

Dersingham Village Voice

Issue No 23

July/August 2003



An old view of Dersingham. Does anyone recognise the two boys?

School holidays are now in full swing and many Dersingham children will have participated in the special week of Children's Activities which is organised every year. A full report will appear in the October Village Voice.

Currently a talking point in the village is the new situation at Dersingham Surgery (renamed The Carole Brown Health Centre). Everyone has high expectations that the new arrangement will be successful and give Dersingham patients a much improved service. The PPG will remain active as a means of providing interchange of information and views between patients and staff in addition to its role of fundraising to provide additional services and facilities. Regular meetings of the PPG take place and everyone is invited. A report of the last meeting is on p3 of this newsletter.

Sadly, this is my last editorial as I am relinquishing the editorship of Village Voice. I have very much enjoyed my involvement and the many contacts I have made over the past 4 years. I do thank everyone who has sent contributions for inclusion. I do hope you will continue to support the publication and continue to send in your letters and articles for publication.

Teresa Southam

Parish Council News

*The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on
Monday 29 September at the First School at 7 pm*

Safety Issues

Children from St George's (CE) Middle School have been researching the safety issues of Doddshill Road and they presented their findings in the form of diagrams and illustrations to the Councillors at the June Meeting. Graphs were displayed to show the number of cars travelling along Admirals Drive and Doddshill Road. Amongst the dangers listed were: potholes for cyclists, pathways too narrow, road not wide enough for 2 cars to pass in some places, cars parked on the paths, cars driving too fast, not enough room to pass the dog bin, icy roads during winter, unawareness of when the Fire fighters are coming out of their entrance in a hurry. One of the children described how he had fallen off his bike because of the close proximity of a car.

The children expressed their ideas on how these problems could be overcome: double yellow lines, repair the roads, speed camera, cycle paths, no lorries, speed bumps, traffic lights, other car parking areas, cut bank back, walking bus, car share. The children were thanked for their hard work on behalf of the Parish Councillors who all considered the presentation was very effective.

Cllr Eells, County Councillor, said that she could see there was a need to address the problems mentioned. She explained that an inspection with a Borough Council Engineer took place approximately two weeks prior to this meeting. As the money became available it is hoped that there will be a vegetation maintenance programme as well as a new surface and drainage to prevent flooding. The Council agreed that prioritisation be given to this work. Cllr Eells requested that the children's drawings be supplied to her and she would pursue the matter further. It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with an NCC engineer, Cllr Eells and a Parish Councillor to discuss traffic in Admirals Drive.

Dersingham Under Five Play Group

The Council were pleased to hear that this would continue as the staff had decided to forgo their pay rise to which they are entitled. The council agreed to organise a press release to advise the public that the playgroup will continue and encourage further registration of children.

Sandringham View Streetnames

Street signs are to be amended to indicate the roads leading from the main roads as with the growth of the properties on the estate people have found difficulty in locating certain roads on the estate.

Advertisements for Village Voice

If you wish to place an advertisement please contact Kim Dunford, Parish Clerk, Parish Council Office, Police Station, Manor Road (Tel: 541465)

Dersingham Surgery

Tel: 0845 009 60 66 (from 1 August 2003)

The Dersingham Surgery Patients Participation Group held their Annual General Meeting at St Cecilia's Hall on Tuesday 15 July and a very large number of Dersingham residents attended as well as representatives from the Gayton Road Health & Surgical Centre (GRHSC), including Dr Martin Kenny who will be one of the doctors in Dersingham. Most will now be aware of the changes that have taken place from the beginning of August and publicity has been given to them in the press but these are summarised below for information.

Dersingham will no longer be part of a Heacham Group Practice and The Gayton Road Health & Surgical Centre (GRHSC) is assuming responsibility on behalf of the PCT for the provision of health services at the surgery from 4 August 2003 to 31 March 2004. It is almost certain that this arrangement will be permanent because of the huge IT changes that are required to get all the patients' records onto the system used by GRHSC, although the door is not closed to other interested parties.

The surgery will be well manned - in addition to the usual nursing and administration staff there will initially be 4 doctors - Dr Hambling (at least until November), Dr Suchak, Dr Kenny and Dr Baluch, and a Nurse Practitioner.

The GRHSC will operate an Advance Access appointment system at Dersingham so as to allow patients an appointment 'on the day' in emergency or urgent cases. Note the new telephone number which, when rung, will give a few options to the caller. The options will promote efficiency as callers will be able to go straight to a specific location, eg emergency, house calls, test results, etc. Patients would be encouraged to arrange appointments ahead. They would also be able to request a telephone consultation with a doctor.

The GRHSC propose to expand the health services and facilities available to patients of Dersingham, in line with those at their Gayton Road premises, and are currently in the process of developing a 5-year plan to facilitate this expansion.

Graham Dickinson, Executive Manager of Gayton Road, asked for people to be patient at the beginning of the new system - there was a great deal of work involved with the new IT system and new telephone system but he was confident that a high-quality service would result.

In answer to questions raised from the floor, dispensing arrangements would remain as they are for the time being, with prescriptions collected from Moss Pharmacy. The surgery would be manned daily apart from Wednesday afternoons when it would be closed. It was agreed that the new name for Dersingham Surgery should be

THE CAROLE BROWN HEALTH CENTRE

in appreciation of Dr Brown's dedication and hard work at the surgery over the years.

West Norfolk Befriending Project

This project has only been in operation a mere six months and already it is reported as being of great benefit to clients and befrienders alike.

For those of you who have not yet heard of the project – it is a partnership of 3 voluntary organisations: West Norfolk Age Concern, West Norfolk Carers Project, West Norfolk Deaf Association.

The partners formed the project in order to try and combat the problem of feeling isolated socially. The rural nature of West Norfolk and the fact that many people move here to retire only makes the problem worse. In many cases social contact is missing and a befriender calling to a client in their own home can be a real lifeline.

To date the project has set up in the region of 20 befriending relationships. Within these relationships there is a range of different social activities taking place – here are just a few examples:

- Some stay in the home and have a chat
- Others go for a short walk
- Others go for a drive
- Others go to the shops

For most clients the befriending relationship has had a big impact on their lives, easing that terrible loneliness and isolation which comes from living alone. Here is just a short extract from a client speaking about her Befriender:

'As soon as I was introduced to Ann, we got on very well. We go somewhere every week, usually on a Thursday afternoon. It has made such a difference to my life. I used to get quite depressed but now I get out and about a bit. I feel a whole lot better. We always have a laugh about something and the time goes far too quickly for my liking! I can't wait for the next visit – it's so good to have something like that to look forward to'.

What skills are required to become a befriender?

The following are just a few of many: listening skills, a good sense of humour, enjoyment of social contact, ability to encourage independence, adaptability.

What do Befrienders do?

There are many ways in which a Befriender can help someone – some of the more common are: easing loneliness and isolation, providing a listening ear, offering social support, practical help – such as help with shopping, letter writing.

For further information about the Project contact:

Carmel T Wolverson, Befriending Co-ordinator

Tel: 01553 763500.

Email: inf@wnbefrienders.org.uk.

Website: www.wnbefrienders.org.uk

Editor - Village Voice

Sadly, Teresa has resigned from the editorship of this newsletter and the rest of the newsletter team would like to thank her for her hard work and her cheerful contribution to the production of the Village Voice over the last 4 years. We are sure that all our readers will continue to support the newsletter which she was so instrumental in setting up.

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Special Constabulary Recruitment



“Making Norfolk Safe”

Anyone wanting information on the step program should contact 01953 423683 or email stepspecials@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.

Alongside the step program we are recruiting Special Constables. Individuals wishing to join the Special Constabulary can get an application pack by contacting 01953 423823 or email recruitment@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.

Regular Officer Recruitment

We are also recruiting regular officers. Anyone interested in a career as a Police Officer should contact 01953 423823 or email recruitment@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.

ANGLIAN WATER

Ingoldisthorpe Sewage Treatment works Improvement

Work is about to commence on a £850K scheme to further improve the quality of the final effluent. The work should be completed by the end of December 2003. Disturbance will be kept to a minimum. However, during this period additional construction traffic will be using the access road.

Dersingham Methodist Church - Space for information to be written below

Dersingham Ponds

The reader's query in the June Village Voice for information about old ponds in Dersingham provoked some interest and readers have kindly provided the following information for which we are very grateful. It is always gratifying to realise that people who live in the village are really interested in its history. It appears that Dersingham did in fact boast many ponds in the past. Perhaps other readers will remember them as well.

Clayton Close: the area in Chapel Road between the old chapel and the row of cottages set back from the road was a grass field. This belonged to Mr Lloyd-Pratt and was part of the Oaks, which is now the Pottery and Tudor and Saxon Way. The field had a large pond in it. This field is now Clayton Close.

Manor Road: Between what was the Craft Shop and the vehicle entrance to the sports field which now has 3 houses on it was a field and a pond. This land belonged to the Feathers Hotel. In the winter the pond was used for sliding on the ice. Geese were kept on the field all year round.

The Emblems: a piece of land opposite the Feathers Hotel - entry is through the gate in the corner of the Community Centre wall. This land belongs to Sandringham Estate. The large pond is still there but overgrown with vegetation. This was known as a mini lake. When the water froze in winter it was well used for sliding - a few people have also been known to ice skate on it.

Sandringham View: The Duck Decoy at the bottom of the estate has now been cleared and filled in. It would have made a lovely wildlife area for people to enjoy.

Hawthorn Cottages: There was a pond on Birds Pasture in front of the cottages, some of which is still there.

The Drift: There was a pond down the Drift about 50 yards on the right this side of the railway line called Bauldings Moat.

Gamekeepers Lodge: There was a pond or pit behind the Old Hall.

There was also a small pit on the Shut Up Common near to the eight-mile stone.

A reader has pointed out that besides all the things which ponds are known for they also in bad weather are somewhere for water to drain to. Perhaps if they had been looked after instead of filling them in we would not have all the flooding problems we seem to get these days.

www.dersingham.gov.uk

Although the official Dersingham Village website is still under construction please feel free to visit it. You can publish your forthcoming events, read about current issues in Dersingham, consult handy references to local businesses, communicate with the Parish Council, read the Parish Council Agendas and Minutes and much more!

Village Voice - Mr R Tipling

Following the resignation of Teresa as our Editor of Village Voice Bob Tipling has agreed to take over the duties from now on. In future, therefore, please send your Village Voice contributions to Bob or the Parish Council Office. His address is 45 Queen Elizabeth Drive, Telephone 541347. He can also be contacted by email: rtipling@yahoo.co.uk.

Deadline date for copy for October issue is 16th September 2003.

Eastern Daily Press

Evening News

Your local correspondent is

Sarah Crowe

sarahcrowe@btopenworld.com

Tel/Fax: 01485 541968

If you have an item to mention please contact the correspondent

Dersingham Village Plan Can you Help?

The next stage in preparing the Dersingham Village Plan - which aims to identify what residents want for the village in the way of amenities, improvements, conservation and so on - will be a survey to find out your views. To do this a survey form will be delivered to every household at the end of September.

To complete this task (there are around 2,300 households here), the Village Plan Group is asking for volunteers willing to deliver and collect the forms (people will be asked to leave the completed forms sticking out of their letterboxes at a specific time, so collection should not be too difficult). The proposed number of households any one person will be asked to deal with is around 50, so this should not be too onerous a task.

Anyone interested in helping is asked to get in touch with Sue Payne on 01485 540538.



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If you wish to place your forthcoming event in the Village Voice please bear in mind the deadline date for copy. The next publication will be printed in mid-October 2003 and the cut-off date is

16 September 2003

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The Brown Lagoon

The word lagoon conjures up images of white sand, blue tropical seas and palm trees swaying in the breeze. The string of murky looking lakes between Dersingham and the sea don't really live up to this ideal. They are, however, true saline lagoons, which are defined as areas of shallow, coastal saline water, wholly or partially separated from the sea by sandbanks, shingle or, less frequently, rocks. In our local lagoons, seawater percolates through the shingle sea wall on high spring tides. The only freshwater input comes from the rain. The seawater is pushed through the shingle with all the pressure of the North Sea behind it. The reverse flow is slower because the relatively small volume of trapped water exerts much less outward pressure. This is why the water remains in the pits all year round, whatever the tide is doing.

The pits were excavated for their shingle between 1919 and 1957 - being particularly busy during the war because of the demand for concrete to build RAF runways. Water had to be constantly pumped out of the pits when they were in use and they quickly filled up after the site was abandoned. The lagoonal system that developed during the following years has become

important on a European scale as part of a national network of saline lagoons.

Saline lagoons in the UK are distributed around the coast, with the highest number in the southeast. A recent EU project funded work to help conserve these lagoons, which included our local example at Snettisham RSPB reserve. The Snettisham lagoons were listed as being important for lagoonal sea slugs (*Tenellia adspersa*), a spire snail (*Hydrobia neglecta*) and an isopod (*Idotea chelipes*).

All very interesting but not the sort of creatures that most people could get very excited about. What everyone wants to see are what are known as 'charismatic mega-fauna'. In other words, big animals that are fierce (like a tiger) or cute (like a tiger cub). I haven't seen any tigers around the Snettisham pits but they do attract some very impressive birds. Vast wader flocks roost at high tide on the shingle banks and colonies of terns and gulls nest on the islands in the lagoons. These birds are looking for a safe place to roost or nest and would still be there if the lagoons were filled with raspberry jelly.

However, saline lagoons also attract a very elegant wading bird,

the avocet, which is closely associated with this habitat. These unmistakable black and white birds with their long powder blue legs and upturned bills started to nest around saline lagoons in Suffolk soon after the war. They were attracted in from their breeding grounds in Holland to nest in areas where the sea had been allowed in as part of our defences against invasion. Avocets have colonized other suitable habitats around the coast where they feed by sieving small invertebrates from just beneath the surface of the water with sweeping side-to-side motions of their upturned bill. They have been seen on the north shore of the Solway and they may soon be breeding in Scotland – a fair exchange for the eagles and ospreys moving south into The Lake District.

Seven pairs of avocets nested on shingle islands in the lagoons at Snettisham RSPB reserve this year. They nest on the islands – where they get some protection from ground predators - in loose colonies. Their blotchy buff eggs are laid in very basic nests, nothing more than shallow scrapes in the shingle lined with a few twigs. The young birds can walk as soon as they hatch and

are easy to identify because they have upturned bills like their parents. Avocets lead their broods out onto the mudflats to feed very soon after hatching.

A major problem with the lagoons at Snettisham has been the control of the water levels. High tides often destroy the nests of birds including avocets. Two large diameter pipes have recently been installed to drain water out into

The Wash and it is hoped that in the future the birds that come to roost and nest on the reserve will find plenty of space on the islands and the shingle banks.

The best place to view the avocets at the Snettisham RSPB reserve is from the Roost Hide. This is the first hide you come to if you turn left at the bottom of the track that starts at the end of Station Road.

David Bingham

*RSPB Tide Timetables to
September 2003 are available
FREE at Dersingham Library.*



Dear Editor

Christmas Appeal "Samaritan's Purse"

Many of your readers will know that each year the members of Dersingham Methodist Church send Shoe Box Gifts through a charity "Samaritan's Purse" to children in deprived countries as a Christmas gift.

We plan to do so again this year, and I wonder if other people in the village might like to participate? It may seem early to think about it, but many people collect items for their boxes week by week.

The idea is to cover a shoe box with Christmas paper - LID SEPARATELY, and fill it with goods for a boy or girl of a specific age, for example: Girl aged 5 years or Boy aged 12-14 years.

The contents may include sweets, school stationery, hat, gloves, scarf, toys, costume jewellery, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste (in short supply and much needed), picture books, hair brushes and clips, felt tips, pencil cases, etc. A card or a letter and photograph can be included.

Please DO NOT SEND liquids, bottles, war toys, battery operated toys, aerosols.

The completed boxes need to be clearly labelled BOY or GIRL plus the age, and a donation towards transportation of £2 would be appreciated.

There will be a coffee morning at the Methodist Church on 8th November to receive the boxes. Last year we sent 700 - can we beat out record?

Yours sincerely
Pam Bayliss

WOMEN'S ROYAL VOLUNTARY SERVICE

Do you have a little time to spare? If so, the Meals-on-Wheels could use your help.

Currently, volunteers deliver approximately one round per month from about 11.30 am to 1.00 pm on either a Tuesday or a Thursday. A mileage payment can be claimed by drivers - non-drivers are also welcomed as helpers.

If you are interested please phone the Dersingham organiser, Di Hall on 543207.

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DERSINGHAM**

HEARTSTART

What does Heartstart do?

Heacham & District Heartstart Scheme has a very simple aim. That is to give members of the general public the skills and knowledge that they need to help save a life. We aim to teach people the correct procedure to adopt if they discover someone that has suffered a heart attack or is unable to breathe for themselves until an ambulance arrives.

How do we do this?

We give practical based teaching over a period of 2-3 hours. That is we demonstrate how to keep someone alive and then allow people to practise what we have shown them on special mannequins.

What will I learn?

On one of our courses you will learn how to breathe for someone and how to keep circulation going if the patient cannot do this for themselves. We also discuss choking and what to do if someone is bleeding.

How much will it cost?

Nothing! The training is free when you attend. However, there are costs involved in running the courses so we appreciate any donations that you can give. These can be made at the time of your course or by post to the Co-ordinator. Cheques should be made payable to "Heacham & District Heartstart".

What do I do now?

If you want to attend one of our courses the current dates are listed on this page. Contact the Co-ordinator to check if there are places available - then confirmation will be posted to you. If you are in a group or organisation and would like us to put on a course for your group then please contact the Co-ordinator.

Dates of our Courses

Monday 8th September 2003. Hunstanton Methodist Church Hall, Austin Street, Hunstanton.

Wednesday 19th November 2003. Old Friends Meeting Hall, Sunnyside, Heacham.

All courses start at 7 pm. Please be aware that you will have to kneel down so please wear sensible clothing.

Contact details

If you require any information about our courses or dates of future courses then please contact the Scheme Co-ordinator:

Julian Geraghty

35 College Drive

Heacham, King's Lynn

PE31 7BY

Tel: 01485 572890

email: juliangeraghty@supanet.com

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This service has been set up to help and support patients during their journey through the National Health Service.

PALS provides patients with information about local healthcare services and acts as a 'one-stop shop' for those patients who have worries or concerns over the healthcare they receive.

PALS is also a way of improving service quality and highlighting gaps in service provision.

Contact: PALS

Freephone: 0800 587 4132



Heacham & West Norfolk Singers

Do you enjoy singing?

The Heacham & West Norfolk Singers are hoping to recruit new singers to join this friendly choir.

Rehearsals for the Christmas Concerts will take place on a Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm at Heacham Methodist Hall, starting in September 2003.

If you are interested or you would like further details, please contact the Chairman, Adrian Huggins (542359)

News from Dersingham First and Nursery School

The summer holidays are here! We have had a lovely year at the First School with lots of exciting things happening throughout the year. This term we have enjoyed the 'Our World Children's Festival'. It was a multicultural event with singing, dancing, music and storytelling from around the world. The whole school took part and we started the day with a giant picnic, which of course was enjoyed by everyone. Children have also enjoyed outings to the beach, to a farm and to Ferry Meadows. Inside school we had great fun at the pirate day, disco and the Summer Fair and give a big thank you to everyone who supported any of these events. They were all lovely social occasions.

We have a couple of staff leaving us this term. Mrs Grummett will be away for two years on a secondment to work as a Link Teacher in the King's Lynn area and Mrs Scott who has been teaching Purple Class on a short term contract since Christmas is leaving too. We thank both of these people for their work at our school and know they will still be in touch with us. We are also saying goodbye to a number of children who move on to the next phase of their education and to a few more who are moving out of the village. The good news is that school numbers remain the same in the next academic year as new children are moving in, so the school continues to thrive very well indeed.

Finally, our school is very much a community school, and we are very well supported by the whole of the village in so many ways. We therefore send a very special thank you to everyone who has had any link at all with our school this year. We have been well supported in so many ways, by local businesses, the Horticultural Society and local residents. Your support and help is so much appreciated and has made a real difference to the children. We look forward to your continued support in the new school year.

Jackie Austin
Headteacher

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Dersingham's Three Commons (1946-1950)

An historical piece from Dick Melton

If you walk along Lynn Road, Dersingham, towards King's Lynn, turn left past the cottages at Pleasant Place, you are on the first of the 3 commons - the Open Common, so called because it was not fenced in and has few trees, just gorse bushes and heather. Just to the right of the footpath is a clear plot of ground with an old hovel where a gentleman of the road (a tramp) spends a bit of time. To your left is the cottage of Joe Painter, the chimney sweep, or Chamber Pot Joe as he was called - he collected chamber pots. On the 5th November every year Joe would have a fireworks party with a large bonfire at the top of his garden. He would collect all the old tyres from Eric Hyner's garage across the road, and time and time again the common would get alight so he would have to call the fire brigade. But they did not have far to come as they kept the fire engine in Miss Mann's barn on the other side of the common.

Follow the footpath to Heath Road, go across the 5-bar gate and you are on the Shut Up Common, so called because it was all fenced in so that the people of the village could graze their donkeys, ponies and horses on there for many years. Keep on the footpath towards the woods and you pass by the cycle speedway track built by us lads. This common was covered in bracken and when it was green and about 3 ft high in the summertime some of the men would mow it with scythes, let it dry and then cart it away. Fred Howard used it to bed down his pigs and Dan Grief put it around his potatoes in their clamp. At the top end of the common were lots of small birch trees. My father, Jim Melton, Sid Hunter, Stan Lines, Hubby Cross and others would cut them down to use as pea and bean sticks. There is a dyke at the top end of the common with a bridge over it. If you carry on the path will take you to Sandringham Church. But turn right, go round the edge and you will come out on the main road near Sandpit Cottages.

Cross over the road and you are in Dersingham Fen. Next to Sandpit Cottages was a flat open piece of land called The Picnic Place. A lot of cars would pull in here on the way to Hunstanton. Mrs Borley, who lived in one of the cottages, would sell them pots of tea, cakes and sandwiches, usually lettuce as food was still on ration. The village rubbish dump was also on the Fen - every village had their own dump, no landfill sites. A large sandpit was also on the Fen and if you wanted a load of sand Mr Fyfe Wilson, the Coalman, would take his horse and cart and fetch you one - that was if he could get the horse past the White Horse Pub. In 1907 Captain Beck, who was the King's Agent at Sandringham, had a rifle range built on the Fen with butts and bunkers. For this he paid Dersingham Parish Council £27 a year. When they were going to use it for firing a red flag would be flown on a pole off the hill near the dump. The range was never used after 1948. I wonder if the Council still collect the rent.

All of the commons at Dersingham were a paradise for wild birds with plenty of sandmartins, shelduck, mallards, coot, waterhens, whitethroat, red back shriek, owls, linnets by the hundreds and many more.

In those days, the Open Common, Shutup and Fen were good places to work or play.

Under my Goos-Gog Tree

by Kathy Jordan © May 2003

My gooseberry tree was luscious
As green as green could be
The fruit had begun to ripen
Mouths watered with such glee.

But then some others saw my bush
They sneaked in overnight
Leaving branches spiked and 'punky'
And fruit a droopy sight

Delicious pies I'd make from them
Or Scrumptious jars of jam
I could smell the syrup bubbling
And boiling in the pan.

But I never saw the sawflies
Whose larvae stripped it bare.
Just like locusts they it had plundered
No leaf had they left bare.

Now three would surely be a crowd
No cover could there be.
So it's no good playing gooseberry
Under by 'goos-gog tree!!

A Day at the Seaside

by Patricia Youngs



The bright sun shone upon the sea,
Children splashing each other and
shouting with glee
Ice-cream sellers were kept busy,
The helter-skelter which made us all
dizzy.

Sandcastles built and knocked down
again,
Little Jimmy was unhappy he did
complain.
Mum gave him a kiss and an ice-cream.
Jenni was cross and she did scream.

Sunny Hunny

Laughing Mum went back and bought
more
Most of it melted and fell on the floor.
We went on a boat ride around the bay.
It was so lovely we wanted to stay.

It got cooler and it was time to go,
So much traffic the journey was slow.
It was a lovely day and we went to sleep.
Mum had taken pictures which we can
keep.

Hunstanton & West Norfolk Lifeboat Guild Calendar of Events

Wednesday 15 October 10 - 12 noon Coffee Morning & Cards at 10 Astley Crescent,
Hunstanton

Wednesday 12 November 10 - 12 noon Christmas Fayre at Hunstanton Town Hall

Thursday 20 November Fishermans' Supper at Lifeboat Inn, Thornham

Tickets £12.50 RSVP to 512236

Dersingham Surgery Horticultural Society

June Meeting

Bob Hammond from the King's Lynn society gave members a talk on "Showing for Fun". Drawing on his long experience of growing, showing and judging, he covered the basics of his subject emphasising the necessity of taking that extra bit of care at all stages to ensure success.

During the latter part of his talk he expanded on some of the tricks of the trade and some of the almost obsessive lengths of time and care to which those exhibitors who have got the bug will go.

In passing, Bob congratulated our society on the quality of our 2002 Annual Show and the strength of our membership. His remarks were much appreciated, all present enjoying his interesting talk which, I hope, will have given confidence to those who have not previously entered our Annual Show to have a go in September.

Members' Open Gardens Weekend

Over the weekend of 5th - 6th July a wide variety of members' gardens - from the very large to pocket handkerchief in size - were open to other members of our society. The event proved highly successful in providing garden design ideas, introducing us to new plants and as a means of getting to know other members, not always easy in a society as large as ours!

July Meeting

Because of the difficulty of showing slides on a bright summer evening, it was decided to replace a speaker and our annual Strawberry Tea, which has previously been held in a member's garden, with an evening "Strawberry Fizz". Delicious food - sandwiches, cakes, strawberries and cream - supplemented by various drinks, ingenious quizzes and competitions ensured a delightful evening enjoyed by all present and provided another resounding success for the ladies of our Fund Raising Committee.

Date for your Diary

The Society's **ANNUAL SHOW** will be held on 6th September at The Church Hall, Manor Road. Show schedules are available at various outlets in the village or from Committee Members.

David Clark (543182)

RSPCA FAYRE AND CAR BOOT

A big thank you to everyone who supported the above event on 5th and 6th July. A total of £281.75 was raised. Also a special thanks to all the helpers.

Angela Gee



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Freehouse Proprietors: Anthony & Stella

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Table d'hôte 2/3 Course Lunches (Mon-Fri)

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