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Village Voice

The Dersingham Magazine



our local views



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Editor's Notes

Someone once said "*Constant change is here to stay!*" Those of us with a more urban background and upbringing I guess have just had to accept it and get on with life. But perhaps one of the attractions of our more rural setting is that things in general don't seem to change quite so much here or at not least quite so quickly, and that has a sense of comfort and security about it. A lot of us incomers to the village arrive at the latter stages of our working life when we hope we will be able to relax a little more and spend more time appreciating the natural environment and an undoubtedly friendlier, slower, community existence, and quickly we can embrace the not-wanting-it-to-change attitude. I think it fair to say that the Medway Towns where I grew up have changed an awful lot more over my life time than our present locality, even with all its new bypasses and housing.

Clearly though changes around here, especially to place names, names of buildings and rights of access are what seem to annoy people the most and certainly one such of our esteemed regular contributors wastes no time in making his feelings known and you may well agree with him. After a bumper crop of letters published in Village Voice in the last issue, they are a bit thin on the ground for this one, so perhaps the strong feelings expressed within will spur some more feedback.

For me, over the years, I suppose when faced with a change I don't like the sound of, I try to look behind the reasons for the change, which invariably seem rooted somewhere in funding support. Then I think about what benefits (if any) I am going to get in return for that change and whether making a fuss in an attempt to avert the change would be worth the effort and ultimately give me and others any more peace of mind? On balance where changes to life style are concerned, I'd have to concede: I've never had it so good!

Anyway, enough of this philosophising! Lots more good stuff within. Our striking sunset over Dersingham cover photo is with grateful thanks to Tom Morris who captured one of the many delights to be witnessed living here.

A couple of new contributors take a punt. On a more scientific basis than usual, Brian Anderson our Parish Council Vice Chair and Chair of Environment Committee goes under this edition's "It's My Life" banner, writing about his time at the *European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN)* and is awarded the colour centre spread for his trouble. Jack Neale has been around a bit longer than some of us and his contribution might equally have come under the same "It's my life" banner as he tells his roundabout tale of how he came to live in Dersingham. Perhaps this "It's My Life" banner could apply to so many of our contributions that it is somewhat superfluous!

We've covered previously the issue of Muntjacs and Peacocks and I'm sure that we've yet to hear the last, but perhaps the No. 1 least favourite creature in the village is dealt with by our new (or maybe not so new) contributor Mrs Dolittle. As always there are plenty of *What's On* contributions and pieces from our regular historians, (ie covering what it was like before all the changes that no-one wanted at the time took place!)

Tony Bubb has again asked me to remind you that the deadline for contributions to the autumn edition of *Dersingham Data* is Wednesday 2nd October. Any group gathering within the Village that wants others to join it should make sure that they are included or that their entry is up to date.

As we plough on through this *season of mists and mellow fruitfulness* and all the changes that ensue, it is a glowing reminder perhaps that Life itself, for better or worse, is all giving way to change. In the film *Shirley Valentine*, when Shirley (played by Pauline Collins) asks the aging but still active Greek hotel proprietor how he is today, his reply is to the effect that the aching joints he has developed are what helps to remind him that he is "still alive!" The reassuring sights and sounds of the Pink-Footed Geese soon to be winging their way overhead certainly remind me that it's good to be alive and that all is well (though actually I fancy I did hear and see one skein of 21 pinkies flying over Dersingham towards the Wash just as it was getting dark on 29th August—quite within the realms of possibility so my RSPB friend tells me). Do enjoy all you can of it.

Steve Davis – editor@dersingham.org.uk

P.S. Remember that the compact, extra-colour version of this issue and the previous six issues can be downloaded for display on PC, iPad, Kindle or other tablet from dersingham.org.uk □

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Dear Village Voice

Please email (editor@dersingham.org.uk) or write to us (Village Voice, Dersingham Parish Council, 4A Post Office Road, Dersingham, King's Lynn, PE31 6HP) with your thoughts or memories of village life, comments concerning items read or ideas for the future. Ed.



Regarding you mention in Village Voice of the local peafowl: I was pottering about in my garage, the door was open, when in strode a pea-pair like a couple of time wasting property viewers who had no intention of buying. They browsed around for a little while casting a critical eye over my treasured collection of junk, glared at me as though I had no right to be there, then sauntered off. An hour or so later I was able to get this picture of the peahen having a chat with a cock pheasant on top of the laurel hedge by the front gate.



Reggie Gray

Tony Bubb asks (VV No 83) the origin of Cats Bottom, the name of the steep (for Norfolk!) hill descending to a dip on the A149 between Wolferton and Babingley. I recall seeing on an old map (probably 19th Century) that it was then called Catch Bottom. I assume that, in the days of horses and carts and poorly maintained roads, heavily laden carts would literally catch their bottoms on the road surface. It was only a short step for us lazy Norfolk speakers to change the name.

Bryan Tann

Certainly when I Googled "Catch Bottom, Babingley" it seemed to recognise it as such! Ed.

Sincere thanks are due to the Task Force team of volunteers who do so much to improve the appearance of our village. I am particularly grateful for the practical help that they gave in setting up for parish church's annual Flower Festival, and for their help in clearing up afterwards. Their public-spirited involvement in our community is an inspiration, and we need to acknowledge their hard work.

Neil Adams (Church Warden)

As a "little ol' Norfolk bor " and proud of it I feel I must comment on Tony Bubb's Random Jottings in which he compares Honfleur and Rouen with King's Lynn and states that "Norfolk does different which in this case means almost nothing" well forgive me if I'm wrong but I thought that the people of Norfolk elect councillors to do that for them! Answers in the ballot box please.

Barry Beales

□



**Zut Alors
Councillor!!**



Parish Council Report by Cllr Suzy Daniels

What's planned....

The Carboot/Funday and summer activities were quite a success. It has been a very long time since anything has been organised within the village during the summer, so we really wanted to change that. Although a good start, we have learned valuable lessons on improving organisation which we look forward to implementing next year. Thank you to all those that supported the activities. Sarah our Parish Clerk has included more details in her report.

In the light of a recent ROSPA safety inspection report, it has been necessary to remove some of the recreation ground equipment. The council has agreed to release the £30,000 already set aside for phase 1 of the proposed Recreation Ground re-vamp which it is hoped Playdale will undertake from the end of September, hopefully by the time you read this. The Recreation Ground will be closed during this time and notices will be posted accordingly. Although not in a position with our accounts to apply for (WREN) funding at this stage, we intend to apply for phase 2 in November. Due to the re-vamp, it had been decided not to hold the planned Carboot at the end of September, but it is hoped to resume them on a monthly basis from April through to September of next year.

A Christmas Market will be held **Sunday December 8th** at St. Nicholas Court...more details to follow. If you wish to hold a stall please contact the office or use our Facebook page.

Summary of Council Meetings held in July full minutes of which can be seen on Notice Boards around the village or accessed from our website at dersingham.org.uk

Full Council

Cllr Tudor explained the necessity to review and change the current process for interviewing prospective Councillors which will now follow a more strategic method.

Several parishioners enquired about the situation regarding the recent County Court Judgements (CCJ). These have been paid and the council's credit records are clear. It was felt necessary that mirrors should be placed at awkward junctions within the village, but it is down to individual property owners to install and maintain them. Accounts would be up to date, audited and available to view in the very near future. Cllr Manship presented Dick Murrell with an engraved crystal glass bowl as recognition of his many years service as a Cllr for Dersingham. Dick was with the council for over 20 years and served on several committees. He is greatly missed as a councillor, but I'm sure he is making the most of his spare time at the Bowls club!!!

Village Hall Working Group

Cllr Payne explained that to obtain lottery funding they require proof of need. The group want to achieve this by way of a village survey. Cllr Payne explained that it needs to be achieved in conjunction with work on a Neighbourhood Plan and needs to be achieved as soon as possible. Without the support of the Village the plan cannot go forward.

Staffing Committee Meeting

This committee has been looking into the paying of staff and were working towards achieving this by a BACS system. They have amended the terms of reference and are looking at Staff Contracts. Cllr Anderson was also going to address the Health and Safety issues of the Office.

Finance, General Purposes & Administration Committee

Cllr Sergeant said that the FGP&A had been working alongside the Staffing Committee on a number of issues. Cllr Sergeant said that with no RFO there is a need to get the accounts up to date. Mrs Watt had agreed to complete last year's accounts and get them to the Auditors by the end of the Month. They may or may not have been internally audited by then. Cllr Sergeant said there might be a need to have an urgent meeting to approve the accounts during August.



Recreation Committee

The ROSPA safety inspection report was duly considered action initiated as detailed above. Since our Insurance Company no longer endorses our present safety inspection company, we need to seek another approved company to carry out the inspections. The Summer activity programme was explained, as was the Social Club's undertaking for a Community Cinema for the Children. Hopefully something for every age and interest and popular with the children and parents.

Environment Committee

Cllr Anderson explained that NCC Grant for replacing Streetlights with LED lights had been over-subscribed but that Dersingham had been awarded 75% of 30 lights. The new lights are to be placed around Centre Vale, Post Office Road, Queen Elizabeth etc. Cllr Anderson reported the first case of Ash Dieback in the village, and he had also reported to the Forestry Commission. The clerk explained that the pathway beside Supreme Carpets is Public Right of Way 14a. Cllr Anderson appealed for more members for this committee. No Councillors volunteered.

Intervillage Games – Mrs Louise Rice

Cllr Payne thanked the efforts of Mr and Mrs Rice on behalf of the Council. 5th Place in the first games that the village has attended was highly commendable.

Crime... *slightly down!* The police reported 8 crimes during July, 7 criminal damage and 1 theft.

Borough Council...

Cllr Collingham started by explaining her roles as School Governor and Borough Councillor were totally different but that she would need permission from the school to report on that to council, and it would have to be a different agenda item. She advised that she had been acting on Borough Issues sent via the Clerk from parishioners, e.g. vans parking opposite Beech Drift and the Public Litter Bins, success had been achieved on both fronts. We were also advised that she had been working on housing re-location and fence re-location within the village. The Regeneration Committee of the Borough Council were actively working on ways to promote King's Lynn and she asked if anyone had any ideas to let her know and she would pass them on. Cllr Collingham stated a personal interest regarding the Village Hall and the redevelopment of the Church Hall. She was invited onto the working group, but due to other commitments would not always be available for meetings, though would gladly receive agendas and attend if possible.

Cllr Bubb brought news that the new recycling contract is due to go to cabinet soon, and should start on 1st April 2014, allowing for the handling of almost everything that now goes into the black bins. Glass, tetrapacks, yoghurt pots and the like will be able to be put in the green bin along with envelopes etc that were previously unacceptable. The new system would not cope however with polystyrene waste and a few other things but households will be informed nearer the time. Under the new parking scheme, free parking is available in town after 3pm on Wednesdays (not the multi-storey) – a move designed to boost trade in the town. The new pontoon is in place on the South Quay and is already taking bookings from boaters. Disappointment at the state of the old community centre (as already mentioned to Mr O'Lone) which he noted, also some problems in Orchard Close and planning application for 26 Manor Road. Both Borough Cllrs had recently received the latest edition of the Local Development Framework and although there was only one area of development within Dersingham (the current allotments in Dodds Hill as well as some parts now protected by the Conservation Area), Parish Councillors were urged to read it as some development in the surrounding area could impact on Dersingham.

Planning Applications:

2 Dodds Hill... construction of chalet bungalow and new access...*Recommended approval.*

Advising of the situation regarding increased usage of the area due to the two schools merging.

26 Manor Road... demolition of existing bungalow and erection of house and chalet bungalow...*recommended refusal on the grounds of over development of the site, access and not being in keeping with neighbouring properties within the conservation area.*

50A Chapel Road... new garden/dining room and porch extension...*recommended approval*

Determinations:

8 Park Hill... proposed garden room extension...*Granted*

12 Dodds Hill Road... Return to residential use from commercial...*Granted*

Withdrawals:

15 Shernbourne Road... construction of single, detached dwelling within existing gardens.
Creation of new vehicular access to original house

With the recent resignation of Cllr Gill Sergeant we are left with yet another vacancy. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please contact the Parish Council Office 01485 541465 or email: clerk@dersingham.org.uk I wish you all a happy and successful Autumn term. □

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Register of Electors

The Government is requiring all Electoral Registration Officers in England to publish a revised Register of Electors on 17th February 2014. A form and reply paid envelope will be personally delivered to every property in West Norfolk from 1st

October. You must complete and return the form. This is important because the Register is used not only for electoral purposes but also by many financial service providers dealing with mortgages, loans or new accounts etc. Anyone whose name is not on the Register will be unable to vote at future elections and is also likely to have problems using any service that involves a check of the Register.

The form is intended for the present occupiers of an address. The name of anyone aged 16 or over who is resident at the address needs to be on the form and the names of anyone no longer at the address crossed out. The date of birth of anyone aged 16 or 17 is also required.

Forms received by owners of empty properties need to tick the "Property empty" box and return the form. This will avoid the issue of reminders.

In the event of any queries when the form arrives, householders can telephone the Helpline where any of the electoral staff will be happy to assist. The telephone number is 01553 616773.

Prompt return of the form or, better still, confirmation by freephone, internet or SMS (details on the form) would be very helpful. It will also avoid the need for reminders and help to keep costs down. □

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Dersingham Institute Bowls Club

by Bob Tipling with photos by Richard Bridges

On Saturday 8 June a working party to keep the playing area and surrounds tidy had a very good turnout when there were some 16 members helping with the various tasks, thanks once again to all who carried out weeding, hedge cutting etc.

The first leg of the Ladies versus Men bowls match on the following Saturday had a good attendance of 20 men and 20 ladies, the men winning by 142 to 116 shots! A Fish and Chip supper supplied by 'The Village Fryer' was another major success and the raffle produced £68 for club funds. Thanks are given to the social secretary and her team who washed up, tidied up, laid out and cleared the tables and chairs etc.

Meanwhile work was started to dig the trenches for the installation of posts and wire netting, with two fences being installed in one weekend, brilliant! Since then the third trench has been completed, it's a wonderful effort by all those who have helped. The work has been carried out to a very high standard and it is unlikely that a better job could have been achieved by paying a fencing company to do the work. So once again the job being done by members has saved the club hundreds of pounds!

The two new gates at the entrance of the garden area, which are in the same style as the gate that leads into the bowling look fantastic and thanks are given to Richard and Jane Burden for the work that they have put into this project.

It is very good to see some of our newer bowlers playing in the league teams, in particular those who have been regulars at the coaching sessions. Our teams appear to be faring quite well in all of the competitions in which they are entered.

Roy and Pam Harrington's Triples afternoon, The Ladies versus Men return leg and barbeque, and Angie's Fun Day accompanied by a 'Hog Roast', have all been very well attended and successful, as all of our social events are.

As with other clubs the green is very dry, the grass on ours was never laid as a bowling green and because the soil has compacted water is not getting to the roots. The green keeper has been advised to use a wetting agent which would take the water further down and this has now been applied.

The club's president, Bob Meredith, disagreed with a committee decision which had been taken in his absence at a previous meeting not to call in professional help for the autumn programme. After receiving information from Collier Turf Care it was decided to scarify the green ourselves

and to have the remainder of the work done by Collier, this will include hollow tyning and re-seeding plus top-dressing, the work to be carried out in September.

'Cliff Parade' were the visitors on Bank Holiday Sunday, with 18 bowlers from each side playing triples on six rinks. The outcome was a win on 5 rinks for the Institute. Both sides then enjoyed tea and cakes provided by the club's 'active' social committee.

Bank holiday Monday saw 26 club bowlers contest the Eddie Roy Cup which is a doubles competition. After an afternoon's bowling the final was won by Helen Young and Albert



Chamberlain who beat Jane Burden and Graham Keeley in the final, where the standard of bowling was very high. After the bowling the members enjoyed 'cheese and biscuits' and glasses of wine to complete another very successful weekend for the club.

After three weeks of setting mole traps not one had been caught! It was agreed to call in Babingley Pest Control at a cost of £60 for a two week treatment.

In view of the number of bowlers who now want to play in league matches it was suggested that a cap should be put on the number of games a person could play. It was asked if more teams could be entered but the green would not be able to accommodate any more games in the week. It was suggested that we might like to consider entering the Sandringham Shield Saturday league (9 players). It was agreed to raise this at the AGM in November to see how much interest there would be in playing on a Saturday evening.

As the season comes to an end the green closes following play on Saturday 14 September, the Annual Presentation Lunch is on Friday 18 October and the AGM on Tuesday 12 November. □

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Mind Bending Numbers Quiz

Once again thank you to Barry Beales who very kindly sent us this, having had it inflicted on him whilst on a cruise! Ed.

Each question below contains the initials of words from well-known phrases. We have given you the numbers and the initials. All you have to do is come up with the words themselves.

Answers on page 63. (*Hint: I think the first one is as easy as A,B,C,...*)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. 26 – L of the A. | 12. 3 – BM (S H T R) |
| 2. 7 – W of the A W. | 13. 4 – Q in a G. |
| 3. 1,001 – A N | 14. 24 – H in a D. |
| 4. 12 – S of the Z | 15. 1 W – on a U. |
| 5. 54 – C in a D (with the J). | 16. 57 – H V |
| 6. 9 – P in the S S | 17. 11 – P in a F T. |
| 7. 88 – K on a P K | 18. 1000 – W that a P is W. |
| 8. 32 – D at which W F. | 19. 29 – D in F in a L Y. |
| 9. 18 – H on a G C. | 20. 64 – S on a C B. |
| 10. 90 – D in a R A. | 21. 40 – D and N of the G F. |
| 11. 200 – P for P G in M. | 22. 12 – D of C. |

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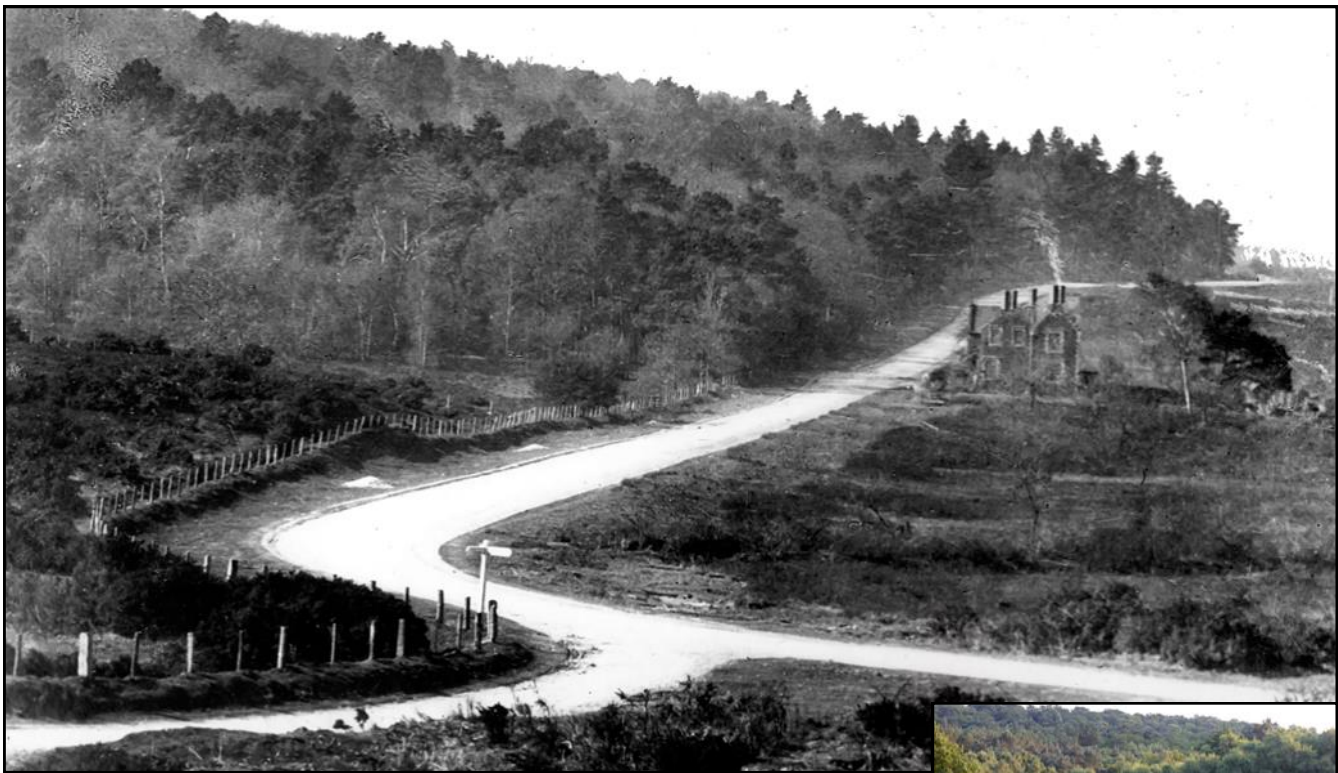
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Old Picture Corner Then and Now



Another of Gordon Anckorn's finds. Dersingham common & main road in 1913. This bend was reduced in sharpness following a motor cycle accident in which 2 boys were fatally injured. Today the view of the house is totally obscured by the trees that have been allowed to grow up on both sides of the road. Gone are the fence and signpost but we do now have a village sign to enjoy.

Tony Bubb





The Dersingham Weather recorded by John F. Murray

I am happy to report that summer came suddenly upon us in July. After a poor spring it seemed that a switch had been thrown that enabled the sun to come out and give us some of the weather that we had been waiting for. My garden responded instantly to the warmth of the sun. The runner beans that had been sitting patiently waiting suddenly took off and started climbing up their poles with very little encouragement. I always feel that summer has arrived when runner beans, which are not native to Britain, finally get the warm conditions

that they need to thrive.

July was a very humid month, sometimes feeling very uncomfortable and even sleeping with windows wide open did not help.

The 22nd July was an important day, or at least it was for me, for I recorded my highest ever temperature of 33.7°C. The July mean temperature of 18.9°C, although good was not the best we have had. July 2010 beat it, though only just, with 19.1°C.

The warm weather continued into August with a high for the month of 31.7°C being recorded on the 1st of the month. The mean temperature this year was 18.2°C, making it the warmest August so far recorded. August saw our swifts disappear as they headed south again to their over wintering grounds. Although this happens every year I always find this a sad event as, to me, it signals that summer is about to end.

So there it is then. Summer starts when the runner beans begin to climb and ends when the swifts leave.

Both July and August saw the usual thunderstorms that we get as a result of the hot and humid conditions and, although we had some wonderful lightning displays during the night on a number of occasions, we seemed to miss the heavy rain that came with it. July saw only 27.2mm of rain. The average for the month is 70.2mm. We have had two particularly wet Julys. Last year, of course, being one of them when we had just over 107mm and in 2009 when we had 106mm. At least the rainfall for August was roundabout the average for the month at 65.6mm, the average being 69mm.

By this time last year I had recorded 501.6mm of rain. You will of course remember that it was a wet year. 2011 was our driest year and by the end of August I had recorded 319mm of rain. So far this year we have had only 280.2mm. This is a rather worrying statistic which is making me seriously consider having more water butts to try and capture even more of our precious rain.

I am sorry to report that no matter what I do I am unable to persuade my weather station to upload information to the internet so the current weather conditions on the parish web site are not showing. Sorry about that.

Finally I am musing as to what sort of September we will have. There is always talk of an Indian summer when we have had a short or a particularly bad summer. This year seems to have been short but quite intense. I am therefore keeping my fingers crossed. I seem to have been doing that quite a lot lately! □

Where is it?

What is it?

Answer on page 73



Dersingham Library

Autumn Happenings

Dersingham Library Village Read for October and November

Dersingham Library is celebrating Black History Month with a great little novel about a family in Lagos, Nigeria - Tiny sunbirds far away by Christie Watson. Blessing and her brother Ezikiel adore their larger-than-life father, their glamorous mother and their comfortable life in Lagos. But all that changes when their father leaves them for another woman. Their mother is fired from her job at the Royal Imperial Hotel - only married women can work there - and soon they have to quit their air-conditioned apartment to go and live with their grandparents in a compound in the Niger Delta. Adapting to life with a poor countryside family is a shock beyond measure after their privileged upbringing in Lagos. As usual you'll have the opportunity to share your views with other readers. Our book group loved this book!



Let's knit at night at Dersingham Library

Every Thursday in October from 18:00 - 19:00

Knitting isn't just for older people! If you'd like to learn how to knit, then just bring some needles and some yarn along. No need to book, just drop in!

Surfer's reunion at Dersingham Library

4 October 2013 10:00 - 12:00

If you have attended a computer course at the library, then we want to hear from you! Come along for coffee and cake and let us know how you are getting along. There'll also be an opportunity for staff to direct you towards further learning if you require it!

Live music from Zimbabwean music Anna Mudeka and her band

Friday 11th October 7pm

Tickets £5 each or 4 for £15

Please book by visiting the library! You can find out more about Anna's music at: www.annamudeka.com

October half term events:

Speedstacking

Monday 28th October 3-5pm

Come along and try your hand at speedstacking. Can anyone stack in under 10 seconds? There's no need to book, just drop in!

Monster Doctor Who night

Thursday 31st October 6-7pm

Come along and celebrate Dr Who's 50th birthday. Design a new look for the new Dr Who, make a monster mask, colour a Dalek and much more!

What will you be reading this autumn?

New fiction in hardback

Linwood Barclay - A tap at the window

When Cal Weaver stops at red light on a rainy night while driving home, he ignores the bedraggled-looking teenaged girl trying to hitch a lift - even when she starts tapping on his window. But when she says, 'hey, aren't you Scott's dad?' and he realizes she's one of his son's classmates, he can't really ignore her. OK, so giving a ride to a teenage girl might not be the smartest move, but how much harm could it do? Over the next 24 hours, Cal soon finds out just how big a mistake he has made.

Helen Fielding - Bridget Jones: Mad about the boy

When Helen Fielding first wrote Bridget Jones' Diary, charting the life of a 30-something singleton in London in the 1990s, she introduced readers to one of the most beloved characters in modern literature. This hotly anticipated third instalment introduces us to a whole new enticing



phase of Bridget's life set in contemporary London, including the challenges of maintaining sex appeal as the years roll by, the nightmare of drunken texting, and the disastrous email cc.

Elizabeth George - Just one evil act

Barbara Havers puts her career on the line while DI Thomas Lynley attempts to straighten her out before it's too late.

Alexander McCall Smith - The minor adjustment beauty salon

It is said that beauty runs skin deep, and as Mma Ramotswe and Mma Makutsi survey the havoc wreaked by Violet Sephotho in her attempts to drive her rival's Minor Adjustment Beauty Salon out of business, they are forced to conclude that beneath her groomed exterior lies a wicked person. More happily, Mma Makutsi and her husband Phuti Radiphuti are expecting a baby. However, conflict is brewing between their relatives who believe in the old ways and those who favour a more relaxed parenting style.

Val McDermid - Cross and burn

Guilt and grief have driven a wedge between long time crime-fighting partners psychologist Tony Hill and ex-DCI Carol Jordan. But just because they're not talking doesn't mean the killing stops. Someone is killing women. Women who bear a disturbing resemblance to Carol Jordan. And when the evidence begins to point in a disturbing direction, thinking the unthinkable seems the only possible answer. Cornered by events, Tony and Carol are forced to fight for themselves and each other as never before

Marcia Willett - Postcards from the past

Siblings Billa and Ed share their beautiful, grand old childhood home in rural Cornwall. Their lives are uncomplicated. With family and friends nearby and their free and easy living arrangements, life seems as content as can be. But when postcards start arriving from a sinister figure they thought belonged well and truly in their pasts, old memories are stirred. Why is he contacting them now? And what has he been hiding all these years?

New non-fiction in hardback

John Bishop - How did all this happen?

How Did All This Happen? is the story of how a boy who, growing up on a council estate dreaming of ousting Kenny Dalglish from Liverpool FC's starting line-up, suddenly found himself on stage in front of thousands of people nationwide, at an age when he should have known better.

You can see more recommendations on the library website at:

www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/Books_and_reading/index.htm

Town Read mania is hitting Norfolk - find out more and share what you're reading on the Norfolk Libraries Book Review Blog at: norfolklibrarybookreviewblog.wordpress.com Happy reading. □

Alison Thorne

Sudoku No 32								
7		2		1				
		8	5			3		
				6			9	
3		4				6		
			2			5		
	9			4			8	
	5		3	7				
		6					7	
	8				9			

Solution to Sudoku No 31 (in issue 83)								
9	7	5	3	4	8	6	2	1
8	2	1	7	9	6	5	3	4
3	6	4	5	2	1	8	9	7
5	4	8	2	7	3	1	6	9
7	3	9	6	1	5	4	8	2
6	1	2	4	8	9	7	5	3
4	8	7	9	5	2	3	1	6
2	5	6	1	3	4	9	7	8
1	9	3	8	6	7	2	4	5

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St Nicholas Church News



In July the Bishop of Lynn the Rt Reverend Jonathan Meyrick visited our Church during his Visitation and spent a considerable time looking at our Flower Festival preparation talking to many of the ladies and men who were working on the displays. Once again many thanks to all concerned with making our flower festival a wonderful success with so many visitors from Far and wide enjoying the flowers and the refreshments in the Church Hall.

The Bishop was back again the next Sunday to officiate at the Confirmation of 9 people during a wonderful service, with friends and families joining them on this joyous day.



We are very pleased that the RAF Marham Bluebirds, part of the Military Wives Choir have agreed to come to St Nicholas Church to give a Concert. This will be on Saturday 19th October at 7.30pm. Tickets will be £8 on the door.



Further details of the Marham Bluebirds can be found on their website marhambluebirds.co.uk, their *Facebook* or *Twitter* page. □

Pauline Martin

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Growly Girl's Patch by Baby



My Mum has gone on holiday again, this time for 2 weeks. And you guessed it right, I am back at the holiday camp. Unfortunately I was unable to visit for Sidney's birthday.

I was surprised to be greeted like an old friend by Johnnie and Meetze. I didn't even have time to growl at them. And just when I was about to do so, dinner was served and Sidney nearly ran me over. By the time I got a growl out, there was nobody to hear me. Can you believe it, all that effort for nothing?

After dinner I looked around the place to find a nice patch to go to sleep in for the night. I didn't need to look long, found it, claimed it and went to sleep on it.

The next morning I got awakened rudely by thumping paws. Sidney, Johnnie and Vladimir running behind each other in circles, trying to catch each other. That looks actually like fun I must say. Maybe I should try that! I think I will give it a try. Shwoops! I jumped in between Sidney and Johnnie and ran after Sid, followed by Johnnie. But I wasn't fast enough, Johnnie and Vladimir soon overtook me and all of a sudden I was chased by the lot of them.

Puhhh! I have to stop for a break. I am out of breath, and just when I was about to stop I slid into the kitchen doors and crashed, followed by Vlad who crashed into me. Ouch! Did I not say it before? Here we go; I lost 2 whiskers and I broke a nail. This playing thing is definitely not for me.

Just when I was about to complain loudly to the female human, she came into the room with an apparatus that looked completely alien to me. But Sidney got all excited and started making strange noises when he saw that and he sat still and this apparatus was put onto him. And when the human was finished, she was attached to Sidney with a long thing, like a string or so. They both left thru a door and were gone. I am exhausted and need to nap.

I woke up because the female human and Sidney came back in. Sidney does not look happy. He complained loudly to the others, that he finally caught that mouse he was watching for the past 3 months. He brought it proudly to his human and it was taken off of him. How ordinary. Catching a mouse. That is definitely not for me. Not Lady like enough.

Every day was pretty much the same, breakfast, chaos, napping etc. The last day though, the female human grabbed me by the neck and put me on the table. Of cause I hissed, but that did not have any effect. And then the male human came with a noisy thing and it dawned on me. I am getting a fur cut. I did not plan for this, although everybody else has short fur. It must be "in" at the moment. And before I could lash out it was done. Back and sides short. I was shocked at the amount of fur that was on that table. Surely that is not all mine. And why is it so chilly? I better find a warm spot for me to warm up. Nobody else seems to be cold, just me. If this is how it feels to have short fur, I do not like it. But is definitely makes cleaning easier. Walking past the big mirror did not make me feel any better. I look ridiculous. How dare they making me look like a rat? Oh wait till I tell my mum. I was just thinking of her and how I would complain, the doorbell rang and she turned up for my rescue. But she was not shocked at all. She thanked them. Grrrrrr! □



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The Sandringham Newsletter

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

The enormous jigsaw puzzle celebrating Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, which is part of this year's exhibition in the Ballroom of Sandringham House, has now been officially recorded by the Guinness Book of Records as the largest hand-cut wooden jigsaw puzzle in the world. It measures 20ft by 8ft and contains over 40,000 pieces, and recently had to be moved in order

to allow a private function to take place in the Ballroom. House staff relocated the jigsaw for the function and then returned it without any mishaps or collapses.

In the Gardens, some areas of grass have left unmown in order to encourage wild flowers, and there were recently about half a dozen groups of wild orchids in bloom. This population was first noticed as one small patch about five years ago, and is gradually spreading a little further each year.

In another area of the Gardens, stands of *Gunnera manicata* planted some four years ago are now really getting into their stride. This plant looks like a giant rhubarb and can reach up to 8ft tall and 12ft across. It loves damp places, so is usually planted beside lakes and ponds, but the Head Gardener created a walk for them near the Stream Walk in some ground which is always slightly boggy. The gunnera have taken to it, and it is now possible, as it so rarely is, to walk beneath them and admire the enormous leaves overhead.

Farm staff spent some weeks getting ready for harvest. The grain stores were overhauled and the combine harvesters and other equipment serviced and tested. Both Farm and Gardens staff suffered this year from the attentions of pigeons, damaging the pea crops in the fields and bedding plants and dahlias in the Gardens. Harvest proceeded without too many stops and starts for rain; the Estate's rainfall records show that there has been almost exactly half of the rainfall there had been by this time last year.

The very hot and humid weather in July broke on Flower Show day, producing grey clouds and drizzle which lasted all day – the first time the Flower Show has been a wet day for many years. The Show was still a very busy day, with attendance slightly up on last year. Ten days later, the August Craft Fair had rather better weather and attracted large crowds to see the chainsaw carvers demonstrate their skills and produce beautiful sculptures, two of which have been added to the Sculpture Trail at the Visitor Centre.

July's hot weather slowed down grass growth in the Gardens quite

considerably, so gardeners were able to spend more time on hedge cutting; this annual summer task in the North Garden and on the approach to the House takes about three weeks to complete. This year gardeners also tackled a problem with the tall box hedges in the North Garden, which have begun to lean quite considerably. Rather than cut them hard back, which would leave them looking very bare for some months if not years, bamboo canes have been inserted into the hedges and then tied back to metal posts, which will gradually pull the hedges back into a more vertical position.

Another of the miniature cars in the Museum has been away from Sandringham on short-term loan. This time it was the Aston Martin Volante Junior, a 4/7 scale car made by Aston Martin and presented to His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales by them in 1988. Aston Martin celebrated their 100th anniversary this July with an exhibition at their headquarters at Gaydon, near Coventry, with the Junior forming part of the display. □





Hunstanton Rotary Club's Summer Events

by Rene Rooth

It was once again a very busy July and August for Rotary members with participation in 3 major events that make up the majority of our fundraising in the year; The Hunstanton Carnival, Norton Hill Railway and Kite Fair. These events contributed almost £19,000 to funds, the majority of which will go to local good causes. It has been a record breaking year helped by the fact that all three events enjoyed fine sunny weather.

The Norton Light Railway at Snettisham on 27th and 28th July, enjoyed by nearly a 1000 people over the two days, was a true family affair and could genuinely be referred to as a 'fun day' with the railway rides being especially popular. Those local charities who will benefit from the event were there to provide significant support to those members of Rotary and Inner Wheel.

The 18th August was the Rotary's 17th Kite Festival and maybe the most successful ever with 4000 attending – definitely in terms of funds raised which were around £11,000 but also in terms of enjoyment by all those who attended. On the ground the entertainment, craft and trade stalls, catering, competitions and record number of classic cars were excellent. In the air the Kite displays, Hurricane and Red Arrows flypast made the day extra special.

During this period Hunstanton Club held their weekly meetings, welcoming guests who came to talk about their projects that we might consider helping in the future; such as Rosie O'Grady who runs the Magpie Centre (West Norfolk Riding for the disabled) and those we are currently helping such as Sari Bean whose project meant that school children in Indonesia are provided with toilet facilities. Also guests such as Nick Corke, District Governor Elect from Framlingham who spoke about how he would like Rotary to progress and who praised our relatively small club for its fund raising over the year. Nick in fact was an initiator of the *Lend With Care* scheme which we see as an exciting new way of maximising some of the Trust funds we use for good causes and are sure we will hear a lot of in the future. □



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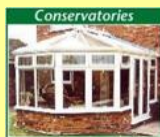


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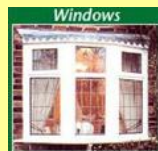
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CAROLE BROWN HEALTH CENTRE (CBHC) PATIENTS' PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) NEWS

From: Tom Morris, PPG Committee

Your PPG and the Care Quality Commission (CQC)

GP Practices and other primary medical services are now regulated by the CQC. This means that by law, each practice has to be registered with the CQC who will check services to ensure that they meet national standards of quality and safety. A central part of this involves listening to the views and experiences of people who use the service and using these views to make judgements about the quality of that service. PPGs and patient reference groups are a valuable source of information about patients' views and experiences and it is essential that they work in partnership with the CQC when GP practices are inspected.

So what is a PPG? PPGs offer views on GP services from a patient's perspective and are a means by which GP practices can involve and consult patients and the public when they make decisions about services and evaluating their success. PPGs can be defined as 'critical friends' within the practice to ensure that services are responsive to patient needs and improve and evolve to meet local needs. Most commonly they find out what patients think, and meet regularly with the practice manager, GPs and other staff to identify improvements and to relay patients' views.

In future, when the CQC plan to conduct an inspection of GP practices, they will seek the contact details of two members of the PPG with whom they can consult. The inspector will also contact the chairman and an additional PPG member and invite them to provide views or evidence about the experiences of patient care at the practice.

All this means that, more than ever, **your PPG** is now an essential tool for gathering information from patients and the local community regarding patients' needs, for suggesting improvements or enhancements and acting as a vital conduit for the transfer of information between patients and the practice and between patients and the CQC. It is therefore in your interest to involve yourselves with the PPG either by attending its meetings or by passing constructive or critical comments or suggestions to the PPG Committee. Contact details are:

Chairman: Mrs Vanessa Blythe. E-mail: vanessablythe2@gmail.com

Secretary: Mrs Dee Morris. E-mail: t.morris423@btinternet.com or telephone 01485 541450

Urgent:

The Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer and some members of the PPG Committee will be resigning after many years of hard but rewarding work at the next AGM in July 2014. Volunteers will be required to take up these posts and to become members of the PPG Committee. Should none be forthcoming, there will be no alternative to dissolving the PPG and disposing of its assets. To avoid this action, willing members of the Dersingham community should contact the chairman or the secretary if they wish to express an interest in any of these interesting and rewarding positions.

□

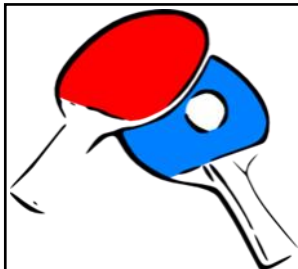


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**Did you use to play?
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Anyone interested in a club or drop in sessions, please contact John on 01485 542103 or just turn up at Dersingham Social Club (opposite Budgens) on Mondays 2 - 4pm—Cost £2 per session

**Bats and Balls provided (if you don't have your own)
Please wear soft shoes or trainers**



9 Chalk Rivers Project

Did you know the Norfolk landscape has a stronghold of internationally rare Chalk Rivers?

Chalk Rivers are incredibly important for wildlife as the water quality is so healthy. There are about 200 in the world and over 160 of these are in England with a definite stronghold in Norfolk.



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The Norfolk Rivers Trust, in conjunction with the Norfolk Coast Partnership and the Norfolk County Council, has been awarded £1.3M from the Environment Agency to work on restoring some of Norfolk's internationally rare chalk river habitats. This project is the second biggest catchment restoration project in the country.

Over the next couple of years the 9 Chalk Rivers project team will be looking at the Glaven, Stiffkey, Babingley and Gaywood with a long term hope to apply for more funding to work on the Hun, Mun, Heacham, Ingol and Burn. Work will include reinstating the natural bends to allow the rivers to clean themselves, removal of non native species to enable native species to flourish, enable flood plains where possible to develop to store water and provide new habitat for species and work to decrease silt and pollution in the rivers.

The project will involve on the ground improvements and the team are working closely with landowners and communities to ensure that their needs are also being met and that they can gain from the work planned by healthier and better functioning rivers.

Another major component of the work is to bring local communities together to learn about their rivers, talk about their concerns and in time form self sustaining groups that can 'manage' the rivers over the longer term. The project team will be doing that by running a series of walks, talks, workshops and family events.

You can find out more about the project on Twitter @9ChalkRivers and on the Norfolk Rivers Trust website at www.norfolkriverstrust.org or contact Gemma Clark the Community Involvement Officer for the 9 Chalk Rivers Project by email at gemma.clark@norfolk.gov.uk or telephone on 01553 778024. □



Norfolk Wildlife Trust West Norfolk Members Group invites you to



Hunstanton Methodist Church Hall, Austin Street
on **Tuesday 24th October at 7:30pm to**

'Life in the Reeds'

an illustrated talk by **Dr Dave Leech**, Senior Research Ecologist at **BTO**,
on Breckland Reed Warbler monitoring

and also on **Thursday 28th November at 7.30pm to**

How to enjoy a Wildlife Holiday in Thailand

an illustrated talk by **Gary Hibberd**, NWT Warden, Holme Dunes
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Cause and Effect

How we came to live in Dersingham by Jack Neale



There are many and varied reasons why people come to live in Dersingham and ours was rooted in a friendly act performed by my Mother in about 1922 when I was 7 years old. She had met and got married whilst working with my Father as a painter & decorator, she as the matron's maid at a large developing hospital complex for Infectious Diseases Isolation hospital on the marshes at Long Reach, Joyce Green near Dartford in Kent. They married in 1913 and set up home where I, my brother and sister were born. Although she obviously had left work, she kept in touch with and frequently met other women who had likewise married and had families.

One such, Annie who became Mrs Green had lived with her 3 children about a mile away, and although they were a bit older than us we became quite friendly and exchanged family visits.

In about 1922 Mrs Green came to our home with the news that Amelia her younger sister and more recently married had died in childbirth, leaving a motherless daughter. The Father being unable to care for her, she had offered to bring up the child, but owing to some obscure family reasons could not take over fully for about a month and asked if my Mother would look after her for that time. Of course Mum agreed; my young sister was about a year old, but the pram was still kept, covered and clean in the garden shed, because you never know! This was dusted off and brought indoors to serve as a cradle. At night the babe slept in a large drawer in my parents' bedroom next to my sister Nora while my 3 year old brother and I slept in the back bedroom. Actually little Amy stayed for about 6 weeks and we all grew to love her and missed her very much and were always very friendly when we met up with the Greens with whom she lived for many years. Time passed, we all grew up, got married and had children – all except Amy. Later she worked in a grocery store in Dartford and I would often pop in and enquire after the family and exchange news.

One day in 1965 I asked about Charlie, her cousin. She said he was on holiday in Canada. Now my ears pricked up at this! My sister after 6 years in the WAAF had married and gone to Toronto, had prospered with 2 children. Although she had visited us when Mother died we would have loved to visit them, but with the return fare at about £150 at the time, it was out of our reach. Amy said that Charlie had joined a Travel Club and had gone for about half price. Upon further enquiries I got the name and address of this Travel Club. It turned out to be a group of about a dozen meeting fortnightly at a local Council House! Actually they were bona-fide members of a large Liverpool based organisation known as OFFA: Overseas Family & Friends Association. Known as an Affinity Group they were given special dispensation to charter Atlantic air flights and sell them to members on a non-profit basis, thus reducing costs by about 50%!

I joined straight away for £5; then paying £2 a month for myself and Pat my wife. We could not fly until 6 months of membership, but a list of the year's flights was circulated in the New Year, about 30-40 flights to airports in the USA & Canada, varying in length from 2 to 6 weeks. National membership was restricted to 20,000 with strictly no advertising allowed, only word of mouth. Highly delighted and very thrilled at £65 return we took our first ever flight from Gatwick in June 1967 to meet our family and just in time for Expo 67, an International Exhibition of staggering proportions in Montreal. Truly the trip of a lifetime!

A leading light in the Dartford branch of OFFA was a local business woman named Betty. Of unbounded energy and ideas she was social secretary. Within a year the untimely death of the secretary and then another senior member meant that I had become first Vice Chairman, then Chairman and eventually Secretary. Membership within a couple of years was approaching our prescribed limit of 50. Over a period of 10 to 12 years Pat and I made flights to Toronto every 2 or 3 years. Then disaster – by order of the government and IATA, the International Air Traffic Authority and the Board of Trade, all affinity clubs were abruptly stopped – abandoned – scrapped! The 'Bucket Shop' boys, criminals on the fringe of the travel business had muscled in illegally, their greed and mismanagement left many travellers stranded abroad causing chaos and dismay within the flight and travel industry and the concession was immediately withdrawn. With the closing of the branch about a dozen of us continued to meet up as a social group, generally in each other's houses about every month. Betty continued to organise outings, theatre trips etc. and

all was going well. But then Betty's husband Syd, a huge genial chap known as Tiny, died suddenly. They had by then given up their cafe business and after a while, her energy undimmed, Betty became cook/manageress and catering officer for a social club known as The Gateway Club run by Reed International Paper Group, one of Dartford's largest manufacturers. Pat, having just retired after 30 odd years as a nurse at a large mental hospital, was recruited as assistant to Betty helping out in the canteen and at social gatherings. Having become especially close after Syd's death they worked together well.

In 1982 Pat had more confidence and experience to take over for a month while Betty took a trip to Canada. She came back with husband to be, Alex Edey, a newly widowed Canadian soldier she had met at her Café during the war. They got married and settled down happily at Betty's home until 1983 when plans for a new ring road for Dartford were announced and an order for compulsory purchase of their house within 2 years. During this period they came on a visit to Sandringham. Much taken with the area they came again later and purchased a newly built house at Kingscroft in the village. Once settled in they invited many family and friends including those of us in the ex-OFFA group to visit and in due course we took up the offer. *(Pun)*

Having retired from my job as a painter and decorator at 64 and after 32 years at my last job, after a month's holiday I had started up on my own and at 70 was still getting all the work I wanted. We had a nice little bungalow but nearby traffic was getting horrific. It was just off the A2 and near to the entrance of the 2nd Thames tunnel being built which could only make things worse! Because of this we were already considering a move to a quieter area. Staying for a few days with Betty & Alec we were captivated by the rural serenity of Dersingham and decided very quickly to move here. We were not the only ones! Within a year or two, 3 other ex-OFFA couples had made the same decision, the first being Jack & Hilda just beating us by 3 months to live in Old Hall Drive. The reason for our delay was being let down 3 times by prospective sellers changing their minds part way through the selling process. After nearly a year of disappointment, delays and frustration, finally disheartened we took our property off the market thinking fate was against us. Suddenly out of the blue we got details of a suitable property from an agent we had heard nothing from for months and decided on one more throw of the dice. Though empty when we eventually saw it, it was so close to our ideal that we went into Kings Lynn and paid an immediate deposit. Thankfully after the usual delays and having been offered a virtual open cheque for our property we finally moved in on October 1st 1986. Later we were joined by the 4th couple from Dartford, Doug & Gladys and for many years together and separately enjoyed the delights of Dersingham and all of its surrounding charms and benefits.

Now 32 years later aged 98 I still enjoy, although to a lesser degree, all those delights that attracted us. Sadly Jack & Hilda, Doug & Gladys have passed on, Betty's husband Alex was killed in a car accident about 15 years ago, and my lovely wife Pat quite peacefully in her own bed in 2009. Betty a year younger than me at 97 still lives at Kingscroft, alone like me but surviving with the help of a wonderful daughter, excellent neighbours and a much valued Community Health Service, Social Services and that invaluable element of reasonable health and above all a very benevolent fate and fortune. We are both very glad and happy to have made our small contribution to the life and wellbeing of the wonderful place and home – Dersingham. All because of a chance conversation with Amy. □

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Sandringham Squirrels

written by Alan Coleby, illustrated by Jeanne Ockenden

Girl squirrels

Ella
Eve
Cassie
Thora

Stories for children: a group of eight young squirrels play, feed and explore in the woods of Sandringham.

Boy squirrels

Scoot
Chip
Barney
Gus



A Leap into Space

It was a misty day in late October. The autumn was dying away and the winter was coming on. But it was not yet winter. It was not the time for Scoot to go and have a long snooze in the cup-shaped drey in the beech tree, cuddling up to Ella and Eve to keep warm.

The fruit on the trees in the orchard had all been picked or had fallen and died. All the nuts and acorns had been gathered up from under the trees and had been eaten or hidden away.

'I feel a bit hungry, Chip,' Scoot told his friend as they met, wandering about among the wet, slippery, dead leaves beneath the sycamore trees.

'Well, there's not much about, is there?' answered Chip. 'We all had a good feast of nuts and fruit earlier in the autumn. The only thing now is the cones in the pine trees, but they're a good way from here. I don't want to go right over to that side of the wood. Anyway, the seeds are ever so small, and they don't fill you up much.'

'I always want to drink lots of water when I've eaten seeds from cones,' said Scoot.

'Yes,' agreed Chip. 'There is one thing, though,' he said with a grin. 'If you drink a lot of water, it stops you feeling hungry.'

'Huh!' said Scoot, who did not think that was amusing. 'Well, I'd rather have something more solid.'

'I'll tell you what, then,' said Chip, still cheerful. 'The gorse bushes are near this edge of the wood, and there were lots of little pits for acorns dug in that sandy soil over there.'

'Yes,' said Scoot. 'That's not far away, and it's quite near the trees. Let's see who can find the first store.'

They soon reached the gorse bushes and went around sniffing at places where they thought they could remember burying acorns a month ago. They could smell the sharp scent of fox, but they knew that foxes usually come out at night. They were not too far from trees if they had to dash for safety. So they carried on smelling the ground. They were very busy and forgot to look round for danger.

'Cluck-cluck-cluck' came from Chip. Scoot spun round towards him.

'Quick, Scoot! There's a cat coming.' Chip was half way to the trees. 'Tak-tak-tak' he called. 'Come on!'

Beyond Chip, Scoot could see a cat. It was one of several half-wild ones that wandered around the area. But now it was not just prowling, as it usually did, but it was running straight towards them. Scoot wondered how Chip could have noticed it, because it ran so silently, even over dead leaves.

'Tak-tak-tak. Come on, Scoot!' Chip was screaming at him, and was already starting up the trunk of a sycamore tree.

Scoot ran across a bare patch of earth faster than he had ever run before, and started up a trunk. He noticed that the cat had run straight past Chip's tree and was heading for his.

The trunk was fairly soft and Scoot's curved,

sharp claws dug in easily enough. He leapt, bounded and darted swiftly up the tree. He stopped at about fifteen feet up to look down for the cat. To his great alarm, he saw that the cat was starting up, too. Scoot had heard that cats could climb, but he had never seen one do it. Other animals, like dogs or foxes, just stayed at the bottom of the tree and soon went away.

Scoot kept going up. He clawed his way up the tree as fast as he could. Then he glanced down and the cat was still coming.

'Go out on a branch, Scoot,' called Chip, from his tree. Good old Chip, thought Scoot. He's keeping his eye on me to help me, but I had thought of that myself. Then he turned and went out along a branch. But this seemed to be just what the cat wanted. Scoot half-turned and could see out of the corner of his eye, the cat coming along his branch. He was frightened. Fear seized him.

The branch got thinner and Scoot could feel it bend downwards. He gripped it hard, but was afraid he would fall off it. The cat came nearer.

'There's another branch near enough,' called Chip, who was still watching. 'Jump onto it.'

'I can't,' replied Scoot. 'If I miss it I'll fall. It looks ever so thin.' He stood still on the branch. His tail was lying stiffly along his back. He had never felt so afraid.

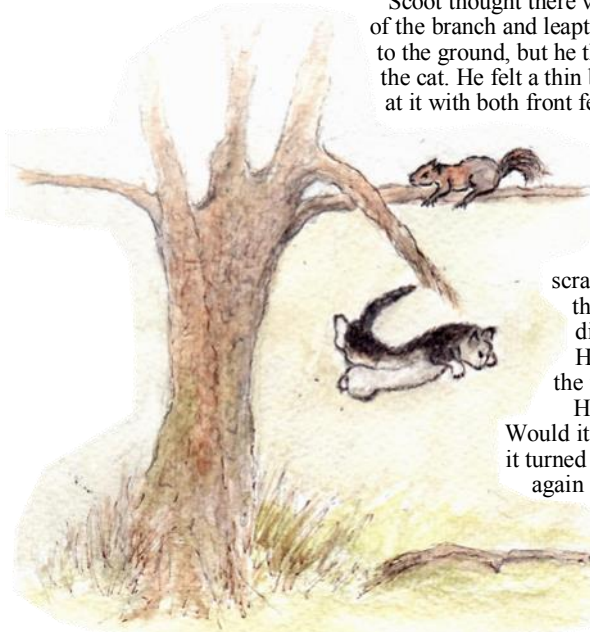
'You'll have to!' Chip was shouting and screaming. 'If not, the cat will get you.'

Scoot thought there was nothing else he could do. He let go of the branch and leapt into the air. He was sure he would fall to the ground, but he thought it was better than being got by the cat. He felt a thin branch hit him in the chest. He snatched at it with both front feet. His claws dug in. He clasped it to him, and then he ran along it. He ran until he reached a thick, strong trunk.

Then he turned and looked for the cat. Just at that moment it was in mid air, springing towards his branch. There was a quick flurry of scabbling claws as the cat tried to grasp the branch. But then it fell, quite some distance. Scoot felt pleased. He was safe. He was out of danger. He sank down into the fork of the tree he had reached.

He watched the cat. Would it get hurt? Would it get killed? Just before it hit the ground, it turned right over and landed on all four feet – again without a sound.

Scoot sat in the tree for a few minutes. He looked over at Chip, who was smiling. Scoot was so glad that that was another lesson he had learnt. He felt happy. □



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From the Parish Office

I am writing this after a very busy two weeks of Children's Summer Activities following an enjoyable Funday/Carboot Sale. I am surprised that more children did not attend the Summer Activities as they were great value. The Basketball was cancelled the day before because we only had one child booked on. Very late that same night I received a text to say that eight children had signed up on Facebook so it was a quick text (too late to ring) to the coach enabled us to put it back on. The Cricket, Tennis and Cake Decorating were well attended, the Lazer Gaming was fully booked so unfortunately we had to turn away some late comers but the Football and Rounders were definitely not favourites; how times change! Seven year old Torri Ashley took the remarkable picture on the right using her Nan's camera at one of the sessions on Photography. All of this will give our Recreation Committee food for thought when we plan our activities for next summer. Do email, write, ring or contact us on Facebook to say what you would like to do.



The Recreation Committee is hoping to light as many of the trees on the Hunstanton Road side of the Recreation Ground for Christmas. If you are a business and would like to sponsor a tree please get in touch. If you would like to buy a bulb, details will be posted on the noticeboards. Do not forget the Christmas Fayre on the 8th December 2013, at St Nicholas Court thanks to Mr & Mrs Stanton and the tenants of St Nicholas Court.

The CADDY LINERS are selling well. Unfortunately the Borough Council has now increased the cost for 50 by 30p to £1.60. I hope to maintain a supply, having sold well over 200 rolls.

The Council finds itself with eight vacancies at present. If anyone wishes to have their say in what is happening in your village please come and join us. Your village really does NEED you.

If there is something happening in the village that you wish to know more about, or not happy about, please do not hesitate to contact me at the office, and I will do my best to help. Sarah.

clerk@dersingham.org.uk – 01485 541465 – facebook.com/dersingham.parishcouncil



Sloe Gin or Vodka

a recipe from Caroline Bosworth

As the evenings start to draw in, I like to start and preserve the tastes of autumn to enjoy across the winter. To this end, I make lots of jams and chutneys, but I particularly enjoy making flavoured spirits for Christmas.

Sloes can be picked from late August through until the end of October – folk law has it that sloes should not be picked until after the first frost – but this can be easily circumvented by popping the picked sloes in the freezer the night before you make the gin.

Whilst I include a “recipe” – it is slightly with tongue in cheek – it is impossible to get wrong I think and there are so many variations...use Vodka or Gin – I have also had great success with brandy as a base. Sloes are lovely and traditional, if you can't find them, use damsons or wild blackberries.

So –you will need sterilised bottles and about 8 weeks to wait.

450g (1lb) approximately of sloes
225g (8oz) Caster sugar
1 litre (1.75 pints) of Gin or Vodka

1. Either prick the sloes with a needle or freeze overnight to split the skins (with damsons, remove the stone and cut in half).
2. Put all ingredients into a clean jar or bottle and shake well.
3. Leave in a cool dark place, shaking every couple of days for at least 8 weeks.

That's it!!

The longer that you leave this drink, the better that it becomes – you may like to strain the drink into a clean bottle, but I don't bother usually.

Uses:

This liqueur is lovely on winter evenings, it makes fabulous gifts for Christmas too...try and save some for a year or two – it really does improve with age.

As for the fruit at the bottom of the bottle? – This is so very, very good – add a little to gravies, or to a fruit crumble base – but perhaps my favourite use is to stir the fruit with some good dark chocolate and put teaspoons of the mixture onto paper or mini cake cases and serve as very grown up truffles!! □



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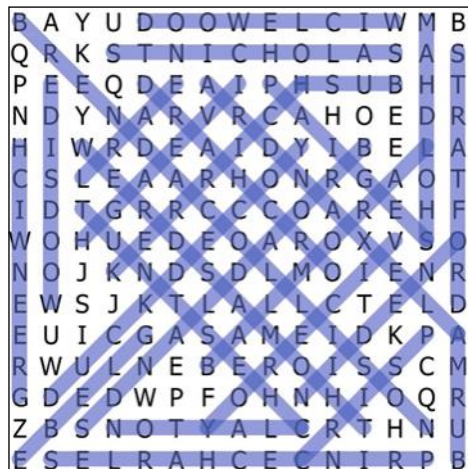
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Dersingham Courts, Drives, Lanes, Vales & Ways Wordsearch

Did you manage to find all 26 of the Dersingham Closes in the last wordsearch. Here is the solution:



ALEXANDRA	IVEAGH
BALMORAL	KERRICH
BRENDACOLLISON	ONEDIN
BROADLANDS	ORCHARD
BURMA	PAIGES
BUSH	PRINCECHARLES
CHESTNUT	SHOLDHAM
CLAYTON	STNICHOLAS
CRISP	STRATFORD
DUCKDECOY	THOMASDREW
EARL	VICEROY
GLEBE	WICLEWOOD
GREENWICH	WOODSIDE

For this final Dersingham wordsearch, you need to find another 26 names, this time of the *Courts, Drives, Lanes, Vales and Ways* of Dersingham, ie all “roads names” without their ending of *Court, Drive, Lane, Vale* or *Way*. Two word names are run together. (Solution in the December issue)



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It's My Life

by Brian Anderson

What it's like working at CERN

CERN - the European Laboratory for Particle Physics near Geneva - achieved a degree of prominence in the media last year with the announcement that there was a high probability that the Higgs boson (the particle that confers mass on some other elementary particles) had been discovered. (*In case like me you were wondering, CERN is an acronym for the French name of the laboratory: Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire. Ed.*)

Over a period of some 25 years I made frequent visits to CERN effectively on secondment from the Physics Department at University College London (UCL). So what's it like to work there?

The first thing you notice is the size. There are buildings covering a big fraction of a square kilometre, mostly in utilitarian styles dating from the mid 1950s right up to the present day. There are curious rings of earthen banks in several places showing where the earliest particle accelerators were built: the Proton Synchrotron (PS) being the first and the Intersecting Storage Rings (ISR) in the 1970s. The later accelerators



were built much further below ground and are *much* bigger - more about that later. For those of you who have read Dan Brown's *Angels and Demons* I have to say that his description of the site bears almost no relation to the actual laboratory. It's also the case that he's got a lot of the physics wrong.

CERN has a large permanent staff but most of those that you meet on site are visitors (some on long term attachment) from universities and research institutes from all over the world. In numbers, CERN employs about 3900 people and hosts about 10000 visitors of 113 nationalities. English is the *lingua franca* at this level but a working knowledge of French is useful for talking to a lot of the support staff such as the crane drivers and stores staff.

You can stay on site if there are hostel rooms available (they're quite often booked up). The hostels are quite well appointed - a bit like budget hotels.

There are two restaurants on the main site where you can get lunch and dinner and one of them provides breakfast and a late evening service. They're quite good during the week, generally with a generic European menu. Weekends are not so good - it's usually the Friday menu successively reheated. Sunday nights it's always better to eat off site in Geneva.

I made one brief visit to CERN in 1970 but the bulk of my visits started in the mid 1980s. I was working on the development of particle detectors for an experiment called OPAL, one of four being developed for use





installation of optical fibres
for MIPPLUG prototype

on the Large Electron Positron Collider (LEP), a particle accelerator built well below ground (OPAL was about 100 metres down) and in a circular tunnel of 27 kilometres circumference. The first visits were nearly all about attending meetings to discuss design and engineering and where and how our bit would interface with the rest of the experiment. Our detector sat right in the middle of OPAL so there was a lot of discussion about cable routes, clearances and installation procedures. Experiments like OPAL are nicknamed "onion skin" experiments as successively larger layers of detectors are built out from the middle. Our bit (the Forward Detector) was next to the pipe which carried the beam of accelerated particles (in this case electrons and positrons or "positive electrons"). Installing detectors, running the services and testing the detectors *in situ* is one of the less glamorous activities. It involves a lot of climbing, wriggling, kneeling and crouching in some very uncomfortable spaces usually on concrete or steel surfaces. One of my worst experiences was discovering that a gas line had become kinked in our detector after it had been installed and I spent nearly four hours lying on my back on a steel platform trying to unkink it, finishing (unsuccessfully) at 2 am. We just had

to do that run period with one eighth of our detector not working. There was no possibility of the rest of the OPAL teams allowing time to demount and fix. One drawback with our Forward Detector was that it was small and could be demounted when the experiment was open. This



meant that every shutdown we were able to upgrade aspects of the detector. Very good from the physicists' point of view but it meant that the engineering team had a major refit job in a limited time period every winter between 1989 and 1999!

By 1999 CERN was already well advanced in planning and building for the replacement of LEP, saving a considerable amount of costly civil engineering by using the same tunnel as LEP. Our group was involved in one of the experiments (ATLAS) for the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). The new collider was an extremely challenging machine to build (I wasn't involved). It involved cooling all the magnets round the ring to close to

absolute zero with superfluid helium (no viscosity!) in order to get current flowing in the magnets with no resistance. It seems to defy common sense but then so does most of quantum mechanics!

Once again we were committed to a small detector right in the middle near the beam. The main challenge was producing a very accurate detector that could withstand the much harsher radiation environment that the LHC would produce and also have a service and support structure that would be effectively transparent to the particles produced. This meant a strong emphasis on using aluminium and carbon fibre as much as possible and also a detector system that didn't degrade in the constant hammering by protons, which are much heavier than LEP's electrons. And once again there was a long development programme which eventually discarded nearly all the opening technical proposals in order to produce an instrument that would need the requirements of both accuracy and reliability.

I signed off on ATLAS in 2005 and returned to UCL to work on detectors for neutrino physics. No more trips to CERN after that! □



UCL staff working on the
OPAL Forward detector



David Bingham — I spy a butterfly (with chalkhill blue photos by Jim Scott)

Butterfly watching is an easy hobby to take up and all you need is a warm sunny day and a place with lots of flowers. Your own back garden is a good place to start. Most gardens in Dersingham will be visited by a dozen or so species of butterfly during the year. If you want to see more you will have to travel further afield because, like most animals and plants, butterflies often require special habitats in which to live. These habitats will contain their food plants but they may also require sunny glades, shade, water, salts and shelter from frost or rain – some species of butterfly even

have extraordinary relationships with specific species of ant that play a vital part in their life cycle.

This has been an unusual year for butterfly spotting because we had a cold wet spring followed by a hot dry summer. Butterflies were often late to emerge and this led to a frustrating trip to Northamptonshire where we had hoped to see this country's most spectacular butterfly, the purple emperor. A visit to the usually good sites in Fermyn and Lady Wood on a hot day in early July revealed a lot of butterfly watchers but no butterflies. Butterfly watchers are easy to distinguish from bird watchers because they only carry a camera and aren't weighed down with telephoto lenses, binoculars, telescopes or tripods. Neither do they wear the camouflage outdoor clothing favoured by twitchers – they don't need to because there is no need to hide and they do their watching in the sunshine at a respectable time of day. In Fermyn Wood, butterfly watchers spend a lot of time gathering around piles of dog poo because passing purple emperors often land on faecal matter to feed on the salts – this can somewhat spoil the aesthetics of their photographs.

Having drawn a blank here we travelled the short distance to Glapthorn Cow Pasture near Oundle, which is a well known site for another rare butterfly - the black-letter hairstreak. The warden had helpfully left a map at the entrance to the reserve marking the places where the butterflies had been seen. The reserve is actually woodland and not a pasture with thickets of blackthorn, the food plant of black-letter hairstreaks. There are a string of these blackthorn woods running down through the English shire counties and the survival of the black-letter hairstreak in this country relies on the conservation of these woods. We soon found ourselves in a clearing with half a dozen butterfly spotters awaiting the arrival of one of these little butterflies. Time passed so we went for a stroll around the wood to try our luck at a different location. When we returned the watchers gleefully showed us the photographs they had taken of a black-letter hairstreak that had landed next to where we had been standing a minute after we had left – so we saw a nasty streak but no hairstreaks.

Thankfully, things have been better locally and Ken Hill Wood was once again good for white admirals and purple hairstreaks. This year also saw the arrival of silver-washed fritillaries in the wood and it shouldn't be long before they turn up in the woods around Dersingham, if they haven't already. Silver-washed fritillaries have made a welcome return to Norfolk in recent years having been extinct in the county since the 1980s.

The undoubted butterfly event of the year in Norfolk was the spectacular show put on by the chalkhill blue butterflies at Warham hill-fort. Conservative estimates put their numbers at over six thousand on one day in late July. The hill-fort is a protected ancient monument and the care taken over its historic conservation has also conserved a superb piece of chalk grassland. The chalkhill blues at Warham were released by someone and they don't even feature on the information board, which only shows the common blue and brown argus. Releasing species into the wild is not something that should be done without a lot of research and appropriate licenses and permissions because things can go disastrously wrong. Having said this, the silvery chalkhill blues at Warham do look as though they belong there and they are thriving. Walking around the ramparts of the hill-fort on a sunny day with clouds of beautiful blue butterflies flying up from the flower rich turf with every step was enough for me to forgive the omission of a few pieces of paper that should have been signed in triplicate! □





Becoming an RSPB Volunteer

Long term volunteer Mike Barrett has won the very prestigious National Trust Octavia Hill Award in the category Natural Hero. Having volunteered with the RSPB since 1965 Mike tells us about the joys he has experienced.

I have had a lifelong interest in the natural world and after leaving the army in 1950 thought I could help by volunteering at a nearby bird reserve.

This was at RSPB Rye House Marsh and I quickly realised how much I enjoyed it and had that feeling of self satisfaction that I might be in a small way helping the natural world around us!

Moving to Norfolk in 1985 I had RSPB Titchwell Marsh on my doorstep so began to volunteer there straight away and have been doing so ever since. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction to be part of the RSPB that is working hard in so many aspects of the natural world, to improve and save so much of nature that we seem to be losing.

I have met so many nice people over the years, made many friends and learned a great deal about the natural world hopefully saving a little piece of the wonderful world around us. Why not give it a try.



If you are interested in volunteering at RSPB Titchwell Marsh, please contact Paul Roney on 01485210779 or email paul.roney@rspb.org.uk □



Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)

invite you to the Barn Theatre, Sacred Heart Convent School, Swaffham.
(Access and parking from Sporle Road)

on Tuesday 29th October 2013 at 7:30pm for

An Illustrated talk by Chris Knights

Chris Knights is well known to many as a Breckland farmer, conservationist, award winning photographer, film maker – and a member of NarVOS. Members and visitors should look forward eagerly to his forthcoming talk. The fact that Chris has not given us a title yet is no cause for alarm, as we know we will get an entertaining and informative talk, backed up by superb photography.

Then again on Tuesday 26th November 2013 at 7:30pm for

A Taste of Oz

Birding in Queensland and Northern Territory

Allan Hale is well known around Norfolk as a public speaker on bird-related topics. Allan is a NarVOS member and when he is not monitoring birds locally he loves nothing better than to go to some far-flung birding paradise with his camera. Be assured, this will be an entertaining illustrated talk from Down Under.

**Visitors are most welcome. Admission £2 on the night if you are not a NarVOS member.
For more information about this meeting or NarVOS call Ian Black on 01760 724092**



Dersingham Day Centre for the Elderly by Alice Worth

The Dersingham Day Centre started its Autumn Session on the 4th September. It was a pleasure to see everyone again. The alterations to the kitchen appear to have been very successful and it was a pleasure to see the new sinks and tiled surrounds, and the new cupboards just finished everything off nicely. Carol Kenny, our new cook, made a lovely lunch which was appreciated by everyone – the clean plates were proof of this. We are so lucky to have found someone so good so quickly.

The last day of our Summer session was on the 17th July and, as pre-arranged, the Rev. Michael Brock (a regular visitor to the Day Centre) brought the Bishop of Lynn, Bishop Jonathan, to visit us in the morning. We were pleased to welcome them and Bishop Jonathan surprised us all by saying he was going to sing to us. The Members had a choice of a Flanders and Swann song or a 1960s song. They opted for Flanders and Swann and were delighted with the Bishop's rendering of the Honeysuckle and a Bindweed. We requested an encore and Bishop Jonathan agreed and sang us a song from the 1960s. Coffee was served and Bishop Jonathan moved amongst the various table activities taking place, chatting to our Members. We do hope he will come to visit us again.

As reported in the July edition of Village Voice this was to be the last lunch to be cooked for us by Ruth Mountain, who had cooked for us for many years. After lunch we had a presentation ceremony when Fred Cooper, on behalf of the Members, presented Ruth with a garden wall clock together with several gifts representing her interests in cooking and gardening. Then Sally Deaves presented her with two rose bushes for her garden on behalf of all the volunteers. Ruth thanked everyone for her gifts and invited all the Day Centre to her home for a garden party on the 14th August, which we were pleased to accept.

We all met up again on the 14th August at Ruth Mountain's home and the weather was very kind to us once again. We were able to walk around the lovely garden with its variety of plants, fruit trees and fish pond. It was nice for our Members to catch up with their friends and to enjoy a relaxed afternoon in the sunshine. Sandwiches and cakes were served at tea-time when we also celebrated, albeit belatedly, two birthdays that had occurred during the summer break. The time passed very quickly and before we knew it it was time to go home. Everyone agreed it had been a lovely afternoon and Ruth was thanked for her hospitality. □

THE DERSINGHAM DAY CENTRE'S AUTUMN FAIR will be held on

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Dersingham Bog News from Tom Bolderstone, Reserve Warden

As I write this article the seasons seem to be undergoing a change with the feel of autumn slowly creeping upon us. The mornings are becoming cooler and dewy and many of the migrant birds have begun returning to their wintering grounds.

This year's breeding season has been very different to last year. Nightjars have had a good year with at least 32 chicks successfully fledged and only one nesting failure. This is largely due to the warm sunny conditions allowing moths to be more abundant. Last year the Nightjars struggled in the wet summer as there just wasn't the food to support the chicks.

We have also had two pairs of Stonechat on site who have had mixed fortunes this breeding season. One pair unfortunately didn't raise any young this year but the second pair successfully raised two broods of five chicks. The female bird from this nest is a bird that comes from Kelling Heath and was rung by British Trust for Ornithology ringers in June 2012. This is the third bird rung on the North Norfolk coasts to have appeared at Dersingham Bog NNR in the last few years. As I have mentioned in previous articles we are ringing Stonechats on site so it will be interesting to see whether there is any interchange with the North Norfolk Coast.

This year the volunteers and staff have been monitoring nest-boxes on site. Last winter the weekend volunteers erected nest boxes in various parts of the site and numbered them in preparation for the breeding season. We have 50 boxes on site and volunteers have monitored the success or failure of each box. This involves at the beginning of the season visiting every single box to check and clean it before the nesting season begins in earnest. By mid-April we then go round the boxes again to check if any birds are in residence. The status of each nest box is recorded and then when the total number of occupied boxes is known a list drawn up of boxes to check regularly throughout the season. This records success and failure of the nests, clutch size, number of chicks height and orientation. This data is then collated and sent to the British Trust for Ornithology for their Nest Record Scheme. The scheme can be supported by anybody even if you only have one nest box in your garden. Visit www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/nrs for more information on the scheme and how you can get involved. The hope is that year on year we will build up a picture of how birds are using nest boxes on the site and the effects that the British climate has on these species.



Another reminder that in October Nigel Downer will be holding two Fungi walks on the reserve. Visitors will be able to join Nigel as he takes a closer look at the fascinating and colourful world of Fungi. He will be searching for species such as Foxy Spot, The Deceiver and Ear Pick Fungus. The walks will last for approximately two hours. The dates for the walks are **Saturday 5th October** and **Saturday 26th October**. For bookings and further information contact: Nigel Downer on 01553 673161 or downer@nyjan.net. This event is free of charge but please note availability is limited and therefore booking is essential. This is an excellent opportunity to spend some time looking at the more micro species that are present on Dersingham Bog NNR.

Over the next few weeks and months the winter visitors will be arriving. I have already seen Wigeon arriving in off the sea at Holme. Birds such as Thrushes and Woodcock will also begin migrating in numbers to the East coast as well as the potential for some rare migrants. As well as the birds the colours begin to change on the reserve with the vibrant pinks and purples of summer making way for the greys and browns of autumn and winter.

All seasons are special at Dersingham Bog NNR and I hope that many of you will visit the reserve over the coming months to experience that change. □

thomas.bolderstone@naturalengland.org.uk

The 132nd Sandringham Flower Show

This year's Sandringham Show, after a good run for many years, experienced a rainy day. Not that that seemed to deter those visiting, for they came prepared with wellies and umbrellas regardless! The people I felt sorry for, however, were the Band, those on the committee waiting to be presented to HRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, not to mention those stalwarts waiting patiently in the avenues lining Their Royal Highnesses route through the Showground.

Traders reported a good day, despite the weather and we, on the committee, experienced a 'happy' show overall. Sadly, the low clouds prevented the Grace Spitfire from making its flying display but the crowds watched lurcher racing in the ring, falconry, frantic motorbike acrobatics from the Mark Stannage Display Team and the dramatic Devil's Horsemen exhibiting ancient riding skills.

Two bands stepped in at the last moment. It is becoming increasingly difficult each year to book military bands (their ceremonial duties taking preference) and we were very grateful to have the Taverham Brass Band play the National Anthem at eleven o'clock when HRH The Prince of Wales arrived in his carriage; they also played during the day in the bandstand. Indeed, it was interesting to hear the National Anthem played in 'Brass Band Fashion' for a change! Because our initial military band withdrew, the Coventry Drum Corps performed twice in the Main Arena.

So, with this year's Show safely tucked under our belts, we look forward to next years' show - and hope for a sunny day this time.

Jacqueline Candy (Committee member)



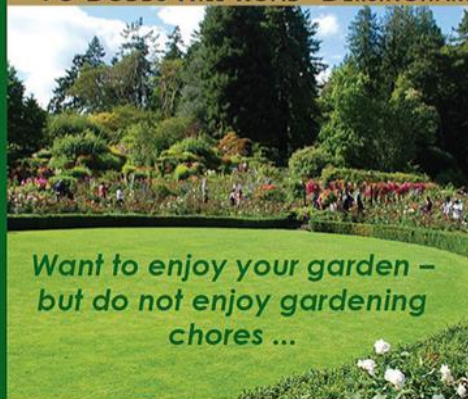
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That's My Business Hector's Barn

Instead of buying new, many of us are using vintage objects to breathe new life into our homes and gardens. At Hector's Barn nothing is too old, too shabby or too worn to be beautiful. Weathering and repeated use only seem to enhance the appeal of a piece rather than diminish it.

Many of our pieces originate from France or take on a French style as 'perfect imperfection' captures the essence of both Hector's Barn and the French approach to creating a home.

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All our pieces are chosen for their intrinsic beauty and individual charm. Helping to create a very individual style whilst giving the impression of an interior evolving over time. Original patina is desired paired with pieces lovingly restored and hand painted by ourselves using Annie Sloan paint and wax. Commissions accepted.

The Vintage Deli previously from Burnham market will also be selling their beautiful vintage clothes and accessories alongside our pieces. We will have complimentary coffee available for shoppers and browsers but would appreciate a small donation for Marie Curie or Starlight as we have done quite a lot of fundraising for both charities in the past.

Our official launch will be over the first weekend in October and our normal hours will be 10am to 5pm Monday to Saturday. We look forward to your visit.

Amanda Rowe



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Dick Melton

What a wonderful lot of articles and letters there were in the August Village Voice.

Billy Cook

Now then how many people living in Dersingham today remember Mr Billy Cook and his one-man band? A friend of mine rang me up to ask if I could write a bit about him. I think I am correct in saying that Billy lived at No 45 Chapel Road, which was in a row of three cottages between Lloyd Pratts Field and the junction off Post Office Road. He lived there with his wife and small son. His son was tragically killed whilst getting off a bus with his mother at Tom Hall's Corner (Snettisham) when he was only about seven years old. Billy always walked around the village very smart and upright. My father told me that he had been in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. At some time in his life he belonged to the Salvation Army at Snettisham and played in their band. But he was best known for his one-man band which, of course, consisted of a drum and umpteen other instruments; he would strap these all on and march around the village, his favourite haunt being outside the Coach and Horses public house. In the nineteen forties and fifties Billy Cook was one of the most colourful characters in the village.

Dersingham school names

Now then I do not very often get hot under the collar but when I read that St George's is to be called Dersingham V.A. Primary and Nursery School then I did and I bet my father, Jim Melton, who was caretaker there for twenty five years from 1948 till 1973, turned in his grave. St George's was built in 1938 but it did not open until 1946 as it was used as a billet for soldiers. It was officially opened in 1948 by King George the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth. When my father went to work there he was told by Norfolk County Council that they would build him a caretaker's house on a plot of land to the left of the main entrance in Admirals Drive. My father replied, "I am not living up there, I have a house down the village," and that's where he stayed, biking up and down to the school four times a day. That is the reason no caretaker's house was ever built next to the school. When I was a boy there was two schools in Dersingham: the bottom School (Primary) and the top school (St George's); for me, that is how it will always be, as it will for many others too.

The Drift and the picnic site

Then I got even hotter under the collar when I read the Dersingham Parish Council report by Cllr Suzy Daniels. In one part the report says a parishioner explained how he would like to undertake the ownership of the picnic site beside the A149 (Dersingham By-pass). The report then goes on to say he (who ever he is) agreed to consider any relevant comments received by councillors, parishioners and the police, especially regarding the rights of parishioners to access The Drift. What has The Drift to do with the picnic site? The Drift has been there for well over 300 years; it ran from the west of the Lynn Road/Manor Road junction in an almost straight line as far as the old sea bank (not the old new one that was constructed in 1964); and, until the concrete roads were laid down in 1942, this was the way to the sea. My father would walk down to the sea by way of The Drift over one hundred years ago, as did many other people from the village, as did I. The Drift belongs to the people of the village.

Sandringham estate owns the land to the south of The Drift and they have the shooting rights to the Little Wood, but the villagers of Dersingham have the rights to use The Drift and to enter the Little Wood. Dersingham Parish Council and the Borough Council have never maintained The Drift; this was always done by the landowners like Ken Martins and the Balding brothers. Over the last few years The Drift has got a bit rough with gruts and overgrown hedges, but it is still very popular with walkers and is used by many people every day. When I was a lad I worked for Ken Martins; he had pigs on the marsh near the railway line and I would bike down there with a bucket of swill on each handle bar and not spill a drop. I well remember getting out of bed on the 1st of February 1953 and looking out of the bedroom window and there, fifty yards to the west of where the picnic site is today, was the sea, so there is no doubt that this area of land is in a flood zone. A few years ago a gentleman put a gate across The Drift as he maintained it was a private lane; the gate did not stay up for long. There is no question about the rights of parishioners to use The Drift. There never has been and there never should be as The Drift belongs to the people of Dersingham,

and, in my opinion, always will.

Roads and cottages

Next Mary Davis, in her interesting article about her ancestral roots, may have got in a bit of a muddle somewhere with her roads and cottages; as Sand Hill Cottages I believe were what are known as Sand Pit Cottages near the George Pratt Roundabout, Hill House Farm is at the top of Sugar Lane, Ling House Farm and the Bircham Road are about one mile to the south east of Shernborne Road.

The Stanton family lived and farmed at Ling House Farm until the early nineteen hundreds when they took over Manor Farm near to the church. This was when Manor Road was extended as far as Chapel Road (Jannocks Corner) and Sandringham Road, or Sandringham Hill as we know it, was shortened to run just from Parkers Corner to the top of the hill, Queens Drive.

Dennis Parlett

On Wednesday the 10th of July I lost one of my best friends and a good mate, Dennis Parlett, who sadly passed away in the early hours of that morning after being unwell. Den, as most people called him, was born in the village of Marham many years ago. In 1964 he married my cousin Jane. Like most young lads in Norfolk, when he left school he worked on a farm and had other jobs in the building trade until he went to work as ground maintenance on Marham Aerodrome. He stayed there for many years until 1982, when he and Jane went to Shernborne to take over the running of the village club.

In 1990 Dennis and Jane retired and came to live at No 1 Gelham Court in Dersingham. For the last four or five years I have been visiting Den at his home once a week to have a good old chat as Den was a Norfolk boy with a lot of knowledge about most things, especially the countryside. Den was a very good cook and, when he got so he could not use the cooker, I would do the cooking and he would shout out the instructions to me from the living room. Whenever the doctor came to see Den they would spend time telling each other jokes.

Den and Jane had both played darts for Norfolk and they were well known and liked wherever they went. Even after Den got housebound he had many good friends that would visit him. Dennis Parlett was no doubt the nicest mate you could wish for and he will be very sadly missed by all that knew him.

That's about all for now except for one thing; it was good to see a letter in the Village Voice from Alan Perry. I can remember him well. If I am right he was not a bad footballer; all the best Alan, it was good to hear from you. That's it for now, see you all at Christmas. □



Epic Cycle Rides from the 1950s

Riding the National 12 Hour Time Trial

by John Lambert

I was called up in November 1951 for my National Service. By the time of this national 12 hour event I had become a PTI (physical training instructor); I asked them for time off.

The army told me I would have to make my own way there so I cycled from Britannia Barracks in Norwich down to London on the Friday, found out where the start was, it was in the Pangbourne

Lane area, I didn't know where that was so caught the underground. I got on the train with my bike and women who were standing up brushed their dresses against my oily chain and gears, I wasn't too popular with them!

On Saturday I rode the 12 hour event and did 228 miles, this was on top of the 120 miles the day before; needless to say I slept well that night.

I got away as early as I could on Sunday to cycle the 120 miles back to Norwich. I had to report to the guardroom straight away and noticed I had two classes of PT first thing in the morning, I don't know how I lasted that day I was so stiff and tired, but I got over it. You are only young once!

I worked out I cycled about 470 miles in 3 days! □



Dersingham Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies & Rainbows

by Elizabeth Wheeler

Dersingham Scouts & Guides attend The Royal British Legion (Norfolk County) Service of Rededication at St Nicholas Church on Sunday 28th July. Representatives from all the groups (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs & Scouts) and their leaders participated in the parade and the service.



Fifteen members of 1st Dersingham Guides started their summer holiday with a day to the Brancaster Activity Centre. The weather was perfect. The girls spent the morning orienteering on the common, before returning to the centre for lunch and to change into old clothes and waterproofs that didn't matter if they got muddy. The old clothes were necessary as in the afternoon we went on a Coastal Safari through the marshes and creeks of the harbour. Despite the mud wanting to keep our shoes, we all managed to reach the mud slides, which were great fun. We then made our way back to towards the shore via the natural spring quicksand pools; (note that we were taken on the safari by instructors from the centre). It was a very enjoyable day. □



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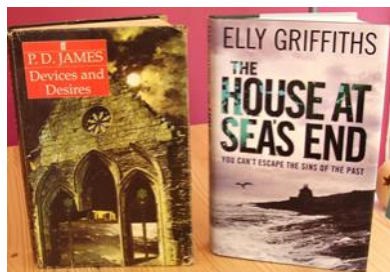
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A Good Read with Maggie Gray

A Norfolk Setting

According to Home Office figures released last year, Norfolk was the safest county to live in, so why is it then that a large majority of books set in Norfolk are crime/detective novels? I like novels set in Norfolk, have a small collection of them, but don't like crime fiction that much so delved into my *other half's* collection for these two.

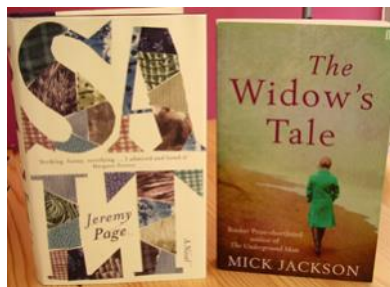
'The House at Sea's End' by Elly Griffiths features her character, Head of Forensic Archaeology at the University of North Norfolk, Ruth Galloway who we were first introduced to in 'The Crossing Places'. The village setting in this novel is one not uncommon for the east coast, a village which is suffering at the hands of coastal erosion. Skeletons are found below Sea's End house, which is the home of an eccentric MP, and Ruth is sent to investigate. The Sunday Times wrote at the time that Elly Griffiths was 'brilliant on the eerie landscape of the Norfolk coast' and maybe it is this eeriness which attracts crime writers?



'Devices and Desires' by P.D. James is one of her Inspector Dalgliesh novels, and he's just escaped for a bit of R and R to a converted windmill left to him by a relative, on the Norfolk coast. But when he discovers a body on the beach, his respite from crime comes to an end as he gets caught up in one of the most intriguing crimes of his career.

On a different note ...

'The Widow's Tale' by Mick Jackson is the story of a woman who leaves her house, gets into her car and drives, ending up on the Norfolk coast where she rents a cottage to think about her life, a life without her husband. At times she feels like she's losing the plot, drinking heavily. But we discover that her marriage wasn't all that perfect as she looks back at her life, and contemplates her life as it is now and how she should carry on.



'Salt' by Jeremy Page starts in 1945 with a woman pushing a pram across the salt marshes of North Norfolk and on the opposite side of the creek she sees a man, buried up to his neck in the mud. He's not dead, which is a good start. She takes him back to her cottage but nine months later he disappears leaving the woman behind with their newborn daughter, Lil. As a teenager Lil is pursued by two brothers who both want her, with tragic results. And fifteen years on, her son is trying to make sense of his family background and the secrets it holds.

Other books with a Norfolk setting...

'The Accidental' by Ali Smith about a group of four rather unhappy people whose lives and holiday in Norfolk, are disrupted by the arrival of a stranger in their midst.

'The Go-Between' by L.P. Hartley is a story of Edwardian society, and of a young boy, Leo, staying at Brandham Hall, who acts as a messenger between a farmer and a lovely young woman at the Hall.

'A Change of Climate' by Hilary Mantel is a family saga, and like many families there are secrets here. The Eldreds live in the big Red House in Norfolk, raising a family and doing good deeds. But the past won't leave them alone, threatening all they hold dear.

'Floodland' by Marcus Sedgwick. Norfolk has been flooded like much of England, and Norwich has become an island, and a young girl whose been left behind when her parents escaped, digs out a boat and sets off to find them, and lands on Eels Island. Here life proves difficult to say the least, and once again she has to escape and carry on her search. ►

‘Death at Sandringham House’ by C.C. Benison. Whilst the Royals are enjoying their Christmas break at Sandringham, the body of a woman is found in a local village hall. And the woman looks exactly like the Queen, complete with sparkly tiara. And then a second murder occurs, right in the heart of the house!

‘The Hippopotamus’ by Stephen Fry is the story of Ted Wallace, a boozed-up sad old poet and theatre critic who comes to stay at the home of an old pal in Norfolk, Swafford Hall. But unlike Ted, a case of what you see is what you get, there are some strange happenings in the Hall, healings and apparently miracles too.

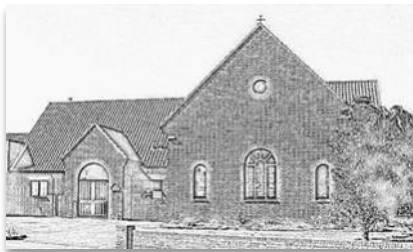
‘Love on a Branch Line’ by John Hadfield. Set in the sticks of 1950s Norfolk where Lord Flamborough lives on a railway train on his own private branch line, playing jazz whilst his daughters enjoy life to the full shall we say.

There are also the books by Arthur Ransome, **‘Coot Club’** and **‘The Big Six’** both set in Horning and on the River Bure.

And maybe you know of others? □

News from St Cecilia’s Church

It was with sadness that we said goodbye to Father Michael Ryan who has been our resident priest for the past 20 months. We had a party for him on the evening of Wednesday 28th August. It was very well attended and Fr Michael was thanked for his pastoral care and especially for his care of the sick in the Parish during his time with us. Fr Michael has moved to Wymondham to become parish priest there. He will be missed by us all in the Hunstanton parish, but we wish him well and hope that he settles in to his new Parish.



We will still be having our usual Sunday masses and the Wednesday mass, for the foreseeable future, thanks to Fr Peter Rollings and various visiting Priests. The Convent daily masses will be slightly changed, so please check for dates and times on Church notice boards, website or phone. Our daily Masses are held at St Theresa’s Convent, 27 Sandringham Road, Hunstanton and at 10.15am at St Cecilia’s, Dersingham on Wednesday. Sunday Masses are 9am at Dersingham and 11am at Hunstanton.

Everyone, whether Catholic or not, is welcome to all of our services and social occasions. We have refreshments after the 11am Mass every Sunday and after 10.15 Mass every Wednesday. There are also

refreshments after the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of the month at Dersingham. Please come along, you will be most welcome.

Due to the current circumstances our annual parish sponsored walk has been postponed until next spring. The next parish event is Tea at the Lifeboat Inn at Thornham, on 24th September, then the Harvest celebration at Dersingham on 11th October and there will be another ladies shared lunch at Dersingham on 2nd November.

The Parish telephone number is 01485 543818, but this is for leaving messages only. If you require a Priest please telephone Fr Peter Rollings on 01553 772220.



Website: www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org

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Anmer and a Catholic Martyr

A family tragedy by Elizabeth Fiddick

The name Anmer means Duck Pool and there is ample evidence of very early settlements. There are several Bronze Age Barrows which are described as being on the common. They are named as Burnt Hill, Ingoe Hill, Rushmere Hill and Threshills. There have been numerous Neolithic and Bronze Age artefacts uncovered as well as Roman coinage and of course The Peddars Way passes very close by. The village was recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as once being held by a Saxon Freeman named Ordgar. After 1066 the lands were seized and given to one Eustachius of Boulogne. However the village we know today as we drive through from Sandringham is quite different from the one that developed during the Medieval, Tudor, and Stuart times. The modern village has shifted to the east of the original site. As you walk through the village towards the Bircham Road there is a small lane on the right leading to the church and the present Anmer Hall. This was once the Main Road through the village and the earthworks of two Manor Houses and several tofts lay on either side of a hollow way near the church which once stood in the centre of the village. It was in 1793 that the present Anmer Hall was built and the parkland laid out around it. All public roads in the area of the Park were closed off to ensure privacy for the occupants of the Hall and now only remain as earthworks. The two original Manors were Anmere Hall Manor which was owned by the Calthorpe Family for many generations from the time of Edward 1. As is the usual case it changed hands many times before being conveyed in 1678 to the Coldham Family. The other Manor was Bereford Manor which was owned for some time by the L'Estrange's of Hunstanton.



It was in 1575 that Christopher Walpole with his wife Margery bought one of the Manors in Anmer, probably Bereford Manor, with a large estate which included lands in Dersingham. Christopher and Margery had originally settled in Docking at the end of Queen Mary's reign and it was there in 1558 that the first of their ten children, Henry, was born. It was because of the growth of the family that Christopher needed a larger house and so moved to Anmer. Here he was also very close to the other branch of the Walpole family headed by his cousin in the village of Houghton. Henry, their first born, was sent to school in Norwich in 1566 or 67. He matriculated

at Cambridge in 1575 and entered Peterhouse to study Philosophy. He spent four years learning languages but also took a considerable interest in religious controversy and in due course converted to the Roman Catholic faith. This was a very significant move. Ever since Henry VIII had broken with Rome and appointed himself Head of the Church of England religious belief and practice in England had been in a state of flux. Edward VI furthered the Protestant cause with Saints' images, stained glass windows and altars being removed from churches. When she succeeded Edward in 1553 Mary I returned England to the Roman Catholic fold and Catholic services were restored and many Protestants were burned at the stake. Elizabeth I, in spite of the danger it placed her in, had held fast to her Protestant beliefs throughout Mary's reign and on her accession she restored Protestant Services and beliefs. Thus in her reign Roman Catholics were regarded with deep suspicion. They were forbidden to worship as they wished and were restricted in many ways. It was considered that they were always hatching plots to assassinate Elizabeth and return England to Catholicism. There were several attempts to do just this and bring the Scottish Queen, Mary, to the throne. However families like the Cobbes at Sandringham, the Yelvertons of Grimston and the Bedingfelds of Oxburgh still held to the Catholic Faith which they had to exercise with extreme secrecy and caution. We have all seen Priest's Holes in houses like Oxburgh Hall. So it was a dangerous path Henry set out on. He never received his degree from Peterhouse probably because of the oath he would have to have sworn but he went from there in 1578 as a student to Gray's Inn following his family's tradition.

It was in 1581 that Henry's life made a dramatic turn. He was present at the execution of Edward Campion one of the many Jesuit Priests who travelled from the continent to England to forward the Roman Catholic cause. They were sheltered and hidden in the homes of Catholic families where they would conduct Masses in secret. Too often they were betrayed and like Campion endured a horrific death. Henry was so close to Campion during his suffering that some of Campion's blood splashed over him. He took this as a sign that he should take up and continue Campion's work. He wrote a poem praising Campion's life and death which a friend printed for him on his private press. The Government made strenuous efforts to track down and destroy all the copies and to find the printing press. They suspected that Walpole was the author and that he was also guilty of converting twenty young men to his faith. When they discovered the press Walpole's friend Valenger who owned it was condemned to lose his ears. At this Henry slipped away from the capital and returned to Anmer where the family hid him until he had made arrangements to leave. Eventually he left Anmer travelling at night and hiding up in woods during the day until he reached Newcastle where he took ship to France. In 1582 he was enrolled as a student at the English College in Rheims where he stayed ten months before being accepted at the English College in Rome in 1583. He applied for admission to the Jesuit Order in 1584 and he was ordained a priest in Paris in 1588. He became a chaplain in Sir William Stanley's regiment in the Netherlands where the English were defending the Provinces of the Netherlands against Spain. (The story of Sir William Stanley's life deserves a book of its own but he was suspected as having Catholic leanings and in fact was thought to be implicated in the Babington plot to place Mary Queen of Scots on the throne.) During this period Henry's brothers Richard, Christopher, and Michael with his cousin Edward of Houghton, had also studied in Rome and were all ordained as Priests.

In 1589 news reached the family at Anmer that Henry had been arrested in Flushing when that town had been captured by English troops. He was being held for ransom and a Captain Russels of West Rudham a cousin of the Walpole's had sneaked the message out to them. All Henry's brothers were at home with their parents at the time and it was Michael who set out for Flushing with the money to pay the ransom and secure Henry's release. Henry then spent two years preaching on the continent. In England Elizabeth I had issued a denunciation of the overseas seminaries and Jesuit priests. The Jesuits composed a response in Latin but an English version was considered desirable and Walpole was entrusted with the task. Elizabeth's Spymaster Walsingham obtained a copy from one of his agents abroad and thus it was seen by the English Council. Henry's ultimate fate was sealed.

In 1593 it was decided to send Henry on a mission to England, Henry was thrilled as he had always wanted to emulate the successful mission of John Gerard a Jesuit priest who travelled throughout East Anglia. John Gerard's story is an exciting one especially as he is one of the very

few people who succeeded in escaping from the Tower of London. So with his brother Thomas arrangements were made for them to take passage to Essex, Suffolk or Norfolk. However the weather was very bad and their ship was blown far off course so they eventually landed at Bridlington Yorkshire. Unknown to them one of Walsingham's spies had also just landed there and had hastened to alert the authorities in York of the Walpole's arrival. Henry and Thomas were unfamiliar with Yorkshire and made the mistake of staying together so that they were easily apprehended at Kilham on 7th December and imprisoned in York Castle. Then began several sessions of intense questioning. One can only imagine the techniques used but Henry although readily admitting he was a Jesuit Priest refused to incriminate anyone else. Thomas however was not so strong and admitted all he knew including where Henry had buried a packet of letters on arrival. Henry was now placed in the hands of Richard Topcliffe. Richard was the most notorious of those employed to find and interrogate the enemies of the crown. He was named not just as an interrogator but also as a torturer. He was described as "*the cruellest tyrant of them all*" and people were sickened by the relish with which he carried out his grisly work. In 1594 Richard Topcliffe wrote to the authorities "*Much more lies hidden in the Jesuits.....they must be dealt with sharply and more will burst out.*" Henry and Thomas were then sent to London for further questioning by Topcliffe and now the suffering really began. Henry was committed to solitary confinement in the Tower for two months and then on 27th April 1594 he underwent the first of six examinations before Sir Edward Coke. That continued until June. At first he only recounted facts that were already known but in June he revealed a conversation in which the lawfulness of the assassination of the Queen was discussed. He was then put upon the rack many many times and subjected to tortures I will leave to your imagination and gradually gave more valuable information about students and seminaries abroad. But in spite of the extreme agony he endured he did not compromise anyone in England. It was noted that in July of 1594 he was able to write freely and easily but after nine months with Topcliffe his writing was a spidery illegible scrawl. In 1595 he was sent back to York and put on trial accused of High Treason. His confessions under torture were read out to the court but apart from one short statement the Judges refused to hear any pleas for the defence. The Jury were ordered to find him guilty which of course they did. Henry managed somehow to write one short letter to his family before on 17th April 1595 he was dragged to the place of execution on a hurdle. He mounted the scaffold and testified as to his loyalty to the Queen. He spoke so well that some there tried to persuade the magistrate to stop the execution but he was summarily pushed and hanged before he finished his prayers. He was immediately drawn and quartered.

When the news with possibly Henry's final desperate letter reached Anmer the family were devastated. His father died broken hearted just fifteen months later and the property was divided up between Henry's brothers Geoffrey and Thomas. His other brothers and his cousin Edward, heir to the Houghton estate, remained on the continent for obvious reasons and eventually the Anmer property was joined with the other Manor to make one estate owned by the Coldham Family. So the Anmer House of the Walpole family was extinguished. The same fate would have befallen the Walpoles at Houghton had not Calibut Walpole, the younger brother of Edward, remained a Protestant. It was due to him that the line continued and the Walpoles of Houghton Hall survived.



So it was that the Coldham Family built the present Hall and laid out the surrounding parkland. The Village that Henry and his family knew has disappeared and there is only the church left that he would recognise. The village we know grew up over the next few years and in the late 19th century Anmer became part of the Royal Estate.

Henry would have been honoured to know that when John Gerard, the priest he so admired, was imprisoned in the Tower he occupied Henry's old cell from which he famously escaped. Henry

Walpole was canonised by Pope Paul VI in 1970 and his feast day is 25th October. □



Dersingham Walking Group

Welcome to the Dersingham Walking Group, which provides a regular programme of guided walks round the local countryside. Throughout the year we always have at least one walk per month, and in the summer we add in some extra evening walks. Now we're moving into our autumn programme which you can see below, with walks

coming up at Castle Rising, Fring, and Great Massingham, all set in lovely countryside which should be starting to show some nice autumn colours. Note that after the clocks go back, until the end of January, afternoon walks start a little earlier at 1.30pm, so that we don't run out of daylight.

The walks are free and there's no need to book, just turn up on the day wearing suitable clothing and sturdy footwear. Dogs are welcome, provided they're well behaved. The length is usually between 4 and 5 miles, taking around a couple of hours, so why not get some fresh air and exercise, you'll be in good company!

Details of our next walks are:

Wednesday 9th October 2.00pm

Starting point: Unique car park, Castle Rising. Grid ref: TF 674 248

A circuit of Castle Rising and Ling Common, with the possibility of a cream tea at the Unique café to follow. You must let Keith Starks know by 2nd October if you want to book a cream tea.

Leader Keith Starks 01485 542268

Wednesday 30th October 1.30pm

Starting point: All Saints church Fring. Grid ref: TF 735 348

Fring is set in beautiful open countryside, close to the Peddars Way. There are plenty of interesting footpaths to be explored on this walk.

Leader Elizabeth Fiddick 01485 540940

Wednesday 13th November 1.30pm

Starting point: The green at Great Massingham. Grid ref: TF 798 230

An autumn walk round picturesque Great Massingham and the surrounding area.

Leader: Pat Reed 01485 540757

We have two walks planned for December and one in January, details of which will be in the next Village Voice. However, you can see the full programme now on the parish council website. www.dersingham.org.uk/announcements - (Here you can also download the programme of other shorter West Norfolk Health Walks coordinated by Jackie Squires of **Active Norfolk**, as available from the Library and Health Centre).



Quoted grid references are for the relevant Ordnance Survey map, usually Landranger sheet 132 or Explorer sheet 250.

The leaders are happy to organize 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. As Alfred Wainwright said "watch where you put your feet"!

If you would like more information about an individual walk, such as the going underfoot, stiles etc. Please contact the walk leader.

*For general enquiries contact the group coordinator: **Stephen Martyn** Tel: 01485 541333 Email: stephenmartyn@gmail.com □*



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MAGGIE'S MISCELLANY

Preserving our Local Musical Heritage by Maggie Gray

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

Songs were written for different seasons, for the planting and harvesting of crops; there were love songs, happy songs, sad songs too; songs for funerals and weddings; songs for times of war and peace, and all of these gradually became part of our folklore, having been handed down through generations for so long that in some cases nobody is exactly sure where or who they originated from. Whether these people were jubilant or downhearted, their singing was a way of expressing their emotions.

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

One example of this type of community was the North End fishermen of King's Lynn. Like many such groups, this was a fairly self-reliant community, and music played a large part in their lives, though not many outsiders were privileged enough to hear their songs. It is such cases as this where traditional songs are often lost, even more so when the fishing community ceases to exist. Fortunately, one of England's favourite composers, Ralph Vaughan Williams, was a collector of traditional folk songs and when he heard about the North End fisher folk, he came to visit. This was in 1905, when he was thirty-three years of age, and the visit was to prove both pleasurable and beneficial for all concerned.

His passion for music saw him travelling up and down the country, conducting orchestras and choirs, really getting in touch with people who shared his passion. In King's Lynn he met such an enthusiastic group in the North Enders. They composed, played and sang their own folk songs, and it is said Vaughan Williams was so impressed by the songs he heard during his stay, songs which told of fabled heroes and disasters at sea, that he put together a collection of almost thirty of them, all exclusive to the North End of King's Lynn and its fisher folk.

The actual numbers of songs seems to vary. Different writers have their own versions of this, as they do about the music which Vaughan Williams composed using some parts of these North Enders songs. 'The First Norfolk Rhapsody' is said to contain at least two, as does 'A Sea Symphony', although again there is some dispute as to whether the latter really had anything to do with Norfolk at all. It is certain however that he did use some, or part of some of the songs played for him, thus keeping them alive at a time when they could so easily have been forgotten altogether. *(Hear both on YouTube with accompanying paintings of local scenes. Ed.)* □



Answers to Mind Bending Questions Quiz

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. 26 Letters of the Alphabet. | 12. 3 Blind Mice (See How They Run). |
| 2. 7 Wonders of the Ancient World. | 13. 4 Quarts in a Gallon. |
| 3. 1,001 Arabian Nights. | 14. 24 Hours in a Day. |
| 4. 12 Signs of the Zodiac. | 15. 1 Wheel on a Unicycle. |
| 5. 54 Cards in a Deck (with the Jokers) | 16. 57 Heinz Varieties. |
| 6. 9 Planets in the Solar System. | 17. 11 Players on a Football Team. |
| 7. 88 Keys on a Piano Keyboard. | 18. 1000 Words that a Picture is Worth. |
| 8. 32 Degrees Fahrenheit at which Water Freezes. | 19. 29 Days in February in a Leap Year. |
| 9. 18 Holes on a Golf Course. | 20. 64 Squares on a Chess Board. |
| 10. 90 Degrees in a Right Angle. | 21. 40 Days and Nights of the Great Flood. |
| 11. 200 Pounds for Passing Go in Monopoly. | 22. 12 Days of Christmas. |

DERSINGHAM EVENING WI **by Maggie Guest**

It is with sadness we report the death of Pauline Campbell after a long illness which she dealt with in an inspirational way. Pauline was a long standing, lively member and a highly gifted needlewoman who was outstanding in the way she won so many competitions.

The summer has been somewhat unusual for us. For the first time groups of us got together to attend various concerts that were part of the Kings Lynn Festival.

We do not have a monthly meeting in August and normally events pause while people are enjoying the summer. However, this year saw most of the activities continue and the group got together for an alfresco meal in Olive's garden. We were blessed with wonderful weather to enjoy the event. We continued our monthly coffee mornings which are very sociable as well as raising money for funds, so thank you Elaine, Stephanie and Maggie.

The walking group took a picnic and walked round Burnham Thorpe enjoying the scenery and history of Horatio Nelson. Another circular walk took us to the sea defence bank at Burnham Overy Staithe then into the fields and where we enjoyed walking through nearly ripe cornfields. It was a joy to be by the coast as that day was particularly hot. The last walk we did differed in as much as it was more of an historical stroll. Leaving the bus at King's Lynn railway station, on yet another lovely day, we walked into The Walks, which have benefited from Lottery money, and went inside The Red Mount where we learned more of the history from a Town Guide. From there we walked to The South Gate and went inside that with another guide to explain the history. We then walked along The Nar to the South Quay where we enjoyed tea before heading back to Dersingham.



The 'Activity Lunch Group' have had two trips to Hunstanton. Firstly we played Crazy Golf and did a round on the Putting Green and the second trip saw us at the Princess Theatre to watch the Seaside Special. Lunch was enjoyed on both trips.

The Theatre Group were very enthusiastic about their trip to see The Searchers who had lost none of their musical ability since the sixties and had the whole of the mature audience 'singing and swinging' along with them.

Enjoying each other's company at meal times and visiting various restaurants in the area has become quite the norm for us and the Sunday Lunch Group and Evening Dining Group have continued through the summer months thanks to Olive and Shirley.

The Dersingham Evening WI hope to see you at The Fashion Show by ARTICHOKE In The Church Hall on

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Village Voice Live



Journeys in Japan – Tuesday 6th August

For the second year running the Church Hall was closed for refurbishment during August, so St Nicholas Church itself provided the setting where once again Walter Blaney delighted us with another of his well-constructed presentations of his travels, his most recent being to Japan. Walter's photos were backed up by an interesting narrative, outlining the culture of the Japanese people, how it had developed over the years and indeed still to this day differs from our own, including the complexities of operating a modern Japanese loo! After the refreshment interval, we were given a very sobering account of the effects of the atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima in the final stages of WW2, as recorded by the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. This is well worth visiting online at www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/top_e.html. Altogether a very enriching evening experience.

Brucie

A Nostalgic Trip back in time to Norwich and Farming in a Bygone Age Tuesday 3rd September

Brian Hedge explained that he has been seeking out old photographs of Norfolk for many years, copying them, converting them to digital images and, since retirement, assembling them into themed photo presentations for gatherings such as this.

The subject of his first presentation was the City of Norwich, with many images from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

There were too many for me to attempt a comprehensive list here, but included were; Pull's Ferry, The Cow Tower, The Market and Guildhall, the old cattle market, the railway stations, many hotels, Colman's Works, views of the River Wensum showing Foundry Bridge and Bishop's Bridge, and many street scenes. It was a particularly nostalgic trip for me as I grew up in the city in the 50's and 60's and while many of the more significant buildings still remained (and still do), much of what was shown in the street scenes was in the process of being demolished during this period to make way for new, and so many memories were rekindled.

After the customary break for refreshments and the raffle the 2nd presentation was shown. The subject was Farming in a Bygone Age and most of the images were from Norfolk, and of a period similar to that for the Norwich presentation. Various aspects of farming life were depicted, from agricultural shows, work in the fields and a particular series depicting the evolution of the motive power used on farms, from oxen to heavy horses to steam engines and on to tractors of all shapes, sizes and configuration, most of which would horrify the present day Health and Safety Inspector.

The method used by Brian Hedge for this talk was new to Village Voice Live - a pre-recorded computer presentation with pre-recorded commentary - and I left undecided on my opinion of this. It did not seem to engender the friendly atmosphere that a personal presentation normally provides, but on the other hand it did supply an enormous amount of detail information about the subject matter which such personal presentations quite often lack. Possibly a bit too much information, as when Brian asked at the end of the evening if there were any questions, he was met with a shell-shocked silence from the audience. However, following my recent criticism of another speaker for the lack of audio-visual assistance in the talk, I shouldn't really now complain about there being too much - should I!

Whiffler

See back cover for what's next at Village Voice Live. Ed.





Gardening with Disabilities – Norfolk

We are a support group encouraging and enabling people to manage their own gardens. We have talks and demonstrations, outings, garden visits and our own flower show in the summer. Our usual venue is the conservatory at Park House, Sandringham on the third Friday of the month from 2:00 to 4:00pm.

We would like to thank those of you who visited our marquee at the Sandringham Flower Show and showed interest in the displays of plants and tools.

In August we visited a member's garden. It was the one rainy Friday of the month but the sun shone as members looked around the garden after tea.

Future Events:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Friday 18th October | A visit to a garden centre to buy bulbs and Christmas presents. |
| Friday 15th November | 'Ideas for Christmas'. A change of venue:
We will meet at the St Nicholas' Church Hall in Dersingham. |
| Friday 13th December | Christmas lunch for members and friends. |

For further details, please contact Joan and Ray Thomas on 01485 540712.

(Sincere apologies for the wrong phone number being given in the August edition. Ed.)



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Mrs Dolittle's Daily Doings

I think I began my last column having a moan (The Old Biddie), so I shall carry on in that tradition today. **Pesky Pigeons** (which is an extremely mild way of describing what I think of them)

It's my own fault, I have been putting food out for the other birds, thus inviting those fat spoilt creatures as well and they mistook my invitation to the other birds as personal house calls – *or in-house* calls, as they seemed to interpret the situation. They waddled into the house without a by-your-leave or thank you to partake of my parrots' discarded food – it didn't take them long to suss out the situation. It is not pleasant to see pigeons wandering around your sitting room and leaving their calling cards to boot.

Yesterday morning I heard a fearful clattering and frantic wing-flapping in our open plan sitting area, so after rounding the fireplace I discovered that a pigeon had fallen down the chimney and was in a right state of panic, distributing soot freely on ceilings, walls and floor. I shouted at it, poked it with my walking stick but birdbrain that it was, it wouldn't head for the open doors, but carried on knocking over my ornaments and creating mayhem, flying into my head in its panic – very Alfred Hitchcock. In the end I donned gardening gloves and gently picked the damn thing up and took it outside, thinking, 'a quick pull and twist of the neck would finish it off', but I'm no murderer. By this time I am a nervous wreck – at my age I like a sedentary life with no surprises, but this was too much first thing in the morning. I couldn't remember where I had left the Hoover, nor had I the energy to do anything with it if I had. Today I discovered I had been walking past it for a week, where it lay abandoned in a corner – well, that is a bit of a lie as it was in a corner, bar the hose which I had been stepping over daily as it trailed across my path - it's strange how the mind can block out uninteresting things isn't it! You can tell I am no natural housewife.

So, what happens next? *Another* pigeon wanders in and panics, but it did eventually go out the way it came in, with the aid of a happy dog, believing this was part of a game. He is a Lurcher, and should be a ferocious killer of small game, but it just isn't in his nature. My heart is pumping by now with unwanted adrenaline and I am feeling I need oxygen, or an ambulance, but go back to my now cold breakfast and try some calming mantras.

Just as I distastefully masticated on a spoonful of solidified porridge, the sound of yet more frantic wing beats comes from the other side of the chimney breast. I rush (though with my legs 'rush' is the wrong word) round to find the *third* pigeon panicking. This too flies for my head, it beats against the high window, *the window I had been watching get grimmer over five years and had only just that week finally cleaned, climbing precariously on my dodgy legs to do so.* Now it is smeared with pigeon blood and spittle – why did I bother? Knocking down the only remaining ornament the pigeon falls between the wall and the sofa. I gently pick it up and put it in the garden and realise that war has been declared. Something must be done. They have eaten my cherry trees and distributed them after digestion over the entire surface of my lawns so it is then walked into the house on my shoes, where no amount of water seems to dislodge the mess.

I ring the council – no they don't have a pest control department any more. I Google pigeons and discover they are almost impossible to get rid of. You can shoot them with an air rifle if they are a pest, but run the risk of mortal damage to neighbours. You can put down poison, but then you decimate the animal kingdom. Apparently they breed the year long, remember food sources and tell their friends and family. If you trap them humanely and take them away to another location, well, they just home back – that's what pigeons do!

Putting out bird food is the source of the problem. So, you can't feed your garden birds without these heavies flocking in. The only way it seems is to get in a man with a raptor, but then, will the bird of prey kill all your robins and blackbirds too? And what kind of prices are we talking about? I will have to stop putting out bird food and that saddens me – I've had so much pleasure watching the blackbirds, bluetits, sparrows and so on.

So, I am fed up, fuming, feeling impotent and have to now have all my lovely folding doors closed to the invasion and I feel completely hemmed in and claustrophobic. I like fresh air and am now denied it by pigeons.

Right, enough about pigeons, or I will implode.

You might notice that I am no longer 'The Old Biddie and Her Cottage Garden'. I felt there is only so much I can write about the invasion of mares tail and ground elder, so the editor was

happy enough for me to change my format and broaden the spectrum of my writings. Hope you like the new heading – I love alliterations, and as I do as little as possible and with absolutely no finesse in the housewifery department, I felt the name of Mrs Dolittle very apt. However, I must point out that I am not idle as I am always fiddling around with some creative pursuit as well as currently writing my memories of the war years.

I love words per se yet the strange thing is that I don't verbalise much – I am quite happy to tell a story if I have an audience, which these days is seldom, but mostly find that loquacious people like to rattle on about nothing in particular, so I keep quiet and let them – after all, they never seem particularly interested in listening to anyone else. I spend a lot of time on my own (happily, I must emphasise) but my brain is ticking over the whole time, pondering on the mysteries of life, or with what creative purpose I should fill that particular day. However, put a pen in my hand, or more fortuitously these days, put a computer and keyboard at my fingertips, then there is no stopping me. People are not obliged to read my work, so I am not being of annoyance to them. Those who enjoy reading can choose whether or not to peruse my wordsmithness and if they do, then hopefully they will enjoy. So now, should you wish, you can join me in my mind's meanderings and see where it will take us. I have led a most interesting life, tend to find amusing situations everywhere (except, it would seem, regarding pigeons) so hope that in future editions of *The Village Voice*, I will keep you entertained.

One of my earlier memories is at primary school when I was around six years, when an irritated girl called Doreen Clinch shouted at me in exasperation when I was pulling faces, “Valerie Anckorn, you are *such* a show-off!” I remember being appalled, thinking, “But I only want to make people laugh!” And it has been ever thus. I'm no comedienne, nor do I wish to be one, but if I can see the funny side of a situation and pass it on to raise a smile, then I am satisfied.

By the way, and total change of subject - I am looking for a lady to help me weed the garden. Any offers? □



Valerie Anckorn, aka Mrs. Dolittle



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Random Jottings

by Tony Bubb



I've been re-reading my collection of James Bond books. This came about as once again the alliance of opportunity and inclination coincided with the library being closed so I was forced to fall back on my own resources. I remember that when living in Enfield the main library was open on Sunday mornings and it did a roaring trade - but I digress. Not having read them for some years I was struck how close to the books the early films were - the ones with the proper James Bond that is, the current one is thoroughly unconvincing as JB but would be totally acceptable as a Russian nasty. However, in one of his short stories entitled "The Property of a Lady" which was published in volume called "Octopussy" there is a reference to a Fabergé terrestrial globe designed around 1900 being of around 7½ inches in diameter in the Royal Collection at Sandringham. Now Ian Fleming usually got this sort of thing right so is it still there, if not where is it now or was it just fictitious? Even better, is there a picture?



Popped over to Chatsworth for a look the other day. Very impressive! I was particularly pleased to find that the Emperor Fountain was working and there being a bit of a breeze that day, giving some of the other visitors a good soaking, which they seemed to be enjoying. Whilst not immaculate, the gardens are extensive and very interesting with a maze that was entertaining lots of families. The "award winning" farm shop was a disappointment I thought, with nothing very far out of the ordinary. There was Sandringham's apple juice on sale for £3.25 a bottle, just 50p more than Priors sell it for, but little else peculiar to Derbyshire.

Now I'm not a fan of the wasp, I doubt that many are, but this year I have only seen three so far (mid August). One came upon us at Sandringham, eager to help eat my ice cream and there have been a couple at home (ours not theirs) that were very small and not typical of the monster stinging machines that usually visit. Author and playwright Anthony Armstrong described problems with them in his excellent book "Cottage into House". To rid himself of the pests he found that attacking the nest was

the only lasting solution. For this cyanide, paraffin, turps but not petrol was recommended. You just have to find the nest. His infallible method of location was to have a picnic, "for wherever you settle down and spread out your things you will be right next to a nest".

I spotted this conveyance (left) parked in Sainsbury's foyer and wondered what kind of frightening, unruly baby might need such a high security pram to contain it?

By the time you read this I will have been to France for a holiday but this does not mean that I will pass by interesting and useful items that could be of use to us here. Their dog bins are very impressive being usually made from stainless steel and sporting a bag dispenser attached giving free bags. The young French have large skate parks with many ramps but made from boiler plate making them very noisy, so they are put well out of the way. The shops tend to stay open later, after closing

for a long lunch, to serve those who have been at work during the day and it seems to work for them. Here Lynn is very much closing up at 5 o'clock. Perhaps there is a lesson to be learned here?

Wasp update. No 4 spotted whilst Mr & Mrs Editor were scrumping - there really is no other word for it, well perhaps raiding - my apple tree, in a locust like manner. □

When enjoining an al fresco salad lunch with a nice glass of homemade elderflower champagne my wife and I seemed to have no trouble entertaining wasps! Ed.



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The History of Norfolk Brass

Norfolk Brass was formed during the early part of the twentieth century as the Reepham Temperance Band and later changed its name to the Reepham Town Band. Mr E T Ruffles, the musical director at the time, assisted with the formation of the East

Anglian Brass Band Association, of which Reepham Band was a founder member.

In the early Seventies the Band saw a revival under the then Chairman Bill Holden and improved its technical ability to enable entry into national competitions. During the eighties, Reepham Town Band was able to attract financial support from Bernard Matthews plc and became Matthews Norfolk Brass. In 2008, following a change of sponsors to the Hickling Greyhound and Targetfollow plc, the band became Norfolk Brass.

Norfolk Brass has achieved considerable recognition as both a contesting and concert band. In recent years the Band has played for the Queen Mother and HRH Prince of Wales at Sandringham. In the summer of 2005, the band was invited to play at Caister Lifeboat Station to celebrate the launch of a new lifeboat in the presence of HRH the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall (Charles and Camilla).

The Band has also appeared at the Waldorf Hotel in London and in a national advertisement for the launch of the 'Hamwich' - a product of Bernard Matthews plc. It was also selected to feature at the theatre production of 'Brassed Off' during its week long visit to Norwich, at the Theatre Royal.

No stranger to the stage, the Band's concerts have included supporting Don Lusher (trombone),

Evelyn Glennie (percussion), Julian Lloyd Webber (cello), Steve Sykes (tuba), Sheona White (tenor horn), Roger Webster (cornet) and Steven Meade (euphonium). They were in concert with the world famous London Welsh Male Voice Choir last year (Nov 2012) at St. Andrews Hall in Norwich and will be performing with them again in the Summer of 2014.



Under its current **President David Collingham** and **Music Director**

David Stowell the band also has had a successful contesting history. In 2009, it achieved third place at the First Section finals of the National Brass Band Championships in Harrogate.

Following this considerable achievement, in October 2009, the band was ranked 111th in the World of Brass and 4 Bars Rest World Rankings of Brass Bands.

Norfolk Brass are of course regular visitors to Dersingham and will be playing for the 5th year by popular demand in St Nicholas Church on Saturday 7th December 2013 at 7:30pm, during the Christmas Tree Festival. Tickets in advance £7.50 or £8.50 on the door (including mulled wine and mince pies).

Contact Keith Blyth 01485 544866, Edgar Cooper 540865 or Nigel Sisson 540081. □

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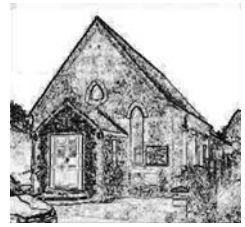
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Greetings from the Manse by Rev. Kim Nally

...continuing the story of Esther (from the Old Testament)



The night before the banquet, the king had insomnia, and so got up to read. He came upon his old diaries and read the account of how Mordecai had saved his life years before from an assassination plot involving two of his officers. He was reminded that he had never rewarded him. So as soon as he woke the next morning he made arrangements to reward Mordecai. It was an extraordinary coincidence — clearly the hand of God. Before the banquet, the king said to Haman, “I’m trying to think of a reward to give to someone who really pleases me. What would you suggest?” Haman thought it must be him, and so he replied, “Have a procession in his honour and give him a robe and a horse.” The king agreed with the suggestion, but it was Mordecai who was sent for and rewarded, an unbelievable turnaround. At the banquet Esther plucked up courage to speak to the king about her people. When the king heard that Haman was behind such an evil plot, he ordered Haman to be hanged on his own gallows, and the Jews were saved. A new edict was issued overturning Haman’s dispatches and giving the Jews the right to defend themselves and the right to assemble and annihilate any armed force that might attack them. It was a staggering intervention, for there were assassins all over the Empire ready to kill all the Jews.

So when the day arrived for Haman’s edict to exterminate the Jews, the Jews were ready and proceeded to overrun their adversaries and execute Haman’s family. Such was the danger to the Jews that if this hadn’t happened, there would be no Jewish people left because the Persian Empire stretched from India to Egypt. If the original edict had stood, Jesus could never have been born. So Esther saved the day. It’s no wonder that the Jews every year celebrate the Feast of Purim in memory of these days. Everyone loves a story like this and it is superbly told. As a literary structure it is superb. A good storyteller will build up to a point of real tension and then relieve the tension, with everybody living happily ever after and the baddies coming to a sticky end. The story of Esther is a masterpiece in that regard and in the hands of David Kossoff it was wonderfully and memorably told.

What then is its purpose? Quite simply, most commentators say, it is intended to give a reason for the existence of a popular Jewish feast, that of “Purim or Lots”. One problem is, which came first, the feast or the story? Did the story institute the feast, or was the story merely explaining an existing feast? The Passover feast had been an ancient observance of thanksgiving for new-born lambs long before the Exodus from Egypt gave it a new and more important meaning for Hebrews. Similarly Christians retained the winter festival of Saturnalia, but gave it new meaning as Christmas. Maybe the book of Esther was written likewise, to turn a heathen festival into a respectable Jewish one. Its observance as such comes very late in Hebrew history, about 135 B.C. Therefore it was not one enjoined by the Law of Moses. There is much further speculation as to which heathen observance was the probable origin of the Jewish feast. One of the simpler suggestions is that the Babylonian god Marduk and goddess Ishtar have become the Jew Mordecai and Jewess Esther, the prominent characters in the Jewish story. (Both Ishtar and Esther mean “star”.) The origin of the name Purim has long been forgotten. The story connects it with an Assyrian word *puru* meaning dice, hence the alternative name of Lots for the feast, as lots were drawn to see which day the Jews would be killed. This Babylonian festival was held at much the same time of year as that of the Jewish Purim. The story of Esther is set in the period of the Exile in Babylon, under Persian rule. Therefore Babylonian and Persian folklore and nature festivals do, no doubt, in some way account for this Jewish feast said to date from those days.

Many would argue that the book of Esther is best taken as fiction, a patriotic Jewish novel set against the background of life after the Exile for Jews who did not return to Palestine. Unlike the story of Jonah with its wider appeal, that of Esther emphasizes the growing exclusiveness of Judaism. Jonah realized something of the divine compassion for the sinners in Nineveh, but there is no such compassion shown to the enemies of the Jews in the story of Esther. There is satisfaction that those who had plotted against the Jews were themselves slain. The cry at the feast, “Blessed be Mordecai, Cursed be Haman”, was no less than a slogan equivalent to “Up with us, and down with them.” There are many festivals and celebrations around the world that try to

hold nationalism, or tribalism together with a religious justification. Perhaps we only have to look over the Irish Sea to be reminded of the 1916 Easter Rising commemorative parades among one community and the Orange Parades of the Glorious 12th July of another. Each can keep alive important elements of a people's story, telling the heroic tales of the struggle for freedom and deliverance like the feast of Purim and the story behind it. We may rightly ask, however, where is God in all of this? Sadly different communities assume God favours them. The danger is that triumphalism and assertions of ascendancy and superiority can keep hurts, animosity and conflict alive and in the headlines. At the heart of the Christian faith there is another story, another way that leads to forgiveness, reconciliation and peace. □

Dersingham Methodist Church News

Dersingham Methodist Church has been collecting items for the Lynn FoodBank for some time now and we have been overwhelmed by the generosity not only of Church members but also by several people who come to the coffee mornings and other activities, or just hand in a bag of goods at the door. Thank you very much. By the time you read this article we will have just had our Harvest Festival celebrations at which we will be collecting for the FoodBank. As the number of FoodBanks continues to increase throughout the country it is good for us to give thanks for all that we have and take practical action to help those who have not. Some years ago a Christian Aid poster showed the scene of a woman looking at the field with just a few dried stalks and the caption 'You need a harvest before you can have a Festival'. I have never forgotten this poignant message. As you go grocery shopping and see the large array of items perhaps you can remember those who will need the work of the FoodBank by purchasing a tin of beans, or packet of cereals, sugar or tea and give thanks that you can help.

Our annual autumn sessions commence again on **Thursday 10th October**, held fortnightly 11.00 a.m. – 12 noon. This year we will be discussing the 'seven deadly sins', it looks like being an interesting time. Come and join us as we drink coffee and chat, all views are accepted! □

Elizabeth Batstone



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...one last review

I know this issue of Village Voice hasn't exactly gone short on book reviews, but *How to be a Bad Christian (and a better human being)* is one that really puts the cat amongst the proverbial pigeons, and is indeed one of the most no-nonsense, challenging and inspiring that I've read. The idea for the title came from Simon Barnes' equally no-nonsense, amusing book *How to be a Bad Bird-Watcher*, but that is perhaps where the similarity ends!

Church-goers, non-church goers, those of other faiths or no faith, pantheists, humanists and confirmed atheists will surely find something of value in Dave Tomlinson's down-to-earth, non-judgemental, non-trying-to-convert-you, non-criinge-making, amusing and friendly manner.

Dave was a house church leader for many years before founding *Holy Joe's*, a church in a pub in Clapham for disaffected churchgoers. What gives this and indeed his whole approach a more credible foundation is that he is now Vicar of St Luke's, Holloway, a thriving parish church in north London. He is also the author of *The Post-Evangelical* and *Re-enchanting Christianity*.

The book is available from Amazon for £6.47 as a hardback or £5.99 for the *Kindle Edition* which is the version I have (so I'm afraid can't lend you!). No doubt our library would be keen to take names of those interested.

However, you can find out more about the book and the whole approach at badchristian.co.uk (including a great YouTube video with Dave) or from Dave's own website daveTomlinson.co.uk.

If having looked into it you feel there would be any mileage being part of a group or forum either online or as a homegroup to discuss and explore some of the issues further, then do please get in touch with me, Steve Davis at steve@davista.co.uk or on 0788 572 1158. Happy reading! □

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:-

Issue	Copy deadline	Publication date
No 85	Wednesday 6th November	Monday 25th November
No 86	Wednesday 22nd January 2014	Monday 10th February 2014
No 87	Wednesday 5th March 2014 (TBC)	Monday 24th March (TBC)

The earlier you get your copy to us the more favourable position it is likely to get.

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Articles for publication in the next edition of Village Voice must reach The Editor, c/o Dersingham Parish Council, 4a Post Office Rd, Dersingham PE31 6HP or e-mail: editor@dersingham.org.uk before the **deadline date of mid-day on Wednesday 6th November for publication on Monday 25th November 2013**. (Contributors who are promoting events should take note of this earliest date of publication). Should you be providing graphics to accompany advertisements or articles, it would be appreciated if these could be in JPEG format.

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

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

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

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

The Production Team for this edition consists of
Editor: - Steve Davis. Editorial assistant: - Rob Smyth
In the office: - Sarah Bristow, Distribution: - Steve Davis
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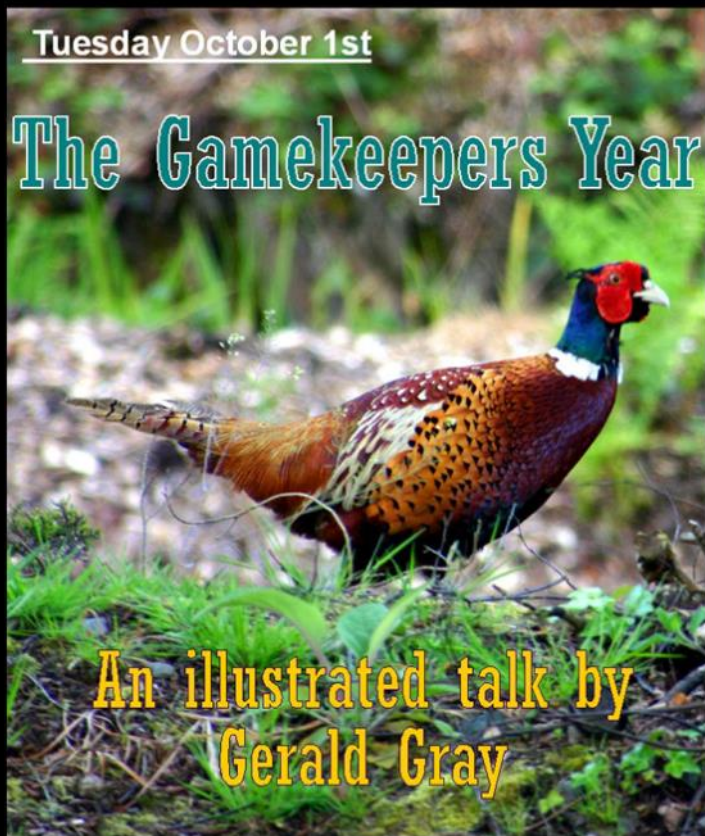
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