he might get from these contacts with the greater world would be more than balanced by the invidious relations into which he necessarily came with all his fellow-parishioners.

It was the Surveyor who had to fix the six days on which the whole parish had to turn out and work on the roads; it was for him to order the unwilling teams and carts to drag the stones, gravel, or quarry-rubbish to the places where he judged them to be required; it was for him to see that the labourers were all at work, and to direct their labours with whatever knowledge of road-making he might possess. Finally it was on him that fell the disagreeable duty of reporting all defaulters to the nearest Justice of the Peace, in order that they might be fined; and of collecting from the poor cottagers and niggardly farmers, whatever cash payments might be due from them. If, dismayed by the prospect of so much work without pay, he refused to accept office, he might promptly find himself mulcted in a penalty of five pounds. Moreover, for any neglect of his duty he was liable to be summarily fined forty shillings for each default. □



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Greetings from the Manse



Pentecostal Greetings from the manse.

Are you driven or called?

A recent article in my possession talked about the things that give people direction and purpose in their lives. The article distinguished between people who are driven and people who are called.

Driven people want to accumulate things, to be recognised as somebody, to achieve something, to exercise power somewhere.

Driven people are often extremely busy and competitive and quickly flare up if crossed or frustrated. True, they get things done but at the cost of damaged relationships and often a loss of peace of mind. Driven people don't feel at ease alone with themselves or with God for very long. They prefer to be active, absorbed in one project or another, otherwise they get tense and difficult to live with.

We might well see something of ourselves being described here. What makes us like this? Perhaps we feel we have something to prove to the rest of the world. Maybe we try to live up to the dreams of our parents, or to climb a little higher up the social ladder than they have done.

Sometimes, though, when this is happening we don't admit to it and maintain that we are just ordinary folks, like them next door. The trouble is, them next door are likely to be playing the same game too!

Called people on the other hand, start from understanding that they are loved and valued from the beginning, regardless of what they have achieved. God loves us all just as we are however imperfect and unacceptable we feel. We don't have to earn His acceptance. Called people don't mind if the majority regards them as not being particularly successful, influential or powerful. Relationships and peace of mind matter more to them. They respond to the call of God to lay down their heavy loads to follow Jesus into the new life of the Kingdom of God his Father.

What is the motivating force in your life? Are you driven or called? God calls us to give up our "driven-ness" and go back to the start and begin a new race, a new life, secure and whole in God's love. The adventure He calls us to will always be tough as well as exciting, tearful as well as joyful and it will always be open to change and renewal. In this season of the Church's year, the blessing of Pentecost assures us of the personal presence of God in the Holy Spirit as we respond to our calling in love and peace and freedom.

Many blessings to you and your families. □

Kim Nally

Remembering Pastures Old

© Kathy Jordan 4th May 2008

A fond farewell to Dersingham,
As I venture to pastures new,
'Off with the old' won't be easy,
With Stanton Road's sunsets in view.

The neighbourhood was friendly,
My garden a haven of peace,
(Until strikingly shattered by –
Those appealing pink footed geese!!)

The walks from there were wonderful –
Down the Drift or in the wood,
Mazy marsh meanders I mastered –
Where ancient mariners once stood.

I have so many memories,
Nine happy years' worth I could share,
They will stay with me for ever –
Though part of me will still be there.

It's not a house that creates a home,
But making the most of what may be,
With the helping hand and facilities,
Of a collective community.

Now I'm off to 'Southerm Norfolk',
To be nearer to family,
If it's half as nice as Dersingham –
Then how thrilled to bits I'll be!!!

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NOW OPEN IN DERSINGHAM

Even mirrors can lie

©Hugh Mullarkey
20-04-08

And always there is silence
No answer can be heard
Except inside my head of course
Where there's every kind of word

Mirror, mirror on the wall
Or on the Dressing Table
Give me now the honest truth
And I'll provide the fable

Still there is the silence
But not inside my mind
And if I were to be honest
What answers might I find?

Mirror, mirror on the wall
Why won't you speak to me?
Please tell me what I want to hear
And embellish what I see

All right then I'll turn up the music
And batter my empty ears
The silence is doing my head in
Is anything what it appears?

Mirror, mirror on the wall
Show me a heart that sings
Show me the truth in the light of my eyes
That the deepest reflection brings.

Even mirrors can lie

©Hugh Mullarkey
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Brownies

DERSINGHAM BROWNIES ANNUAL PACK HOLIDAY

Twenty brownies from the 1st and 2nd Dersingham Packs and five leaders enjoyed their annual Pack Holiday from 31st March to 3rd April. The Brownies and leaders stayed at the John of Gaunt School, Aylsham, the girls experienced many different activities and learnt new skills.

The brownies slept on camp beds and helped with the cooking, tidying and washing up. They worked for a variety of interest badges including Pack Holiday, Cooks, Craft, Agility, Entertainer and Pack Holiday advanced. The theme of the holiday was "Peter Pan" and the girls were divided into 4 groups representing pirates, lost boys, fairies and Indians. They enjoyed a host of craft activities making such things as treasure chests, dream catchers, pirate hats, Indian headdresses, pencil pot holders and many more.

On the first afternoon they had a walk around Aylsham for an observation quiz. The girls enjoyed playing games inside and out and the whole group had a trip on the Bure Valley Railway from Aylsham to Wroxham. At Wroxham they had a chance of a walk and some sightseeing of the Broads, a picnic and an opportunity for some shopping.

Evening activities included a Pyjama Parade and sewing badges on their camp blankets on the



first evening, a treasure map jigsaw hunt and a camp fire singsong on the final evening.

Everyone had an enjoyable and happy experience and plans are already being made for next year's event. □

Lynne Wheeler & Sandra Hullett Brownie Guiders, 2nd & 1st Dersingham Brownies

Did you know that

Fern Hill was, in the old days, known as Furlong Hill. Over the years it changed to its present form. This was passed on as traditional information by much earlier residents.

A.M.W.

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PLEDGE A FOOT



We are looking for supporters of the War Memorial to pledge £5 per square foot to help us with the restoration of the War Memorial Area .

The area that we are refurbishing is approximately 2000sq.ft. and will comprise of a completely new ground surface after the area is leveled.

A landscape designer has prepared a beautiful layout, with attractive planted and seating areas . Easier access for those less mobile has been taken into consideration with the design and gives much improved safety and ease of maintenance.

New railings and gates are a main feature of the design and will blend in with the existing memorial railings.

As we have to go for Grant Funding, it was decided to show our commitment to the project by having support from the public in the way of pledges of support.

The Royal British Legion , Sandringham & Dersingham Branch have started the ball rolling with a pledge of £25 and others have made their pledges as well.

This 2008 Remembrance Day is a very special one, being the **90th Anniversary** since the end of the **First World War**. Help us reach our goal and show our appreciation of those that laid down their lives for the future generations.

Please contact the Clerk at Dersingham Parish Office to make your pledge

Bog News

May 2008

There are few places locally where the passing of the seasons is more marked than at Dersingham Bog National Nature Reserve. The skittish, fluttering flocks of meadow pipits that gather around the edge of the bog herald the first signs of spring, followed by the early morning chorus of robins, wrens, dunnocks and mistle thrushes, singing to establish their breeding.



Tree Creeper

As spring progresses, the medley of bird song changes. Dunnocks, mistle thrushes and treecreepers give way to the migrant willow warblers, garden warblers and chiffchaffs whilst, out on the bog, the lapwings begin their tumbling, twisting aerobatic display flights, accompanied by their soft mournful cries.

I must confess that bird song brings out the child in me and, at the first signs of spring, I begin waking earlier and earlier, too excited to sleep, like a youngster itching to get out of bed to look for presents under the tree at Christmas. The reserve holds surprises every year; whether it be the constant anticipation that a new, unusual species may turn up, or simply the contented feeling experienced at the discovery that a particular pair of birds is back in its usual spot.

Surveying the bird populations on the reserve has a number of important uses. It allows us to know that we are making the right decisions regarding management, alerts us to potential problems occurring on the reserve such as disturbance or predation and feeds into national studies to track the changing fortunes of different species.

At Dersingham Bog, we carry out several surveys throughout the spring and summer to establish the numbers of breeding birds using the reserve. In late February, staff and volunteers make a start on the Common Bird Census (CBC). This is a well established technique which involved walking a fixed route every two weeks throughout the spring, marking down every bird that is seen or heard along the way on a map. At the end of the spring, the maps are combined and a pattern of activity hot spots, representing breeding territories, begins to become apparent.

Comparing the results of this survey over time allows us to recognise trends in the distribution and abundance of different species. Some species, such as robins (37 territories in 2006 and 36 territories in 2007) and coal tit (34 territories in both years) have remained stable over recent years, whereas others have shown a marked, short term change. It remains to be seen whether these will become long term developing trends or are just temporary 'blips'.

The surveys have illustrated that linnets are increasing on the site (1 territory in 2006, 3 in 2007 and, based on information so far, 6 territories this year). This is likely to be in response to an increasing food supply related to the increase in grasses such as purple moor grass and wavy hair grass. The former is a heath/bog species that has benefited from the heathland restoration works, whilst the latter is likely to be increasing in response to increased levels of nitrogen in the soils as a result of atmospheric deposition.

Other species show major year on year fluctuations. Grasshopper warblers choose scrubby areas with lots of insects



Lapwing



Grasshopper Warbler

to nest and their distribution pattern is strongly related to the management works on the bog – areas where scrub is several years old holding birds, whilst the cleared areas hold none, showing the importance of maintaining a mosaic of habitats across the reserve.

The common bird census does not work well for all species and staff and volunteers carry out specific surveys for nightjar, woodcock and woodlark. These are all characteristic species of heathland landscapes and, perhaps, it is therefore no surprise that they have benefited from the ongoing heathland restoration works carried out on the reserve. □

Ash Murray, Reserve Manager, Natural England.

Grand Book Sale

A large number of people turned up for the sale, where a huge number of second-hand books on various subjects, were displayed in the main room of the Church Hall, on Saturday 26th April. There were also videos, board games and jig-saw puzzles available. In the three hours of the sale £650.00 was raised on book sales. At the same time there was a selection of good “Nearly New” clothing and a bric-a-brac stall, as well as some light refreshments available, bringing the total income to over £1,000.00. Thank go to the many who worked so hard to set up the sale and who staffed the several stalls during the morning. Any books that were left over, and which have been on display in the Church Hall book room for a considerable period, (but which are in good condition), are being moved on to a charity shop. □

Neil Adams



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
Issue 53	Wednesday 9th July	Thursday 31st July
Issue 54	Wednesday 3rd September	Thursday 25th September
Issue 55	Wednesday 5th November	Thursday 27th November
Issue 56	Wednesday 7th January	Thursday 29th January

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

DIARY OF SPECIAL EVENTS

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
22nd June	2pm - 5pm	Dersingham Community Centre	Tea Dance	Dersingham Community Centre
24th June	5pm - 7pm	Norfolk Police	Monthly surgery	St Cecilia's Church
13th July	10 am - 4 pm	Millennium Fairs	Collectors Fair	St Nicholas Church Hall
17,18,19,20th July	10 am - 5 pm	St Nicholas Church	Flower Festival	St Nicholas Church
28th July	5pm - 7pm	Norfolk Police	Monthly surgery	St Cecilia's Church
28, 29, 30th July		St Nicholas Church	Children's Holiday Club	St Nicholas Church
24th August	2pm - 5pm	Dersingham Community Centre	Tea Dance	Dersingham Community Centre
24,25,26,27th Sept		St Nicholas Church	Arts and Crafts Festival	St Nicholas Church
Sat 29 Sept	7.30 pm	St Nicholas Church	Strolling Players Concert	St Nicholas Church

DIARY OF REGULAR EVENTS

Date	Time	Organisation	Event	Venue
Every Monday	2.00 pm	St. Cecilia's Church	Rosary Group	St. Cecilia's Church
Every Mon, Tues, Thur & Fri	9.00 to 11.30 am	Dersingham Playgroup	Playgroup Meeting	Dersingham Community Centre, Manor Road
Every Mon & Fri in Term Time	9.30 to 11.00 am	Puddleducks Toddler Group	Toddler Group Meeting	Dersingham Methodist Church Hall
Last Monday in the Month	7.15 pm	Dersingham Parish Council	Full Council Meeting	Infant and Nursery School, Sax on 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 in Term Time	8.30 to 11.15 am	Parent & Toddler Group Meeting	St Nicholas Church hall	St Nicholas Parent & Toddler Group
Every Tuesday	8 pm	Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes	Sandringham Lodge Meeting	Dersingham Community Centre, Manor Road
1st or 2nd Tuesday 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	Feathers Hotel
Every Wednesday	10.00 am to 4.00 pm	Dersingham Day Centre for the Elderly	Recreation & Leisure and Mid-day Meal	Dersingham Community Centre, Manor Road
Every Wednesday	10.00 to 11.00am	Music+Movement	Pre-school Music, Dance & Drama	Dersingham Scout & Guide HQ
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 Phobies 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 7.00 pm	1st Sandringham Guides	Unit Meeting	Dersingham Community Centre., Manor Road
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
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	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 Nicholas Church Hall
1st Friday of month	10.00 am to 12 noon	St Nicholas Church	Coffee Morning	St Nicholas Church Hall

Norfolk Constabulary Western Mobile Police Station

West Norfolk Constabulary advise us that the Mobile Police Station will be open in Budgen's car park as follows; 4th June, 2nd July, 27th August - when Public Enquiry Officers Linda Forder and Pete Shaw will be in attendance along with P.C. 240 Stan Cobon. Services which include; Advice, Crime recording, Information, Lost and found property, Crime prevention advice and literature. Useful contact telephone numbers are; Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111 and Norfolk Constabulary: 01953 424242

Please also note a new number on which to report any crime which does not require the urgency of 999, this being **0845 456 4567**

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 £12.50 for an eighth of a page per issue, to be very cost effective.

Advertisements for inclusion in the next newsletter should be in the hands of Anita Moore, Dersingham Parish Council, The Police Station, Manor Road, Dersingham PE31 6LH **by Wednesday 9th July 2008** Enquiries regarding advertisements may be made by calling 01485 541465. E-mail — anitadersinghamc@tiscali.co.uk

Articles for publication in the August edition of Village Voice must reach The Editor c/o Dersingham Parish Council, The Police Station, Manor Road, Dersingham PE31 6LH or e-mail; anita.dersinghamc@tiscali.co.uk before the **deadline date of mid-day on Wednesday 9th July 2008 for publication on Wednesday 30th July**. (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 might appear on the Parish Council's Internet web site. The editor does not necessarily agree with opinions that are expressed, or the accuracy of statements made, by contributors to the Village Voice.

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

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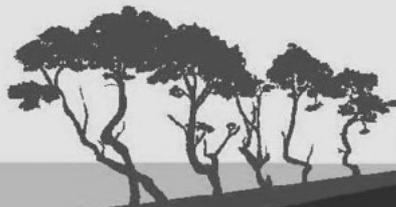
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VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday July 1st

THE WILDLIFE OF BRECKLAND



Words and pictures from
Nick Gibbons
who until recently was the
Thetford Forest ecologist

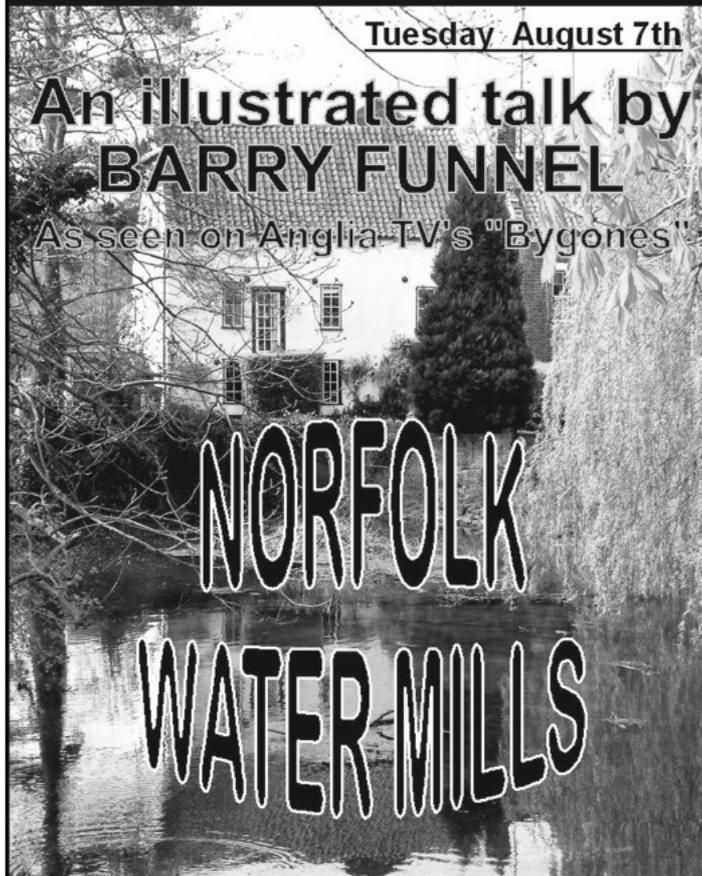
St Nicholas Church Hall, Manor Road, Dersingham.
7.30 pm Admission £2.00 including refreshments. Raffle

VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday August 7th

An illustrated talk by
BARRY FUNNEL

As seen on Anglia-TV's "Bygones"



St Nicholas Church Hall, Manor Road, Dersingham.
7.30 pm Admission £2.00 including refreshments. Raffle